TOP 10 ATTRACTIONS



PINAKOTHEK DER MODERNE

The largest museum of art and design in Europe. See page 56.



ENGLISCHER GARTEN

Featuring the Chinese Tower and its beer garden. See page 60.



MARIENPLATZ

Munich's main square with the Column of the Virgin Mary at its centre. See page 31.



ALTER PETER

Munich's oldest church provides great views of the city and the Alps. See page 35.



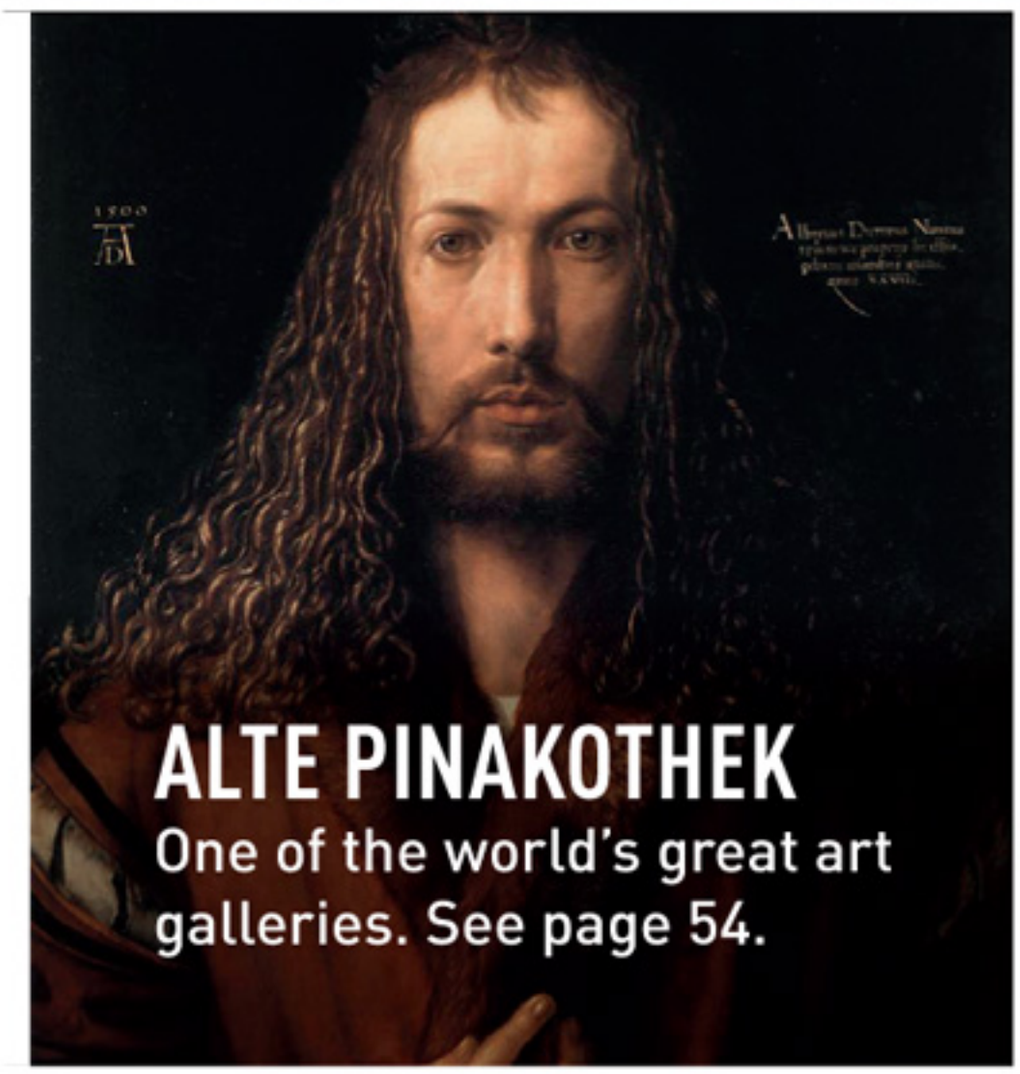
DEUTSCHES MUSEUM

Munich's world-class museum of science and technology. See page 64.



