

POST CHRISTMAS SEASON / NACHWEIHNACHTZEIT

New Year's Eve: Silvesterabend (der 31. Dezember)

New Years Eve custom: Silvesterabendsitte

Silvester in Bayern

"Sylvester" and New Years Eve

As the last vestiges of Christmas goose are finished up it's time to get ready to welcome in the New Year. In Bavaria, however you choose to celebrate you will find something just tailor-made for you. "Sylvester" - the German term for New Year's Eve that comes from the fact that the 31st December is St. Sylvester's day - is celebrated with festivities of all sizes from large gala dinners and balls to local festivities in cities, towns and villages across the state. Wherever you choose to see in the New Year sparkling wine and fireworks are bound to feature prominently.

„crack the whip:“

In some of the alpine villages in Bavaria the bachelors do this, among other things, with the famous whip cracking – the "Goasl-Schnalzen"

„Goasl Schnalzen“ in Bayern

Very important, and still found in many (rural) areas in Germany, is the custom of driving away the old year with noise – in some of the alpine villages in Bavaria the bachelors do this, among other things, with the famous whip cracking – the "Goasl-Schnalzen". The city dwellers make a more "cultivated" noise by launching fireworks into the night sky. Shouting and yelling is more customary in the country.

