# Carnival

From »Fettdonnerstag« (Greasy Thursday) to »Veilchendienstag« (Violet Tuesday) Aachen is nothing like it was before! On »Rosenmontag« (Rose Monday) a huge colourful parade takes over the streets, so dress up and join! And you have to try our »Puffel« (doughnuts filled with jam),

### FEBRUARY/MARCH

greasy, sugary goodness.

Schrit\_tmacher Generation 2 A dance festival hosting international companies for brilliant modern performances. Generation 2 hosts productions and workshops for a younger audience. www.schrittmacherfestival.de

### APRIL

Oecher Bend Twice a year, in spring and summer, the Bend, a huge funfair opens its doors. If you can make it on the last day you'll get to enjoy some impressive fireworks.

»Tanz in den Mai« To celebrate the beginning of spring, there are lots of parties on the last day of April. boys (in leap years it's the girls turn) set up birch trees, decorated with colourful ribbons, outside the windows of their lovers. Südstraßenfest

## Vintage funfair

Get thrown back to the »once upon a time« on the vintage funfair in Kornelimünster, a little town outside of Aachen (there are shuttles on the weekend).

## Vive l'Europe!

Prize) of Aachen is the oldest prize awarde every year for work done in the service of European unification. www.karlspreis.de

### JUNE Lothringai

A streetstyle festival buzzing with art, dance performances, exhibitions and live music: jazz, soul, indie and rock. www.lothringair.de

Leselust am Lousberg Lousberg park at the Belvedere pillars with lectures by local authors. (in German) www.literaturbuero-emr.de

The World Equestrian Festival in Aachen! World-class sport meets up for a renowned show of dressage, jumping, eventing, driving and vaulting in Soers. www.chioaachen.de

## AUGUST

Kimiko Isle of Culture Aachen's music festival mixing indie, soul, rock and electronic, local streetfood and art. www.kimiko-festival.de

## Parkflimmern

Cinema in the open air, at Kennedypark after dawn. (in German)

### SEPTEMBER

Arts and Crafts Market Handmade jewellery, pottery, textiles, stationery – go have a browse around

## September Special

Soul, funk, rock, pop, electronic, indie... A weekend that turns the whole city centre into a free open air festival. www.aachenseptemberspecial.de

The people of Aachen get to see their beloved cathedral in a new light, at a spectacular 3D light show on Katschhof: Another tradition is the »Maibaum stellen«: Der Dom Leuchtet.

## OCTOBER

A quirky little open air festival in Südstraße nviting local as well as international bands.

## hello desianer tour

Dive into the local creative industry! Hello Designer Tour is a decentral design festival taking place in the whole Euregio, across the borders of Holland and Belgium The Karlspreis (International Charlemagne <u>www.hellodesignertour.eu</u>

## NOVEMBER

Handmade Circus Local Designers sell their stuff, have a browse and a chat. (Aula Carolina, in January and November) www.handmadecircus.de

### DECEMBER

Christmas Market Some may say the Aachen christmas market ist the most beautiful ever. Anyway, it's a good place to do some festive christmas shopping and to warm your freezing fingers A little open air festival of literature in the on a cup of glühwein. Just watch out for pick-pockets. www.aachenweihnachtsmarkt.de

### Fleamarket, Lebenshilfe Prepare yourself for the best vintage shopping experience! Proceeds from the event will go to charity.

For exact times and dates please check up









Smooth Times

open Tue-Sunl

hot days students will crowd the park, sippin' on bottled beer and sizzling away with their portable BBQs.

Just next to Westpark, smooth is a very

laid-back café run by Karin, serving fresh,

grilled sandwiches, smoothie bowls, juices

and (sometimes even vegan) self-made

healthy and homemade delicacies like

158 Poetry Slam – Satz nach Vorn [on the first Friday of the month] The beloved poetry slam at *Raststaette*. So beloved though that you have to queue two hours in advance. But it's totally worth it!

[open every day] Bäckerei Mehlkovf is a very traditional bakery selling incredibly good cakes.

