

Itinerary for a Beer Hunt based in Bamberg/Nuremberg

Friday the 20th of July, to Friday the 27th of July, 2007

Introduction

These notes were written by [John White](#), of [White Beer Travels](#). They should be read in conjunction with: the [White Beer Travels Guide to Bamberg](#), to [Nuremberg](#), and to [Forchheim](#), these downloadable guides (from www.whitebeertravels.com/downloads) having more details of all the places mentioned in outline in this itinerary, including those in outlying places (I will have e-mailed you the password to open/print these guides); the White Beer Travels Web page covering Bamberg's most famous bar, the Schlenkerla, and its Heller Brewery, www.whitebeertravels.com/schlenkerla; the White Beer Travels Web page covering a superb book on Bamberg's Brewing Establishments, past and present, www.whitebeertravels.com/bambrew; and White Beer Travels Maps for Bamberg Nuremberg and Forchheim (the maps will be trip handouts, but are also obtainable from my Downloads page). On the [last page](#) of this itinerary, there are summary times to meet, to catch planes, etc. The Beer Hunt will be reported in the White Beer Travels Web page, www.whitebeertravels.com/gettrips.html#2007c, although this already exists and currently provides preliminary information, much of which is also to be found in these itinerary notes.

There are twelve people on the trip:

John & Joyce White;

Stuart Lowe

Brian & Sue Anderson;

John Ingham;

David Mummery.

Ian & Denise Knowles;

Chris Marchbanks;

Jez ([rauchbier](#)) Blake;

Steve Slater;

Every endeavour will be made to adhere to the brewery trips and equivalent, but changes may be necessary. Should cancellation of, say, a brewery visit, be made, without substitution, there will be appropriate financial or liquid compensation.

All times quoted are local ones, Germany, being one hour ahead of the UK. German train times quoted were obtained from <http://reiseauskunft.bahn.de/bin/query.exe/en> (which is in English) (reached from www.bahn.co.uk, if you search a train time/cost). Note that these give bus times, if there is no train option. Should you be planning any trips of your own, on this Beer Hunt, then tickets can be purchased in advance on this site. However, should your journeys be purely within Bavaria (Bayern), then you should consider a Bayern-Ticket. These daily tickets are valid, for the date specified on them, from 9am (Midnight on Saturday and Sunday) until 3am the next day, and can be used on most trains (except "ICE" high speed trains), and they are also valid on buses and the Underground system in Nuremberg, this, for example, serving the airport. Purchased in Bavaria, they cost €29 (2007), these being valid for as many journeys as you like for up to five people! (Bayern-Tickets for individuals are €22.) They can be purchased from ticket machines, or on-line for €2 less, but this part of the appropriate website is presently in German only (follow the Bayern-Ticket ... link on www.bahn.de/bayern).

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We will be using pre-purchased Bayern-Tickets to get to Bamberg from Nuremberg on the Sunday of the trip, and to return to Nuremberg for our flights home, and for certain brewery/bar visits away from Bamberg during the week. Note that I do not list any times for high-speed "ICE" trains, since these are significantly more expensive, and tickets have to be booked in advance, for trains at specific times. ICE trains can be spotted in the train schedules by the "ICE" in the "Products" column. Local Bamberg bus times/routes can be obtained from www.verkehrsbetriebe.de. Further details on how to use these various websites are given in the [White Beer Travels Bamberg Guide](#).

For the times of local Bamberg buses quoted, I went to <http://www.verkehrsbetriebe.de/page.php?page=bamberg/opnv/fahrplanauskunft/fahrplanheft/fahrplanheft.html>. For each bus number, there are two lines in the list of lines on this page, the first line being for the forward journey (Hinfahrt) from ZOB (the Central Bus Station), and the other for the return journey (Rückfahrt) to ZOB. For each row, there are typically three timetables, that can be downloaded, i.e. for Montag bis Freitag (Monday to Friday); Samstag (Saturday); and Sonn- und Feiertag (Sunday and National Holidays). For appropriate places in the White Beer Travels Guide to Bamberg, I quote which bus is required and the name of the bus stop (Aufenthalt). The times for the buses between Ebermannstadt and Pottenstein, for the Thursday Beer Hunt, were obtained from www.vgn.de. On the actual day of the journeys, train and bus times and platform/bay details, should, of course, be checked, although the on-line information, usually tallies with reality, but I could have typed them up incorrectly!

If you are new to Bamberg, you should make every effort to visit the first places featured in my Bamberg Guide, such as the **Schlenkerla**, which, in any event, is part of this "official" itinerary. These places include: **Spezial**, **Fässla**, **Gasthausbrauerei Ambräusianum**, **Mahr's Bräu Bierstube**, **Keesmann**, **Klosterbräu**, **Greifenklau**, **Torschuster**, **Pelikan**, **Zum Sternla** (Bamberg's oldest pub, which is close to the hotel), **Weinstube Pizzini**, **Café Abseits**, and **Stöhrenkeller** (Robesbierre's Tap (the nearby Brau Haus Robesbierre closed in 2006, but is expected to open elsewhere in Bamberg, in 2007). If you don't get to all of these on this visit, book on next year's Bamberg-based trip (six nights from Saturday the 17th of May, 2008), as they truly are not to be missed, but such is the richness of the place, that one or two classic places will inevitably end up being missed! Of course, all these great places merit visit after visit, so I will endeavour to revisit some of them, squeezing them in when possible. The 2008 trip coincides with the availability of Fresh Asparagus (Spargel), and Flindererbier, in the town of Pegnitz, which will be visited as part of the trip, see www.whitebeertravels.com/pegnitz.

As well as the beers from its own brewing establishments, in Bamberg there are scores of beers brewed outside the City, mainly from Franconia and the rest of Bavaria. An indispensable guide for unravelling all these is Steve Thomas's don't-enter-Germany-without *The Good Beer Guide to Germany* (www.german-breweries.com, www.whitebeertravels.com/gbbg), which is published by CAMRA, and can be purchased from their website, www.camra.org.uk.

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The majority of White Beer Travels Beer Hunters are not smokers, and genuinely dislike smoking in their presence. Germany did introduce some no-smoking regulations in 2007, but there are State variations and establishments can permit smoking in certain rooms, for example, the Schlenkerla's most "atmospheric" room, the one with the famous server, one can still smoke. However, even where smoking is allowed, if you have joined a White Beer Travels Beer Hunt, it is requested that you do not smoke when amongst the group.

