

FREE

STARS AND STRIPES®

JULY 2023

# WHAT'S UP

WHAT TO SEE | WHAT TO DO

STUTTGART



U.K. CASTLES, CATHEDRALS & GARDENS  
TO GET LOST IN

SPEND A DAY IN  
UPPER FRANCONIA

HAPPENING IN JULY  
EDITOR'S PICKS

& MUCH  
MORE



- **GOOD CARS FROM GOOD GUYS** •
- **STARS AND STRIPES' BEST OF GERMANY WINNER 2021** •

**Insurance & Financing Assistance • Trades Welcome**



**🔍 FIND YOUR CAR**

More than 200 late model US spec vehicles in stock

**✈️ ARRIVE & DRIVE**

PCSing to Germany?  
Reserve online and we will get everything ready for you.  
Hablamos Espanol

**💰 SELL YOUR CAR**

We have great prices with quick, friendly service and fast payment.

**STUTTGART • KAISERSLAUTERN • RAMSTEIN • SPANGDAHLEM**



WhatsApp: 01737 656 926

**WWW.USEDCARGUYS.NET**

# WHAT'S UP

A Stars and Stripes Community Publication

**COMMANDER**

MARCI A. HOFFMAN, Lt Col, USAF

**BUSINESS OPERATIONS  
MANAGER EUROPE**

JOHN RODRIGUEZ

**PUBLISHING & MEDIA DESIGN,  
DIRECTOR**

MARIE WOODS

**PUBLISHING & MEDIA DESIGN,  
MANAGER**

CARRIE FARRELL

**WRITER-EDITORS**

ERICA FOWLER, TAMALA MALERK,  
KAT NICKOLA

**GRAPHIC ARTISTS**

AMANDA DEHART, RYAN JOYE

**MARKETING COORDINATOR**

AYLA ROBACK

**MARKETING ASSISTANT**

AL GREEN

**MULTIMEDIA ADVERTISING,  
MANAGER**

DOUG DOUGHERTY

**ADVERTISING SALES ASSISTANT**

DANNY PADRO

**MULTIMEDIA ADVERTISING,  
CONSULTANTS**

SEAN ADAMS, HEIDI BAYFIELD,  
KANDACE BLEVIN, NATE JAMISON,  
JEFF TEESLINK

**COVER DESIGN BY**

RYAN JOYE

**ADVERTISING OFFICE**

Unit 29480, APO, AE 09211  
Postfach 1980, 67607  
Kaiserslautern, Germany  
+49(0)631-3615-9000  
or email: [dougherty.doug@stripes.com](mailto:dougherty.doug@stripes.com)

**TO ADVERTISE CONTACT:**



**HEIDI BAYFIELD**  
STUTT GART AREA  
MULTIMEDIA CONSULTANT  
[bayfield.heidi@stripes.com](mailto:bayfield.heidi@stripes.com)  
TEL: 0152-56725021

**CONTACT US:**

Telephone: +49 (0) 6631-3615-9111  
or DSN: 314-583-9111  
Email: [memberservices@stripes.com](mailto:memberservices@stripes.com)

[WWW.STRIPESEUROPE.COM](http://WWW.STRIPESEUROPE.COM)



@STARSANDSTRIPESEUROPE



**pullman**  
HOTELS AND RESORTS

STUTT GART FONTANA



**your home  
away from  
home**



## RENOVATIONS ARE COMPLETE!

Everything is brand new and state-of-the-art.

**LUXURY ACCOMMODATIONS**

Adjoining rooms and suites

**RESTAURANT & BAR**

Abundant breakfast

**SPA & WELLNESS CENTER**

Rejuvenate at our pool and spa

**IDEAL LOCATION**

Steps from the Vaihingen S-Bahn and U-Bahn stations

**LAUNDRY AND IRONING**

facilities available

**CITY PARK**

with kids playground and jogging trails in front of the hotel

**Families PCSing receive:**

- 10% Discount on food and beverages
- Choose two complimentary amenities - pet accommodation, laundry or parking

Vollmoellerstrasse 5 • 70563

VAIHINGEN - STUTT GART

T. +49 711 730 2301 • E. [h5425@accor.com](mailto:h5425@accor.com)

**BOOK TODAY 0711 730 2300**

# July Events

By Tamala Malerk

# EDITOR'S PICKS

Summer is here! Celebrate this sunny part of the year with festivals, concerts, cons, monster trucks and more. Always check the event's website before traveling.



