



**BREMEN
BREMERHAVEN**

WELCOME LETTER



**WORLD TRADE CENTER®
BREMEN**



Bremeninvest

Table of Contents	Page
Welcome to Bremen!	5
Local Transport	6
Local Public Transport BSAG	6
Interactive Network Map	6
VBN Journey Planner	6
Tickets.....	6
BSAG Customer Centers	7
BSAG Price Table valid as of 1 January 2022	8
Car Sharing	9
Multi-Storey Car Parks	9
Bike Sharing.....	9
Scooter Sharing	9
Long Distance Transport	10
Bremen Airport	10
Rail Travel	11
Long-Distance Coach Travel	11
Citizen Service	12
Bürgeramt (Citizen Office).....	12
Central Blocking Hotline.....	13
Migrationsamt Bremen (Bremen Migration Office).....	13
Shopping Hours.....	14
Smoking Ban.....	14
Local Newspapers	14
Local Radio and TV Channel	14
Radio and TV License Fee	15
Verbraucherzentrale Bremen (Consumer Advice Center)	15
Housing	16
Residential Rent Charges.....	16
How to find Accommodation in Bremen.....	16
Average Residential Rent in Bremen.....	17
Average Property Purchase Prices in Bremen	18
Public Utilities	18
Garbage Collection	19
Obtaining a Telephone Line	20
The Validity of Foreign Driving Licenses in Germany	21
Residence Abroad	21
Residence in Germany.....	21
Transformation of Foreign Driving Licenses.....	21
Documents required for Transformation	22
Traffic Law	22
The Bremen Low Emission Zone	22
Police Services.....	23
Emergency Call Police Department.....	23
Central Call Police Department	23
Online Police Station	23
Centralized Contact Points for Reporting Offences	23
Emergency Services.....	24
Emergency Call Fire Department	24
Ambulance (Emergency Doctor)	24
Medical Emergency Service.....	24
Pediatric Emergency Service	24
Dental Emergency Service.....	25
Pharmacy Emergency Service	25
Poison Emergency Call	25
Patient Transport Ambulance	25
Veterinary Emergency Service	25



Physician Search Service	26
Hospitals.....	26
Klinikum Bremen-Mitte	26
Klinikum Bremen-Ost	26
Klinikum Links der Weser	26
Klinikum Bremen-Nord.....	26
DIAKO Ev. Diakonie-Krankenhaus	26
St. Joseph-Stift.....	26
Rotes Kreuz Krankenhaus.....	26
Roland-Klinik	26
Learning German in Bremen	27
Childcare in Bremen	28
Daycare for Children under 3	28
Kindergarten.....	28
Enrollment.....	28
Fees	29
School Education in Bremen	30
School Enrollment Requirements.....	30
Compulsory School Attendance	30
Basic School Education System in Bremen	30
School Types.....	31
International School of Bremen	32
Studying in Bremen	32
University of Bremen	32
Bremen City University of Applied Sciences.....	33
Bremerhaven University of Applied Sciences.....	33
University of the Arts Bremen.....	34
Jacobs University Bremen	34
Churches and Denominations in Bremen	35
Protestant Church	35
Catholic Church	35
Other Denominations.....	35
WFB Wirtschaftsförderung Bremen GmbH - Bremeninvest	36
World Trade Center Bremen	36
Point of Single Contact	37
Welcome Service Bremen	37
STARTHAUS Bremen & Bremerhaven	37
Bremen Chamber of Commerce – CCI for Bremen and Bremerhaven	38
Bremen Chamber of Crafts	38
Employment Agency Bremen-Bremerhaven	38
Honorary Consulates in Bremen	39
Honorary Consulates in Bremerhaven	39
Culture, Museums, Leisure and Events.....	40
A) Culture	40
a) Market Square, Town Hall and Cathedral	40
b) Schnoor	40
c) Traditional Events	40
d) Theater am Goetheplatz and Kleines Haus	41
e) Bremer Shakespeare Company	41
f) Bremer Philharmoniker	41
g) Die Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen.....	41
h) Kunsthalle Bremen	41
i) Weserburg	41
j) Focke Museum (Bremen State Museum of Art and Cultural History)	41
k) Gerhard-Marks-Haus and Wilhelm-Wagenfeld-Haus	42
l) Museen Böttcherstraße.....	42
m) Übersee-Museum.....	42



n) Stadtbibliothek Bremen (Bremen City Library)	42
o) Deutsches Schifffahrtsmuseum Bremerhaven	42
B) Leisure	43
a) ÖVB Arena	43
b) Glocke.....	43
c) Sendesaal Bremen	43
d) Metropol Theater Bremen	43
e) GOP Varieté Theater	43
f) Universum® Bremen	43
g) Weserstadion.....	43
h) Golf Sport	43
i) Schlachte Embankment	44
j) The Viertel	44
k) Havenwelten Bremerhaven (Harbor Worlds Bremerhaven)	44
l) Deutsches Auswandererhaus (German Emigration Center Bremerhaven)	44
m) Klimahaus® Bremerhaven 8° Ost.....	44
C) Relaxation	45
a) Bürgerpark.....	45
b) Wallanlagen Park.....	45
c) Rhododendron Park and Botanika.....	45
d) Knoop's Park.....	45
e) Stadtwaldsee / Werdersee / Weser beach by Café Sand	45
f) Blockland	45
Bremen's Calendar of Events	46
January	46
Bremen Sixdays	46
Bremen Tattoo Marching Band Festival	46
February	46
Bremen Classic Motor Show	46
Bremen Samba Carnival	46
April	46
Osterwiese Fun Fair	46
jazzahead! music fair and festivall	46
June	46
Poetry on the Road	46
La Strada International Street Performance Festival	46
July.....	46
Summer in Lesmona - Picnic with World Class Orchestra	46
Breminal Festival	46
August	46
International Maritime Festival	46
Musikfest Bremen - Classical Music Festival	46
September	46
Maritime Week on the Weser	46
Music and Light at Hollersee	46
October	46
Bremen Marathon	46
986 th Bremer Freimarkt Fun Fair	46
November / December.....	46
Bremen Christmas Market and Schlachte Zauber Historical Winter Spectacle.....	46
ANNEX	47
Statistics	47
Comparative Price Levels.....	47
Private Consumption Expenditure.....	48
Climate	49
Public German Holidays 2022	50
School Holidays Federal State of Bremen 2022	50



