

The Rock Book



A Guide for Newcomers arriving to USAG Baumholder



BAUMHOLDER ACS

Building 8746

DSN 485-8188 or CIV 06783-6-8188

From CONUS: 011-49-67836-8188

www.facebook.com/Baumholderacs

www.baumholderacs.blogspot.com

DSN / CIVILIAN TELEPHONE NUMBER CONVERSIONS

- Baumholder: DSN 485 / CIV. 06783-6-xxxx
- Darmstadt: DSN 348 / CIV. 06151-69-xxxx
- Heidelberg: DSN 370 / CIV. 06221-57-xxxx
- Heidelberg: DSN 371 / CIV. 06221-17-xxxx
- Heidelberg: DSN 373 / CIV. 06221-17-xxxx
- Heidelberg: DSN 388 / CIV. 06221-338-xxxx
- Heidelberg: DSN 387 / CIV. 06221-4380-xxxx
- Kapaun: DSN 489 / CIV. 0631-536-xxxx
- Kleber: DSN 483 / CIV. 0631-411-xxxx
- Landstuhl: DSN 486 / CIV. 06371-86-xxxx
- Landstuhl: DSN 487 / CIV. 06371-92-9xxx
- Landstuhl: DSN 488 / CIV. 06371-92-xxxx
- Mannheim: DSN 375 / CIV. 0621-487-xxxx
- Mannheim: DSN 380 / CIV. 0621-730-xxxx
- Mannheim: DSN 381 / CIV. 0621-730-xxxx
- Mannheim: DSN 382 / CIV. 0621-779-xxxx
- Mannheim: DSN 385 / CIV. 0621-730-xxxx
- Miesau: DSN 481 / CIV. 06372-842-xxxx
- Neubruecke: DSN 485 / CIV. 06783-6-xxxx
- Panzer: DSN 484 / CIV. 0631-413-xxxx
- Pirmasens: DSN 495 / CIV. 06331-86-xxxx
- Ramstein: DSN 480 / CIV. 06371-47-xxxx
- Ramstein: DSN 479 / CIV. 06371-46-xxxx
- Rheinau: DSN 379 / CIV. 06202-80-xxxx
- ROB: DSN 493 / CIV. 0631-340-6-xxxx
- Sembach: DSN 496 / CIV. 06302-67-xxxx
- Spangdahlem: DSN 452 / CIV. 06565-61-xxxx
- Strassburg: DSN 485 / CIV. 06781-402-xxxx
- Vogelweh: DSN 489 / CIV. 0631-536-xxxx
- Vogelweh: DSN 493 / CIV. 0631-340-xxxx
- Wiesbaden: DSN 337 / CIV. 0611-705-xxxx

Emergency Numbers

AMBULANCE: On post
Baumholder 06783-6-116

POLICE: On Post
Baumholder 06783-6-114

FIRE: On Post
Baumholder 06783-6-117

Poison Control for Europe

06371-86-7070

Vehicle Breakdown Service (ADAC)
01802-22 22 22 /
Calling from a Cell phone : 22 22 22



This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

Helpful/Fun Web Sites -

<http://babelfish.yahoo.com/>
(To translate web pages or words)

<http://www.baumholder.army.mil/sites/local/>

<http://www.awaonline.org/>

<http://www.vfw.org/>

<http://www.library.eur.army.mil/>

<http://www.lovethinks.com/>

<http://www.militarychild.org/>

<http://www.militarybrats.com/>

<http://www.militarytimes.com/>

<http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/>

<http://www.defenselink.mil/mtom/>

<http://www.mwrqgermany.com/>

<http://www.amc.af.mil/amctravel/index.asp>

<http://www.kais-dso.eu.dodea.edu>

<http://www.landalgreenparcs.com>

<https://www.resilience.army.mil/>

<http://www.howtogermaany.com/>

<http://www.roompotparcs.com/>

<http://www.monte-mare.de/>

http://www.hooah4health.com/deployment/family_matters/emotionalcycle2.htm

<http://www.federalhandbooks.com/downloadhandbooks.htm>

<http://www.mytricare.com/internet/tric/tri/tricare.nsf>

<http://www.nmfa.org>

<http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/>

<https://europe.satovacations.com/>

<http://www.sgtmoms.com>

<http://www.burg-lichtenberg.de/>

<http://www.uso.org/kaiserslautern/>

<http://www.rothenburg.de/index.php?get=121>

<http://resort.europapark.de>

<http://germany.buzzoffbase.com/>

<http://www.move.mil/home.htm>

<http://www.myarmyonesource.com/default.aspx>

<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/>

<http://www.trier-info.de/english/index>

<http://www.mainz.de/WGAPublisher/online/html/default/home>

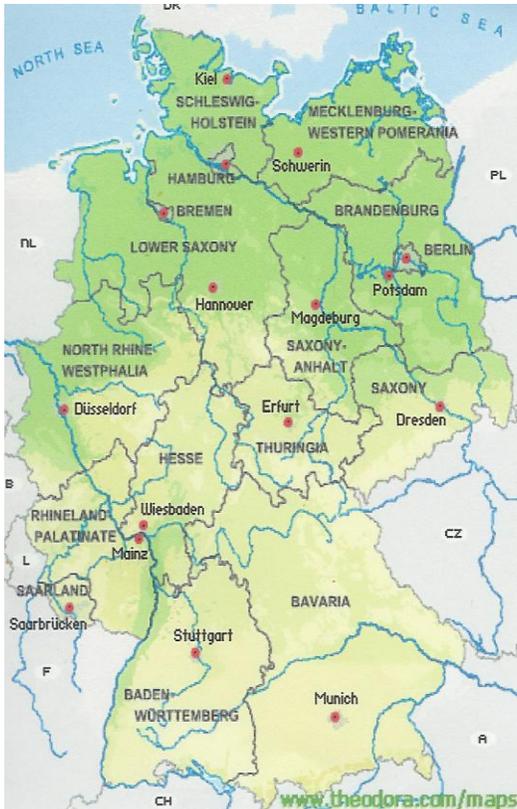
http://www.burg-eltz.de/e_index.html

<http://www.neuschwanstein.de/englisch/palace/index.htm>

<http://www.edelweisslodgeandresort.com>

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

General information about Germany



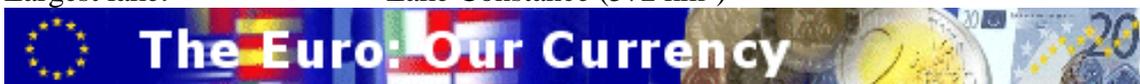
Federal States of Germany

1. Baden-Württemberg (Stuttgart)
2. Bayern (München)
3. Berlin
4. Brandenburg (Potsdam)
5. Bremen
6. Hamburg
7. Hessen (Wiesbaden)
8. Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (Schwerin)
9. Niedersachsen (Hannover)
10. Nordrhein-Westfalen (Düsseldorf)
11. Rheinland-Pfalz (Mainz)
12. Saarland (Saarbrücken)
13. Sachsen (Dresden)
14. Sachsen-Anhalt (Magdeburg)
15. Schleswig-Holstein (Kiel)
16. Thüringen (Erfurt)

The Federal Republic of Germany consists of 16 “Bundesländer” (states) and each state except the “Stadtstaaten” (city states) of Hamburg, Bremen and Berlin are divided into “Regierungsbezirke” (governmental districts) which are again subdivided into “Landkreise” (counties) and “kreisfreie Städte” (cities not administratively incorporated into the county). A county consists of several “Städte” (cities), “Gemeinden” (communities) and “Dörfer” (very small towns). In some areas “Verbandsgemeinden” (administrative realignment of several towns) were formed in the late 70s.

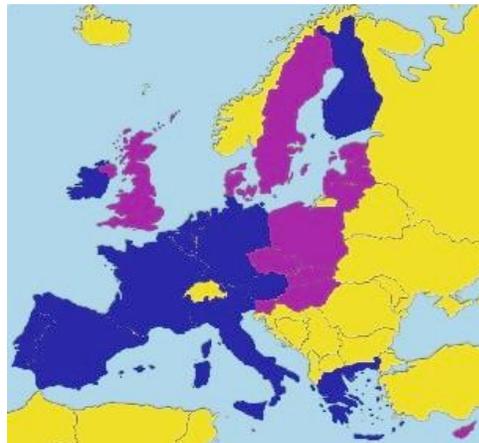
GEOGRAPHY:

Location:	Central Europe
Area:	357.031 km ²
Population:	app. 80 million
Neighboring countries:	Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland
Highest mountain:	Zugspitze (2962 m)
Longest river:	Rhine (865 km)
Largest lake:	Lake Constance (572 km ²)



The Euro is the currency of twelve European Union countries, stretching from the Mediterranean to the Arctic Circle (namely Belgium, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal and Finland).

Euro banknotes and coins have been in circulation since 1 January 2002 and are now a part of daily life for over 300 million Europeans living in the euro area.



Euro notes and coins

On 1 January 2002, Euro banknotes and coins entered circulation across twelve European Union (EU) countries (Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain)

EU countries not using the euro: Bulgaria (Bulgarian lev), the Czech Republic (Czech koruna), Denmark (Danish krone), Hungary (Hungarian forint), Latvia (Latvian lats), Lithuania (Lithuanian litas), Poland (Polish zloty), Romania (Romanian leu), Sweden (Swedish krona), United Kingdom (British pound sterling)

The seven banknote denominations have a common design in all countries, whilst the eight denominations of coins include different national designs on one side and a single European design on the other.