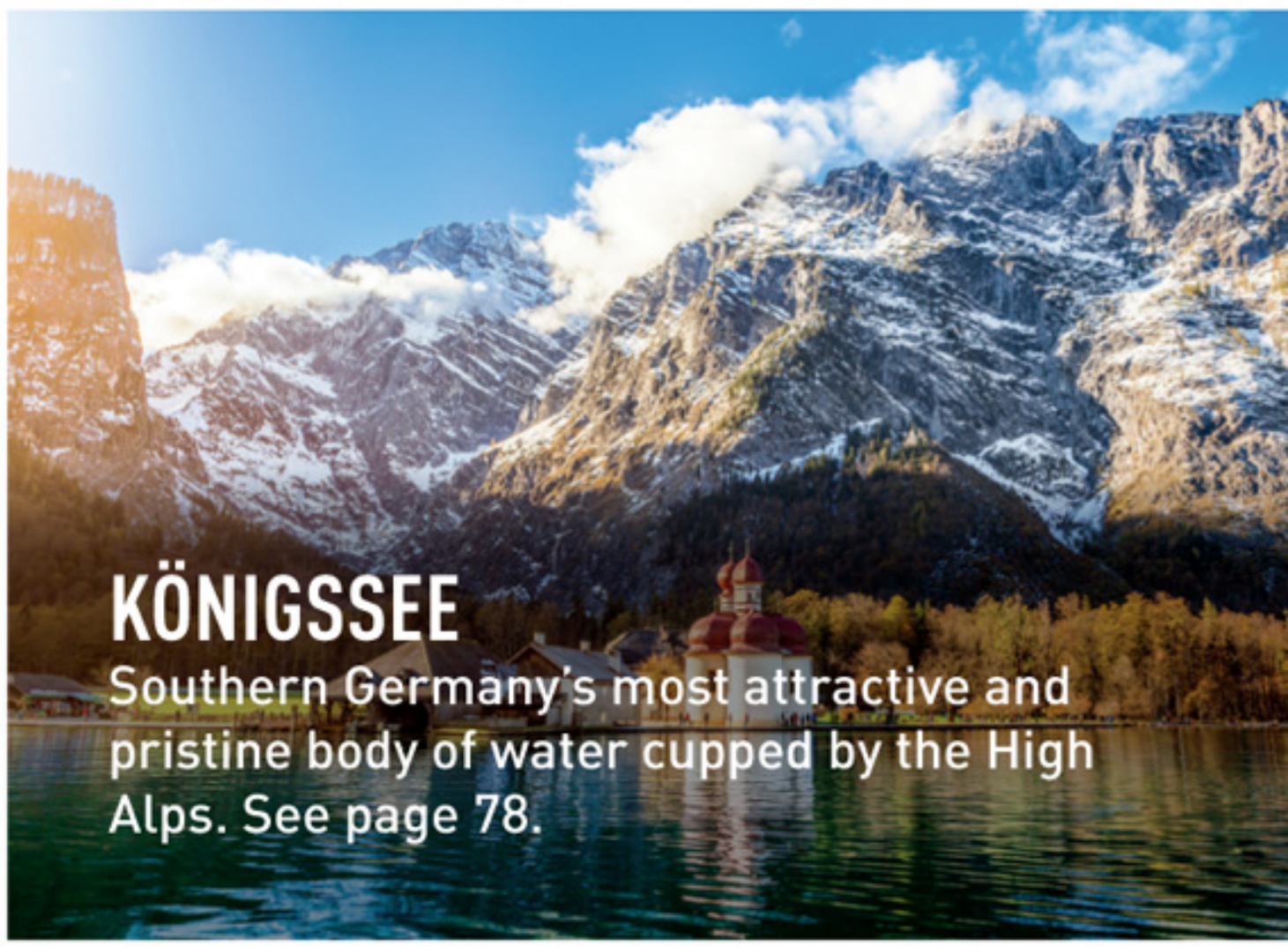
ASAMKIRCHE

A theatrical masterpiece of sculpture, decoration and light, created by the Asam brothers. See page 40.



ALTE PINAKOTHEK

One of the world's great art galleries. See page 54.



KÖNIGSSEE

Southern Germany's most attractive and pristine body of water cupped by the High Alps. See page 78.



RESIDENZ

The former royal palace, with seven courtyards and the magnificent Renaissance hall, the Antiquarium. See page 43.



NEUSCHWANSTEIN CASTLE

Ludwig II's extraordinary romanticised version of the medieval world. See page 72.

A PERFECT DAY





9am

Breakfast

A traditional breakfast of sausage with sweet mustard and soft pretzel is the way to start the Munich day; head for Zum Spöckmeier (see page 110) where they guarantee only the freshest Weisswurst.

