

May 27, 2009

Good day,

I am delighted to have another edition of my newsletter to share with you.

We received **great feedback** from many of our clients over the last months – just one small example I would like to share with you:

"Thank you for your ever enchanting news on the European front. Reading your newsletter makes one just want to be there."

Kathy Foo-Clegg, Manager – Australia – Global Destination Management

More references from our clients on www.invent.at

Do you also want to suggest **Austria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Germany, Slovenia, or Croatia** to your clients?

With the below information you will get a better idea of those countries. Here are facts and news you may, or may not know:

> **Vienna pips Swiss for world's top city**

Vienna offers the best quality of life of any city in the world according to Mercer's definitive annual survey, ending Zurich's seven year reign as the top ranked city.

Vienna moved up to first from its tied number two spot with Geneva last year ending Zurich's seven year reign at the head of the list and holding off Geneva which slipped to third in this year's report.

Vienna's political stability and low risk of terror attacks over the last ten years have steadily increased Vienna's ranking in the Mercer survey, which covers 215 cities and is conducted to help governments and major companies place employees on international assignments.

The current financial crisis is thought to have had an effect on this year's rankings. Mercer said in its report summary: "The quality of living in many regions last year has been affected as demonstrated by serious political turmoil, increasing unrest and instability, health and climatic concerns.

Eight years after the EU sanctions placed against Austria, the country is now ranked as a country with a stable democracy with a fully functioning and fair legal system.

In the Mercer infrastructure ranking Munich came in second to Singapore.

The quality of living rankings are based on a point-scoring index, which sees Vienna score 108.6, and Baghdad 14.4. Cities are ranked against New York as the base city with an index score of 100.



**> MUST DOs in
Germany's capital
Berlin – part 3**

part 3 – Eat out in style

Die Quadriga is one of Berlin's top restaurants and the prices reflect the fact it has a Michelin star and 17 points in the Gault Millau guide. There are now **a dozen Michelin-starred restaurants** in the city, offering a variety of styles. Other big names include innovative chef Tim Raue at Restaurant 44 and celebrity hot spot Borchardt, which serves traditional German food as well as French and Italian specialties.

If you would like to spend less you don't have to walk a long way before you run into a **Gaststätte** (a combination of diner and pub). You can find them on almost every street corner in Berlin (there are about 3000) and they offer traditional German food.

Schnitzels and sausages are everywhere and look out for a stuffed cabbage dish called Kohlrouladen that is apparently a local favorite. Other popular local dishes include "Curry Wurst" (bratwurst in curry sauce), available at most fast food outlets (Imbiss), and the tasty "Eisbein" - knuckle of pork.

Note: When you enter a restaurant, don't expect a waiter to come up to you to show you to your table. In Germany, people like to choose where they're going to sit, so you should do the same; don't feel you are being ignored!



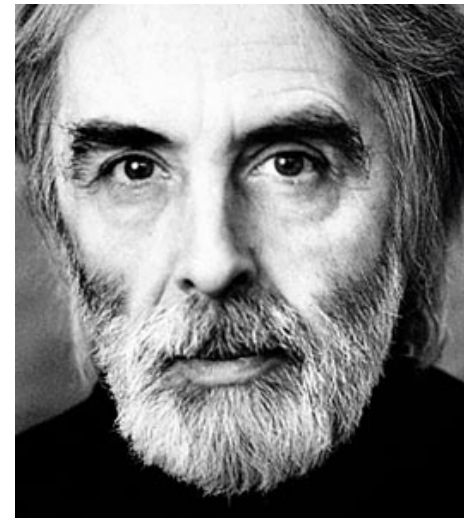
**> Haneke's 'The
White Ribbon' wins
Cannes top prize**

Austrian director **Michael Haneke's** somber drama "The White Ribbon" claimed the top prize at the Cannes Film Festival.

"This is one moment in my life in which I'm very happy, and so are you, I believe," said Haneke, who received the festival's **Palme d'Or** for his gorgeously photographed **black-and-white tale**. "The White Ribbon" examines themes of communal guilt, distrust and punishment among residents of a small German town besieged by tragedies and strange occurrences as World War I approaches.

It was a **big night for Austria**, whose triumphs included **Christoph Waltz as best actor** for Tarantino's World War II epic "**Inglourious Basterds**".

Christoph Waltz earned the best-actor award for his gleefully homicidal role as Nazi Col. Hans Landa, renowned in Germany as an ace "Jew hunter" in "Inglourious Basterds," Tarantino's rewrite of the history books that follows the exploits of a band of Jewish Allied commandos led by Brad Pitt. Tarantino spins a wildly different take on how the war ended as Pitt's crew plots to take out top Nazi leaders at a film premiere in Paris. Waltz said: "Above all I owe this to Hans Landa and his unique and inimitable creator, **Quentin Tarantino**. You gave me my vocation back."



> **The World's First
Wurst Museum
soon revealed**

What may sound like a lunatic idea has become the German ultimate dream: the world is soon to witness the **opening of the first wurst museum** entirely dedicated to the one and only delicious German sausage. In August 16th, 2009, the dream is to come true, as the world's first wurst museum will indeed welcome its first visitors.

IFor nearly 7 decades, the **currywurst**, as locals proudly call it, has been a **culinary gem of the locals**. Even though the dish itself is not visually very appealing, many swear there is nothing better. The deliciously crisp German sausage is cut into small chunks and served with a generous portion of curry powder and fries. You can only experience the true feel of it when you eat the currywurst of a paper plate and enjoy your bite-size snack with a tiny plastic fork.

The German Currywurst Museum will reveal a glimpse of history, featuring a touching story of Herta Heuwer, who first sold her invention from a stand in Berlin's Charlottenburg district in 1949. An intriguing insight in the **countless recipes, ingredients and origin of the wurst** are simply a must that every visitor to the museum is bound to expect. However, the fun collection of currywurst curiosities as well as **movies and 3D installations** will undoubtedly amuse many who come to learn more about the wurst.

Tasting is naturally one of the most exciting events no one should miss.

Considering the impressive **800 million portions of currywurst** consumed here on an annual basis, the museum seems like a true tribute that will become a very popular attraction for all.



I hope you enjoyed the above information.
Until next time!

Kind regards,

Birgit Kraus

