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We would like to extend to you, a warm welcome to the International School of Ulm/Neu-Ulm.

This handbook is intended to be for new parents and teachers, who have just come into Germany, who are new in the city of Ulm and are still in the process of settling in the new environment and culture.

Living in a foreign country is a rewarding experience, but it can be difficult if you are always at a loss for where to go to get the basic necessities like food and clothing or what to do when a family member is sick and needs medical attention. Be assured that we have all gone through this stage and come out of it having grown as well as enjoying our new lives. By sharing the resources we all accumulate during our stay here in the Ulm area, we can help not only the current school community but also those who will come after us.

Without the support of the parents, our school environment would not be the welcoming friendly and positive place it is. By getting involved, you will not only enjoy the fact that you are supporting your children's learning experience; you will also be rewarded by enriching your own life. One possibility to connect to ISU life is in joining the ISU Parent Teacher Group (PTG) or helping in the Learning Assistance Programme or working as a volunteer in numerous ways. If you would like to help out on any of these activities, please speak to the office or hunt one of us down!

The main objectives of the PTG are to support and enrich our children's learning experience, to celebrate our international community and to help facilitate communication among parents, staff and students. The PTG is headed by the PTG Board, whose members work to achieve our aims by organising numerous activities, events and projects throughout the school year.

This handbook has been written by present ISU parents who collected and organized the contributions from the ISU community – our heartfelt thanks to you all. We hope that it will continue to be updated with current information and corrections. If you have any corrections or new ideas, please send them to the school office.

You may find a mixture of American and English spelling, reflecting the backgrounds of the various contributors.

Parents at ISU

About Ulm: History of the City

Ulm, founded around 850, is rich in history and traditions as a former [Free Imperial City](#) (*German: freie Reichsstadt*). At first, Ulm's significance was due to the privilege of a *Königspfalz*, a place of accommodation for the medieval German kings and emperors on their frequent travels. Later, Ulm became a city of traders and craftsmen. One of the most important legal documents of the city, an agreement between the Ulm patricians and the trade guilds (*German: Großer Schwörbrief*), dates from 1397. This document, considered an early city constitution and the beginning of the construction of an enormous cathedral ([Ulm Münster, 1377](#)), financed by the inhabitants of Ulm themselves rather than by the church, demonstrate the assertiveness of Ulm's medieval citizens. Ulm blossomed during the 15th and 16th centuries, mostly due to the export of high-quality [textiles](#). During the [Reformation](#), Ulm became Protestant (1530). With the establishment of new trade routes following the discovery of the [New World](#) (16th century) and the outbreak and consequences of the [Thirty Years' War](#) (1618–48), the city began to decline gradually. In 1810, Ulm was incorporated into the [Kingdom of Württemberg](#) and lost its neighbourhoods on the other bank of the Danube, which became to be known as Neu Ulm. The city became an important centre of [industrialization](#) in Southern Germany in the second half of the 19th century, its built area now being extended beyond the medieval walls. The construction of the huge cathedral, which had been interrupted in the 16th century due to economic reasons, was resumed and eventually finished (1844–91) in a wave of German national enthusiasm for the Middle Ages. Like all other German cities, Ulm came under the control of the [National Socialists](#) in 1933. During [World War II](#), the city was heavily damaged by allied air raids. Most of the city was rebuilt in the plain and simple style of the 1950s and 1960s, but some of the historic landmark buildings have been restored.

Today's Ulm

Ulm is a city in the German Federal State (German: [Bundesland](#)) of [Baden-Württemberg](#), situated on the river Danube (German: *Donau*). The city, whose population is estimated at 120,000 (2006), forms an urban district of its own (German: *Stadtkreis*) and is the administrative seat of the [Alb-Donau district](#). Today, it is an economic centre due to its varied industries and it is the seat of a university ([University of Ulm](#), founded in 1967). Internationally, Ulm is primarily known for its [Ulm Münster](#) and as the birthplace of Albert Einstein. A walk through Ulm and Neu-Ulm opens a lot of different views. For sure, there is the outstanding steeple of the Ulmer Münster. The largest cathedral in South Germany is particularly famous for its church spire - the world's highest church steeple - 161.53 metres from the bottom to the top. From the top you will have a fantastic panorama view. There are also the historical quarters (for example Fischerviertel, Auf dem Kreuz), which give an impression of daily life in former ages. The colourful town hall and the old warehouses are evidence of the pride and wealth of the medieval city. Aside from the city centre, you will find jewels elsewhere as well, such as the yard of the former convent in Söflingen or the baroque monastery in Wiblingen. On the hills around the city there are the majestic buildings of the former Bundesfestung, a gigantic fortress all around the cities of Ulm and Neu-Ulm. Of note is also the variety and originality of Ulm's museum and theatre world. The 'Lion Man' in the Ulm Museum, aged 32,000 years, made of mammoth ivory, was found in the valley of Lone (Lonetal) and is the oldest known man-animal sculpture in the world. The Museum of Bread Culture takes you through the history of bread and it's making but also displays work arts by Breughel and Kollwitz. Looking at Neu-Ulm, the museums at Petrus Square, with their permanent exhibitions of the sculptor Edwin Scharff, constantly display special exhibitions as well. The legendary conductor Herbert von Karajan began his career at Ulm Theater. Ulm experienced big growth in the decades following World War II, with the establishments of large new housing projects and new industrial zones. In 1967, [Ulm University](#) was founded, which proved to be of great importance for the development of the city. Particularly since the 1980s, the transition from classical industry towards the high-tech sector has accelerated, with, for example, the establishment of research centres of companies like [DaimlerChrysler](#), [Siemens](#) and [Nokia](#) and a number of small applied research institutes near the university campus. The city today is still growing, forming a [twin city](#) of 170,000 inhabitants together with its Bavarian neighbour city of [Neu-Ulm](#). It also seems to benefit from its central position between the cities of [Stuttgart](#) and [Munich](#) - the cultural and economic hubs of Southern Germany - not to mention its proximity to Austria and [Switzerland](#).

Helpful Information for Daily Life

Activities for Children

Once your children are happy and have activities where they can meet others, things seem to go a bit smoother for everyone in the family – even Mum!!! Germany has a lot to offer children and their parents. Information is available for play groups (*Spielgruppe*), gymnastic (*Turnen*) classes for all ages, craft (*Basteln*) classes and other after school activities can be readily obtained from the local newspapers and recommendations from friends and neighbours. The local adult education school (*Volkshochschule*), social programs, churches and local sport clubs (*Vereine*) offer additional opportunities for the family. These can be found in the telephone directory or in informational catalogues published periodically. The “*Volkshochschule*” in particular, publishes a catalogue twice a year (in Spring and Autumn) and cities (*Städte*) have active “*Volkshochschule*” programs.

Swimming is a favourite pastime in Germany and the public pool facilities (*Schwimmbäder*) are excellent. Most “*Schwimmbäder*” have both indoor and outdoor pools with extensive locker room facilities, restaurant, sauna, etc. Swimming lessons are also available at most pools. Free to all are the numerous playground facilities (*Spielplätze*) in your area. The Germans have devoted some of that German “*ingenuity*” to the development of innovative and fun places for children to play. You can locate these playgrounds on maps or simply ask the children in your neighbourhood; they will know exactly where they are!!

Appliances

Dishwasher (Spülmaschine) uses a detergent (Reiniger) and a rinse aid (Klarspüler) in addition, you need to add a special salt (Spezialsalz), normally about once a month. Generally, there is a counter or a light to indicate when more salt is needed. The dishwasher salt is available from any supermarket where you find dishwasher tablets.

In general, washing machines (Waschmaschine) may be smaller and take a longer time to operate than you are used to. The washing machines use only cold water but the water is heated during the wash cycle by a heating coil. On the front of the machine there is a temperature dial to set to the desired temperature. There are two wash stages, a pre-wash and a main wash. The “Kochwäsche” (non coloured laundry) and “Buntwäsche” (coloured laundry) is the regular cycle. Also there are easy care (Pflegeleicht) fine/synthetic and wool cycles. Dryer (Trockner) operates similarly to what you may be used to. The only exception may be that your dryer does not vent to the outside. Instead, most dryers have a container which collects the steam to convert it to water. This should be emptied often. All machines have a lint filter as well which must be cleaned after each cycle.

Banking Terms

Withdrawal	Auszahlung
Payment	Zahlen
Debit	Abbuchung
Transfer	Überweisung
Deposit	Einzahlung/Guthaben/(Einlage)
Service Fee	Bearbeitungsgebühr
Interest	Zinsen

Cleaning Services

Although hiring a cleaning woman (Putzfrau/Haushaltshilfe) is common in Germany, inexpensive and good ones are still hard to find.

There are several ways to go about finding someone:

- Ask other transfers if they can recommend anyone.
- Talk to your German neighbours for suggestions.
- Put a small ad in your local newspaper.
- Set up interviews with those who answer your ad and choose one of the applicants.

As with any job, it is better to hire someone who has prior experience, particularly if they can provide references. Check to make sure that the applicant can speak English well enough to communicate with you.

Washing instructions/Symbols

Pre-wash	Vorwäsche	Fast wash – colours	Buntwäsche 40°
Mainwash	Hauptwäsche	Regular – colours	Buntwäsche 60°
Rinse	Spülen	White nylon – heavy soil	Pflegeleicht 60°
Spin	Schleudern	Synthetics	Pflegeleicht 40°
Hot wash whites heavy	Kochwäsche 95°	Woollens/delicates	Wolle/Feinwäsche
Hot wash	Kochwäsche	Rinse/fabric softener	Weichspülen
Dryer	Trockner	Dry Clean	Reinigen

Be sure to add an anti kalk tablet to each load of laundry (Calgon Tablets). This helps with the calcium build-up from the water in Germany.

Dry Cleaners

To have your clothes dry-cleaned, take them to a “Reinigung”. Some cleaners will want you to pay when you drop off your clothes. Do not be surprised if they remove your clothes from the hangers and wrap them in paper or put them in a sack when you pick them up. If you want the clothes left on the hanger, simply say so. It is a matter of preference.

Postal Services

German postal services can be recognised by the yellow colour of their cars and bicycles. Mail is usually delivered in the mornings Monday to Saturday; parcel and packages come separately. Mail is not picked up from your home, you must drop it in a yellow mailbox around the town or at the post office. If you are not home to receive a registered letter or package, the postal carrier will leave a note in your mailbox to pick up at the Post Office on the next day. It will be kept there for about a week, so be sure to not order anything while you are away. Be sure to bring some piece of identification with you when picking up mail or packages at the post office. Most post offices in Ulm are open all day from 08:00 to 18:30 but some smaller ones in the villages close for lunch. If you need to buy stamps, you will need to purchase them from either the post office or one of the “Briefmarken“ machines – language options can be selected to help you. Before you go on a longer holiday, make sure you have a friend or neighbour empty your mailbox for you.

German Culture

Moving into a new neighbourhood is always an adventure and your new German neighbours will generally feel no social pressure to visit when they see you've moved in (they would feel awkward coming over uninvited). So take it upon yourself to introduce yourself and family when the occasion arises, such as chance meetings on the street. There are no hard and fast guidelines for getting to know people since neighbourhoods in Germany vary greatly, just as they do in your country. Certainly, you could invite several close neighbours over for coffee and cake or a beer. In any case, you should make the first contact as soon as you feel reasonably comfortable in doing so. When you are invited out it is custom to take the host flowers. Accept every invitation at first, whether or not you find the people interesting. Mix among them, listen to their attitudes as well as to their ideas. You won't ever get started if you stay at home.

Accept the locals' help and their warmth. You will feel you belong as soon as you have friends in the neighbourhood. Every friendly greeting helps you to feel more at home. But this warmth will have to come from you first. You need to smile, use their name, give the local greeting readily, in short do what you would do in a small town at home. It is a normal part of culture shock to see the negative side of life, to feel frustrated and “down” for a while. This usually comes to most people after a month or two, following a sort of “honeymoon” of excitement at first. After that, there is likely to be a low period. Don't worry about it. It will pass if you keep active. But do remember how boring it is to hear other people complain. Don't let yourself complain aloud or people will do what we all do with bores, move away and avoid them!!!

Face the fact that you are likely to be lonely at first but plan something interesting to do everyday so that you don't dwell on your own misery. You may be surprised to find that your spouse is relying on you more than ever for emotional support. The children won't be well adjusted in school if the parents are constantly complaining and criticising everything. Dealing with unfamiliar situations is difficult. It requires a lot of patience and perseverance.

You may find that people stand too close, or cut in front of you in ways that seem inconsiderate. Then, to add insult to injury, they don't say anything. Or, they don't smile when you expect it or they take so long to reply. All these are examples of ways that conceptions of time and space differ from culture to culture. The offender doesn't say anything because within the context of his culture, he

hasn't done anything wrong. You should remember that cultural norms are something you carry with you from place to place. They are rarely shed or relearned. Learning to be a foreigner which you now are, means learning to accept and tolerate all these things. It probably won't prevent you from feeling strangely violated and annoyed but it may help prevent you from losing perspective and developing feelings of hostility.

Between 13:00 and 15:00 and between 22:00 and 07:00 is quiet time. Keep the children quiet, don't mow the grass or use any other loud machines. Also, you are only allowed to practice a musical instrument for 90 minutes at a time. Sundays are a day of rest and you shouldn't do garden work, wash cars or do any other work that the neighbours can see.

Section 1: Health Services

1.1 Emergency numbers

Police / Ambulance 110

Fire 112

Red Cross Ambulance 19222

Emergency medical service in Ulm & Neu-Ulm 19222 and 0731 /140 0140
(physicians in private practices on call)

Directory Enquiries Germany 11837

This is the number to call for all telephone, mobile and fax numbers and all local area code numbers in the German fixed line network. Also for addresses and postal codes of subscribers in Germany. You may make several inquiries with one call. They speak English.

General Information on Health services

Phone the doctors in your respective town, initially. Many doctors give priority to patients residing in their area. If you or your child is sick on a weekend or evening, first phone your doctor and listen to the recorded message. You can also find out the physicians on call via Tel. **0731 /140 0140**, but not everyone there speaks English. If you cannot do this, or no help is available and if urgent help is needed you should call Red Cross Ambulance **19222** or go to the hospital, depending on the situation. In Ulm the University Hospital departments, distributed all over the city, provide emergency care and treat patients with referrals. Whereas Internal Medicine is on Eselsberg, Pediatrics, Urology, ENT and Eye care is on Michelsberg and Surgery on Safranberg. The latter will move to Eselsberg in 2009 or 2010. More information is available on <http://www.uniklinik-ulm.de>. Even where the doctors speak English staff at the desk does not necessarily speak English. This can make it more difficult in the beginning when making appointments. Office staff will generally get to know you and work with you though. Also, if you are private insurance, you will have no trouble getting appointments anywhere. Watch out for the doctors that will do "every" test because you are private and will be paying for it.

For Children in Ulm

University Hospital of Ulm (Universitätsklinikum Ulm)

Pediatrics (Abteilung für Kinder- und Jugendmedizin)

Klinikbereich Michelsberg

Eythstr. 24

89075 Ulm

Tel.: 0731/500-57444

If your child is sick on a weekend or evening, first phone your children's doctor and listen to the recorded message. If you cannot do this, or no help is available, you should go to the hospital. There is a clinic for sick children and emergency care.

Chemist / Pharmacist / Apotheke / On-Call Physicians

An after hours service is provided on a roster. The shop's rostered 'on' duty stay open at night or on the weekend or public holiday. The addresses and phone numbers of the shops rostered on duty are given in every pharmacy that provide a list or in the German newspapers. Shops may also have a sign in their window saying the nearest shop open on duty. Additionally, doctors who are "on-call" over weekends and holidays are listed in the local German newspapers. For residents of Ulm, this would be the Südwestpresse.

1.2 Doctors – Children

Phone the doctors in your respective town, initially. Many doctors give priority to patients residing in their area.

Ulm & Neu-Ulm

Dr. med. Matthias Böker

Pediatrician (Pädiatrie)

Ulmergasse 7

89073 Ulm

Tel: 0731/60841

Wonderful pediatrician. Speaks English. Very good manner with children. Will give annual flu shot upon request. Highly recommend. Only drawback, offices are in the city center. Shares office with an adult Internist, Dr. Seifried, see below, which is very convenient.

Dr. Ulrike Metzler
Augsburger Str. 6
89231 Neu-Ulm
Tel. 0731/77248

Is competent and has very good manner with children. Speaks English. Shares office with an adult ENT specialist, Dr. Blazon, see below, which can be very convenient at times.

Dr. Jochen Steinmacher
Neue Gasse 34/2
89077 Ulm
Tel: 0731 936600

Speaks very good English and is very good with children. Recommended from various families.

