

## Cologne (Köln) -- City Of Fun

Cologne is considered as **one of the most preferred tourist destinations in Germany** with multiple facets.

It was founded by Romans **more than 2,000 years ago**, and was annexed with [Prussia](#) in the 17th century when it found growth in multiple dimensions. Throughout the past, this city has been challenged multiple times.

The [First World War](#) and the [Second World War](#) affected the progress of the city tremendously in the area of economic development. During the Second World War, it was bombarded with heavy bombings which resulted in almost halving the population of the city.

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Cologne is the **fourth largest city of Germany**, having approx. 1 million inhabitants, and it is the largest in the state [North Rhine-Westphalia \(Nordrhein-Westfalen\)](#). It is present on the lowlands of the Rhine river.

Its history dates back to the first century, right before Christ. During 38 B.C., Marcus Agrippa inhabited his people along the left bank of the Rhine River (which, later, became the modern city it is nowadays). In 50 A.D., Agrippina, the daughter of Germanicus, established a colony of veterans which came to be known as Cologne.

Besides its economic and political significance, it has also been the center of medieval pilgrimage. And the Italian poet Francesco Petrarca wrote in 1333, that the city was full of *pretty woman* and *dignified men*.

The climate here is comparable to that of United Kingdom or Northern France. July is the hottest month in the city while January is the coldest. Surprisingly, it is very hard to see any traces of snow that time (maybe because it's so flat here?). While June being the month of most precipitation here.

Now that we know about Cologne's history and climate, let's delve and know more about what the city is popular for...

There are various historical landmarks. Its city hall is the **oldest of Germany**, which has a strong connection with the historical past.

The Cologne stadium was originally built in 1923 and was reconstructed during 1975. The fact that the stadium was one of 12 hosts for the FIFA World Cup 2006 speaks for the sporting prowess of the stadium — and the city!

The Cologne carnival is a world famous festival attracting millions of people from Europe and other continents. Its present history starts in 1823. Its festival committee is an umbrella organization of more than hundred carnival associations.

The city is also well-known for its **beer culture**. I think to remember that there are still 19 sorts of their **Kölsch**, which is the German name for their beer and **the only language you can drink** (since the accent spoken in that city has the same name ;-).

Traveling? You're going to find a wide range of interconnected networks through land, rails, and air. There's always a bus, tram or train running. And the next car rental is very close.

Entertainment? There is wide variety of entertainment shows. It ranges from wonderful cinema theaters, magnificent comedy shows, exquisite museums, night clubs, and majestic opera. Even TV shows take place in Cologne.

Shopping? A large number of the enormous departmental stores and home to a great variety of excellent foodstuffs are to be found throughout the city.

Don't you agree that all these factors make Cologne the preferred travel destination for tourist around the world? At least for me, since I used to live in that city 17 years of my life. ;-)