Euro banknotes

The first Euro banknotes were introduced on 1st January 2002 and replaced twelve different sets of banknotes in the previous national currencies.

The European Central Bank is responsible for the overall authorization of Euro banknote issues but the practical aspects of putting these notes into circulation are carried out by the twelve national central banks of the euro area.

There are seven different denominations in the current Euro banknote series, ranging from the €5 to the €500 note.

The designs of the notes are the same throughout the euro area and feature windows and gateways (on the front) and bridges (on the reverse) from different periods in Europe's architectural history.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.



This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

Euro coins

The first Euro coins were introduced on 1st January 2002 and replaced twelve different sets of coins in the previous national currencies.

Each Member State of the Euro area issues Euro coins featuring the national sides. However, such coins are legal tender throughout the whole euro area. The volumes issued are subject to approval by the European Central Bank.

Each Euro coin has a common European design on one side and an individual national design on the other. However, the technical features of the coins (size, weight, metals used) are identical across all euro countries. The national side of future euro coins must comply with the common guidelines adopted by the Council in June 2005.

There are eight different denominations in the current Euro coin series, ranging from the 1 cent to the €2 coin.



Red coins: the European Union is highlighted on the globe.



Yellow coins: a representation of the European Union in which the Member States are shown separately.



Bicolor coins: a representation of the European Union in which the borders of the Member States are marked with a thin line.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

Practical benefits for citizens: traveling with the Euro

- Citizens can travel more easily within the euro area without the hassle of changing currencies every time they cross a border, and are better able to compare prices since they can use their own currency anywhere in the Euro area.
- Traveling outside the Euro area is also easier since the euro is an international currency and therefore widely accepted in many places outside the euro area, particularly in tourist destinations.

How to convert from Euro to \$:

To convert any amount in Euro to \$ you have to do the following:

Euro amount: daily rate = xx \$ (you can get the daily exchange rate from every bank or online)

For example: You have a phone bill of 45.69 Euro and the daily exchange rate is 0.75. You would divide the Euro by the exchange rate:

$$45.69 \text{ Euro} / 0.75 = \$ 60.92$$

How to convert from \$ to Euro:

To convert any amount in \$ to Euro you have to do the following:

\$ Amount x daily rate = xx Euro (you can get the daily exchange rate from every bank or online)

For example: Now the other way around. You multiply the dollar by the exchange rate:

$$\$ 60.92 \times 0.75 = 45.69 \text{ Euro}$$

** You have the option to withdraw Euro or US Dollars using ATM's on post but can only withdraw Euro at ATMS or "Geld Automats" on the economy.*

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

German History

"Wir sind ein Volk—We are one people," sang crowds on November 9, 1989, as East Germans breached the Berlin Wall. A year later, just after midnight on October 3, 1990, Germany was reborn. One people, divided since the end of World War II, had one country again. Yet German unity is relatively new. Disparate Germanic principalities did not come together until 1871, when the king of Prussia became Kaiser (emperor) of Germany. Defeat in World War I cost Germany its empire and left the nation staggering under heavy reparations. Inflation and unemployment hounded the democratic, but shaky, Weimar Republic. By 1933 a demoralized population had turned to Adolf Hitler. Under Hitler, Germany rearmed and invaded neighboring countries, triggering the Second World War, which killed 55 million people and devastated much of Europe. When Germany surrendered in 1945, it lost eastern lands, like Prussia and Silesia, to the Soviet Union and Poland. The Allies divided the rest of the country, and its capital, Berlin, into four occupation zones. This temporary partition persisted as tensions rose between the U.S.S.R. and other Allied powers. In 1949 the American, French, and British zones formed the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany), and the Soviet Union established the German Democratic Republic (East Germany).

The Berlin Wall went up in 1961 to stop East Germans from fleeing west. Rejoining two populations after 45 years of separation has been difficult. The economy in eastern Germany remains weak—the population is declining as young people go west for jobs. A bright spot in the east is Berlin as the construction boom continues in Germany's capital and largest city; tourists come to see the innovative architecture, including the Reichstag building with its new glass dome. A founding member of the European Union, Germany stands to gain from increased trade with the 2004 addition of the Czech Republic, Poland, and others to EU membership.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World, Eighth Edition, 2004*

State Facts of Rheinland-Pfalz

In the middle of Europe the state of Rheinland-Pfalz was formed after the end of World War II, on 30 August 1946, by the French military government. Traditional structures were not taken into account; instead parts of Germany were merged that had never before belonged together: parts of the Prussian Rhine provinces, the territory of Hesse on the left bank of the Rhine, and the strongly Bavarian-influenced Palatinate.

State Facts of Rheinland-Pfalz

Population: 4 million
Area: 19849 km²
Capital: Mainz



In the middle of Europe

The state of Rheinland-Pfalz was formed after the end of World War II, on 30 August 1946, by the French military government. Traditional structures were not taken into account; instead parts of Germany were merged that had never before belonged together: parts of the Prussian Rhine provinces, the territory of Hesse on the left bank of the Rhine, and the strongly Bavarian-influenced Palatinate. These regions have become closely knit over time, however, and Rheinland-Pfalz has acquired its own identity. Rheinland-Pfalz has profited greatly from its geographical location. The extensive modernized network of autobahns and federal highways, the convenient rail connections between the cities of Mainz, Kaiserslautern, Trier, Ludwigshafen and Koblenz, the major waterways Rhine and Mosel, as well as the state's proximity to three economically powerful centers - the Rhine-Main, Rhine-Neckar and Rhine-Ruhr regions - have created optimal framework conditions for the development of Rheinland-Pfalz into one of Germany's most dynamic regions.

Viniculture and industry

Products from the state of Rheinland-Pfalz are in high demand on both domestic and international markets. With an export rate of roughly 40 percent, it ranks first in this category among Germany's states. Its economy is remarkably diversified: Rheinland-Pfalz is a wine-growing center (two thirds of the country's wine comes from here) and an important wood producer as well as a major center of the chemical industry and a leading supplier of automobile components. Distinctive regional industries include the gemstone industry in Idar-Oberstein, ceramic and glass products from the Westerwald, and the leather industry of the Hunsrück and the Palatinate. Small and medium-sized businesses form the Backbone of the Rheinland-Pfalz economy. The state's principal industrial employer is the chemical and plastics processing industry: BASF in Ludwigshafen is Europe's largest chemical factory complex and Rheinland-Pfalz's largest manufacturing firm. Also situated on the Rhine are the State's four next-largest companies: Boehringer (pharmaceuticals) in Ingelheim, Joh. A. Benckiser (chemicals, cosmetics) in

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

Ludwigshafen, SGE Deutsche Holding (construction) in Ludwigshafen and the Schott Glassworks in Mainz. Europe's largest television network, ZDF (Channel Two), has its headquarters in Mainz, the state capital, as does the broadcasting company SAT.1.

Picturesque landscapes

Rheinland-Pfalz lies in the center of the Rhenish Schist Massif. One of the most beautiful landscapes in Germany - and the world - is the stretch of the Rhine Valley between Bingen and Bonn. Dotted with castles, it is steeped in legend, and its praises have been sung by countless poets, painters and musicians. Here and in the valley of the Mosel River grow wines which are prized by connoisseurs all over the world. The other tributaries of the Rhine - the Nahe, Lahn and Ahr rivers - are likewise very scenic wine-growing regions. At the foot of the Palatinate Forest runs the "German Wine Route". The Rhine has been the region's economic artery since time immemorial. On it lie the cities of Ludwigshafen (167,000 inhabitants), Mainz (185,000 inhabitants) and Koblenz (109,000 inhabitants). Kaiserslautern has 102,000 inhabitants and the old Roman city of Trier has 100,000 inhabitants.

For more information visit the website of the Rheinland-Pfalz Tourist Information:
<http://www.rlp-info.de>



This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

HISTORY OF BAUMHOLDER

Baumholder's history has been one of turbulence and uncertainty. Since ancient time, civilizations have fought to call this land their own. As a result, Baumholder has faced destruction several times. But with resourcefulness and perseverance that can be found in people who love the land, the citizens have always rebuilt their town. Baumholder has seen the Celts come and go; the rise and fall of the Roman Empire; the invasion of French and Prussian armies; and still has remained. These civilizations may have passed centuries ago, but they left their mark in the heritage, customs, and history of the town of Baumholder.

Relics from the past Celtic and Roman civilizations have been found in Baumholder. A grave from the Celt culture was discovered at the present site of the Rheinland Convention Center. This area was once known as the "Gallows Heath" and is now known as the Wilhelmswald. Roman relics are more complete and numerous. Several graves and settlements have been uncovered around the area. Evidence of an advanced civilization can be found from the remarkable architecture to the common household items (made of glass and metal) that have been unearthed in this area.

Baumholder can trace its origins back to 1,000 B.C. when a Celtic tribe, the Treverians, migrated from northern France. The Treverians lived in this area until taken over by the Romans in 52 B.C. The land was then occupied by Germanic tribes in the 4th and 5th centuries A.D. and followed by the Franks in 500A.D.