Welcome to Bremen!

The **Bremen**invest team welcomes you to the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen, the smallest German Federal State consisting of the two cities Bremen and Bremerhaven.

The 1,240 year old city of Bremen with a population of 567,000 puts itself on the map as the pulsating, multifaceted heart of North West Germany.

The following pages contain some information which we hope will make the first few months of your residence in Bremen a little easier.

Please visit also [Bremen city portal](#) and have a look at the [city map](#).

If you have any further questions or requests, please do not hesitate to contact the **Bremen**invest team. We will do everything we can to help you find your way around in Bremen.

We hope you will enjoy your stay!



Bremeninvest

WFB Wirtschaftsförderung
Bremen GmbH
Wir schaffen Perspektiven ✓



WORLD TRADE CENTER®
BREMEN

New address as of 1 March 2022:

Bürgermeister-Smidt-Str. 101
28195 Bremen / Germany

Please send any queries, error messages or change requests to
breidbach@bremen-invest.com



Bremen, February 2022



Local Transport

Local Public Transport BSAG

With 8 tram routes, 38 bus routes and a fleet of 347 vehicles, [BSAG](#) Bremer Straßenbahn AG, partner of the transport network VBN Verkehrsverbund Bremen / Niedersachsen, keeps almost 200,000 passengers on the move every day.

[Interactive Network Map](#)

[VBN Journey Planner](#)

The free app 'VBN FahrPlaner' provides tram and bus timetables for Bremen and Lower Saxony as well as details about fares and the nearest stops and stations.

Tickets

Children under 6 do not require a ticket. Children between 6 and under 15 require a kids' ticket. Students over 15 years of age require a [customer card](#) when using discounted students' tickets.

Using public transport without a valid ticket may entail a fine of currently 60.00 EUR.

Mobile Ticket

VBN tickets can be purchased from mobile devices thanks to the VBN journey planner (registration [here](#)). Mobile tickets are only valid for instant departures and must already have been visibly downloaded when boarding the tram or bus.

[BOB Account Ticket](#)

The BOB ticket is ideal for occasional users of public transport. The POS terminal in the BSAG vehicle stores your ticket on your BOB card and within the BOB system for your monthly invoice. The BOB App can be downloaded free of charge from the App Store or Google Play Store.

[FAIRTIQ Digital Ticket](#)

Swipe, don't type: Just 'Start' when you board and 'Stop' when you disembark. The FAIRTIQ-App is available free of charge at the App Store or Google Play Store. One-off registration is required. The personalized and non-transferrable ticket is only for immediate use.

Paper Ticket

Advance sale of paper tickets is offered at the [BSAG customer centers](#), at BSAG sales partners and at the red ticket machines at tram stops. Pre-sold tickets need to be validated when boarding the tram or bus.

Tickets purchased at the vending machine on the BSAG vehicle are already validated.

Annual Electronic Subscription

The subscription ticket MIA is ideal for frequent public transport users. By subscribing to the annual MIA ticket, you will get the monthly ticket at a discount of 17% resp. 8% for MIAplus. Applications can be made at the BSAG customer centers and [online](#).

Inquiries

Dial 0421.596059 for 24h inquiries about timetables and fares.

If you have any questions about BOB, MIA and the increased fare (fine), please contact the customer care team on 0421.5596-666 (Mon – Thur: 9 am – 5 pm, Fri: 9 am – 1:30 pm).



Ticket Prices

Single Ticket (EinzelTicket)

The single ticket at 2.85 EUR is valid during 3 hours, but only in the direction of your destination.

Short-Trip Ticket (KurzstreckeTicket)

For only 1.50 EUR you can travel three stops by BSAG bus or tram, i.e. the stop where you got on the vehicle plus three more (except on express buses, S-trams und regional buses).

Day Pass (TagesTicket)

Day Passes are available for up to 5 adults who can be accompanied by 3 children between 6 and 14 (children under 6 do not require a ticket). The Day Pass is valid until 3 am of the following day.

7-Day Pass (7-TageTicket)

Valid for 7 successive days, transferable, 23.80 EUR. On weekends and public holidays as well as on workdays from 7 pm it is valid for up to 2 adults and 4 children between 6 and 14.

Monthly Ticket (MonatsTicket)

The monthly ticket at 67.80 EUR is transferable. On weekends and public holidays as well as on workdays from 7 pm it is valid for altogether 2 adults and 4 children between 6 and 14.

Subscription One-Year Pass MIA

If you take out an annual electronic subscription you will get the monthly ticket at 56.10 EUR p.m. resp. at 62.60 EUR p.m. for MIAplus.

