

PFINGSTEN / PENTECOST

TOP 10 EVENTS TO CELEBRATE GERMANY'S HOLIDAY WEEKEND

Weindorf Weinfest, Würzburg, May 29th – June 10th

Situated in the famous winegrowing Franconia region in Northern Bavaria, Würzburg's wine festival started in May and will culminate this weekend. The so-called 'Wine Village' (*Weindorf*) is located in the middle of Würzburg's market square, where a number of gazebos serve over 100 local wines from around 30 different winemakers. The outstanding wine selection is complemented by a variety of Franconian food.

Leipziger Stadtfest, Leipzig, June 7th – June 9th

Leipzig's city festival hosts a range of events, including an open-air disco, a night time illumination of the city's marketplace, and a stage at Augustusplatz with a constant rotation of performances. Nikolaikirchhof will be transformed into an Irish village, with displays of Irish dancing and Guinness on tap.

Hamburg International Short Film Festival, June 4th- June 10th

This year's International Short Film Festival in Hamburg coincides with the Pentecost weekend and offers film buffs the opportunity to view around 400 short films in international and national competitions. An element unique to the Hamburg Short Film Festival is the 'Three Minute Quickie' competition, whereby entrants can submit a film of no more than 3 minutes, to challenge their artistic and creative boundaries.

Rose and Light festival, Frankfurt, June 7th- June 11th

Frankfurt's *Palmengarten*, one of Frankfurt's three botanical gardens, is beautiful on any day of the year, and even more so during the weekend-long Rose and Light festival (*Rosen und Lichterfest*). The festival starts with the opening of the Rose exhibition on Friday the 7th, but the main event of the weekend is on the Saturday evening, when thousands of tea lights illuminate the roses, and fireworks light up the sky at the end of the evening.

The daytime also features a range of events, including those designed for children and musical performances.

Handel Festival Halle, May 31st – June 16th

Celebrating Halle-born musical genius George Friedrich Handel, the composer who became well-known for his operas and concertos, this international music festival focuses solely on Handel's music. This year's festival title is 'Sensitive, heroic, sublime- Handel's women,' and will hone in on both the women in Handel's life and the women figures in his operas, with leading women musicians taking to the stage to perform Handel's music. More than 1,000 artists from around the world will partake in a programme of over 100 events in 22 different venues throughout the weekend.