61 Galerie Freitag 18.30 [open Thu–Sat, www.freitag1830.de] An art gallery that used to open just on and is now a vivid space for frequently

## 161 Thermal Bath

[open every day, from 12€ for 2,5hours] Relax at *Carolus Thermen* and enjoy a water from Aachen's mineral springs, the Turkish bath, a number of whirlpools and the outdoor beach-area: the perfect pampering after an exhausting day.

Organic Market [Sat, 9:00–14:00 on Münsterplatz] like Café Helmut.

## Farmers Market

[Tue and Thu, 7:00–14:00 on Markt] Look out for a bright fuchsia-coloured truck, Café Baristinho selling delicious coffee, cakes and pastels de nata.

tourist office Friedrich-Wilhelm-Platz at Elisenbrunnen Mon-Fri 10:00-18:00 Sat 10:00-15:00 www.aachen-tourismus.de

## aeneral ovenina times

Museums are usually closed on Mondays Shops are generally closed on Sundays Supermarkets: Mon-Sat 8:00-20:00/22:00 Shops: Mon-Sat 10:00-20:00

## German people usually eat around 12:00-15:00 and 18:00-21:00 Bars usually close at 2:00 or 3:00/5:00

## transportation

on the weekend.

Your boots are made for walking. Aachen is a fairly small city, you can easily walk around. You'll be surprised how quickly you of super cheap offers for students on can crosswalk from one side of the city to Pontstraße.

Buses: Most of the buses stop at Bushof and/or Elisenbrunnen, except the circular nes 3,13A/B. There are touristy hop-onop-off buses and buses to Maastricht (NL) arting from Elisenbrunnen as well. The »Aseag Mobil« app is very handy for getting around.

Fares: one-day-ticket 7,60€, 3-day-ticket 15,10€, ticket for a week 23€

every thirty minutes leaving from the main station (RE1). Rent a bike: At Wabe Radstation, Bahnofstraße 22 (10€ per day+100€ surety) or register for VeloCity Aachen to use a pedelec for 1,50€ every 30 minutes (most stations are near the campus and the city centre)

*Trains:* There is a connection to Cologne.

Düsseldorf, Essen, Bochum, Dortmund

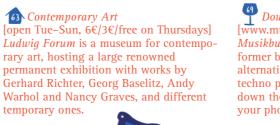
free wifi: Around the area of Elisenbrunnen, Münsterplatz and Rathaus *museums:* Most museums offer free entry for young people under 21 or a reduced fare for students

theatre: At Mörgens tickets are only 7,00€ for students, High Five Card for 22.50€ at the Aachen theatre for five shows. *food:* If you're on a budget, there are lots

## what's on?

listen to 99.1 Hochschulradio, the uni's radio [www.hochschulradio-aachen.de]

Movie Beta and Klenkes are free local magazines about everything that's goin on (in German) [www.movieaachen.de. www.klenkes.de] Poebel (the common crowd) is a free magazine about local





small private theatre performing lternative productions in a reworked industrial building, in summer in the open air on »Burg Frankenberg« nostly in German).

## jazzzzz...

open every day] In Summer *Dumont* is a comfortable beer garden, from October to March it's host to great jazz concerts every Sunday night. The landlord has some great connections to the jazz scene and invites stunning artists to play in Aachen for a night, sleep on his

### 66 laz3rkatze lopen Tue-Satl

Laserkatze is a laser-manufactory, a young start-up producing some special goodies, individual gifts like key-rings, cake toppers and decorative signs... if you can cut it by laser, Laserkatze does it



of Italian, French, German, Latino and Luxembourg cuisine (try their »Kniddels«). You'll be lucky to get a seat in the beautiful ackyard in summer.

*fundart* is quite a fancy place for dinner. But you can have a taste of their fine (soup and main for 11€). Bon appétit!

Down down the Rabbit Hole w.musikbunkeraachen.bigcartel.com] Musikbunker is a real special venue, a former bunker hosting gigs of funk, rock, alternative, metal, electro, indie and raving techno parties. It really feels like a bunker down there: no chance for any signal on your phone. The only thing to do is dance!