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Friday, the 20th of July, 2007

Journey to Nuremberg (Nürnberg)

John & Joyce White, Ian & Denise Knowles, Stuart Lowe and Chris Marchbanks are travelling to Nuremberg on this day; all but Chris will be travelling on the same plane to Nuremberg from Stansted Airport (www.stanstedairport.com). The rest of the group are arriving in Nuremberg on the Saturday, using a variety of routes.

The Stansted group are on Air Berlin (www.airberlin.com) flight AB 8595, which departs from Stansted (STN) at 20.45 hours (8.45pm), and arrives in Nürnberg (NUE) at 23:10 hours (11.10pm). There is a choice of a free Ham or Cheese Sandwich, with Coffee, Tea or a soft drink on the flight, the Sandwiches not being at all good or appetising. Being a budget airline, alcoholic drinks have to be paid for: 33cl cans of the nationally available, Duisburg-brewed, König Pils (KöPi) are €2; Henkell Trocken (Sekt, German Sparkling Wine) and Prosecco Jossello (an Italian Sparkling Wine) are both €3 (Pikkolo, 20cl); Lanson Brut Champagne is €8 for the same measure; and a German Red Wine from Rheinland-Pfalz is €2 (18.7cl). These are May, 2007 prices.

At Stansted, there are Short Stay, Medium Stay and Long Stay Parking areas. Zone D of the Short Stay Car Park is free for fifteen minutes, for pick up and drop off. Parking can be pre-booked on the Stansted website, although one can pay in cash or with credit card in the car parks (near the exit, or with a credit card at the barriers); there are signs saying that one can pay in the terminal, but I believe that this is no longer the case. Stansted can be reached by rail; from Liverpool Street Station, in London, there is the Stansted Express (www.stanstedexpress.com), the journey time being around forty-five minutes. Places such as Birmingham, Cambridge and Peterborough, also have direct trains to Stansted. There is also a cheaper coach option from London.

Prior to the Summer, 2006 security alerts, check-in time was at least sixty minutes before departure, in Zone A of the airport (well, it was in May). However, the airline has recommended that check-in time should be at least two hours ahead of the flight this year; Air Berlin specific information can be obtained from 0870 738 8880 (8p/min). The checked-in baggage allowance with Air Berlin is 20kg; hand luggage is restricted to one item, weighing up to 6kg, which is subject to new contents and size restrictions: it should be no bigger than 45x56x25 cm (17.75x22x9.85 inches); it can contain liquids, including "liquids" such as toothpaste, each item having a maximum volume of 100ml, which all must be placed in a relatively small transparent, sealable bag; the latest restrictions can be checked at www.baa.com. Air Berlin do not usually check the weight of the hand luggage, but I cannot guarantee this. As is the norm, the checked-in baggage allowance of 20kg is included in the flight cost, anything over this being charged by the Kilo. Note that the maximum weight allowed is 32kg per item of checked-in baggage.

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Note that Air Berlin flight tickets are not issued in advance; one gets these by presenting a hard copy of the booking confirmatory e-mail. I will have sent you these, but I will have copies with me at Stansted; I will be waiting for you all upstream of the check-in desks with these, and with trip handouts, until two hours before the flight. Note that they only give you the ticket for the forward journey, so you need the e-mail for the return flight as well. Well, I say you need the e-mail, but, in practice, giving your name and having a passport with the same name is generally enough, but, to be on the safe side, it is best to have the e-mail; the booking reference number is 05030314.

In the departure lounge at Stansted, "Airside" (beyond the security and passport checks), there is a **Wetherspoon's**, near the passageway to gates 40-59, called **The Windmill**, with seven handpumps, although usually only three are operational. On a May, 2007 visit, Caledonian Deuchars was £2.20. Note that there is a **Wetherspoon Express Bar Café** by the gate from which one usually boards the plane, but this has no Real Ale.

In an island servery, in the middle of the usual airport shops, there is a Caviar/Seafood bar, **Caviar House** (www.caviar-house.com), with a superbly labelled bottled beer, based on an old "Russian Porter" recipe called **Balik** (11%), costing £6.50 (33cl) (September, 2006; my bottle at this time had a "best before" date of 16/4/2010); Balik is brewed by Locher, in Appenzell, Switzerland (www.appenzellerbier.ch). Note that Balik is a Swiss Smoked Salmon company (www.balik.ch), who commission this beer. Their website talks of the beer being brewed with water from Balik's own source, in Ebersol; it also mentions the usual ingredients for a beer, but also "Russian Kwas" (something made from bread and raisins). The beer is not bad, albeit a little cloying for some tastes, and its light amber colour is not that of a typical dark Porter. They do not do off-sales, but the beer can be purchased from the Caviar House website. In the UK, as well as at Stansted, there are similar Caviar Houses at Heathrow and Gatwick airports. Typical food items include September, 2004 prices): Dressed Crab, at £14.95; and Scottish Smoked Salmon, at £10.95. Caviar is in the range £66 to £229 for 50 grams, these prices including Blinis and Crème Fraîche. For security reasons, even at these prices, food is eaten with plastic cutlery! Other catering outlets, Airside, include a **Starbucks** (coffee, etc) and a **Prêt-à-Manger** (sandwiches, etc).

From the departure lounge one typically gets a special train (journey time less than two minutes) to the gates (there are two different stops, each one covering a set of different gate numbers). (For some Ryanair flights, one does not use the train to get to your gate.)

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From Nürnberg airport (Flughafen), we get the Underground Train (Untergrund Bahn, U-Bahn) to the city's Hauptbahnhof (Hbf, Main Railway Station), a journey time of around ten minutes. "Flughafen" is an end stop of line U2 of the Nuremberg Underground system (click [here](#) for an underground map), so, at the airport, it is not possible to get on a train going in the wrong direction; they all go to the required stop named "Hauptbahnhof" (the stop before is "Wöhrder Wiese"). The Underground is very easy to spot; look for a big "U" (white on a blue background), directly ahead of the exit from the baggage reclaim area. There is a machine to buy tickets by the sign, these costing €1.80 (June, 2007 from www.vag.de, from where you can get a route map). However, it is very easy to make the mistake of getting a ticket for a child/dog (€0.90), which resulted in one of the White Beer Travels Beer Hunters remarking on a previous visit that he would sit on the floor and bark like a dog if the Ticket Inspector arrived! Once I have cleared customs, I will make my way to this machine to get the tickets for everyone, so this will be the meet place for the journey to the city centre. For information, note that, if we had been travelling direct to Bamberg from Nuremberg, it would not have been necessary to buy Underground tickets, as we would have used Bayern-Tickets for both the underground and the train to Bamberg.

