



## Transcript German for "Köln"

Hello, this is Christine from Mindmap your German, and today's video is about the city of Köln (Cologne). First there is the basic information, and then in the next time, next week or two, there is a second video, in which the curiosities of Cologne are illuminated a little more closely. You'll love it!

I have four categories for you: traditions, culture, children and creativity and sports.

And we'll start with the traditions. You know that Cologne is very famous for the carnival. In Bavaria and other regions, carnival is called Fastnacht or Fasching, everything is possible. In Cologne, it is called Karneval, and Cologne is one of the carnival strongholds in Germany together with Düsseldorf and Mainz. In the carnival, people dress up.

And what is also very important in the carnival is the number 11. "Huh, the number 11?" will you now say, "why the number 11?" The number 11 is important in the carnival, because on 11.11., i.e. on 11.11.11, this carnival begins at 11.11 am and from then until Shrove Tuesday, i.e. the Tuesday after Rose Monday and before Ash Wednesday, is the carnival time. Ash Wednesday is all over, and then Lent begins. In principle, the number 11 is also an important number, namely, there is an Elferrat in the carnival. You know these men, they are mostly men, certainly with their funny hats, they have a

uniform on and exactly, and are at the forefront of the pompous sessions of the carnival clubs.

There is also a carnival museum in Cologne. If you want to know more about this tradition and custom, I highly recommend a visit.

We go to culture. When it comes to culture, I have three things for you, Cologne Cathedral. The Cologne Cathedral is a building that has still not been completed. There is always a construction site here, a construction site there. The style is Gothic, and it is probably the most famous building in Cologne. He's really imposing. This cathedral is really imposing. It is opposite the main train station, and most people who come out of this main train station for the first time and see Cologne Cathedral for the first time come out the door and say "Wow" because it is really so big.

After Cologne Cathedral, we go to the old town. Don't forget to take a picture of the cathedral beforehand. We go to the old town, and there we are hungry and thirsty. So we drink a Kölsch. Kölsch is the real Cologne beer. You may know that the Cologne beer is served in such very small glasses, and yes, you usually drink more than one. For Bavarians, who are usually used to liter jugs, this is not a problem anyway, they drink ten or twenty.

Then we eat something with it, a Halve Hahn. But beware, the Halve Hahn is not half a chicken, as you might think now, but a Halve Hahn is a cheese bun. One wonders, of course, why it's called Halve Hahn, but that's the way it is. You are now the Cologne expert and know exactly when you order a Halve Hahn that it is a cheese bun and not half a chicken.

Craving chocolate? Then let's go to the Chocolate Museum. The Chocolate Museum is on the Rhine with a great view of the river, and you will learn everything there about chocolate, not only the preparation, the cultivation of cocoa and so on, the production of chocolate, but, and this is the great thing, there is a really great café where you can drink coffee, drink chocolate, eat chocolate cake, and you can also taste chocolate in the museum. There are pieces of chocolate, and there is a chocolate fountain. Pretty cool.

Then, after we are no longer hungry or thirsty, we go to the Cologne Triangle. The Cologne Triangle is a high-rise building, and from this high-rise building you have a 360-degree view of Cologne, all around. You can go up there, and this is our luck, with the elevator. So, you don't have to walk up the stairs, so you don't have to walk up the stairs, the elevator takes you up comfortably. You can admire the view above and have a great overview of Cologne.

Children. We go to the children's section. Maybe you are in Cologne with children. Maybe you know the show with the mouse. The show with the mouse is an institution on German television in the program ARD, which is the first program in German. She's been coming every Sunday at 11:30 for 50 years, and kids love her. There are laughing and factual stories in the show with the mouse. There is always an introduction in another language, so at the beginning of the program with the mouse it is always explained what the current program is about, at first in German and then in another language, and then every time the presenter says, that was Spanish, that was Italian, that was Arabic, that was Portuguese and so on. And it's very exciting to guess every week which language it was. Then there are these laughter and factual stories. These are funny episodes, but also knowledge transfer for children. That is, it explains, for example, how waves are created. For example, it explains how a volcanic eruption takes place. It explains how, yes, like in a mineral water bottle, if you shake it and then open it, then it makes it so pffffff. It explains why it is so. So, very exciting things.

And since the children, when they are in Cologne, of course not only say: "Oh how great, shipment with the mouse" but also want to have a souvenir, there is also a mouse shop in Cologne where you can buy everything that concerns the mouse and its two companions, the elephant and the duck. There are stuffed animals, there are snack bags, there are pillows, there are bedding, backpacks, toys. There are all sorts of things that have to do with mouse, and that will surely please the children and, honestly, many adults as well.

The Odysseum is the last area here in this category. The Odysseum, a difficult word, the Odysseum is an adventure museum for children, and you can try out a lot of things there, participate interactively, and there are always changing exhibitions. When I

recorded this video, so it's January 2024, there was an exhibition about Harry Potter, for example. However, this always changes, which means that if you watch the video maybe two months later or half a year later, it could be that there is something else. Find out more on the website.

We go to creativity and sports. Creativity. So I chose the Pottery Art Café. This is a café where you can paint your own ceramics, i.e. cups, plates, bowls and so on. So you don't get a finished design there, but a so-called blank and paint it yourself, then it is fired, and then you can take it home. That's one thing, it's fun for children, but it's also fun for adults.

And then there's Lentpark. And the Lentpark is not, as you might think now, a park with trees, flowers, benches, paths, meadows, pond, small streams, but the Lentpark is an ice sports and swimming hall, which means you can skate, play ice hockey, and you can also go swimming. So, that means there's something for everyone.

And this is my video about Cologne. By the way, you see a skyline down here. Maybe you recognize some buildings, the TV tower here, the cathedral here, the Rhine bridge, the railway bridge, sorry, the railway bridge here, the Lanxessarena is here, and this drawing, as I made it, is called Skyline. That's true.

And this is my information about Cologne. Hope you've had a nice time. Feel free to visit my website to get the transcription in German and English. You can also write an email if you would like to work with me, conversations, lessons, material if you need, all kinds of translations, transcriptions, so everything around language. Feel free to contact me if you need anything.

And now I thank you for watching and wish you a nice day. Bye.