Biberach

Dr. Klaus Pfänder
Rißstr. 17
88400 Biberach an der Riss
Tel: 07351/711 25

Speaks good English, is nice and professional.

1.3 Doctors for Women

Ulm & Neu-Ulm

Dr. med. Bärbel Grashoff
OBGYN (Frauenheilkunde u. Geburtshilfe)
Olgastrasse 83-85
89073 Ulm
Tel: 0731/610041 Fax 0731/60211728

Love this doctor. She is very professional. Speaks fluent English. Office is organized and prompt. Exam very thorough and latest in technology. Also, you get your mammogram right next door. See Radiologists section below.

Dr. Irene Zirbs-Papaschalis und Dr. Kölle-Frick
Hafengasse 2
89073 Ulm
Tel: 0731 966800
Speaks English.

Dr. Rüdiger Pfeiffer
Südlicher Münsterplatz 37
89073 Ulm
Tel.: 0731 / 6 60 60
Nice and professional Gynecologist in the city center.

Bad Buchau

Dr. Rita Hepp
Hofgartenstr. 4
88422 Bad Buchau
Tel: 07582 91156
Native speaker, I believe American. Nice and excellent.

1.4 Doctors – General Practitioners

Ulm & Neu-Ulm

Dr. med. Brigit Seifried
Internist
Ulmergasse 7
89073 Ulm
Tel. 0731/60841

Good adult general practitioner. Will refer you to specialist readily if needed. Very convenient to have both practices in same office, ie, kids and I go together for our flu shots etc. Speaks English.

Dr. Jochen Förstner
Virchowstrasse 12
89075 Ulm (Oberer Eselsberg)
Tel: 0731/55 3233
Speaks English, was recommended from various sides.

Wiblingen

Dr. Gereon Jacobsen
Donautalstr. 44
Wiblingen
Tel: 0731/66 240
General practitioner with good manners. Acupuncture and alternative methods available. Speaks English.

1.5 Doctors – Internists

Ulm & Neu-Ulm

Dr. Thomas Hammann
Internist, Gastroenterologist
Gartenstr. 36
Neu-Ulm
Tel. 0731/73 997
Good adult general practitioner, specialized in Gastroenterology.

Pneumologische Gemeinschaftspraxis

Dres. Barczok, Ketterl, Sauer
Pneumology/Respiratory system
Olgastr. 83
89073 Ulm
Tel.: 0731/96 7940

Dr. Rüdiger Sauer speaks good English, is nice and professional. He and his colleagues are specialists for Pneumology (Respiratory system), with Emphasis on asthma and [allergology](#)

Biberach

Dr. Johannes Reck
Dr.med. Frank-Dieter Braun
Fachärzte für Allgemeinmedizin
zugelassene Gelbfieberimpfpraxis (subspecially: yellow fever vaccinations and travel medicine)
Rissstraße 17-19, Risscenter
88400 Biberach
Tel.: 07351 – 6334

Dr. Reck is a nice family physician of the old school that has both good personal as well as the professional skills. He spent some time in England and speaks very good English.

1.6 Doctors – Ear Nose And Throat

Ulm & Neu-Ulm

Dr. med. Gabriele Boger-Conrad
Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist
Söflinger Strasse 168
89077 Ulm
Tel. 0731/37237. Speaks English well.

Dr. Liljana Blazon
Augsburger Str. 6
89231 Neu-Ulm
Tel. 0731/704 2670
Is very professional and thorough. Is good with kids. Speaks English.

University Hospital of Ulm (Universitätsklinikum Ulm)
Ear, Nose and Throat department (Abteilung für Hals-Nasen-Ohrenheilkunde)
Klinikbereich Michelsberg

Frauensteige 12
D-89070 Ulm
Tel. 0731/ 59570

Their website points out that emergencies can come any time without an appointment.

1.7 Doctors – Orthopaedic Surgeons

Ulm & Neu-Ulm

Orthopedic University Hospital of Ulm with center for paraplegia at the Hospital for Rehabilitation (Orthopädische Universitätsklinik mit Querschnittgelähmtenzentrum am Rehabilitationskrankenhaus Ulm)
Oberer Eselsberg 45
89081 Ulm,
Tel.: 0731/177 1107

1.8 Doctors – Skin Specialists

Ulm & Neu-Ulm

Dr. Petra Gottlöber und PD Dr. Guntram Bezold
Augsburger Str. 6
89231 Neu-Ulm
Tel.: 0731/75556
Fax: 0731/704 2731

Both have received their education at the University Hospital, are very professional and speak English.

University Hospital of Ulm (Universitätsklinikum Ulm)
Department of Dermatology and Allergies (Klinik für Dermatologie und Allergologie)
Maienweg 12
89081 Ulm Söflingen
Tel. 0731/500 – 57514

Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. Gertraud Krähn-Senftleben
Dermatologist
Ulmer Str. 26
89143 Blaubeuren
Tel: 0 73 44 2 15 95

Classical and surgical Dermatology, Allergology. Specialties are Pediatric Dermatology, atopic eczema and skin cancer prevention. Gertraud Krähn-Senftleben is a parent at ISU.

1.9 Doctors - Eyes

Ulm & Neu-Ulm

Dr. W. Haupt, Prof. Dr. C. Spraul and Dr. Geiselhart
Basteistr. 37
89073 Ulm
Tel. 0731/222 52

Outpatient operations are possible, specialized in diabetes, glaucoma and macular degeneration. Dr. Spraul is a parent at ISU.

Dr. Annette Czech
Marktplatz 15+16
89073 Ulm
Tel. 0731 4033110
Dr. Czech is a parent at ISU.

University Hospital of Ulm (Universitätsklinikum Ulm)
Ophthalmology department (Universitäts-Augenklinik und Poliklinik)
Klinikbereich Michelsberg
Prittwitzstr. 43
89075 Ulm
Tel.: 0731 500 59001, outpatient appointments: 500-59023 or -59024

1.10 Urologists

Ulm & Neu-Ulm

University Hospital of Ulm (Universitätsklinikum Ulm)
Urology and Oediatric Urology (Abteilung für Urologie und Kinderurologie)
Klinikbereich Michelsberg
Prittwitzstr. 43
89075 Ulm
Tel.: 0731 500 27822

The Pediatric Urologist in the Department is Dr. de Petriconi, who has a good reputation as a surgeon.

1.11 Outpatient Surgery

Blaustein

Dr. Sabine Aicham und Dr. Haas
Venenklinik Blaustein
Gemeinschaftspraxis
Juraweg 1
89134 Blaustein
Tel: 07304 / 434501 Internet: www.venenklinik-blaustein.de

Dr. Aicham, who speaks perfect English, and Dr. Haas are specialized on the surgical treatment of couperoses and varicose veins. The results have been described as excellent by ISU parents.

1.12 Physiotherapists

Ulm & Neu-Ulm

ActivReha
Christine Glatz
Krankengymnastik/Physiotherapie
Ehrensteiner Feld 4
89075 Ulm
Tel. 0731 5 50 23 00
Fax. 0731 9 50 39 49
Christine Glatz is a parent at ISU.

1.13 Dentists

Emergency numbers for dental problems for the weekend:
Ulm/Neu-Ulm: Tel. (01805) 91 16 80
Alb-Donau-Kreis: Tel. (01805) 91 16 01
They will let you know which dentist is on duty

General information on German dentists: Apparently, a 6 month cleaning and check up is not routine for all Germans. First appointment will be for the dentist to look at everyone's teeth and ask if you are interested in prophylactic cleaning. You must ask for cleaning appointment at same time if you want to avoid multiple visits.

Ulm & Neu-Ulm

Dr. Wiebke Ankner
Schwerpunkt Kinderzahnheilkunde (Specialty pediatric dentistry)
Pfauengasse 14
89073 Ulm
Tel. 0731/62 158
Is competent and good with children.

Dr. Ellen Ritterbusch
Schwerpunkt Kinderzahnheilkunde (Specialty pediatric dentistry)
Zahnärztliche Gemeinschaftspraxis am Rathaus
Neue Str. 74
89073 Ulm
Tel. 0731/9687 10
Is very professional and good with children.

Dr. Werner Boch
Dentist (Zahnarzt)
Römerstrasse 94
89077 Ulm
Tel. 0731/93 40900 Fax. 0731/93 4090 99
Speaks English. Uses all latest technology.

Dr. Wolfgang Kohl
Keltternweg 122
89075 Ulm
Tel. 0731/55 3044
Speaks English and also treats children, but is not a Pediatric Dentist. Ask for cleaning appointment at same time if you want to avoid multiple visits.

Biberach

Dr. Markus Kammerlander & Dr. Alfred Braig
Zahnärztliche Gemeinschaftspraxis
Riedlinger Str. 13
88400 Biberach an der Riß
Tel. 07351/72 348
Dr. Kammerlander speaks perfect English, is nice and excellent.

1.14 Orthodontists/Kieferorthopäde Ulm & Neu-Ulm

Dr. Dietmar Czech
Marktplatz 15+16
89073 Ulm
Tel. 0731 62000
Dr. Czech is a parent at ISU.

Dr. med Leif-Konradin Sailer
Edisonallee 5
89231 Neu-Ulm
Tel: 0731 1763450
This dentist is an oral surgeon; speaks English.

University of Ulm (Universität Ulm)
Dentistry/Orthodontics/Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (Department für Zahnheilkunde)
Universität Ulm
Department für Zahnheilkunde
Klinik für Kieferorthopädie und Orthodontie
Albert-Einstein-Allee 11
89081 Ulm
Tel. 0731/64 401(Orthodontics) or 64 314 (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery)

1.15 Psychologists, Psychiatrists and Counselling Services Ulm & Neu-Ulm

Psychologist and Psychiatrists – Adults

Dr. med. Gitta Wild-Seibold
Fachärztin für Psychiatry u. Psychotherapy, Psychoanalyse
Zeitblomstr. 20
89073 Ulm Mitte
Baden-Württemberg / Deutschland
Tel.: 0731 / 666 33 Fax: 0731 /66 333
Mail: gitta.wild-seibold@dgn.de
Dr. Wild-Seibold speaks Italian very well, she and her staff also speak English and French quite well.

Psychologist and Psychiatrists – Children

Frau Dr. med. univ. Elisabeth Libal
Kinderpsychiaterin
Olgastr. 8789073 Ulm
Tel. 0731/ 407 9550
Was in America for a while, speaks good English.

Dr. med. Karin Mühlbacher
Ärztin für Kinder- u. Jugendpsychiatrie u. -psychotherapie
Donaustr. 8
89231 Neu-Ulm
Bayern / Deutschland
Tel.: 0731/972 3773

University Hospital of Ulm (Universitätsklinikum Ulm)
Kinder- u. Jugendpsychiatrie/Psychotherapie
Steinhövelstr. 5
D-89075 Ulm
Tel.: 0731 /500-61636
Doctors speak usually English and there is always someone available.

1.16 Radiologie/Neuroradiologie/Nuklearmedizin

Ulm & Neu-Ulm

Gemeinschaftspraxis

Olgastrasse 87

89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731/9 67 44-0

Info. www.radiologiezentrum-ulm.de

Fantastic radiology facility. Modern, efficient. Radiologists read your tests on site immediately after taken, give results to you and do follow-up all in one visit. Radiologists speak English.

1.17 Other Health Services

Alcoholics Anonymous (Anonyme Alkoholiker)

Ulm area: 07307 / 92 37 41

Support group for families of alcoholics Al-Anon

Drug helpline (Drogenhilfe Ulm-Alb-Donau eV)

Radgasse 3

Ulm

Tel. 0731/92 60930 www.drogenhilfe-ulm-alb-donau.de

Section 2: Pets

2.1 Veterinarians / Tierärzte

Emergency Service (Zentrale Notdienstnummer): Tel: Ulm/Neu-Ulm: (0700) 12 16 16 16

Dr. Ariane Rodewald
Mozart Strasse 18
89075 Ulm
Tel. 0731 4038605
Speaks English very well.

Mark Pokorny
Tierarzt (Veterinarian)
Stifterweg 88
89075 Ulm, Eselsberg
Tel. 0731/5094444
Speaks English and French and is very professional.

Dr. Axel Biedermann
Prak. Tierarzt
Groses Wert 19
89155 Erbach
Tel. 073057888
Very nice vet. Speaks little English.

2.2 Pets - Holiday Care

There are few facilities for holiday pet care because many guest houses and hotels allow you to take your pets with you. You can look in the yellow pages under “Tierheime und Pensionen” for local facilities. Another option may be to ask in your neighborhood and in the school community for someone to visit your house and care for your pet. The following Tierheim is highly recommended.

Tierheim "Arche Noah"
Heidenheimer Strasse 21a
89312 Günzburg
Tel: 08221-30331

The dogs are walked for 1 hour in the morning and 1 hour in the evening. Each dog has an inside kennel area that is about 8 feet by 8 feet that connects to an outside area through a doggy door that is the same size. The inside area of the kennel is temperature controlled and the floors are heated. The workers are very friendly and very attentive to the dogs. The average daily rate is about 10 Euro. You can bring your own food or have the kennel provide food.

2.3 Pets – Dog training

Camundi Hundetraining
Ludwigsfeld
Neu-Ulm
Kerstin Wittich
Tel: 0731 1537750
Mob: 01723075157
www.camundi.de

Excellent dog training. Kerstin has a wonderful personality. She is great with dogs and their owners. Speaks a little English. All training is done in German but it is easy to follow.

Section 3: Religious/Social Groups

3.1 Churches

Here is just a selection of churches (Kirchen) that may be particularly interesting for people who come from English speaking countries and who like to come to socially active communities with at least some native speakers. A more complete list of churches can be obtained in Google when typing in 'Kirchen Ulm'.

Ulm & Neu-Ulm

Methodist churches (Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche)

Erlöserkirche

Römerstr. 85

Service at 10 am, additional services on special occasions.

Contact: Pastor Brinckmann

Tel. 0731/30 479

Some attending Americans in the community. Pastor can speak English, but so far no English service. Religious instruction for children is available. Childcare is provided during service.

Service in English

A group of people meet for service in English in a home in Ulm City Centre every second Sunday evening. The vicar Ken Dimmick from St. Catherine's Church in Stuttgart comes to lead the service. For more information call Reverend Ken Dimmick 0711- 7878783, 0151- 57989140, vicar@stcatherines-stuttgart.de

Zionskirche

Frauenstr. 83

Service at 10 am

Contact: Pastor Engelhardt

Tel. 0731/67 501

Pastor speaks English, so far no English service, but one English couple who have started to learn German gets the sermon as a printout in German so that they can read it later or talk to the pastor about it. Religious instruction for children is available. They have a Sunday school for children.

Baptist church (Evangelisch-Freikirchliche Gemeinde (Baptisten) Ulm & Neu-Ulm

John-F.-Kennedy-Str. 6

Neu-Ulm

Service at 10 am, additional services on special occasions.

Contact: Pastor Thomas & Ruth Greiner

Tel. 0731/708 6508 or church: 980 7632

Pastors can speak English, at the moment no English service. Religious instruction for children available. They have a Sunday school for children. The retired Australian pastor speaks English, is still very active in the community and organizes regular English meetings at home in groups of 7-10 people. Very nice and open-minded man that is open to any suggestions to extend activities. His name is Andy Baltaks and he can be called at 0731/55 3434.

Catholic Churches

To find a Catholic Church (Katholische Kirche) go to the following website: <http://www.katholische-kirche-ulm.de/> Then click on Gemeinden on the left hand side. A listing of all of the Catholic churches in the area will appear. You can then click on the individual church names to find out their address and the times they offer mass on Saturday or Sunday.

Protestant/Evangelical Churches

To find a Protestant/Evangelical Church (Evangelische Kirche) please go to the following website: <http://www.kirche-ulm.de/> On the website you can click on the church of your interest and the location of the church as well as mass times will be available.

Synagogues

Beit Chabad Württemberg

[Website: http://www.alemannia-judaica.de/ulm_juedische_gemeinde.htm](http://www.alemannia-judaica.de/ulm_juedische_gemeinde.htm)

Olga Str. 93 [Ulm](#) 89073

Chabad Lubavitch Tel: 49-731-969-1691 Fax: 49-731-969-1692

3.2 Playgroups

English Play Group

Familien bildungsstätte ulm e.V (fbs)

Sattlergasse 6.

89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731/96 286-0 Homepage: www.fbs.ulm.de

They offer English Play Groups for different ages starting at 2 years. Originally these groups are meant to help non English speakers to learn English children's songs and read English books, but here is certainly a possibility to get to know people with similar interests and at least some language skills. For more information, please contact Mrs. Schweyer at Tel: (0731) 96 286-0 or ext.-13

3.3 Social Clubs And Groups

Ulm & Neu-Ulm

International School of Ulm and Neu-Ulm parent teacher group (PTG)

The PTG has regular activities, which are advertised in the School Newsletter. The PTG always welcomes volunteers to help with a wide range of activities. For more information contact one of the Committee members, listed in the ISU Newsletter.