## Street Food & Beach Festival July 13-16, Dortmund

Enjoy four days of sand, sun and fun. There will be culinary treats and live music on Dortmund's Street Beach mile. Cool down under a palm tree and sip on a cocktail.



## Cologne Pride June 26-July 9, Cologne

Celebrate Pride with street festivals, cosplaying day, demonstrations and more. The celebration concludes with a three-day street festival between July 7 and 9. You can find more Pride events in Germany at misterbandb.com.



## Board Game Con July 14, Berlin

Come play your favorite board game or learn a new one. This is a con for experienced gamers or those new to the game (pun intended). For more pop culture cons across Germany, check out Con Together: July on europe.stripes.com.



## Wool Festival July 8 and 9, Kassel

Across 4,000 sq. meters, you will find 60 exhibitors presenting knitting accessories, wool and staple fibers. The spinners of "Whirring Wheels" will show off their craft on both days.



## Spielbuden Festival July 21-23, Hamburg

The Corny Littmann Foundation presents the top artists of the street art scene. Following in the centuries-long tradition of street theater, Spielbuden brings that classic fair to the modern era.



## Africa Festival Stuttgart July 7-9, Stuttgart

Enjoy three days of children's programs, fairy tales, lectures, workshops, a fashion show, music, food, theater groups and shopping at the bazaar. Music from a variety of African nations will be represented at this event.



## Monster Jam July 22, Frankfurt

Finally returning to Frankfurt after its last show in 2019, make your way to the PitParty and pick your favorite one as these world-famous trucks and vehicles take to the pit. More dates and locations available at monsterjam.com.



## P!nk Live in Concert July 12 and 13, Hannover

P!nk has been rocking our world since 2001. Listen to her best hits like "Just Like Fire," "Get the Party Started," "Sober" and "Raise your Glass." More dates and locations can be found at pinkspage.com.

## Tell Your Story!

### Editor's Pick Call Out:


Did you attend one of our previous Editor's Picks events? We want to hear all about it! Please share something memorable about your experience in about 50-70 words and you could be featured here. Send your submissions to [contentteam@stripes.com](mailto:contentteam@stripes.com). ■

# EHRBAR

BEST BURGER IN TOWN

Lauchstrasse 1  
71032 Böblingen  
Wednesday - Sunday  
5pm-9:30pm

 07031 98 96 961

 info@ehrbar-bb.de

TREAT YOURSELF TODAY



Antik Cleversulzbach  
JOHN  
**BIRCHALL**  
ANTIQUITÄTEN



Open Tuesday - Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

By Appointment: Sunday - 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

*Visit us in Cleversulzbach.  
Our three cross-timbered houses  
cover over 1500 square meters.*

## Quality Antiques & Accessories

Antik Cleversulzbach, Eberstädterstr. 2-4, 5+8, 74196 Cleversulzbach  
Phone: 07139-7963 / Cell: 0172-7193537 / john.birchall@t-online.de

Motorway 81 (Wuerzburg – Heilbronn), 10 minutes from Weinsberger Junction  
5 minutes off A81, Exit 8, Neuenstadt to Cleversulzbach

[www.antik-cleversulzbach.de](http://www.antik-cleversulzbach.de)

# PHOTO of the month

Vianden, Luxembourg has a rich and interesting history. During the Middle Ages, the area was as large as the modern Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. In the late 1800s, French poet Victor Hugo lived in town after his banishment from Belgium. Nowadays, it is a small border town of 2,000 people and has plenty for tourists to do, including visiting Vianden Castle and venturing down the main street.

**Photo by Denise Tudor.**

For a chance for your photo to be featured, email [contentteam@stripes.com](mailto:contentteam@stripes.com).



Follow us on  
Instagram "CocadaKosmetik"



# Give the Gift of *Beauty & Relaxation*

with a gift card from  
**Cocada Kosmetik!**

Shop online at our website or Instagram.  
We ship to your home.



