Gothic Quarter: Barcelona’s most historic neighborhood

London
A weekend adventure
& much more!

Ibiza
The Life of the Balearic Islands
DROP OFF TAX SERVICE

GETTING YOUR REFUND IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.

We're here to help with your tax prep. Safely drop off your docs and go - with or without an appointment.

› Leave your docs with us.
› Your tax pro will call with any questions.
› Review and approve your return online.

Military tax expertise to get every deduction you deserve.

Questions?
Call us:

Open Year-Round

BAMBERG
Zollner Str. 187
95052 Bamberg
Phone: 0951-7000899
rosie.short@hrblock.com

VILSECK
Ambergerstr. 1
92249 Vilseck
Phone: 09662-701339
jorellano@hrblock.com

GRAFENWOEHR AAFES
AAFES Shopping Mall
Seasonal Office
Phone: 0173-573-6112
jorellano@hrblock.com

VILSECK AAFES
AAFES Shopping Mall
Seasonal Office
Phone 0152-520-68935
jorellano@hrblock.com

HRBLOCK.COM
800-HRBLOCK

ITIN ACCEPTANCE AGENT · EXPAT TAX SERVICE
Unlimited Digital Access
INTRO OFFER!
FOUR WEEKS  Web + Mobile
ONLY $99

Stars and Stripes content features

- Access to Stars and Stripes mobile apps
- Exclusive reports on military matters
- Coverage of all military branches
- Special features on current issues
- Veterans topics
- Retrospectives such as Vietnam at 50
- Archive Photo of the Day
- Unbiased, First Amendment protected reporting from U.S. military bases around the world.

stripes.com/subscribe
Cheeky Little Statues

Gnomes have been a thing in Europe for centuries. In ancient Rome, statues of Pripus (a lesser god of fertility) were planted in gardens to help ward off bad juju and ensure a bountiful harvest. Spurred on by a Swiss chemist in the 1500s, gnomes were established as small, mischievous magical earth dwellers who roamed through gardens and fields helping crops grow. However, they weren’t the cute chubby little guys we know and love. It wasn’t until the early 1800s when they were firmly rooted in German folklore and fairytales that they became the instantly recognizable red hat-adorned shenanigan makers.

Garden gnomes grew in popularity when a British nobleman imported 21 terra cotta statues from German sculptor Philip Griebel in the 1840s. Gnomes were found in wealthy gardens throughout the U.K. until their decline in the early 20th century. When Disney released “Snow White and the Seven Dwarves,” a renewed love affair began. Although most are manufactured elsewhere, Griebel’s company is the lone company still producing the classic pottery in Germany.

My fondness for gnomes goes back about eight years. A friend and I were going to a garden party-themed event and rather than going with the traditional fancy hat and dress, we decided to take the theme literally. We dressed as garden gnomes, complete with red conical hats with white yarn beards attached. From this singular event, I giggle every time I see one and think of my friend. I’ve amassed a small collection of Christmas “Heinzelmännchen” and was gifted Bubba, a New Orleans Saints garden gnome to help bring my favorite football team good luck.

You can find these cheeky little statues at most garden stores in Germany, especially during the warmer spring months. While they may not live up to their promise of helping around the garden, at least they’ll bring you a smile.
KFZ-Rupprecht
YOUR ALLROUND-SERVICE
IN GRAFENWOEHR

OUR SERVICES
▶ Inspections
▶ Service (without losing Manufacturer warranty)
▶ Tire Service
▶ Air Conditioning Service
▶ Engine Diagnostic & Repair
▶ Parts Sale
▶ Glass Repair
▶ Body Repair
▶ Tuning
▶ ... and a lot more!

PAINT SHOP
We paint all (incl. Special Paint & Car foiling)

ACCIDENT?
No problem – We help you!

Interested? Come and visit us!
Beim Flugplatz 14  92655 Grafenwöhr
Tel. 09641/9290909

Natterer
Paint & Body Specialists

YOUR EXPERTS FOR:
• Body & Paint
• Brake and exhaust
• Winter and holidays prep
• Windshield & Car Glass
• Accident damage repair
• Vehicle inspection
• Towing and Rental Service

From drab to fab!
CHANGE YOUR DULL CAR INTO A HEAD TURNER.

VAT forms accepted
Oskar-von-Miller-Str. 22
92637 Weiden
Tel: 0961-670780
www.auto-natterer.de
Just a two-hour drive from Frankfurt or Nuremberg, or a half-hour’s ride from Würzburg, the regal spa town of Bad Kissingen beckons with splendid scenery, a rich history peopled with famed personalities and healing mineral waters.