In Bamberg and Nuremberg, we are all staying in the same hotel each night. Breakfast is included each day in the cost of the trip. Should you incur any additional expenditure on the room, such as phone calls, mini-bar, etc, could you please pay for these at Reception before checking out in both locations.

In Nuremberg, we stay in the marvellously situated **Ibis Nuernberg Altstadt** (formerly called the **Ibis Königstor**), at Königstrasse 74. The telephone number is 0911 23 20 00, which from the UK is 0049 911 23 20 00 (it can be entered in a mobile phone as +49 911 23 20 00, and it will work from anywhere in the world). This Ibis is very close to Nuremberg's Main Railway Station, but within the walls of the Old City, North of the Hauptbahnhof, see the White Beer Travels map of Nuremberg, which is a trip handout.

From the Hauptbahnhof's Underground station, follow signs to the Altstadt (Old Town) and Frauentorgraben, rather than those for Bahnhofstrasse and Gleissbühlstraße. Following the signs for the Altstadt leads to the Königstorpassage (King's Gate Passageway), which goes under the road in front of the station, direct to Königstrasse, on which our hotel, the **Ibis Nuernberg Altstadt**, is very soon reached on the left; note the main **Tourist Information Office (Nürnberg Info)** on the right before this. Note that the initial exit from the underground station is somewhat confusing, but if you end up on a street, where there is no obvious underpass, look to your right, and you will be able to see the Ibis, which is reached by crossing a busy road.

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It is somewhat frustrating arriving in Nuremberg at the late hour that we do, but with the flight time we have no choice, since Air Berlin are the only budget carrier to Nuremberg from England. Clearly, by the time that we have checked in and dropped off our bags, it will be after Midnight. The nearest pub of interest, the excellent, **Kloster Andechs - Das Wirtshaus**, in the **Hotel Deutscher Kaiser**, on the other side of the hotel's street, at Königstrasse 55, closes at Midnight (opens at 11am), as does the one with changing guest draught beers, the essential visit, **Landbierparadies**, some way South of the Hauptbahnhof, at Wodanstrasse 15 (opens at 6pm) (en route to this, another option is **singularis porcus**, at Harsdörfferstraße 8, which is open until 1am; it has a very good selection of Franconian Beers. It probably won't even be worth going to the nearby Brew Pub, the **Hausbrauerei Barfüßer**, at Hallplatz 2 (entrance is actually on our hotel's Königstrasse), which is open from 11am to 1am, but usually stops serving at 12.30am. However, should we somehow arrive with sufficient time for a visit, I will target this as a meet place, with a time to leave the hotel reception being given in the hotel, based on our arrival time. There are some reasonable bottled beers available in the reception of our hotel, and they can be partaken of there, but it is not really a bar.

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Saturday, the 21st of July, 2007

Optional Visit to Regensburg & Evening in Nuremberg (Nürnberg)

For those who arrived in the Nuremberg, on the Friday, and who wish to go on the optional visit to Regensburg, we will leave from the reception area of the hotel at 09.15, for the short walk to Nuremberg Main Railway Station. For the whole group, the meet time in the hotel reception for an evening visit to some pubs in Nuremberg, will be 19.15 (7.15pm). We can have something to eat in one of them.

Breakfast in the hotel is on the first floor, in the Frühsuckraum, which means, er Breakfast Room. Opposite the hotel, the "Coffee Shop Company" has decent, er Coffee. In the reception area of the hotel, there is a computer that provides free-of-charge access to the Internet. If you want to type a "y", type "z", and if you want to type a "@", hold the "Alt Gr" key down and type "q". There is also Wi-Fi Internet access in the rooms, for which there is a charge.

For the optional day trip, the train to Regensburg leaves Nuremberg Main Station at 09.35 from platform (Gleis) 4, arriving there at 10.38. The station before is Beratzhausen, at 10.21; the train has a final destination of München (Munich). Regensburg has five brewing establishments, which are detailed in the following White Beer Travels Web page: www.whitebeertravels.com/regensburg. The optional day trip to Regensburg is very much a recce trip, as I have not been to the place before; it is a major tourist City on a famous, historic bridging point over the Danube (Donau). Should any of you that arrive in Nuremberg on the Saturday and wish to join the group in Regensburg, then the target lunch stop is the tap for the City's oldest brewery, the **Spitalbrauerei** (www.spitalbrauerei.de), the **Gaststätte Spitalgarten** (www.spitalgarten.de), at St. Katharinenplatz 1. It is on an island in the Danube, close to the Steinerner Brücke (Stone Bridge), Germany's oldest bridge.

The return train from Regensburg leaves at 17.20, from platform 5, arriving at its final destination of Nürnberg at 18.27, the stop before being Neumarkt (Oberpfalz) at 18.03. Neumarkt is home to the Neumarkter Lammsbräu Brewery (www.lammsbraeu.de), which has a relationship with Nuremberg's **Bierbrauerei Destille Altstadt** (Old Town Courtyard Brewery and Distillery), Bergstraße 19/21, www.altstadthof.de, which has been visited on previous White Beer Travels Beer Hunts; this is well worth visiting by those who arrive on the Saturday and don't go to Regensburg, as is the don't-miss **Hutt'n**, Burgstrasse 19, www.huettn-nuernberg.de, which tends to get too crowded in the evening; note that the respective streets on which these two places stand are different, but fairly close together.

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Sunday, the 22nd of July, 2007

Optional Hunt for Communal Brewery Zoigl Outlets in Windischeschenbach/Neuhaus an der Waldnaab, before Journey to Bamberg

Before we travel to Bamberg, there will be an optional search for Der Zoigl (The Zoigl), which as per the one last year, should prove to be a most interesting and enjoyable adventure. I have produced a Web page dedicated to Zoigl, www.whitebeertravels.com/zoigl, which has full details, and is a trip handout, along with a marked up map of the "twin towns" in which we will be seeking Zoigl: Windischeschenbach and Neuhaus. For those who wish to stay in Nuremberg, there is much to do, both beer and general tourist-wise. Note that although the Zoigl Hunt is an optional trip, there is no charge for the train journey, as we use the same Bayern Tickets as we will use to get to Bamberg later in the evening.

Before we go on the Zoigl Hunt or do sightseeing around Nuremberg, prior to the journey to Bamberg by train, from the Hauptbahnhof, after checking out of the hotel, we can leave our luggage in a cupboard, with the sliding door, across from the reception desk, and return to collect it, in time to catch our Bamberg train. Whether Zoigl Hunting or sightseeing or whatever, we leave from the hotel reception at 18.45 (6.45pm).

