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Youth HotSpots in Germany share the moment.

BUDGETTRAVELLER'S 48 HOUR GUIDE TO GERMANY is a personal snapshot of some of the coolest youth hotspots www.germany.travel/youth in 12 of Germany's leading cities and towns. The guide comes complete with my itinerary plus the cost associated with each activity so that you can pick and choose activities that are best suited to your interests and budget. Each itinerary was created to allow travellers the freedom to explore each place in a relaxed manner and without blowing your budget. I welcome your feedback – Share your thoughts on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram using the hashtag #youthhotspotsgermany.

Get the Youth HotSpots App!

Your top locations plus free-access Wi-Fi for when you're on the move. For iOS and Android













The German Wanderlust is part of the campaign 'Youth HotSpots in Germany – Share the moment.' launched by the GNTB at the 2013 ITB travel fair in Berlin to promote its year of youth tourism. For the project the GNTB has teamed up with the German Youth Hostel Association (DJH) www.youth-hostels.de and transport partner Deutsche Bahn www.bahn.com.

The Youth HotSpots, such as bars, cafés, must-sees and events, featured on the interactive map at www.germany.travel/youth provided orientation points for Kash. Kash stayed overnight in DJH youth hostels and was travelling by train with Deutsche Bahn.



BudgetTraveller's biography

Kash Bhattacharya has been travelling on a budget for the last 4 years, blogging about his adventures at BudgetTraveller.org. He has been featured in the New York Times, Guardian, Vanity Fair and National Geographic. In July 2013, he's launching a guide to Luxury Hostels in Europe and also helped develop

award-winning campaigns like **#BlogVille** for the Emilia Romagna Tourism Board, #Blogmanay for Unique Events and Event Scotland and FilmTraveller_ CoteDAzur – a blog about film tourism in Cote D'Azur for the Cote D'Azur tourism board. You can also follow Kash on Twitter and Facebook.



BUDGET TRAVELLER'S GERMAN WANDERLUST

48 HOURS IN Ruremberg

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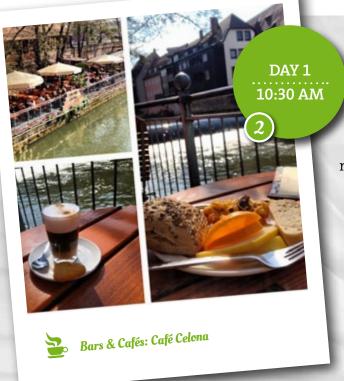
48 Hours in Nuremberg. Tourism isn't always pretty.

Sometimes, it's difficult to swallow. It's about confronting the past and learning from the mistakes made. In the case of Nuremberg, we are talking about the actions and horrors inflicted by one man – Adolf Hitler whose legacy to Nuremberg is a tainted, poisoned one. It was his favourite city. He saw the city as a classic example of a city rich in Germanic and imperial history and agreed with it's mayor who once called it the 'most German of German cities.' Nuremberg became the venue for the Nazi Party Rallies and subsequently the Nuremberg Trials. The city and it's residents paid a hefty price for Nazi Germany's obsession with the city. Thousands of lives were lost and the entire city was destroyed by the Allied forces on 2nd January, 1945 which led one local to describe it as a 'hell on earth'.

From those ashes, the locals over the past few decades have painstakingly rebuilt the city, helping restore much of the city's original character and medieval charm. Walking around the sandstone facades and timber framed buildings of present day Nuremberg, the city, like Dresden, is a symbol of the courage of the people and a reminder of the resilient power of the human spirit. That spirit is evident today in their festivities like the world famous Christkindlmarkt and in the friendly faces of people at the city's many excellent bars, shops, cafes where tourists are welcomed with open arms. In my opinion this is one of Germany's most underrated cities-a real hidden gem. There's so much to enjoy – the beautiful architecture, great museums, craft beer, a whole bunch of waist expanding gastronomic delights and very friendly people. 48 hours gives you just enough time to get a nice snapshot of this very cool city.