In a town offering ample space to roam, three parks in particular stand out: the Spa Garden, the Rose Garden and the Luitpold Park.
A spa town then and now

Bad Kissingen, a spa town in Bavaria’s Lower Franconia region, enjoys an enviable location. Framed by the Rhön Mountains and Saale River, its rich mineral waters have attracted guests for centuries.

By the 19th century, the town was already a fashionable resort, attracting royalty and the who’s who of the day, including Empress Elisabeth of Austria, Tsar Alexander II of Russia, King Ludwig II of Bavaria, Otto von Bismarck, Leo Tolstoy and numerous others. When the Austro-Prussian War raged, Kissingen saw fierce battle between Bavarian and Prussian troops. On the fateful day of July 10, 1866, the Prussians emerged victorious.

Today, the spiffy city that’s home to some 22,500 residents attracts a stream of visitors year-round. Those suffering from medical ailments come for rehabilitation. Vacationers seek tranquility and day-trippers eagerly soak up its regal atmosphere. Its seductive spa culture of swimming pools, saunas and Jacuzzis is a major draw, and for fans of warm water fun, a visit to the KissSalis thermal baths should not be missed.

But there’s no need to disrobe to enjoy this city at the crossroads of history. Graceful parks, green spaces and blossoming beauty make this the place for leisurely strolls or sitting on a bench and watching the world go by.

Green spaces abound

The Kurgarten, or spa garden, is five refined acres of palms and statuary, spectacularly offset by a handsome arcaded building. Inside the Max Temple, cure-takers sip mineral-rich waters rising from a natural spring. The garden, which was commissioned by King Ludwig I in 1834, is replanted three times yearly to ensure blooms match the seasons. The Kurgarten Café offers a cup of tea before continuing explorations.

A stone’s throw away is the Rosengarten, in which 125 varieties of the fragrant flower flaunt their exquisiteness. The park’s so-called multimedia fountain is one-of-a-kind in Germany. Jets of water dance to musical compositions at set hours of the day, and when darkness falls, images are projected onto a screen made of millions of water particles.

The Luitpoldpark, a 37-acre landscape garden sculpted after the English style, offers space to roam. In early spring, crocuses and daffodils raise their pretty heads. In the summer, the rose promenade is a treat for all senses.

Harmonize, hike and heal

A trio of Luitpoldpark’s best features fosters harmony between body and soul. Vigorous treading through a pool in the Mediterranean Kneipp area purports to strengthen one’s cardiovascular system. The barefoot labyrinth, a winding path through grass, sand, bark and other textures, stimulates the soles of one’s feet. In the sound garden, harmonious clanging music plays.

For more natural beauty, stroll alongside the Saale or conquer “der Hochrhöner,” a six-mile trail that passes by stately villas, over babbling brooks, uphill to a scenic viewpoint and back to town. Following in the footsteps of illustrious visitors of times past, you’ll be pleased to return to Bad Kissingen.
Situated in the Mediterranean, there is a gem. Though this beauty may be known for its vivacious atmosphere, the towns, locals, food and beaches are what make this island one worth coming back to. We’re talking about Ibiza, the “Isla Blanca” (white island) of the Balearic Sea.
PICTURESQUE TOWNS

The components of the towns in Ibiza are comprised of whitewashed small buildings, a few small restaurants and bars, a market and a church. However, each village and town on the island offer a special kind of magic in their own way.

Eivissa
The town of Ibiza, or Eivissa, is brimming with beautiful, white-washed buildings and pops of color seen in the hanging bougainvillea and boutique shops. In fact, the Old Town, or Dalt Vila, is so picturesque that in 1999 it became a UNESCO World Heritage Site. While there, be sure to pay a visit to the Ibiza Cathedral located in the Old Town. A word to the wise: bring comfortable walking shoes, as you'll need to walk up a steep hill to get to it. Another can't-miss site is the Sant Lucía Bastion where you’ll be able to see an old gunpowder magazine in the center, as well as the most captivating views of the harbor your eyes will have the pleasure of seeing.

Santa Gertrudis
Situated at the heart of Ibiza, the charming village of Santa Gertrudis is one you’ll come to love. Encompassing bohemian flare, this village houses eclectic works of art in their galleries, boho-chic cafes and the famous Bar Costa, where back in the day, starving artists would swap paintings for food. Though the village may have adapted to the modern taste of tourism—it is aptly known as the chicest town in Ibiza—the bohemian beat still marches on. Be sure to roam around the village square for an authentic old town experience.

