



## Munich Springfests

The land of lederhosen, pretzels and beer – and BEERFESTS! Come celebrate Oktoberfest in the springtime in Munich, during the Strong Beerfest and Spring Beerfest! Bavarian culture, history, museums, Dachau concentration camp, Neuschwanstein Castle, bike tours and of course more beer! Munich's reputation for being Europe's most fun city is well-deserved and a can't miss destination!

During the February, March, April and May trips the famous **Starkbierzeit (Strongbeerfest)** and **Fruhlingsfest (Springbeerfest)** will be held. The **Strong Beerfest** runs from the last weekend of February and into March and celebrates the period of Lent with a special dark, strong beer and numerous parties around the city's biggest beerhalls (with live music & traditional can't miss Bavarian beer drinking atmosphere)!

The famous **Spring Beerfest (Fruhlingsfest)** is held from the third weekend of April through the first weekend of May running for 3 weekends. It is a smaller and more local version of Oktoberfest and held on the same grounds, the Theresienwiese. There will be several beer tents holding several thousand people each w/live music, and the usual amusement park rides and food just like at Oktoberfest. Many consider the Springfest to be a smaller, yet more fun version of Oktoberfest (without all the tourists). On Friday and Saturday night the nightlife will be centered here.

### Day to Day Itinerary

**Thursday - Day 1** Arrival on your own, room check-in available from 3pm (you will be sent exact instructions on how to arrive). Activities start from Friday morning.

**Friday - Day 2** Breakfast included. Following breakfast you'll embark on a professionally guided 2.5-hour walking tour that will take you to many of Munich's major landmarks and highlights. You will visit the Frauenkirche, see the world-famous Glockenspiel, go past the iconic Hofbräuhaus, and much more to tick off the main sights of the city's old town. Free afternoon & evening to head to the Beerfest!

**Saturday - Day 3** Breakfast included. 9am departure for included trip to Dachau concentration camp and memorial with professionally guided tour. The camp lies just northeast of the city center (around 25 min travel time), and was the first concentration camp in Nazi Germany, opened in 1933. Originally meant for political prisoners, it became the model for all subsequent concentration camps and held more than 200,000 prisoners during its 12 years of existence with approx. 41,500 being killed here before the liberation by US forces in 1945. You'll see the site and learn its history and atrocities with this fascinating guided tour. Early afternoon arrival back to Munich (trip & tour lasts approx. 5 hours) with rest of the day free. For Saturday night head back to the Beerfest, enjoy a traditional beer hall or one of many other great bars or clubs at night.

**Sunday - Day 4** Breakfast included. Check out (leave your luggage with reception if you have a later departure). Free day with departure on your own. If you have a later departure it's possible to book the optional Neuschwanstein Castle trip (the real life inspiration for the Disney castle, and located in the southern Bavarian Alps).

*\*\*\*Trip Style - This is an independent trip ideal for groups of friends, family, couples, or even for an independent-minded solo traveler. It is designed as a travel & destination package, not solely as a "group trip". You will be on group tours/activities with other travelers and in a room with other travelers if you book the "shared dorm hostel" package (if you book the "private" room package then you of course will be in your own private room). You will however, have independent time between the guided group tours/activities to explore on your own and do as you please, and will receive a detailed info packet by email with numerous recommendations for additional group activities or tours (beyond what is included), sights/museums and food/drink/nightlife info, etc. It's a great balance between guided & included tours/activities and free time so that you have plenty of time on your own to do what you want.*