10am

The Residenz

Kick off your day of Munich sightseeing at the Residenz, slap bang in the city centre. You'll need at least two hours to cover the trio of attractions here – the Residenzmuseum, the Schatzkammer and the Cuvilliés-Theater.

12:30pm

Chic shopping

Time to hit the smart boutiques and designer shops at Maximilianstrasse for some retail therapy. Window shop along Residenzstrasse and Theatinerstrasse, by which time you will have worked up a hearty appetite.

1:30pm

City centre lunch

Take your hunger pangs to Weisses Bräuhaus (see page 110) for some traditional Bavarian fare, or to Prince Myshkin (see page 109) for some lighter, more innovative vegetarian dishes.

2:30pm

Modern art

After lunch, walk to the Museum Quarter for a hefty dose of culture. You'll only have time to view a couple of the multiple venues here, so choose carefully beforehand. Fans of contemporary art and design should head for the multi-coloured Museum Brandhorst and view Andy Warhol's paintings. Refuel in the olde worlde museum café at the nearby Alte Pinakothek.

IN MUNICH





4:30pm

Beer gardens

Time for a break, so take a short walk from the art action to the Englischer Garten for a tranquil amble and a laze with the locals on the grass, perhaps stopping off at the Chinesischer Turm (see page 112) for a coffee or something stronger. Afterwards, leave the park to the south to see the river surfers riding the wave of the Eisbach stream.

6pm

Mine's a *Stein*

The perfect place to eat and drink your fill is one of the city's inimitable beer halls. For the full-on tourist experience you could plump for the Hofbräuhaus (see page 108); for something a bit more authentic try the Augustiner Bräustuben (see page 110) located near Hackerbrücke S-Bahn station or three stops from the Hauptbahnhof on trams 18 and 19.

8:30pm

All that jazz

A great way to round off the day is an evening at one of the city's excellent jazz joints. Unterfahrt im Einstein and Mister B's (see page 90) are the foot tapping venues of choice. If jazz is not to your taste, then a more eclectic night scene can be found near the Ostbahnhof in the shape of Kultfabrik and Optimolwerke (see page 90) and in the bars of the Gärtnerplatzviertel.

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INTRODUCTION

With its relaxed, almost Mediterranean ambience, Munich, the capital of Bavaria, is one of Europe's most engaging cities, one packed with fascinating history, world-class culture and traditional food, and with the outdoor playground of the Alps just a short hop away.

The city's genius has always been its ability to combine the Germanic talent for getting things done with a specifically Bavarian need to do them in an agreeable way. Business lunches always seem a little longer here, and office hours a little shorter. Yet no one who has witnessed the city's impressive affluence, its dynamic car industry and its super-efficient public transport system would suggest that this refreshingly relaxed attitude was unproductive.

