

## GRÜNDONNERSTAG / GREEN THURSDAY



How much does (literally translated) "Green Thursday" have to do with actually being green?

**Here we are again, with a new Easter word – one that varies a lot from its English equivalent.**

The Thursday before the Easter weekend is "Holy Thursday" in English. In German, however, you call it *Gründonnerstag*, which means "Green Thursday." And now I am just as confused as you are.

So let's have a look at this mysterious word. First of all, we have to keep in mind that *Gründonnerstag* isn't the only word for this day – it's just the most common one. Other words are *Hoher Donnertag* ("High Thursday"), *heiliger Donnerstag* ("Holy Thursday") or even *weißer Donnerstag* ("White Thursday.") But since *Gründonnerstag* is the most common word, let's focus on that one.

Gründonnerstag is the day the churches remember The Last Supper, the last time Jesus got together with his twelve apostles to dine. Why exactly this day is carrying the colour green isn't clear, but several theses exist to explain it.