Es Cubells
One visit to Es Cubells will have you feeling as if time stood still. Though your “to do” list here may be scant (there’s the Nuestra Señora del Carmen Church, two bars and an area for the kids to play in), the views from the church overlooking the cliffs make up for it. If you’re wanting a quiet reprieve, there are also many luxury villas to choose from, ranging from all-inclusive to your own calm respite.

Santa Eulària des Riu
Wanting the best of both worlds? Head to Santa Eulària des Riu, where you’ll not only be able to suntan the day away but will also be able to continue living the lively atmosphere Ibiza has to offer. In this town, many shops and restaurants await you and will not leave you feeling disappointed at all the options. Be sure to put Puig de Missa on your itinerary. This imposing church dates back to the 16th century and also lends itself as a great photo-op.

THE LIFE OF THE PARTY

It’s no secret that Ibiza holds the title of the party spot in Spain. Chances are, if you’ve come to the island, partying until you hear ringing in your ears from the loud music is the main agenda for your trip. Below are the party hotspots to remember:

Pacha
The island comes alive at night at Pacha, the famous nightclub, where they house some of the island’s biggest DJs. Be sure to dress to impress! Beachwear is prohibited.

Playa de’n Bossa
Perhaps the most popular resort on the island, Ushuaia, the well-known open-air club is the epitome of what you think when you hear “Ibiza.” Sankeys, a smaller club, can also be found at this strip.

San Antonio
The nightlife in San Antonio can only be described as legendary. This buzzing resort area is a treasure trove for anyone who wants sun, beach and nightlife. Check out Es Paradis, Eden and the O Beach Ibiza beach club for a fun night.
MUST-SEE BEACHES

Ibiza is also known for its jaw-dropping sunsets and crystal-clear beaches. Whether it’s with your friends or family, dipping your sandy toes in these waters is a must.

Cala Conte

This beach, located on the west coast, is the perfect place to learn how to swim as the water is shallow. Note that because the coastline is rocky, there isn’t much sand here.

Cala Tarida

With the long stretch of fine, white sand, Cala Tarida is a beach the whole family can enjoy. There is also an array of watersports to partake in such as waterskiing and diving.

Aguas Blancas

The locals may be mad their secret has been spoiled, but this less-touristy beach is perfect for those who want to avoid the crowds. You can even lather mud from the red clay from the cliffs on your body!

Benirras

Located in the northern part of Ibiza, Benirras is the beach to be seen. This beach is particularly known for its sunsets and is the place where the local “hippies” play their drums as the crowd dances along.

THE GASTRONOMIC SCENE

Though everyone knows the classic staples belonging to Spain—Iberic ham, tapas, sangrias and paella to name a few—the dishes below are worth trying as they are native to Ibiza.

“Sofrit Pagés” – Stew (chicken, lamb, Ibiza sausages and other meats can be used) that is served with potatoes and vegetables.

“Sobrassada” – The national sausage of Ibiza. It’s made from pork mixed with paprika and other spices.

“Bullit de Peix” – Fish stew that came about when the fishermen used whatever fish they had on hand that day.

“Zarzeula” – Similar to paella, this dish is a mixture of shellfish and is cooked in a saffron-flavored stock with rice.

“Frigola” – After dinner, it’s suggested to drink frigola, a thyme-based drink, as a digestive.
In your wandering, you may stumble upon the beautiful Gothic Barcelona Cathedral, the Roman temple and Roman forum or one of the many museums, like the Museum of History or the Gaudí Exhibition Center. Be sure to hop around to the various large squares, which are picturesque gathering spots surrounded by beautiful architecture, cute cafes and all sorts of lively activity. A few favorite squares are Plaça Reial, Plaça Del Pi and Plaça de Sant Jaume.

Whether you’re ready to update your wardrobe or just window-shop, this neighborhood will give you a memorable shopping experience. Las Ramblas, the major pedestrian boulevard through the quarter, is home to the bigger, more well-known brands and side streets that contain many smaller and local boutiques worth exploring.

Good Eats

No matter the time of day, the Gothic Quarter will have you covered in the food and drink department. All you need to do is make a few choices.

Choose between a relaxed cafe setting, some casual tapas or a little gelato from a small shop or tapas bar. This area also offers many options for drinks at a pub or a more formal dinner. Next, choose if you want to be on one of the squares, overlooking the goings-on and taking in the beauty of old and new, or if you want to get lost in the winding, narrow streets and stumble across a place that you might not be able to find again if you tried.