Supplementary Tickets

The **Bicycle Day Ticket** (Fahrrad-TagesTicket) at 2.00 EUR admits the entrainment of one bicycle; also available as Monthly Ticket at 36.20 EUR or MIA Bicycle at 29.60 EUR p.m.

Transportation of luggage, baby carriages and small pets is free of charge. Dogs (except guide and companion dogs) are transported at the fare of children.

BSAG Customer Centers

Central Station Office

Breitenweg 3a (City Gate building)	Mon – Fri	7 am – 8 pm
28195 Bremen	Sat	9 am – 6 pm
	Sun	9 am – 5 pm

City Center Office Domsheide

Balgebrückstr. 11	Mon – Fri	7 am – 7 pm
28195 Bremen	Sat	10 am – 6 pm

[BSAG Lost Property Office](#)

Balgebrückstr. 11	Mon – Fri	7 am – 7 pm
28195 Bremen	Sat	10 am – 6 pm
Phone: 0421.5596-7575 (Mon – Fri 9 am -1 pm)		



BSAG Price Table valid as of 1 January 2022

Price Category I Zones 100 + 101 (Bremen incl. North Bremen)	
Adults	EUR
Single Ticket	2.85
4-fold Single Ticket	10.40
10-fold Single Ticket	26.00
per coupon	2.60
Short-Trip Ticket	1.50
4-fold Short-Trip Ticket	5.60
per coupon	1.40
Day Pass 1 adult	8.00
Day Pass 2 adults	11.00
Day Pass 3 adults	14.00
Day Pass 4 adults	17.00
Day Pass 5 adults	20.00
Bicycle Day Ticket	2.00
Bicycle Monthly Ticket	36.20
7-Day Pass	23.80
Monthly Ticket	67.80
MIA One-Year Pass per month	56.10
MIAPlus One-Year Pass per month	62.60
MIA Bicycle per month	29.60
Kids / Students	
Single Ticket	1.45
10-fold Ticket	14.30
7-Day Pass	16.80
Monthly Ticket	49.30

E&OE



Car Sharing

[cambio Bremen](#)

[Flinkster](#)

Multi-Storey Car Parks

[BREPARK](#)

Bike Sharing

Bike rental by the day:

[LISTnRIDE](#)

[Stadtrad Bremen](#)

[1-2-3 Rad](#)

[Witt Rad](#)

[WK-Bike](#)

Bike rental on monthly basis:

[Swapfiets](#) / [Swapfiets Bremen](#)

Try out cargo bikes for free:

[Fietje Freies Lastenrad Bremen](#)

Try out special bikes for disabled people:

[Pedder Freies Spezialrad Bremen](#)

Scooter Sharing

[Tier](#) E-Scooters

[Voi](#) E-Scooters



Long Distance Transport

Bremen Airport

With almost thirty non-stop destinations in many countries in Europe and North Africa, the [Bremen Airport Hans Koschnick](#) ranks among Germany's key international commercial airports. Bremen Airport is Europe's fastest airport for departures.

Nowhere else in Germany is an international airport as close to the city center as in Bremen. From the airport you can get to Bremen's city center within a mere 11 minutes. The tram stops directly in front of the terminal.

Summer destinations 2022 – Bremen Airport

VALID FROM 27 MARCH TO 29 OCTOBER 2022



Last updated 4 February 2022. Subject to changes
Source: Bremen Airport

Address

Bremen Airport Hans Koschnick
Flughafenallee 20
28199 Bremen / Germany
Phone: 0421.5595-0



Rail Travel

If you are travelling less than 500 kilometers (310 miles) within Europe, rail travel usually offers time advantages in comparison to air travel. As a rule, Germany's larger cities are accessible by the high-speed Intercity-Express (ICE); failing this, there is an Intercity (IC) service. A trip from Bremen to Berlin takes about 3.5 hours on an ICE, Hamburg is reachable in 50 minutes.

- **ICE** is the fastest and most comfortable way to travel with Deutsche Bahn (DB), reaching speeds of up to 300 km/h (200 miles/h). ICE operate between major cities incl. international destinations in Austria, Belgium, France, Netherlands, and Switzerland.
- **IC** and **EC** trains connect major cities, reaching speeds of 200 km/h (125 miles/h) and running either hourly or two-hourly. Intercity trains run exclusively in Germany, while Eurocity trains reach neighboring European countries.
- The Interregio-Express (**IRE**) is the perfect direct connection. It connects regions with each other, but does not stop at all stations.
- The Regional-Express (**RE**) offers economic and fast connections throughout the day and connects rural areas to the long-distance and S-Bahn networks.
- The Regionalbahn (**RB**) operates between all stations.
- In cities, the **S-Bahn** is a good choice. S-Bahn trains operate at short and regular intervals and connect cities with the surrounding area.

Rail companies:

[Deutsche Bahn](#) | → [online ticket](#)

[NordWestBahn](#)

[metronom](#)

Long-Distance Coach Travel

[Intercity bus search engine](#)



Citizen Service

The citizen helplines **0421.115** ([Bürgertelefon](#)) and **0421.361-0** of the [Service Portal Bremen](#) are available Monday through Friday from 7 am to 6 pm.