For those going on the Zoigl Hunt, we need to leave the Hotel at 09.15, for the walk to Nuremberg Railway Station. From the station, we get the 09.36 train on Platform 17 to Weiden, where the train arrives at 10.45 on Platform 4. There should be a Vogtlandbahn train waiting on platform 1, final destination Hof, which leaves at 10.55 for the required Windischeschenbach, where it arrives at 11.03, the stop before, the only stop, being Neustadt (Waalnaab) at 10.55.

The genuine Zoigl places that will be open in the twin towns of Windischeschenbach and Neuhaus can be found using the Kalender links, for the two places in www.zoiglbier.de. In Windischeschenbach, Robert Sperber's **Beim Binner** (Kleiau 3, www.binnergeist.de) is the one on the rota; in Neuhaus, it is Thomas Witt's **Beim Bahler** (Zoiglstube Witt) (Marktplatz 10-12), which was visited on the 2006 Zoigl Hunt. We should visit both these places. I suggest that we have our first Zoiglbier of the day in Beim Binner, and then have lunch in the **Oberpfälzer Hof Hotel-Restaurant** (Hauptstrasse 1 (corner of Stadtplatz), www.oberpfaelzer-hof-windischeschenbach.de (it has a genuine Zoiglbier supplied to it by one of the communal brewers); it is open at lunchtime until 2pm. We can then go across the river Waldnaab, and then up the very steep hill to Neuhaus, to fit in Beim Bahler, and the **Weißer Schwan** (White Swan) (Zoigl beim Schwanerer), Pfarrplatz 1, www.schwanerer.de, another place supplied with genuine Zoigl Beer. The nearest bar to the station is the tap for a "conventional brewery", the **Brauerei Würth** (www.brauerei-wuerth.de), at Bahnhofstrasse 7-9, which is worth having a last drink (or two) in, before getting the train back to Nuremberg.

To return from Windischeschenbach, we can get the 16.53 Vogtlandbahn train on platform 1 to Weiden (Oberpfalz) (direction Regensburg), where it arrives at 17.05, on platform 2; the stop before is Neustadt (Waldnaab) at 17.00. From Weiden, we get the 17.04 to Nürnberg, on platform 4, which arrives in Nuremberg at 18.21. The stop before is the famous Hop town, Hersbruck, at its "Hersbruck rechts der Pegnitz" stop, at 18.06.

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We then need to return to the hotel, to collect our luggage, leaving from there, to go back to Nuremberg's Main Railway Station for our train to Bamberg! (It is not worth leaving our luggage at the station, as it takes time to put it in and retrieve it and there is never a guarantee that there will be enough free lockers, and we also want to meet up with those who did not go on the Zoigl Hunt.

For those who have not had an evening meal (The Zoigl Hunters), there will be time to get a snack on the station before getting the train to Bamberg; there is shop that has over ninety different Franconian beers, with some food options, that can be partaken of on the premises, on Level 1 (1.OG) of the Westhalle (West Hall) of the station: **Der Treffpunkt Franken**, www.der-treffpunkt-franken.de. It is open from 10am to 8pm, seven days a week.

The train from Nuremberg to Bamberg is the 19.45 (7.45pm) from Platform 13, which gets into Bamberg at 20.31 (8.31pm) (the stop before Bamberg being Hirschaid (two breweries with taps) at 20.22). Nuremberg station is quite complex; to get to the platforms, follow the "DB" (Deutsche Bahn, German Railway) signs. Note that there are other trains that go to Bamberg at similar times, from different platforms, but these will high speed trains (ICE), for which our tickets are not valid, or slower trains, so if you are making your own way to the platform, please bear this in mind, when checking on departure boards.

Just before the train arrives at Bamberg's Railway Station (Bahnhof), one of the city's two major maltings can be seen on the left: **Bamberger Mälzerei**, at Theresienstrasse 32 (www.donau-malz.de). Then on the right, Maisel Brewery (www.maisel-braeu-bamberg.de) is prominent, and once at the station, Bamberg's second maltings, the justly world-famous, **Weyermann Malz** (Brennerstrasse 17-19, www.weyermann.de) can be seen ahead, to the right of the platforms.

In Bamberg, we are staying in the **Ibis Hotel**, which is centrally situated, at Theatergassen 10 (the entrance is on Zinkenwörth, opposite number 20, GPS: 49.890858° N, 10.890732° E), off a square called Schillerplatz (as if the Zinkenwörth and Theatergassen confusion wasn't enough, the hotel has started calling itself the **Ibis Bamberg am Schillerplatz**); Theatergassen is a relatively modern, well modernised area of the city, between Lange Strasse and Zinkenwörth. The hotel's telephone number is 0951 98 04 80, which from the UK is 0049 951 98 04 80 (it can be entered in a mobile phone as +49 951 98 04 80). Theatergassen and Zinkenwörth can be reached off Lange Strasse (which is served by a good selection of buses), i.e. look for the alley signed to Theatergassen and Zinkenwörth, opposite Lange Strasse 13. Theatergassen is the site of a large, former brewery, the **Weisse Taube** (White Dove), in what was once the Jewish quarter of Bamberg, see the plaque close to an antique shop, which is next to a more prominent Travels Agency, badged "Basel Reisebüro" (www.basel-reisen.de), at Generalsgasse 15, within Theatergassen. This brewery and the poignant wording on the plaque are covered in www.whitebeertravels.com/bambrew.

In the Ibis's overspill dining room, on the ground floor of the hotel, there is a computer that provides free-of-charge access to the Internet. If you want to type a "@", hold the "Alt Gr" key down and type "q". There is also Wi-Fi Internet access in the rooms, for which there is a charge.

The hotel has one or two beers, including the main Schlenkerla Rauchbier. Food such as Schnitzel mit Kartoffelsalat (Veal Escalope with Potato Salad), at €4.90 (October, 2006 price), is available.

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On arrival in Bamberg, we can go in groups of four or whatever to the hotel by taxi: ask for "Das Hotel Ibis, bitte schoen". Another very useful phrase for this trip is "Was fuer Fassbier haben Sie?" (What draught beers do you have?). Whoever pays the taxi, please tell me the amount and I will reimburse you, and I will do the same for the return journey to the station, en route home. It is probably best if I get in the first taxi, to do the group check in, etc.

After we have checked into the Ibis, one can, of course, go for a few beers and a meal. Naturally, one is free to go where one wants and you will have the White Beer Travels Bamberg Beer Maps to guide you, if you are unfamiliar with the place. However, everyone is most welcome to join me on a crawl, on this and at other similar "free" times.

