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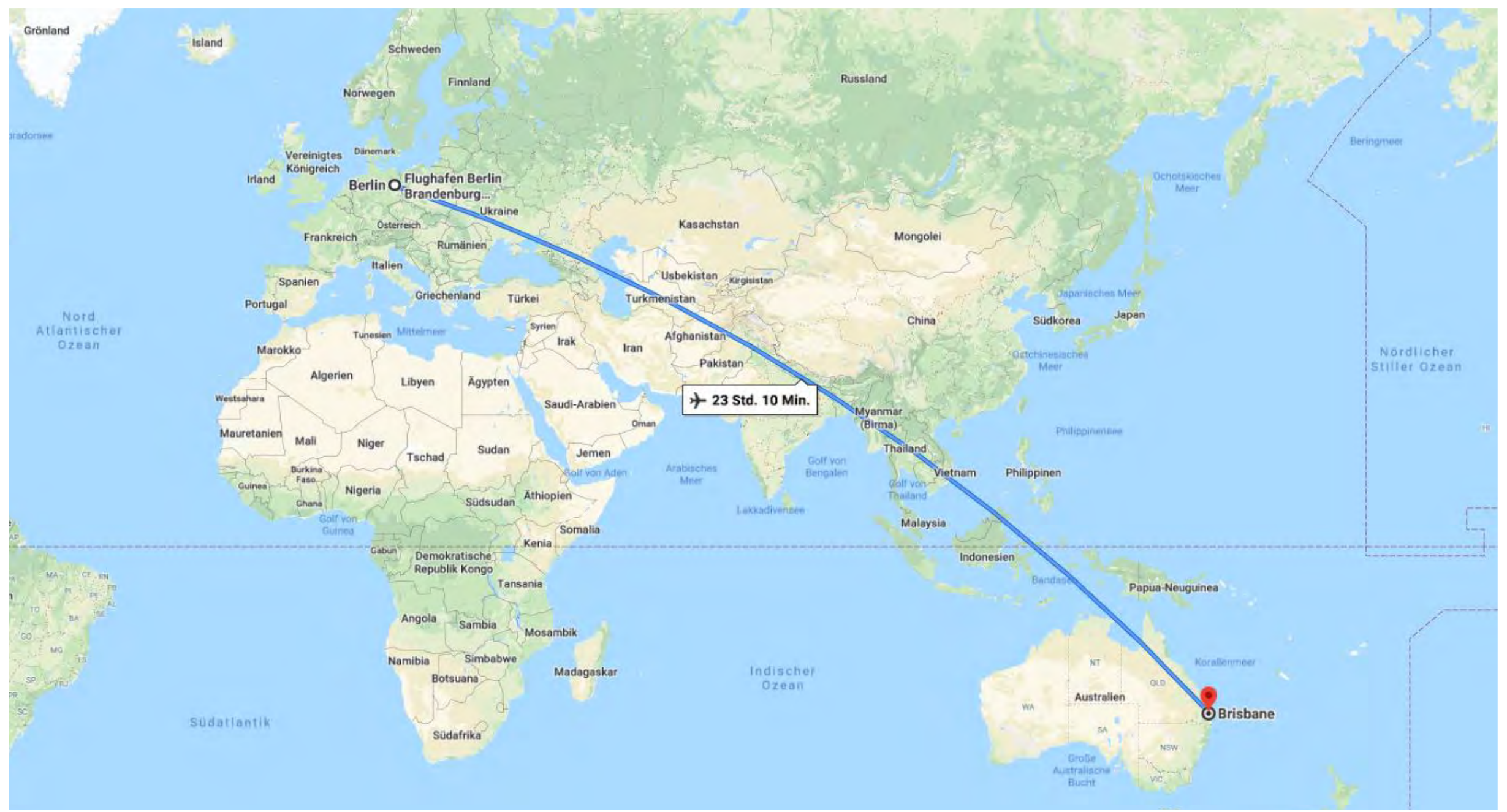
**A**

**Farmer**



# A glimpse at Germany through the eyes of a farmer





Germany is the ♥ of Europe - with the most bordering countries (nine in total)

One of the founding countries of the European Union (EU)

Germany is the seventh-largest country in Europe, it covers an area of 357.582km<sup>2</sup>

→ 48% of that area is used as farm land, which makes a total of ~17 Mill. Ha

One-third of Germany is still covered in forests and woodlands.