Bürgeramt (Citizen Office)

The [Bürgeramt](#) of the Bremen municipality is responsible for frequently needed [services](#), such as:

- **Residence registration** (move from abroad)
The registration ([form single registration](#) / [form family registration](#), [form confirmation of landlord](#)) must take place within 2 weeks of moving in. [Personal appearance by prior appointment is required for all persons to be registered](#). Book an appointment by calling 115.
- **Residence re-registration** (move within Bremen)
Anyone moving within Bremen must re-register within 2 weeks of changing the residence. The re-registration can either be made in writing (documents: [form single registration](#) or [form family registration](#), [confirmation of landlord](#), copy of passport) or [online](#) by using the PIN function of eAT or eID.
- **Residence deregistration** (move abroad)
The deregistration can be made in writing (documents: [form deregistration](#), copy of passport).
- **Information on civil register** (*Meldebescheinigung*)
The certificate from the civil register which is needed e.g. for the application of child benefits, can be applied for in writing.
- **Authentication of documents**
Such certification does confirm that the content of the copy is identical to the original document, but not the authenticity or validity of the original. Authentications of foreign documents are only made for presentation to a German authority.
- **Declaration of commitment** ([Verpflichtungserklärung](#))
Such declaration is needed for the issuance of a Schengen visa to invited persons. The procedure requires personal appearance by prior appointment (booking of an appointment by calling 115)
- **Registration of motor vehicle**
Book an [appointment](#)
Under certain conditions, the new registration of a vehicle is also possible online.
[Find out more: Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport](#)
- etc.

Addresses

BürgerServiceCenter-Mitte (city center)

Pelzerstr. 40
28195 Bremen
Book an [appointment](#)

BürgerServiceCenter-Stresemannstrasse

Stresemannstr. 48
28207 Bremen
Book an [appointment](#)



Central Blocking Hotline

Rapid service in case of loss: By calling the [nationwide service No. 116 116](#) you can have your bank and credit cards blocked just as identity cards and residence titles with electronic verification function. Within Germany the use of the a.m. hotline is toll-free. From abroad the service is reachable at the fee-based phone No. +49 116 116.

Migrationsamt Bremen (Bremen Migration Office)

The [Bremen migration office](#) is the competent immigration authority for the Bremen municipality and responsible for residence- and nationality-related issues of citizens living in Bremen.

All clients are requested to make an appointment prior to visiting the office. Clients without appointment cannot be served.

➤ Issuance of residence permit

If you entered the country with a national visa for employment or self-employment or were allowed to enter without a visa because you are a [national of a certain country](#), please complete the appointment booking form [Vordruck Terminvergabe Einreise](#) and send it by email to the specified address. A prompt appointment will thereupon be scheduled. The residence permit will be issued if all requirements are met.

➤ Extension of residence permit

[Details on the procedure](#)

➤ Electronic Residence Title (eAT)

Approx. 8 weeks after the application for or the extension of a residence title at the migration office, the so-called PIN letter from the Federal Printing Office in Berlin will inform you that the eAT is ready. The eAT itself will be sent by registered mail.

➤ Residence consequences BREXIT

[Details](#)

Address

Migrationsamt Bremen
Behördenzentrum
Stresemannstr. 48
28207 Bremen
Phone: 0421.361-88630

Public transport: Bus line 25 / Bus stop ‚Steubenstraße / Behördenzentrum‘



Shopping Hours

The Bremen Shop Closing Act ([Bremisches Ladenschlussgesetz](#)) provides that shops may be open round the clock from Monday to Saturday. As a rule, supermarkets are open from Monday to Saturday from 7 am to 9 or 10 pm, shopping malls and department stores usually from Monday to Saturday from 10 to 8.

In recent years, many classical full-service branches of German banks have been converted to ATM branches with cash machines and self-service terminals that can partly be used around the clock.

Dedicated branches of [Deutsche Post](#) are mostly open from Monday to Friday from 9 to 1 and from 3 to 6 and on Saturday from 9 to 1. Post office services may also be provided by stationery stores or supermarkets. In this case, the business hours largely correspond to the store's shop hours.

On Sundays and public holidays, only shops at railway stations and airports are open as well as some determined pharmacies and shops at petrol stations on a reduced range of goods. Kiosks, bakeries (unless it is a bakery café), flower and farm shops may be opened for 3 hours. All other shops are closed on Sundays and public holidays.

On 24 December (Christmas Eve) and on 31 December (New Year's Eve), shops have to close at 2 pm at the latest, if these days fall on a business day.

Smoking Ban

The Bremen Act on Non-Smoker Protection ([Bremisches Nichtrauchererschutzgesetz](#)) provides that smoking is banned in all public buildings (e.g. hospitals, schools, universities, theaters) and all forms of public transport as well as in restaurants, hotels, and clubs. Restaurants may maintain a separate smokers' room. For the time being smoking is permitted in local one-room bars with an area of less than 75 sqm provided they are clearly marked as '*Raucherlokal*', do not offer food and are off-limits for minors.

Local Newspapers

[Weser-Kurier](#) and 'Bremer Nachrichten' dominate the regional media landscape under the umbrella of Bremer Tageszeitungen AG. With a distributed circulation of 130,000 they have the highest reach in the Bremen business region. Since the introduction of 'Kurier am Sonntag' in 1983, readers have been able to find out the latest news from Bremen, the region and the world even on Sunday.

Local Radio and TV Channel

As the smallest of nine German public broadcasting institutions, the local broadcast channel [Radio Bremen](#) produces and provides programs for the nationwide TV network 'Das Erste' and four regional radio networks ([Bremen Eins](#), [Bremen Zwei](#), [Bremen Vier](#), [Bremen Next](#)).