The time to meet in the foyer of the hotel, based on the arrival time at Bamberg Railway Station, for the optional crawl, is 9.15pm.

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Monday, the 23rd of July, 2007

Heller Brewery (Heller-Bräu - Trum) and its Schlenkerla Tavern

Before any "official activities" it is well worth going to the Bamberg Tourist Office, which is close to the hotel; at the time of our visit, it is open from 9.30am to 6pm (2.30pm on Saturday and Sunday). As well as excellent guides and maps, many of which are free, it has an amazingly good offer: the Bamberg Rucksack for €20, which comes with an excellent Bamberg beer guide (there is an English version), a special beer glass and five beer tokens (worth over €10); I provide further details on my Schlenkerla Web page at www.whitebeertravels.com/schlenkerla.html#schmecker. There are two options for the beer tokens, the best bet probably being the right bank [of the River Regnitz] one, as this covers Spezial, Fässla, Keesmann, Mahr's Bräu and Maisel.

In the morning/early afternoon, there is free time, but if anyone wants to go on a walk passing/entering a few hostelrys and former brewing establishments (see www.whitebeertravels.com/bambrew), with lunch in somewhere like **Klosterbräu** (Obere Mühlbrücke 3, www.klosterbraeu.de), Bamberg's longest running brewing establishment that is still in operation, then I will leave from the Hotel Reception area at 10.00. Should anyone just want to meet up at Klosterbräu, which is near the hotel, then I will target arriving there at Noon. On the morning walk, we will definitely go to **Spezial** (www.brauerei-spezial.de) for a beer, since their Smoke Beer is, like, Heller/Schlenkerla's a world-classic, and having a lower smoke level than Heller/Schlenkerla's is best tasted before it, to do this in the right order of smokiness. We will also visit, **Fässla** (www.faessler.de), across the road from Spezial, which is yet another truly wonderful brewery tap.

In the afternoon, we visit the Heller Brewery, which is remote from its justifiably famous, truly world-class tavern in the city centre, the **Schlenkerla** (Dominikanerstrasse 6, www.schlenkerla.de (www.smokebeer.com for the English pages direct)), where we have a meal after the brewery visit.

For the Heller Brewery visit in the afternoon, if you don't go on the optional tour in the morning, please get to the courtyard of the brewery, which is reached from its main entrance at Oberer Stephansberg 27 (White Beer Travels Bamberg Map 2), for 15.30. Our host for the brewery visit is Matthias Trum, who is in charge at Heller and the Schlenkerla. The Heller Brewery is up a fairly steep hill; Stephansberg means [St.] Stephen's Hill. It is possible to get a bus that stops above the brewery, this being the Linie 28 Bus; get off at the Aufenthalt/Stop "Oberer Stephansberg".

A feature of the visit to Heller Brewery will be some time spent in the sandstone tunnels dug beneath the brewery, these housing its maturation (lagering) vessels. On such visits, we usually sample the unfiltered beer down there, direct from one of the vessels.

The tour may also include a brief look at the brewery's own malting. There is often a brew in progress on Mondays, the day of our visit. Interestingly, when a brew is taking place, a smoke aroma emanates from the copper, which is quite different to the smoke taste in the final beer. The aroma from the copper reminds me of Smoky Bacon-flavoured Crisps, whereas, the smoke taste in the beer is just not the same: definitely non-meaty and decidedly pleasant!

Itinerary for a Beer Hunt based in Bamberg/Nuremberg

After the visit to the Heller brewery, we will walk back into the city to the Schlenkerla tavern, where we will have a meal and some beers, again with Matthias as host. If any of you miss out the brewery visit, could you please be at the tavern, or in sight, outside of it, by 4.50pm, and wait for the main group to arrive. The meal and two beers are included in the trip cost (for all brewery visits, at least two beers are included in the trip cost). We will probably have the meal in the non-smoking Dominikanerklausen, or in a marvellous function room called the Altdeutsches Zimmer (Old German Room); it has one large, round table and a traditional stove.

After the meal in the Schlenkerla, I might just pop into **Ambräusianum** (www.ambraeusianum.de), the Brew Pub next door but one, at Dominikanerstrasse 10. I originally planned to include a formal visit to this place on this trip, but good chap that Ambros Michel Mahr, who runs the place, is, I can never get him to reply to any e-mails; in any event, the brew house vessels, unlike Bamberg's other Brew Pubs, are on full view in the bar.

Two other options very close to the Schlenkerla, are: **Kachelofen**, Obere Sandstrasse 1, www.zumkachelofen.de; and the **Alt-Ringlein**, Dominikanerstraße 9, www.alt-ringlein.de. The St. Georgen Kellerbier outlet, Kachelofen (Tiled Stove), is famous for its, er, tiled stove. The house beer in the former brewery, Alt Ringlein, is a rebadged Mahr's-Bräu one. The place also has draught Rauchbier from both Spezial and Heller/Schlenkerla, so, if you want to do a side by side by side tasting ...

I definitely plan to go to another place close by, the absolutely don't-miss **Weinstube Pizzini**, at Obere Sandstrasse 17. Despite its name, this most atmospheric of places is not a Pizza place and, for a "Wine Bar", it has a very good selection of beers; there are, of course, Franconian (Franken) Wines, a good number of these being of the highest quality. Pizzini, which opens at 8pm, is an absolute don't-miss. After this, we can tick off a few other places, such as the nearby **der Pelikan** (www.pelikan-bamberg.de), at Untere Sandstraße 45.

Itinerary for a Beer Hunt based in Bamberg/Nuremberg

Tuesday, the 24th of July, 2007

Visit to the Annafest Beer Festival in Forchheim

Our trip to Bamberg has been timed to coincide with an event in nearby Forchheim, the Annafest (www.anna-fest.de or www.annafest-forchheim.de). This is very beer-orientated; there are typically twenty-four Kellers (Beer Gardens) on the site, offering beers from in and around Forchheim, along with food; most also have local Wines and Schnapps. Forchheim has four Brew Pubs or brewery taps. The Annafest takes place from Saturday, the 21st of July to Monday, the 30th of July. Note that a number of the Beer Gardens that feature in the Annafest are open throughout the year; they typically have addresses on "Auf den Kellern"; their opening times can be checked on the essential www.bierkeller.de site.

The cost of the train journey to Forchheim is included in the trip. We will walk to the station, leaving the hotel at 09.55 for the 10.37 train (Platform 4) from Bamberg, which gets to Forchheim (Oberfranken) at 10.51; the stop before, the only one, is Hirschaid at 10.43. We will then walk to Forchheim's main square, noting its magnificent Rathaus (Town Hall), on a street just off which are two very nice, basic, atmospheric Brew Pubs with very good beer, which we should definitely visit: **Brauerei Hebindanz**, Sattlertorstrasse 14; and **Brauerei Neder**, Sattlertorstrasse 10. Then we can go to the Annafest.

