



5-STEP GUIDE TO BEING GERMAN

[Cross-cultural stand-up comedy from Germany]

“Wanna be German? Of course you do. And now you can, as German comedian Paco Erhard teaches you how.”

Sold out worldwide since 2011, 5-Step Guide to Being German is a multi-award winning cultural comedy show all about Germany. Its aim: to inspire audiences to use humor to grow beyond their own cultural mindsets and learn from each other. All while laughing their socks off.

Paco Erhard delivers a mix of belly laughs and aha moments, using stand-up with a brain and a moral compass to deliver a universally human message. His work has international media calling him “one of the best cultural comedians in the world”.

Paco Erhard shows us the Germany behind the scenes: from German bluntness (“we’re not rude, we just value honesty more highly than other people’s feelings”) to hilarious Autobahn dilemmas, the truth about lederhosen, and how it feels to grow up with Germany’s horrible past. Cultural insights delivered through laughter, prompting audience reactions like this one in Orlando, Florida in 2022: “Thank you so much for helping me understand my German father better. I can forgive him for so much now!”

TOURING HISTORY

5-Step Guide to Being German has toured around the world since 2011, playing 35 different fringe festivals and comedy festivals as well as cultural centers, corporate gigs, and cultural institutions such as the Goethe-Institut

5-Step Guide to Being German usually sells out its shows and festival runs, including standing-room-only festival runs at Edinburgh Fringe 2011 and 2012.

A selection of festivals, venues, and corporate clients *5-Step Guide to Being German* has been performed for:

- Edinburgh Fringe
- Melbourne International Comedy Festival
- New Zealand International Comedy Festival
- Adelaide Fringe
- Perth Fringe World
- Edmonton Fringe Festival
- Winnipeg Fringe Festival
- Orlando Fringe Festival
- Vancouver Fringe Festival
- Victoria Fringe Festival
- Calgary Fringe Festival
- Brighton Fringe (UK)
- *Bar Jeder Vernunft* (Berlin)
- DANK Haus German-American Cultural Center (Chicago)
- Goethe-Institut Australia (Sydney)
- German-Australian Chamber of Commerce
- New Zealand German Business Association
- UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Germany e.V.
- The World Taxpayers' Conference
- BMW
- MENSA
- Mini UK

PACO ERHARD: AWARDS AND REVIEWS



Nominee



Stuttgart



Victoria Fringe



San Diego Fringe



Orlando Fringe



Festivals Review



2011 – 2019



Vancouver Fringe



Orlando Fringe

★★★★★ “As close to stand-up genius as I have ever seen... waves of comedy gold” – *Edinburgh Guide (UK)*

“had the audience not just laughing but howling... it certainly is genius” – *The National Post (CAN)*

★★★★★ “Insightful and hysterical... endless original jokes” – *Broadway Baby*

★★★★ “Erhard is a stand-up pro... he certainly takes down the stereotype of the ‘humourless German.’” — *CBC (CAN)*

“A born performer... comedy gold” – *New Zealand Herald*

★★★★1/2 “a blistering hour of stand-up comedy... one of the best cultural comedians in the world...” – *Rip It Up (AUS)*

“one of the funniest Germans ever... Going full throttle like a speeding car on the Autobahn, it’s a well-crafted standup set, finely tuned over years of performances. He’s at ease with the audience and so, too, the audience with him, with quick-witted exchanges flying back and forth. It will leave you in stitches.” – *Toronto Star*

★★★★1/2 “One of the Fringe’s best. Hilariously caustic. Erhard is a popular performer who often sells out, so purchase your tickets quickly.” – *Edmonton Journal, 2022*

★★★★1/2 "So powerful... very funny." – *Winnipeg Free Press*

★★★★ "he keeps the room in stitches, whether you're German or not." – *Vue* (CAN)

★★★★1/2 "an hour of solid, laugh-out-loud (sometimes offensive) comedy – fast-paced, insightful, socially aware stand-up. His observational comedy is brilliant... intelligent, educated, political, smutty and genius." – *The Adelaide Advertiser* (AUS)

★★★★ "fast-paced, funny, edgy and definitely never boring... the comedy world is a better place for it" – *The Herald Sun* (AUS)

★★★★★ "A German Jim Jefferies... observational comedy and satire at its finest." – *Three Weeks* (UK)

"very funny... gives the audience the freedom to laugh at things they wouldn't broach outside the theater" – *The Orlando Sentinel* (USA), 2022

"my favorite show of the fest... pointed and hilarious" *The San Diego Union-Tribune* (USA)

"he is very, very funny, his observations are astute, his delivery is spot-on, and he is fearless, too" – *The Orlando Sentinel* (USA), 2021

★★★★1/2 "a hilarious equal opportunity satirist" – *Edmonton Journal* (CAN), 2019

"a night of notes on the absurdities of life, people and cultures, gift wrapped in beautifully timed sharp, sharp humour" – *Sydney Morning Herald* (AUS)

★★★★★ "hilarious" – *Monday Magazine* (CAN)

★★★★ "Erhard's comedy is edgy but upbeat, searching for happiness in a world seemingly gone mad... will have you laughing so hard you'll cough up blood."
Winnipeg Free Press (CAN)



Paco Erhard: Germany's Global Comedian

Paco Erhard is Germany's global comedian. A staple performer at the world's biggest comedy festivals, Paco has appeared on BBC, ABC, ARD, and many other TV & radio stations in Australia, Canada, England, Scotland, New Zealand, Ireland, and Germany.

Born in Munich, the great-grandson of the first post-war premier of Saxony-Anhalt grew up in 9 different regions of Germany, experiencing his country's vast regional cultural differences from an early age. During this time, he developed a feeling for the subtleties of cultural difference and ability to communicate across borders and use humour to build bridges.

In 2001, Paco hitchhiked out of Germany, traveled the world for 14 years, and started doing comedy in English, Spanish, and German. In his high-octane comedy, he draws on this life around the world to deliver hilarious and heartwarming cross-cultural comedy, as well as mischievous social commentary from a global perspective.

Considered "one of the best cultural comedians in the world" (*Rip It Up*, Australia), Paco has won the 2022 Critics 'Pick Award at the San Diego International Fringe Festival, the 2022 Patrons 'Pick Award and the 2022 New Producer Of The Year Award, the 2019 Best Comedy Award at Victoria Fringe, the 2018 Pick of the Fringe Award at Vancouver Fringe, and was nominated for the Fringe World Best Comedy Award in 2013. In 2012, UK newspaper *The Argus* named his show *5-Step Guide to Being German* one of the comedy shows of the year.

In his award-winning corporate show *5-Step Guide to Being German*, Paco explains the German psyche and opens mental doors to doing business with Germans. His clients include BMW, Unesco World Heritage, Mensa, World Taxpayers Association, the Goethe Institut, and Mini. He has written and starred in several successful ads for Ford.