The first recorded mention of the name of Baumholder came in a document from Emperor Frederick Barbarossa in 1156. At the end of the 15th century, Baumholder was raised to the formal status of a town and was granted permission to fortify the perimeter of the town and hold a public market each Saturday.

In 1579, Duke Johann I, freed the inhabitants of Baumholder from serfdom and allowed the town to keep half the wine tax to build fortifications for the town. By the end of the century, a wide moat surrounded the town, as well as wall with its gates and towers. One of the towers, the "Thick Tower", and part of the wall, can still be found in Baumholder.

The 1600s were a time of war and destruction for Baumholder. During the 20 Years War, the town was almost completely destroyed, and much of its historical documents were lost when the old church burned down.

The Baumholder region was occupied by French troops from 1792 until 1814. In 1815, the land was awarded to the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld for his services against the French. The new territory was named the "Principality of Linchberg" and was governed by St. Wendel. This principality was taken over by Prussia in 1834 and named "St. Wendel County". As a result, Baumholder received a formal city charter from the Prussian government.

Baumholder was again occupied by France following WWI an annexation occurred which split the former St. Wendel County in half, making Baumholder the county seat. Baumholder kept that status until 1937, when the county seat was moved to Birkenfeld.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

World War II also brought the military to Baumholder. The Third Reich needed a training area and Baumholder was picked. The German government appropriated 29,158 acres and resettled about 842 families from 14 villages to clear the land for use by the Third Reich. Thus was born Baumholder's Major Training area, used today for military training by Americans and a host of NATO countries. The French occupied the area in 1945, and in 1951 the Americans moved in. With the help of thousands of German workers, dwellings for American families were quickly constructed.

BAUMHOLDER SIGHTS



“Altes Rathaus” (old town hall)

Build 1840 after Baumholder became Prussian. Until 1981 residence of the district administration. Today city administration, museum, adult education center and library.



“Schmiede Bier” (blacksmith’s workshop)

Blacksmith’s workshop dated back to 1840 with animal shelter.



“Evangelische Kirche” (protestant church)

Barock church build 1748 – 1750 by Duke Christian IV of Zweibrücken. Modern interior after redecoration in the 50’s. Remarkable glass windows were added in the 80’s. Three bells in the tower: a small one from 1340, a big one from 1499 and a new bell from 1953.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.



“Leichenpförtchen”

Tower gate of the city wall built in the 16th century. The name is explained by the former use of this gate. Until the beginning of the 20th century the dead from the northern villages outside the city walls were brought through this gate to the cemetery.



“Katholische Kirche” (Catholic Church)

Parrish church St. Simon and Judas Thaddäus. Gothic style church build 1882 – 1885. Interior has been preserved since 1900. Parts of the altar are originally from the Cusanus convent in Bernkastel-Kues. Three bells in the tower: two from the 17th and one from the 18th century.



“Dicker Turm” (big tower)

Fully round tower built as part of the city wall. Rebuilt 1986 – 1988 according to a city picture from 1860. This tower and the “Leichenpförtchen” are the oldest buildings in Baumholder.



“Wäschbach”

Water basin, fed by a well. Originally used for doing the laundry. Excavated in 1988 and partly rebuilt.

German Customs and traditions

“The Germans,” poet and dramatist Johann Wolfgang von Goethe once said, “make everything difficult, both for themselves and for everyone else.” Chances are you’ll agree with his words at some point during your tour. But the more prepared you are, the less distressing cultural differences will be. Note that Germany is a relatively small and densely populated land. What you do as an American and the impression you leave make a difference.

On the road

The greatest shock to Americans is the speed at which Germans drive. The roads and freeways are quite narrow. Speed limits in cities are strictly enforced, but on much of the Autobahn there is no limit on how fast drivers can go. Although it is against the law, impatient Germans may also tailgate at high speeds and/or flash their headlights when they want to pass your vehicle. If you are driving for the first time in Germany, keep right. Left lanes are for passing only.

Standing in line

Nobody likes to wait in line – not even Germans, who seem to have to do it more often than Americans. Even normally courteous Germans may elbow their way ahead if you don’t stand your ground. It’s not unusual to get bumped by a “tailgating” shopping cart. Keep smiling.

Greeting people

It’s usual to greet others when walking into a waiting room, small business or train compartment. A simple “Guten Tag” or, in southern Germany, “Gruess Gott”, is in order. Germans are also avid hand-shakers. Not only do they shake hands when meeting someone for the first time, but at every meeting thereafter. Upon arrival at small parties and gatherings, it is not unusual to greet everybody individually, with a handshake – and then make the round again when you leave. Never have a hand in your pocket when shaking hands. Always make eye contact.

First time meetings

Germans are quite reserved and usually won’t take the initiative to meet someone unless it’s necessary, especially if they notice you are American and their English is rusty or nonexistent. Americans are expected to be friendly, so it’s a good idea for you to take the initiative and introduce yourself. Every little bit of German you learn helps. Germans appreciate Americans who are trying to learn their language.

Language

As soon as you begin learning German, you’ll notice a key difference. There are two words that both mean “You”. “Sie” is formal, for people who are waiting on you in a business, who are older than you or whom, you don’t know well. The informal “du” is used between friends or with children. The formal form of address hints at a distance between two people. Likewise, Germans value titles as a way to maintain respect for authority figures. “Herr” and “Frau”, two words you probably already know, are important. On the other hand, “Fraulein” should be used only for girls under age 15.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

Visiting friends

When you're invited to a German home, it is customary to bring a gift. The safest tokens of appreciation are bottled, either wine or spirits. Chocolates are another option. If you choose to bring flowers, don't pick red roses – unless you're in love with the host – and unwrap the florist's paper before handing over the bouquet.

Fresh air

Even in poor weather, Germans love to take long walks and work in their gardens. They are firm believers in the benefits of breathing fresh air and staying active. Germans have well-kept public swimming pools that are reasonably priced and quite popular. Germans also regularly air out their homes and bedding. It is not unusual to see open windows with blankets and feather comforters hanging out of them. Another familiar sight is men or women leaning out their windows watching the world go by. They're not being nosy - they're enjoying a bit of fresh air. In the summer, outdoor cafes and beer gardens are packed. Beer gardens are often located outside of town, in shady park-like areas or in the woods. Germans often take walks through town when all the stores are closed, or hike in the forest, stopping for a leisurely drink at an outdoor café or outdoor pub along the way.

Restaurants

Many people from other countries live in Germany; up to 25 percent of the population in some cities comes from abroad. As a result, foreign restaurants spice up the dining options. It isn't customary to be seated by a host in many eating establishments. Often guests sit down at any unoccupied table or, after asking permission of those seated there, at an occupied table. Sharing tables with total strangers is common, especially in the South. Watch out, though, for tables with a "Reserviert" sign or those labeled "Stammtisch", which are reserved for regulars. You won't automatically get a glass of water when you sit down. In fact, you should order something to drink, because 10 percent of the charge for the food and drink is part of your waiter's pay. Germans will look at you strangely and claim it's unhealthy if you drink tap water (Leitungswasser) – but waiters will bring it if you insist.

After your food is served, it's polite to wish your fellow diners "Guten Appetit". When you've finished eating, how you position your fork and knife sends a message. If you're done, put the knife and the fork together, tips towards the middle of the plate and handles toward your right elbow. Lying them down in a V with the tip facing away from you means you'd like another serving. Diners should give a small tip at the end of the meal by rounding up the bill about one Euro per person. You are under no obligation to tip if the service is poor.

There's no getting around it – you're bound to need a restroom at some point. When you ask, the simplest phrase is "Wo ist die Toilette". Signs leading to the bathroom often call it by another common name, "WC", short for water closet. Restrooms will be free for restaurant customers, but public toilets often charge a fee between 50 and 70 Cents, especially for women. The money goes towards keeping the facility stocked and clean – a small price to pay.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

Conversion Charts

(From U.S. Customary to Metric units)

When You Know	Multiply By	To Find
inches	25.4	millimeters
	2.54	centimeters
feet	30.48	centimeters
yards	0.91	meters
miles	1.61	kilometers
teaspoons	4.93	milliliters
tablespoons	14.79	milliliters
fluid ounces	29.57	milliliters
cups	0.24	liters
pints	0.47	liters
quarts	0.95	liters
gallons	3.79	liters
cubic feet	0.028	cubic meters
cubic yards	0.76	cubic meters
ounces	28.35	grams
pounds	0.45	kilograms
short tons (2,000 lbs)	0.91	metric tons
square inches	6.45	square centimeters
square feet	0.09	square meters
square yards	0.84	square meters
square miles	2.60	square kilometers
acres	0.40	Hectares

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

From Metric to U.S. Customary Units:

When You Know	Multiply By	To Find
millimeters	0.04	inches
centimeters	0.39	Inches
meters	3.28	Feet
	1.09	Yards
kilometers	0.62	Miles
milliliters	0.20	Teaspoons
	0.06	Tablespoons
	0.03	fluid ounces
liters	1.06	Quarts
	0.26	Gallons
	4.23	Cups
	2.12	Pints
cubic meters	35.32	cubic feet
	1.35	cubic yards
grams	0.035	Ounces
kilograms	2.21	Pounds
metric ton (1,000 kg)	1.10	short ton
square centimeters	0.16	square inches
square meters	1.20	square yards
square kilometers	0.39	square miles
hectares	2.47	Acres

