

## FASTNACHTSDIENSTAG

### 1. Fastnachtstag is the last day of fasching.

- It is really quite sad, but funny at the same time.
- Everyone wants to take fullest advantage of this last day of fun, but they also realize that all good things must end.

### 2. Man kann am Dienstag vormittags beim Tanz der Marktfrauen auf dem Viktualienmarkt zuschauen.

Fasching celebrations in Munich

As mentioned, the climax of Fasching 2009 in Munich is Tuesday 24th February. Between 2pm and 5pm the Viktualienmarkt pedestrian area is turned into a party zone. A local radio station provides a crane which hangs huge speakers in mid-air and churns out cheesy pop hits. It's usually carnage and the whole area from Marienplatz to Viktualienmarkt is completely blocked with the throng of people. If you don't fancy going down there yourself you can always spy on the festivities via the Viktualienmarkt Webcam.

In the evening there are a number of gala balls. The big one is held in the Bayerischer Hof hotel but generally any bar or nightclub in Munich will be having some kind of Fasching special that night.

Faschingsdienstag

(Carnival Tuesday) is the last day of Fasching and when most of the festivities happen. Faschingsdienstag is not an official holiday but workers usually get the afternoon off.

One of the highlights of the Munich Fasching is the dance of the market women on the "Viktualienmarkt" (Victuals Market) at 11 a.m. on Shrove Tuesday. The market women rehearse for it already months before.

Early on Shrove Tuesday morning, however, Fasching revelry spills out onto the streets. Thousands crowd onto the Viktualienmarkt in the city centre to join the market women and drag queens in full costume, singing and dancing among the fruit and vegetable stands.

On Fasching Dienstag (Shrove Tuesday) the area around Marienplatz and Viktualienmarkt becomes one big party zone. There are stages with DJ's and live music, food and drink and the citizens of Munich turn out in fancy dress to party and see the start of Lent. The shops all close at 1pm so everyone can join in. There is a parade that heads to the Viktualienmarkt for 11am and one of the main attractions "The Dance of the Market Women" takes place on the stage set up in the centre.

- **Fastnachtdienstag** - Besides some parades which are held on this day, you have the burial or burning of the *Nubbel*. A *Nubbel* is a life-size doll made of straw that embodies all of the sins committed during carnival season. It is buried or burned with great ceremony on Tuesday evening before everyone parties one more time till Ash Wednesday arrives.

It is on Faschingsdienstag, too, that the **traditional dance of the market women** takes place on the **Viktualienmarkt**. When on Shrove Tuesday at exactly midnight, with great pomp and due solemnity (!) Fasching is officially buried until the following year, the fasting or Lent period begins.