

Bus: The Malpensa Shuttle departs for Centrale station every 20 minutes from 6.20am-00.15am and takes an hour. Tickets: €4.50.

BON APPETIT

■ **UP TO €15 Crota Piemunteisa** (9 Via Gian Giacomo Mora. Tel. 02 839 5992) This lively budget trattoria is in a great location off the busy Corso di Porta Ticinese.

■ **UP TO €30 La Pace** (74 Via Washington. Tel. 02 468 567) This long-established eatery serves traditional fare with a Tuscan twist in reassuringly old-fashioned surroundings.

■ **UP TO €50 Angelo Azzurro** (14 Via Battistotti Sassi. Tel. 02 719 350) Quality Sicilian food served in a lively welcoming ambience.

■ **EXCLUSIVE Joia** (18 Via Panfilo Castaldi. Tel. 02 204 9244) Swiss chef Pietro Leemann is the driving force behind this up-market haute cuisine vegetarian restaurant.

ON THE GROUND

■ **INSIDER TIP** - This multicultural city offers every cuisine from African to Vietnamese. The most interesting new arrival is Rincon Boliviano, an authentic Bolivian and Salvadorean restaurant (32 Via Lulli. Tel. 338 307 8140).

■ **THIS MONTH** - Heavy metal music mayhem begins at the 2007 Gods of Metal festival held at Milan's waterside venue, the Idropark Fila. This year's line-up includes Ozzy Osbourne, Motley Crue, Velvet Revolver and Megadeth (2-3 & 30 June. www.godsofmetal.it).

DAY TRIPPING

Parma - Prosperous Parma is 120km south-east of Milan and easily reached by train or Autostrada. Parma is all about food, so why not try the world-famous Parma ham and parmigiano cheese? Look out for local dishes such as gnoccho fritto, a samosa-like creation made with potatoes.

NO WAY!

When shopping in Italy get the Italian pronunciation right or you may be misunderstood. Levis is 'Layvees', Wrangler is 'Vrengler'. It gets worse. If your name is Keith they'll call you 'Kate' and if you're called Andrea they'll assume you're a man.

Compiled by **Charles Searson**

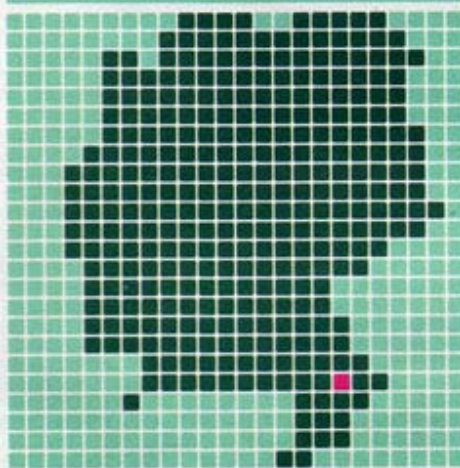
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FROM THE AIRPORT

Car Hire: For special easyJet in-flight rates, visit the Europcar desk or Tel. +49 (0)180 500 4455, from 7am-9pm Mondays to Fridays, and 8am-3.30pm on Saturdays.

Train: The journey to Munich's central station (Hauptbahnhof) takes 40 minutes. The S1 and S8 run from 3.30am-12midnight. Tickets: €8. The Munich Welcome Card costs €28 for three days, giving unlimited travel on public transport, plus discounts at major attractions (www.mvv-muenchen.de).

Taxi: The average taxi fare to the city centre is €55 (Tel. +49 (0)89 21610 or +49 (0)89 19410).

BON APPETIT

■ **UP TO €15 Akaike** (17 Dom-Pedro-Strasse. Tel. 089 1897 0225) Create your perfect meal at this fondue restaurant where diners select their fondue method, ingredients and sauces. There are plenty of all-you-can-eat specials too.

■ **UP TO €30 Marktwirt** (2 Heiliggeiststrasse. Tel. 089 2324 1133) If you can't face another pork knuckle with dumplings, try this charming restaurant near the Viktualienmarkt for lighter, modern-day Bavarian cuisine.

■ **UP TO €50 Essneun** (9 Hans-Sachs-Strasse. Tel. 089 2323 0935) The place to go for a true culinary adventure. Weird combinations of bizarre ingredients certainly make it a talking point.

■ **EXCLUSIVE Blauer Bock** (9 Sebastianplatz. Tel. 089 4522 2333) For great food in a stylish, laidback atmosphere, Blauer Bock takes some beating. The

lunchtime specials, featuring the very best seasonal ingredients such as truffles and local asparagus, are among the best-value gourmet food in the city.

NIGHT FEVER

■ **LOW KEY Volksgarten** (50 Brienerstrasse. Tel. 089 5787 7859) A great place to chill on a summer evening—be it on the outdoor loungers or in the 1970s-style interior.

■ **LIVE MUSIC Hide-Out** (22 Volkartstrasse. Tel. 089 169 668) Tucked in an cellar in an inconspicuous residential building, this jazz and blues club is a cult Munich location.

■ **LATE & LIVELY Pusser's** (9 Falkenturmstrasse. Tel. 089 220 500) For the past 30 years this classic New York-style bar has been pulling in the punters with its great cocktails.

ON THE GROUND

■ **SHOP** - Looking for presents to take home? Check out Condo, where all items—many of which have a Munich theme—are handmade by local artists (34 Pestalozzistrasse. Tel. 089 2601 8666. www.condo-myplayground.com, German only).

■ **INSIDER TIP** - An age-old tradition permits guests to take their own food to Munich's beer gardens. For a meal on the cheap, stock up with a picnic at the Viktualienmarkt. Goods can be vacuum packed, should you wish to snack on your leftovers later.

■ **KEY AREA** - Home to Munich's two universities, Schwabing is the city's studentland and buzzes with bars and restaurants. In the 1960s it was one of Germany's best-known artists' districts.

■ **THIS MONTH** - Munich celebrates its annual alternative festival, Tollwood, with a jam-packed showcase of the weird and characterful, featuring all kinds of performances and live gigs (14 June-8 July. www.tollwood.de).

DAY TRIPPING

Schliersee - Get that Sound of Music feeling with a day trip to the Alps. The attractive lakeside town of Schliersee is a 50-min direct train journey from Munich's main station, and it's set against a wonderful mountain backdrop.

NO WAY!

The presence of 150 sheep in the Englischer Garten park saves Munich authorities about €100,000 annually on the cost of mowing the lawns.

Compiled by **Jill Henne**



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