Temperature Conversion Between Celsius and Fahrenheit:

$$^{\circ}\text{C} = (^{\circ}\text{F} - 32) \div 1.8$$

$$^{\circ}\text{F} = (^{\circ}\text{C} \times 1.8) + 32$$

110°C - 225°F
 120°C - 250°F
 140°C - 275°F
 150°C - 300°F
 160°C - 325°F
 180°C - 350°F
 190°C - 375°F
 200°C - 400°F

Condition	Fahrenheit	Celsius
Boiling point of water	212°	100°
A very hot day	104°	40°
Normal body temperature	98.6°	37°
A warm day	86°	30°
A mild day	68°	20°
A cool day	50°	10°
Freezing point of water	32°	0°

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

U.S. Customary System: Length

Unit	Relation to Other U.S. Customary Units	Metric Equivalent
inch	1/12 foot	2.54 centimeters
foot	12 inches or 1/3 yard	0.3048 meter
yard	36 inches or 3 feet	0.9144 meter
rod	16 1/2 feet or 5 1/2 yards	5.0292 meters
furlong	220 yards or 1/8 mile	0.2012 kilometer
mile (statute)	5,280 feet or 1,760 yards	1.6093 kilometers
mile (nautical)	2,025 yards	1.852 kilometers

U.S. Customary System: Volume or Capacity (Liquid Measure)

Unit	Relation to Other U.S. Customary Units	Metric Equivalent
ounce	1/16 pint	29.574 milliliters
gill	4 ounces	0.1183 liter
pint	16 ounces	0.4732 liter
quart	2 pints or 1/4 gallon	0.9463 liter
gallon	128 ounces or 8 pints	3.7853 liters
barrel		
(wine)	31 1/2 gallons	119.24 liters
(beer)	36 gallons	136.27 liters
(oil)	42 gallons	158.98 liters

U.S. Customary System: Volume or Capacity (Dry Measure)

Unit	Relation to Other U.S. Customary Units	Metric Equivalent
pint	1/2 quart	0.5506 liter
quart	2 pints	1.1012 liters
peck	8 quarts or 1/4 bushel	8.8098 liters
bucket	2 pecks	17.620 liters
bushel	2 buckets or 4 pecks	35.239 liters

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

U.S. Customary System: Weight

Unit	Relation to Other U.S. Customary Units	Metric Equivalent
grain	1/7000 pound	64.799 milligrams
dram	1/16 ounce	1.7718 grams
ounce	16 drams	28.350 grams
pound	16 ounces	453.6 grams
ton (short)	2,000 pounds	907.18 kilograms
ton (long)	2,240 pounds	1,016.0 kilograms

Cooking Measures

Unit	Relation to Other Cooking Measures	Conversion to Metric Units
drop	1/76 teaspoon	0.0649 milliliter
teaspoon	76 drops or 1/3 tablespoon	4.9288 milliliters
tablespoon	3 teaspoons	14.786 milliliters
cup	16 tablespoons or 1/2 pint	0.2366 liter
pint	2 cups	0.4732
quart	4 cups or 2 pints	0.9463



This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

FESTS



In Germany, any time to hold a festival is a good time. Lots of cities, towns or villages hold fests at various times throughout the year and for many different reasons. Very common are “Kerwe” or “Kirmes”, which originated as county fairs, sometimes the only time during the year that a particular village had the opportunity to have fun and shop for things not ordinarily available. Beer or wine fests usually tie into the brewing or growing seasons. You may also find “Schuetzenfeste”. These are traditional festivals for the more than one million Germans who are marksmen and organized in one of Germany’s 12,800 “Schuetzenvereine” (marksmen’s associations).

FASCHING / KARNEVAL

Americans coming to Germany on “Rosenmontag” (Rose Monday) might easily believe that Germans have suddenly gone crazy. In the streets they would see crowds of laughing, singing people, huge parades with very interesting floats and everyone dressed in crazy costumes and masks. This particular custom can take very different forms, sometimes very old-fashioned, and is also referred to as Fastnacht, Fasnet, Fassenacht. These customs are most enthusiastically celebrated in states with a predominantly roman-catholic population: Cologne, Mainz and Munich are the cities with the biggest parties and parades.

The custom springs from pre-Christian roots, having developed from superstitious fears at the change of the season, when demons that might win power over man had to be exorcised by lights, noise and conjurings. It was believed that men dressed up as witches, animals or spirits were able to take up the battle with the supernatural powers to help spring overtake the demons of winter



This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

1st MAY



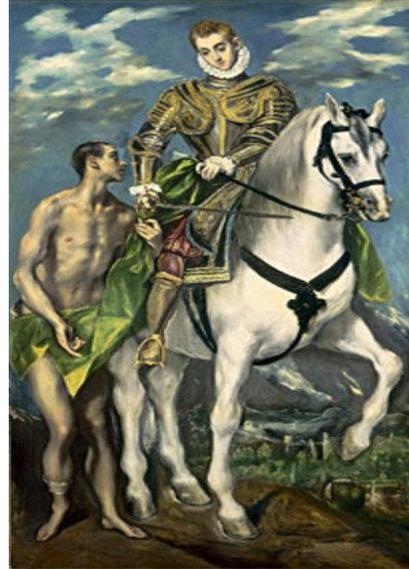
The “Maifest” is a very old, traditional fest. There are different customs depending on the area. On the eve of May 1st, the “Maibaum” (maypole) is decorated with colorful ribbons. Bigger maypoles sometimes are decorated with the symbols of important crafts (a pretzel as symbol of a baker, a scissor for a tailor, an axe for the carpenter,....). Sometimes there are pictures of animals such as horse, sheep, chicken, goose, and others.

After the raising of the maypole, the celebration begins. In most villages and towns there is also the “Tanz in den Mai”. People celebrate and dance throughout the night.

May 1st is a holiday in Germany. It’s called “Tag der Arbeit” (Labor Day). A lot of workers go to the traditional May demonstrations held by the labor unions. However, during the last years less and less people have attended these demonstrations. People prefer spending the day with their families and friend, going on trips and/or celebrate.

The night before May 1st is also called “Walpurgisnacht”. According to old believes, witches met with the devil on a mountain called “Brocken” during that night. Nobody knows where this legend actually originated.

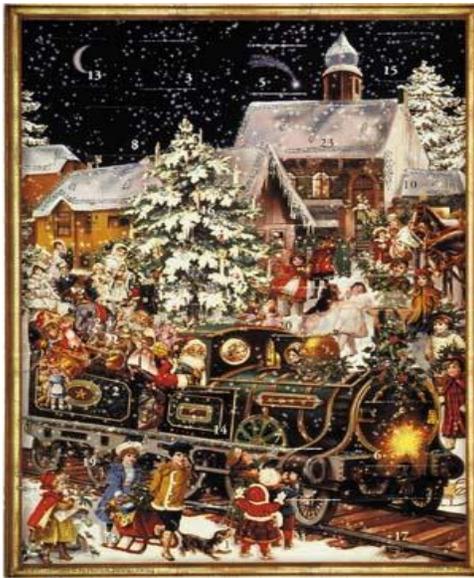
ST. MARTIN



According to legend, St. Martin was a knight in Roman times who charitably cut his cloak into two with his sword and shared it with a beggar who was about to freeze to death. This memorable event is celebrated to this day in November, mainly in Southern and Western Germany. “St. Martinstag” is the 11th of November. The celebrations involve little kids walking around town at dusk on November 10th, carrying home-made lanterns. The lanterns used to be made from hollowed out beets with a face carved in, similar to what Americans do to pumpkins around Halloween. The kids parade through town singing traditional songs, sometimes accompanied by a St. Martin on a horse. After the parade, kids traditionally get a “Weckmann” and a cup of hot chocolate, while the adults devour a “Martinsgans” (goose). The “Weckmann” is a sweet breadroll, 25 – 30 cm long, in the shape of a man with raisins as eyes and often a white clay pipe in his mouth.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

ADVENT



These are the four Sundays prior to Christmas. In the roman-catholic church's tradition these are the liturgical precursors to the actual birth of Christ. In Germany an "Adventskranz", a wreath made of pine or fir branches decorated with four candles is displayed during that time, although a more informal evergreen arrangement may be used. On the first Advent Sunday one candle is lit, sometimes accompanied by a family ceremony that may include prayers, singing of Christmas songs and/or special Christmas treats. On each succeeding Sunday another candle is added, until all four are lit on the last Sunday prior to Christmas.

A lot of kids have a so called "Adventskalender". For each of the 24 days in December proceeding Christmas Day they find sweets behind little doors.



ST. NIKOLAUS

In America, Santa Claus brings the presents during the night from Christmas Eve to Christmas Day with the help of reindeers and elves.

In Germany, however, we have a special day for “St. Nikolaus”

St. Nikolaus is based on a bishop of Myra who lived in the 4th century AC. He is said to have provided charities to people, in particular children. He is usually portrayed in a bishop’s habit with a Mitre and a red coat.

In the Catholic tradition, on the eve before December 6th, St. Nikolaus comes to the children’s houses accompanied by his servant, “Knecht Ruprecht”. He reads out of the “golden book” all good and bad attributes of the kid and the generally well-behaved children will get small presents (traditionally fruit, nuts and cookies). But the bad ones receive a birching from Knecht Ruprecht – and the really bad apples are taken away in his big sack.

