

Pictures of Bonn

The fifth season: Carnival

Most people already know: the Rhineland has not only the usual four, but at least five seasons! And for many people the “fifth season”, Carnival, is the best one!

Carnival occurs immediately before Lent (the 40-day period of fasting before Easter); the main events are usually in February. Carnival typically involves public parades, street parties, costume balls, masquerades and celebrations. People usually dress up, wear costumes and masks.

A long time ago, at the end of winter, people put on masks and made a lot of noise to chase away the evil spirits. In the Middle Ages Carnival was the last opportunity to party and to enjoy life before the strict rules of Christian Lent. The traditions of organised Carnival in the Rhineland developed in the early 19th century during the French occupation: Carnival uniforms mock the occupation forces and throwing sweets imitates rulers throwing coins to the masses.

Parties and parades take place in many city districts, but the largest and most beautiful parade is the Bonn Rose Monday Parade. So forget your daily life and enjoy a state of complete craziness and let us shout the carnival cheers "Bonn Alaaf!" (Experts shout three times!)



Teachers of the Abendrealschule (evening school) are waiting for the parade



The parade is coming soon.



European integration works: Italian influence - Carnevale di Venezia Bonn.



The “Comenius-People” are prepared for the show.

Bonn Minster (German: *Das Bonner Münster*)



One of Bonn’s landmarks is the mighty Minster Church. Its history dates back to early Christianity.



Its impressive cloister (German: Kreuzgang) is an oasis of peace and contemplation in the city's rush und excitement.

The Old Town Hall



The Old Town Hall, Bonn's famous sight, is situated in the market square. The historic Town Hall was built in Rococo style and accommodates the Lord Mayors' office and representation rooms. In Bonn's era as Federal Capital, numerous crowned heads and state guests were received here, for example John F. Kennedy.

Ludwig van Beethoven

The famous composer was born in Bonn. Although his hearing began to deteriorate when he got older, he continued to compose, even after becoming completely deaf. The Beethoven Monument is on the Münsterplatz (a market square near the Minster Church).



Beethoven Monument

The Beethoven-Haus



(Bild: Beethoven-Haus
Bonn/dpa/tmn)

Beethoven, the famous composer, was born here in 1770. The house is a memorial site and a museum.

UN Campus - the old parliament area of Bonn



The Campus provides the UN organisations ideal working conditions. While Bonn was the capital of Germany, parliament and office buildings were used for the political institutions and members of parliament. As the German capital is Berlin and not Bonn anymore, a lot of these buildings are used by UN organisations today. A high-rise building which used to accommodate MP offices and is widely known by its nickname "Tall Eugene" (after the first name of a former President of Parliament) is the tallest of these buildings.



Post tower

There is only one building in Bonn which is even taller than the "Tall Eugene": it's the Post Tower; 162 m tall, 41-storeys. It's the tallest skyscraper in North Rhine-Westphalia. (The tallest skyscrapers in Germany are in Frankfurt am Main). The Post Tower was designed by the German-American architect Helmut Jahn.



A lot of office walls and floors are made of glass. A double skin glass facade provides natural ventilation and leads to huge energy savings.



The building is located at the river Rhine and in the centre of the old parliament area of Bonn near the "Tall Eugene".

Rheinaue Leisure Park



The park offers a wide range of leisure activities, for example you can hire a boat. Every year on the first Saturday of May, there is giant firework called the 'Rhine in Flames'.

Abendrealschule - our evening school



Our evening school is a secondary school for about 600 students. You can visit us at:

Dorotheenstr. 126

53111 Bonn



Sometimes strange people can be seen at our evening school.

The University of Bonn



The University of Bonn is today one of the leading universities in Germany. About 30 000 students attend the university. The main building was the former residential palace of the prince-electoral (German: Kurfürst) of Cologne in the city centre. The main building was built about 300 years ago.

Cherry trees



“Breite Straße” is particularly beautiful in spring (April), when the cherry trees bloom.

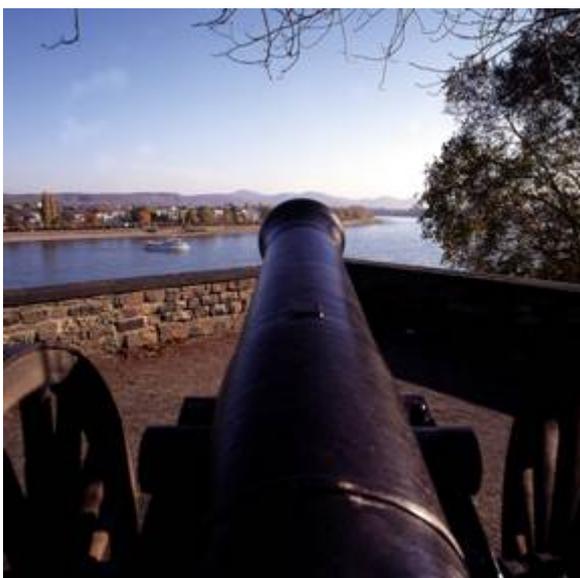


Poppelsdorf Palace in the „Botanischer Garten“ (botanical garden)



The Poppelsdorf Palace and the botanical garden were originally castle grounds for the Archbishop of Cologne, later a baroque garden, then part of the university; destroyed in World War II and reconstructed again.

Good arguments to pay taxes: canons



Ships that went along the river Rhine had to pay taxes in Bonn. Canons reminded the captains of the ships to stop and pay the tax. (“Alter Zoll” - old customs station)

The River Rhine and the Siebengebirge (“seven mountains”)

The Siebengebirge is a range of hills southeast of Bonn. It is of volcanic origin. In the distance you can see a castle and the remains of a castle on top of a hill.



The river bank is the ideal place to sit and watch the ships, the Rhine and the beautiful landscape.