## *Specials*

Maderotherapy - 75€, Vacuslim Fat Loss Wrap - 50€,  
Cellulite Treatment Package (x6) - 420€ or (x10) - 650€,  
Eyebrow Threading - 19€, Microblading or Powder  
Brow Treatments (x2) - 340€, Lip Pigmentation Treatments (x2) - 340€  
Hydra Facial - 99€ or complete for - 120€  
Diode Laser Treatment - we accept VAT Forms,  
Make-up for Day or Night - 60€, Bridal Make-up with prior consultation  
Lymph Drainage, Maternity & Ayurvedic Massage, Waxing, Facials, Spray  
Tanning & more

**NOW OFFERING - Radio Frequency Treatments for Face and Body**  
(firmness, fat melting, lifting, contouring)

*It's time to get hair free! | Diode Laser Specials | Use your VAT form*  
**GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE AT THE SPA AND ON OUR WEBSITE**

Postplatz 8 • 71032 Böblingen  
www.cocada-kosmetik.de • 07031/7217993



# *Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

**BEST WISHES FROM YOUR PARTNER**



**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
GLOBAL CAMPUS | EUROPE**

**125+ programs & specializations designed to  
help you achieve whatever you dream of next!**

**europe.umgc.edu**



A DAY IN

# Upper Franconia

By Kat Nickola

**Forests with hot springs and towns full of castles and breweries are what define Oberfranken, or Upper Franconia. This northernmost portion of Bavaria is historically, culturally and linguistically different from the southern portion of the Bundesland (state).**

**F**ranconia is divided into three regions with Upper Franconia being the higher elevation portion along the northern border with Thuringia. It is named for the Germanic Franks who occupied and conquered much of Europe in the 5th to 8th centuries after the fall of Rome. Frankish people from the Rhineland gave Franconia its unique German dialect. Interestingly, some Frankish groups also pushed westward into Gaul, eventually giving France its namesake. Franconia became an important political and religious power base within the Holy Roman Empire. In 1803, Franconia was absorbed by the Kingdom of Bavaria with support from Napoleon and remains politically tied to Bavaria today.







### Hiking and Hot Springs

Known as the “Green Crown of Bavaria” the Franconian Forest is a beautifully wild area of uplands covered in dense forest and perfect for a day of hiking. The forest service has a list of recommended day hiking routes easily findable on their interactive map. These routes are all well-marked with information panels, rest stops and cafes to grab a pint along the way.

One trail follows the former border between East and West Germany. The 14-kilometer loop is primarily within the Thuringian Muschwitz stream nature reserve. This area used to be edged in barbed wire and lookout towers, but the green belt of ecological growth between the borders thrived.

**VISIT STARS AND STRIPES EUROPE ON KOMOOT FOR A TRAIL MAP.**



**STAY LONGER IN THE FOREST BY RESERVING A WILDERNESS TREKKING CAMPSITE.**



Castle Thurnau in Upper Franconia.

After hiking, visit one of the numerous thermal springs in the area. The Therme Bad Steben lies nearby in the heart of the forest and combines traditional buildings with ultra-modern facilities. The two mineral springs feeding the sauna have been used for their healing properties since the 1400s. The town developed into a tourist spa in the 1700s and was later awarded a position as a “Royal Bavarian State Spa.”

### Castles and Breweries

Bayreuth is the final town along the German Castle Road, which begins far to the west in Mannheim and visits roughly 60 castles along a 780-kilometer route. The four palaces in Bayreuth were constructed at the height of the Kingdom of Prussia’s Rococo period in the 1700s. The town was also home to famed composer, Richard Wagner, whose grave and museum are a tribute to his mythological operas. Downtown, visit the small traditional Manns Bräu local brewery for a taste of Franconian specialties.

To learn even more about beer brewing, visit the Maisel & Friends brewery complex. Here you can take a tour of the brewery, including a fascinating look at the underground catacombs. There is also a beer garden and restaurant for tasting one of the 100 beers available, with 21 on tap.

The next castle town is Kulmbach. Its hilltop Plassenburg fortress hosts a unique set of museum collections about castle life and tin

figures. Nearby you’ll find the unique beer, spice and bakery museums at Kulmbach’s Mönchshof. The former monastery boasts 600 years of beer brewing history and is worth visiting for its traditional Bräuhaus.