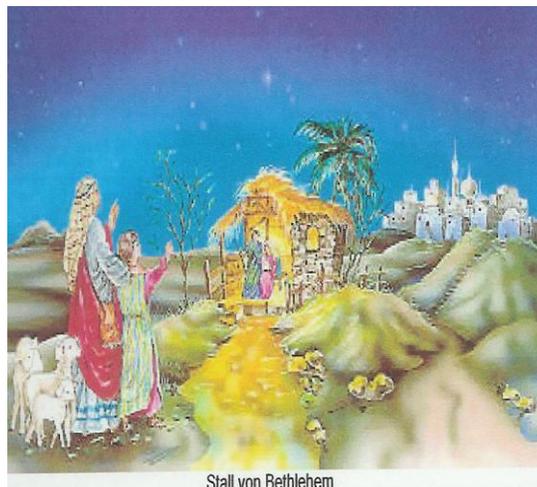
Another tradition is for children to put a pair of shoes or a dish in front of their home’s front door on the evening of December 5th for St. Nikolaus to fill. The next morning, they find small presents of chocolate, oranges, nuts, cookies or other sweets there.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

CHRISTMAS

Christmas is celebrated on the evening of December 24th, the “Heiligabend”. As a child, you will be told to remain in your room from late afternoon on, because the “Christkind” (christ-child) will come tonight. The parents prepare the “Weihnachtsbaum” (christmas tree). Choice of ornaments varies dramatically from household to household, ranging from all-natural and home-made with wax candles to plastic trees with flickering electric lights.

After sunset the kids are asked to join the parents. This is typically done with a special little “Gloeckchen” (bell). After the “Bescherung” (when the gifts are unwrapped) the special Christmas dinner is served. In a variation, dinner may be served before the “Bescherung” in a different room from where the christmas tree is. When the family has almost finished dinner one of the parents will sneak out and ring the little bell. The children are told that the “Christkind” just has been here and they are then allowed to enter the room with the Christmas tree and the presents underneath.



Stall von Bethlehem

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

Schultueten



This is another nice custom associated with children. On their children's very first day of school, parents give them huge, colorful cardboard cones filled with sweets, small toys or special school supplies. This is to help sweeten their first day away from home.

RICHTFEST



The “Richtfest” (topping out) is a traditional part of any building construction in Germany. As soon as the “Rohbau”, the shell of the house including the roof structure is finished, it is decorated with a fir wreath or fir tree with colorful streamers on the top of the roof’s framework. Everybody involved with the building gets together for a celebration with drinks (beer, not cocktails) and some food.



This tradition goes back to the traveling “Gesellen” on the “Walz”: for the traveling carpenters the “Richtfest” was the time to move on, their work on this building had been done and they were supposed to go and find work somewhere else. So apart from celebrating a milestone in the construction of the building, it was also a goodbye party for some of the people working on it.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.



Frankfurt Airport Shuttle Bus FREE

It runs Monday through Friday.

It picks you up in front of the PX at 6:10 leaves 6:20am AM and arrives at Frankfurt Airport at 10 AM.

To pick you up at Frankfurt Airport you will have to register before 2:45 PM with the reception crew at the Sheraton Hotel. After you register, the Bus will pick you up at Bus Stop #13 (Terminal 1) at 3:10 PM and will be arriving at Baumholder at 8:00 PM.

If you have any questions you could contact Richard Williams at 06969.597.3815.16.

Soldiers have priority for this service.

Family members that are visiting could use this service if the ID card holder family member is present.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.



Shuttle Services to/from Frankfurt International Airport

The companies listed regularly stop at the USO office in the Frankfurt Airport. It would be best if you used one of the links below to contact the shuttle service to make reservations before you arrive. Note* All shuttle service charge different rates.

Di Liberto Van Service

Tel: +49-(0)6337-6337

Email: info@van-service.de

Webpage: www.van-service.de

Ritas Airport Shuttle

Tel: +49-(0)171-2831667, +49-(0)6371-58626

Email: ritas.shuttle@t-online.de

Webpage: www.airport-shuttle-ramstein.com

KMC Airport Shuttle

Tel: DSN-489-7723, +49-(0)631-536-7723

Email: mailto:kmcshuttle@cmtymail.26asq.army.mil

Alex Airport Shuttle

Tel: +49-(0)6371-43068,

Fax: +49-(0)6371-614836

Email: Alex@AAS-Airport-shuttle.de

Webpage: www.AAS-Airport-shuttle.de

Wildans Transportation Service

Tel: +49-(0)631-3607534

Email: Wildans@t-online.de

Webpage: www.Wildans.de

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

RIDING THE RAILS

Germany has one of the world's best passenger rail systems. There aren't many places that you can't get to with it, and the trip will be comfortable, economical, and punctual. Other than the automobile, rail is by far the most common means of intercity transport.

An average of 350,000 people uses the 32,000 daily trains of the *Deutsche Bahn* (DB, or German-Rail) system. These trains serve over 7,000 destinations using 38,000 km of welded track, 16,000 km of which are electrified. Work is ongoing to improve and additional 3,200 km of this for high-speed travel.

Even though it's declined a little in recent years, trains in Germany are generally very punctual. You will find large boards in the bigger stations that show the on-time rate of the trains there. Generally, long-distance trains are around 90% punctual, and local trains are almost always nearly 100% on-time.

There are several types of service offered, identified by an alphabet soup of letters. Here are most of the train types and designations:



LONG-DISTANCE TRAINS

- **ICE (*InterCity Express*)** - The flagship of the German rail system. Provides high-speed connections between the principal metropolitan areas. Trains run every hour or more frequently. (You must book a seat)
- **CIS (*Cisalpino*)** - A train very similar to the ICE, but runs on conventional tracks rather than the special tracks used by the ICE.
- **Thalys** - Express train connecting Cologne, Düsseldorf, Paris, Brussels and Amsterdam.
- **IC/EC (*InterCity/EuroCity*)** - Express trains connecting the larger domestic destinations every hour. Some of these trains travel into adjacent countries as part of the EC (EuroCity) system.
- **ICN, EN, CNL, NZ (*InterCityNight, EuroNight, CityNightLine; Nachtzug*)** - Various night trains providing long-distance sleeping accommodations.
- **IR (*InterRegio*)** - Express service connecting domestic and international medium-sized towns and major rail centers. Trains generally run every two hours or more often. (This service is in the process being phased-out and consolidated with other services.)
- **D (*Durchgangszug*)** - A fairly rapid longer distance train. Provides connections on some of the lesser traveled routes or times.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

REGIONAL TRAINS

- **IRE (*InterRegioExpress*)** - An express train connecting regional cities at regular intervals.
- **RE (*RegionalExpress*)** - An express train connecting medium and larger-sized towns to main rail hubs.
- **RB (*RegionalBahn*)** - Similar to RE, but slower since it stops in virtually every town along the way.
- **SE (*StadtExpress*)** - A local train that connects outlying towns with medium and large cities.
- **S-Bahn (*Schnellbahn*)** - Commuter rail service in and around major metropolitan areas.

Onboard services:

As you might imagine the level of service onboard increases with each of the service levels above. All trains at minimum have WC facilities. Some lower level trains will have a small snack cart that passes through the cars. IR trains will usually have a bistro car. The IC and ICE trains have bars, lounges, bistros, and restaurants serving German and international foods, beers, and wines.

The ICE is the most luxurious of German Rail trains. These trains feature adjustable cushioned seats, individual reading lights, piped music from armrest jacks (bring your own headset), conference rooms, public telephones, and fax machines. First class passengers also have video players at their seats.

Classes:

Trains are divided into two classes first and second. The cars have a large "1" or "2" on the outside near the doors indicating which class they carry. With a few exceptions, all services available on the train are provided for both first and second-class passengers. The benefit of first class is that the rates for first class are higher and, thus, first class tends to be less crowded than second class. (There are also smoker carriages for smokers marked with the cigarette sign).

Sleepers and couchettes:

Long-distance overnight trains often have sleeper (*Schlafwagen*) and couchette (*Liegewagen*) services available. Sleepers are full-service and feature compartments with 1-4 bunks with mattresses and linens. You also usually get a continental breakfast. Couchettes are a less luxurious form of the sleeper. You usually are provided with linens, but you'll share a compartment of 4-6 bunks with other travelers.

In the morning, the conductor will wake you before you arrive at your destination. On international trips, the conductor will keep your passport and tickets overnight. This keeps you from having to be awoken in the middle of the night by a border guard. Sleepers and couchettes require a reservation and surcharge (starting at about €18 for a bunk in a six-person couchette car.). There are also special InterCity Night "hotel trains" connecting Berlin, Munich, Hamburg, and Cologne.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

High Speed Trains:

Since they connect the largest cities and tourist destinations, the IC and ICE are the services that tourists use the most. At 160 km/h, the IC was the DB's fastest service until the new ICE came online in 1991. Now, the ICE, with trains that reach 300 km/h, has cut the travel time from Hamburg to Munich from 8 hours to 5½ hours. ICE trains operate on several lines connecting Berlin, Hamburg, Frankfurt, Cologne, Stuttgart, and Munich, among other places. The ICE trains are pressurized to minimize the discomfort to passengers caused by high speed travel through the many tunnels on the system. The high-speed roadbeds are straight and level and have welded tracks resulting in a smooth, quiet ride.