The tapas bar Els Quatre Gats will give you a brush with history and fame, as it was a spot famous for hosting Pablo Picasso and was home to his very first exhibition, welcoming many artists and musicians ever since. For the oldest restaurant in the city, try Can Culleretes. Opened in 1786, it offers delicious dishes of Barcelona and Spain, creating set menus to feature fish, meat and vegetable dishes. Set Portes is known as a must-visit eatery, serving traditional Spanish dishes as well as newer, innovative creations, all with a beautiful view through the seven arched doors that gave the restaurant its name. They are famous for their paellas, rice and seafood, featuring the products of the area.

When it comes to nightlife, the Gothic Quarter will be buzzing. You will find many bars, pubs and clubs around Plaça Reial filled with locals enjoying the night and each other’s company. And you can bet the Gothic Quarter will be buzzing into the early morning hours, so whether you’re joining the fun or hunkering down after a day of wandering, be sure to plan accordingly.
Hotel Villa
Just 3 Minutes from Rose Barracks
Amberger Str 9 92249 Vilseck
E-Mail hotel-villa@email.de
Tel. +49 (0) 9662/42070

- Free WiFi
- Restaurant (Guest Only)
- Homemade German Cuisine
- Breakfast and Special Meals (reservation only)
- Bar opens at 1600
- Private Party Room

ENGLISH SPEAKING OWNER AND STAFF AVAILABLE!

www.ford-segerer.de

- US SPECIFICATION VEHICLES
- SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE
- CLAIMS ESTIMATES & REPAIRS
- WARRANTY WORK
- PAINT & BODY WORK
- TOWING SERVICE

We accept VAT forms and most credit cards.

WSA Shipping Agency
Local Agent for Hohenfels, Vilseck and Grafenwoehr.
Shipping from and to the United States

Opening Hours:
Monday – Friday
8 am – 6 pm
Saturday
8 am – 12 pm

Autohaus Segerer GmbH
Am Anger 2 92287 Schmidmühlen
Phone +49 9474-937 79 46
Fax +49 9474-82 14
Mobile +49 170-33 15 118
Email info@ford-segerer.de

BMW MOTORRAD

Daxheimer MILITARY SALES
0631-36190811
www.motorradsale24.de/military-sales

LAW OFFICES

BECKER & CO
U.S. & GERMAN ATTORNEYS
U.S. & GERMAN DIVORCES • SUPPORT ISSUES • EEO
WILLS & PROBATE • EMPLOYMENT • PERSONAL INJURY
MSRB • CONTRACTOR ISSUES • TAX ADVISORS
FULL SERVICE LAW & TAX FIRM
Call 069 - 299 - 2069 - 0
maiss@b-co.legal www.b-co.com

TRAVEL

PetAir
Worldwide Pet Shipping
Daily departures
Pick-up Service
PetAir takes care
Frankfurt-Airport
Ph. 069-690-71915
www.petair.de

...takes care
There’s nothing quite like a trip to the city.

The lights, the shops, the food and the people all come together to create the perfect bustling atmosphere. The energy coming from the city itself can be magnetic. Get drawn into London’s charm by spending just two days in this buzzing metropolis. Learn about the local history and government, indulge in some delicious cuisine and shop like never before in London.
ENTERTAINMENT

COME SEE OUR STARS AND STRIPES!

ANIMAL SERVICES

Veterinary Clinic Küke

No Appointment Necessary on:
Mon, Wed, Fri 4pm to 6pm
Tues & Thurs 11:00am to Noon
Sat 9:00am to 10:00am

Available for Emergencies 24/7
Please call ahead of your arrival

We Speak English
All Paperwork in English

Accept VAT Forms • Accept Visa
and MasterCard

PCS’ing Back To The States?
We will prepare all health
certificates for your return home

Industriegebiet Döllnitz 12
92690 Pressath
Phone: 09644 6890404
info@tierarztpraxis-kueke.de
A look back in time

London has the perfect blend of modern buildings and ancient architecture. No trip here is complete without visiting some of the most iconic sights. The Tower of London and neighboring Tower Bridge over the River Thames are not to be missed. Be sure to stop here for some essential London pictures. Next up is Westminster Abbey, a Gothic abbey that has been used for coronations since 1066. Be sure to mosey by Buckingham Palace, where the queen hosts events and receptions. These places alone have so much history and character you’ll be hard-pressed to leave.

Cuisine to tickle your fancy

Nothing is as British as fish and chips, so you absolutely must try them while here. Head to Soho’s Golden Union Fish Bar. Here you’ll find fresh fish from British waters that is cooked to order and fried in homemade batter. To take part in a longstanding tradition, go for a spot of afternoon tea. For over 300 years, The Tea Salon at Fortnum & Mason in Piccadilly has been the epitome of sophistication. From cakes to scrumptious scones to tiny finger sandwiches with the crust cut off, this salon has everything your heart desires.