### 70 aaargh Frankenstein! Actually the *Frankenberg* district really isn't scary at all, with all its lavishly decorated wilheminian style houses from the late 19th century, the little green park

in the centre and a lovely castle on a hill.

# ice ice-baby

[open every day] *Oecher Eistreff* in Frankenberg is selling some delicious ice cream flavours like strawberry, chocolate and genuine Madagascar vanilla, all made with organic ingredients and lots of love.

## Little Things mean a lot

Little Something is a small concept store tucked away in a little side street. The owner shares her love for beautiful things, hygge homeware, stationery and natural cosmetics.

### A Bunny's Café [open Tue-Sun]

Café Hase is a sweet little café decorated couch and continue their tour the next day. with lots of plants and flowers, inviting to take a break and have a coffee. A great spot for breakfast, too! Everything they serve is freshly made, healthy (well, sort of) and made with love.

## Caro's Lädchen

[open Tue-Sat] In Caro's little shop you'll find products made by local designers, lovely little presents and souvenirs from Aachen, a ot more personal than your odd fridge magnet: postcards illustrated by Lara Bispinck, homemade soaps, lamps made from booze bottles, handcrafted by Caro or custom-made iron-on patches.

### Cold Favourites lopen Tue-Sunl

A little beyond city centre, *Delzepich* has been selling well-loved ice cream for a long time. It's only a little shop selling a few flavours, but on hot summer days people always queue up.





## of hills and streams

Start your walk at *Ehrenmal*, Marienturm, a tower of the medieval town wall and walk up Kupferstraße until you get to the statues. Legend has it that the clever Aachen. Since the devil had been fooled after paying for the construction of the cathedral (see 21) he sought revenge. He carried a huge sack of sand from the north sea to Aachen to bury the city forever. While he was taking a rest he met the market-woman. She told him, recognising his hooves, it still was such a long way to go. Frustrated the devil emptied his sack of sand just outside the city walls: that's the Lousberg (the smart

restaurant and casino that was a place to see and be seen in the beginning of the 9th century, when the Lousberg was made nto a vast park for recreation. Cross the plateau and climb up the stairs to the overlook: you'll get an amazing view on the city centre and the stadiums in Soers. On Sundays you can have brunch or te nd cake in the old water tower, the *Drehturm* restaurant, a very exquisite 60-degrees-view experience. Walk back own the stairs, turn left and follow the path. Once you get to the statues again, turn left and then right again. Walk around the church and then turn right onto Salvatorstraße. At the end of the road follow the path to the right and walk down the stairs. Cross the street and enter Sandkaulstraße. Wander down the street, market-woman tricked the devil and saved pop into one of the fruit shops or enjoy a cup of coffee and a piece of cake at Julis Café, a lovely little café serving delicious breakfast, snacks and cakes with vegan options, too. Walk through Großkölnstraße into the heart of the city. Markt is usually a very busy place, especially on the weekend and on Tuesdays and Thursdays with the farmers market. Wander through Pontstraße, then turn left and follow the little stream next to the

hill) today. On your way up you pass the

baroque fences and the Belvedere Pillars.

Kerstenscher Pavillon with its white

They are relics of a once flamboyant

from park to park

Start your walk at Ferberpark, a lovely green spot to relax. Burtscheid once was an autonomous town before being annexed to Aachen — which is still quite present in its structure. On Fridays you can stroll around the little farmers market on Kapellenstraße to buy fresh fruit and veg or some flowers for your love. Walking along Kapellenstraße you come across quite a number of little shops, one of th *Collard's*, selling delicious high-quality cheeses, deli foods and wine. Walk on to the Burtscheider Markt, where Leni Liebt *Kaffee is a* heaven for coffee-lovers. selling jewelry, bags, lamps and quirky old toys and dolls (with very odd opening hours though...). Turn right, walk up Klostertreppe to get to the *Johann Baptist Church*, fondly called the Burtscheid Cathedral. Turn left again for the second church next door, St. Michael's. Walk down the stairs into the park, Kurgarten. Burtscheid is the spa of Aachen, so there will likely be some spa guests having a stroll or a rest in the park. Walk around the park, and up the hill and cross the bridge. From here you get a great view of the city and Kleinmarschiertor. Walk down Franzstraße, pop into Klein for some traditiona

