

PFINGSTEN / PENTECOST

TOP 10 EVENTS TO CELEBRATE GERMANY'S HOLIDAY WEEKEND

Open Ohr Festival, Mainz, June 7th – June 10th

The 'Open Ear Festival' (*Open Ohr Festival*) in Mainz describes itself as an uncommercial, thematic, youth culture festival for visitors of all ages and has focused on the celebration of youth since its start date in 1975. Taking place in the city's baroque era citadel, it features four days of music, performances, workshops, discussion forums, cabarets and craftwork.

The 'Free Project Group' (*die Freie Projektgruppe*), who organise the event, choose a controversial theme every year which is then reflected throughout the activities of the festival. This year's theme is 'Take Sides' (*Partei ergreifen*) and is concerned with politics and increasing active participation in and conversation about democracy.

Karneval der Kulturen, Berlin, June 7th – June 10th

A dance group from Berlin's 2017 carnival.

Berlin's *Karneval der Kulturen* (Carnival of Cultures) is an explosive celebration and display of diversity which sprawls across the streets of Kreuzberg over the Pentecost weekend. Dances, parades and floats from a plethora of countries represent Berlin's diverse city landscape. The festivities originated as a statement against the xenophobic clashes in 1996 and has now grown into an expansive festival which attracts over a million visitors annually.

The carnival starts on Friday at 4:00pm and the weekend's highlight is generally considered to be the famous street parade which sets off from Yorckstrasse / Großbeerenstrasse at 12:30pm on Sunday.