Here's how I spent 48 hours in Nuremberg with €130 to spend.





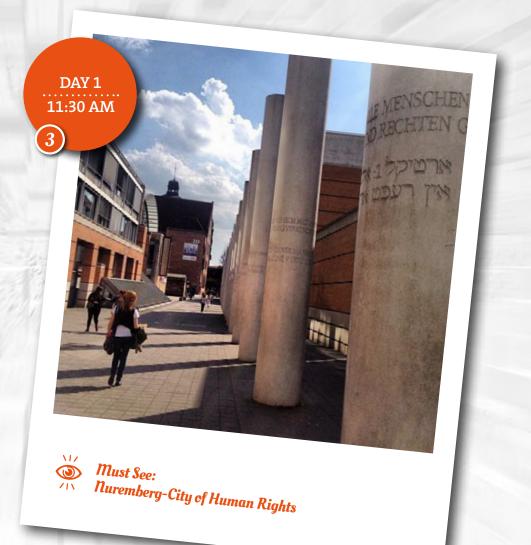
Brunch with a view at Café Celona

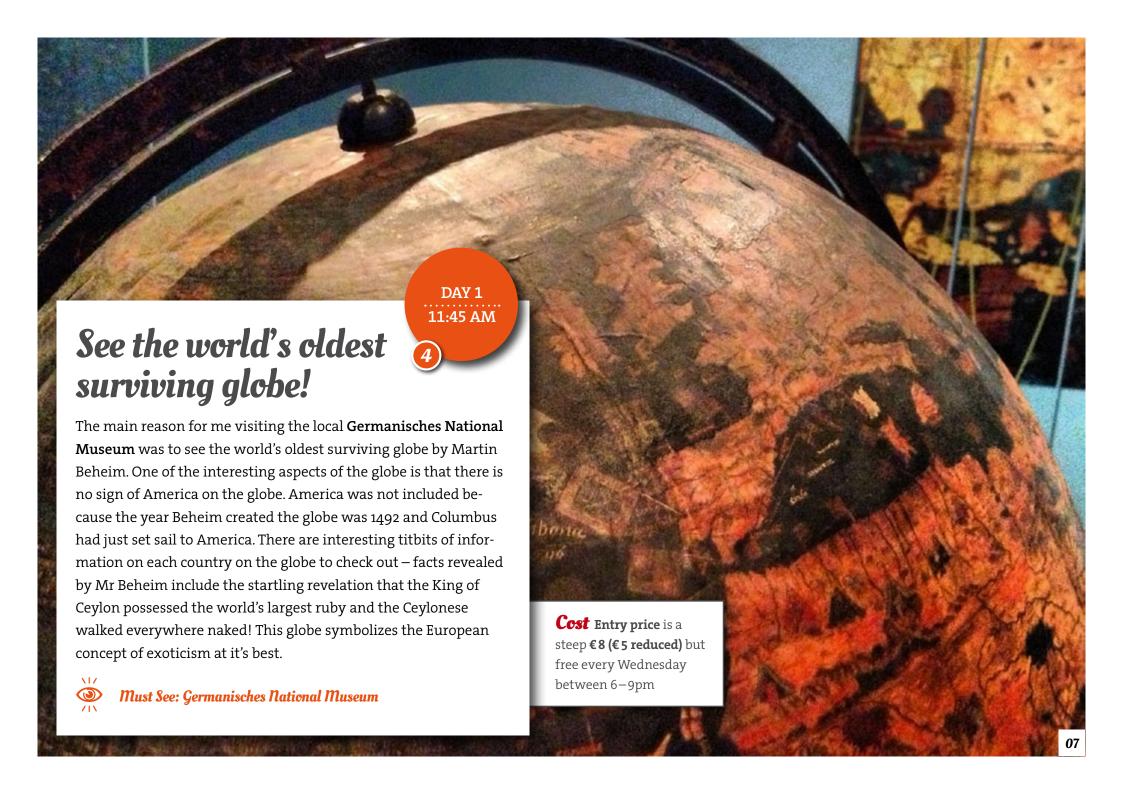
I missed breakfast so I go in search of a bite to eat. When the sun is out in Nuremberg, the best place for breakfast or a drink is by the river Pegnitz at Café Celona. The **breakfast buffet** with croissants, cold meats, scrambled eggs and fresh fruit is fantastic and great value at just €4.50.