3.4 Baby Sitters

The familien bildungsstätte Ulm offers courses to qualify for baby sitting in private households and holds a list of course absolvents who can be hired. Since this is organized by the familien bildungsstätte there are no problems with the Arbeitsamt or other offices, I have been told. The list is available online or directly at:

familien bildungsstätte ulm e.V (fbs)

Sattlergasse 6.

89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731/96 286-0 Homepage: www.fbs.ulm.de

Tagesmütterverein e.V.:

Deinselsgasse 18

Ulm (City Center)

Tel. 0731/60 280941

They provide childcare "Mothers" and are really helpful. I am not sure about their English skills, though. Just try it.

Section 4: Shopping

Shopping hours in Germany may be quite different from what you are used to. In general shops are open Monday-Saturday. All shops are legally required to be closed on Sundays except for gas stations at which you can buy gas and whatever is available in the store. You cannot however, wash your car on a Sunday. Many smaller shops will close during the middle of the day for 1-2 hours. This is true for the part of Ulm called Söflingen. At the main train station in Ulm is a mini market which is open on Sundays.

You won't be able to pay with credit cards in most supermarkets. One exception e.g. is Rewe. Usually Cash or the German EC carte (which you can get at your bank) are the two methods of payment.

4.1 Supermarkets

Marktkauf

Large store with wide selection of food items. Meat section, groceries, drinks area. Non food section. Dry cleaners, bakery, cafeteria and flower shop.

Marktkauf, Einsteiner Strasse 58, 89077 Ulm. Open: Mon-Sat 08:00-20:00.

Marktkauf, Berliner Strasse 13, 89250 Senden. Open: Mon-Sat 08:00-20:00.

Kaufland

Large store with wide selection of food items. Limited toy section. No clothes. Bakery.

Kaufland, Memminger Strasse 54, 89231 Neu-Ulm. Open: Mon-Sat 07:00-20:00.

Kaufland, Vowerkstrasse 2, 89231 Neu-Ulm. Open: Mon-Fri 08:00-20:00. Sat. 07:00-20:00.

Kaufland, Blaubeurer Strasse 29, 89077 Ulm. Open: Mon-Sat 07:00-22:00.

Edeka

Medium sized store right next to the school. It features most of the food items needed in a normal household. Fresh meat and fish section. Bakery.

Edeka, Bahnhofstrasse 91, 89231 Neu-Ulm.

Alnatura

100% organic supermarket located down town. Even though it is small compared to other supermarkets they have a wide range of groceries. Bakery, fresh produce. Cosmetics. Baby articles.

Alnatura, Neue Str. 97-99, Ulm. Open: Mon-Fri 09:00-20:00. Sat: 09:00-18:00.

Besides the above mentioned there are a number of smaller supermarkets like Penny Markt, Lidl and Aldi. Their products are usually cheaper than the large supermarkets and their selection of food items are limited. Quality of produce and meats can be quite good at these stores, however, and they may have brands you cannot find elsewhere.

4.2 Food Shops: German/English

Metzgerei: Butcher

Konditorei: Dessert, confectionary shop

Backerei: Bakery

Feinkost: Gourmet, upscale, speciality food market

4.3 Food Shops: Speciality & International

Asia – Shop Nguyen, Deutschhausgasse 7, 89073 Ulm.

4.4 Wine Merchants

Wein Bastion
Schillerstrasse 1
89077 Ulm
Tel: 0731 66993
www.weinbastion.de

4.5 Markets

Every Wednesday and Saturday (year round) there is a very big market at the Münster Platz in Ulm; right in front of the big church "Münster". It features everything imaginable in fresh produce and is definitely worth a visit. Neu-Ulm also has their market day on Wednesday however on a much smaller scale. It is located on the Petrus Platz in the centre of Neu Ulm. Söflingen has a market every Friday.

4.6 Shopping Malls

Blautal-Center
Blaubeurer Stra. 95, 89077 Ulm. Open: Mon-Sat 09:30-20:00.

The Blautal Center is the only shopping mall in Ulm. It features a wide range of clothes stores, electronics, flower shop, shoe repair, shoe stores and a food court on the upper and lower level. There is also a nice indoor playground and sometimes seasonal markets and kids activities such as a toy train in the spring. A calendar of events is available at the information desk. Parking is either underground, on the middle level (inside) or on the roof. Parking is available at either end of the mall and is free for the first three hours.

4.7 Department Stores & Clothing

Abt

Department store located in the heart of down town Ulm. In the basement you will find tools, stationary and Arts and Craft. The first floor and second floor is reserved for china. Third floor features toys and seasonal items, such as gardening and Christmas decorations.

Münsterplatz 7, 89073 Ulm. www.abt-ulm.de. Open: Mon-Fri 09:00-19:00. Sat 09:00-18:00.

C&A

A large department store for the whole family. Very reasonably priced. They have a branch in the Blautal Center.

Friedrich-Ebert Str. 12, 89073 Ulm. Open: Mon-Thu 09:30-20:00. Fri 09:30-22:00.
Sat 09:00-20:00.

Müller

Department store featuring toys, cosmetics section, stationary and non food. No clothes. Müller department store can be found at various locations in Ulm and the surrounding cities. Check www.mueller.de for a location near you.

Hirschstra. 17-19, Ulm. Open: Mon-Fri 09:00-20:00. Sat. 08:30-20:00.

H&M

Fashionable clothes for adults, teens and children. A branch can also be found at the Blautal Center

Bahnstr. 10, 89073 Ulm. (located on the pedestrian street). Open: Mon-Sat 10:00-20:00.

Peek & Cloppenburg

Department store with clothes for adults and teens and children. (located on the pedestrian street).

Bahnhofstr. 8, 89073 Ulm. Open: Mon-Fri 09:30-20:00. Sat 09:30-19:00.

Galleria Kaufhof

Department store with diverse range of products. Clothes, sportswear, lingerie, childrens clothes, toys, jewellery, purses, suitcases etc., (located on the pedestrian street).

Bahnhofstr. 5, 89073 Ulm. Open: Mon-Sat 09:30-20:00.

Modehaus Walz

Upscale department store with clothes for adults and children. (Located on the pedestrian street).

Bahnhofstr. 4, 89073 Ulm. Open: Mon-Sat 09:30-19:00.

SportSohn

Huge sports store with EVERYTHING in sportswear, casual wear and sports articles. Located on the pedestrian street at the end towards the train station.

Bahnhofstr. 16, 89073 Ulm. Open: Mon-Fri 09:30-20:00. Sat 09:30-19:00.

Junior Schmid

Very big clothing store with casual wear for women and casual and sports wear for children. Very large shoe section. The store is also located in three other cities – some have men's clothing also.

Berliner Strasse 8, 89250 Senden.

4.8 Furniture & Interior Furnishings**IKEA**

Self service furniture store. All items come packed flat for self-assembly. Assembly and delivery service is available for a fee if requested.

Blaubeurer Str. 10, 89077 Ulm. Open: Mon-Thur 09:30-21:00. Fri-Sat 09:30-22:00.

Inhofer www.inhofer.de

Very large furniture store. Also sells rugs and carpets. Big interior decorating section.

Ulmer Str. 50, 89250 Senden.

Möbel Borst

Very much like Inhofer, only smaller.

Karpfenweg 8, 89584 Ehingen. Open: Mon-Fri 09:00-19:00. Sat 09:00-18:00.

Möbel Prinz www.moebel-prinz.de

Upscale furniture store. Good selection of garden furniture in Summer.

Lämmerweg 4, 89079 Ulm (Eisingen). Open: Mon-Wed 09:30-18:30. Thur-Fri 09:30-19:30. Sat 09:30-16:00.

4.9 Home Improvements / D.I.Y. Stores

Praktiker, Blaubeurer Str. 50, 89077 Ulm. www.praktiker.de

Praktiker, Von-Liebig-Str. 4, 89231 Neu-Ulm.

Bauhaus. Blaubeurer Str. 110, 89077 Ulm.

4.10 Toys

Toys R Us, Blaubeurer Str. 22, 89077 Ulm. Opens at 09:30

Müller Check www.mueller.de for a location near you.

Abt Münsterplatz 7, 89073 Ulm. www.abt-ulm.de. Open: Mon-Fri 09:00-19:00. Sat 9:00-18:00.

4.11 Factory Outlets

The following two books list outlets in Baden-Württemberg and Bayern.

“Der Grosse Schnäppchenführer Baden-Württemberg 2006” von Waldmüller Heinz

“Der Grosse Schnäppchenführer Bayern“ von Waldmüller Heinz

(“Schnäppchen” means a bargain, “Führer” means guide)

Books can be bought online at www.duch24.de or “google” the titles for different web sites.

Outlet City Metzingen, Reutlinger Str. 63, 72555 Metzingen. Open: Mon-Fri 10:00-20:00 Sat 09:00-18:00.

Check the website for brands and special openings etc. www.outletcity-metzingen.com

Section 5: Services

5.1 Hairdressers / Barbers / Beauty

Stylewerk

Kapellengasse 5

89077 Ulm

Tel: 0731 3886996

Sander and his team run a very professional salon. Speaks English.

Friseur Le Coup

Deutschhausgasse 15

Tel: 0731 6026020

Friseur Le Coupe

Münsterplatz 35

Tel: 0731 3795550

Both the above salons are run by Werner Düssler who happens to be married to one of the teachers at the school. Werner speaks English as do some of his stylists. Christina (a stylist from California) is particularly good at colour.

Beauty Center Söflingen

Schlossergasse 56

89077 Ulm

Tel: 0731 3885410

A team of three ladies who speak a little English can help with Nail design on hands and feet, waxing, facials, massages and almost anything you can think of to do with Beauty.

5.2 Garbage

A cultural difference one may notice immediately concerns garbage. In general, Germans are more conscientious about the environment and recycle almost everything. The method of handling recyclables and garbage collection varies from town to town. Therefore it is important to call your local Rathaus (town hall) to obtain the correct information. Each town will provide an annual calendar listing dates for the various types of pickups as well as what is allowed to be recycled. But the following will provide some general information. Note that Christmas tree pick-ups will generally be on one day during the first or second week of January, depending on your areas pick-up schedule.

Description	Goes Where?	Will be recycled/reused as
Household waste – what remains after you have separated your waste	In the black bin – Restmüll	Energy
Biological – household scraps, peels, coffee and tea bags, old flowers, garden waste	In brown bin – Biomüll – you are allowed to put in tissues and crumpled up newspapers to absorb fluids.	Compost or energy
Packing Material – cans, plastic polystyrene, aluminium, tinplate and “composite” materials like beverage cartons made of a mixture of materials	In yellow bin/sacks – Gelber Sack – these can be picked up from your local rathaus or recycling hof.	Energy, new plastic and new cans
Glass – bottles which you have not paid a deposit (Pfand) on glass jars	In containers located in your recycling hof or you sometimes find them in your neighbourhood. You should separate according to colour of glass	New bottles
Hazardous Waste – fluorescent tubes, cans still containing paint, adhesives, corrosives, disinfectants, insecticides	Take to recycling hof and ask where these should go – someone will always be able to help you.	
Batteries – used, non-rechargeable	In a small container at the recycling hof	
Wood	Ask at the recycling hof and they will direct you to a container	
Electrical items	Again, the recycling hof will be able to help you	

Section 6: Dining Out

In and around Ulm, and the surrounding area, you will find a surprisingly large variety of restaurants. Below we provide a list of some of our favourite restaurants. For a more comprehensive source of restaurant information, we recommend you go to www.ulm.de. We also recommend that you purchase the annual “Der Restaurantführer” (restaurant guide) that contains reviews and rankings of restaurants in the area. You can purchase this book from “Abt” in the Münster Platz. The book also contains reviews and rankings of butchers, bakeries, cafes etc. Although the book is in German, general helpful information is easy to decipher. The book also reviews restaurants as far away as Laupheim and Biberach and many towns in between.

When you book a table at a restaurant, the table is generally yours for the evening. This is not a “fast food” culture where tables are intended to be turned several times a night. So, relax and enjoy your night out!

6.1 Traditional German Food and Ambience

ZunftHaus der Schiffsleute

Fischergasse 31

89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731 64411

www.zunftHaus-ulm.de

Housed in a beautiful, old historic building in the Fischerviertel (fishermens’ quarter); ask for a table on the third floor amongst the wood beams and laughing witches. Great place for German ambience for out of town guests.

Wilder Mann

Fischergasse 2

89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731 2058743

A bit touristy, but has great local flammekuchen -- this region’s answer to the pizza – and a great location in the Fischerviertel.

Brauhaus Barfüßler

Paulstrasse 4

89231 Neu-Ulm

Tel. 0731 974480

Great on river location for an outdoor biergarten visit with local food choices.

Zur Brezel

Roter Löwe Hotel

Ulmer Gasse 8

89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731 974 7100

Excellent fresh Bavarian food (Bayerische Küche) with daily specials and seasonal changing dishes. Kid friendly atmosphere.

Gerberhaus

Weinhofburg 9

89073 Ulm im Fischerviertel

Tel: 0731 69498

Nice German family restaurant. Kids menu. It’s not a big place. If you are a large group, make reservations ahead of time. Tables available with a view of the water.

Schwarze Henne

Baurengasse 13

89073 Ulm

Tel: 0731 9215113

Very nice German restaurant. The food is good and a notch better than most of the restaurants we have tried. They don’t have a kids menu but kids are welcome.

Forellenfischer, Weiler

Aachtalstrasse 6
89143 Blaubeuren/Weiler
Tel: 0734 46545

Takes all major credit cards. Serves excellent German food. Leave the kids at home.

Erstes Ulmer Pfannkuchenhaus

Allgäuer Hof
Fischergasse 12
89073 Ulm
Tel: 0731 67408

Great place for pancake fans with all kinds of toppings you can think of; sweet, spicy, 44 variations. Service between 11am and 11pm. Located in the pedestrian area of the Fischerviertel (Fisherman's quarter). Reservations are recommended but Saturdays are first come first served. Kids welcome – outside seating in Summer. www.erstes-ulmer-pfannkuchenhaus.de

Zur Forelle

Fischergasse 25
89073 Ulm
Tel: 0731 63924

Great cosy restaurant that offers a wonderful variety of regional and international food including fresh fish in a beautiful 380 years old building. www.zurforelle.de

Brauerei & Gasthof Schlössle

Schlössleweg 3
89231 Neu-Ulm
Tel: 0731 77 390

Voted Biergarten of the year in 2000, 2004 and 2006.

6.2 Italian Food

Ristorante Pizzeria Bei Angelo

Jahnstrasse 1
89134 Blaustein
Tel: 0731 51868

Situated opposite an open area where the kids can play and run riot while you enjoy your meal in peace!

Ristorante Boccaccio

Michelsbergstr 8
Tel: 0731 66220

Excellent food. Lacks in ambience.

Da Franco

Neuer Graben 23
89073 Ulm
Tel. 0731 30585

Elegant, modern atmosphere. Expect a slow paced meal designed for relaxation.

Helfenstein

Beyerstrasse 14
89077 Ulm
Tel. 0731 32490

Local, family friendly pizza and pasta joint run by a wonderful warm family from Sardinia; wood burning oven used for all pizzas; party room for larger gatherings.

Taverna Azzurra

Kronengasse 4/2
Tel: 0731 9752848

6.3 Continental/International Food

Dada

Turmstrasse 43
89231 Neu-Ulm
Tel. 0731-1598669
Accepts credit card.

Bei Erika

Olgastrasse 141
89073 Ulm
Tel. 0731 25323
Intimate setting; fresh eclectic food with menu changing daily. A la carte or four course beef or fish set menu available with aperitif.
Accepts credit card.

Lago

Friedrichsau 50
89073 Ulm
Tel. 0731 9502777
www.lago-ulm.de
Great location in the Friedrichsau park. Upscale, nice evening out.

Stephans-Stuben

Bahnhofstrasse 65
89231 Neu-Ulm 89231
Tel. 0731 723872
www.stephans-stuben.de
Surprisingly located right near ISU in an unassuming location, this restaurant is consistently ranked the No. 1 restaurant in Ulm. Elegant atmosphere with attentive service.

Wiley-Club

Wiley-Strasse 4
89231 Neu-Ulm
Tel. 0731 86704
www.wiley-club.de
Old US Army officers club. Open, beautiful atmosphere with consistently good, varying menu and international cuisine. Great for large parties or family gatherings. Also good night club spot on certain evenings. Boasts to have the longest bar in Europe!

Truffel

Ehinger Strasse 44
89155 Erbach
Tel. 07305 8021
www.hotel-koegel.de
Identified as one of the best kitchens in the region. 10-15 minutes outside of Ulm.