83 Mill. people live and eat here

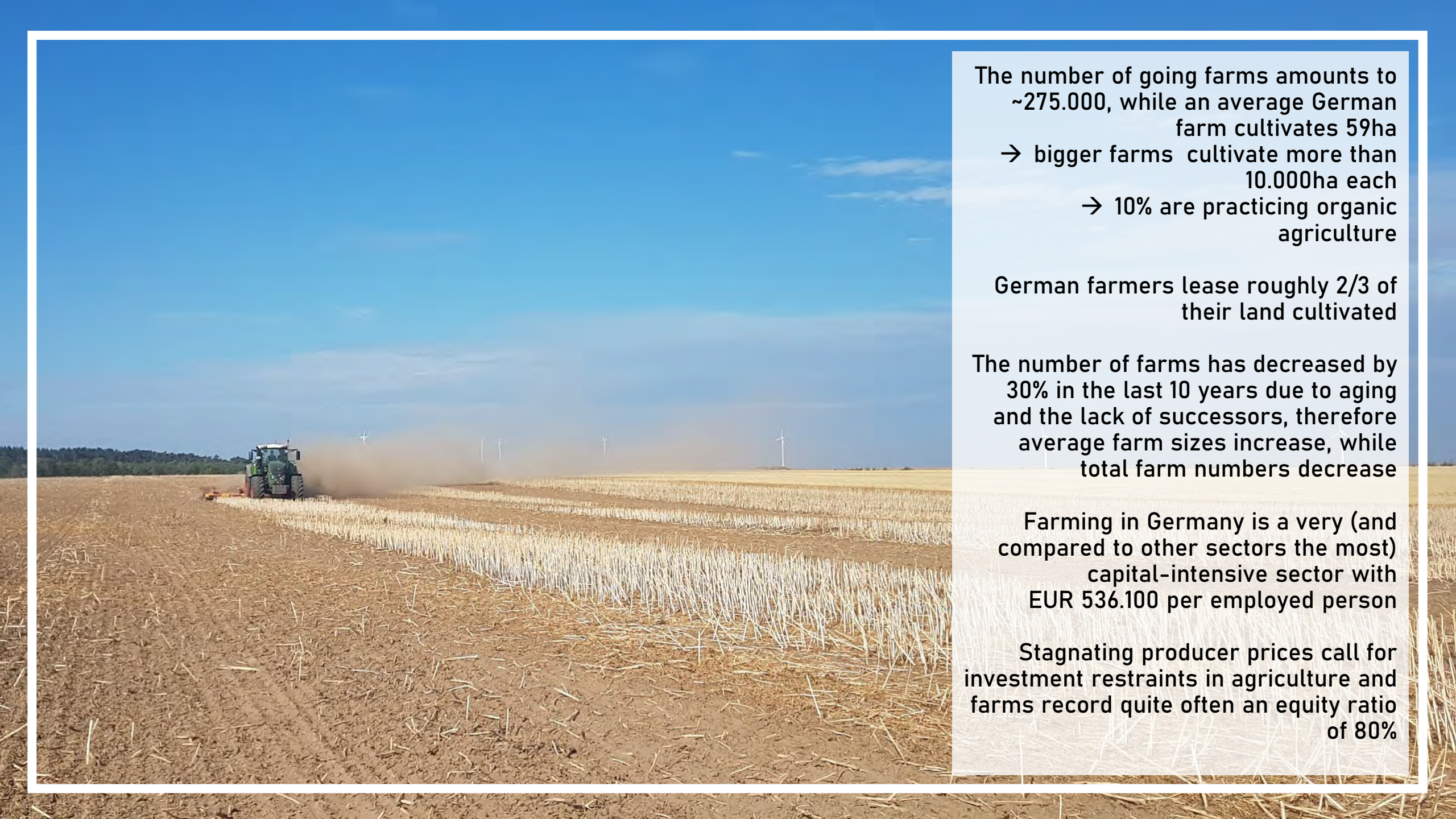
→ 25% of these people are considered to be „rural population“

