

## DEUTSCHER LEBENSTIL UND DEUTSCHE KULTUR (German Lifestyle and Culture)

### Local patriotism: How Germans replaced nationalism with regional pride

#### 2. The worst enemy is the neighbor

Rivalries resulting from local patriotism often involve neighboring cities: Mainz vs. Wiesbaden, Frankfurt vs. Offenbach or Dortmund vs. Gelsenkirchen, just to name a few examples.

Just try to ask someone from Mannheim about the most beautiful site in the neighboring city, Ludwigshafen. The answer would be the bridge over the Rhine River to Mannheim, of course.

Still, local patriotism can be felt beyond traditional feuds between neighboring cities. Germany is full of invisible borders between unofficial areas. The dressing you choose for your [potato salad](#) is just one of them: You can either be team broth and vinegar or team mayonnaise.



You can either be team vinegar or team mayo, but not both

There's a long tradition of rivalry between the neighboring regions of Swabia and Baden, for instance — both part of the southern [German state of Baden-Württemberg](#) .

But an anti-Swabian sentiment, or "Schwabenhass," has grown in other parts of the country, a phenomenon that has even gained its own Wikipedia entry in English.