Tickets:

Like any major transportation service, the DB offers a myriad of tickets, fare schedules, and special deals. Even railway officials sometimes have problems navigating the complex structure of the DB's ticketing options. Fortunately, most tourists shouldn't need to deal with this hassle as rail passes, which tend to be a better deal, and point-to-point tickets can be purchased outside of Germany. However, if you decide to purchase your train tickets in Germany, you should be prepared for a possible adventure. I suggest that you use the DB's website to determine the approximate fares ahead of time. That way, you'll know if you are getting the correct fare when you purchase. It's also been recommended to "shop around" at the station. Get a quote from one agent, and then get a quote from a second agent. If they match, OK. If one's cheaper than the other, make sure you're getting the right ticket, and if so, then go for the cheaper one.

Individual point-to-point tickets and surcharges:

Except for the ICE, tickets for individual trips longer than 100 km are based on a standard per-kilometer fare structure (currently €0.20 per kilometer for second class and €0.25 per kilometer for first class). In addition to this base fare, the IC has a €5.00 surcharge (€5.60 if purchased on the train), and IR trains require a €2.00 surcharge (€3.50 if purchased on-board). These surcharges do not apply to holders of German Rail passes or most Eurail or Europass passes. You should also purchase a seat reservation for a flat €3.00 (good for one seat on up to two trains.) This will guarantee you a specific seat for the duration of your journey. You can reserve a seat anytime between three months to just minutes before the train leaves. If you already have a ticket or have a pass, you can purchase a seat reservation by itself. Sleeper and couchette services also carry an additional charge.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

How to purchase tickets:

The best way to purchase your ticket is to go to the station, locate the departure timetable (large yellow schedules), and find the train that you need. Note the train number, departure time, and destination. Then go to the ticket counter (in larger stations, look for "**Reisezentrum**" or Information signs) and give this information to the ticket agent. Many ticket agents speak English, but if they don't, and you don't speak German, write the train number and destination on a slip of paper and hand it to the agent. Be prepared to wait in line a while as the ticket counters at most stations are not as well staffed as they could/should be. Also, make sure that the line you are in will get you the service you need- there are special lines for express service (just tickets- no reservations or information), and domestic (**Inland**) and international (**Ausland**) tickets. These are, however, being phased-out in many stations.

For trips of less than 100 km, you usually can (and should) purchase your tickets from a vending machine (look for machines marked "**Fahrkarten**", "**Fahrausweis**", or "**Fahrschein**"). To use these, you find your destination on a chart on or near the machine, and then dial the indicated code on the keypad on the machine. The one-way, single fare will be shown. Press the appropriate button for a round-trip ticket, first-class fare, or other add-on if needed. Then pay the price shown and your ticket will drop into the bin. Prices for these trips are calculated on a different tariff schedule than are trips over 100 km.

DB		Reservierung		2 Sitzplätze		
CIV 80		InterCityExpress				
		VON	->NACH			KW/CI
8.03	10:15	FRANKFURT M	->BERLIN ZOO	8.03	14:18	1
ZUG	894 ICE	Wagen 14	Sitzplätze 11 12			
Mit Tisch		2 Fenster				
Raucher						
				PREIS DEM ***10,00		
807380023507						
572153632		110700034	Frankfurt			
57215363-31	BARZAHLUNG	08.03.01	(Main)Hbf	9:53		

Seat reservations:

Tickets only guarantee you'll be transported from one place to another; they do not actually guarantee you a place to sit. In most cases, you should be able to find a seat without much problem. However, seat reservations (**Platzreservierung**) are recommended on the busier routes, especially on the weekends and holidays. These reservations must be purchased separately, although you can do it at the same time you purchase tickets, up to 3 months ahead of time. When you purchase seat reservations, you have several options. First, you can specify **Großraumwagen** or **Abteilwagen**. The **Abteilwagen** is a car with compartments. Each compartment has three seats facing each other (for a total of six seats). The **Großraumwagen** is the coach car with varying seat configurations. You'll also want to specify **rauchen** (smoking) or **nicht rauchen** (non-smoking). If you want a window seat (*am Fenster*), aisle seat (*am Gang*), or a table (*am Tisch*), let them know that, too. The cost is €2.60 - €3.00 for each seat reserved. A

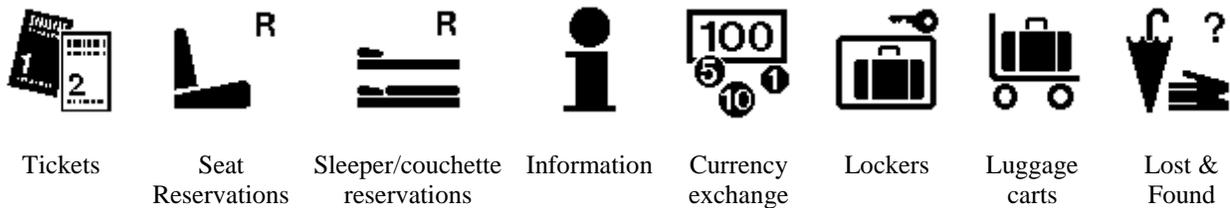
This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

reservation on one connecting train is included free (e.g. €2.60 gets you a reservation for one seat on up to two trains).

At the Station:

The German word for train station is *Bahnhof*. If you're in a large city, you will most likely want the *Hauptbahnhof*, or Central Station. The stations are usually located in the heart of the city. Once you get there, you will find that most large stations are self-contained cities. There are newsstands and bookstores, shops, grocery stores, restaurants, bistros, lounges, post offices, banks, florists, pharmacies, barber and beauty shops, and even movie theaters. Information and ticket counters, luggage offices, and lockers are also provided at most stations.

Signs in all stations use standard international symbols. Here are some of the more important ones:



Timetables are prominently posted throughout the station. You will find two schedules: **Arrivals** (*Ankunft*) and **Departures** (*Abfahrt*). Departures are listed on yellow charts, arrivals on white. All trains arriving or departing that station are listed chronologically starting at midnight. Times are listed using the 24-hour clock (i.e. 13:00 = 1:00pm). Symbols indicate the services onboard as well as which days that train operates. Fast trains are listed in red. The train number and the arrival or departure platform (*Gleis*) number are also listed.



This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

On Board:

Once you board, find your seat if you have a reservation. Seat numbers are fairly logical and are clearly posted. In coach cars, the seat numbers will be on the rail above the seat. In compartment cars, the seat



numbers are shown on the outside of the compartment. Ask the conductor if you need help locating your seat. If there is someone already sitting in a seat you have reserved, simply indicate that you have reserved that seat ("*Ich habe diesen Platz reserviert.*") Most Germans will vacate the seat cheerfully and wish you a good trip.

Allow those wanting to exit the train to do so first, and then board. Make sure you are at the platform before your train's scheduled departure time. German trains are extremely punctual. Connections are well-timed, so it is imperative that the trains run on time. *If you're even a minute late, you will likely miss your train!* The conductor will blow a whistle just before departure and may shout "*Alles einsteigen!*" ("All aboard!"). The doors will close automatically when the train is ready to leave.

If you have not reserved a seat, locate a vacant seat and ask nearby passengers if it is available ("*Ist hier noch frei?*") Also, check to see if there is a reservation tag on the rail above the seat (in coach cars) or on the outside of the compartment (in compartment cars). In newer trains, there may be a small digital display that shows seat reservations.

Once the train has been underway for a little while, the conductor will come through and ask for tickets. If you just boarded, present your ticket (and passport if proof of age or residency is required as part of your pass). The conductor will, in good German form, punch or stamp your ticket and return it to you. You will not need to show it again for the duration of your trip unless there is a change of conductors. You must purchase all tickets and reservations before you board these trains. Periodic spot checks are made and hefty fines are levied against those without valid tickets.

Stops are announced shortly before arrival. If you miss the announcement (or just don't understand it!), signs on the platforms will tell you where you're at. If your train has them, the electronic displays at the ends of the coaches will show the name of the upcoming stop as you approach it. Also, you will usually find an itinerary flyer near your seat listing the scheduled stops and services for that train. Note the abbreviation *Hbf* stands for *Hauptbahnhof*. Make sure you are ready to jump off when the train arrives at

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

your destination. At some stops, the train only stops for a minute or two, so if you're not ready, you may end up taking an unscheduled diversion to the next stop!

Once you get off the train, follow the "**Ausgang**" signs to leave the station. Most stations have multiple exits, so double-check to make sure you're headed in the right direction. If you are making connections, check the yellow departure schedules to find out which track your connecting train leaves from, and then follow the signs directing you to that platform. Connection information is also usually announced on-board the trains as they approach major stations.



For more information on this subject go to the following website:
<http://www.bahn.de> or www.bahn.com

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

Shopping



Tax Relief (VAT)

Virtually everything sold in German stores comes with a 19 percent tax (Value Added Tax). As a member of the U.S. military you can avoid this 19 percent tax by using “VAT Forms” which can be purchased up to 10 forms at a time.