Further north is the Rosenberg fortress, one of the largest and best-preserved castles in Bavaria where you can take a tour to see the secret tunnels underneath. It was built in the 1200s and sits on the hill above the quaint walled town of Kronach, hometown of Lucas Cranach, an artist famous for his painting of protestant reformer Martin Luther. Learn more about Cranach at the town museum or just wander the along cute, cobbled streets past medieval architecture to one of the three local brew pubs.

Upper Franconia boasts the highest density of breweries in the world. If hiking from brewery to brewery sounds fun, try a Braueienweg, or brewery trail. An easy 14-kilometer trail through the rocky and scenic valleys surrounding the town of Aufsess is a classic route taking in four breweries and a castle. ■

**FIND THIS TRAIL ON KOMOOT WITH STARS AND STRIPES EUROPE.**

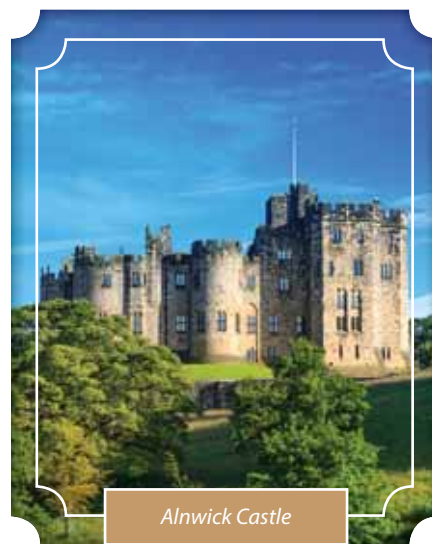


# U.K. CASTLES, CATHEDRALS & GARDENS TO GET LOST IN

By Erica Fowler

In need of some serenity and calm? A vast British garden may just do the trick. At any time of the year, they are lovingly tilled and trimmed, often alongside mammoth structures like castles and cathedrals with stories to tell. I'm a fan of travel escapism. When I come back to daily life, I am regenerated, inspired and life in the modern day is reframed because I took time to understand the past.

Historic gardens, in a particularly fun way, are alive, and yet undying because efforts are made to feature the original owner's favorites as they were centuries ago. When hand-drawn layouts no longer exist, archeologists heave away mounds of earth (using remote sensing equipment or actual shovels) to uncover where original decorative fixtures once stood at the pleasure of the noble residents. Something new is sometimes added to the original layout, like a revived kitchen garden to feed castle visitors with its fresh flavors.



Alnwick Castle

## ALNWK CASTLE, NORTHUMBERLAND

The opulent interior of Alnwick was remodeled in the style of the Italian Renaissance, and the rooms are fully outfitted in Carrera marble, chandeliers and collections derived from the interests of previous residents. Ornate woodwork is also evidenced throughout because the Alnwick School of Carving was established by the fourth Duke to focus on the various projects each room called for. For all its majesty, it is not surprising that Alnwick Castle has most recently starred in the 2023 "Dungeons and Dragons" movie, and previously in the first two Harry Potter movies, "Transformers: The Last Knight," "Downton Abbey" and others. You may finish the tour of the castle thinking your eyes have been overindulged with gilded beauty, but you haven't seen the adjacent Alnwick Gardens yet!

## ALNWK GARDEN

Capability Brown, a famous British garden architect, began massive work on the landscape for the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland in 1770, going to such lengths as to slow the nearby River Aln's flow by installing cascades so that the castle above could be mirrored on the calmer water. In the present day, the current Duchess led the impressive renovation of the gardens into a 12-acre community pleasure space in the late 1990s. Greeting you at the entrance is the Grand Cascade, a tiered fountain with a mesmerizing light show. Keep a lookout for the world's largest treehouse (with a restaurant inside), which is nestled in a wooded area. The Poison Garden is another unique area, which is home to a collection of toxic plants, such as opium poppies and rhododendrons. Many have cages over them to protect curious hands, and tours are given to explain their characteristics and how humans have used them over the centuries for both wicked and good endeavors. Used in the right amounts, a few of the plants have healing properties and are used in medicines!