6.4 Japanese Food

Yu

Wileystrasse 21
89231 Neu-Ulm
Tel. 0731 83811
www.restaurant-yu.de
Wonderful Japanese steak house in old, cave like setting. Several steps up from a Benihanas. Great for a group of people or an adult special occasion.

Sushi Lounge

Neuen Strasse 83

Ulm

Tel. 0731 184 89 89

mail@sushi-lounge-ulm.de

Modern sushi restaurant in the heart of the city; orders can be taken by e-mail; cooking courses offered.

6.5 Chinese and Thai Food

China-Restaurant Chausee

Söflingen

Herrlinger Strasse 35

Tel: 0731 384835

Great restaurant although no English spoken and has a great take away service.

Thai Haus Tuitong

Olgastrasse 62

89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731 602 7961

Near the train station; nice atmosphere; great fish tank to keep the kids engaged; if you want it spicy, you better ask and tell them somewhere in between German and Thai spicy.

There are also Chinese and Sushi restaurants in the food court at the Blaual Center, which are both pretty decent. Sushi restaurant is running sushi.

6.6 Indian Food

Anondo

Syrlinstr 22

89073 Ulm

Tel: 0731 1416753

Great food but don't expect the fantastic variety of Indian meals from back home!

There is also a small restaurant called **Himilayan**, across the way from the Rathaus in Ulm. It has a daily all you can eat Indian food lunch buffet. When you have a craving for homemade naan, this is the place to go in Ulm.

6.7 Spanish and Mexican Food

Besitos

Neue Strasse 71

Tel: 0731 1847987

Spanish tapas bar; great bar atmosphere.

Casa Lorca

Frauenstrasse 134

Ulm

Tel: 0731 6021977

Very authentic Spanish restaurant serving very nice but simple food. Located in a back alley which gives a wonderful Spanish like ambience. Some tables are outside and some in a basement like setting. Some of the menu is handwritten on the walls. If you want paella, you must order in advance. If you love vacation in Spain, you will love this place.

Enchilada Mexican Restaurant & Bar

Schelergasse 6

Tel: 0731 60859

"Mexican" food as good as it can get in a country that lacks many of the main Mexican ingredients and does not like spice in their food. Nice atmosphere and drinks for a fun night out.

Peppers

Deinsels-Gasse 8
89073 Ulm
Tel.0731 2908259

6.8 Greek Food**Poseidon's Grillgenuesse**

Frauenstrasse 31
89073 Ulm
Tel. 0731 64247

Good place to indulge in a variety of Greek appetizers and a few beers. Kid friendly.

Paradies

Ruhetal 17
89081 Ulm
Tel. 0731 554505

www.papapostolou.com

Fresh daily specials; highly ranked by the Restaurantfuehrer guide.

Section 7: Sports and Hobbies

7.1 Swimming Pools and Mineral Baths

Most towns have their own Hallenbad (indoor) and Freibad (outdoor) pools.

Atlantis Freizeitpark GmbH
Wiblinger Strasse 55
89231 Neu Ulm
0731 985990 Tel
0731 985994 Fax
Mon to Fri 09:00 to 23:00 hours (15th May to 14th September 09:00 to 22:00 hours)
Sat 09:00 to 24:00 hours
Sundays and Feiertag 09:00 to 22:00 hours
www.atlantis-freizeitpark.de
info@atlantis-freizeitpark.de

Bundeswehrhallenbad
Junginger Weg
Ulm-Jungingen
Öffentliche Badezeit:
Tues 17:30 to 20:30 hours Sat 08:00 to 10:00 hours

Hallenbad Neu Ulm
Kantstrasse 4
Offenhausen
Tel: 0731 97 8680
Mon Familienbad 12:30 to 21:00 hours
Tue Familienbad 12:30 to 19:00 hours
Seniorenswimmen 12:30 to 15:00 hours
Wed Frauenbad 12:30 to 15:00 hours
Familienbad 15:00 to 20:00 hours
Thur Familienbad 12:30 to 19:00 hours
Fri Familienbad 12:30 to 21:00 hours
Fruehschwimmer 06:30 to 08:00 hours
Sat Familienbad 10:00 to 20:00 hours
Sun Familienbad 08:00 to 20:00 hours

Westbad
Moltkestrasse 30
Ulm
Tel: 0731 1613480
Mon Closed
Tue 07:00 to 09:30 and 15:30 to 21:30 hours
Wed 07:00 to 18:00 hours
Thur 07:00 to 09:30
Fri 07:00 to 21:30 hours
Sat, Sun and Feiertag (holiday) 08:00 to 18:00 hours

Bad Blau
89134 Blaustein
Boschstrasse 12
Ulm
Tel: 07304 802162
www.badblau.de
Mon to Wed 09:00 to 22:00 hours
Thur to Sat 09:00 to 23:00 hours
Sun and Feiertag 09:00 to 21:00 hours

Jordanbad
88400 Biberach an de Riss
Biberach
Tel: 07351 343100
Fax: 07351 343111
info@jordanbad.de

Bad Waldsee
Thermalbad Waldsee – Therme
Tel: 07524 941221
Bad Saulgau
Sonnenhof Therme mit Saunalandschaft
Tel: 07581 48390

7.2 Sport Clubs

If your children are interested in joining a sport club, the school sport teacher would be happy to assist you in finding and contacting the right club. The school's After School Activity Program offers some sporting activities, including soccer and basketball. An excellent way to encourage your children's German language competency is to join a sport "Verein" (club). Generally the sport ("Fussball", swimming, badminton, tennis, etc.) runs all year, with breaks for school holidays. Some sports are more competitive than others within towns. Some clubs are more competitive than others. By asking questions of the coaches or "trainers", you can determine whether this will be a good fit for your child. Additionally, you can usually "try out" the club before joining. Most towns offer enough variety so that children can usually find a sport that they like.

7.3 Gyms and Health Clubs

Aktiv Posten Schillerstrasse 1/6
Tel: 0731 602 6901

FFW First Fit Wellness GmbH & Co
Herrlinger Strasse 36
Ulm
Tel: 0731 379 9012

Lessingstrasse 8
Neu-Ulm
Tel: 0731 79997

Fitness 20 Ltd
Einsteinstrasse 35
Ulm
Tel: 0731 383380

Fitness Point Lady
Söflingen in der Wanne 57
Ulm
Tel: 0731 57711

Judenhof 8
Ulm
Tel: 0731 1517855

FITZ Fitness Zentrum Ulmer Hochstrasse
Einsingen Am Buergele 11
Tel: 07305 921218

Olympia Fitness
Wiblinger Strasse
Neu Ulm
Tel: 0731 9807078

Petri Daniel Sport Pyramide
Heigeleshof 2
Ulm
Tel: 0731 619395

Pietschmann Haraid
Böfingen Eberhard Finckh-Strasse 26
Ulm
Tel: 0731 263788

Sport Fitness Club Pro
Gartenstrasse 30-32
Neu Ulm
Tel: 0731 85246

Top Fit
Finninger Strasse 71
Neu Ulm
Tel: 0731 2077735

Wellness Centre Harmonie
Böfingen Haslacher Weg 91
Ulm
Tel: 0731 1753504

Zieher Carola, Tatendrang
Trollingerweg 16
Ulm
Tel: 0731 9503890

7.4 Dance Schools

Backstage Studio and Boutique
Pfarrer Weis Weg 16
Ulm
Tel: 0731 9609899

Havva Eva Marklowski
Karlstrasse 56
Ulm
Tel: 0731 1537970

Hoofers Club Neu-Ulm
Lessingstrasse 10a
Ulm
Tel: 0731 2077920

Edith Maria Moldering Tanzstudio
Ulm-Böfingen
Tel: 0731 265999
Studio Sabine Wlodek
Marlene Dietrich Strasse 5
Ulm
Tel: 0731 98588755

Tanzstudio Persien
Wagnerstrasse 65
Ulm
Tel: 0731 9317884

Tanzschule Step to Dance
Tel: 0731 9808444

Ten Dance GmbH
Neue Strasse 103
Ulm
Tel: 0731 60066

Ballet Schools
Ballettschule Das Studio
Pfarrer Weis Weg 18
Ulm
Tel: 0731 3870600

A lot of girls from ISU attend this school. The owner is British and the school is associated with the British Royal Ballet.

Ballettschule des Ulmer Theaters
Olgastrasse 73
Ulm
Tel: 0731 1614452

This school provides an opportunity for children to dance daily to live piano music.

Ballettverein Ulm
Wagnerstrasse 65
Ulm
Tel: 0731 9317825

Stoermer Chemnitz Elke
Hausener Strasse 19/1
Neu Ulm
Tel: 07307 33379

Wetzel Ursula
Karlsbader Strasse 15
Neu Ulm
Tel: 0731 82247

7.5 Ice Skating Rink

Atlantis Eislaufanlage
Wiblinger Strasse 55
Neu Ulm
Tel: 0731 985990
Fax: 0731 985994
www.atlantis-freizeitpark.de

7.6 Music Teachers and Music Schools

The school runs an extensive after school music program. New classes will be added if there is sufficient demand and teachers are available. Contact the music teacher. Additionally, almost all towns have a Musikschule (music school). Looking in your local phone book or local newspaper will help you to find the phone number and location of the school nearest you. Generally speaking, you can register anytime and students begin during the Fall, after Christmas or Spring/Summer term. The Musikschule offers classes from Kindergarten to Advanced in most instruments.

Brachmann Gabriel
Einsingen
Hoehenblick 9
Tel: 07305 7496

Musikschule Ulm-Ost Ulrich Hahnet
Löfflestrasse 16
Tel: 0731 22119

Yamaha Musikschule Steinacker
Söflingen
Herrlinger Strasse 64
Tel: 0731 3870434

Gunkel Werner
Memminger Strasse 39
Neu Ulm
Tel: 0731 85906

Kleinhans Thomas Institut
Thalfinger Strasse 62/2
Neu Ulm
Tel: 0731 9316337

Scholz-Grathwohl Sigrid
Kirchberger Strasse 11
Neu Ulm
Tel: 07307 952049

Musikschule der Stadt Ulm
Municipal music school of Ulm
Marktplatz 19
Tel: 0731 161 4730/4734/4735
Fax: 0731 161 1683
Mon-Fri 9-12 hours
Mon –Wed 14-17 hours
www.ulm.de

Neu Ulm
Musikschule de Stadt Neu Ulm
Municipal music school of Neu-Ulm
Gartenstrasse 13
Tel: 0731 9807380
Mon-Fri 8-12 hours
Tue-Thur 14-16 hours
www.neu-ulm.de

7.7 Gardening

Ulm
Bentner Richard
Jungingen
Dornstadter Weg 24
Tel: 0731 65408

Frey Werner
Blaubeurer Strasse 227
Tel: 0731 381255
Roeder Johannes
Soeflingen Strasse 43
Tel: 0731 30506

Vogt Thomas
Stuttgarter Strasse 153/1
Tel: 0731 64124

Neu Ulm
Blessing Herbert
Am Kaltwaesslerle 43
Tel: 0731 81602

Vietzen Hermann
Baumgartenstrasse 28
Tel: 0731 81006

Section 8: Family and Leisure Activities

Your time in Germany -- especially in this region of Germany -- provides you with unlimited opportunities for family adventure and exploration. Because of the Ulm/Neu-Ulm location, i.e., sitting on the border between two German States, you are uniquely situated for easy access to the beauty, culture, foods, and customs of both Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg. You can also be in Italy, Austria, Switzerland or France, often in less than a two or three hour ride by train or car. So, whether you are planning a local afternoon of family fun, a day trip (“Ausflug”) exploring German history and culture, or a lengthier vacation in another European destination, this section is designed to get you started and excited about the many possibilities that await you and your family.

How do you get started? Internet, Internet, Internet! Travelling Europe has just never been easier. Most cities have their own websites, often in multiple languages. There are also awesome travel websites, cheap airline websites, museum websites, hotel websites, etc., the list goes on and on. (FYI: Websites in Germany often end in “.de” not “.com.”) Indeed, every country has their own domains, e.g., “.it” for Italy, “.fr” for France, “.uk” for United Kingdom etc.) Once you are signed-on to a site, look for and click-on the little British or American flag to see the web-pages in English, and you are on your way. Because the internet is simply the best resource these days, web-addresses are provided below when possible. If you cannot find a website in English, keep <http://www.babelfish.altavista.com> handy in your favourites, which can help you translate large amounts of copied text from most languages you will encounter.

8.1 Enjoying Ulm and Neu-Ulm

8.1-1 General Information

Where do I go for general information about our town?

www.ulm.de The Ulm website provides information about both Ulm and Neu-Ulm. The opportunity to switch to English appears once you choose either Ulm or Neu-Ulm. On the website, you can book hotels and tours, check out local festivals and concerts, and get more information about museums, parks, etc. Although most standard city tours are in German, it is possible to book private tours in English. This can be particularly helpful when family and friends are visiting from your home country. The tours are quite informative and entertaining. Once you have attended a few tours, you will easily be able to entertain out of town guests with your own tours.

Ulm Tourism Office: The Ulm Tourism office (Touristeninformation) is located in the modern white building just opposite the Münster in the center of town called the Stadthaus. In the Stadthaus, you can find many additional resources for exploring Ulm and Neu-Ulm, as well as professional tourism representatives willing to help you.

8.1-2 Getting Around *How do I get around Ulm and Neu-Ulm?*

Public Transportation: Ulm has a comprehensive Bus and S-Bahn public transportation system. Information regarding the bus system, routes and tickets can be found at www.ding-ulm.de

Biking and Walking: There are walking and bike paths that will take you almost anywhere in Ulm/Neu-Ulm. You can get Radkarten (Bike Maps) and/or Radtouren (Bike Tours) in the Stadthaus. Some are free and others can be purchased. Make sure you have little bells on all of your bikes. Bike and pedestrian traffic is heavy, especially in the city, and you and your children will need to use the bells often. (FYI, there is a large bike store near IKEA for all your bike needs).

Driving and Parking Garages: Ulm/Neu-Ulm has a comprehensive system of parking garages, which are electronically monitored for park space availability. They are all very nice, clean and safe. Remember to take your parking garage ticket with you, as you will be required to pay at a “Kasse” (cashier machine) in the parking garage lobby prior to returning to your car to depart. For extra safety and ease, near the exits, there are “Frauen” spaces reserved for women alone in their cars and “Kinderwagen” spaces reserved for parents with strollers.

Parking with a “Parkschein”: In public lots and on the streets, where indicated, you will need to pay to park. This is similar to meter parking, but there is not a meter at each space. Instead, if a parking area says “mit Parkschein,” look in the area for a machine (“Parkschein Automat”) where you can pay. Put in the money and press the green button for the receipt, which will have the date and time you must leave. Put the receipt on the dashboard on the driver’s side. Parking tickets in Ulm cost only about 5 euro, if you do not get back in time. You must get the receipt from the “Parkschein Automat” nearest the parking space. Not all “Parkschein Automats” are created equally.

Parking with a Blue Parking Clock (“Park Uhr”): Stop by a gas station and pick up a blue cardboard parking clock to keep in your car. In some areas (e.g., Söflingen), there are free timed parking areas. If the sign says “2 Stunden,” this means you can park your car for two hours. Set the blue parking clock on the time you arrive at the parking place and be back to your car before two hours have passed.

8.1-3 Festivals and Seasonal Markets

What are the traditional Ulm/Neu-Ulm events?

Germany loves its festivals, markets and parades, and Ulm/Neu-Ulm are no different. There are certain local activities that just should not be missed while you are living in Ulm/Neu-Ulm.

“Fasching” Parades (January/February): Like many of the towns and villages, Ulm will host a “Fasching” parade. “Fasching” is the southern German equivalent of Mardi-Gras and Carnival. “Fasching” originated as a pagan festival designed to scare away Winter and welcome in Spring. Today, “Fasching” is related to the Catholic celebration of Lent. Characteristically, “Fasching” parades involve intricately carved traditional masks and costumes -- the theme of which vary greatly from town to town. Because the costumes are designed to scare away winter, some of the masks can be quite scary looking including witches, ghosts, goblins and black cats. Parades can also get a little wild. Hold on to your hat and shoelaces, and have the kids bring bags to collect all of the thrown candy. And, of course, there is bound to be beer and wurst on hand.