Printen or stop at Groffmanns Genüsse

for Italian biscuits and espresso, a little Italian deli that takes you straight to the mediterranean once you walk through the door. On your way you pass *Last Exit*, a cozy and busy bar, that's got you covered from breakfast to drinks at night! Lovely to sit outside in summer or to cuddle up inside in winter with a freshly brewed tea or luscious hot chocolate. Turn left and walk through the little streets of the Jak district, a calm and lovable neighbourhood, one of the oldest of Aachen, with a number of small independent cafés and shops like *drei Blüten* (three blossoms), Just opposite is a funny little antiques shop a remarkably beautiful flower shop, a place for romantics and plant lovers. Pass Jakobskirche and cross Vaalserstraße to get to Westpark, the third green spot on vour walk to sit back and relax.

> Do you notice the golden metal plates in between the cobble stones in the city centre with Charlemagne's signe »KAROLUS« on them? Wherever you spot three of them you find yourself in front of a historic sight.





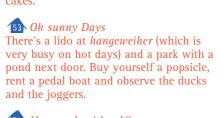












## rent a pedal boat and observe the ducks and the joggers. 154 Hammock with a View

You'll get a great view on the city from the top of *Lousberg*, and even better, you can lie down and relax while enjoying the panorama. The perfect place for a romantic

## date by the way. Shabby Chic

[open Wed-Sat] Hotel Europa is a quirky bar celebrating the styles of the sixties, seventies and eighties, hosting indie parties and live gigs from time to time.

55 A real Treat [open every day] *Café Lammerskötter* is the perfect place for a luxurious breakfast. A café right in the middle of the Burtscheid neighbourhood, well-known for its exquisite cakes. It could

happen that you're mostly surrounded by

### well-to-do grannies during tea time here, but they do know a good cake after all!

57 Stadtpark his large public garden is a fusion of spa gardens and smaller parks, with lots of little fountains and pavilions to discover, ancient trees to relax underneath and contemporary art to look at, at NAK, Neuer Aachener Kunstverein.

(The slammers usually perform in German)

159 »It's all about the Stimmung!« [www.gravieranstalt-aachen.de] Gravieranstalt is a space for music and art, a platform for renowned as well as newcomer artists, painters, sculptors, street artists, photographers as well as writers, comedians and local musicians... Check out their facebook page to see what's on!

65 Stachelbeerbaiser

Try their »Stachelbeerbaiser« (gooseberry cake topped with meringue), it's the best

Fridays at 18:30. It has expanded ever since changing exhibitions and events.

luxurious spa treatment. It's not cheap but you get to relax in a pool of warm thermal

## STREETF00D

Check out the lovely street food trucks

oen Tue–Sunl Die Bar Cantona is an artsy yet down-toearth bar, selling a good variety of beer, wine and great food, combining the best

# **Lunch Luxury**

reations on a more affordable lunch menu

open Tue-Sat] Something's out there in the mist by the Kolbert, lurking after dusk. The well

is popular with the washerwomen for many reasons. Hot springs do you a great favour when cleaning your laundry and - even better - the creature hiding somewhere in there is the reason your husband stopped coming home piss drunk in the middle of the night. Because he heard the rumors

knows better. No one actually knows how it looks, the thing they call Bahkauv. Sharp teeth, claws, piercing eyes and a mighty tail is what people claim they saw. The only thing that we can say for sure is that if you decide to spend the evening with your pals, drinking pint after pint, you will most definitely have a terrifying encounter on your way home. It'll creep up on you, slowly, quietly and then, when you least expect it, it'll jump onto you while screaming horribly and rattling with its chains. The noise will wake the whole neighbourhood and by the time the creature has struck its claws into your back, everyone in town will know about your shameful nightly trips. And to finish this act of utter humiliation, the creature will rid you of all the gold you've got on you. Meanwhile, all women and children are spared by the Bahkauv and some may even appreciate the deed it does for their families.