The Grand Cascade, Alnwick Garden

# docteam42



At Docteam42, we strive to deliver the highest quality healthcare to our American patients. Utilizing the most up-to-date medical knowledge and technology, we provide expert medical care to your entire family. We employ several American nurses to provide our English-speaking patients with competent and comfortable care. Whether you need a Family Doctor, Internist, Pediatrician, Physical Therapist, or Plastic and Aesthetic Surgeon, we have you covered.

## HELP WANTED

### Front Desk Assistant

Friendly • Reliable • English-speaking



Docteam42  
Poststr.42  
71032 Böblingen

Appointments, prescriptions,  
refills, referrals:  
[www.docteam42.com](http://www.docteam42.com) or  
[info@docteam42.com](mailto:info@docteam42.com)

US Adults:  
07031-2043476  
US Children:  
07031-2043434  
General Office:  
07031-234545



Please visit our website

[www.docteam42.com](http://www.docteam42.com)

to see a list of all of the services we  
provide or to book your appointment  
online. We look forward to your visit!

Tricare Authorized Provider

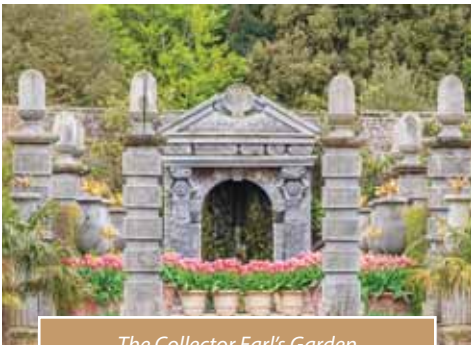


Arundel Castle, West Sussex

## ARUNDEL CASTLE, WEST SUSSEX

Arundel Castle is a perfect example of the transformation of purpose that castles had over time. From the stark defensive needs of the 11th-century Normans to the majestic great hall and rich 19th-century library, there is so much to explore. At the highest point, the castle's original motte-and-bailey keep is centered within its expansive walls that cut into the surrounding woods. It is hard to believe that this castle sat in ruins after its third siege for 150 years before being renovated. It has such a diversity of environments that movies like 2017's "Wonder Woman" filmed scenes on location.

Plan to spend most of the day here if you want to get a full tour and stop for a bite afterward at the lakeside Swanbourne Lodge Tearoom a short distance away.



The Collector Earl's Garden

## THE COLLECTOR EARL'S GARDEN

Originally part of the castle's kitchen garden, this new outdoor masterpiece was dedicated to the 14th Earl of Arundel in 2008, who loved to collect art. Visiting its pergola, fountains and tropical plants under the romantic shade of trees makes for a captivating stroll.

### Did You Know?

Dukes of Norfolk (an English county) have actually been based in Sussex since the Tudor period. Marriage between the Earl of Arundel's daughter, Mary FitzAlan and Thomas Howard, the fourth Duke of Norfolk, determined that Arundel Castle should be the Norfolk county seat.



Octagonal Tower, Ely Cathedral

## ELY CATHEDRAL, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

The original abbey in Ely was built in 672 C.E. by St. Etheldreda, who was an Anglo-Saxon queen and the Abbess of Ely. The designation for this site set a path for this city to remain the home of a magnificent place of worship, even after the first abbey was destroyed by Danish Viking invasions. Rebuilt in 1083, the cathedral has since been refinished many times, with the core remaining mightily Romanesque and later Gothic elements beautifying the vast space. One of the unique Gothic additions that visitors can marvel at today is the octagonal tower. It was created by complete accident when the previous tower collapsed. Such intentionally intricate work went into installing something so beautiful. You will be lost gazing for quite some time.



Ely Cathedral, Cambridgeshire

## FELBRIGG HALL, NORFOLK

On the sprawling 500-acre Felbrigg estate, the magnificent gardens make a striking first impression, strewn with cherry blossom trees. Many trails, a lake and wildlife abound to observe in unobstructed nature. Closer to the hall, the high-walled and manicured gardens are lovingly cared for. In the winter, the staff curate much of the maintenance and new planting projects, and they uncommonly have the freedom to cultivate beyond the traditional arrangements. Plant lovers can be inspired with a stroll through it all, and then stop at the cafe, gift shop or secondhand bookshop to cool off.



