

Berlin: Arrival Information and Housing Tips

Arrival and Transportation

Intrax advises that you arrive in Berlin at least a few days before your internship start date in order to give yourself some time to settle in and recover from any jetlag before you begin working.

Before you arrive, you should check the public transit website, <http://www.bvg.de/index.php/en/index.html> to plan your route from the airport. The website will give you departure times and prices for your trip.

Public transportation is the cheapest option from the airport and is quite easy and convenient. If you will have a lot of luggage or are arriving late at night, you may decide to take a cab. If you take a cab, it will be very helpful if you have the address of your accommodation printed so that you can show the driver.

Average Price for a cab:

- (Tegel→ City) will be around 20 minutes and will cost about 25€
- (Schönefeld→City) will take around 35 minutes and will cost about 35€

Initial Accommodation

Staying at a hostel is a great short term housing option until you can secure more permanent housing. Pricing can vary and can be found on the hostel's website. Typical prices can range from 8€-15€/night for a dorm (sharing a room with several people) to 60€/night for a mid-range hotel. In peak season (summer), prices may be more expensive (around 80€ per night for a mid-range hotel).

A few recommended hostels for your first 1-2 weeks:

- <http://baxpax.de/en/>
- <http://www.motel-one.com/en/hotels/berlin/>
- <http://www.aohostels.com/en/berlin/>

Some other websites to check for hostels include:

www.hostelworld.com
www.hostelz.com
www.hostels.com
www.booking.com

Before you depart your home country, be sure that you have secured your housing (and let Intrax know where you will stay) whether it is temporary or permanent. Please do not wait to find housing until you arrive.

Permanent Accommodation

Where to search for apartments for rent:

- <http://www.wg-gesucht.de/en/>
- <https://www.easy-living4u.de/en/node/7>
- <http://www.the-fizz.com/studentenwohnungen/standorte/berlin.html>
- <http://www.medici-living.de/s/wg-berlin/?gclid=CKCims3U4cUCFQXJtAodySQAOA>
- <http://www.bueroma-apart.de/en/apartmentsuche/region/berlin>
- http://www.expatica.com/de/housing/renting/Renting-a-home-in-Berlin_15526.html


Intrax can also highly recommend a housing provider that can give you housing recommendations based on your individual preferences (budget, number of roommates, neighborhood). If you are interested in taking advantage of this service, please fill out an application form: <http://www.flat-club.com/intrax-vip>. The provider will find the accommodations based on your preferences and will provide you with a quote that you can either accept or decline. All fees will be paid directly to the housing provider.

Average Cost of Housing

Rent prices vary based on the neighborhood and whether you are looking for a single or shared apartment. Averages below are intended to give you an idea of what idea to expect.

- Approximately 350 - 400€ per month for a single furnished room
- Approximately 600€+ per month for a 2-bedroom apartment

Beware of online scams and be extremely cautious when providing personal information. You should not provide any financial information, bank account numbers, social security numbers, or wire funds to a stranger. It is best if you can work with renters/landlords locally so that you can meet them in person and see the accommodation for yourself.

 A map of Berlin showing its various districts. The districts labeled are Reinickendorf, Pankow, Weissenhof, Heilmannsdorf, Wedding, Prenzlauer Berg, Mitte, Friedrichshain, Kreuzberg, Lichtenberg, Spandau, Charlottenburg, Wilmersdorf, Schöneberg, Tempelhof, Zehlendorf/Steglitz, Neukölln, and Treptow-Köpenick. Three yellow diamond markers are placed on the map: one in Reinickendorf, one in Schöneberg, and one in Neukölln.	<u>Popular areas to live</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mitte• Prenzlauer Berg / Pankow• Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg• Tempelhof-Schöneberg• Neukölln
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Budget

How much you should budget for depends a lot on your lifestyle. Most interns can comfortably live on approximately 100€ per week for food, transportation, and entertainment expenses. If you are planning to travel, you should budget more.

Things to do in Berlin

- Walking Tours: www.berlinwalks.com
- Museum Island (Free on Thursday Evenings)
- Reichstag

- East Side Gallery
- Brandenburg Gate



Top Picks

- Restaurants
 - <http://burgeramt.com/>
 - <http://www.marjellchen-berlin.de/>
- Bars:
 - <http://www.25hours-hotels.com/en/bikini/restaurant/monkey-bar.html>
 - <http://www.kaffeeburger.de/>
 - <http://www.freischwimmer-berlin.com/>
- Shopping
 - Hackescher Markt
 - Tauentzien Street
- Dancing
 - <http://berghain.de/>
 - <http://www.ballhaus.de/>
- Cafes
 - http://www.gestrandet-in-berlin.de/gestrandet_jb/
 - <http://www.maedchenohneabitur.de/de/index.php?s=1>
 - <http://www.goldberg-bar.de/>
 - <http://www.cafe-am-neuen-see.de/>

We recommend that you purchase a Berlin guidebook such as Lonely Planet that can give you tips on local attractions, restaurants, museums, getaways, and latest trends.

Have a wonderful time in Berlin!