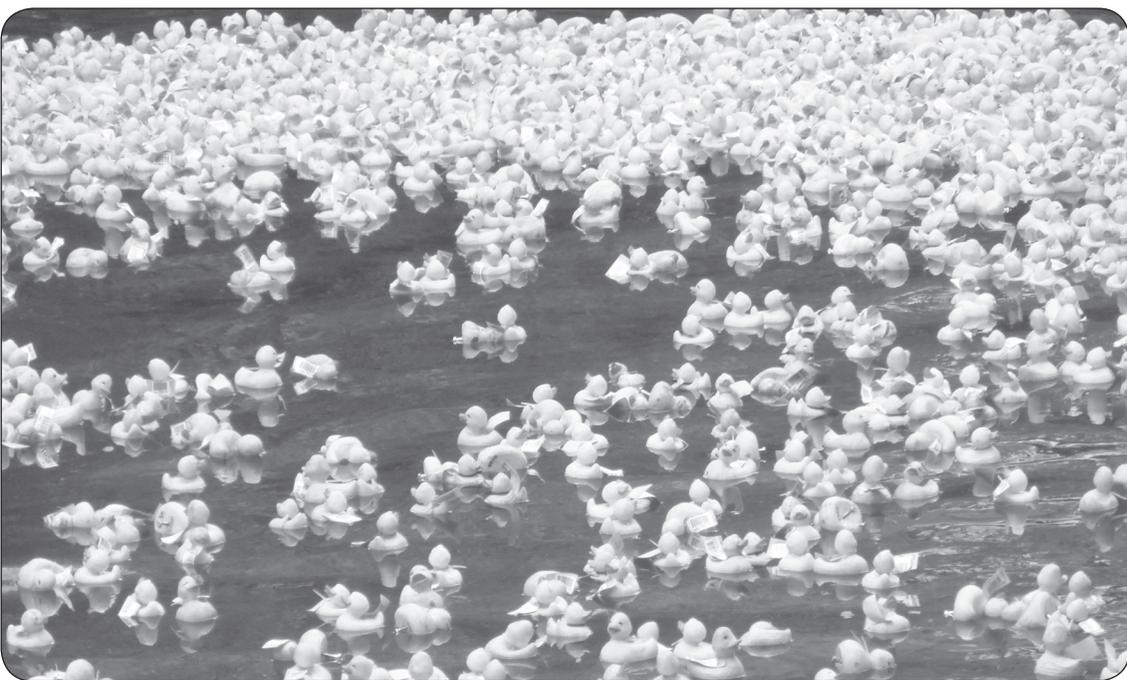


## WEEKEND

## Europe

## THE EUROPE EXPERIENCE



Courtesy of tuebingen-entenrennen.de

## JUST DUCKY: Rubber fowl set to race

At 2 p.m. Saturday, a section of the Neckar River in Tübingen, Germany, will run yellow as more than 7,000 rubber ducks are set loose for the city's annual Duck Race. Enthusiasts can buy one duck for 3 euros to enter the race or buy a batch. The contestants will bob from the Alleenbrücke to the Neckarbrücke in front of cheering crowds. The first synthetic contender to pass the finish line wins its patron a 1,000-euro holiday voucher. Other prizes will be available for runners-up.

## TOP TRAVEL PICKS

## Cultural all-nighters

A "Nuit Blanche" in French is a sleepless night (literally "white night"). As autumn closes in, cities throughout Europe encourage late bedtimes with an array of late-night cultural programs showcasing contemporary arts. Saturday night, both France and Belgium's capitals will lure residents and tourists into the streets.

Paris' Nuit Blanche spills across four zones: the banks of the Seine, along Canal Saint-Martin, through Republique and Marais and into the Belleville and Menilmontant districts.

Things not likely seen or heard most other nights of the year include helicopters hovering over the Seine blaring the sounds of a string quartet; fog sculptures enveloping the Place de la République, a monumental playground taking over the Place de la Bataille-de-Stalingrad; or a pyrotechnic show celebrating romance in and around the river. Photo exhibitions, light installations, live performances and much more add up to more than 100 ways to spend the night. To help guests make their way home, eventually, some Metro lines will run throughout the night, offering free service from 2:15 a.m. to 5:30 a.m. Sunday. Nuit Blanche events are free. Learn more at <http://tinyurl.com/mvxxwgro> (English version).

Brussels' 10th edition of Nuit Blanche centers on Place Poelaert, which will house an information stand and offer refreshments and a rest stop



Karen Bradbury

See the Europe Traveler blog at [stripes.com/travel/europe-travel](http://stripes.com/travel/europe-travel)

between activities. Luminous balloons show the way between venues. Spectators might be taken aback by a giant goldfish riding an elevator, a blue sculpture of foam and light with tentacles or an unconventional performance of contemporary music within a church. Those with winning lottery tickets can attend a 15-minute solo performance by an artist of their choice. Activities begin at 7 p.m. and run through 5 a.m. the following day. Events are free. See [nuitblanchebrussels.be](http://nuitblanchebrussels.be).