Felbrigg Hall, Norfolk

## YORK MINSTER, YORKSHIRE

When it's the largest Gothic cathedral in Northern Europe, it's bound to be a stop while venturing around. The current building began construction in 1080. Since then, it has undergone centuries straight of expansions. The famous Rose Window in the south transept tells the story of union after the Wars of the Roses. It showcases a pattern of red Lancastrian roses and white York roses united to form the Tudor rose.

The undercroft, or the chambers below the main floor of York Minster, is actually a museum with archeological finds on display. This includes the 1960s discovery of the remains of a Roman barracks and Norman-era church foundation, which you can observe as you float over it on the transparent floor. ■



National  
Trust

The National Trust provides stewardship for many of these properties. If you are in the U.K. for a while and you love frequenting historical sites, it may be worth exploring a paid membership for free entry and parking. Visit [nationaltrust.org.uk](https://nationaltrust.org.uk) for more details.



Rose Window, York Minster

### Why is it “York Minster”?

The honorific “minster” refers to a church's origin in Anglo-Saxon times and the role religious institutions played in ministering to the population.



York Minster, Yorkshire

# Volunteering

WITH THE RHEINLAND-PFALZ

# Quilt Guild

By Tamala Malerk



## Volunteering

can be such a fulfilling activity. This year, we are highlighting a new organization or event for those who are looking to learn more about the services and resources available to them as well as for those who are looking to give back to the community.

**T**his month we are featuring the Rheinland-Pfalz Quilt Guild. I had the pleasure of speaking with the current Vice President of the Guild, and upcoming Fall 2023 President, Lindsey Grullen. She has been a member of the Guild since 2020.



SHIP/MAIL



**WORLDWIDE SHIPPING AGENCY**

**PCS Without Stress!  
Ship Cars/Containers  
to/from USA**

Hours: Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm  
For a free rate request, please email us at:  
[info@worldwide-ship.de](mailto:info@worldwide-ship.de)

**Call 0800-5226274 or  
0800-WSA-SHIP (972-7447)**

BEAUTY & HEALTH



Dermacosmetics

- Microdermabrasion
- Ultrasound
- Needling
- AHA Exfoliator
- Lashlifting
- Make Up for any occasion



+49 1624545661  
Senselskin  
[www.skin-comfort.com](http://www.skin-comfort.com)

Gaisburgstraße 21  
70182 Stuttgart



Ready, Set,



LISTEN NOW



[afngo.net](http://afngo.net)

According to Lindsey, "The Rheinland-Pfalz Quilt Guild is a group of quilters, sewers, needle artists and crafters that just get together and enjoy the hobby." Whether you are a sewing/crafting expert, or you've never picked up a crochet needle in your life, you can join the Guild. The Guild meets every Friday for "Stitch and Gab" on Kapaun Air Station's Chapel Annex in Kaiserslautern, where they share techniques and new skills with each other. The Guild also hosts events and classes. Lindsey even gave me a quick lesson on "free motion" quilting versus "patchwork" quilting.

While the Guild has several opportunities for people to volunteer, their biggest and most impactful opportunity is their "Baby Love" program which provides handmade quilts to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). The Guild supplies volunteers with quilt kits, allowing them to hone their quilting skills while providing a service for their local area.

When asked about the most fulfilling aspects of volunteering, she stated, "Of course, helping the babies. Those projects give me the opportunity to work on my skills, work on my hobby as well as give back to the community."

When asked about dealing with a PCS'ing volunteer base, she noted that "the last year and a half was really hard. I think we lost 30 or so members, and we really haven't gained very many back... maybe like five."

If you want to help boost those numbers in the Guild, Lindsey believes there is a lot that volunteers can get from joining. She thinks volunteers will appreciate "just giving back to the community, feeling a sense of accomplishing something and being able to give it [the quilt] to the NICU." She also believes that volunteering is fun. "You get to try new techniques. You get to work on your hobby.... Volunteering in the form of doing your hobby, I don't know what more you would want."



