

DIY Day Trips from Munich

[Neuschwanstein Castle](#): 2 hrs & 15 minutes by Train

Cost for entry: 26 euros - for ticket to 2 castles & museum



The top day trip from Munich is the fairy tale castle of Neuschwanstein ([website](#)), which is tucked away on the edge of the Alps near Fussen. The castle is basically straight out of a dream. Neuschwanstein is so impressive that Walt Disney used it as the model for Sleeping Beauty's Castle.

While today's castle may look like it is straight out of the Middle Ages, Neuschwanstein (Noy-shvahn-shtine) was actually work of Bavarian King Ludwig II in the mid-1800s. The site of the castle was originally part a fortress controlled by the Knights of Schwangau from the 1100s until 1535 called Schwanstien. It fell into disrepair until Ludwig's father King Maximilian II bought the property and built the family home Hohenschwangau Castle below the ruins following the original fortress' plans. Neuschwanstein, meaning New Swanstone Castle, has everything from a man-made grotto cave to tons of grand rooms that only a theater mind could drum up.

To add to this day, tour King Ludwig's boyhood castle Hohenschwangau Castle ([website](#)) which sits right next door. Meaning High Country Of The Swans, the beautiful bright orange

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Hohenschwangau (Ho-en-shvahn-gau) was built by Ludwig's father King Maximilian II following the plans of the former fortress of the Knights of Schwangau.

Getting Here From Munich: Take train directly from Munich to Füssen (2:05) then either Bus 73 or 78 directly to the Castles' ticket office (0:10).

Cost: estimate of 50 euro for a round trip train ticket.

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[Dachau Concentration Camp](#): 1 hour train & bus

Cost: 4 euro 2 & 1/2 tour: English tours at 11am & 1pm.



Located near Munich and once a Nazi Labor Camp, the sight is now a chilling reminder of the horrors of the Holocaust. Overall the site does a great job serving as a outstanding museum and memorial for life as it was on the camp and the hardships endured. You can visit the memorial for free or book a guided tour or use an audio guide while visiting.

Getting Here from Munich: Takes 40 minutes from Munich with a transfer. Take train line

Cost: 15 euro for train & bus to camp - estimated 30 euro round-trip

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[Landsberg am Lech](#) - 50 minutes by Train

Cost: free to enter town



This small mid-eval city is a great getaway if you want to experience an authentic Bavarian feel without the flocks of tourists. Large portions of the medieval city walls and gates are still intact and most of the city's buildings still have colorful, traditional facades. The city is also littered with many beautiful towers: [The Schmalzturm Tower](#) which lies in the Witches Quarter was named for its beautiful tiled roof and is the city's oldest tower built in 1260. The romantic Mother's Tower (Mutterturm) at the Herkomer Museum on the West side of river is the newest built in 1888. The beautiful Bayertor tower on the Eastern city wall, and the Northern wall's gate Sandauer Tor & tall Dachlturm tower overlooking the city. The city is maybe most famous for being where Adolf Hitler was incarcerated for 9 months in 1924 and wrote/dictated his book Mein Kampf which served as a foundation for the Nazi Party. The city ended up being home to a large concentration camp during World War II.

Getting Here from Munich: takes 50 minutes and may require a train transfer in Kaufering.

Cost: 40 euro round trip

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[Zugspitze](#): 90 minutes by train & cable car

cost : 56 euro for ascent and descent or 33 euro for ascent or descent only



At over 9,717 feet, the Zugspitze Mountain Peak is the top of Germany! As the **tallest peak in Germany**, the Zugspitze has the best Alpine views you can find during a day trip from Munich. It's said that on a clear day you can see up to 155 miles along the horizon. Because the main peak sits on border of Austria, you can be in two countries at once while on top of the mountain.

Getting Here From Munich: Train to Garmisch-Partenkirchen takes 1 hours and 20 minutes. Once you get there walk to the the neighboring train station (*Zugspitze Bahnhof*) and get on the local Cog Train to your desired cable car lift.

Cost: 60 euro for a round trip ticket

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Rothenburg: 2 & ½ hours by train or car

Cost: free



The quaint German village of Rothenburg seems frozen in medieval times. There probably isn't a more authentic feeling Medieval city in Europe from top to bottom than the untouched Rothenburg. The old city wall still stands circling the city, while trying with all of its might to encapsulate Rothenburg's magical feel.

Items to visit: Imperial City Museum, the famous Medieval Criminal Museum, the ruins of the 1142 Imperial Castle, and walking on top of the old city wall. Throw in an old Blacksmith shop, a lively market square, plus great family owned pubs, and you'll feel like you have traveled hundreds of years into the past in no time. A great place to do an overnight!

Getting To Rothenburg By Train: Train make this journey in each direction about every half hour with departures ranging from 4:30am until 10pm.

Cost: 40 euro round trip

Getting To Rothenburg By Car: It is very common to rent a car to drive to Rothenburg as it not only can be fast than the train, but gives you the ability to check out other [Romantic Road](#) cities such as [Dinkelsbuhl](#) and [Nordlingen](#). **Cost:** varies based on vehicle size