“Schwörmontag” (Oath Monday) (July): The biggest festival unique to Ulm is “Schwörmontag”, which is the 3rd Monday in July each year. Although it is technically the swearing in of the new mayor, there is much celebration the weekend before the swearing in, as well as the day of the swearing in. During the weekend before Oath Monday, people pack the banks of the Danube to see 1,000 lit candles that are released to float down the river. On Oath Monday, the city returns to the Danube for “Nabada”, a carnivalesque water parade. “Nabada” is Swabian dialect and means “Hinunterbaden” (down-bathing) in High German because you bathe down in the river. Every fourth year, for hundreds of years, there has been a traditional battle on the river between the farmer and his wife, who wear traditional costumes. (Next battle is in 2009). Pick a side to cheer for and see which one ends up in the water first. Throughout the Nabada parade, prepare to get wet if you are too close to the shore, as many of the boats floating by have water guns and hoses. On a warm day, the kids can head down in bathing suits. And, yes, of course, there will be beer and wurst.

“Neu-Ulmer Volksfest” (April –May): Volksfest is essentially a large fair with rides and carnival games. (“Volk” means nation/folk/people) Lots of junk food and beer and wurst. The kids generally love these types of events.

“Das Original französische Dorf – Le petit Paris” Festival (August): (“Das Original französische Dorf” means the original French village – “Le petit Paris” means little Paris in French) On the grounds of Friedrichsau, Ulm pays tribute to all things French. A French town is erected, with a miniature Eiffel Tower and all, and you can enjoy French foods and wine. This is easy to reach via bike ride along the Danube.

Herbstmarkt (October): Every October in the Münster Platz, Ulm hosts the annual Fall festival. Crafts and food booths can give you a jump start on your holiday shopping. Yes, beer and wurst too.

Weihnachtsmarkt (December 1-December 22): The Ulm Christmas market is one of the nicest in the region. Come for the live Nativity scene, food, gifts, and wonderful ambience. Stay for the “Glühwein”, a wonderful warm, wine drink that makes you forget about the winter cold. Homemade waffles, quark balls, and fried apple cakes fill the air with wonderful smells. And, yes, of course, there is also beer and wurst. The footlong Feuerwurst with the garlic/onion tzaziki sauce is a must try. Ulm is quite beautiful and enjoyable during the entire Christmas season.

Throughout the year there may be other events and performances in the city centers. Try to go and enjoy all of them at least once.

8.1-4 Farmers’ Markets and Seasonal Foods *Are there food specialties I should enjoy?*

In this area of Germany, many people let nature and the seasons dictate their food choices and patterns in a charming (and more environmentally friendly) manner that is lost in most modern industrialized nations. Foods that are available in the Fall will disappear overnight and will be replaced with the next season’s bounty. While this process is initially disappointing and a bit disorienting -- especially when you have found something you love -- you will quickly find yourself pleasantly anticipating the return of the seasonal foods, always fresh and ready to eat at the peak of their natural growing cycles. Their absence during the rest of the year truly enhances

enjoyment of them when they return. A strawberry that does not taste like a strawberry will never be the same.

Both Ulm and Neu-Ulm host farmer's markets year round in their respective city centers on Wednesday and Saturday mornings. The Söflingen farmer's market is on Friday afternoon. When possible, take your own basket or canvas bag to the markets. In the markets, you will find fresh vegetables and fruits, meats, eggs, fresh pastas, flowers and herbs, fruit schnapps, etc. Oh, of course, there will also be wurst and beer stands to meet your hunger needs! The "honey" man might also be present, with every type of honey and honey flavors you can imagine. Look for the following "seasonal" and somewhat unique foods at the markets and in restaurants.

April/May: **Rhubarb and White Asparagus** (Weisser Spargel): During this time of year rhubarb will be plentiful and fresh rhubarb kuchen will appear in all the bakeries. Fresh white asparagus will also be plentiful, as will specialties in all the restaurants using the white asparagus. "Weisse Spargelcremesuppe" (white asparagus cream soup) is very good. Lamb and veal will appear on the Spring menus as well. **Fresh garlic** also makes an appearance. So you think that the garlic cloves with the dried up paper on the outside is fresh garlic? Think again. You have not really experienced garlic until you have had it this fresh.

June/July: "**Pffifferlinge**", **special small yellow mushrooms** are plentiful during this time of year and you will see them plentiful in pastas and sauces.

August/September: **Pumpkin and apples** dominate the markets, as do "**Johanisbeeren**", which are small bright red, very tart berries used for sauces and marmalades.

September/October: "**Zwiebelkuchen**" (onion quiches) and "**Herbstwein**" (young, still fermenting wine) is a must try combination during this season. You will also find "Zwiebel/Kartoffeln/Speck-Fladen/-Flammkuchen" (onion/potato/bacon flat cake) specialties cooked on dough in a hot oven available at many of the local festivals and markets. Goose and duck may also appear more frequently on the Fall menus.

October/November: "**Hirsch**" (deer) and/or "**Widschwein**" **wild boar** goulash (Wildgulasch) will start to appear on local menus and in the meat markets.

December: Ah, all of the X-mas food specialties are too plentiful to mention. **Waffles, cookies, marzipan, Xmas chocolates, etc.** Oh, and "**Glühwein**" (hot spiced wine) is everywhere. For the kids and as a non-alcoholic treat, try hot "**Kinderpunsch**", which is also very good.

In addition to seasonal food, this region also has several unique foods. You will find them on local menus and in the groceries stores. Just to name a few, "Maultaschen" are this region's ravioli/pierogi and can be big or small, served as a main dish or in soup. "Käse-Spätzle" is a local cheesy pasta. Kids like it often in a gravy without the cheese, which can be ordered as "Spätzle mit Sosse".

8.1-5 Parks, Green Spaces and Other Outdoor Fun *Where do I go for outdoor playtime?*

You will find small parks, play areas and green spaces all over Ulm and Neu-Ulm, so explore your own neighborhoods. Below are listed just a few of the bigger parks in the area. More information about each of these places can be found on the Ulm/Neu-Ulm website www.ulm.de.

Friedrichsau: This is a wonderful, sprawling park complex along the Danube river just outside of town on your way to Ober-Elchingen. In addition to mini-golf, an aquarium, a small zoo, and playground equipment, there are also several biergartens and nice restaurants. Bike there and stay the whole day.

Glacis: This is a beautiful flower park in Neu-Ulm that includes wonderful playground equipment, swimming swans and blooming roses, water play areas, and a wonderful café and biergarten situated in the back of the park next to a giant ship play structure. In June, July and August, there are musical concerts at the park's amphitheatre every Sunday later afternoon and/or evening. Schedules are usually posted at the park.

Art Walk at the University: The University of Ulm has beautiful walking paths with over 58 works of outdoor art on display. Situated in the hills of Esselsberg, looking out over the city, the walk is beautiful in more ways than one.

Danube River Walk: There are walking and biking paths on either side of the Danube for maximum enjoyment. Bring your blanket, picnic and book and situate yourself on the banks of the river.

Botanical Gardens: Ulm’s botanical gardens have expansive walking paths through many different types of gardens. Take the kids to the rose garden pond in the Spring. There are usually frogs jumping everywhere and hundreds of tadpoles in various stages of growth.

See also **Section 7**, Sports and Hobbies, for other outdoor activities, such as ice skating (Section 7.5) and swimming (Section 7.1).

8.1-6 Indoor Family Activities: *What do we do locally on those rainy days?*

Unfortunately, due to the Ulm/Neu-Ulm location near the foothills of the Swabian Alps, rainy and cloudy days are a regular occurrence. Hopefully, the following list of art, culture and fun will help keep the whole family happier on those rainy days. Plus, buy good rain coats for the entire family. Rain does not keep the Ulmers inside. An indoor playground is located at the mall, the “Blautalcenter” (see shopping section).

a. Culture and Art

Unless otherwise indicated, all information for locations, opening hours and ticket prices can be found at www.ulm.de

Ulmer Museum: This museum is in town near the Ulm “Rathaus”. It has a nice collection of modern and optical illusion art. There is also a full, old wooden model of Ulm from the 1700 or 1800’s. The old part of the museum is housed in the house of one of Ulm’s wealthier families, which retains some of its period furniture and detail. The architecture of the new part of the museum is almost as interesting as the art. Even little kids will enjoy their experience in this museum.

“Edwin Scharff Museum”: Located in Neu-Ulm near the town square, this museum houses sculptures, paintings and drawings by local artist Edwin Scharff (yes, with two ff).

“Museum der Brotkultur”: (museum of bread culture) This is a museum (near the “Salzstadel” Parking Garage) dedicated to the history of bread and its importance in our lives and cultures. Look for bread and pretzel making opportunities.

“Ulmer Münster”: There is much to see in the old church that dominates the Ulm landscape. A tour of the stain glass windows and choir stalls is particularly worthwhile. And, although the view is better on a sunny day, you can always climb the 700+ stairs in the Ulm tower.

Wiblingen Monastery: This is a former Benedictine monastery, founded in 1093. The Rococo library is a must see destination. Just off the library, the kids can try to write like the old Benedictine monks using tracing paper and pictures of old texts.

Ulm Library: The great big glass pyramid building near the Rathaus is the Ulm Library. The second floor is a childrens area with games and books (in English and German). There are cozy places to read and play. It is easy to sign up for a library card and make this a regular routine for your family.

b. Family Fun

Indoor Swimming: By far, the most enjoyable year-round indoor activities in this area can be found at the indoor swimming baths. See Section 7.1 for a comprehensive list of local swimming houses. Try them all. They offer different swimming facilities and fun ranging from relaxation to full blown water park. Many will have water slides, cafes, thermal baths (indoor and out), small child playing areas, etc.

Bowling Center and Niki’s Sports Bar: Thanks to the former presence of the US Army in Neu-Ulm, there is an American style bowling alley. Includes typical bowling alley food, beer and video games. Call ahead to reserve a lane. Great for birthday parties. www.bowlingcenter-neu-ulm.de Steubenstrasse 2, Neu-Ulm 89231 Tel. 0731-70-70-1-0.

Ceramic Painting: For an afternoon of ceramic painting, contact www.atelierkeramik.de Wileyrstrasse 21, Neu-Ulm, 89231, Tel. 0731-8-24

Movie Theaters: See Section 9 for a listing of local movie theaters. The Xinedome theater in Ulm will occasionally show “OV” movies, ie, Original Version, which means that they will be in English if originally

filmed in English. Go to www.xinedome.de and look at Special Events. OV movies will usually run for a very short time and only for a few select movies. When you are really desperate, there is an English movie theater in Stuttgart near the army base, listed below in the Baden-Württemberg section.

Sport Centers: There are some great indoor sport centers that provide courses and activities for adults and children. An example is TSG Söflingen, www.tsg-soeflingen.de, which has activities ranging from basketball and soccer to gymnastics and rock climbing. If your kids were involved in activities at home, do not hesitate to seek out similar activities here. Although a little intimidating at first due to the language, it is a great opportunity to learn the language, make new friends, and have fun.

fbs (Familienbildungsstaette) Courses: The city offers a wide variety of courses for children, adults and family. There are exercise courses, art classes, cooking classes etc. There is an fbs book of courses published twice a year. You can start your fbs course searching on-line at www.fbs.ulm.de. There is also an fbs office located in Ulm across from the main Sparkasse building. See also section 3. Tel: 0731-96286-0

8.2 Exploring Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria

General Information *Where do I go for general information?*

Once again, Internet, Internet, Internet. Each city will have its own Internet website and we provide as many websites as possible in here. For information on all German cities (accessible in alphabetical order) gathered on one site, see www.deutsche-heimat.de. For information regarding various attractions all over Germany, you can go to www.germany-tourism.de. If you prefer to have a book you can take with you, we also recommend purchasing the **ADAC Travel Guide, “City Guide Germany.”** This can be ordered and purchased from local bookstores in English. It provides a snapshot view and one day walking tours of 175 different German cities.

8.2-1 The Near-By Big Cities: *Stuttgart and Munich*

When small town life gets a bit routine, do not despair. There are two large German cities within easy reach of Ulm/Neu-Ulm: Stuttgart in Baden-Württemberg (about 1 hour drive) and Munich in Bavaria (about 1.5 hour drive). Both cities have comprehensive websites in English that can assist you with any and all information you might need. Through these websites, you can contact tourism professionals that can help you plan your day trips, weekends etc. Both cities have everything a big city should offer, ie, museums, professional sports and theater, shopping, castles, parks, international restaurants, etc.

Stuttgart: www.stuttgart-tourist.de

Munich: www.muenchen.de

There will also be tourist information centers available near the city centers or train stations where discount city cards can be purchased. The tourist offices generally provide city and transportation maps for the S- Bahn, U- Bahn and buses.

8.2-2 The Romantic Road

Straddling Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg (and within easy reach of Ulm/Neu-Ulm) is the Romantic Road (www.romanticroad.de), Germany’s best known tourist route from the River Main to the Alps. There are a multitude of cities and towns on this route that are rich in cultural activities, castles, nature, and other historical sites, all within driving range from Ulm/Neu-Ulm. You simply cannot go wrong exploring any of the cities on the romantic road. Therefore, we are providing general website information regarding the romantic road, as well as individual website addresses for each of the cities on the romantic road route. Internet addresses and general information regarding the cities on the romantic road are provided below:

Würzburg (www.wuerzburg.de)

On the river Main, surrounded by vineyards; see the Marienburg fortress.

Tauberbischofsheim (www.tauberbischofsheim.de)

One of the oldest towns in the Tauber Valley; Olympic fencing site.

Lauda-Königshofen (www.lauda-koenigshofen.de)

Wine town; delightful hiking and biking paths; heyday of Franconian Baroque period architecture.

Wickersheim (www.wickersheim.de)

Renaissance palaces with Versailles style gardens; health resort town.

Creglingen (www.creglingen.de)

Medieval health resort town; Thimble museum; farm holidays; explore barefoot nature park.

Schillingfürst (www.schillingfuerst.de)

In the heart of forested countryside; see the Baroque castle Princes of Hohenlohe-Schillingsfürst.

Dinkelsbühl (www.dinkelsbuehl.de)

Historical old town with 16 towers and fully preserved medieval wall; interesting witch hunt history.

Nördlingen In Reis (www.noerdlingen.de)

Only town in Germany with battlements and walls that can be walked all the way around; site of famous meteor and meteor museum.

Donauwörth (www.donauwoerth.de)

Originally an old fishing village on an island in the Woernitz river; Reichsstrasse is filled with beautiful patrician houses.

Friedberg (www.friedberg.de)

Founded by Duke Ludwig II in 1264; distinguished by a medieval town center.

Hohenfurch (www.hohenfurch.de)

Gateway to the Pfaffenwinkel region; nature vacations with riding, biking, hiking, cross country skiing.

Peiting (www.peiting.de)

One of Bavaria's oldest settlements; take excursion up the Hohenpreissenberg mountain; see Welfen dynasty castle.

Wildsteig (www.wildsteig.de)

Surrounded by Ammer and Allgäu mountains; lakes and conservation area.

Halblech (www.halblech.de)

Ranging from 800 to 2100 meters altitude; 2.5 natural toboggan run; four lakes.

Füssen (www.fuessen.de)

Near to Ludwig's Neuschwanstein castle; home to the Neuschwanstein musical about King Ludwig II's life; Bavaria's highest mountain town.

Bad Mergentheim (www.bad-mergentheim.de)

Spa town; see Castle of the Teutonic Order

Röttingen (www.roettingen.de)

Röttingen Festival in summer; romantic town in lower Franconia.

Rothenberg ob der Tauber (www.rothenberg.de)

Famous Christmas town and market; preserved medieval town.

Feuchtwangen (www.feuchtwangen.de)

Hosts Cloister festival, one of Bavaria's biggest and most traditional.

Wallerstein (www.wallerstein.de)

Located in the heart of the Ries district' New Castle castle park is attraction.

Harburg (www.harburg.de)

Harburg castle towers above town; one of Germany's best preserved castles.

Augsburg (www.augsburg.de)

One of Germany's oldest cities; shopping on grand Maximilianstrasse.

Landsberg am Lech (www.landsberg.de)
Founded by Henry the Lion 700 years ago; look for dominant „Schmalz“ tower.

Schongau (www.schongau.de)
Medieval walls, gateways and towers demonstrate its Bavarian fortress history.

Rottenbuch (www.rottenbuch.de)
Health resort town in the beautiful Ammer valley; see Maria Geburt convent church.

Steingaden (www.steingaden.de)
Subapline countryside is a hiker's paradise; world famous pilgrimage church.

Schwangau (www.schwangau.de)
Home to the King's castles including Neuschwanstein and Hohenschwangau castles; cable car to 1720m high Tegelberg mountain; Royal Crystal Thermal Baths.

Zugspitze. (www.zugspitze.de)
Germany's highest mountain at 2964 meters; take train up the mountain and see mountain peaks of Germany, Austria, Italy and Switzerland.

