



KINDERZECHEN

DINKELSBÜHL

Historical Festival
with Funfairs at the Schießwäsen

17 – 26 July 2026



The following song is known as the 'Kinderzech anthem' and is sung by everyone in front of the 'Schranne' at the close of the parade and after the Little Colonel's Speech.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

While the organisers take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of spectators during the festival, especially the parades, the visitor attends all events at his or her own risk. The organisers will not be responsible for any loss or injury experienced by visitors attending these events.

Emergency services: Phone 112

Advance Notice:

Kinderzeche 18 to 27 July 2025

All information contained in this brochure is correct at the time of going to press but is subject to change without prior notice.

SCHALLET HEUTE JUBELLIEDER

Schallet heute Jubellieder,
tönt von Süd, Nord, Ost und West!
Freudespendend kehret wieder
dieses frohe Jubelfest.

Festlich wogt die bunte Menge,
Freude winkt allüberall,
rauschend mischt sich ins Gesänge
Pauken- und Trompetenschall.

Um uns her ist alles Freude,
sie wird gleichsam zum Gebot,
alles drängt um uns sich heute,
Freude färbt die Wangen rot.

Aber Unschuld, Schmuck
der Jugend,
bleibt uns rein und unversehrt:
denn nur fleckenlose Tugend
gibt der Freude wahren Wert!

Drum, so schallet Jubellieder,
töne laut, Trompetenklang!
Freunde, Eltern, Schwestern, Brüder,
stimmt in unser'n Festgesang!

Immer kräftiger umschlinge
alle uns das Freundschaftsband,
und der Wunsch zum
Himmel dringe:
Segne Gott das Vaterland!



KINDERZECHER DINKELSBÜHL

The 'Kinderzeche' in Dinkelsbühl (Bavaria) is a children's and Heimat festival, which goes back to a school festival organized for the first time in the 17th century. It includes an excursion of the school children outside the city gates to celebrate as well as a historical play, in which a local saga is enacted.

This saga is about a time during the Thirty Years' War when the children of Dinkelsbühl supposedly saved the city from the Swedes. It is linked to the siege of the city in 1632. The historical play brings the history of the city to life. Students of the grades 1-8 of all schools in Dinkelsbühl participate in it.

The 'Kinderzeche' takes place annually on the weekends around the third Monday in July during which the historical play is performed seven times. On both Sundays as well as on Monday, a parade of historical groups and students of the grades 1-8 takes place in the city.



On Tuesday, in line with the festival's origin as a children's festival, all participating children receive a so-called 'Dinkelsbühler Kinderzech-Gucke', a bag filled with candy. In addition, historical children's and round dances are presented on several days.

In order to be able to organize all this, preparations and rehearsals usually begin every year around Easter.

Dinkelsbühl is a city of parity. The historicization of the 'Kinderzeche' around 1897 and the associated creation of the historical play gave the citizens, deeply divided in faith, the opportunity to celebrate together the history of the city within the framework of a Heimat festival regardless the different confessions.



FRIDAY, JULY 17th

5:30 pm

CONCERT by the Dinkelsbühl City Band at the Weinmarkt, followed by a procession to the Festival Tent at the Schießwasen

6:30 pm

OPENING of the funfair at the Schießwasen. Tapping the first 'Festival Beer' barrel and traditional festival beer tasting

9:00 pm

Join the night watchman as he makes his rounds through the old town, leaving from St. George's Minster

6:30 pm – 12:00 midnight

FUNFAIR at the Schießwasen

SATURDAY, JULY 18th

10:30 am

Youth DANCE PERFORMANCES, Lore dancing, Dinkelsbühl Shepherd dancing, Biedermeier dances, 'Kinderzechguckenreigen' and Guild Group dancing (Zunftreigen), in front of the Schranne, Weinmarkt

3:00 pm

HISTORICAL FESTIVAL PLAY 'THE KINDERZECH' with overture, Schranken-Festsaal (Festival Hall)

followed at ca. 4:45 pm by THE SURRENDER OF DINKELSBÜHL, Old Town Hall Square, Altrathausplatz and procession of historical groups to the Schranne