A good bet is to get a taxi to the top of the hill that the Annafest takes place on and then eventually walk back to Forchheim's railway station. Taxis can be ordered from the Tourist Information Office in the Rathaus (Town Hall). At Annafest time, most Kellers open at 10am; it really livens up from 5pm. There is a map of the Kellers on the second website given for the Annafest, which I will be giving you all a copy of, along with a map of the town itself, with the streets on which its Brew Pubs, etc are marked.

At the Annafest, where it will be possible to eat, there is great potential for the group getting split up. The train tickets purchased are for groups of five (three off), so if you want to travel back on the paid-for tickets, you will need to get into sub-groups; I will try to arrange something based on this, but if it not feasible to get into a grouping, then if you should travel back to Bamberg, and purchase your own train ticket, please let me know and I will reimburse you; the train website quotes the price to be €4.80.

Last year, on a day trip to Buttenheim, on a Tuesday, we chanced upon a very atmospheric football supporters' bar, within site of the station, which everyone was most impressed with; it only opens on Tuesdays. I provide details of it at www.whitebeertravels.com/buttenheim.html#lions. It is an outlet for the Löwenbräu Brewery in Buttenheim (www.loewenbraeu-buttenheim.de), which should not be confused with the one owned by that load of Bankers, InBev. I plan to have a couple of the excellent Buttenheim Lagerbiers in this most atmospheric and welcoming of places before carrying on to Bamberg. They have memorabilia such as football pennants on the wall; if you have any spare UK ones, I am sure that presenting one would go down very well. Note that the centre of Buttenheim, with its two, marvellous brewery taps (Löwenbräu and St. Georgen (www.kellerbier.de)), is over a mile from the station; there are outlets for both these breweries in Bamberg, and both are represented at the Annafest.

Itinerary for a Beer Hunt based in Bamberg/Nuremberg

From Forchheim, there is a train at 17.31, which gets to Buttenheim at 17.40, and one at 18.26, which gets there at 18.36. Both trains stop at Eggolsheim, and both leave Forchheim from Platform 3. From Buttenheim, there are trains leaving from its Platform 1, the platform nearest to the bar, at 18.36 (arrives in Bamberg at 18.49), at 19.40 (arrives in Bamberg at 19.51), and at 20.36 (arrives in Bamberg at 20.49). They all stop at Hirschaid and Strullendorf.

Should you want to miss out Buttenheim, there are frequent return trains to Bamberg, up to beyond 11pm, leaving from Platform 2, for example, at 17.05 (arrives in Bamberg at 17.22), 17.31 (arrives in Bamberg at 17.51), 17.48 (arrives in Bamberg at 18.05), 18.13 (arrives in Bamberg at 18.31), 18.28 (arrives in Bamberg at 18.49), 19.05 (arrives in Bamberg at 19.22), 19.31 (arrives in Bamberg at 19.51), 20.13 (arrives in Bamberg at 20.31), 20.28 (arrives in Bamberg at 20.49), 21.19 (arrives in Bamberg at 21.36), 21.35 (arrives in Bamberg at 21.57), and 22.17 (arrives in Bamberg at 22.32). The stop before Bamberg for these is Hirschaid.

On a trip to Bamberg, especially if it is your first one, you should try and fit in a visit to one of its famous Beer Gardens. The one with the best view is the **Spezial-Keller** (Oberer Stephansberg 47 (entrance on Sternwartstrasse), the street that the Heller/Schlenkerla Brewery is on the corner of). This provides a superb view of the city, much enhanced by the Spezial's world-class Rauchbier (Smoke Beer). After this, as one is already up the hill, one could have a beer or two in the excellent **Stöhrenkeller**, Oberer Stephansberg 11, www.stoehrenkeller.de, opens officially at 8pm, but sometimes opens at 7pm). I will accompany anyone wanting to visit these places, after our return from Forchheim.

Another option when in the station area is the bar with by far the biggest selection of beers in Bamberg, which is on the other side of the rail tracks to the city: **Café Abseits** (www.abseits-bamberg.de), at Pödeldorfer Strasse 39. It is open until 1am.

Itinerary for a Beer Hunt based in Bamberg/Nuremberg

Wednesday, the 25th of July, 2007

A Bus Trip to Merkendorf for a Brewery Visit within one of its two Brew Pubs

There is free time in the morning, before an afternoon trip. I will have lunch in **Zum Sternla** (www.sternla.de), Bamberg's oldest pub, at Lange Strasse 46; to avoid rushing for the start of the afternoon's activity, I will get here at 11.30 for an early lunch order. It is very close to both the hotel and the bus station.

The trip today is an example of one of a number that can readily be undertaken after getting a bus from Bamberg, to villages with Brew Pubs; I example others in the White Beer Travel Guide to Bamberg. The two Brew Pubs in Merkendorf, both of which are open on this day, are the **Brauerei Hummel**, Lindenstraße 9, www.brauerei-hummel.de, and the **Brauerei Wagner**, Pointstraße 1, www.wagner-merkendorf.de. I have arranged a brewery visit to the Hummel Brewery, the visit commencing at 14.00.

To get to Merkendorf, we get a number 17 (Linie 17) bus from the **ZOB** (**Zentraler-**Omnibus-**Bahnhof** (Central Bus Station)), this being quite close to our hotel; the ZOB is positioned on the White Beer Travels Bamberg Map 1. The required bus leaves from bay L of the ZOB, at 13.20, so please make your way to the ZOB in time for this. Note that bay L is not in the main bus station, but in a street just off it: Brückenstrasse. As the Merkendorf buses are so infrequent, they typically have a lot of people standing on them, so come early, if you want to improve the chance of getting a seat. The bus arrives at the required stop in Merkendorf, which is called "Merkendorf Kirche" (Church), the stop after "Merkendorf Sportplatz", at 13.47. Note that this is the last bus of the day, and the previous one is at 10.00. Just before the "Merkendorf Kirche" stop, the Brauerei Hummel is passed on the right, and the Brauerei Wagner, is on the first street left beyond the bus stop, close to the corner. The stop for the return journey is just beyond the church. Note that should you be making your own way to Merkendorf, that it is in Zone 2, and thus requires a more expensive bus ticket than to, say, Bug (for **Buger Hof**, Am Regnitzufer 1, www.buger-hof.de), or for Gaustadt, for the rare Röckeleins Kellerbier in the Kaiserdom Brewery Tap, the **Brauereigasthof & Hotel Kaiserdom**, Gaustadter Hauptstrasse 26 (corner Flössergasse), www.hotel-kaiserdom.de.****

