

Accommodation in Munich

Munich is a beautiful, lively, energetic city with a wealth of parks and recreational activities. It offers a diverse cultural program to anyone visiting or living in the city and is one of Germany's strongest economic centers. Unfortunately, the desirability of Munich is reflected in a scarcity of affordable accommodation, which makes finding a place to live in Munich difficult, particularly if you are looking for a furnished place for a limited period of time. Apartments are expensive, with the rent, as a rule, being proportional to the size of the apartment and the standard of its equipment. Another decisive factor is the area in which an apartment is located: the closer to the city center and/ or the more fashionable the area, the higher the rent.

We highly recommend that you start looking for accommodation as soon as you know for sure that you will attend the MIPLC.

Arrival during **Oktoberfest**: It is practically impossible to find a hostel/hotel room or room at a guesthouse during Oktoberfest (mid-September till beginning of October). Please be aware that rooms are rented out for this time of the year well in advance.

Confirmed students will receive further tips and information about searching successfully for accommodation in Munich on the Student Intranet.

1. General Remarks

- Munich is one of the safest cities in Germany, however, if you are in doubt about the location of a potential flat, you are welcome to check back with MIPLC staff.
- Usually, apartments can only be rented for full months.
- The cost for a telephone/internet line (flat rate and/or fees) as well as for electricity is normally not included in the rent. The tenant has to pay for the respective bills directly to the individual providers.
- Thanks to the extensive public transportation network, the MIPLC can easily be reached from almost anywhere in the city within approximately 30-40 minutes.
 Subways, buses and trams are efficient, safe, and clean.
- MIPLC staff cannot visit potential apartments for you.

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2. Types of Accommodation

2.1. Halls of Residence

This is the cheapest option for students in Munich.

There are different types of halls of residence. They are generally run by religious or social organizations. Some have an age limit, some are only for men or for women, etc.

They often expect an active cooperation and the engagement in activities organized by the administration and/ or residents. We recommend that interested students send their application as early as possible (detailed information about themselves, their motivation, background, etc. might be part of the application requirements).

2.2. Apartments/ Flats

Furnished or unfurnished apartments/ flats can be found through rental agents, usually by paying a fee, or by searching for offers in newspapers or on internet portals such as lmmo-bilienscout24. The prices stated are usually per month, the additional costs not included (Kaltmiete).

Landlords prefer to get to know you: Introduce yourself and give some information about yourself when applying for an apartment.

2.3. Flatshares

An option when looking for non-dorm accommodation is to rent a "WG-Zimmer" (a private room in a shared apartment). A platform commonly used for searching a flatshare is wg-gesucht.de.

3. Housing Platforms/ Online Portals

Housing platforms and online portals offer an easy way to search for accommodation.

Students might pay a service fee when booking a room, sometimes fees are charged to the landlord. We recommend that you take a close look at the respective websites and read FAQs and general terms and conditions carefully before making the decision to book a room. A few examples: The Fizz, Home & Co Munich, Uniplaces, Mr. Lodge, Wunderflats, etc.

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4. Studierendenwerk München Oberbayern (Munich Student Union)

Besides enrollment at the University of Augsburg, MIPLC students are also enrolled at the Technical University of Munich and may therefore use the services offered by the Studierendenwerk München Oberbayern. However, it is difficult for MIPLC students to get a place in one of their student dorms due to waiting periods of 2-5 semesters. Further information is provided by the <u>Studierendenwerk München Oberbayern</u>, with its <u>Private Accomodation Service</u>

5. Beware of Rental Scams

Please exercise caution before signing any contracts and before paying any money, especially in the private rental market. Do NOT transfer money for rent, security deposit, etc. before you have seen the place.

A common scam is the request for payment before signing the contract and to send apartment keys by mail. We recommend that you visit the apartment in person before signing the contract.

Please be particularly cautious when asked to transfer money to a foreign country (outside of Germany). If you are in doubt whether the request is trustworthy, please feel free to contact us, before you proceed.

Given the scarcity of housing, Munich is the ideal hunting ground for scammers. Pure online ads are more likely to be scams than "off-line" offers. If an offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

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