

# Cologne is always worth a trip



Let your visit to Cologne become a unique experience by using our tips for a maximum exhaustion of your precious time. We have put together proposals for five exemplary days, from which you can choose your own personal program.

Our friendly concierge staff is always happy to assist and keep information, personalized suggestions and certainly one or the other special tip for you.



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**Hop on Hopp off - Cathedral - Cologne's Zoo - Rhine Cable Railway - Rhineparc - Hohenzollernbridge - Rheinauhafen - Chocolate Museum - German Sports & Olympia Museum - Rhine Promenade - Old town**

Explore the many facets of our Cathedral town while using the **Hop on Hopp off bus**. You can participate in a **full city tour**, or even get to the **attractions of your choice** and stay there as you like, before you continue your journey with one of the following buses.

You could leave from the **Cathedral** to the **Cologne Zoo**. Well preserved animal houses and facilities such as the built in 1863 elephant house in the moorish style, or the monkey-rock of 1914 as well as new facilities, such as the rainforest or the elephant park show the development of zoological gardens.

From here, you have the possibility to float with Europe's first **cable car over the Rhine** and experience the unique panorama of Cologne.

The cable car ends in the **Rhine Parc**. Take a walk along the **river**, overlooking the left bank side with the **Cologne Cathedral (World Cultural Heritage Site)**, **Great St. Martin** and the **Musical Dome**. Cross the **Hohenzollern Bridge**, on which already more than 40000 couples have followed the custom and have attached padlocks with their names.

Back at the left bank, take the **Hop on Hop off bus** to the **Rheinauhafen**. The restructuring of the harbour is the largest urban development project in the city of Cologne. Its **gastronomic offer** from around the world and a growing number of service providers, makes it a worthwhile goal not only for **lovers of architecture**. If you want to, combine a visit to the **Rheinauhafen** equal to a trip to the **Chocolate Museum** located there, or the **German Sports and Olympia Museum** right next door.

For the way back again take the **Hop on Hop off bus**, or take a walk along the **Rhine Promenade**, passing the **old town** and **Cathedral**.



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## 2nd day: The Rhine



Rhine river cruises - Bonn - Drachenfels - Königswinter - Natureparc Siebengebirge - Unkel - Linz - Arp Museum Rolandseck - Panoramic train tour

Start the day with a **Rhine boat trip**, passing the legendary **Drachenfels** to **Bonn** and **Königswinter** (duration 4 hours). Take the **cog railway** and discover the place where according to legend, once Siegfried slew the dragon. You will have a **magnificent view** down the **Rhine Valley**. Those who prefer to stay near the water, a **beautiful promenade** invites to stroll and to discover the splendid **half-timbered houses**.

Little further upriver is the **Arp Museum Bahnhof Rolandseck**, which has been composed of a classical station building, and was harmoniously inserted into the nature by the American architect **Richard Meier**. The focus is the **art of Hans Arp and Sophie Taeuber-Arp**. In dialogue with these, works in sculpture and painting from contemporary artists are shown. Also, the **Arp Museum Bahnhof Rolandseck** presents **paintings from the Middle Ages** to the modern era from the **Rau Collection for UNICEF**.

Enjoy the **Museum Café** in the former ballroom of the **restored station (mid 19th century)** with stucco ceilings, crystal chandeliers and a large **outdoor terrace** with views of the **Rhine** and the **Seven Mountains** with the **Drachenfels**. It was the perfect room for all the famous people who once have moved here from the train to a boat, as well as a venue for concerts and theater performances.

Of course it's worth to further explore the region by boat. **Charming Rhine towns** like **Linz** or **Unkel** invite you to visit the preserved old places and streets.

Our Concierge can assist you with the planning of **further tours**.

For your trip back to Cologne, take the **train** and enjoy the **ride along the river**.

Enjoy the evening during an excellent dinner at our restaurant **Hanse Stube**. Since decades people from Cologne, as well as international guests have been enjoying innovative French cuisine combined with regional influences.



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## 3rd day: The museums



### Museum Ludwig - Roman Germanic Museum - Wallraf-Richartz-Museum - Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum

Cologne has a **unique number of museums** that attracts visitors because of its diversity from around the world.

Our recommendation for a daily schedule starts at the **Museum Ludwig** on the back of the **Cologne Cathedral**. It houses an exhibition area of 8000 square meters **modern art** of the 20th and 21 Century and is one of the most important museums in Europe for **contemporary art**. Regular changing **special exhibitions** complete the visit.

Right next door is the **Roman-Germanic Museum**. The **Roman Mosaic** with scenes from the **world of Dionysos** and the reconstructed **tomb of the legionary Publicius** are the most famous works in the museum. The collection draws on the **archaeological heritage** of the city and the surrounding area from **prehistoric times** to the **early Middle Ages**. Highlights include the **world's largest collection of Roman glassware** and an outstanding collection of **Roman and early medieval jewelry**.

You also should not miss the **Wallraf-Richartz Museum**, just a few minutes away. The Cologne citizen Ferdinand Franz Wallraf started in the 18th Century to save **medieval art** that was stolen from the church and destroyed in the course of secularization. After his death in 1824 he bequeathed his extensive collection to the city of Cologne. Focal points of today's collection: the **medieval section**, the department **Baroque 19th Century**, the **paintings of German Romanticism**, the **French Realism and Impressionism** (including **Collection Corboud**) and **sculptures**.

