

My INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUIDE IN MUNICH UNIVERSITY

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• Introduction	1
• Requirements before departure	
• Checklist after arrival in Munich	
• Transportation in Munich	
• General information about transport	2
• Apartement market in Munich	3
• Canteens, and cafeteria	
• Abbreviation for apartment advertisemen	
• Banking in Germany	
• Information about health insurance	4
• Councelling at the university	
• Sports at the university	
• Culture in general of people in Munich	5
• Personal experiences	6

The Ludwig Maximilians University (LMU)

The university also known as LMU is among the largest universities in Germany

The LMU offers over 170 courses to choose from a wide range of course combinations. It also has the university library with enough books and journals to cover the need of the students. Additional to that almost every subject has its own faculty for special needs. Studying abroad for many people is already a challenge but also its an adventure for everyone , so it needs careful planning before leaving the home country.

Especially in Munich planing is essential due to its complications of life and expenses._



BEFORE LEAVING YOUR COUNTRY

- Make sure you obtain a passport for the duration of your stay in Germany

- Or you can apply a Germany visa/entry visa
- Check how long your passport is still valid
- Submit your application forms in time
- Confirmation of your health insurance from your insurance company
- Submit application for appartment on time
- Submit a bank statement or notarised letter of support while you are in Germany
- Possibly take out a personal liability insurance policy
- Have a number of passport photos made
- Complete your admission process

Important requirements.

Students holding a passport from

EU, EEA (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland), Australia, Brazil, El salvador, Israel, Japan, Canada, New Zealand, South korea and USA are not required to obtain a visa before entering Germany. All other nationalities please contact the nearest German Consulate or Embassy.

Students from non EU and EEA requirements:

- You must apply for a visa at the Germany Embassy in your home country before entering the country

- Also note that the visa must be issued for the purpose of the stay. If you intend to enter the country more than once it is recommended that you apply multiple entry visa

Required documents:

- proof of financial support/means during your stay in Germany
- Valid passport
- Notification of admission by the university

Checklist- After arrival

- go to the health insurance authority in Munich
- open a bank account
- get reduced rate monthly travel pass from the Munich transport system (MVG)
- register for classes at faculties/ institutes

TRANSPORTATION IN MUNICH

Munich is among the cities which is blessed with a lot of transport facilities. Surface and underground also air transport. Almost every part in town you can reach with public transport.

Classification according to the need:

Tram: is the small surface train driving on the streets within the town, only with a fixed route and time schedule



U-bahn: is the underground train driving within town and little further out of town in a fixed route and time schedule

S-bahn: is the suburban train, they cover the big part in and out of the town, also fixed route and time schedule

Buses: many of them drive in different lines and in fixed routes, each bus has a special route and time schedule

Arriving by plane

From the airport to the central station (Hauptbahnhof):

- The S-Bahn S8 and S1 will take you from the Airport to the main station (Hauptbahnhof)
- At the Airport you have to buy either a single-trip ticket or a multiple-trip ticket and stamp it before entering the S-Bahn.
- If you plan to make a single trip it is less expensive

Time:

- It takes about 45 minutes to travel from the airport to the city centre by train
- The Lufthansa airport bus leaves from the airport from special location every 20 minutes. The bus will take you to the main station (Hauptbahnhof) as well

From central station to the university:

- You can take any S-Bahn to the station „Marienplatz“, where you have to get out and follow the signs to transfer to the U-Bahn.
- The U-Bahn lines 3 (orange) and U-Bahn U6 (dark blue) stop at the station „Universität“
- Note: only U6 line stops at Studentenstadt

GENERAL

From the central station (Hauptbahnhof) are many ways of getting to different destinations in and around Munich with the public transport.

The intersection of underground lines 1, 2, 4, 5 and all Sub-urban trains (S-Bahn) are all at the central station.

NOTE: Every transport facility is labeled with its number and all time schedules are displayed in screens at almost every station which makes it easier for you to find your way of transport.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT (MVG)

The Munich transport system (MVG) provides reduced rate monthly passes for all properly registered students of public universities which need to use the S-Bahn, U-Bahn, the tram, buses or other trains.