Shop ‘til you drop

Chic clothes, fine bags and high-end jewelry are just some of the amazing finds you will come across when shopping in this iconic city. The perfect places to window shop or even make some purchases are on Oxford Street or Bond Street. For a one-stop shop that is sure to stun, visit Harrods. This department store brings together the best brands luxury has to offer. Think doormen, diamonds and high-class finds.

There’s so much more to London than this simple list of things to see and do. Get your feet wet and see some highlights by initially spending just 48 hours here. It’ll give you plenty of time to figure out the tube, find some incredible food and start planning your next trip to this lovely city.
DISCOVER ADVENTURE

CAMP • CLIMB
HIKE • KAYAK
MOUNTAIN BIKE
PAINTBALL • SCUBA
SKYDIVE • EQUIPMENT RENTALS

EXPLORE • DISCOVER
LET USAG BAVARIA OUTDOOR RECREATION SHOW YOU ADVENTURE

GRAFENWOEHR • HOHENFELS - GERMANY

Wild B.O.A.R. Outdoor Recreation
RC600 Tank Road, Tower Barracks
DSN 475-8529 | CIV 09641-83-8529
GRAFENWOEHR.ARMYMWR.COM

Hohenfels Outdoor Recreation
BH15 Pershing Road
DSN 522-2060 | CIV 09472-708-2060
HOHENFELS.ARMYMWR.COM
Congratulations! CLASS OF 2021

Submit a message of congratulations to your graduate and personalize it with a photo

High School Graduation is a time to remember! Announce your senior’s graduation in your Stripes community publication dedicated to the DoDSS Graduation Class of 2021. Publish date: June 3rd.

For more information, contact SSERevenueTeam@stripes.com
DSN: 314-583-9012 or +49 631-3615-9012

SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS MAY 21

Cost for a 2" X 3" ad, with photo and 15 words or less is $19.
**Finesse**

Facial Plastic Surgery | ORL

Mayo Clinic Trained and US double Board Certified Surgeon

**Nose Surgery** - Face Lift - Hair Restoration

Botox - Lasers - HA Fillers

**Holger G. Gassner, MD**
- Mayo Clinic Trained ORL / Head and Neck Surgeon
- Double Board Certified Facial Plastic Surgeon (ABRTO, ABFPRS)
- US Medical License

**Sinthya Pineda, R.N.***
- Hair Transplantation Technologist (USA)
- 8 years at top centers in NYC and Miami

Finesse Center for Facial Plastic Surgery
Frohliche-Tuerken-Strasse 8 | 93047 Regensburg
info@finesse.center | 0941 586 50 - 555

www.DrGassner.com

---

**SHIP/MAIL**

**Trans Global Logistics Europe GmbH**

- International Shipping
- Import & Export
- Inland trucking (U.S. & Europe)
- Door to door pick-up/delivery service
- Customs clearance
- All Risk Marine Insurance
- Auto Insurance (Germany only)

**Vehicle Shipping Services!**

For 2nd POV Shipments - Offices / Agencies near Military Installations

**GERMANY**
- Phone: +49 (0) 6134-58444-0
- Toll-Free: 0800-CARSHIP (Germany only)
- E-Mail: info@transglobal-logistics.de
- Web: www.transglobal-logistics.de

**UNITED KINGDOM**
- Phone: +44 (0)1638-515714
- E-Mail: enquiries@carshipuk.co.uk
- Web: www.carshipuk.co.uk

**U.S.A**
- Phone: +1-972-602-1670
- Toll-Free: +1-800-264-8167 (US only)
- E-Mail: info@tgal.us
- Web: www.tgal.us
EVERYDAY BENEFIT YOU GET

10% OFF

ON YOUR RESTAURANT PURCHASE
WITH YOUR MILITARY STAR® CARD

EARN DOUBLE REWARD POINTS WHEN
YOU USE YOU MILITARY STAR® CARD

Grafenwoehr
EXCHANGE
shopmyexchange.com

TOWER BARRACKS MAIN STORE
Monday-Saturday: 0900 to 2000
Sunday: 1000 to 1800

myexchangefood.com

APPLY NOW
Save 10%
on your first days
purchases and start
receiving points today!

Available at many on-base Exchange locations
and other participating retailers. Rewards include
Military Exchange Case of Cuts.

BAVARIA
Join our facebook page

www.facebook.com/GrafenwoehrExchange