9:00 pm

Join the night watchman as he makes his rounds through the old town, leaving from St. George's Minster

12:00 pm – 12:00 midnight

FUNFAIR at the Schießwasen



SUNDAY, JULY 19th

7:00 am

Morning reveille by the Dinkelsbühl 'Knabenkapelle' (boys' marching band)

8:30 am

Swedish BATTLE CAMP LIFE at the Schwedenwiese, city guards at the Wörnitz gate, Dinkelsbühl citizens, villagers, heads of villages, 'Torwächter' and beggars corner in the Spitalhof

10:00 am

SWEDISH DANCERS and WHISTLERS followed by MUSKETEER and PIKEMEN drill, the parade ground

9:15 am – 1st Performance

HISTORICAL FESTIVAL PLAY 'THE KINDERZECHER' with overture, Schranken-Festsaal (Festival Hall)

followed at ca. **11:00 am** by THE SURRENDER OF DINKELSBÜHL, Old Town Hall Square, Altrathausplatz and procession of historical groups to the Schranne

11:45 am – 2nd Performance

HISTORICAL FESTIVAL PLAY 'THE KINDERZECHER' with overture, Schranken-Festsaal (Festival Hall)

followed at ca. **1:30 pm** by THE SURRENDER OF DINKELSBÜHL, Old Town Hall Square, Altrathausplatz

2:00 pm

HISTORICAL FESTIVAL PARADE and the Little Colonel's Epilogue



3:15 pm

Surrender of the banner at the New Town Hall

4:30 pm

DANCE PERFORMANCES
Guild Group dances with traditional
SWORD DANCING in front of the Schranne, Weinmarkt

9:00 pm

Join the night watchman as he makes his rounds through the old town, leaving from St. George's Minster

10:00 am – 12:00 midnight

FUNFAIR at the Schießwasen



MONDAY, JULY 20th

7:00 am

Morning reveille by the Dinkelsbühl 'Knabenkapelle' (boys' marching band)

8:00 am

Ecumenical Church Service in the St. Georg's Minster

8:30 am

Swedish BATTLE CAMP LIFE at the Schwedenwiese, city guards at the Wörnitz gate, Dinkelsbühl citizens, villagers, heads of villages, 'Torwächter' and beggars corner in the Spitalhof

10:00 am

SWEDISH DANCERS and WHISTLERS followed by MUSKETEER and PIKEMEN drill, the parade ground



9:45 am

HISTORICAL FESTIVAL PLAY 'THE KINDERZECHER' with overture, Schranken-Festsaal (Festival Hall)

followed at ca. **11:30 am** by 'THE SURRENDER OF DINKELSBÜHL', Old Town Hall Square, Altrathausplatz

12:00 pm

HISTORICAL FESTIVAL PARADE featuring local school children and the Little Colonel's Epilogue

3:30 pm

DANCE PERFORMANCES Guild Group dances with traditional SWORD DANCING in front of the Schranne, Weinmarkt

9:00 pm

Join the night watchman as he makes his rounds through the old town, leaving from St. George's Minster

12:00 am – 12:00 midnight

FUNFAIR at the Schießwasen



TUESDAY, JULY 21th

9:00 am

Children's FESTIVAL PAGEANT with the Dinkelsbühl Knabenkapelle (boys' marching band), boys' battalion, guild group dancers and children's historical groups



9:30 am

Youth DANCE PERFORMANCES, Lore dancing, Dinkelsbühl Shepherd dancing, Biedermeier dances, 'Kinderzechguckenreigen', the Little Colonel's Epilogue, in front of the Schranne, Weinmarkt

Followed by:

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS TO THE CHILDREN OF DINKELSBÜHL
Traditional 'Kinderzechgucken' (sweet-filled cones) distributed to children at the Town Hall, Rathaus

10:30 am

FUN AND GAMES FOR CHILDREN by the Torwächtergruppe in the Spitalhof

starting 1.30 pm

SENIOR CITIZEN AFTERNOON AT THE FUNFAIR, Schießwasen

9:00 pm

Join the night watchman as he makes his rounds through the old town, leaving from St. George's Minster