8.2-3 The Bodensee (Lake Constance) www.bodensee-info.com

Within a one hour drive, you can be relaxing on the shores of Lake Constance, with a beautiful view of the surrounding Alps where Germany, Austria and Switzerland meet. Take a look at the following websites and you will be planning your trips to the Bodensee without hesitation. Day trips or long weekends retreats are equally enjoyable. Three of the prettiest German towns on the Bodensee are Lindau, Meersburg and Konstanz.

www.lindau.de

www.meersburg.de

www.konstanz.de

From any of these locations you can enjoy the Island of Mainau (www.mainau.de) a beautiful botanical island in the middle of the Bodensee. For the kids, do not miss Sea Life Konstanz (www.sealifeeurope.com). Boat rides, biking, hiking, lazy afternoons of swimming and relaxing, eating and enjoying.

8.3 Other Cities and Towns in Germany

There are many other cities and towns nearby to explore, especially within a 15-20 minute drive, e.g., Laupheim, Biberach, Illertissen, and Erbach just to name a few. A bit further away, the university cities of Heidelberg (www.e-heidelberg.dcom) and Tübingen (www.tuebingen.de) are also very worthy of a day trip to explore the Heidelberg fortress and punt on the river in Tübingen. Below we will highlight various activities and/or sites in many of these towns. But, even if not listed here, do not hesitate to look for web addresses for any town you may see or just take a random drive and explore.

8.3-1 Getting Around *How do I travel to the other cities in Germany?*

Public Transportation: Germany has a great train system (Deutsche Bahn) that is easy to use. You can go to www.db.de and reserve the English version of the website in your favorites. Once you familiarize yourself with the website, you can book tickets and reserve seats on-line and print the tickets from your home computer. Look into getting a yearly DB25 or DB50 card that will get you all of your tickets 25% or 50% reduced, respectively, and allow your children under age 14 to travel for free. If both spouses purchase the DB card, the second spouse's card is cheaper. If the working spouse travels frequently for work, you may be able to get your company to pay for the card. There is also a card that allows unlimited riding for a year, but it is very expensive. When possible, it is wise to reserve seats. You can get seats around a table or in a semi-private compartment. If you miss your train, your tickets are usually good for subsequent trains, but your reserved seats will no longer be available. Many trains have a Bord-Bistro where you can get food and drinks.

Driving by Car: To many areas, driving by car is the best approach, especially if you have a navi. Be aware of the child seat requirements (see Section 12) and watch out for ticketing cameras as you enter a new town. Please note, during vacation time, the Autobahns can be very crowded and can delay your car travel by several hours.

8.3-2 Festivals and Seasonal Markets outside of Ulm

Almost every town has their special festivals and seasonal markets. There are definitely too many potentially wonderful experiences to mention, so please check websites and keep your eyes open for posters around town. Many of the town specific festivals will take place in June and July (many with parades and evening fireworks). In this section, we highlight a few of the area festivals and markets to catch your attention and wet your appetite. For a list of all Christmas markets in Germany, go to www.germany-tourism.de and click on “Christmas Markets.”

Munich “Oktoberfest” (September/October): Munich’s world famous Oktoberfest is now within your reach. The Oktoberfest is like a giant fair with rides and carnival games. There are also tents full of traditional music, beer, foods and costumes. The best experiences are in the reserved tents, which can usually only be accessed with a German person who belongs to the club or organization sponsoring the tent. There is a huge crowd of international people (especially young people) who come to the Oktoberfest to drink. If traveling with small children, be aware of this party atmosphere.

Stuttgart’s “Frühlingsfest” (April) and “Volksfest” (September/October): www.stuttgart.de If you cannot go to the Oktoberfest, the Spring and Fall festivals in Stuttgart will give you a good taste of what an Oktoberfest is like, but on a much smaller scale. Kids love these festivals and you are likely to have more of a local crowd.

Illertissen Renaissance Art Festival (September): www.illertissen.de Illertissen is a beautiful little town approximately 20-minute drive from Ulm. They have a lovely Fall art festival, with high end crafts and art, and Renaissance inspired activities, such as jousting, belly and fire dancing, horse shows etc. At night, the trails are beautifully lit with torches. This is also a great place to get your first taste of the Fall wines and onion pastries. Great event for the whole family.

Esslingen Medieval “Weihnachtsmarkt” (December): www.esslingen.de Esslingen Am Neckar is the second largest city in the Stuttgart area and is an easy 45-minute train ride from Ulm. Their Christmas market has a unique medieval theme, with medieval games and activities. It is definitely worth a trip to experience this unique cultural experience.

“Biberacher Schützenfest” (July): www.biberach.de This festival is centered on celebrating the children of Biberach. Lively and costumed parades and theater are the hallmark of this 10 day long celebration. Only a 25 minute drive from Ulm, this festival should not be missed.

“Münchner Viktualienmarkt” (Year Round): www.muenchen.de Munich’s daily farmer’s market is world famous for its foods, spices, and cultural events. Right off the Marienplatz in central Munich, a visit to this market should not be missed.

8.3-3 Family Indoor and Outdoor Fun in the Greater Ulm/Neu-Ulm Area

a. Museums

For a list of all major museums in Germany, you can go to www.germany-tourism.de and click on Museums. However, we provide you with a list of highlights from the greater Ulm area below.

Museums in or near Stuttgart

Unless otherwise indicated, information regarding these museums can be found at www.stuttgart.de. Please note that all Stuttgart museums are closed on Mondays. This is not a complete list of Stuttgart museums.

“Museum am Löwentor”

Great collection featuring fossils & dinosaurs, complete with reconstructions. Amber collection. Books, models, miniature dinosaurs for sale. Snack bar. Behind the museum is a wonderful climbing frame. From the “Löwentor”, it is a short walk (3-5 min.) to the top entrance of “Wilhelma” Zoo & to the Schloß “Schloß Rosenstein”. Natural history museum with animal models / stuffed animals. Also has a beautiful rose garden on the grounds.

“Württembergisches Landesmuseum Stuttgart“ (Altes Schloß Museum)

Large museum of the federal state Baden Württemberg with varied exhibitions. English tours available 13.00 on the last Sunday of each month (check first).

“Staatsgalerie” (State Art Gallery)

Large gallery housing old masters - modern. Large Picasso collection. Check for guided tours for children or adults.

Mercedes Benz Museum

Children are welcomed here and admission is free. Many models of Mercedes exhibited and there is a narration provided by wireless earphones (ask for English or other foreign language versions). Parking lot (Besucher) is located outside facility and all visitors must take a short bus ride to the museum. There is also a parking garage.

Tour of Mercedes Benz Factory

Tel: (07031) 902447 (07031) 902620

This tour takes about 1.5 hours and is available Mon. – Fri. at 12.45, 1.15, and 2.15. No children are allowed on tours (unless you are picking up your new Mercedes!). The factory is located in Sindelfingen. Please call (they speak excellent English) for further information and to see if reservations are necessary.

Porsche Museum

Museum of the world-famous manufacturer of racing and sports cars. This museum is fairly small.

Museum for Volkskultur in Wurttemberg

Schloß Waldenbuch, Waldenbuch. Tel: (07157) 8204. Open: Tues. – Sat. 10:00 – 17:00. Sundays 10:00 – 18:00.

Admission is free. Go back in time to experience life in 17th century. Tools, furniture - complete rooms set up the way it was then. One room is set up to show a typical store.

Urweltmuseum Hauff www.urweltmuseum.de/Englisch/Frameseite_eng.htm

Beautifully presented fossil museum. Even better is the fossil quarry, located before you enter the town on the right. There is a small sign “Urweltsteinbruch”. You can hire a chisel and hammer or bring your own, pay a small entrance fee & collect fossils. Ammonite fossils are abundant. In an hour you could have many. It is fabulous. Take bags.

Museums in or near Munich

Unless otherwise indicated, information regarding these museums can be found at www.muenchen.de. This is not a complete list of Munich’s museums.

Deutsches Museum

Munich’s Science and Industry museum; very hands-on areas for children’s exploration; space area and model ship areas especially enjoyable.

BMW Museum and BMW World www.bmw-welt.com

BMW’s are museum exploring technical feats of the past and potential futuristic travel adventures.

Bavarian Film Studios

Visit the worlds of Caberet, Never Ending Story and Das Boot, which were all filmed in this studio. Learn about special effects and other filming techniques.

Other Museums in the Greater Ulm Area

Die Welt Von Steiff www.steiff.de Tel. 07322/131-1

Visit the world famous Steiff Teddy Bear museum and factory. History of the Teddy Bear and lots of stuffed animal fun. Great place for a birthday party too. Located in the town of Giengen/Brenz about 35 minutes from Ulm.

„Hohenloher Freilandmuseum Wackershofen“

www.schaebischhall.de/en/culture/hohenloher-freilandmuseum.html

Wackershofen (near Schwabish-Hall) Tel: (0791) 84061 Open: April, May & Oct. 10:00 –17:30, June – Sept., 9:00 - 18:00 Wonderful open air museum N-E of Stuttgart. Reconstructed houses, shops & farms : a village from centuries past, with working exhibits.

“Vogtsbauernhof” Schwarzwälder Freilichtmuseum Gutach Tel: (07831) 203

An excellent open-air museum near Gutach on Route B33 , South of Stuttgart in the Black Forest, reconstructed original dwellings, mills, barns, saw mills, etc. from various Black Forest regions. An English guidebook may be purchased at the ticket booth.

„Deutsches Automuseum“ (German Car Museum)

www.deutsches-automuseum.de

Schloß Langenburg Tel: (07905) 1041

Check for opening times. All kinds of cars in the beautiful Schloß Langenburg.

„Pfahlbau Museum“ of Unteruhldingen (Bodensee)

Reconstruction of Stone and Bronze Age settlements on the edge of the Bodensee at Unteruhldingen

“Schwäbisches-Allemannisches Fastnachtsmuseum“ (Narren (Fool’s) Costume Museum)

www.narenschopf.de/Ausstellungen/English/english.html

Directions ; Located near Villingen-Schwenningen. Drive south on the A81 in the direction of Singen. Exit on the Donaueschingen Autobahn A864 , then follow the signs to Bad Dürkheim , then look out for signs directing you to Narrenschopf. Open: Daily 14:00 – 18:00 Sun 10:00 – 12:00 & 14:00 – 17:00. This is Germany’s largest costume museum. It has over 400 varieties of Narrenkleider (Fool’s costumes) from 71 Narren towns on southern Baden Württemberg. You can also watch films of the various parades of the region, and buy books, dressed dolls and small replicas of the various masks. Admission is less than 4DM for adults and children under 12 are free.

“Sinnwelt Museum” (Senses World) (Biberach)

www.jordanbad.de

Hands-on museum with about 80 exhibits dedicated to exploring the senses. Connected to the Jordanbad swim and sauna complex for an entire day of family fun.

b. Planetariums

Mittlerer Schlossgarten (Stuttgart Website) Stuttgart (City Center) Tel: (0711) 1629215

Daily shows for children over 6 years old. Worth booking during holidays.

Laupheim Planetarium

www.planetarium-laupheim.de

Planetarium that is about 15 minutes from Ulm. Check websites for shows and times.

c. Castles / Schlösser

Ludwigsburg Palace & Gardens

www.schloss-ludwigsburg.de

Schloß Ludwigsburg in Ludwigsburg Tel 07141 1412440. Located about 20km North of Stuttgart, this is an enormous palace & garden with a special fairy-tale garden for children. Tours available in English.

Schloss Solitude

www.schloss-solitude.de

Tel: (0711) 696699 West of Stuttgart, near Botnang and Weilimdorf. Beautiful small “pleasure retreat” surrounded by forest. German tours @ 30 min. duration. It is possible to wander through alone.

Schloss Lichtenstein

www.schloss-lichtenstein.de

Tel: (07129) 4102 Located south of Stuttgart, a little further south from Tübingen. Small neo-gothic Schloss with spectacular views. German tours @ 30 min duration. Picnic & playground adjoin park. Playground has a “flying fox” which appeals to children. Small snack shop.

Burg Hohenzollern

www.preusse.de/en/today/burg_hohenzollern.html

Tel: (07471) 2428 South of Stuttgart, near Hechingen. Take the B27. Neo-gothic fortress-like castle with spectacular views. German tours @ 45 min. duration.

Linderhof Castle (One of King Ludwig's Castles)

www.linderhof.de

Linderhof Palace is situated in the Graswang Valley, near the village of Ettal. The only palace King Ludwig II lived to see completed.

Neuschwanstein Castle (Inspired the Disney Castle)

www.neuschwanstein.de

Neuschwanstein Castle is near the Forggensee in the Allgäu, very close to Schwangau. The path to the castle starts in the village of Hohenschwangau, and this is also your last opportunity to park. You must buy your tickets down here too, before you set off for the castle. Castle can only be seen with a guided tour. English tours available.

Hohenschwangau Castle (Across from Neuschwanstein)

www.hohenschwangau.de

Crown prince Maximilian of Bavaria had the ruin of Schwanstein Castle being rebuilt in neo-Gothic style. This is where King Ludwig II spent his childhood.

d. Additional Parks and Playgrounds

Hohenpark Killesberg (Stuttgart)

Behind the Messe in Stuttgart. U-Bahn 7, Bus 43. Beautiful, extensive park with streams; great playground; miniature train rides in summer; children can pet ponies, donkeys, and goats; peacocks, flamingoes & ducks; German - language puppet theatre with regular performances (program posted outside the building); several cafes in summer including a Biergarten; 2 cafes all year round; good for roller skating/inline skating. Lantern festival & firework display once a year in summer.

Waldheim

Many towns have a local Waldheim. A Waldheim is a beer garden, which usually has a nice play area. Many serve simple German food. Check a map of your town to find your Waldheim or consult your local Rathaus.

e. Zoos and Wildlife Parks

You can go to www.zoo-infos.de for information regarding all zoos in Germany. There are also zoo information links for other European cities. Below is a list of the closer zoos and wildlife parks in our area.

Wilhelma Zoo (Stuttgart)

www.wilhelma.de

Neckartalstraße in Stuttgart - Bad Canstatt Tel:(0711) 54020 Open: Daily 8:00 – 18:00. Follow the signs with the 3 elephants around Stuttgart and you will arrive at the zoo. There is parking, or take the U14 in the direction of Mülhausen and get off at "Wilhelma".

Aidlingen Pony Hof

www.ponyhof-gechingen.de

Ponies and horses are led through the woods by teenagers or yourself. It is open from 10.00 Mon. to Fri. To get there: just outside Aidlingen, take the road for Deufringen. Drive through Deufringen, travel about 1 km, turn right at the sign to Ostelheim, then right again. Go up a small hill until you reach a map sign. Turn left at the next fork, then take the middle road to the Berghof. Go up the hill until you see a barn with a corral in the middle of the yard.

Wildpark Pforzheim

www.stadt-pforzheim.de

Walking paths around fenced in animals. Free admission. You may buy food to feed the animals. In Pforzheim, follow the signs to WILDPARK.

Allensbach Wildpark (Bodensee)

www.wildundfreizeitpark.de

75 hectares of wild park and playground with large grilling area. Bears, wolves and other wild animals.

Affenberg (Bodensee)

www.affenberg.com

Near Mendlishausen, and the Kloster at Salem. Barbary Ape reserve near the Bodensee where the apes take food from your hand. Open mid-March until November 1. Open 9:00-18:00 Adults E 5, Kids E 3

Tierpark Hellabrunn (Munich)

www.tierpark-hellabrunn.de

The oldest Geo-Zoo of the world. Idyllic nature island within the landscape conservation area of the Isar meadow located directly in front of the gates of the cosmopolitan city of Munich. The zoo is divided into continents according to the Geo-zoo concept which results in 15 park areas in an area of 36 hectares.

SeaLife Konstanz

www.sealifeeurope.com

As well as helping millions of people to discover the marvels of the marine world, the SEA LIFE network has an important role to play in helping safeguard our seas and their inhabitants for the future. Great learning and hands-on opportunity for kids of all ages.

Alpakahof

www.alpakahof.de

Petting zoo in Bad Wurzbach. You can get driving directions from your address on the website.

f. Amusement and Adventure Parks

You can go to www.germany-tourism.de and click on “Theme Parks” for a list of all of the amusement and adventures parks in Germany. We have also listed some of the closer parks in the area for your reference.

Legoland

www.legoland.de

Only 25 minutes from Ulm, do not hesitate to buy year passes if you have kids between the ages of 3 and 12. The experience is still very European and it is possible to head out for 2-3 hours of fun any time you want (or need!). Safe, fun and clean...kids can really have a bit of independence in this environment. Great place for a Halloween celebration, as the workers dress up and everything is decorated.

Conny Land

[www.connyland.ch/connyland/english/index\(1\).htm](http://www.connyland.ch/connyland/english/index(1).htm)

8557 Lipperswil, Switzerland. Tel: (0041) 52 7627271. Open: Middle March until end October. South of the Bodensee, between Kreuzlingen and Müllheim. Dolphinarium, children’s zoo, rides, variety shows, restaurants and picnic area.