The Merkendorf bus goes via Memmelsdorf, which has two Brew Pubs, these being on the left, on its main street, when travelling from Bamberg: the **Brauerei Gasthof Höhn** (Hauptstrasse 11, www.gasthof-hoehn.de; and the **Braugasthof Drei Kronen** (Hauptstrasse 19, www.drei-kronen.de). Note that the number 7 bus serving Memmelsdorf, is more frequent than the 17 to Merkendorf, so an option would be to go earlier to Memmelsdorf, and then connect with the 17 later, this leaving the "Memmelsdorf-Markt" Stop (the stop after "Schloß Seehof" on both the number 7 and the number 17 buses) at 13.37. Schloss Seehof (www.schlossseehof.de), a major tourist attraction, can be seen on the right, near the stop of its name. It is an impressive castle or mansion in the most pleasant of settings. Just before Noon, the water jets are turned on around the place's ornate fountains, to spectacular effect. There are number 7 buses to Memmelsdorf, from ZOB, at fifteen and forty-five minutes past the hour from ZOB's Bay B.

Itinerary for a Beer Hunt based in Bamberg/Nuremberg

I will have your tickets for the direct bus to Merkendorf. The bus goes via Bamberg's Railway Station and Brennerstraße, on which stands the famous Weyermann Maltings (www.weyermann.de). The cost of the return bus journey to Merkendorf is included in the trip.

We were scheduled to visit the Hummel Brewery on the 2006 Bamberg-based Beer Hunt, and duly turned up, but the Patriarch of the brewery, Leonhard Hummel (1926-2006) had died on the very same day, just a few hours earlier; his son, Julius Hummel, gave us the sad news, and then told us that he had arranged an alternative visit to Hummel's rival brewery in the village, which we duly visited! After the Wagner visit and a tasting of its beers, we were able to sample the Hummel beers in its tap, which remained open, before closing for a few days, because of the bereavement. Hummel has some outstanding beers, including a particularly interesting one, Räucherla, which, as you can guess from its name, is a Smoke Beer, in fact, it is an unfiltered one. For a report on the 2006 visit to Wagner and to Hummel's tap, see www.whitebeertravels.com/getrips.html#hummel. This has information on the beers and food available in both Merkendorf brewery taps.

After the Hummel visit, and a tasting of some of its beers, we can check out the town's other brewery, before getting the bus back to Bamberg, these leaving at 16.52 and 18.22 from the Merkendorf Kirche stop. I will target the 18.22, which is the last one of the day; it arrives at ZOB, its end stop, at 18.56, but I am going to get off at the Luitpoldstrasse stop (the one after the Bamberg Bahnhof (Railway Station) stop), at 18.54, in order to have a beer in three further Bamberg Brew Pubs: **Maisel Keller** at Moosstraße 32 (www.maisel-braeu-bamberg.de); **Mahr's Bräu** at Wunderburg 10 (www.mahrs-braeu.de); and **Keesmann** at Wunderburg 5 (www.keesmann-braeu.de). If we have not eaten in Merkendorf, we can eat in one of these.

Itinerary for a Beer Hunt based in Bamberg/Nuremberg

Thursday, the 26th of July, 2007

Trip to Pottenstein, in the Spectacular Franconian Switzerland

Many who come to Bamberg never leave the city, or even go up the Stephansberg, such is its beer riches, but there is much outside the city both near and far. Today's trip is an example of a place that can be reached from Bamberg by a mixture of train and bus; the cost of the return journey from Bamberg to Pottenstein is included in the overall trip. We will walk to Bamberg Railway Station, leaving the hotel at 09.20 for the 10.09 train (Platform 3), which gets to Forchheim at 10.28, the stop before being Eggolsheim, at 10.23. In Forchheim, we get a 10.35 train, from Platform 5, to the train's end destination, Ebermannstadt, where it arrives at 10.55 (the stop before is Pretzfeld at 10.52). From Ebermannstadt, we get a number 389 bus to Pottenstein, with direction indicator Pegnitz; it leaves Ebermannstadt station at 11.05, and arrives in the centre of Pottenstein, at the stop named Pottenstein Gästezentrum (Tourist Information Office) at 11.48.

Pottenstein has two breweries, producing excellent beers with very nice taps to sample them in, and there are numerous other bars, including the tap of a fairly recently closed brewery, Wagner Bräu. I have a Web page covering Pottenstein: www.whitebeertravels.com/pottenstein, and a Pottenstein map will be a trip handout.

Do not be put off by the nature of the journey; the bus travels through particularly spectacular scenery; the area is called Franconian Switzerland (Fränkische Schweiz), www.fraenkische-schweiz.com, and Pottenstein (www.pottenstein.de, www.stadt.pottenstein.de) is a really lovely town, which is full of interest. Therefore, I heartily recommend that you don't sidestep today's trip.

There are return buses to Ebermannstadt leaving at 15.05, 16.05 and 17.05, the latter being the last one. I suggest that we target the 16.05. This gets to Ebermannstadt station at 16.48, but I plan to get off at the Kirchenplatz stop, at 16.45, to check out the town's two brewery taps, which are close to this bus stop and both are less than 600 metres/yards from the railway station: **Schwanbräu** (www.schwandenbraeu.de), at Marktplatz 2; and **Sonnenbräu**, at Hauptstrasse 29; both breweries have a distillery. Steve Thomas suggests that the Schwanenbräu Brewery may be next to its Keller, at Ramstertalstrasse 1; no doubt someone on the trip will be checking this out! A map will be provided, which locates all the places mentioned.

The train that connects with the bus from Pottenstein is the 17.03, which gets to Forchheim, its end stop, at 17.23. There are trains at the same time past the hour until 21.03, these all leaving from Platform 1, with the station before Forchheim being Pinzberg. As per Tuesday, there are frequent return trains from Forchheim to Bamberg, up to beyond 11pm, leaving from Platform 2, for example, at 17.31 (arrives in Bamberg at 17.51), 17.48 (arrives in Bamberg at 18.05), 18.13 (arrives in Bamberg at 18.31), 18.28 (arrives in Bamberg at 18.49), 19.05 (arrives in Bamberg at 19.22), 19.31 (arrives in Bamberg at 19.51), 20.13 (arrives in Bamberg at 20.31), 20.28 (arrives in Bamberg at 20.49), 21.19 (arrives in Bamberg at 21.36), 21.35 (arrives in Bamberg at 21.57), and 22.17 (arrives in Bamberg at 22.32). The stop before Bamberg for these is Hirschaid.

