



Allgäu

Kaufbeuren
Kaufbeuren Marketing
Tourist Information



Im materielles
Kulturerbe
Bayern



Important addresses – Information

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STADTKULTUR
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The Opening Day

On the opening day of the festival, you can feel the joyful mood spreading throughout the whole town; it's Tänzelfest time once again. The opening ceremony, to which all citizens and all guests from near and far are cordially invited, is co-organised by children and young people from various local organizations. There is music, dancing, singing and of course theatrical performances. And because our Tänzelfest is a happy children's festival, the opening ceremony also sets a festive tone for the days to follow. As twilight spreads across the city at the end of the opening-day performances and a small fireworks display sends its stars into the sky, the festival is officially declared to be open and then the most beautiful time of the year begins for the people of Kaufbeuren and their guests, namely the Tänzelfest. This celebration has found a place in the hearts of the people of Kaufbeuren from generation to generation for centuries.



The Tänzelfest Boys' Band

What would a festival be like without music? In 1867 the band director, David Ignaz Walch, in a fortuitous stroke of genius, added the Tänzelfest Boys' Band to the festival. The young musicians, dressed in the uniforms of the Kaufbeurer militia of 1850, have captivated audiences, not only due to their appearance, but even more so due to their appreciable musical talent. In all corners of our city, they let their instruments resound to the appreciation of the locals as well as our guests. Whether at the flag-waving or the big parade or the Kaufbeurer „Zapfenstreich" (the playing of taps at dusk)—everywhere they are met with loud applause. But it is not only at the Tänzelfest that our „boys" delight their listeners. At many performances, both at home and abroad, they easily enchant their audiences.

Tänzelfest-
Knabenkapelle
Kaufbeuren
gegründet 1867



Tänzelfest in Kaufbeuren

CHILDREN PLAY THE HISTORY OF THEIR TOWN
— Oldest historical children's festival in Bavaria —



Medieval Life

Enactments of medieval life in the old town centre,
music, vagabonds, culinary delights

Colour-filled Marketplace

in the old town centre

Arrival of Emperor Maximilian

in front of the town hall

Great historical parade

Participants: 1650 children dressed in authentic
historical costumes, 24 music bands, 34 horse
drawn carriages

Celebrations

Festival tent and fairground



A festival for the whole family

If you want to gain an insight into the soul of Kaufbeuren, come to the Tänzelfest in mid-July. At that time, the citizens of the formerly „free-imperial“ city travel back in time to the 15th century during an historical festival that lasts for over a week. Being at the festival when more than 1850 children enact the history of their town impresses locals and guests alike every year.



You can feel the enthusiasm of the children taking part in this festival in the unique atmosphere of the historic old town. Nobody knows exactly how old the festival really is, but one thing is certain; it is the oldest historical children's festival in Bavaria. The focus is on one of the many visits of Emperor Maximilian (1459-1519) to Kaufbeuren. Experience how he moves

with his magnificent entourage through the festively-decorated streets to the town hall where he is solemnly received by the mayor, the town council and members of the guilds. In the procession that follows there are 36 floats and over 170 horses. 1850 children in stylish costumes present the history of their town from the Carolingian to the Biedermeier period.



The children at the market hustle and bustle

On the main days of the festival (Saturday, Sunday and Monday) the children are already at work in the mornings at the „Häfelesmarkt“ demonstrating old crafts, performing dances and playing music in the old town around the Harbour market, Salt market and Fruit market. At the stalls of the blacksmiths, tanners, dyers and weavers, the brewers, butchers and bakers, the children recreate the old trades. Let yourself be

tempted by the calls of our market crier to buy homemade jam, our Tänzelfest honey or other delicacies and experience the enthusiasm of the children up close. But beware of the Swedes who roam our streets and have set up camp in the middle of the city.



The adults at the historical camp

But it is not only for the children that history comes alive at the Tänzelfest. Since 1990, the „historical camp “ has captivated visitors from near and far. In romantic backyards and hidden corners of our beautiful old town, visitors will dive into a world of knights and foot soldiers on Friday and Saturday. By torchlight and bonfire, we will take you back in time to a place filled with jugglers and fire-eaters, noble ladies and gentlemen, beggars and vagabonds. Live and experience history with all kinds of entertainment



and pleasures for both body and soul. Sometimes the camp is loud, sometimes it is quiet --as you like it.



The festival site since 1960

What would the Tänzelfest be like without its hustle and bustle! Just picture this colourful, glittering, wonderfully fragrant and noisy area that has held young and old under its spell for years. For fun and thrills, there are the numerous rides that spin, tilt, circle and swirl colourfully and loudly on the festival grounds. Amusement park rides and various booths provide fun and entertainment during a relaxed stroll. With the festival host family Römersperger-Richter, well-known faces have been coming to our esteemed city for 54 years to provide for the physical well-being of the Tänzelfest visitors. With hearty snacks, tasty barley juice, snappy music and its wonderful Bavarian atmosphere, the festively-decorated giant tent is the centre and main attraction of the festival site. And, as every year, our club provides action and pleasure for the entertainment of all visitors to the Tänzelfest.