- Purchases under 2,500 Euro:

Pick up an “Erlass”, which is a German document authorizing the tax-relief procedure, an unpriced purchase order (AE Form 215-6A) and a German tax document (Abwicklungsschein) at the Tax Relief Office. Present the VAT Form to the merchant when you make your purchase, (inquire first whether the merchant accepts these forms; German merchants are not obligated to honor them). You pay the stated or marked price minus the 19 percent Value Added Tax. You sign the form and keep the white copy, while the merchant keeps the blue copy and the entire “Abwicklungsschein”. Return the original white copy to the VAT Office either in person or by mail.

- Purchases over 2,500 Euro:

You use a separate form for a purchase over 2,500 Euro but these purchases **must** be processed by the Tax Relief Office.

- Individuals living on the economy may be eligible to apply for the utility tax avoidance program. See your VAT office for more information.

Shopping

Strolling, shopping, running errands or just "going into town": In Germany, these all mean going out and buying things. Everyday items such as bread, milk or newspapers are bought locally. If you want to look at various items and compare prices or simply have a look at what's on offer, then you go into town (or into the "city" as Germans say). Most German towns and cities - whether large or small - have a pedestrian precinct in the town centre/downtown. City maps often use a special color to identify these. In most cases, they begin near the rail station and not only have department stores, boutiques, the post office or a weekly market, but also cozy cafés, ice cream parlors and international fast-food restaurants. So, it's the perfect place to meet friends. An afternoon spent there passes quickly.

On weekdays, stores may stay open until 8 p.m., though many close at 6 or 7 p.m. Some businesses close during lunch, sometimes between noon and 3 p.m. Many small stores also close one afternoon a week, usually Wednesday. On Saturdays, stores may stay open until 8 p.m., but many close at noon or 2 p.m. All

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

shops are closed on Sundays; gas stations, airports, railway stations and souvenir shops in resorts are the only places open. If you forgot to buy milk, coke, beer and some packaged foods, you can buy it at the nearest gas station.

- Returning merchandise:
Returns are normally handled as exchanges or credits with a “Gutschein” or voucher. You may not be able to get your money back, but you can ask. Be sure to bring your receipt.
- Groceries:
Bring a basket or bag to the store with you – these aren’t always provided – but if you forget you can buy a plastic bag for small change. Everyone bags his/her own groceries. Don’t be shy about buying small quantities; Germans shop frequently for fresh food and often buy cheese and cold cuts in portions of 100 grams – less than a quarter of a pound. 
- Shopping carts:
Usually you pay a 1 Euro coin deposit to use a shopping cart. You insert the coin in the slot in the handle of the cart and you get the money back when you return the cart.
- At small stores:
People may not form a line or take numbers at many small shops such as bakeries and butchers or at vegetable stands. Stand close to the counter. Clerks are pretty good at serving whoever came first, but don’t be shy about speaking up when it’s your turn.

Chemists/pharmacies/drugstores

Depending on where you come from (dispensing) chemists, pharmacies or drugstores are called "Apotheke" in German and are also subject to the regulations of the shop closing act. However, the law has introduced regulations to ensure that there is always a chemist open around the clock within a radius of seven kilometers. You can find out which chemist is on duty in the newspaper; you will also find the duty chemist for that day posted on the door of every other chemist. If you need medication during the night or at weekends, then just ring the bell at the chemists on emergency duty. Chemists charge an emergency duty fee of 1.53 euros for this service. Please note: Whether during the day or at night: Strong medicine will only be handed out against a medical prescription issued by a doctor.

Natural food shops

Shops which sell particularly healthy foods and a number of other products go by the name of "Bioladen", "Grüner Laden", "Öko-Geschäft" or "Reformhaus" in Germany. That means that the fruit and vegetable from the bio shop was produced without pesticides and is not genetically modified. All bread and cake products were made with whole meal flour. The meat and eggs come from farms where the animals are kept in a way appropriate to the species, which means that the chickens were not kept in coops or cages, for example. But this all comes at a price. Cheaper bio goods can now also be found in some supermarkets. You can recognize these products by a green, octagonal bio seal awarded in accordance with the EEC Council Regulation on Organic Agricultural Produce.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

GENERAL PHRASES

Hello	Hallo!
Good Day (Hello)	Guten Tag!
Day (Hi)	Tag!
Good morning	Guten Morgen!
Good evening	Guten Abend!
Until we see each other again	Auf Wiedersehen
Until later	Bis später!
Bye	Tschüß!
Please or very welcome	Bitte schön/Bitte sehr
Please or you're welcome	Bitte
Thank you very much	Danke schön/Danke sehr
Thanks	Danke
Same to you, likewise	gleichfalls, ebenfalls, ebenso
Gladly done	Gern geschehen
It does me pain	Es tut mir leid
No problem	Kein Problem
It doesn't matter.	Es macht nichts.
Excuse me.	Entschuldigung

COMMON VERBS

to work	arbeiten	would like to	möchten
to begin	beginnen	to like	mögen
to stay	bleiben	to have to	müssen
to need	brauchen	to take	nehmen
to be allowed to	dürfen	to sleep	schlafen
to eat	essen	to see or look	sehen
to drive	fahren	to be	sein
to ask	fragen	should	sollen
to go	gehen	to play	spielen
to have	haben	to speak	sprechen
to listen	hören	to look for	suchen
to buy	kaufen	to drink	trinken
to be familiar with	kennen	to forget	vergessen
to come	kommen	to understand	verstehen
to be able to	können	to become (get)	werden
to learn	lernen	to know a fact	wissen
to read	lesen	to live	wohnen
to love	lieben	to want to	wollen
to make or do	machen	to pay	zahlen

Example:

I work. **Ich arbeite.**

Do you work? **Arbeiten Sie?**

NUMBERS

0 - null	50 - fünfzig	77 - siebenundsiebzig
1 - eins	51 - einundfünfzig	78 - achtundsiebzig
2 - zwei	52 - zweiundfünfzig	79 - neunundsiebzig
3 - drei	53 - dreiundfünfzig	80 - achtzig
4 - vier	54 - vierundfünfzig	81 - einundachtzig
5 - fünf	55 - fünfundfünfzig	82 - zweiundachtzig
6 - sechs	56 - sechsundfünfzig	83 - dreiundachtzig
7 - sieben	57 - siebenundfünfzig	84 - vierundachtzig
8 - acht	58 - achtundfünfzig	85 - fünfundachtzig
9 - neun	59 - neunundfünfzig	86 - sechsundachtzig
10 - zehn	60 - sechzig	87 - siebenundachtzig
11 - elf	61 - einundsechzig	88 - achtundachtzig
12 - zwölf	62 - zweiundsechzig	89 - neunundachtzig
13 - dreizehn	63 - dreiundsechzig	90 - neunzig
14 - vierzehn	64 - vierundsechzig	91 - einundneunzig
15 - fünfzehn	65 - fünfundsechzig	92 - zweiundneunzig
16 - sechzehn	66 - sechsundsechzig	93 - dreiundneunzig
17 - siebzehn	67 - siebenundsechzig	94 - vierundneunzig
18 - achtzehn	68 - achtundsechzig	95 - fünfundneunzig
19 - neunzehn	69 - neunundsechzig	96 - sechsundneunzig
20 - zwanzig	70 - siebzig	97 - siebenundneunzig
21 - einundzwanzig	71 - einundsteibzig	98 - achtundneunzig
22 - zweiundzwanzig	72 - zweiundsteibzig	99 - neunundneunzig
	73 - dreiundsteibzig	100 - (ein)hundert
	74 - vierundsteibzig	
	75 - fünfundsteibzig	
	76 - sechsundsteibzig	

KEY WORDS

what	Was?	with	mit
where	Wo?	without	ohne
when	Wann?	after	nach
how	Wie?	out	aus
why	Warum?	in	in
who	Wer?	to	zu
how much	Wieviel?	great	toll, großartig
and	und	good	gut
but	aber	bad	schlecht
or	oder	beautiful	schön
no	nein	big	groß
yes	ja	small	klein
maybe	vielleicht	old	alt
none	kein	new	neu
not	nicht	easy/light	leicht
difficult, heavy	schwer	few	wenig
much	viel	always	immer
never	nite, niemals	sometimes	manchmal

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

EMERGENCY PHRASES

Emergency!
 Call the police!
 Danger!
 Fire!
 Get a doctor.
 Help!
 Look out!
 I do not speak German.
 I only speak English.
 Please call an ambulance.
 I am diabetic.
 I am allergic to antibiotics.
 Is there a pharmacy around here?
 The emergency
 The emergency doctor
 The ambulance
 The emergency exit
 The hospital
 The pharmacy

Notfall!
 Rufen Sie die Polizei!
 Gefahr!
 Feuer!
 Holen Sie einen Arzt!
 Hilfe!
 Vorsicht!
 Ich spreche kein Deutsch.
 Ich spreche nur Englisch.
 Bitte rufen Sie einen Krankenwagen!
 Ich bin Diabetiker.
 Ich bin allergisch gegen Antibiotika.
 Ist hier in der Nähe eine Apotheke?
 der Notfall
 der Notarzt
 der Krankenwagen
 der Notausgang
 das Krankenhaus
 die Apotheke

STAYING OVERNIGHT

Single room
 Double room
 I'd like a room with
 -a bath
 -a shower
 -a balcony
 -air conditioning
 -radio, TV, telephone
 How much does a room cost
 -per night
 -per week
 -with breakfast
 -with half board
 -with full board
 We are staying
 -only one night
 -a few days
 -one week
 What room number do I have?
 The key, please.
 Can I pay with a credit card?