Regional TV programs like [Buten un Binnen](#) serving the Federal State of Bremen and its surroundings are broadcasted daily between 6 and 8 pm. Outside this time slot, regional programs are broadcasted in cooperation with the channel [NDR](#) (North German Broadcasting).



Radio and TV License Fee

Based on the 'Interstate Broadcasting Agreement' (*Rundfunkstaatsvertrag*), the statutory [Radio and TV license fee](#) (*Rundfunkbeitrag*) provides the financing of public broadcasting ([ARD](#) incl. 9 regional channels, [ZDF](#) incl. [3sat](#), [ARTE](#), [KiKA](#), [PHOENIX](#), additional digital channels and [Deutschlandradio](#)).

Every German household has to pay one fee regardless of the number of household members and the number of devices (radio, TV, computer, smartphone). The fee also covers the private cars of all household members. Additional contributions only become due for a second residence and for commercially used cars. The monthly rate amounts to 18.36 EUR per household.

Companies are likewise obligated to contribute. The amount of the monthly fee depends inter alia on the number of employees (headcount 0 to 8: 6.12 EUR p.m., 9 to 19: 18.36 EUR p.m., 20 to 49: 36.72 EUR p.m., etc.).

Homeowners, tenants and companies have to register without request. Registrations can be made online: [Private household](#) / [Company](#)

Verbraucherzentrale Bremen (Consumer Advice Center)

The [consumer advice center](#) represents the interests of consumers in the Federal State of Bremen and offers up-to-date information all about consumer protection. For example, detailed information on essential insurance coverage such as personal liability insurance or household insurance can be obtained here.

Please [book an appointment](#) prior to your visit.

Address

Verbraucherzentrale Bremen
Beratungszentrum Bremen
Altenweg 4
28195 Bremen

Service phone: 0421.160777
Mon – Thur 10 am – 4 pm
Fri 10 am – 1 pm



Housing

As a rule, apartments for rent are completely unfurnished in Germany. Some provide a built-in kitchen, others don't. An apartment offered as a '3-room apartment' consists of two bedrooms, one living room plus kitchen plus bathroom. Furnished apartments are available to a minor degree but at increased rental fees. Tenancy agreements for apartments are generally issued in German only.

Residential Rent Charges

Rental charges consist of the base rent (*Kaltmiete* / *KM*) plus extra charges (*Nebenkosten* / *NK*). The overall rent is called '*Warmmiete*'. The extra charges are billed by the landlord, usually as monthly prepayments which are settled annually and result in either a credit or an additional payment.

In addition, the tenant is generally required to provide a security deposit amounting to two or three months' base rent.

Extra charges include heating, water consumption, garbage collection, stairwell cleaning, lighting of corridors, operational costs of elevator, chimney sweeping, sidewalk cleaning, garden maintenance, property tax, building insurance, etc.

Energy costs (electricity and gas) are in general directly paid by the tenant to the energy provider, though can in special cases also be included in the extra charges.

Case example	EUR
Base rent (<i>Kaltmiete</i>), e.g. 60 sqm unfurnished, good residential area, approx.	600
<u>plus</u> extra charges (<i>Nebenkosten</i>), approx.	170
Overall rent (<i>Warmmiete</i>) payable to landlord	770
<u>plus</u> electricity charges billed by energy provider, e.g. for 2-person household, approx.	80
Total monthly housing costs of this case example, approx.	850

How to find Accommodation in Bremen

- Real estate agents (*Makler*) offer their services against broker's fee (two months' rent plus 19% VAT) on the principle 'who orders, pays'.
- Find offers on real estate websites such as immobilien.de, Immonet, Immopool, Immo Scout 24, Immowelt, Wohnungsbörse, etc.
- Bremen's housing societies GEWOBA, BREBAU, ESPABAU etc. offer reasonably priced accommodation.
- Rental adverts are published in the local newspaper Weser-Kurier both [online](#) and in the Saturday print edition.
- Find rental adverts on ebay Kleinanzeigen.
- Private offers can be found on the [electronic bulletin board](#) of the Bremen city portal (⇒ *Wohnungs-/Mietangebote*)
- Furnished accommodations are offered by agencies like HomeCompany Bremen or MIBEA and can be searched online using the keyword '*Möbliertes Wohnen Bremen*'.



Average Residential Rent in Bremen

The below 2022 data, representing monthly base rents excl. extra charges, were ascertained by an appraisal of rental adverts in the WESER-KURIER from September 2021 to January 2022. The average rental amount was calculated on the basis of an unweighted mean value.



Legend	District	Average 2022 EUR / sqm
A	Bremen-West	9.04
B	Bremen-Mitte/-Nordost	9.31
C	Bremen-Südost	7.89
D	Bremen-Süd	9.36
E	Bremen-Nord	8.30



Average Property Purchase Prices in Bremen

The following data on selected residential areas have been taken from the [Immobilien-Kompass](#) on Capital.de (survey period 2020):

District		Prices for Condominiums Average EUR / sqm	Prices for Detached Houses Average EUR / sqm
A	Findorff	3,400	3,600
	Walle	2,600	2,350
B	Mitte	3,600	3,800
	Östliche Vorstadt	3,700	3,550
	Borgfeld	3,150	3,450
	Horn-Lehe	3,450	3,300
	Oberneuland	3,100	3,400
	Schwachhausen	3,500	3,850
C	Vahr	2,600	2,850
	Osterholz	2,250	2,600
D	Neustadt	3,300	2,800
	Huchting	1,900	2,350
E	Burglesum	2,200	2,450

E&OE

Public Utilities

Since the liberalization of the German energy market in 2005, consumers may freely select their energy provider. Information on energy providers is made available by [Verbraucherzentrale Bremen](#).