If you are ready for another outstanding museum, you will visit the new **Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum**. This **Ethnology Museum** presents in spacious premises an innovative exhibition concept. The three floors of themed tours "**People in Their Worlds**" invites to a journey of discovery. Visiting the **Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum** is an exciting change **even for older children**.

For a traditional dinner we recommend a visit at the **Gaffel** next door, one of **Cologne's typical breweries**.



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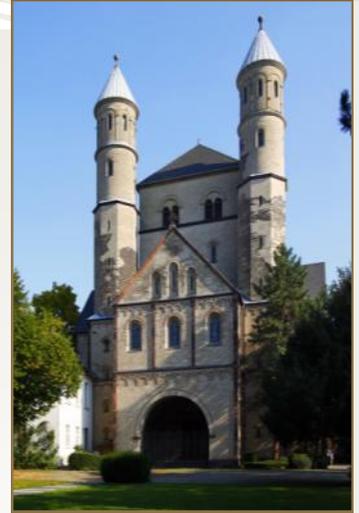
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## 4th day: The famous churches



St. Andreas—St. Aposteln - St. Cäcilien - St. Georg - St. Gereon - St. Kunibert - St. Maria im Kapitol - St. Maria in Lyskirchen - Groß St. Martin - St. Pantaleon - St. Severin - St. Ursula and of course the cathedral

The Cologne cityscape is characterized by numerous churches.

Like a magnet the **Cologne Cathedral, World Cultural Heritage Site** attracts its visitors again and again. Who wants to enjoy a **wonderful view of the city** has to climb the 533 steps of the 157m high **south tower** and to stop next to the "**Dicke Pitter**", the largest free-swinging bell in the world. The effort is forgotten, and the stunning views over the rooftops of the city is reward for the trouble.

Equally exciting is a **tour of the interior of the Cathedral**, on the **high roof** or to the **treasury** and the **excavation**. Allow enough time for a visit to the Cathedral, because you certainly are - once there - fascinated, and you will discover more and more interesting details .

Besides the cathedral, there are the **twelve Romanesque churches** with **many legends** in Cologne, and each is worth a visit. They lie in a narrow space within the course of the **old city wall**. The **monastic churches** are among the largest in Western Europe, and document the growth and wealth of the **high medieval** Cologne.

In order to have enough time for viewing, pick a maximum of three to four churches in order to gain a good insight. Our **friendly concierges** help you to choose the **most interesting for you** and put together a matching route for this purpose.

Plan an all day, and process the impressions during a **break at the hotel** for **business lunch** or a **classic English high tea**.

Relax in the evening while visiting one of the many **theaters** in the city, the **opera** or the **Philharmonie**.



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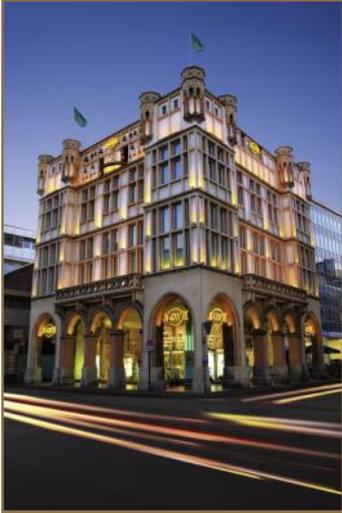
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## 5th day: Shopping & typical Cologne:



Hohe Strasse - Schildergasse - Neumarkt - Pfeilstraße - Mittelstraße - Ehrenstraße - Breite Strasse - Offenbachplatz - Glockengasse 4711 - Früh am Dom - Heinzelmännchenbrunnen - Alter Markt - Historisches Rathaus

After a hearty **breakfast at the hotel**, you should visit the **main shopping streets** of the city.

The **major labels** and **famous fashion shops** can be found along the '**Hohe Strasse**' and the '**Schildergasse**', which leads you straight to the **Neumarkt**.

From here it is only a few minutes to reach The '**Pfeilstrasse**' and '**Mittelstrasse**'. Here you will find **smaller boutiques, trendy designers and one or the other café**, where you can relax and observe the general bustle.

Via the trendy '**Ehrenstraße**' which merges into the '**Breite Straße**', you will belong to the '**Offenbachplatz**' at which you will find the famous house '**Glockengasse 4711**'. At each full hour 9 to 19 the clock plays tunes such as the Marseillaise or the Faithful Hussar, accompanied by rotating historical horsemen figures.

Should you be looking for **souvenirs**, you are sure to find it here.

On your way through the city you will meet again on the famous **Kölsch breweries**, for example the famous **Brauhaus Früh am Dom**, which offers a tasty **Kölsch** as well as **Rhenish cuisine** and specialties. In front of the brewery is the **Heinzelmännchenbrunnen** that represents the famous **legend of the elves of Cologne** since 1899.

For another walk, cross the **Old Market** with its **cafes** and **pubs**. Here it is where the **street carnival** is opened each year when Cologne's mayor hands over the keys of the city hall to the Prince Carnival.

Right next door is the **historic town hall** with an **arbor from the Renaissance** from 1569. The town hall tower adorn some **130 stone statues**, people from the city's history. Remains of the **Roman praetorium** prove that the city was ruled from here 2000 years ago.

Treat yourself and close the day at our **restaurant taku**. The **taku** has been awarded with one **Michelin star** and welcomes you with a masterpiece of authentic **East Asian cuisine**! Chef **Mirko Gaul** knows how to elicit the finest flavours out of basic Asian recipes by developing his own elegant and genuine interpretation of Asian cuisine.



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