Required documents for transport/ticket pass:

- **completed application form**
- **1 passport photo**
- **University registration ID with MVG sign**

For further info:

www.mvv-muenchen.de

If you live outside the city ask at your local train station about where to obtain a monthly travel pass. Application can be obtained at the university, at all sub urban train ticket offices, at the MVV ticket desk and at numerous shop selling travel tickets.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT APARTMENT MARKET IN MUNICH

The majority of students, approximately 100,000 are not originally from Munich city so they all require accommodations. So somehow its difficult finding an apartment in the town, especially during beginning of the winter semester in October and November.

General cost of apartments:

- Rooms on the student campus cost between 250€ and 300€ average.
- Private accommodation costs about 350€ per month. The renting costs are for the

basic rents. Costs like electricity, water, heating, garbage removal are extra costs.

- Also here in Munich you can chose between an empty apartment (without furniture) or a furnished apartment (totally furnished or at least with kitchen)

ABBREVIATION FOR APARTMENT ADVERTISEMENT

5ZKDB: 5 rooms with kitchen & bathroom

400€ + NK : basic rent plus extra costs

KM: basic rent

Wfl: size of the flat

G- WC: separate toilet

OG: upper floor

TG: underground garage

The student service organisation in Munich (Studentenwerk München) has a very limited number of places available on student campus or residence. They have mostly single and few double rooms. So those , who do not get a room there, will have to search for private accomodation themselfe.

The monthly rent for this dorms ranges up to 350€ a month.

Note: the monthly rent will be taken from your bank account so please open a bank account shortly after arrival in the city

Also the international office of LMU will send you an application form for accomodation together with the forms for admission to the university.

With signing and sending the forms back commits you to accept the accomodation reserved for you on the agreed date.

The International office is located in the Ludwigstrasse 27/ Ground floor.

With public transport you can get there with U- Bahn lines U3 & U6, station „Universität“

Phone: +49 89 2180-2823

Fax: +49 89 2180-3136

www.uni-muenchen.de/international

SHORT STAY ACCOMODATION AFTER ARRIVING

If you can not occupy the reserved apartment after arrival in Munich (if you

arrive during the night for example or at weekends or holidays or when student residence administration is closed) it is recommended that you stay or spend the night at youth hostel. For a maximum of three nights a youth hostel membership card is necessary.

PRIVATE ACCOMODATION

All those students who do not want or do not get accomodation in student residence are advised to arrive earlier in Munich before commencement of their course of studies in order to look for private accomodation. Rooms cost between 350€ and 400€ a month.

In newspapers you can find

Advertisement offering accomodation:

- Kurz&Fündig (tuesday and friday)
- Abendzeitung (AZ) (saturday)
- Süddeutsche Zeitung (SZ) (wednesday and friday)

General information about canteens and cafeterias

- The student services organisation runs eight student canteens and several small cafeteria's, offering students at the universities in Munich menus during lunch time for different prices
- The main canteen is in the Leopoldstrasse 13a near U- Bahn station „Giselastrasse“
- it is open from monday to thursday from 11.00 am – 2.00pm and on Friday from 11.00 am -1.45 pm
- The menu for the month can be found on the internet :
www.studentenwerk.mhn.de

BANKING IN GERMANY

- In Germany most transactions are done through electronic transfer so all bills can be paid automatically from your bank account
- Check the bank where you open an account which exempts students from bank charges and also does not charge for its automatic transactions



GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT HEALTH INSURANCE

- Get confirmation of health insurance from your health insurance company
- Make sure that you are registered in the university you are intending to join for further studies, when you want to get a health insurance for students

CONDITIONS

- International students from non EU-countries must be insured in Germany
- Students from EU countries who are already insured in their home country do not have to be insured in Germany. With your insurance card you can go direct to the doctor
- You have to fill/ sign the contract with the service provider
- payment is monthly oriented

There are several insurance companies, for example:

- **TK-TECHNIKER KRANKENKASSE**
Leopoldstr. 13a, Tel: +49 89 49069-200

General fee is 64€ per month, fund like about 100 specialist doctors are on call at the TK medical advisory center to answer your general health related questions over the phone.

