



WELCOME FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER OF THE MUNICH TOURIST OFFICE



Munich glows, and in all the colors of the rainbow (to misquote Thomas Mann). Characterized by its variety, tolerance and enjoyment of life, the city is the home of a lively, self-confident gay and lesbian scene. Since being awarded the EuroGames Munich is even glowing a little brighter.

As the General Manager of the Munich Tourist Office I am delighted that Munich will be host to the EuroGames 2004.

Many different sports, active support for equal rights and recognition, lots of fun, and 5000 gay and lesbian athletes as visitors - the games offer splendid prospects for Bavaria's capital city. We can look forward with excitement to sportswomen and sportsmen from the whole of Europe, to competitions and records, to celebrating winners and fair losers, and to a wide-ranging accompanying cultural program.

Since the decisive sporting impulse given by the Olympic Games in 1972, Munich has been playing in the top league of the major sports metropolises, with all the additional positive effects for tourism in the city. Beyond this, sport has importance for the whole of society: sport unites and integrates, and barriers of all kinds lose their significance.

I will be very pleased to be able to welcome the sportswomen and sportsmen and their fans, and I wish them all success, friendly encounters and carefree days.

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29th july - 1st august 2004



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