Similar late-night cultural experiences await visitors to Copenhagen's Culture Night on Oct. 11, Munich's Long Night of Museums on Oct. 19 and Stuttgart's stuttgartnacht, also Oct. 19.

## Prague film project

Ever dream of appearing on the silver screen? It's not Hollywood, but filmmakers will take to Prague's streets throughout the weekend as they feverishly

work to shoot, edit and deliver a finished film within an astonishingly tight time frame. Perhaps someone will get a bit part in a production.

The 48 Hour Film Project is the biggest competition of its kind. First organized in Washington, D.C., in 2001 and open to pros and novices, it has expanded to more than 100 cities worldwide. This year, more than 60,000 people will participate in the making of short films for the 48HFP.

Friday evening, producers randomly will assign each crew a genre, character, prop and line of dialogue that must be incorporated into their film. The finished product, a 4- to 7-minute film, must be submitted by 7:30 p.m. Sunday. Industry professionals will judge the films and the winning team's leader will receive airfare to attend the March 2014 edition of Filmmapalooza, a screening of the project's winning films in New Orleans. Films shot as part of the Prague 48HFP will be shown at the city's Lucerna Theater on Oct. 12.

Those wishing to try their own hand at filmmaking should refer to the tour schedule on the 48 Hour Film website; eligibility restrictions might apply. The website also features a page where one can volunteer to help an existing crew.

European cities holding competitions in future months include Lausanne, Switzerland, Lyon, France, and Rome on Oct. 11-13; Granada and Malaga, Spain, on Oct. 18-20; Antwerp,

## VIKINGS ON THE MOVE: Ship highlights exhibit

The Associated Press

The biggest Viking ship ever found is making its way through Europe as part of a major exhibition that aims to expand the popular image of the Scandinavian plunderers, whose voyages took them as far as Asia and North America.

The 1,000-year-old, 120-foot wooden longboat discovered on the banks of a fjord in Roskilde, Denmark, in 1997 is the centerpiece of "Vikings: Life and Legend." The exhibition was co-created by the National Museum of Denmark, where it is on display until November, and National Museums in Berlin. It will appear at the British Museum March 6 to June 22 and moves to Berlin in September.

The Vikings set out in ships like the longboat from Scandinavia more than a millennium ago, traveling as far as Newfoundland and Morocco and occupying territory from Greenland to Britain to France.

Exhibits include richly decorated weapons and treasures, such as the Vale of York Hoard,



BRITISH MUSEUM/AP

**A 1,000-year-old, 120-foot longboat is the centerpiece of "Vikings: Life and Legend," which is touring Europe.**

a collection of gold and silver objects found in northern England in 2007. The trove includes Irish jewelry and coins from Afghanistan and Uzbekistan.

Belgium, and Geneva on Oct. 25-27; Leeuwarden, Netherlands, and Seville, Spain, on Nov. 1-3; Istanbul and Lisbon, Portugal, on Nov. 8-10; Barcelona, Spain, and Katowice, Poland, on Nov. 15-17 and Glasgow, Scotland, on Nov. 22-24. To learn more, see [48hourfilm.com](http://48hourfilm.com).

## Moving photography

The Fotofestival Mannheim-Ludwigshafen-Heidelberg, Germany's biggest curated photography festival, celebrates its fifth anniversary through Nov. 10. Artistic partner to this year's festival is the highly regarded Magnum Photos, a worldwide photo agency established in 1947 that provides documentary and artistic images to the press,



Courtesy of Fotofestival  
Copyright David Seymour/Magnum Photos

**Included in Germany's largest curated photography festival is a photo showing a girl drawing barbed wire to represent "home" in Poland in 1948.**

publishers, advertising, galleries and museums. The festival takes place across eight exhibition venues, three cities and two federal states.

Inspired by the geographical peculiarities of this event, show curator Andréa Holzherr selected works that deal with people moving across locations, exploring issues connected with geographical, political and economic boundaries and private spaces in both the physical and symbolic sense. Exhibitions focus on topics such as home and homeland; exile and migration; zones of exclusion from society, such as prisons, psychiatric institutions and refugee asylums; war and conflict; and community and connectedness. Exhibits include both documentary and artistic photography, video and other media.

One component of the exhibition deals with the changing posture of the U.S. military in Germany. A project titled "Insight Out/Conversion" uses the withdrawal of U.S. forces in the Rhine-Neckar region as its starting point, showing photographs of soldiers in their Mannheim barracks, accompanied by recorded interviews with the subjects. These photos are on display at the Stadtgalerie Mannheim.

Most venues are open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily except Mondays. Adult entry to most spaces costs 6 euros, while blocks of three or six tickets offer some savings. A festival pass goes for 35 euros. For details about the festival, see [fotofestival.info/en](http://fotofestival.info/en).