→ and only ~2% are farmers

Berlin is Germany's capital with ~ 3.7 Mill inhabitants

When JFK visited Berlin, he infamously said "Ich bin ein Berliner," which also translates to "I am a jelly donut."





The number of going farms amounts to ~275.000, while an average German farm cultivates 59ha  
→ bigger farms cultivate more than 10.000ha each  
→ 10% are practicing organic agriculture

German farmers lease roughly 2/3 of their land cultivated

The number of farms has decreased by 30% in the last 10 years due to aging and the lack of successors, therefore average farm sizes increase, while total farm numbers decrease

Farming in Germany is a very (and compared to other sectors the most) capital-intensive sector with EUR 536.100 per employed person

Stagnating producer prices call for investment restraints in agriculture and farms record quite often an equity ratio of 80%

Due to the lack of natural resources Germany shifted from a primary sector country to a science+service sector country

Its' nominal GDP amounts to USD ~3,6 Trill., whereas the agricultural share of the GDP makes up only 0,7%  
→ Largest national economy in Europe  
→ 4th largest in the world

On global level Germany is ranked the 3rd largest im-/exporter of agricultural products, while the import values are higher than the export values

The German climate is considered to be temperate with an average rainfall of ~789mm  
→ Yet regionally very different with only up to ~500mm around Berlin

Germany has high yield potential soils

During the last 10 years the value of the land has doubled  
→ prices/ha West: up to 35.000€/ha  
→ Prices/ha East: up to 20.000€/ha  
Differences according to historical farming schemes after WWII





Seen on global level Germany ranks as the following in producing agricultural commodities:

Rye 1st • Pork 3rd • Barley 3rd • Canola 4th • Sugarbeets 4th • Milk 5th • Potatoes 6th • Wheat 7th

Germany is a country known for its' engineering, therefore it is the largest AgMachinery exporter globally

- Fendt, JohnDeere, Claas, Horsch and many other ag-tech enterprises operate plants in Germany
- The *Agritechnica* is the world's largest agricultural trade fair, taking place in Hanover, Germany every two years in November
- Every 5th tractor being bought has an average engine output of more than 200hp

Germany, as a member of the EU, receives ~ EUR 5.2 Bill. *Common Agricultural Policy-Subsidies* from the EU

- Yet it is also the biggest netto contributor, so paying double into the subsidy fund
- Receiving funds is paired with animal welfare, diversity, climate measures
- Subsidies make up to 40% of income of farms in Germany
- A decent number of farmers would rather refrain from receiving subsidies and foster a market economy







There are 1,300 beer breweries in Germany, producing over 5,000 types of beer and beer manufacturers are required to follow the purity law, also known as “Reinheitsgebot”, which allows only water, barley, and hops to be used in the production of beer  
→ Germans are the world’s second biggest beer drinkers

The „Hallertau“, the largest hop growing area in the south of Germany accounts for 1/3 of the total hop world output  
→ Germany is the 4th largest beer producer in the world

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Smoking is banned in public places but drinking alcohol is still legal

Germans love bread! There are over 300 different kinds of bread in Germany. And Germans love sausages! There are over 1,000 kinds of sausages in Germany

Good to know: The Christmas tree (Tannenbaum) tradition came from Germany initially

Keep your gas tank full! It’s illegal to run out of fuel on highways



Henriette  
Keuffel

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Berlin // Brandenburg  
Germany

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