Tripssdrill Erlebnis Park

www.tripsdill.de

74389 Cleebornn-Tripssdrill. Tel: (07135) 9999. Take the A81 north of Stuttgart. Exit at the B27 to Tripssdrill, Bietigheim-Bissingen, Freudental.. Open beginning April until end October 9.00-18.00. A large adventure park with many rides, picnic and grill facilities. Suitable for the whole family but mostly geared to younger children.

Europa Park

www.europapark.de

Rust (south of Strasbourg, but in Germany). Tel: (07822) 770. Take the A5 from Karlsruhe to Basel. Exit Ettenheim. Open from March until November 2nd, from 9.00am. European theme park designed to bring European countries to life. Hotels, rides and food have varying European country themes. Over 50 rides, attractions and live shows. Suitable for younger and older children.

Spieleland Ravensburger

www.spieleland.de

Near Weingarten towards Bodensee. A good place for 3-5 year olds.

g. Boats and River Cruises

Rhine River Cruises

KD Kohn-Dusseldorfer Frankenwerft 15 Köln Tel:(0221) 2583011 (02687) 8239 Fax: (0221) 2088345

A popular cruise is the 4 hour one from Bingen to Koblenz with a train return. Approximate cost is about 30 Euros for adults and 15 Euros for children. Very beautiful.

Neckar River Cruises

Neckar-Personen Schifffahrt Berta Epple GmbH & Co. KG, 70376 Stuttgart - Bad Canstatt

Tel: (0711) 549-97060 End of March until end of October, from the Wilhelma dock in Bad Canstatt, as far as the towns of Marbach and Lauffen. Trips around the river harbor daily at 9.00 and 13.00. Short trips to Aldingen and back on Saturdays 19.30- 23.30 (with dancing), and Wednesdays 18.30-21.30 (wine cruise).

h. Ski Areas

Germans living in this area love to ski and for good reason. It is a great outdoor activity and there are many, many good ski regions in the German, French, Italian, Austrian and Swiss Alps. Whether you are a beginner or an expert, you will find wonderful ski places for you and your family. The ski schools in the region for children are fantastic, and even first time skiers can easily learn to ski, especially if put in a weeklong school environment. Below we make some recommendations for day trips and weekends, as well as for more distant locations for weeklong vacations. It is also best to talk to people at the school and find out where is the best place to go.

Day and Weekend Ski Resort Recommendations

The closest alpine ski regions are located in the “Allgäuer Alpen” and here is a selection of the ones that can be reached within an hour or two and that have slopes for beginners and offer ski playgrounds for kids. We list the name of the village and the ski lifts we have tried. Just drive the A7 south of Ulm. For further directions to the villages with ski lifts check Mapquest or any other search engine. One good website is http://www.dein-allgaeu.de/berge/berge_winter_skigebiete.html

Unterjoch:

Speiserlifte
Tel: 08324 7223
Sonnenhanglift
Tel: 08324 8081

Obersdorf:

Fellhorn
Tel: 0700 555 33 888
Nebelhorn
Tel: 0700 555 33 666
Söllereckbahn
Tel: 08322 5757

Balderschwang:

Riedberger Horn
Tel: 8326 7773
Hochschelpen
Tel: 8326 7773

Longer Ski Vacation Recommendations

Flauchau Ski Area

www.flachau.de

Very family friendly ski area about 30 minutes outside Salzburg, Austria. Ski school is at the top of the mountain, so even beginners have great mountain experience. There is a very fun after ski atmosphere here with bungee trampolines, sledding, etc.

Kumbichl Hotel

Mayrhofen Austria Tel: (0043) 528562371

Great location, with good hotel and excellent ski school: Uli Speiss Ski School (0043) 52852795. Highly recommended.

Hotel Gruner Baum

Bad Gastein, Austria Tel: (0043) 643425160

grunerbaum@relaischateaux. 4-5 hour drive from Stuttgart area. Highly recommended.

Alpenrose

Berwang Austria Tel: (0043) 56732424

www.diekinderhotels.com. 2-3 hour drive from Stuttgart area. Highly recommended for families.

There is also a Snow Shuttle daily from Salzburg, Austria that visits different ski resorts in the area each day. If you want to combine a ski vacation with a city vacation, or just try out skiing for the first time while also vacationing in Salzburg, this is a nice option. Snow shuttle personnel can reserve ski school and/or a private instructor. They will also help you with ski rental on the mountain. Many ski resorts will also offer sledding, tobogganing, sleigh rides etc. making a side trip into the mountains great even if you do not ski. Go to www.salzburg.info and click on “Snow Shuttle.”

i. Miscellaneous Family Leisure Activities

Robinswood Kletterwald (Rope Course and Climbing in the Forest)
www.robins-wood.de 0173 89 70 349 Rope climbing/courses in the trees for the whole family. Near Schloss Scherneck in Scherneck.

Bobbahn Donnstetten
www.bobbahn-donnstetten.de
Böhringen Strasse 12 D-72587 Römerstrein
Summer and winter tobogganing. There are also bungee trampolines and a ski-lift available.

Busalp Toboggan Run (Switzerland)
Jungfrau region of Switzerland. An 8.2 km toboggan run from Busalp to Grindelwald. Catch the bus in Grindelwald to Busalp. There is one each hour, at 9:25, 10:25, and so on. Load your sled on the back and ride the bus to the mountain top, then sled for 15 minutes down again. It is possible to go as fast or as slow as you like, so it is good for young children.

Dream Bowl Bowling Lanes (Stuttgart)
Located in Sindelfingen at the Goldberg S-Bahn stop. They provide bumper guards on the lanes for the young children and speak English. Great place for birthday parties. Also provide Miniature Golf and Darts.

Golfplatz Schonbuch (Stuttgart)
Schaichhof Holzgerlingen (07157) 67966 Public Golf Course.

8.4 Planning Your European Vacations

The opportunity to travel and explore Europe is one of the greatest pleasures of an expatriate assignment. Each European country is unique, with its own language, food, culture, and customs. This is what makes it so great, but this is also what can be intimidating about planning travel, especially with the whole family. Once you have familiarized yourself with the travel tools available, and you have assessed your own family’s needs for a good travel experience, you will find that travel can be fun and amazingly rewarding.

8.4-1 General Information: *Where do I start when planning my European vacation?*

Once again, the Internet is the best place to start when planning a European vacation. All of the countries have general websites – in English -- to get you started. In addition, each city will also likely have a website in English. The English travel guides (e.g., Fodor’s and Frommer’s) have also gone on-line. In addition, by just typing in a destination in a general search engine, you will be inundated with information, including informal travel blogs. All of these sources can be helpful, but to get you started we are providing the general official websites from several possible European travel destinations. A general Europe website is also available:

www.visiteurope.com
www.austria-tourism.at
www.germany-tourism.de
www.italiantourism.com
www.franceguide.com
www.visitsweden.com
www.spain.info
www.visitscotland.com
www.czech.cz
www.polandtour.org

www.switzerland.com
www.greecetourism.com
www.us.holland.com
www.visitdenmark.com
www.visitfinland.com
www.discoverireland.com
www.visitbritain.com
www.hungarytourism.hu
www.serbiatourism.org

8.4-2 Getting Around *How do I travel to the other countries from Ulm/Neu-Ulm?*

By Plane: One of the quickest, and sometimes least expensive, ways to travel Europe is by airplane. When traveling from Ulm, you have several airport options. Determining which airport to fly out of will depend on flight availability, price, and personal preference. Information regarding the area's airports (Flughafens) is provided below. You can check flight route information through the airport websites, but you are not likely to get the best prices by booking through the airports.

Stuttgart Airport

www.flughafen-stuttgart.de

Stuttgart airport is about 45 minute drive from Ulm, depending on traffic. You can also take the train and S-Bahn to the airport from Ulm. The airport is very manageable in size and flying in and out is relatively easy.

Munich Airport

www.munichairport.de

Munich airport is about a 2 hour drive from Ulm, depending on traffic. You can also take a train and S-Bahn to the airport. Munich airport is much bigger than the Stuttgart airport. Knowledge of terminal departure will be necessary.

Memmingen Airport

www.allgau-airport.de

Memmingen airport is about a 35 minute drive from Ulm. This is a very small airport with limited travel routes.

Frankfurt International Airport

www.frankfurt-airport.de

Frankfurt is a large international airport. You can catch a train from Ulm directly into the Frankfurt airport that takes 2 hours and 11 minutes. This is by far the most convenient way to reach the Frankfurt airport.

Zurich, Switzerland Airport

www.zurich-airport.com

Zurich airport is about a 2 hour and 15 minute drive from Ulm. Zurich is a large international airport that sometimes has the best flight schedules and prices, especially for travel to Spain.

Friedrichshafen Airport

www.fly-away.de

Small airport; Ryan Air flights.

When booking flights, and to look for flight deals out of Germany, you want to look at the following websites:

German Wings www.germanwings.de This is the Southwest airlines of Germany; no seat assignments, so get there early to check in.

TuiFly www.tuifly.de You can get great deals to remote locations, but flight days will be limited.

Ryan Air www.ryanair.com Discount flights flying out of Friedrichshafen airport.

Air Berlin www.airberlin.com Discount airline flying to many vacation destinations; look for last minute deals.

Lufthansa www.lufthansa.de Major airline related to United Airlines, but often has deals and best flight times and routes.

Other cheap airlines websites:

www.skyways.de

www.dohop.com www.skyscanner.com

www.skylow.com

www.gooflight.com

www.cheapflights.com

General search engines like (expedia, orbitz and travelocity) can also still work, but will not likely have all of the local discount airlines. (Note: While Euro currency is strong, for travel to the US, use the US based airline websites in US\$ for the cheapest airfares).

By Train: www.db.de German trains travel to destinations all over Europe. Travel is very easy, especially within the European Union. Sometimes you can book cross country travel on-line, but often, if your train is leaving Germany, you must visit the Ulm train station ticket office to verify rates. There are also sleeper trains for overnight travel, which can be a great experience for kids. There are some high speed trains to certain destinations. For example, it is now possible to travel by train from Ulm to Paris in a little over 4 hours due to a high speed connection between Stuttgart and Paris.

By Car: It is also possible to drive to many of your European vacation destinations. Please note that some areas of Germany are environmental protection zones and require special stickers. In addition, some countries require you to purchase a sticker in order to drive through or in their country. For example, such stickers are mandatory in both Austria and Switzerland and can be purchased at the border. Failure to have and display such a sticker can subject you to steep fines if stopped by the local police. Before leaving for your trip, check local country websites for requirements.

8.4-3 Accommodations *Where should we stay while on vacation in another country?*

It is important to understand your own family's needs and budget when determining the type of accommodation you will want for your vacation. In addition, different vacations may require a different kind of accommodation. For example, during an active ski vacation, it may be wise to have an all inclusive, full board hotel so everyone can relax after a hard day of skiing. In the alternative, during an expensive city vacation, you may want an apartment with a kitchen, where you can eat some meals at home to cut costs. Whatever your desired accommodation, there are lots of websites to help you with your planning.

Apartments/Houses/Villas: There are many wonderful websites for renting apartments, houses and villas all over the world. Often home owners create a wonderful "home away from home" feel in their vacation rentals including stocking the home with games, toys and videos, basic spices and cooking needs, etc. You can also often arrange for your refrigerator to be pre-stocked with foods, drinks and local specialties. Renting an apartment or house also allows you private time after the kids go to bed, as well as an opportunity to eat some meals away from a restaurant, which can often be difficult and expensive with children. Some of the following websites are country specific, but many will have listings all over the world. This is only a sampling of what is available.

VRBO (Vacation Rentals by Owner) www.vrbo.com Great, easy to use network, with calendars of available times, pictures, list of amenities and direct contact with owner.

Homelidays www.homelidays.com Great European network; must register to use; system allows for lessor and lessee to rate the other.

VacationRentals www.vacationrentals.com Another user friendly system for owner rentals.

www.ItalyPerfect.com

www.ParisPerfect.com

www.LondonPerfect.com High end rentals in great locations owned by two American sisters; pictures will look newer than rental in most cases, but still very nice.

Holiday Velvet www.holiday-velvet.com Very responsive network operators; will work to find you a suitable alternative rental if your chosen rental is not available.

ExcellentEurope www.ExcellentEurope.com Great network of Italian rentals.

CanalApartments www.canalapartments.com Nice selection of canal apartments in Amsterdam.

www.holidaysrentals.co.uk Can be used for UK based rentals; prices in pound usually too high for non-UK rentals

Hotels: Hotels can be found on many networks in many different price ranges. To get an idea how hotels are ranked by other English speaking patrons, you can use the following search engines:

www.tripadvisor.com
www.expedia.com
www.orbitz.com

Luxury hotels and boutique hotels can be found at the following websites:

www.luxury-alliance.com
www.epoquehotels.com
www.boutiquehotelsandresorts.com
www.lhw.com
www.slh.com
www.smallelegant-hotels.com

There are special websites for finding castle and palace hotels as well:

www.castleandpalacehotels.com
www.reidsguides.com

For German, Swiss and/or Austrian kid friendly hotels:

www.diekinderhotels.com
www.MySwitzerland.com

Bed and Breakfasts: Most hotels in Europe are technically a bed and breakfast, as breakfast is served with most accommodations. There are several websites, however, focused on finding smaller, more intimate accommodations commonly known as bed and breakfast establishments:

www.europebandb.com
www.bedandbreakfast.com/europe.html
www.ibbp.com/europe.html
www.bedandbreakfast.net/europe.asp
www.europeandrelax.com

Resorts: Sometimes, especially for beach vacations, you want an all-inclusive resort setting.

www.luxuryresorts.com
www.saniresorts.gr
www.dertour.co.uk

8.4-4 Enhancing the Experience *How can you improve the travel experience?*

Planning ahead for your new cultural experience, and relying on local experts to help you understand the area once you are there, are the two best ways to ensure a great family vacation. Children (and adults too!) will enjoy a new country more if they have some prior familiarity with it and have some idea what to expect. The following tips will hopefully help you plan great, stress free family vacations that will be cherished memories for a lifetime.

1. www.travelforkids.com This website is a fabulous! It has information on what to do with kids when traveling to many countries around the world. In addition, the website provides a list and description of books (for many different age ranges) that help prepare kids for the places they are going to visit. Sometimes they are facts and figures books (perfect for the 8-12 ages, especially boys). Sometimes they are picture books for younger children about children living in the city you will visit (eg, Madeleine and La La Rose for Paris). Sometimes they are novels that take place in the city you will be visiting at different times in history. We highly recommend spending time with this website for planning and buying books 2-3 months before your trip. Do not forget about books on tape as well, especially if you will be driving to your vacation. You can order many of the books on www.amazon.de under "Englische Bücher" (English books).

There are also other useful websites, some of which are country specific. Here are just a few to get you started.

www.timeforkids.com

www.kidseurope.com They have great kids activity books for Italy and Great Britain you can order, print out and take with you.

www.initaly.com/regions/kidsintro.htm

www.lifeinitaly.com/travel/italy-with-children.asp

www.greece4kids.com This website was written by an 8-year old. Great for your kids to explore.

2. **Must Have Art Books:** Let's face it. You cannot travel Europe without encountering amazing artwork and most of us are not qualified to really appreciate it ourselves, let alone help our kids to appreciate it. So, we highly recommend the following books:

How to Talk to Children About Art, by **Francoise Barbe-Gall** This author does an amazing job teaching us generally what children of different ages will be interested in based when looking at art, as well as what their attention span is likely to be. Invaluable insight that can be used to help us plan appropriate art experiences for our children.

Discovering Great Artists, Hands-On Art for Children in the Styles of the Great Masters, by **MaryAnn F. Kohl and Kim Solga** This book has kid-friendly art projects that allow you to teach your kids about different artists and art styles, through their own creations, prior to going to visit the great artists work. Highly, highly recommend. Kids will not only remember the names and styles of different art periods, they will begin to recognize and appreciate the differences.

3. **Involve Your Children in the Planning Process:** Several weeks before your trip, have the whole family sit before the computer and explore the possible places to go and things to see. Then let each person in the family pick one destination that is their priority. On priority day (which can be the 3rd day of the trip, after you have some orientation), each person is promised that they will get to do the thing they picked, as long as they do not complain about going to somebody else's top pick. This makes for a great, diverse day.

4. **Relax, Relax, Relax:** Do not forget about the parks and green spaces. Plan in time for fun and relaxation. Do not do so much site-seeing that you forget to really enjoy the new city, culture and food. Most European cities have gorgeous parks and kids need to play.