Nuremberg-City of Human Rights

I'm heading to the Germanisches National Museum. Enroute I walk past the way of Human Rights, a huge outdoor sculpture designed by Israeli artist Dani Karavan.

Each of the 8 metre high, 30 pillars have one article of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights engraved in German and a 2nd language. The sculpture is part of Nuremberg's effort to become a city championing human rights and move away from it's dark past of being Hitler's favourite city.





Welcome to the home of the pretzel: Brezen Kolb

'Pretzels, fresh pretzels!' bellows the man heartlily from a rather dull grey kiosk. Nuremberg is the home to the pretzel (brought later to America by German immigrants) and there's no better place to sample this salty treat than at Brezen Kolb.

For 50 years Brezen Kolb in Nuremberg has been serving yummy pretzels via their kiosks across the city and they found a new fan in me.

Lots of butter, garlic and chives – damn it was tasty!

Cost At € 1.60

DAY 1

1:00 PM

this is a great snack on the go.









Bars & Cafés: Brezen Kolb

Bars & Cafés: Hausbrauerei Alstadthof

Hausbrauerei Altstadthof

I'm still hungry and also feeling a bit thirsty. Time for a nice beer. I head to the historic Hausbrauerei Altstadthof. Sitting under a floral arrangement of hops I order master brewer Herr Engel's excellent Rotbier and Dunkelsbier (€1.70 for 0.21)

Paired along with the famous Nuremberg bratwurst (€7.50 for 6 portions & comes in a red vinegar stock with fresh crusty bread) this was a memorable feast.

Cost € 10.90



'Love Island'

Lazing on in the 'Love Island'

'Liebesinsel'—'Love Island' is the perfect spot for lazing in the sun in Nuremberg, reading a book and as the name suggests, plenty of opportunities to observe amorous local couples.

Ahh the irony... in medieval times they would butcher pigs here.



Souvenir shopping at 'Handwerkerhof'

'Handwerkerhof', a craftsmen courtyard by the old city wall is the perfect place for buying gifts for loved ones. From hand blown glass to dolls to model airplanes to localmade coconut cookies: this place has it all. You can also buy the famous Lebküchnerei Nuremberg Gingerbread here. Made by the Franconian monks in the 14th century, back then the gingerbread was an imperial delicacy made with exotic ingredients like cardamom, cinnamon, cloves and southern almonds and honey from the imperial forest.









Tiergartnertor Platz

DAY 1 5:30 PM

Chilling out at Tiergartnertor Platz

Day or night the **Tiergartnertor** Platz is a great place to come and

hang out with the locals. During the summer, action really hots up here in the evenings with locals coming armed with bottles of wine or beer and spreading themselves on the warm cobbled stones. Great atmosphere.

My favourite spot here was Café Wanderer – buy a glass of their excellent house Franken Weißwein and just enjoy the feast of humanity in front of you. Plus there is free wifi here too.





Dinner at Vapiano

I round off my first day in Nuremberg with a visit to Vapiano – a very popular Italian restaurant chain in Germany. Excellent, if slightly oily spaghetti with garlic and fresh herbs comes in at just € 6.25. Tiramisu here looks tempting but I resist.

