European marathons and other races

Running marathons or other races is a great way to see Europe. Here is a link to a list of upcoming European marathons: www.marathonrunnersdiary.com/races/europe-marathons-list.php.
If half marathons are more your cup of tea, here’s another list: http://marathons.ahotu.com/calendar/half-marathon/europe/2013.
For a listing off all sorts of races in Europe, be sure to see www.runningineurope.com.

The following is a compilation of upcoming running events thanks to Christine Kümpel, Political Advisor, 5th Signal Command.

FEBRUARY 2013:

KIEL Marathon, Half Marathon, and 10 K
23 February 2013
Start Time: 10:20 am
Number of Places: TBD
The Kiel Marathon is a low key, scenic marathon. Other races run on the same day include the Kiel Half Marathon and 10K. Kiel Marathon Route:
The course is predominantly flat making it a fast race. Runners start and finish at the Cruise Terminal Baltic Sea Port. From there they head out and back along a 10.5K track. They then repeat this a second time before finishing the race. Runners need to be aware of snow and ice on the track.

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APRIL 2013:

HAMBURG Marathon
21 April 2013
Start Time: 9:00 am
Number of Places: 18,000
The Hamburg Marathon is one of Germany's most popular marathons, arguably ranking second behind the Berlin Marathon.
Hamburg Marathon Route:
The course starts and finishes at the at the Congress Center Hamburg. Runners pass through some of the most interesting and scenic areas of the city, including the Reeperbahn, alongside the River Elbe and around the Aussenalster Lake.

MAY 2013:

MAINZ Marathon and Half Marathon
12 May 2013
Start Time: 9:30 am
Number of Places: 10,000
The Gutenberg Marathon Mainz and half marathon, are popular road races in Germany, passing through the stunningly scenic riverside town of Mainz.

REGENSBURG Marathon, Half Marathon, and 10K
12 May 2013
Start Time: 8:30 am
Number of Places: 7,500
The Regensburg Marathon, Half marathon and 10K are all popular races, attracting many participants every year.
Regensburg Marathon Route:
Described by runners as beautiful and well organized, the Regensburg Marathon is also flat and perfect for PB attempts. The route is out and back, leading runners through the historic old town toward rural roads and villages along Danube River before returning back to the finish line in central Regensburg.

JUNE 2013:

EIFEL Marathon and Half Marathon
9 June 2013
Start Time: 9:00 am
Number of Places: 185 (TBD)
The Eifel Marathon was first run in 1966. There is also an accompanying half marathon. Eifel Marathon Route:
The Eifel Marathon is highly regarded for its amazingly scenic route. It has been described as beautiful, but hilly. Runners start and finish in Waxweiler. They head out on the out-and-back route along the bank of the river Pruem via Eifel villages, forests & meadows and a marvelously scenic landscape.

RHEIN-RUHR Marathon, Half Marathon, and Relay Race
9 June 2013
Start Time: 8:50 am
Number of Places: 7,000
The Rhein-Ruhr Marathon is one of Germany's oldest urban marathons. It first took place in 1981. There is also a half marathon and relay race.

Rhein-Ruhr Marathon Route:
The route is made up of one full circuit. The surface is very flat and runners have a good chance of achieving a PB. Runners start from the Kruppstrasse in the Sportpark Wedau. From there the race takes them through Neudorf towards the city centre. Here the half-marathon course takes runners in a southerly direction towards the Dellviertel, while the full marathon course directs them towards the Inner Harbour and then through Kasslerfeld and Ruhrt.


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**JULY 2013:**

**Koenig (King) Ludwig Marathon, Half Marathon, and 10K July 2013** (exact date TBD)
Start Time: TBD
Number of Places: TBD
Koenig Ludwig Marathon participants have the choice of a half marathon and 10K.

Koenig Ludwig Marathon Route:
The race is half asphalt, half forest trails with much of it along the banks of water - round Lake Hopfensee, across the floodplain of the river Lech and along the banks of Lake Forggensee. Along with enjoying the beautiful countryside, runners can view the royal castles of Neuschwanstein and Hohenschwangau.


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**AUGUST 2013:**

**MONSCHAU Marathon and Nordic Walk**

11 August 2013
Start Time: 8:00am
Number of Places: 1,000

The Monschau Marathon was first run in 1977. It is a very scenic race incorporating surrounding forests. Along with the marathon, there is the option of a 'Nordic Walk'.

Monschau Marathon Route:
Most of the course is undulating with about two-thirds being off-road. There are two notably hilly areas, at 12km and at 32km, both of which last for about 2km. The race starts and finishes outside the church in the village of Konzen. It passes through surrounding countryside, incorporating the Nature reserve Nordeifel and the local forest-track.


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**SEPTEMBER 2013:**

**BERLIN Marathon**

29 September 2013
Start Time: 9:00 am  
Number of Places: 40,000  
The Berlin Marathon is one of Europe's favorite marathons. Also, rated as one of the 5 Masters, it is a race in which many are keen to participate. With 40,000 runners and crowds described as "superb" and "phenomenal", the race through one of Europe’s most vibrant capitals is a joy for both participants and spectators alike. It is also where the current marathon world record was set by Patrick Makau.