## The Rheinland-Pfalz Quilt Guild is a group of quilters, sewers, needle artists and crafters that just get together and enjoy the hobby.



Those who want to volunteer must join the Guild. There is a small annual membership fee of \$30. Membership in the Guild includes participation in events, meetings and free quilting kits to participate in the "Baby Love" program. Apart from the weekly "Stitch and Gab," the Guild meets every third Thursday of the month at the Ramstein Air Base North Chapel Annex beginning at 5:30 p.m. This is a great event to attend to learn more about what the Guild is and what they do. Anyone 12 and older can join the Guild. Those interested in joining can go to one of the monthly Thursday meetings or can email Lindsey and the other Guild board members at [inforpqq@gmail.com](mailto:inforpqq@gmail.com). ■



LAW OFFICES



**U.S. Immigration Law**

Florida Bar Attorney  
Over 23 years Experience  
"Wir Sprechen Deutsch"

Worldwide legal representation for U.S. Immigration

www.karynjbeginlaw.com



Law Offices of Karyn J. Begin, P.A.  
karynbeginlaw@gmail.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!**



**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**  
+44 (0)1638-515714  
enquiries@carshipuk.co.uk  
www.carshipuk.co.uk

**U.S.A**  
+1-972-602-1670  
+1-800-264-8167 (US only)  
info@tgal.us  
www.tgal.us

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

LAW OFFICES



**BECKER & CO**

**U.S. & GERMAN ATTORNEYS**

U.S. & GERMAN DIVORCES • SUPPORT ISSUES • EEO  
WILLS & PROBATE • EMPLOYMENT • PERSONAL INJURY  
MSPB • CONTRACTOR ISSUES • TAX ADVISORS

FULL SERVICE LAW & TAX FIRM  
Call 069 - 299 - 2069 - 0  
maiss@b-co.legal www.b-co.com

TRAVEL

**Worldwide Pet Shipping**



- ▲ Daily departures
- ▲ Pick-up Service

PetAir takes care  
Frankfurt Airport  
Ph. +49 69 120186550

www.petair.de



...takes care

MOTORCYCLES



Dexheimer  
MILITARYSALES

0631-36190811

www.motorradsale24.de/military-sales

AUTOMOTIVE

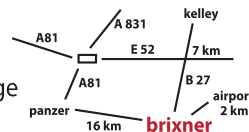


**FULL SERVICE FOR YOUR CAR  
ALL MAKES and MODELS**

**Maintenance, repair and overhaul - body work**

- partner of many insurances
- detailing for PCS shipment
- VAT forms/VISA accepted
- english spoken

**Our promise:**  
**best rate** on- and off post  
**great offers** for oil/tire change  
**Ask for prices!**



*We are happy to serve you*

Mon-Fri 7:30 am-6 pm  
Brühlhofstr. 9,  
70771 L.-Echterdingen

**www.brixner.de**

info@brixner.de • phone: 0711/993377-0



Windows into

# EUROPEAN CULTURE

by Kat Nickola

**W**hile wandering the streets of Europe you will notice that many homes do not have front yards. Whether in a small village or a large city, buildings are often constructed right next to the sidewalk. There are many reasons for this, but essentially it comes to down economics and history. Most European villages are very old and as they grew it was cheaper to construct buildings attached to each other, eventually cart tracks through farms expanded into roads through towns. The trend has continued in modern times even as buildings are reconstructed. Connecting to utility lines, which often run under the road, is cheaper near the street, and eliminating front yards allows for larger, private back gardens.

This style of housing means that front windows are often quite close to pedestrians on the sidewalk, and at eye level. The way different places treat their front windows is an interesting glimpse into the culture of the area.

## Invitations

Walk the streets of Leiden, Rotterdam or Amsterdam and you will be hard-pressed to avoid peering into private spaces. Windows in The Netherlands are known for their lack of curtains. It is quite common in Dutch culture to make thoughtfully simple, artistically designed displays in windows to draw the eye. You may see a symmetrically arranged pair of vases, a series of perfectly spaced dog statues, or three uniformly growing plants. They practically invite you to admire the home.