Nuremberg's darkest chapter: Usit to the Nazi Party Rally grounds and the Documentation Centre

I dive into one of the darkest chapters of Germany and Nuremberg's history at the former Nazi Party Rally grounds. The architectural megalomania of these grounds is still there for people to see. Spanning 11 kms the only thing that remains for visitors to see is the concrete, weed infested Zeppelin Grandstand which was modelled along the lines of the Pergammon Altar.

The columns falling into disrepair were blown up in 1967. The building is currently under municipal ownership but having been used for open air events, currently lies in a bad state of disrepair and it's future legacy is unknown. It's hard to describe the emotions of visiting the Nazi Party Rally Grounds, the hollow emptiness of this huge place falling into disrepair and general decay.

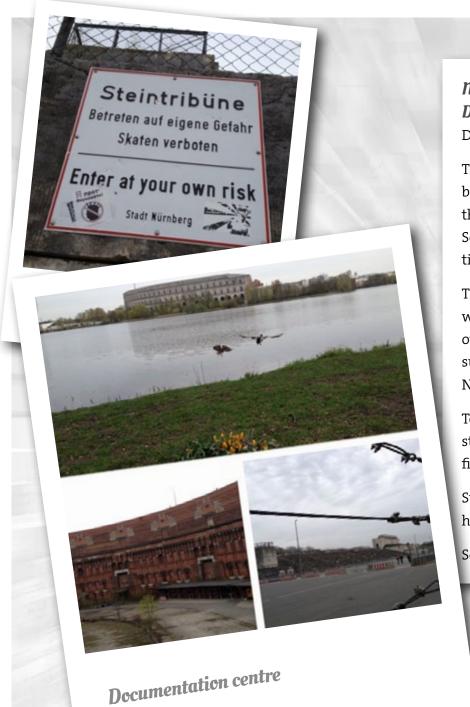
The whole idea of the gigantic structures was to make the visitor feel small and insignificant while the Führer standing on his pedestal (in picture) in the Zeppelin stand would be even more larger than life and omnipresent.

Decades on, ones still feels that sense of insignificance. Not personally but more ...the insignificance of the place and it's purpose.

A wave of sadness & sense of loss envelopes me after visiting the place, thinking of the sheer absurdity of this structure. >>>



Nazi Party Rally grounds



Nuremberg's darkest chapter: Visit to the Nazi Party Rally grounds and the Documentation Centre / This feeling of loss is further deepened after a trip to the Documentation Centre.

The North wing of the unfinished yet dominating Congress Hall (planned to be bigger than the Colosseum) contains the Documentation Centre which focuses on the history of the Nazi Party Rallies where mass gatherings were used by National Socialists propaganda for demonstrating to Germany the model of the 'perfect national community'.

The documentation centre has a permanent exhibition - 'Fascination and Terror' which looks at the dire consequences of Hitler's tyranny and also looks at the rise of his cult, the disturbing black and white films from the rally grounds where supporters are hailing the dictator and also the subsequent and significant Nuremberg trials.

Today the area has undergone a controversial transformation with a football stadium that is home to the local football team FC Nuremberg & the Zeppelin field which is a venue for rock concerts and also international sporting events.

Still, there is that sense of eeriness about the place that is hard to shake off, even hours after visiting.

Something doesn't feel right about the place.

Cost To get to the grounds, hop on Tram 9 from Hauptbahnhof to Dokuzentrum. Entry fee € 5, students, € 3.

Day ticket for public transport: € 5.10.



Cinnamon donuts at Burg Bäckerei

Back in Nuremberg, I am hungry, looking for a place to snack and in the old town I stumble upon a solution – the local bakery 'Burg Bäckerei und Lebküchnerei'. I've sampled Lebküchnerei – gingerbread already so I instead plump for a nice sugary cinnamon donut which was delicious.

Cost Just € 1.00



Meet the unlucky bride at the 'Beautiful Fountain'

Sweet tooth satisfied, I head up to the main market square where the Christmas Market is held and the heart of the city where locals come to buy fresh meat, vegetables and fruits throughout the week. I find a crowd of people gathered around a 19 metre long Gothic steeple known as the 'Schone Brunnen' aka Beautiful Fountain.