Further information is also provided by ‚Bundesnetzagentur für Elektrizität, Gas, Telekommunikation, Post u. Eisenbahnen‘ ([Federal Network Agency](#)).

A Bremen based energy provider is [swb AG](#):

swb Customer Center Energy
Domshof / Schlüsselkorb 3
28195 Bremen
Phone: 0421.359-3590
Mon – Fri: 9 am – 6 pm

Water Supply

swb AG is responsible for the [freshwater supply](#) in Bremen. The high-quality drinking water even exceeds the demands of the German Drinking Water Ordinance and can be used in the household without any extra micro filter. Moreover, in almost all areas of Bremen it has the lowest hardness level, saving you detergent and descaler.



Garbage Collection

Garbage needs to be separated in a number of ways:

Gray bins	Non-recyclable residual waste
Brown bins	Bio stuff like kitchen scraps, peels, tea bags and garden waste
Yellow bins / yellow bags	Plastic and aluminium packagings, beverage cartons and other items labelled with the 'Green Dot'
Blue bins	Newspapers, waste paper and cardboard
Bottle banks (available at road-sides and near shopping areas)	Non-returnable bottles and glass jars

Garbage collection fees are billed by [Die Bremer Stadtreinigung](#) to homeowners. If you are a property owner, please [register](#) under '*Eigentümerwechsel*'. If you are a tenant, your landlord will notify Die Bremer Stadtreinigung on your behalf and recharge to you the corresponding fees as part of the extra costs (*Nebenkosten*).

Garbage collection charges consist of a basic fee amounting to 51.00 EUR p.a. per household plus variable charges for the emptying of the gray bin. The minimum bin volume for residual waste is stipulated at 15 l per person and week. Correspondingly, the size of the bin is determined according to the number of persons belonging to a household. Home owners are obligated to notify Die Bremer Stadtreinigung of any change in the number of persons.

The bins are emptied biweekly, however, the standard emptying includes only 18 emptyings of the gray bins p.a. (resp. 9 emptyings for 1-person-households). The emptying of the brown and blue bins is not charged separately. The emptying of the yellow bins is financed through the Green Dot system.

Table of Charges

Basic fee per private household / EUR	51.00 p.a.				
<u>Variable charges</u>					
Size of gray bins	60 l	60 l	90 l	120 l	60 l + 120 l
No. of persons in private household	1	2	3	4	5
Variable charges EUR p.a.	62.91	125.82	137.52	156.42	219.33
Standard No. of emptyings (emptyings covered by annual charges)	9	18	18	18	9 / 18
Monthly fee upon standard emptying EUR	9.49	14.74	15.71	17.29	22.53
Charge for each additional emptying EUR	6.99	6.99	7.64	8.69	6.99 / 60 l 8.69 / 120l

Source: Die Bremer Stadtreinigung

Each residential area has a designated day on which garbage is collected. The respective calendar for your area is available [online](#) (enter your street name and house number).

Die Bremer Stadtreinigung offers all private households the opportunity to have bulky waste (*Sperrmüll*) collected free of charge once a calendar year. The collection can be ordered by completing the [download form](#) and sending it by email to the specified address.

Private Bremen households can also deliver bulky waste to the [recycling stations](#) Blumenthal, Hohentor, Hulsberg and Blockland.



Obtaining a Telephone Line

Providers of land lines in Bremen:

Telekom Deutschland

[Private customers](#)

[Commercial customers](#)

Shops:

Lloyd-Passage 37 (*English spoken*)
28195 Bremen
Phone: 0421.168114

Weserpark Mall (*English spoken*)
Hans-Bredow-Str. 19
28307 Bremen
Phone: 0421.48999252

Waterfront Mall
AG-Weser-Str. 3
28237 Bremen
Phone: 0421.6437864

Roland Center Mall (*English spoken*)
Alter Dorfweg 30
28259 Bremen
Phone: 0421.5769098

swb AG / EWE TEL GmbH

[Private customers](#)

[Commercial customers](#)

swb Customer Center Telecommunications
Domshof / Schlüsselkorb 3
28195 Bremen
Phone: 0800.887-6000

Waterfront Mall
AG-Weser-Str. 3
28237 Bremen
Phone: 0421.69684777



The Validity of Foreign Driving Licenses in Germany

Residence Abroad

Driving licenses of foreign citizens who are not permanently resident in Germany but travelling as business people or tourists, are regarded as indefinitely valid, as long as they remain valid in the country of origin. An international driving license, a national driving license with a corresponding German translation or an EU/EEA driving license serve as proof of validity. Foreign provisional driving licenses or licenses with temporary validity terms may not be used in Germany at all.

Residence in Germany

Driving licenses of foreign citizens with permanent residence in Germany (i.e. bearers of a German residence permit) are only valid for a period of six months starting the day of taking up residence in Germany. Thereafter, it has to be transformed into a German driving license (exceptions are EU or EEA driving licenses). If the holder can convincingly prove that he/she will be staying in Germany for a period of less than 12 months, the validity of the driving licence can be extended to one year. A driving license that is obtained abroad whilst one is resident in Germany is not recognized in Germany at all, unless it is obtained during a stay abroad of at least six months duration for the sole purpose of schooling or studying.