12:00 am – 12:00 midnight

FUNFAIR at the Schießwasen





1 Start of the Parade

2 End of the Parade

3 Surrender of the Banner,



Town Hall — Parade Route - - - Route between the Camps

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22th

starting 12:00 noon

CHILDREN'S DAY AT THE FUNFAIR,
Schießwasen

9:00 pm

Join the night watchman as
he makes his rounds through
the old town, leaving from
St. George's Minster

12:00 am – 12:00 midnight

FUNFAIR at the Schießwasen

22:30 pm

FIREWORK

THURSDAY, JULY 23th

10:30 am

Official 'Kinderzeche' reception
for former citizens and
newcomers hosted by the Mayor
Dr. Christoph Hammer in the
foyer of the Kinderzech-Zeughaus

2:30 pm

Guided tour in the museum
'Kinderzech-Zeughaus',
Bauhofstraße 43

7:00 pm

Youth DANCE PERFORMANCES
Lore dancing, Dinkelsbühl
Shepherd dancing, Biedermeier
dances, 'Kinderzechengucken-
reigen' and Guild Group dances
(Zunftreigen) with SWORD DAN-
CING, in front of the Schranne,
Weinmarkt



9:00 pm

Join the night watchman as
he makes his rounds through
the old town, leaving from
St. George's Minster



FRIDAY, JULY 24th

3:30 pm

CHURCH ORGAN CONCERT
for half an hour,
St. George's Minster

6:00 pm

Dinkelsbühl 'Knabenkapelle'
(boys' marching band)
PARADE and Youth DANCE
PERFORMANCES, Lore dancing,
Dinkelsbühl Shepherd dancing,
Biedermeier dances, 'Kinderzech-
guckenreigen', in front of the
Schranne, Weinmarkt

7:00 pm

PUBLIC DANCE ON THE
WEINMARKT (weather permitting).
If the dance is cancelled due
to weather condition it will be
published on the homepage:
www.kinderzeche.de
on the day of the event.

9:00 pm

Join the night watchman as
he makes his rounds through
the old town, leaving from
St. George's Minster

SATURDAY, JULY 25th

10:30 am

GUILD GROUP DANCING,
in front of the Schranne,
Weinmarkt

3:00 pm

HISTORICAL FESTIVAL PLAY
'THE KINDERZECH' with overture,
Schrannen-Festsaal (Festival Hall)



followed at ca. **4.45 pm** by
THE SURRENDER OF
DINKELSBÜHL, Old Town Hall
Square, Altrathausplatz
and procession of historical
groups to the Schranne

5:45 pm

DANCE PERFORMANCES
Guild Group dances with
traditional SWORD DANCING and
PERFORMANCE GROSSER
SIEDERSHOF SCHWÄBISCH HALL
in front of the Schranne,
Weinmarkt

9:00 pm

Join the night watchman as
he makes his rounds through
the old town, leaving from
St. George's Minster



SUNDAY, JULY 26th

8:30 am

Swedish BATTLE CAMP LIFE at the Schwedenwiese, city guards at the Wörnitz gate, Dinkelsbühl citizens, villagers, heads of villages, 'Torwächter' and beggars corner in the Spitalhof

10:00 Uhr

SWEDISH DANCERS and WHISTLERS followed by MUSKETEER and PIKEMEN drill, the parade ground

9:15 am - 1st Performance

HISTORICAL FESTIVAL PLAY 'THE KINDERZECH' with overture, Schranken-Festsaal (Festival Hall)

followed at ca. **11:00 am** by THE SURRENDER OF DINKELSBÜHL, Old Town Hall Square, Altrathausplatz and procession of historical groups to the Schranne

11:45 am - 2nd Performance

HISTORICAL FESTIVAL PLAY 'THE KINDERZECH' with overture, Schranken-Festsaal (Festival Hall)

followed at ca. **1:30 pm** by THE SURRENDER OF DINKELSBÜHL, Old Town Hall Square, Altrathausplatz

2:00 pm

HISTORICAL FESTIVAL PARADE and the Little Colonel's Epilogue

3:15 pm

Surrender of the banner at the New Town Hall

4:30 pm

DANCE PERFORMANCES Guild Group dances with traditional SWORD DANCING in front of the Schranne, Weinmarkt