Where this tradition originates is up for debate. Perhaps using curtains blocks the homeowner from keeping tabs on the street outside. This may be an old custom brought about by the Calvinist view that an honest citizen had nothing to hide. Maybe it's simply pride and aesthetics. Regardless of the origin, artistic curtain-less Dutch windows seem to say, "here we are, come and see," like an invitation to peek inside the open and straightforward nature intrinsic to Dutch culture.

## Boundaries

Beautiful exterior floral displays are common throughout Europe in the sunny months. Austria is renowned for the multicolored flower boxes overflowing with geraniums, petunias and ivy on balconies and windows. In Germany, window boxes change with the seasons: Bright red trailing geraniums are very popular in summer. In winter, flowers are exchanged for heathers and evergreen boughs, while spring boxes have tidy daffodils, pansies and grape hyacinths.

In many ways these flowers set a boundary. They are for passersby to see, but they also demark the public and private spaces of the home. In contrast to the Dutch invitation to peek inside a window, extravagant flower boxes keep prying eyes outside the home. In addition, the neatness and uniformity of the plants gives us a peep into the structured nature of German culture with everything in its assigned place.

This same boundary-setting can be seen in French window décor where visions of Paris display the iconic use of decorative black iron bars and railings. Popular French windows, which extend to the floor and open like a pair of doors, were first used in grandiose baroque buildings of the 17th century. French culture is not one to shy away from creating art out of the mundane, and so we get to see the practical boundaries to private spaces presented as the most beautiful railings in Europe.

## Practicalities

As the inverse to French extravagancies, Scandinavian windows are often used for their obviously utilitarian purpose to allow light and fresh air to enter the home. The well-known minimalist style of Scandinavian design is expressed with simple boxes of succulents and herbs being popular windowsill décor. The mindset here is that windows are for plants because that is (obviously) where the sun comes in. For this reason, curtains are also obsolete in Norway and Sweden. Unlike their Dutch neighbors to the south, however, lack of curtains is not an invitation to look in – how rude! – but simply a good usage of natural light.

In another contrast, windows of Mediterranean countries will completely shutter their windows during the afternoon with wooden or rolling blinds. In Spain, specifically, you wouldn't be amiss to wonder if the small town you've entered at lunchtime is completely derelict, but they are simply closed to keep the afternoon heat outside. In addition to the practical aspects, Spanish window shuttering traditions may have originated with Arabic influences on privacy and homelife during Spain's tenure as Al-Andalus. If you return to that small town after dark, all the windows will be open and people will be out enjoying the cool night air. ■

### ***Ever wonder what it's like on the other side of the window?***

Visit [window-swap.com](http://window-swap.com) to see someone else's view. The website offers wonderfully simple, almost meditative glimpses out of windows worldwide.



*Midwest Family*  
**DENTISTRY**



## **American dentists and team, trained and licensed in the U.S.A.**

Relaxed and friendly, we listen to your needs.

Compassionate and comprehensive care.

Located in the heart of Schönaich,  
7 minutes from Panzer military base. On-site parking.



# Changing Smiles, Changing Lives



- Now offering Ceramic Implants: Biological alternative in highest quality!
- Aesthetic Dentistry
- TMJ/Facial Pain Treatment
- Certified Dental Hygienist
- Preventative Care and Periodontal Therapy
- Orthodontics/Invisalign
- Implants
- Oral Surgery



**Dr. Charles A. Smith, DDS** is an American trained dentist providing expert dental care with the newest and most successful techniques. Dr. Smith and his Team are proud to provide for your entire family, from infants to geriatrics, treatment to cover all of your dental needs. Our Team is available in two locations and we **now have new extended evening hours in our Böblingen office!**

We look forward to your visit!

## **Heidelberg Dentistry**

Römerstr. 1  
69115 Heidelberg  
Tel: (0)6221 651 6090  
info@heidelbergdentistry.com  
[www.heidelbergdentistry.com](http://www.heidelbergdentistry.com)

## **Böblingen Dental**

Charles-Lindbergh-Str. 11  
71034 Böblingen  
Tel: (0)7031 205 6062  
info@boeblingendental.com  
[www.boeblingendental.com](http://www.boeblingendental.com)



**CHARLES A. SMITH, DDS  
& ASSOCIATES**

Specialists for Aesthetic Dentistry