

Munich:

Tour duration: approx. 2 hours
walking time

Length of tour approx. 3.5 miles



Maps and more information are available at:

Tourist office at City Hall
Marienplatz 2
80331 München

Main office
Tel.: +49 (0)89 233 96 500
Fax: +49 (0)89 233 30 233
tourismus@muenchen.de

or go to **Google maps** to print your own

The following gives you a listing and basic information of the main sights. For more in depth facts we recommend purchasing a published guide book, for sale at many locations in town

The Sights:

Frauenkirche
Marienplatz
Neues Rathaus
Altes Rathaus
Alte Peter
Viktualienmarkt
Asamkirche
Michaelskirche
Karlstor

Dreifältigkeitskirche
Hofgarten
Theatinerkirche
Feldherrnhalle
Residenz
Nationaltheater
Hofbräuhaus
Isartor

Additional sights a little further away

Deutsches Museum
Englischer Garten
Nymphenburg palace

Alte and Neue Pinakothek
Wies'n - Oktoberfest
Königsplatz

Our tour starts at the twin towers of the **Frauenkirche**. Take Liebfrauenstrasse and turn left at *Kaufingerstrasse* to get to the *Marienplatz* with a view at the **Neues Rathaus**. After crossing the plaza we arrive at the **Altes Rathaus**. Backtracking to turn left at the *Rindermarkt* will bring us to the **Alte Peter**, the tower of the **St. Peter's church**. Walking to the back of the church leaving *Peterplatz* we will arrive at the **Viktualienmarkt**, Munich's largest outdoor market. Down *Rosental* we turn left at the *Sendlinger Strasse* to visit the **Church of St. Johann Nepomuk**, better known as the **Asamkirche**. Backtrack and turn left on *Hackerstrasse* to *Brunnstrasse* we turn right at *Damenstiftstrasse* and *Eisenmannstrasse* to reach *Neuhauser Strasse* and the **St. Michael's church** across to our right. Westbound or left on *Neuhauser Strasse* brings us to the **Karlsplatz**. From there right, we walk along the *Stachus*, the city's busiest intersection, till we reach *Pacellistrasse* and the **Dreifältigkeitskirche**. Crossing *Promenadeplatz* left on *Kardinal Faulhaber Strasse* we follow the street to *Brienner Strasse* and turn right to reach *Theatinerstrasse*. Here we stop to look around. To our left is the *Odeonsplatz* and across from it the **Hofgarten**. Across from us is the **Residenz**, the largest city palace in Germany. Turning to our right we see the **Feldherrenhalle** and the **Theatinerkirche**. We use *Residenzstrasse* to get to *Maximilianstrasse*, where we turn left, passing by the **Nationaltheater** we turn right to arrive at the Platzl with the world famous **Hofbräuhaus**. Turning left on *Bräuhausstrasse* continue on *Marienstrasse* we turn right on *Lueg ins Land* to reach our last stop: the **Isartor**

Street = Strasse alternate spelling **Straße**

Frauenkirche:

Cathedral of Our Blessed Lady

This church, with her twin towers, is a major landmark in the city center

Replacing an older 12th century church, the construction of the Frauenkirche was started in 1468, finished in 1488 and consecrated in 1494. The famous copper domes were added in 1525. In the early 19th century the seat of the Archdiocese was moved to Munich and the church became a cathedral. The church was severely damaged during World War II and restoration was finally finished in 1994. Luckily, major artworks and the windows were secured before the bomb attacks. Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, now better known as Pope Benedict XVI was the cardinal there from 1977 - 1982.

Marienplatz:

Mary's square

The plaza (originally called Schrankenplatz) dates back to the founding of the city in 1158 when it was the central market square. It received its current name from a Marian column erected in 1638 to celebrate the withdrawal of the Swedish troops during the 30 year war (1618-1648). But the square's name did not change till 1854. Both old and new city halls are on the periphery of the plaza.

Neues Rathaus und das Glockenspiel:

New city hall and the carillon

The 400 room building was built from 1867 till 1909 in the Flanders Gothic style. Incorporated in the building are the official city offices and it is also **home of the tourist office** plus several small businesses on the ground floor and the Ratskeller is a large restaurant located in the basement. The 260 foot tower is famous for the **Glockenspiel (carillon)** and has been in existence since 1908. It shows some of the city's history. Displayed in the upper part is a joust which was arranged for the marriage of Duke Wilhelm V. and Renata of Lothringen.

The lower part shows the Schäfflertanz, when the barrel makers of the city came together and danced through the streets to signify the end of the plague (1515-1517). It is still performed in periodical costume every 7 years. Daily performance of the carillon are at 11 AM and 12 NOON and from March till October also at 5 PM.

