

# August 2013

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SUNDAY, 11 AUGUST 2013 09:26



Day 1. An early morning drive to Folkestone to catch the EuroTunnel to Calais. Dad drove half way and I drove the rest to our hotel in Koln, Germany via Brussels. Had an evening out visiting the main sites of Koln like the Dom (cathedral) and having bratwurst and pork knuckle with local beer by the river Rhine. Then took a walk on the Hohenzollern bridge where we came across dozens of padlocks, known as 'Love Locks' symbolising people's marriages and relationships.

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MONDAY, 12 AUGUST 2013 13:08



Day 2. After a nice breakfast at our Koln hotel, Drei Konig Dom, filled with meats, cheeses, rolls and juice we headed for Bonn to see Beethoven's statue and his birthplace and museum. Then we headed for the Rhine river via Boppard and ended up at St. Ghor where we saw a lot of beautiful scenery and many castles in the Rhine valley. Then driving along the Rhine we saw the legendary Lorelei rock. Legend has it that the water spirit called Lorelei lures passersby because it is the site where many ships crash on the Rhine

due to the narrowness of that part of the river. We then arrived at our apartment, Weingartner gastehaus in Mannheim.

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MANNHEIM, BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG, GERMANY • 25° SUNNY

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TUESDAY, 13 AUGUST 2013 16:16



Day 3. Today we took the tram from our apartment to Heidelberg where we met up with my mum's friend Sylvia from OU. We walked around the town and visited Heidelberger Schloss (castle) and went up on the funicular railway to experience the great views of Heidelberg. We then had lunch by the Neckar river and went for a walk afterwards before taking the train back to our apartment in

Seckenheim.

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HEIDELBERG, BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG, GERMANY • 21° SUNNY

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WEDNESDAY, 14 AUGUST 2013 21:45



Day 4. Today we left Mannheim and drove to Stuttgart where the Mercedes Benz museum is based. We spent a few hours looking around at their amazing cars, old and new. We also went on a racing simulator and bought some model cars of their SL range. We then drove from there to our new B&B in Erding called Pension Garni Zweck. We ate at a nice Bavarian restaurant in the centre where we had escalope style food with tasty locally brewed beer.

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ERDING, BAVARIA, GERMANY • 16° CLEAR

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THURSDAY, 15 AUGUST 2013 21:25



Day 5. Today we had another early start and took the train and bus to Dachau concentration camp memorial site, which was about an hour away from Erding. It was a very emotional visit, seeing and feeling just a margin of grief and torture the poor victims went through. We took a guided tour which is highly recommended for a small cost as our guide went into a lot of detail about the various parts of the camp.

After Dachau, we took the train back into the direction of Munchen (Munich). We visited the Deutsch Museum and explored the centre square of the city called Marienplatz. I have to say it was a lovely place and we went up one of the church towers to take in the amazing views of Munich at sunset. After a long day of visiting museums and exploring, we took the train back to our B&B and went to Erding for another great meal at a local Bavarian restaurant.

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MUNICH, BAVARIA, GERMANY • 15° CLEAR

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FRIDAY, 16 AUGUST 2013 21:10



Day 6. Today we left our final stop in Germany and headed to Salzburg, Austria, home to the great composer Mozart. After checking in to our B&B, 'Bei Erika' near the centre, we drove up the Bavarian Alps to Berchtesgaden where Kehlsteinhaus (Eagles Nest) is situated. It was built for his 50th birthday as a place for Adolf Hitler to entertain his dignitaries. We took a bus up to the summit then a vertical lift took us to the top, 1834 m (6,017 ft) high. With breathtaking views over the Alps mountain range and Salzburg this is a recommended visit. We then stopped at a nearby Bavarian hotel for dinner called Gasthof Schorn. The food was really good, I had a mixed grilled which included sausage, chicken breast and steak with chips and rice. The only downside was the waitering, it was very slow. For example, it took about 30 mins for us to get a menu after being seated.

After returning to the B&B we took an evening stroll along the river Salzach.

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BERCHTESGADEN, BAVARIA, GERMANY • 18° CLEAR

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