

What we did on our Holiday!

As many of you will know, I led a group of 15 U3A members, mostly from groups studying the German language, to Munich, with a programme starting on 15th May and running to the 19th. I believe this was hugely successful – here's what we did!



On our first day, in the afternoon, we visited the Alter Hof, which was the first residence of the rulers of Munich, built around the twelfth century and now restored as the Tourist Office amongst other things. We viewed the audio-visuals set up there, one in English, one in German, which explain the origins of the city, the Alter Hof, and quite a lot about the ruler known as Ludwig the Bavarian. Picture of us outside, in front of the so-called Monkey Tower.

Our second day started with a guided tour, in German, of Munich's main outdoor food market, the Viktualienmarkt. We learnt some history and sampled many of the local foods, with explanations in German from stall holders. Three pictures of us around the market. (1. Guide offering bread & wurst. 2. At the olives and pickles. 3. Jams and chutneys)



In the afternoon, we had a tour in German of the Bier-und-Oktoberfest Museum, where we learnt about traditions surrounding beer and the famous festival, with samples of three different beers. Picture of us on the tour.



In the evening, a local adult education institution, the VHS, had arranged for us to join a walking tour of an old quarter of Munich. Headsets were supplied, with loops for anyone like me who used hearing aids, and this enabled a super tour, in German, in the early evening in the sunshine. Two pictures of us on the tour. (The guide, Glockenbachviertel)



Our third day started with a talk in German on current political issues, in the VHS itself, with many local senior citizens who regularly attend such events. In the afternoon, we went on to the Ludwig Maximilian University, where we first had a joint event with some senior citizen students and we all explained how senior citizen education is done in our countries, before hearing one of their standard lectures for senior citizens on the topic of microscopic viewing of living cells – all of this in German. In the evening, we enjoyed dinner and a few beers with the lecturers who had helped with the organisation, plus some of their senior citizen students. Two pictures during the evening.



On our penultimate day, half of us went to Deutsches Museum, where we had a two hour overview guided tour of the museum, in German – two pictures. (1. Outside the Museum. 2. The Enigma machine)
The other half toured without a guide through some of the many art galleries in Munich.



For our final day, we had a guided tour, in German, of Munich's ruling family's summer palace from about 1700 – Schloss Nymphenburg, including the Marstallmuseum, where we saw state coaches and sleighs, and the porcelain museum upstairs. Our guide on this day was particularly clear and easy to understand! Two pictures, including the final group photo!