Altes Rathaus:

Old city hall

Originally built in 1464 it has gone through multiple changes over the years with the most recent one after WWII. The tower, which is a remodeled city gate, is home of a toy museum. The building also shows the different coats of arms of the city. At the south east side of the tower is the bronze sculpture of the charming Julia, a gift from the Italian partner city of Verona, which is often decorated by the locals with fresh bouquets of flowers.

Alte Peter:

The old Peter's church

It is the oldest parish church in the center of town, dating back to before Munich was founded as a city in 1158. It was bombed and destroyed in 1945. Rebuilding of the church to its old glory started one year later and was finally finished in the year 2000 with the completion of the last ceiling fresco. The 302 feet high tower is one of the best look outs in the city, but be prepared to climb 306 steps to the top and you guessed it, the same amount to get back down again.

Viktualienmarkt

Victuals Market

A short walk from the Marienplatz is the city's most popular open air market. It is the culinary center of the city with 140 stalls offering flowers, exotic fruit, game, poultry, herbs and spices, cheese, fish, juices and more. It is the local shopping place for the gourmets. The selection of prepared foods make it a great place to buy lunch and try the local fair. This is considered a do not miss.

Asamkirche

Asam Church

Church of St. Johann Nepomuk, known as the Asam Church, was built from 1733 to 1746 by the Asam brothers as their private church, but they were forced to open the doors to the public. The church is a splendid example of Bavaria's late Baroque architecture.

Michaelskirche

Church of St. Michael

The former Jesuit church of St Michael is the largest Renaissance church north of the Alps and dates back to 1583. It was built as a spiritual center of the counter reformation. The statues on the impressive facade exhibits the family tree of the earlier Bavarian rulers of the Wittelsbach dynasty. The barrel vaulted ceiling of the church and St. Peter's dome in Rome, are the 2 largest in the world.

Karlstor

The Karl's gate

The gate at the main entrance to the inner city from the **Karlsplatz**, named after the unpopular *Karl Theodor, Elector of Bavaria*, is better known by locals as the **Stachus**. The gate was part of the medieval fortification. Beneath the Stachus is one of the largest subterranean shopping centers in the world and the Stachus McDonalds is also considered one of the busiest worldwide.

Dreifältigkeitskirche

Church of the Holy Trinity

This church was built by the people of Munich as an offering to keep the city safe during the "War of the Spanish Succession". Built in 1711-1718, it is the abbey church for the Carmelite convent

Hofgarten

The formal garden was built from 1613-1617 with a pavilion for the goddess Diana in the center. It is a very popular spot to hang out and weather permitting listen to street musicians.

Theatinerkirche

Church of St. Kajetan

Finished in 1688 it was built as a gesture of thanks for the birth of the long awaited heir to the Bavarian crown, Prince Max Emanuel, in 1662 by Elector Ferdinand Maria and his wife, Henriette Adelaide of Savoy. The rich stucco ornaments inside the church, done by Nicolo Petri, have a remarkably light feeling due to its brilliant white color. The church is home to the tombs of some members of the Wittelbach's dynasty.

Feldherrnhalle

Field Marshall's Hall

Building started in 1841 by order of King Ludwig I of Bavaria to honor the military leaders Johann Tilly and Karl Phillip von Wrede and the victorious Bavarian Army. The central sculptural group was added in 1882 after the Franco-Prussian War.

Residenz

Residence

For 500 years it was the center of power of the Bavarian dukes, electors and kings and is one of Europe's most significant museums of interior decoration. The highlight is the Antiquarium, which was built around 1570 for the antique collection of Duke Albrecht V.

Nationaltheater

National theater

Originally opened in 1818 and destroyed by bombs in 1943. After the war it was rebuilt to the original specification through private donation and was rededicated in 1963.

Hofbräuhaus

No English translation necessary

The most famous beer hall in the world has been in existence since 1644 and in its present form since 1896. With a daily consumption of over 10,000 liters (2642 gal) of beer it lives up to its reputation of beer, food, tourists, oompah music and Lederhosen.

Check out the wall of personalized beer steins, locked away for use by their owners.

Note: Tables labeled with "Stammtisch" are reserved for regulars (a rule in all Bavarian restaurants).

Isartor

Isar gate

The east gate of the medieval city opening the way to the river Isar.

This is a basic tour of the city center or old town of Munich.

There are many more excellent sights and must sees in and around this tremendous town. The English Garden with the famous beer gardens around the Chinese Tower, the Deutsche Museum (German Museum), Olympic Park, the new and old Pinakothek, Nymphenburg palace, the Theresienwiese, home of the original, world-famous Oktoberfest, with the Bavarian Hall of Fame and the Bavaria statue towering above it are but a few to mention. A reminder of Germany's infamous past is nearby in Dachau. The fabulous palaces and castle of King Ludwig II., combined with the magnificent Bavarian Alps and many idyllic villages and towns are only a short trip away.