8:30 pm

CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE KINDERZECH WEEK in front of the Schranne, Weinmarkt

Youth DANCE PERFORMANCES Lore dancing, Dinkelsbühl Shepherd dancing, Biedermeier dances, 'Kinderzechguckenreigen'

PARADE AND CONCERT BY THE DINKELSBÜHL 'KNABENKAPELLE' (boys' marching band), SWORD DANCING AND FLAG SWINGERS, NIGHT WATCHMAN

FINAL TATTOO

Festive illumination of the Marktplatz and Weinmarkt



PARTICIPANTS IN THE PARADE

The first part of the parade comprises groups representing the Swedish enemy. These include various battalions of soldiers together with their families and cavalry officers.

The second part features the town's inhabitants, such as the Mayor and Town Councillors, the 'Lore' together with the town's children, a group of citizens, town soldiers and guards and farmers parading different kinds of animals.

The final part of the parade showcases the 'Knabenkapelle' (Boys Marching Band) and 'Lore' dancing group, the Shepherd dancers, Biedermeier group, the 'Guckenreigen' group and the 'Zunftreigen' (Guild group) perform at the end of the parade.



**Altes Brauchtum, junge Herzen –
Kinder- und Heimatfeste vereinen uns!**

Arbeitsgemeinschaft historischer **Kinder-
und Heimatfeste** Süddeutschlands

ADMISSION FEES



For admission to each event the badge 'Festabzeichen' from 16 years and the corresponding ticket is required!
7,00 EUR | from July 8,00 EUR



Tickets for the Historical Festival Play in the Schranken-Festival Hall and performance of the Surrender of Dinkelsbühl at the Old Town Hall Square, Altrathausplatz

- 1. Category 15,00 EUR**
 - 2. Category 11,00 EUR**
 - 3. Category 8,00 EUR**
-



Tickets for Historical Festival Parade and Epilogue
Stand 7,00 EUR



Tickets for Closing Ceremony
grandstand 20,00 EUR
other seats 7,00 EUR (no advance bookings)



Stand tickets for Dance Performances
free of charge with badge



Entrance tickets for Surrender of Dinkelsbühl at the Old Town Hall Square, Altrathausplatz
4,00 EUR

Kinderzech-DVD 9,90 EUR

Kinderzech-CD 5,00 EUR

available in the Kinderzech-Zeughaus and the Tourist Information Dinkelsbühl

No refunds on tickets!

Reserved tickets must be collected 30 minutes before the start of performance.

Tickets online:

www.kinderzeche.de or www.tourismus-dinkelsbuehl.de

PLEASE NOTE THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH MAJOR EVENTS, IN PARTICULAR THE FESTIVAL PARADE. No liability is accepted for personal injury, loss or damage to property.

Emergency Services, Tel.: 112



Bitte beachten Sie die Stiftung zur Pflege des Brauchtums in Dinkelsbühl: Da wir seit Jahrhunderten in unseren Mitteln begrenzt sind, freuen wir uns über Zustiftungen und Zuwendungen in jeglicher Höhe. Die Stiftung wird über Generationen hinweg durch die Zielsetzung der Förderung des Vereins Brauchtumspflege Dinkelsbühl e. V. und der Kinderzeche tätig und unsere Kinderzeche nachhaltig sichern.

Weitere Informationen unter: www.kinderzeche.de

Stiftung zur Pflege des Brauchtums Dinkelsbühl | VR-Bank Dinkelsbühl
IBAN: DE98 7659 1000 0000 0000 51 | BIC: GENODEF1DKV



Please scan for the
english program.

Program subject to change!

Save the Date!
Kinderzeche 2027:
16 - 25 July 2027



DINKELSBÜHL

Schönste Altstadt Deutschlands (FOCUS)

TOURISTIK SERVICE DINKELSBÜHL

Altrathausplatz 14

D-91550 Dinkelsbühl

Telefon: +49 (0) 98 51/902 440

touristik.service@dinkelsbuehl.de

www.tourismus-dinkelsbuehl.de



Badge (Festabzeichen) 2026