Tel -018-02-85 00 11,018-02-85 00 00
www.unikosmos.de
email: service@tk.online.de

others:

- **KKH**
Sonnenstr. Tel: +49 89 559802-0

- **AOK Munich**

Landsbergerstr. Tel: +49 89 5444-0

Addresses of health insurance companies can be found in the Munich yellow pages from three companies mentioned above.

The insurance cover must include:

- Hospitalisation
- Medical treatment during rehabilitation
- both medical and dental treatment
- Medical treatment during pregnancy and birth
- Medication, bandages, medical aids

Warning: Make sure that you don't choose a health insurance which covers emergencies only! Take one which covers all medical treatment for the time you are staying.

COUNCELLING AT THE UNIVERSITY

The student services organisation has psycho- social and psychotherapy counselling service, here you can be helped free of charge with your problems. The Roman Catholic student Community (KHG) offers the following services:

- Community meetings for sunday mass
- International sharing of phylosophy
- Meditation service on thursday 12:00
- Advice for international students
- Counselling on concentration problems, examination anxiety, addiction, fear of authority etc.
- Financial problems
- Emergency help for international students

International and intercultural group program

- Sharing life and faith
- Advice for international students

www.khg.uni-muenchen.de

KHG Leopoldstr.11

Tel: +49 89 38 10 30

SPORTS AT THE UNIVERSITY

The universities of München sports centre offers all members (students and employees) a comprehensive range of sports, details are published twice a year in

the brochure Hochschulsport (sport at the university). More information are found at sportt office of the Olympiapark.

ZHS Im Olympiapark
Cannollystr.32,808009 Munich

Tel:+49 89 35491-1

www.zhs-muenchen.de

Culture in general of people in Munich

- Whether you are at the university with public authorities or spending free time, you should pay attention to some basic things in your encounter with Germans. In doing that you can make your stay here as pleasant as possible
- Also when you meet with someone don't know that well yet do not go straight for a hug, try a friendly handshake instead
- Be punctualy! When you promise for example to meet with someone at 4:00 pm you must mean 4:00 pm and be on time.
- Germans love clean streets, parks, strictly traffic rules; they want to have a friendly attracting environment and do not throw garbage everywhere
- German people do not support irregular conversations like other countries do, because most of them are workers so they have no time to say a word to unknown , also some are just not that open minded and feel uncomfortable talking to strangers
- Very popular for Munich is the big amount of traditional breweries which are established already long time ago and produce famous traditional beer until today, for example: Augustiner, Hofbräu
- Famous Bavarian food is the Weißwurst (kind of sausage), with Brezel and Obatzter (Bavarian bread spread)



Personal experiences



It was great experience to see, witness and enjoy life and time in Munich, especially the people, environment and the culture.

I was very impressed of the efficiency and usefulness of the technology here in Munich which is presented everywhere: in the air, surface and underground as well.

Also its amazing to see how everything is under control of the governmental authorities which is shown by the peaceful atmosphere and security everywhere in the city.

Munich is constructed in such amazing way that foreigners get a very nice impression of it and can say that they enjoyed there stay.

Its also great to experience the well planned time schedules, for example of the transport system all around the town.

I like to see how people manage their time and activities and how they get on with the strict rules of the city like clean environment and its maintenance, people are not just throwing away garbage everywhere, they are keeping their surrounding clean and nice.

Another thing I experienced was the new patriotism of the people for their country. Germans like their country and also supporting its national progresses for example football. People get together to support their team and celebrate. That experience I had during the football World Cup in 2010 and I really enjoyed that.

The full supply of social services around the town like health services, water supply, electricity, banking and transportation system is which makes life to reach its perfection.

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Emmanuel did a 4 week internship at KHG LMU in Munich, and wrote this guide.

