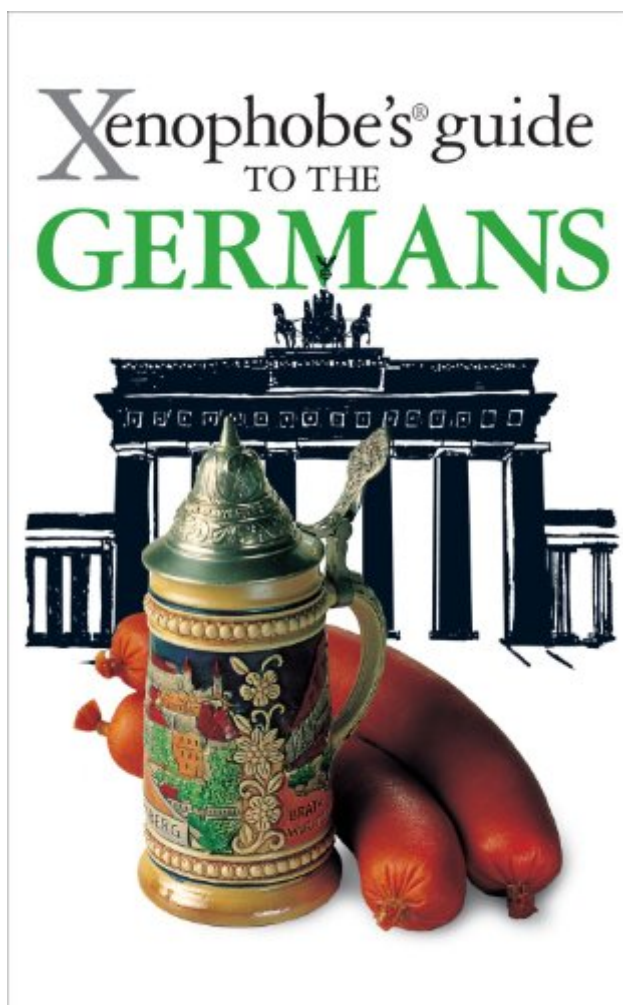


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# The Xenophobe's Guide To The Germans (Xenophobe's Guides)



## Synopsis

A guide to understanding the Germans that uncovers their insecurities and gently dispels even the most ingrained prejudices.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I made several trips to Germany in the 1980s, including working there for one year. I returned later with my new bride to show her the beautiful country I had talked about so often earlier. This book explains some aspects of Germans I still was puzzled by. It also was lacking in addressing cultural differences encountered when actually working there. Germans are diligent workers who are often literal to a fault. It is fool hardy to be in the parking lot at 4 PM on Friday. Nearly every weekend is a reason for a festival. Beer dispensers are always ready at work. Don't assume that co-workers who have worked together for years actually know each other's first name. Engineers are never wrong, even correctable, ORDENUNG would be disrupted. Polite suggestions are politely received and then totally ignored, since if you suggest you obviously have no power or authority to make changes or give orders! Learn their rules of conduct, respect rank, eat and drink with gusto, and never tell ethnic jokes except about Poles. Bavarians and Swabians are friendlier and drink larger beers. Learn the language fundamentals, including breaking long words into smaller segments which may

make sense to English speakers. Never drive in front of a Porsche!! Enjoy Nature! Germans do!

This is an amusing enough entry into the "Xenophobes' Guide" series, but has -- as another reviewer notes -- a negative undertone that can get wearing. It's not that I think that everything should be sweetness and light. But this book does seem to emphasize the negative aspects of current-day Germanness at the expense of more endearing traits. Since the authors are German, they know whereof they speak and can do so without grating. Still, their view of Germanness seems to me more reminiscent of the Germany of thirty or forty years ago than of Germany today.

Great and humorous (in a German way)! I actually had the pleasure of meeting and spending about a week with Stefan this summer as he was a guide for a tour I was on. I didn't read the book until after I met him, but it is definitely insightful. Definitely recommend it!

This book gave me great insights into the the people that I was going to interact with over a 3 day conference in Germany. It also gave me insight into the culture behind the stories I learned at the Porsche museum as well as other places that I visited. This book was easy to digest. I went through it once reading, and another time having the my Kindle Fire HD read to me. I like that text to speech feature and I love this book. I highly recommend for anybody visiting Germany or just wanting to better understand their German friends.

As a former resident of West Germany for almost six years, I found this little book very interesting, especially since it addresses the culture since the reunification. Some information was completely new to me, so I found that very helpful. I like this series of books. They give very insightful comments about the uniqueness of the different cultures in a humorous manner that makes the information stick in your mind. Enjoy!!

Excellent book, but you cannot understand the Germans without "Feierabend". That has been forgotten in this book, probably because there is no English word for it and subsequently, it doesn't exist on the radar of the English writer;-)

Should give any non-Germany a inside look into "German-ness' as of 2013. I just wonder how much of this applies to the under 30 crowd today in 2016.

I live in Germany, and I haven't witnessed everything the author talks about, but some of the points are dead on. It's hilarious and makes for a good conversation starter with the Germans, along with giving good examples to family who have never lived here of why Germans are nuts.

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