Transformation of Foreign Driving Licenses

The guidelines on the transformation of foreign driving licenses differ, depending on the country in which the driving license originates. Transformation may or may not involve an examination. At all events, transformation is only possible if the license is transformed within three years since assuming residence in Germany. After this period, applicants are treated as beginners and have to complete a full driving training course and test.

EU and EEA Driving Licenses

The transformation of an EU or EEA driving license is voluntary, since the driving license is indefinitely valid in Germany. Special regulations apply during the first two years of holding a driving license (probation period).

Regulations for Countries listed in Annex 11 FeV

Countries listed in [Annex 11 to the German driving license regulations](#) (*Fahrerlaubnisverordnung FeV*) have training and examination structures comparable to those in Germany. The conditions for transforming these driving licenses have been considerably simplified. In most cases driving and theory tests are not necessary. Condition: the transformation has to be completed within three years of assuming residence in Germany ([application form](#)).

Regulations for Non-EU/EEA Countries

For all other states, the following applies for license transformations: theory and driving tests must be taken again in Germany. However, the regulations concerning minimum instruction do not apply as they do for first-time German applicants. A driving school has to be involved since applicants must be accompanied by a driving instructor during the test.



Documents required for Transformation

- Passport & electronic residence title & biometric photo
- Completed [application form](#)
- Valid foreign national driving license & certified translation thereof
- Eye test certificate
- First aid training certificate
- Name of driving school who will be involved in the theory and practical driving tests
- possibly others

Address

Bürgeramt Bremen
Führerscheinstelle (*Municipal driving license office*)
Stresemannstr. 48
28207 Bremen
Phone: 0421.361-88669

Consultation hours:

On appointment only

Appointments by calling 0421.115 or 0421.361-0

Traffic Law

Just a few rules of the German road traffic regulations ([Straßenverkehrsordnung StVO](#)):

- ✓ Seatbelts must be worn by all car passengers on front and back seats (§21a StVO).
- ✓ Children under 12 or smaller than 1.50 m need to sit in special child safety seats (§21).
- ✓ The use of mobile phones - unless hands-free - is prohibited while the vehicle is in operation (§23)
- ✓ Driving with summer tires during winterly road conditions may entail a fine (§2).
- ✓ The signal-horn may only be used in case of danger (§16).
- ✓ At least one high visibility vest (EN 471 standard) per vehicle is mandatory.
- ✓ Penalties for driving under the influence of alcohol start with a blood alcohol limit of 0.03% in case of obvious driving impairment, otherwise at 0.05% even without signs of driving impairment.

The Bremen Low Emission Zone

Within the [Low Emission Zone](#) (LEZ) only vehicles that meet a specific emission standard are permitted to drive. Vehicles with high emissions are banned from the LEZ. If you wish to travel into Bremen's city center by your own car you should keep in mind that the low emission zone rules apply to the greater downtown Bremen area (clearly indicated by the traffic sign on the right). To enter the Bremen LEZ your car must have a **green** low emission sticker. Overnight guests who have written confirmation of reservation at non-private accommodations are fundamentally exempted from the low emission zone regulations. Entering the LEZ without the green sticker may entail a fine of currently 100 EUR.



Police Services

Phone

Emergency Call Police Department

110

Central Call [Police Department](#)

0421.362-0

Online Police Station

The online police station is not suitable for receiving emergency calls.

Reports on the following offences can be made [online](#):

- [Bicycle theft](#)
- [Property damage](#)
- [Property damage to motor vehicles](#)
- [Theft of documents](#)

Centralized Contact Points for Reporting Offences

Due to the current pandemic situation, reports on offences can personally only be made in the following police stations:

Police Station City Center

Beim Handelsmuseum 1
28195 Bremen
Mon – Fri 8 am – 8 pm
Sat 10 am – 6 pm
Sun 10 am – 6 pm

Police Station Schwachhausen

Parkallee 160
28213 Bremen
Mon – Fri 8 am – 8 pm
Sat 10 am – 6 pm

Police Station North (Vegesack)

Kirchheide 51
28757 Bremen
Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri 8am – 8 pm
Wed/Sat 8am – 4 pm

Outside these hours, please contact the Polizeikommissariat Mitte, Am Wall 200, 28195 Bremen, which is accessible around the clock all year round.

In addition, the Bremen Police Department offers a temporary telephone reporting service:

Phone

0421.362-12700

Service availability

Mon – Fri 6 am – 10 pm
Sat 8 am – 8 pm
Sun 10 am – 6 pm



Emergency Services

Phone

Emergency Call Fire Department

112

Ambulance (Emergency Doctor)

112

Medical Emergency Service

116 117

Medical treatment outside GP consultation hours

Ärztlicher Bereitschaftsdienst Bremen

Address: ST.-JOSEPH-STIFT
Entrance Notaufnahme (Emergency Room)
Schubertstraße
28209 Bremen

Service hours: Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri 7 pm – 7 am
Wed 3 pm – 7 am
Sat/Sun/Holiday round the clock

Ärztlicher Bereitschaftsdienst Bremen-Nord

Address: KLINIKUM BREMEN-NORD
Hammersbecker Str. 228
28755 Bremen

Service hours: Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri 7 pm – 11 pm
Wed 3 pm – 11 pm
Sat/Sun/Holiday 8 am – 11 pm

Pediatric Emergency Service

0421.3404444

Kinder- und Jugendärztlicher Bereitschaftsdienst Bremen-Mitte

Address: ELTERN-KIND-ZENTRUM PROF. HESS
Klinikum Bremen-Mitte
St.-Jürgen-Str. 1
28205 Bremen

Service hours: Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri 7 pm – 11 pm
Wed 3 pm – 11 pm
Sat/Sun/Holiday 8 am – 11 pm
After 11 pm, please contact the reception
of Prof.-Hess-Kinderklinik.