After getting back to Bamberg, I plan to visit a marvellous bar just beyond the Dom (Cathedral): **Torschuster**, Obere Karolinenstraße 10. This has a big selection of local beers.

Itinerary for a Beer Hunt based in Bamberg/Nuremberg

Friday, the 27th of July, 2006

Return to the UK, via Nuremberg

The group returning to Stansted leave from the hotel at 14.45 for the train to Nuremberg for the flight home. Until then, after checking out from the hotel, and leaving luggage behind reception or wherever, I plan to take a walk up to the top of the already mentioned Michelsberg, for which, as already stated for such a "free time" activity, you are most welcome to join me on. Alternatively, one could fit in a couple of Bamberg's general tourist attractions.

For the optional Michelsberg visit, I will leave from the hotel reception at 10.00. I will have an early lunch (11.45), so that there will be time for a very quick visit to the Brewery Museum, within the cloisters of the former Monastery on top of the hill. The museum is open from 13.00 to 17.00 on Wednesday to Sunday at the time of our visit; the entrance charge is €2, your ticket being a special beer mat. Two eating options in the vicinity, are: the **Cafe-Restaurant Michaelsberg**, within the cloisters, at Michaelsberg 10g; and **Schmitt's Cafe**, at Michaelsberg 29A (on the corner of Storchsgasse). The first named is behind the church (impressive interior), a couple of minutes' walk away from the museum; the route to it is signed "Café Michaelsberg", and it is also positioned on the useful plan of the monastery, in the passageway leading from its arched entrance. Schmitt's has beers from Löwenbräu, in Buttenheim (www.loewenbraeu-butzenheim.de, www.whitebeertravels.com/butzenheim). The Cafe-Restaurant Michaelsberg has some interesting beers, including a lovely, draught, dark beer: Vierzehnheiligen Klosterbock Dunkel, from the Brauerei Trunk (Alte Klosterbrauerei), in Bad Staffelstein-Vierzehnheiligen, near Lichtenfels.

If you do not want to walk to the top of St. Michael's Hill, a number 10 bus takes you there, the required stop being called "Michelsberg", this coming after the one called "Torschuster". We should leave the museum by 13.50, for the downhill walk back to the hotel.

From Nuremberg Airport, the main group get the Air Berlin flight AB 8594 at 19.35 (7.35pm), which is scheduled to arrive in Stansted at 20.05 (8.05pm). With the current security restrictions, we need to check-in at least two hours in advance, so we should get the 15.30 train from Bamberg Railway Station's platform 3, which arrives in Nuremberg at 16.10, the stop before being Fürth (Bayern) at 16.03. I will order taxis to leave from the hotel at 14.45 (ask for "Der Bahnhof, bitte schoen."). We should check-out from the hotel in the morning, leaving our luggage with the reception, or wherever.

For the airport (www.nuremberg-airport.com), one takes Underground Line U2 in the direction "Flughafen", rather than "Röthenbach", which is on the same line, but in the opposite direction. Note that Line U21 trains go from the same platform as U2 ones and travel in the same direction, but only go as far as Ziegelstein, which is one stop short of the airport. They tell you in German and English, as one is approaching Ziegelstein to get off there, and change onto the U2, should you want to go to the airport.

Itinerary for a Beer Hunt based in Bamberg/Nuremberg

Check-In for Air Berlin flights is in Departure Hall 2 (Abflug[halle] 2), Desks 71 to 74 (well it was in May, 2007); Departure Hall 2 can be reached from Departure Hall 1, should you end up the latter first. The shops are not that extensive and EU passengers can, in any event, not purchase anything in the Duty Free. The **Cockpit** bar has some expensive draught beers, a Pils, called "Bier" on the list, at €3.60 (40cl), and a Hefeweizen (Cloudy Wheat Beer) at €3.80 (50cl); the latter is from the Würzburger Hofbräu (www.wuerzburger-hofbraeu.de), in the justly famous Franconian wine City of Würzburg. Small bottles (Bocksbeutel) of Franconian Wine (Red as well as White) cost €4.60 (October, 2006 prices).

Itinerary for a Beer Hunt based in Bamberg/Nuremberg

Summary Times

Friday, the 20th of July

The main group take Air Berlin flight AB 8595 from Stansted to Nuremberg at 20.45. From the airport, we go by Underground to Nuremberg's Main Railway Station, from where it is a short walk to the hotel, the **Ibis**, at Königstrasse 74.

Saturday, the 21st of July

Leave from the hotel reception at 09.15 for an optional day trip to Regensburg.

Leave from the hotel reception at 19.15 for pub visits.

Sunday, the 22nd of July

Leave the hotel at 9.15am for the an optional **Zoigl Hunt**. From the railway station, we get the 09.36 train on Platform 17 to Weiden.

Leave from the Nuremberg Hotel reception at 18.45 for the 19.45 train to Bamberg, from platform 13 of Nuremberg's Main Railway Station (Hauptbahnhof). Our Bamberg hotel is the **Ibis Hotel**, at Theatergassen 10.

Monday, the 23rd of July

Leave the hotel reception at 10.00 for an optional visit to some Bamberg brewing establishments, old and new. There is an optional lunch in Klosterbräu at Noon.

There is a visit to the Heller Brewery, at 15.30. After this, there will be an evening meal in the Schlenkerla. Those on the brewery visit, will walk there directly after it. If you don't go on the brewery visit, please get to the Schlenkerla for 16.50.

Tuesday, the 24th of July

Annafest Beer Festival, in Forchheim. Leave the hotel reception at 09.55, to get the 10.37 train to Forchheim, from Bamberg Railway Station's platform 4.

Wednesday, the 25th of July

Optional lunch in **Zum Sternla**, Lange Strasse 46, at 11.30.

We get a number 17 bus from bay L of the **ZOB**, the Central Bus Station), at 13.20, to go to Merkendorf, for the visit to the Hummel Brewery.

Thursday, the 26th of July

Day trip to Pottenstein. Leave the hotel reception at 09.20 for the walk to Bamberg station, for the 10.09 train, from platform 3, to Forchheim, en route to Pottenstein.

Friday, the 27th of July

The group returning to England, via Stansted, get the Air Berlin flight AB 8594 at 19.35, from Nuremberg. For this, we will get the 15.30 train from Bamberg Railway Station's platform 3. I will order taxis to leave from the hotel at 14.45.

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