5. **Tours:** Carefully planning some tours will provide you with detail about a new city and its sites that you cannot achieve on your own. Find tour companies that understand and specialize working with kids and if you are willing and able to invest in this process, work with the tour companies to create private and personalized itineraries. Even if you do not actually book a tour, looking at what tour companies offer can give you a better idea what the area you are visiting has to offer. For trips to Paris, Venice, Florence, Rome, Naples, and Sienna, we recommend www.contexttravel.com for small group, personalized tours in English for the intellectually curious. Opportunities include making masks with a master mask maker in Venice or visiting a Gondola maker. Making pizza in Naples. Wine tasting in Rome. Studying the Palio horse races in Sienna. Studying gothic architecture in Paris. Making frescoes in Florence. The possibilities are as endless as your imagination. Theme tours offered by walking companies are also great fun, eg, night watchman ghost tours, Harry Potter tours, etc. Do a general search for "walking tours" in your city of destination.

Section 9: Entertainment

9.1 DVDs

General

The standard video format in the USA is NTSC. In Europe it is the PAL format. Televisions and most VCRs purchased in the US are not compatible with TV signals and videotapes in Europe. VCRs can be purchased which play both NTSC and PAL video cassettes. However they will only record in PAL format. Most DVD players purchased in Europe will only play Zone 2 DVDs. This means DVDs purchased in the US (Zone 1) may not be played on European players. Multi-system players may be purchased but are not as common as the multi-system video players. Media Markt and ProMarkt are the names of some stores to look for that carry many appliances.

9.2 Cinemas

Kino Lichtburg
Frauenstrasse 61
Tel: 0731 65400

Mephisto
Rosengasse 15
Tel: 0731 6021218

Obscura Filmkunst im Roxy
Schillerstrasse 1
Tel: 0731 6022858

Xinedome
Am Lederhof 1
Tel: 0731 140200

Dietrich Theater
Marlene-Dietrich Strasse 11
Tel: 0731 9855598

Section 10: Learning German

Language Schools can be found in the GelbeSeiten (Yellow Pages) under "Sprachenunterricht" (Language Lesson). Learning German can enhance the enjoyment of your experience in Germany, as well as make your day to day life a bit easier. Thus, we encourage you to seek out language instruction. Do not get discouraged. Language acquisition takes a long time.

There are two major private language schools in Ulm: **Berlitz** and **inlingua**. Both schools offer group and private lesson opportunities with significant flexibility for personal and family needs. Lessons can take place at the language school or in your home. Many times host companies will pay for language lessons for not only the employee, but for spouse and children as well, so it is prudent to explore this option prior to arrival as a part of your expatriate package.

Berlitz

www.berlitz.de

Münsterplatz 6, Ulm

Tel. 0731/1762520

inlingua

Neue Strasse 72, Ulm

Tel. 0731-6 25 25

e-mail: inlingua-ulm@t-online.de

There are also less expensive language lesson opportunities offered through the city of Ulm. These will be group lessons based upon German proficiency levels and will be attended by people with varying native languages. For more information about these lessons, you can contact:

Ulmer Volkshochschule

EinsteinHaus

Kornhausplatz 5

89073 Ulm

Tel: 0731 1530-0

info@vh.ulm.de

www.vh.ulm.de

Section 11: Reading Material

11.1 Books in English

Gondron

Hirschstrasse 12

89073 Ulm

tel. 0731/1449-0

www.ulm@gondrom.de

www.gondrom.de

Good selection of English books. Fast ordering service.

Hugendubel

Hirschstrasse 26-30

89073 Ulm

Tel. 01801/484 484

www.hugendubel.de

Good selection of English books. Fast ordering service. Large language (i.e. Learning German) section.

Treffpunkt Buch in Bahnhof (Train Station)

Small selection of English books.

Hours: M-Sat. 7:30 - 20:30, Sun. 9:00 - 20:30

www.Amazon.de and www.amazon.co.uk

www.Play.com

Books DVDS etc., delivery is free.

11.2 Newspapers and Magazines in English and Other Languages

The Internationale Press Bookstore in the Bahnhof in Ulm has international papers and magazines.

Store hours: Mon to Friday 5:00 - 21:00

Saturday 6:00 - 21:00

Sunday 6:30 - 21:00

Subscriptions can be arranged to the following:

HERALD TRIBUNE

International newspaper in English with local country paper in English as well. Published Monday-Saturday

Tel: (0130) 848585 Fax: (069) 971-26311

THE EUROPEAN

Weekly. Tel: (0044) 1708-340143 Fax: (0044) 1858-432164

USA TODAY & NEWSWEEK

To subscribe, it is best to purchase a copy and call the subscription phone number listed inside.

STARS AND STRIPES

Published by the US military Tel: (0130) 840048

Section 12: Services for Drivers

ADAC Württemberg e.V. (Road service and useful information)

Ulm - Head Office

Neue Str. 40

Ulm

Tel: (0731) 962 10 - 0

German car assistance and motorists association. Provides road side assistance and advice for drivers who are members. There is a shop in Neue Str. 40.

Fahrerlaubnis (Driving licence)

Bürgerdienste

Sattlergasse 2

Ulm

Tel: (0731) 161 – 3226

Kfz Zulassung (Vehicle registration)

Bürgerdienste

Sattlergasse 2

Ulm

Tel: (0731) 161 – 3228

Here you register your car and get your licence plate number which you take to someone who makes plates such as:

Schilder-Point (licence plates)

Sattlergasse 8

Tel: (0731) 403 7150

However, if you are living in Neu Ulm, you will have to register your car at:

Kantstrasse 8

89231 Neu-Ulm

Tel: 0731 7040503 www.landkreis.neu-ulm.de

Opening times are Monday to Wednesday and Friday 07:30 to 12:30 and on Thursday 07:30 to 17:30

Autowerkstatt (Car Repairs)

Autohaus Hagemann

Einsteinstr. 41

89077 Ulm (Söflingen)

Tel: (0731) 384715

Very sincere garage with great service and fair prices, knowledgeable on many types of cars.

Auto Dienst (Car Services / Repairs)

Schmid Günter

Herrlinger Strasse 58

Tel: 0731 384044

Very friendly and helpful. Mr Schmid speaks very good English and one of his mechanics also. Very useful if you have brought your English car over to Germany – they will guide you through the process of changing headlights, etc., will also help with tyre change for Winter and Summer.

Car rental agencies

Which one to take is a question of taste, and the widely distributed ones with offices in Ulm are AVIS, Europcar, Hertz, National and Sixt. We have positive experience with:-

National

Pickup Location

Mähringer Weg 43

89075 Ulm

Tel: (0731) 954 700

12.2 General Driving Information from A - Z

Accident: Should you be involved in an accident remain on the scene and call the police. Emergency number: 110 for police and 112 for ambulance. On the autobahn, emergency telephone pillars (Notrufsäulen) are placed every 1,000 metres.

Car seats: All children up to the age of 12 years must sit in the backseat of the car and those shorter than 150cm or younger than 12 must be buckled into a child seat of appropriate size. Children may not sit in the front seat until age 12 or height of 150cm.

Documentation: Always carry your driving licence, vehicle registration document (V5), and certificate of motor insurance. If your licence does not incorporate a photograph ensure you carry your passport to validate the licence. If the vehicle is not registered in your name, carry a letter from the registered owner giving you permission to drive.

Drinking and driving: Don't do it. Over 0.05 per cent and you could face fines, endorsement or even imprisonment, depending on the severity of the offence.

Fines: On the spot fines are issued. Just about every possible driving offence can be subject to a fine, even running out of fuel on the Autobahn! Ensure an official receipt is issued by the officer collecting the fine.

First Aid Kit: German law requires all cars to carry a first aid kit and portable red reflective triangle.

Fuel: All grades of unleaded petrol, diesel and LPG are available as well as lead substitute additive. Leaded no longer exists. It is allowed to carry petrol in a can. Credit and debit cards are widely accepted, although they probably won't work at automatic pumps, which are often the only pumps open out-of-hours. It's a good idea to let your card issuer know you will be travelling abroad. This ensures they don't suspend your card if they spot it being used in unfamiliar places, which they sometimes do as an anti-fraud measure.

Mobile phones: It is prohibited to use a mobile phone while driving (except with hand free kit).

Parking: For street parking you will often have to use the parking disc (Parkscheibe). Parking ticket machines (Parkscheinautomaten) are now commonly used for curbside parking as well. Watch your time and do not overstay your time limit. Parking controllers are frequent in the city.

Rules for driving (some important ones):

- Right turn at a red light is not permitted unless there is a green arrow pointing right attached to the light. - but you have to stop at the line before you go.
- Overtaking is allowed only on the left, even on multiple lane streets.
- City buses and trams always have the right of way. As do cyclists and pedestrians – very often stepping out in front of you without so much as a glance!!!
- A gold diamond sign indicates a priority road.
- Stop for anyone using a white-striped zebra pedestrian crossing.
- You'll find stop signs, but no 3-, 4-, all-way stop signs. If at an intersection is no sign, vehicles coming from the right have right of way!
- When there are no priority road signs you must give priority to the car to your right.
- When reaching the end of motorway traffic jam, it is recommended to turn on the hazard warning lights.
- “Bei Nässe” under a speed limit sign means travel below this speed when the road is wet.
- “Anlieger frei” means the road is open only to residents.

Seatbelts: The use of seatbelts is mandatory in front and rear.

Speed limits: are the following unless otherwise posted:

- 50km/hr within town limits (between gold signs with town name)
- 100km/hr on other roads such as open roads.
- No limit on autobahns, unless shown, but maximum 130km/hr is recommended.
- Speed limits are implemented rigorously. Radar traps are frequent in Germany and heavy on-the-spot fines can be levied.

Test: Generally, if you are a European resident moving to Germany, you will be allowed to drive on your European Driving Licence. For Non-EU Nationals, you may be required to take a written and/or a practical driving test to obtain a German driving licence. This must be completed before the end of the six month initial period. This is a lengthy process so it should be started soon after arriving in Germany. Individuals from the USA should check with the Landratsamt in your area to determine if your home state has reciprocity with Germany, requiring only an exchange of licence, taking a written test or taking both the written and practical test. You will have to register with a driving school (fahrschule), have an eye test, complete a first aid course and have your original driving licence translated at ADAC. Basic German will be required such as “left, right, straight on” etc., as it is difficult to find a fahrschule who speaks fluent English – expect to take about six lessons. You will then have to schedule a written test; after passing this, schedule the practical driving test and when both tests have been successfully completed and passed, you will need to pick up your new driving licence at the Landratsamt. Fees for tests and licences must be paid in cash.

Tolls: There are no tolls to pay on German Autobahns.

Website for some good information: www.howtogermaany.com/pages/driving.html

Section 13: Conversion Charts and Useful Information

13.1 Speed

KPH	MPH		MPH	KPH
10	6		10	16
20	12		20	32
30	19		30	38
40	25		40	64
50	31		50	80
60	37		60	97
70	44		70	113
80	50		80	129
90	56		90	145
100	62		100	161
110	68		110	177
120	75		120	193
130	81		130	210
140	87		140	225
150	93		150	241
160	99		155	249
170	106			
180	112			
190	118			
200	124			

13.2 Temperatures

°C	°F		°F	°C
-10	13		10	-12
-5	23		15	-9
0	32		20	-6
5	41		25	-4
10	51		32	0
15	60		35	2
20	69		40	4
25	78		45	7
30	87		50	10
36	96		55	13
36.9	98.6		60	15
40	105		65	18
100	212		70	21
			75	24
			80	27
			85	29
			90	32
			95	35
			98.6	36.9
			105	40
			212	100

13.3 Lengths

			Kilometres	Miles
1cm	0.3937 inches		1	0.625
1m	3.28 feet		5	3.1
1km	3280 feet		10	6.2
			40	25
¼ inch	0.63cm		100	62.5
½ inch	1.25cm		200	125
1 inch	2.54 cm		500	312.5
6 inches	15.24 cm			
12 inches	30.48 cm			
1 yard	0.914 metres			
1 rod	5.029 metres			
1 mile	16092.28 metres			

13.4 Weights

1 gram	0.035 oz or 0.002lbs		1 cup flour	112 grams
100 grams	3.53 oz or 0.22lbs		1 cup butter	237 grams
250 grams	8.825 oz or 0.55lbs		1 cup sugar	237 grams
500 grams	17.65 oz or 1.103lbs			
1000 grams or 1 kilogram	2.205lbs			
1 oz	28.349 grams			
8 oz	226.792 grams			
16 oz or 1 pound	453.584 grams			

13.5 Fluid Volume

1 ml	0.68 tablespoon or 0.034 fl oz
100 ml	6.8 tablespoon or 3.382 fl oz
250 ml	1.057 cups or 8.456 fl oz
500 ml	2.114 cups or 16.912 fl oz
1 litre	4.227 cups or 33.818 fl oz or 2.113 pints or 1.056 quarts or 0.264 gallons
¼ teaspoon	1.25ml
½ teaspoon	2.5ml
¾ teaspoon	3.75ml
1 teaspoon	5ml
1 tablespoon	15ml
1 fl oz	30ml
1 cup	240ml
1 pint	480ml
1 quart	945ml or 0.945 litres
1 gallon	3.785 litres

¼ cup	0.059 litres		5 litres	1.3 gallons
½ cup	0.118 litres		10 litres	2.6 gallons
¾ cup	0.177 litres		20 litres	5.2 gallons
1 cup	0.236 litres		30 litres	7.8 gallons
1¼ cups	0.296 litres		40 litres	10.4 gallons
1½ cups	0.355 litres		50 litres	13 gallons
2 cups	0.472 litres		60 litres	15.6 gallons
2½ cups	0.59 litres		70 litres	18.2 gallons
3 cups	0.708 litres		80 litres	20.8 gallons
			90 litres	23.4 gallons
			100 litres	26 gallons

13.6 Oven Temperatures

Celcius	Fahrenheit	Gas Mark
93	200	
107	225	¼
121	250	½
135	275	1
149	300	2
163	325	3
177	350	4
191	375	5
205	400	6
218	425	7
232	450	8
246	475	9
260	500	

13.7 Electrical Current

Country	Voltage	Current	Cycles
Austria, Germany, Denmark, Norway, Finland and Switzerland	220	AC	50
France, Luxembourg	115/220	AC/DC	50/60
Belgium, Netherlands, Sweden	127/220	AC	50
Greece	127/220	AC	50
Italy	125/220	AC	50
Portugal	210/220	AC	50
Spain	110/208	AC	60
Turkey	220/380	AC/DC	50
United Kingdom	220/240	AC	50

13.8 Clothing Sizes

Women's Clothes										
American	8	10	12	14	16	18	20			
English	10	12	14	16	18	20	22			
European	36	38	40	42	44	46	48			

Women's Shoes										
American	4½	5	5½	6	6½	7	8	8½		
English	3	3½	4	4½	5	5½	6½	7		
European	35	35½	36	37	37½	38	38½	40		

Men's Suits, Coats and Vests										
American	36	38	40	42	44	46				
English	36	38	40	42	44	46				
European	46	48	50	52	54	56				

Men's Shoes										
American	6		6½	7	7½	8	8½	9	10	11
English	5	5½	6	6½	7	7½	8	8½	9	9½
European	38	39	39½	40	40½	41	42	42½	43/44	

Children's Clothes										
Age	1	1½	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Size	80	86	92	98	104	110	116	122	128	
Age	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
Size	134	140	146	152	158	164	170	176		

Children's Shoes										
American	2	3	4	4½	5	6	7	7½	8	9
English										
European	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
American	10	11	11½	12½	13	1	2	2½	3½	4
English										
European	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37

Section 14: Useful Websites

www.feelathome.de

Website in English. Feel At Home is a local relocation service that has a monthly newsletter on the Web. Helpful re: calendar of events and places to go for Stuttgart residents.

www.coyotecom.com

Click on coyotecom.com/germany/basics. Helpful tips for adjusting to life in Germany.

www.gogermany.about.com

Helpful travel info.

www.mapblast.com

Create a map or route from your house to any destination.

www.eurolloyd.de/lastminute

Last minute vacations.

www.travel-finder.com

A search engine dedicated to travel related sites

www.german-castles-road.com

A list of royal hotels throughout Southern Germany

www.dict.leo.org

Online German/English dictionary

www.hemispheresmagazine.com

A website that will help plan an itinerary for you for most major cities in the world.

www.travelwithyourkids.com

A family run site with tips, books and links for parents

www.munich-tourist.de/englisch/m.htm

For planning a trip to Munich.

www.howtogermaany.com

Helpful hints about moving to Germany.

www.amazon.de

Order English books and merchandise.

www.countrycallingcodes.com

Telephone dialing instructions from any country to any other country.

Additionally, use your favorite “search engine” (e.g. google.com), type in the town that you live in and you might be surprised to find that your town has a German website. Sometimes these pages are in English or your search engine can translate them (not usually too accurately, but enough for some information).

Alternatively, you can always ask any of the internationals at the school who will only be too pleased to guide you by the arm so to speak, having been there before, so don't panic!