

The Essential Quick Guide For Discerning Travellers

MUST-DOS DUSSELDORF

BY JOSEPH REANEY



For more on where to shop, dine and enjoy the arts in Düsseldorf, go to www.silverkris.com



Fast Facts

CURRENCY
Euro
US\$1 = €0.91

VISA
Requirements vary. Visit www.auswaertiges-amt.de for details.

HOW TO GET THERE
Singapore Airlines flies 3 times weekly from Singapore to Düsseldorf.

BEST TIME TO VISIT
Go in July or August for the warmest weather, though summer showers are common, or brave the cold in November for the start of the incredible Carnival.

MORE INFORMATION
www.duesseldorf-tourismus.de



FESTIVAL FUN

With the festive season upon us, where better to start than at Düsseldorf's Christmas Market (www.christmas-market-in-duesseldorf.co.uk). Wooden huts selling traditional toys, gifts, gluhwein (mulled wine) and bratwurst line the streets. Other major festivals include Grosste Kirmes am Rhein (www.groesstekirmesamrhein.de), a mammoth fair that sees more than four million visitors each July, and the city's Carnival (www.karneval-in-duesseldorf.de), which reaches its peak on Rose Monday in February.

HOP TO IT

Düsseldorf's Altstadt (Old Town) crams more than 250 bars into less than a single square kilometre, and the district is renowned for altbier, its unique local brew. Served in quarter-litre glasses, the copper-coloured beer is brewed in eight different bars, from the wood-panelled Uerige (www.uerige.de) to the beam-roofed Fuchschen (www.fuechschen.de). If you have time to visit just one, make it Zum Schlüssel (www.zumschluessel.de). This tiny bar's original Schlüssel altbier is the best of the bunch.

A VISUAL FEAST

When it comes to artistic eye candy, Düsseldorf is a veritable sweet shop. Architecture lovers will relish mediaeval masterpieces like the striking Schlossturm, Renaissance monuments including the Neanderkirche and contemporary icons such as Frank Gehry's Neuer Zollhof. Meanwhile, modern art fans shouldn't miss the K20 (www.kunstsammlung.de) gallery, with its extraordinary exhibits of Picasso, Pollock and Kandinsky, and Kunst im Tunnel (www.kunst-im-tunnel.de), a modernist exhibition in an underground tunnel.



DRESSED FOR SUCCESS

Düsseldorf rivals Berlin as Germany's spiritual home of designer fashion. You'll find all the big international brands here – mainly in the Flingern district – but fashion-conscious visitors should also get to know the promising local designers. Seek out Peter O Mahler's (www.peteromahler.de) flagship store for minimalist fashion that is premium yet affordable, or head to Fashion Clinic (www.fashion-clinic.de) to check out German designers including Karl Lagerfeld and Mykita.

GET ACTIVE

Düsseldorf is mad about sports. Winter visitors can hit the slopes at Europe's highest indoor winter sports facility, Allrounder Mountain Resort (www.allrounder.de), just outside the city, or cheer on the local football team Fortuna Düsseldorf at the super-modern Esprit Arena (www.espritarena.de/en). Visitors in summer, meanwhile, can enjoy the city's many outdoor swimming pools and water sports facilities, or spend a day at the local horse racetrack (www.duesseldorf-galopp.de). In July 2017, visitors can also take in the Grand Depart of the Tour de France from the centre of the city.

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PHOTO INMAGINE / MESSE DUESSELDORF / IVO FABER (KUNST IM TUNNEL)

- A Grosste Kirmes am Rhein is one of Germany's biggest fairs.
- B Enjoy winter sports all year round at Allrounder Mountain Resort.
- C Fuchschen bar serves Düsseldorf's signature altbier.
- D See modernist art at Kunst im Tunnel.
- E Peter O Mahler is a local designer known for minimalist fashion.