Einzelzimmer
 Doppelzimmer
 Ich möchte gern ein Zimmer mit
 -Bad
 -Dusche
 -Balkon
 -Klimaanlage
 -Radio, Fernsehen, Telefon
 Wieviel kostet ein Zimmer
 -pro Nacht
 -pro Woche
 -mit Frühstück
 -mit Halbpension
 -mit Vollpension
 Wir bleiben
 -nur eine Nacht
 -einige Tage
 -eine Woche
 Welche Zimmernummer habe ich?
 Den Schlüssel, bitte.
 Kann ich mit einer Kreditkarte bezahlen?

RESTAURANT PHRASES

Reserved
 Table for regular customers
 Enjoy your meal!
 Cheers!
 The waiter/waitress
 The menu
 The service
 For here?
 To go?
 Together/separate
 The tip
 Smoker/Non-smoker
 Is this seat available?
 Would you like something
 -to drink?
 -to eat?
 I would like to pay, please.
 Keep the change.
 Anything else?
 Was everything okay?
 Did you enjoy it?

Reserviert
 der Stammtisch
 Guten Appetit!
 Prost!
 der Kellner/die Kellnerin
 die Speisekarte
 die Bedienung
 Zum hier essen?
 Zum mitnehmen?
 zusammen/getrennt
 das Trinkgeld
 Raucher/Nichtraucher
 Is hier frei?
 Möchten Sie etwas
 -trinken?
 -essen?
 Ich möchte bezahlen, bitte.
 Es stimmt so.
 Sonst noch etwas?
 War alles in Ordnung?
 Hat es geschmeckt?

SHOPPING

I would like...
 A can
 A bottle
 A package
 A piece
 A bag
 one Kilogramm (2.2 lbs)
 1.1 lbs or 500 grams
 1.056 quarts
 I'm just looking.
 I would like to exchange this.
 I would like my money back.
 Do you have...
 -a different color?
 -a different size?
 -something else?
 Excuse me, do you speak English?
 Can I use this tax form here?
 nutzen?
 How do I do that?

Ich möchte...
 -eine Dose
 -eine Flasche
 -ein Paket
 -ein Stück
 -ein Tüte
 -ein Kilo
 -ein Pfund=500 Gramm
 -ein Liter
 Ich schaue nur.
 Ich möchte "das" umtauschen.
 Ich möchte mein Geld zurück.
 Haben Sie...
 -eine andere Farbe?
 -eine andere Größe?
 -etwas anderes?
 Entschuldigung, sprechen Sie Englisch?
 Kann ich hier dieses Steuerformular be-
 nutzen?
 Wie mache ich das?

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

Shopping and Traveling Tips

Düsseldorf



Without doubt the fashion capital of Germany. Düsseldorf has been setting trends since the days of the Electors in the 18th century. The modern era kicked off in 1949 with a street fashion show on the Königsallee, also affectionately known as the "Kö". This was then followed by the huge fashion and footwear trade shows that made the city a hotbed of international design.

Metzingen



Factory outlet stores are rarely found in the centre of town, as in Metzingen. Hugo Boss, one of the world's leading fashion labels, was the first of many international companies to open an outlet store in Metzingen.

Bremen



The Church of St. John dominates the romantic narrow streets and small town houses. The oldest district in this Hanseatic city, once occupied by fisherman and artisans, is today home to artists, galleries and a vibrant array of shops and restaurants.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

Oberhausen



Situated in Oberhausen's "New Centre" and known for its extraordinary size and selection, the CentrO is Europe's largest shopping complex. With the nearby theme park, it is also a popular tourist attraction.

Cologne



The Hohe Strasse has been the talk of the town since 1967 – it's 1km of pedestrianised shopping heaven that starts at the cathedral. And the 15,000 shoppers per hour who grace the Schildergasse simply cannot be wrong

Zweibrücken



Family-run businesses are at the heart of the "rose and horse town" of Zweibrücken. But just 3km away is Designer Outlets Zweibrücken with more than 50 designer names from all areas of fashion.

Potsdam



Potsdam's bell gables and brick buildings were built to help Dutch artisans in the 18th century feel at home and even today still characterise the feel of the compact town centre, which is a great place for shopping.

Frankfurt



Frankfurt's shopping is as varied as its cityscape. The skyscraper-dominated skyline contrasts with historical Römerberg square by the town hall, while the nearby Braubachstrasse is popular with lovers of art and antiques. The town centre and the neighbouring shopping streets are all within walking distance.

Friedrichstrasse Berlin



After German reunification the Friedrichstrasse was revitalised and its gleaming new architecture is resplendent in an area that was once part of East Germany. A cosmopolitan air and international goods, all reminiscent of the Fifth Avenue in New York City. **A world of chic in Berlin Mitte** Stylish cafes, elegant boutiques, upmarket designer stores and the Friedrichstadt Passagen shopping mall – window shopping here is a unique experience. There is a touch of France about the extravagant architecture of Galeries Lafayette. At one time the Berlin Wall's "Checkpoint Charlie" divided the Friedrichstrasse between East and West – today it is a shopping extravaganza.

Hamburg's Jungfernstieg promenade



Maritime flair, a great view of the imperious swans and the ships on the Inner Alster; in the background the magnificent architecture of the shopping boulevard and simply the feeling of "having your finger on the pulse" – all this is what makes the Jungfernstieg so popular.

In the heart of the city

The Jungfernstieg on the Inner Alster is at the heart of the city of Hamburg; it is the most popular shopping street and also one of the Hanseatic city's most illustrious addresses. There is a vibrant array of shops from the long-established "Alsterhaus", the prestigious department store, to specialist stores both large and small. Top brands can be found in the many shopping arcades, just a stone's throw away.

Heidelberg



In the Hauptstrasse that runs parallel to the Neckar river, there is more than one kilometre of shopping heaven between Bismarckplatz and the Karlstor arch, with enchanting side-streets, historical surroundings and modern living. This is where the heart of the old town beats.

Berlin



KaDeWe is one of Germany's pioneering department stores. As early as 1907, it provided its customers with a staggering range of goods across five huge floors. The allure of the finest quality goods is as strong today as it ever was. The food hall on the top floor is legendary.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

Kurfürstendamm (Ku'damm)



From a 16th century royal bridle path to a fashionable shopping boulevard – Charlottenburg's famous main street, over 50m wide and 3.5km long, between KaDeWe, the Europacenter, the Memorial Church and Wilmersdorf is home to an extra-special range of shops. ***Traditional shopping area in the West of Berlin*** The appeal of the "Ku-damm" is in its variety. Department stores are interspersed with smaller boutiques, large fashion stores, restaurants and places to grab a quick bite, not to mention the exclusive designer label shops. Much of the appeal however lies in the side-streets and their fascinating range of shops which further enrich the experience

Rothenburg ob der Tauber



Rothenburg ob der Tauber is synonymous with the romance of the Middle Ages – just take a look around you when you're strolling through the town. And what better home for the Käthe Wohlfahrt Christmas shop than in this romantic town where every day feels like Christmas?

Rüdesheim



From the Niederwald monument overlooking Rüdesheim you can enjoy a panoramic view of the Rhine and the vineyards, which have made Rüdesheim a famous wine town with its tavern-lined Drosselgasse lane.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

Saarbrücken



The place to see and be seen. The heart of Saarbrücken's old quarter is the St. Johanner Markt square on the right bank of the river Saar. A short walk across the footbridge takes you to "old Saarbrücken", also known as the Luisen district.

Meissen



As the story goes, King Augustus the Strong ordered his subjects to find a way to manufacture gold. After much experimenting, scholars finally discovered the next best thing - "white gold" or porcelain, which proved a blessing for both the King and Meissen.

Giengen an der Brenz



Since 1902, when Margarete Steiff created the famous teddy bear with a "button in the ear" that has conquered the world, the company has made him all sorts of new friends. All of them can be admired and purchased at the World of Steiff in the historic town of Giengen an der Brenz.

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

Stuttgart



The Königstrasse (King Street), is a fitting name for Stuttgart's premier shopping boulevard. Mercedes-Benz and Porsche are the most prestigious names to originate from Stuttgart, a city synonymous with the car industry.

Trier



A shopping experience against an ancient backdrop – from the Porta Nigra Roman gate, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the town's most famous landmark, to the baroque-style palace gardens. Go on a sightseeing tour and at the same time you'll be right in amongst the town's fantastic range of shops.

Mettlach



Mettlach is a small town on the river Saar famous for the Saar Bow and the ceramics produced by the internationally acclaimed company, Villeroy & Boch. More recently, the town has also made a name for itself as the location of factory outlets such as that of the clothing mail order firm, Lands End.

For more information on these cities and much more go to the following website:
<http://www.germany-tourism.de/index.htm>

This information is intended only as a reference and does not imply endorsement, sponsorship or approval by the United States Government, US Army, USAREUR, USAG Baumholder or its directorates or employees. Persons choosing to use these resources do so at their own discretion and risk. Information is accurate as of the print date on the title page.

Want to explore Baumholder, the surrounding community and the public transportation system while on a guided tour? Join ACS for Culture College 101!



Need more information and helpful hints about Germany and Europe? Call or stop by ACS today!