Beyond the usual gaggle of tourists, there are a bunch of locals, a bride and a groom. The rather unhappy bride and groom ... They are standing by a gold ring attached to 'Beautiful Fountain'.

Folklore dictates that if you turn the ring left three times, any wish you express will come true. Maybe it was the elderly lady muscling in, hogging the ring and her limelight ...



'Beautiful Fountain'

DAY 2 1:30 PM



DAY 2

4 PM

Lunch at Bok City

I am still hungry so I pop into the City Point shopping mall of Nuremberg which houses all the leading designer brands and fast food outlets with Asian fusion fastfood chain-Bok City. The standard of oriental fastfood in Germany is pretty decent and the chicken stirfried rice here was tasty and perfect along with Vietnamese beer, Sabeco's 'Saigon Export.'

Cost With heer € 8.00



Bars & Cafés: Bok City





Schaumburg

Beer o'Clock at Palais

Palais Schaumburg in Goho is a top place for drinking local Spatler beer (€2.40) and serves affordable (€7-€11) range of German/Italian cuisine. Free wifi is excellent.



Off to Nuremberg's trendiest neighbourhood - the 'GoHo'

I am in 'GoHo' district of Nuremberg-packed with vintage, secondhand and design shops like Fachmarie and Vinty's ... This is a great neighbourhood for finding cool stuff. My favourite though is Laden 14,80 – sells cool stuff ranging from vintage lamps, vinyl, sunglasses, records and other unusual antiques like the lighters in the picture.



Nuremberg - Getting there and away

Train: Deutsche Bahn runs trains hourly to and from Frankfurt (from €19, 2½ hours) and Munich (from €19, 1½ to two hours). There are direct connections several times daily to Berlin (from €29, five to 6½ hours). www.bahn.com

The underground U2 directly connects the airport with the main train station and the citycentre in just 12 minutes and costs just the price of a single metro ticket: € 2.50.

Air: Nuremberg airport, 7 km north of the centre, is served by regional and international carriers, including Lufthansa, Air Berlin and Air France.

Bus: The lowcost Berlin Linien buses leave for Berlin daily at 12.10pm and cost way €39 one way and journey time is four hours. They leave from the Hauptbahnhof.

Big thanks to Angela Gosswein and the Nuremberg Tourism Board for their support during my trip. Check out their website for more ace tips about things to do in Nuremberg.

Also a big thank you to Catharina Fischer and the German National Tourist Board, their partners for the 'Youth Hotspots' campaign – Jugendherberge: The German Youth Hostel Association and Deutsche Bahn for sponsoring my 'German Wanderlust' tour.

I toured Germany as part of an effort to highlight and discover the country's emerging 'Youth Hotspots.'

Find out more about these hotspots at www.germany.travel/youth, feel free to add your own and also do download their free youth hotspots app that is now available on the Apple Store & Android Store.

Total cost of trip

2 nights, bed and breakfast at	
Youth Hostel Nuremberg	€53.00
Brunch at Café Celona	€4.50
Germanisches Nationalmuseum	€8.00
Pretzel at Brezen Kolb	€1.60
Nuremberg Bratwurst + beer at	
Hausbrauerei Altstadthof	€10.90
Glass of Franken Weißwein at Café Wanderer	€3.20
Dinner at Vapiano	€6.25
Day ticket for public transport for Day 2	€5.10
Entry into Documentation Museum	€5.00
Cinnamon donuts at Burg Bäckerei	€1.00
Lunch at Bok City	€8.00
Spatler beer at Palais Schaumburg	€2.40
Mexican at Hot Tacos	€8.50
Long Island Iced Tea at Mata Hari	€7.00
Return transfer to Nuremberg Airport via metro	€5.00
Total:	€129.45

» Visit Nuremberg online