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.

Please also see the document “Housing Information”.

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) is never included in the rent; electricity is normally not included. The respective bills have to be paid directly by the tenant to the individual suppliers
- 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

Types of Accommodation

- Halls of Residence
  Cheapest option for students in Munich.
  There are different types of halls of residence. They are generally run by religious and social organizations. Some are age-related, some are only for men or for women, etc.
  They often expect an active cooperation between residents as well as between resident and management and engagement in activities with one another. We recommend that
interested students send their application as early as possible with detailed information about themselves (motivation, background, etc.). Further information about halls of residence with links you can find in the document “Housing Information”.

**Munich Student Union (Studentenwerk)**

MIPLC students are enrolled at the Technical University of Munich and may therefore use the services offered by the Munich Student Union. However, it is difficult for MIPLC students to get a place in one of the student dorms of the Munich Student Union (Studentenwerk) due to waiting periods of 2-5 semesters. Further information is provided by the Studentenwerk.

- **Flatshares**
  A less expensive option when looking for non-dorm accommodation is to rent a “WG-Zimmer”, i.e. a private room in a shared apartment.

- **Apartments (private rental market)**
  Furnished or unfurnished apartments can be found through rental agents, usually by paying a fee, or by searching offers on the private rental market. Private offers can usually be found in newspapers or on internet portals such as Immobilienscout24. The prices stated are usually per month and without additional costs (Kaltmiete).
  
  Landlords prefer to get to know you: Introduce yourself and give some information about yourself when applying for an apartment.

- **Housing Platforms**
  People rent out rooms to international students. Students usually pay a one-time service fee to the housing platform after booking a room. Often housing platforms offer a secure booking service, which enable students to safely transfer money to the advertiser, and they can get a full refund if the accommodation is not as described.
  
  Examples are HousingAnywhere or Uniplaces.
  
  So far, we do not know any MIPLC students who have found a room via these platforms. However, housing platforms seem like a good option for international students. We recommend that you take a close look at the website of housing platforms and read FAQ’s and general terms and conditions before making the decision to book a room.
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 in advance (for rent, security deposit, etc.). 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 by one of the above-mentioned rental agents. If an offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

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.

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