

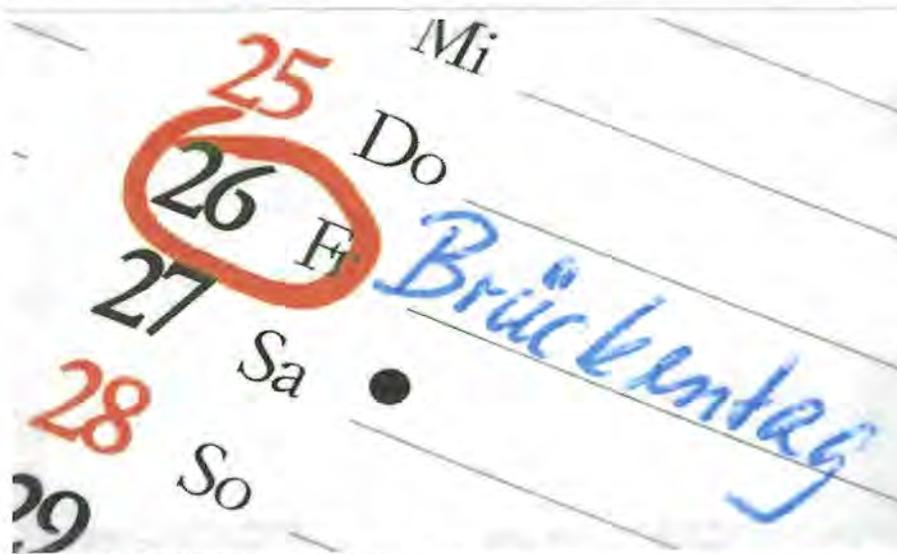
“Bei uns ist immer was los!”

## DEUTSCHE FEIERTAGE, FESTE, UND MESSEN

holiday: der Feiertag, die Feiertage  
to celebrate: feiern

### EXPLAINED: How you can make the most of Germany's 2022 public holidays

Lots of Germany's public holidays have fallen on weekends in 2021, meaning most employees lose out on them. We looked at the situation next year, and how you can make your vacation days go further.



A diary with 'Brückentag' or 'bridge day' noted inside it. You can start to plan how to make the most of your vacation days next year now.

#### Is 2022 a good year for public holidays in Germany?

It's not brilliant. Due to Germany's (frankly insane) rule of not giving workers a day off when a public holiday falls on a weekend – unlike in the UK or the US – 2022 is described by German news magazine [Spiegel](#) as another “employer year”.

That means that the majority of people lose out on some days off and you effectively have to work more than you would compared to public holiday-friendly years (thanks for that, Germany).

But if you plan cleverly, you can squeeze out some more free time by taking so-called *Brückentage* (bridge days) off.

Here's a look at the German public holiday schedule in 2022 and how you can make it work for you.

#### New Year

2022 gets off to a disappointing start: January 1st – a public holiday in

Germany – falls on a Saturday this year. As most people don't work on the weekend, they won't get a holiday for it as it's already a day off. Keep in

mind that most shops will be closed all day, and usually for half the day on December 31st. So get your shopping in on Friday morning or on Thursday.