

„Bei uns ist immer etwas los!“

DEUTSCHE FEIERTAGE, FESTE, UND MESSEN

DER ERSTE TAG SOMMERS / FIRST DAY OF SUMMER
(occurs between the 20th and 23rd of Juni)

6 GERMAN WORDS YOU'LL NEED TO KNOW THIS SUMMER

2. Sauregurkenzeit or Sommerloch - the quiet when everyone is on holiday



Pickles on a plate at the start of the cucumber harvest in the Spree Forest.

Much like Affenhitze, this term also has a funny literal translation. *Sauregurkenzeit* means pickle time, and originates from 18th century Berlin, when pickles from the local Spree Forest would make it to shop shelves during the late summer.

The mid-summer weeks in July and August were typically when schools and offices were empty. There wasn't much going on in the city since the inhabitants went on holiday during this period, and consequently businessmen found it tricky to make money. Hence Sauregurkenzeit became synonymous with the quiet when everyone goes on holiday.

Sommerloch, (summer hole) has the same meaning, and is typically used by the media when they have difficulties filling their newspapers for lack of events when politicians flee the city.