Berlin Marathon Route: If you want to see lots of historic sites while running the Berlin Marathon will be a definite joy. The Berlin Marathon is a 26-mile loop. This loop starts and ends at one of Berlin's most outstanding monuments - the Brandenburg Gate. After the runners set off they will pass the Reichstag, at the 6 km point. They will then pass other various famous buildings and monuments such as the Fernsehturm (Berlin Television Tower), Rathaus Schoenberg (in front of which JFK gave his speech proclaiming "Ich bin ein Berliner") and the Konzerthaus Berlin. Next, the course turns west then northwards. Runners pass along the Ku'damm shopping boulevard to Olivaer Platz. They then continue up the Kurfuerstendamm, where, at kilometer 34, the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church is visible and the course turns into the Tauntzenstrasse, taking runners past Berlin's premier department store KaDeWe on Wittenbergplatz. Not far to go now. After Nollendorfplatz, home of the gay community, runners carry on towards Potsdamer Strasse and then Potsdamer Platz, crossing the line of the Berlin Wall. Then into the Leipziger Strasse, before the Spreeinsel. Here runners can see the ruins of Erich Honecker's Palast der Republik as well as the ex-GDR State Council Building before arriving at Unter den Linden, Berlin's monumental boulevard. From there runners will see the end in sight and make their final efforts towards the finish line at the Brandenburg Gate.  

FRANKFURT "KOMEN Race for the Cure" 5K Run or 2K Walk  
29 September 2013  
What are we running for?  
Every year 60,000 women in Germany will be confronted with the shocking diagnosis of breast cancer. In many cases the disease is diagnosed late or even too late. We want to change that! “We” are the people who started the German affiliate of Susan G. KOMEN for the Cure® in 1999. Susan G. KOMEN Deutschland e.V. is a non-profit organization that, in addition to supporting those affected, works to support better breast cancer education and screening. The net proceeds of the monies donated and the starting fees for the KOMEN Race for the Cure® finance model projects. Why should you run? Men, women, children, seniors and teams - everyone can participate! By doing so, we will raise public awareness about this life-threatening disease as well a give those affected courage and strength to fight. Join us! Become a part of this movement and experience the energy, the joy, the emotion of this event.
A real Movement - for and with breast cancer patients!
In the first KOMEN Race for the Cure® in Dallas, Texas in October 1983 there were 800 runners. Today more than 1.5 million people participate in more than 146 cities throughout the world. 
Susan G. KOMEN Deutschland e.V. has been organizing the Race for the Cure® in Frankfurt since
2000 with growing success and participant numbers. More than 6,600 runners came in the last years to make this Race the biggest charity run in Frankfurt.

OCTOBER 2013:

COLOGNE Marathon, Half marathon, Skating Event, and 11K Walk
13 October 2013
Start time: 11:30 am (TBD) Number of Places: 10,000
The Cologne Marathon with half marathon, skating event and 11k walk attracts over 27,000 participants every year. The inaugural race took place in 1997 and it is now the third most popular marathon in Germany after the Berlin Marathon and Hamburg Marathon.
Cologne Marathon Route: Known as the 'experience marathon' the Cologne Marathon is full of interesting sites. Runners start the race by crossing the Rhine. They almost immediately then face the twin towers of the massive Cologne Cathedral before striding alongside the Rhine, past the many Romanesque churches, passing through some of the attractive parks that surround the city. They then returning to the city centre, once again past the impressive Cologne cathedral to the finish line in the Cologne Deutz area.

DRESDEN Marathon, Half Marathon, and 10K
20 October 2013
Start Time: 10:00
Number of Places: 1,500
The Dresden Marathon is well regarded by those who have taken part, being described by some as fun and friendly. There are also the options of a half marathon and 10K, both also well-organized and enjoyed. Dresden Marathon Route: The route is very flat, so ideal for PB attempts. It is almost two laps of the half marathon route, but the second lap is sufficiently different to keep runners interested. Sights visible along the route include Dresden Royal Palace, Dresden Cathedral, the Academy of Arts, Frauenkirche and the Japanese Palace.

FRANKFURT Marathon
27 October 2013
Start Time: 10:00 am
Number of Places: Unlimited
The Frankfurt Marathon is sometimes considered as one of the six most important marathons. There is also a 5K Pretzel Run, a 4.2K mini-marathon, and a 400m race for children. Frankfurt Marathon Route: The Frankfurt Marathon is relatively flat and fast race. The race starts from the centre of Frankfurt, leading runners through the city past its fascinating skyline, onto the district of
Sachsenhausen and the residential district of Höchst. Runners are then led back along the Mainzer Landstrasse through the city centre towards the trade fair tower and the "red carpet" finish at the Festhalle.


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NOVEMBER 2013:

Rursee Marathon
November 2013
(exact date TBD) Start Time: TBD
The Rursee Marathon is tough but very scenic, showing off some of the amazing German scenery. Rursee Marathon Route:
The route leads around the lake Rursee taking them through part of the Nationalpark Eifel as they go. Runners have to race on forest tracks for the majority of the race, with only 14km of the Rursee Marathon run on asphalt roads.