

Relocation Resource



Congratulations! You found a new job and you are relocating to Germany. This document will help you get up to speed with what you need as you prepare for this big change.



In this document, you will find information on the following:

1. Visa, Registration & Other Key Info
2. Housing
3. Working Culture
4. Communities & Coworking Spaces
5. Cost Of Living
6. Public Transportation
7. Income Tax & Benefits
8. Language Learning Resources
9. Expat Blogs On Living In The City

Visa, Registration & Other Key Information

Firstly, you will likely need to translate your documents if they are not in German. Find a [certified German translator](#). After that you will need to legalize your documents at a [German embassy/consulate](#).

- Check the [Federal Foreign Office](#) to see if you need a visa.
- More information on the different [Visas for Germany](#).

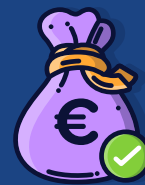
After moving to Germany you need to register with the [local municipality](#) within 2 weeks of moving. About 2 weeks after registering you will get your German tax ID number in the mail. With your registration done you are free to open a bank account and get health insurance.

Some Major Banks are:

- [Deutsche Bank](#)
- [Commerzbank](#)
- [Postbank](#)

Some Online Banks are:

- [N26](#)
- [DKB Cash](#)
- [Santander](#)



Everyone legally staying in Germany is required to take out health insurance. There are private and public healthcare options available. Most companies will automatically register their employees to receive public health insurance and this contribution is taken from your monthly paycheck.

Check out these health insurance comparison websites to find the most suitable package:

- [DR-WALTER](#)
- [KKH KRANKENKASSEN](#)

You can also check out [Compare Expat Cover](#) to compare some private health insurance companies and get the best deal. [This](#) blog post also gives more information on healthcare insurance in Germany including information on dental insurance, pharmacies, and more.

HOUSING

Looking for a place to stay will likely be your biggest challenge. For some affordable options check out:

- [ebay-kleinanzeigen](#)
- [Craigslist](#)
- [Wohnung-jetzt](#)
- [Immobilienscout24](#)

Social media can once again help you find something you really need - check out [Facebook groups](#) to find places to rent, share, or buy.

If you are seriously considering having roots in Berlin, buying a property may not be a bad idea - you can check out [Settle in Berlin](#) for more information that will help you come to a decision.

If Munich is your city of choice then it would be good for you to know that Munich is probably the most expensive city in terms of rental costs. Check out this [post](#) on My life in Germany that shows up to date comparative costs per m².

WORKING CULTURE

This article on [Berlin Startup Jobs](#) gives you some information on the job market in Berlin as well as the general working environment and different contracts you can expect.

This post on [Internations](#) also gives information on working conditions, contracts, leave and more you can expect in the Munich job market.

This [Deutschland.de](#) website guide gives you more information about German culture, business, politics, and more. Have a read-through to familiarise yourself before you travel.

For more information on working in Germany also check out:

- [Expatrio](#)
- [Housing Anywhere](#)
- [Bradford Jacobs](#)

COMMUNITIES & COWORKING SPACES

Check out [Meetup](#) for software-focused events in Germany. You can also check out [German Tech Jobs](#) for more information on tech communities.

[Stadt Muenchen](#) has some information on some startup ecosystem events.

If coworking spaces are your thing then check out [Coworker](#) - could be a cool place to meet other people.

COST OF LIVING

To find out the cost of living in Germany vs Elsewhere check out Numbeo:

- [Berlin](#)
- [Munich](#)



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

On this [German Way](#) site you can find all you need to know about the different types of transportation available from trains to buses, including the costs.

If biking is your thing and you want to find a subscription check out:

- [Swapfiets](#)
- [VanMoof](#)

Or if you prefer to own your own check out:

- [Stadler](#)
- [Bike Market City](#)
- [Bikeopia](#)

INCOME TAX & BENEFITS

During your time in Germany, you will come in contact with German tax offices - Finanzamt and BZSt. [This post on I Am Expat](#) provides more information on what each of the offices does.

This [BZSt website](#) has information about how to log your tax returns and more information on taxes.

This nifty [calculator](#) will help you get an idea of how much tax you will need to pay according to your salary.

As an employee in Germany, you are entitled to some mandatory benefits from your employer. Have a look at the links below to familiarize yourself:

- [Remote.com](#)
- [L&E Global](#)
- [Boundless](#)

LANGUAGE LEARNING RESOURCES

If you are looking for an application or online learning tool to help you learn some German/Deutsch, check out:

- [Duolingo](#)
- [Drops](#)

If you prefer in-person classes and are based in Berlin you can check out:

- [German Language School](#)
- [Speakeasy](#)

But if you are based in Munich, check out:

- [Deutsch Akademie](#)
- [Speakeasy](#)



WELCOME TO GERMANY

Here are some German phrases to get you going:

English	German
Good Morning	Guten Morgen
Bye	Tschüs
Please	Bitte
Thank you	Danke schön
Yes	Ja
No	Nein
Cheers	Prost!

EXPAT BLOGS ON LIVING IN THE CITY

There is so much to learn from those who have done this move before you, from what you need to do to prepare for this change to how you can make the most of your time in this new country.

Check out:

- [Medium post 1](#) ([Medium post 2](#) - this one is specifically for tech jobs)
- [I Am Expat](#) (Berlin)
- [Expatica](#) (Munich)
- [Expatica](#) (Germany)
- [OfferZen Blog: Berlin City Guide for Software Developers](#)

All the best with your new role
and until next time, Prost!



OFFER ZEN

Willkommen!