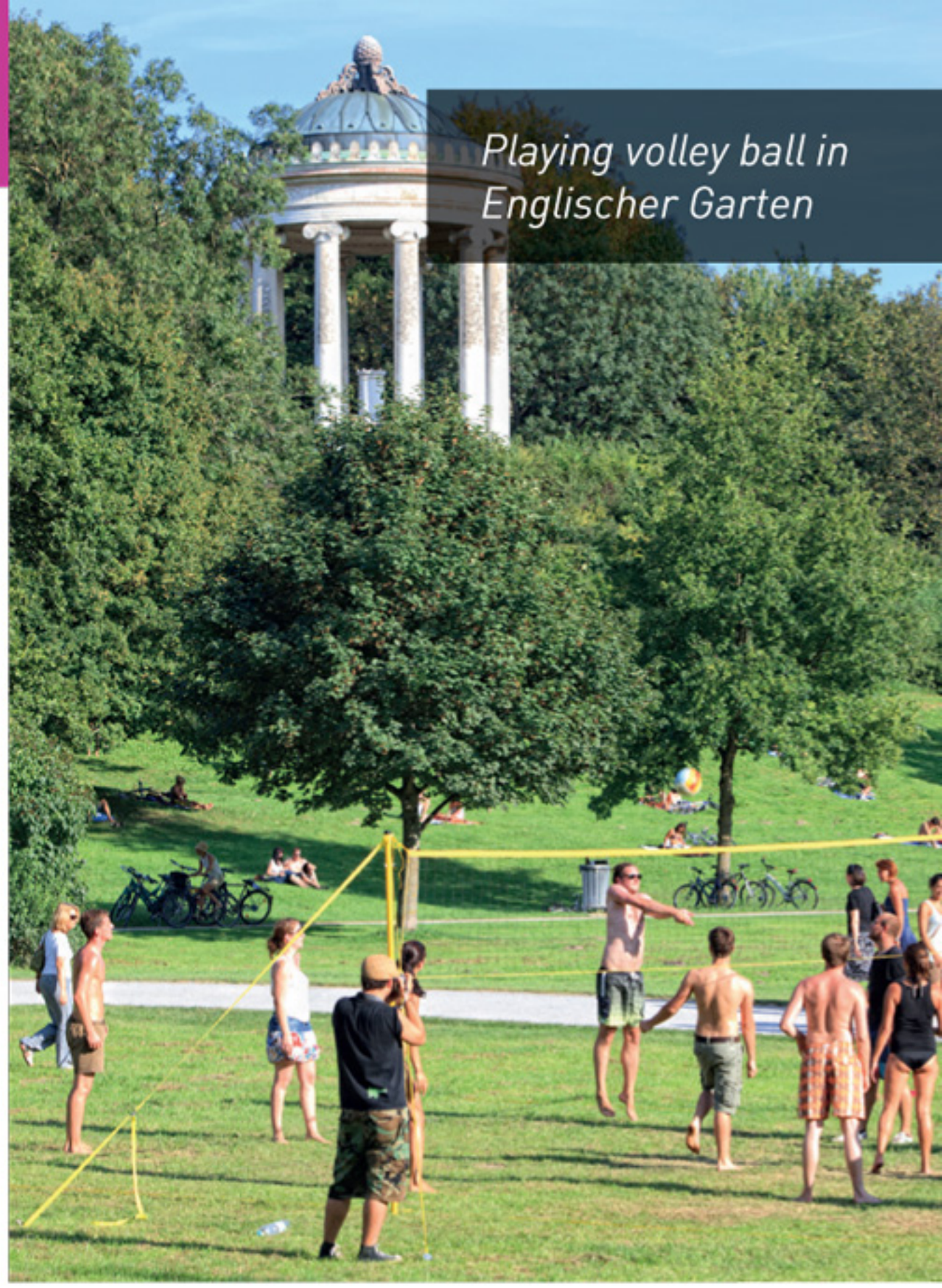
Munich and Bavaria are Germany's most popular tourist destinations. According to opinion polls, it's also the city that Germans would most like to call home. It is not just the elegance and prosperity of the place that make it such a magnet, but the lively way of life which is best savoured in one of its many beer gardens, beer halls or just out and about on the town, particularly during the long and usually very hot summers. As the capital of the Catholic and conservative Free State of Bavaria, Munich epitomises the independent Bavarian spirit, but it is also a highly cosmopolitan city, where people from all over the world can and do feel at home.

Of course Munich also plays host to the Oktoberfest, usually the single event that most think of when anyone mentions the city's name. Indeed, with annual consumption of 6.9 million litres of beer by 6.4 million visitors, it is a blockbuster event, quite appropriate to the oversized image the Bavarians have of their

capital. It is also the most extravagant expression of that untranslatable feeling of warm fellowship known in German as *Gemütlichkeit.*

CULTURAL CENTRE

But it would be wrong to think of life in Munich merely as one long Oktoberfest. As a result of the post-war division of Berlin, Munich became the undisputed cultural capital of the Federal Republic of Germany – no mean achievement in the face of competition from Hamburg and Cologne. The opera house and concert halls make the town a musical mecca still, especially for performances of works by Richard Strauss, Mozart and Wagner. Wagner's patron was 'mad' King Ludwig II of Bavaria, who was responsible for the fairy-tale Neuschwanstein Castle in the Alpine foothills, but it was his grandfather, Ludwig I, who established the city's cultural credentials by assembling vast collections and building huge edifices in which to store them. That legacy lives on in Munich, and the city is endowed with some world-famous art collections, from the Old Masters of the Alte Pinakothek to the main avant-garde movements represented in the Pinakothek der Moderne and Museum Brandhorst. Painters have long appreciated the favourable artistic climate of the city, particularly in the bohemian district of Schwabing, which exploded onto the international scene in the early 20th century as a centre for the Blaue



Playing volley ball in Englischer Garten