Kinder- und Jugendärztlicher Bereitschaftsdienst Bremen-Nord

0421.6606-1800

Address: KLINIKUM BREMEN-NORD
Hammersbecker Str. 228
28755 Bremen

Service hours: Wed 5 pm – 7 pm
Sat/Sun/Holiday 10 am – 12 noon
5 pm – 7 pm



Dental Emergency Service**0421.12233**[Emergency Service Schedule](#)Service hours:

Mon – Fri	9 pm – 11 pm
Sat/Sun/Holiday	10 am – 12 noon
	5 pm – 7 pm
	9 pm – 11 pm

Pharmacy Emergency Service[Emergency Service Schedule](#)**Poison Emergency Call****0551.19240****Patient Transport Ambulance**[Akut Ambulanz](#)**0421.69108910**[MEDITEAM Krankentransporte Bremen](#)**0421.66599665**[Sanitätsdienst Nord](#)**0800-0018222**[Sinus Ambulance](#)**0421.17540004****Veterinary Emergency Service****0421 12211**Service hours:

Mon – Fri	6 pm to 10 pm
Sat/Sun/Holiday	round the clock



Physician Search Service

[Kassenärztliche Vereinigung Bremen](#)

[Arzt-Auskunft Stiftung Gesundheit](#)

Hospitals

The following four state-run hospitals are members of the hospital group [GESUNDHEIT NORD](#):

[Klinikum Bremen-Mitte](#)

(Bremen's biggest hospital providing maximum medical care)

St.-Jürgen-Str. 1

28205 Bremen

Phone: 0421.497-0

[Klinikum Bremen-Ost](#)

Züricher Str. 40

28325 Bremen

Phone: 0421.408-0

[Klinikum Links der Weser](#)

Senator-Wessling-Str. 1

28277 Bremen

Phone: 0421.879-0

[Klinikum Bremen-Nord](#)

Hammersbecker Str. 228

28755 Bremen

Phone: 0421.6606-0

[Freie Kliniken Bremen](#) (NGO):

[DIAKO Ev. Diakonie-Krankenhaus](#)

Gröpelinger Heerstr. 406-408

28239 Bremen

Phone: 0421.6102-0

[St. Joseph-Stift](#)

Schwachhauser Heerstr. 54 (Entrance Schubertstr.)

28209 Bremen

Phone: 0421.347-0

[Rotes Kreuz Krankenhaus](#)

St.-Pauli-Deich 24

28199 Bremen

Phone: 0421.5599-0

[Roland-Klinik](#)

Niedersachsendamm 72-74

28201 Bremen

Phone: 0421.8778-0



Learning German in Bremen

A choice of institutes that provide courses in German:

[vhs Bremer Volkshochschule](#)

Bremen Adult Education Center
Faulenstr. 69
28195 Bremen
Phone: 0421.361-12345

[Aristoteles Institut](#)

Argonnenstr. 3
28211 Bremen
Phone: 0421.15190

[CASA Internationale Sprachschule gGmbH](#)

Am Dobben 14/16
28203 Bremen
Phone: 0421.46041430

[DAA Deutsche Angestellten-Akademie Bremen GmbH](#)

Bürgermeister-Smidt-Str. 41
28195 Bremen
Phone: 0421.4303490

[Goethe-Institut Bremen](#)

Bibliothekstr. 7 / Glashalle
28359 Bremen
Phone: 0421.360810

[Inlingua Bremen](#)

Am Wall 119
28195 Bremen
Phone: 0421.1690303

Find here the complete overview:

[Yellow Pages: Sprachschulen](#)



Childcare in Bremen

In Bremen, children who are at least one year old have a legal right to daycare of 30 hours per week.

Daycare for Children under 3

Children who have turned one year are entitled to early childhood support provided by the municipal child and family center [KiTa Bremen](#), by independent organizations or by childminders.

In daycare centers children will be taken care of in groups of up to 10 children. In addition, some kindergartens offer mixed-aged groups, where 5 out of 15 children will be under 3 years of age. Moreover, so-called socially educational play groups for toddlers and their parents (*Sozialpädagogische Spielkreise*) are offered. Currently, there are more than 320 institutions in Bremen with a staff of pedagogically trained professionals who are responsible for the early childhood care, education and support of the children. Daycare centers usually offer a period of care for 6 to 8 hours, 5 days a week.

Childminders (*Kindertagespflegepersonen*) may take care of up to 5 children at the same time. The responsible organization [PiB Pflegekinder in Bremen](#) cooperates with around 230 self-employed childminders, ensures that all childminders are trained and supervises their work.

All childcare facilities have a 4 weeks' closing period throughout the year.

Kindergarten

Children who have turned 3 years are entitled to 6 daily hours of childcare in a kindergarten until they enter primary school. As needed – with priority given to working parents – a higher number of daycare hours can be applied for. On the whole, there are over 200 facilities (state-run, run by church congregations or public welfare organizations, or in private hand) offering kindergarten places.

As a rule, kindergartens are open daily between 8 am and 4 pm, in addition early and late care can be arranged. The kindergarten year runs parallel to the academic school year, i.e. from 1 August to 31 July. During school holidays, kindergartens are closed on a total of 20 workdays. The opening and childcare hours in privately run kindergartens vary and information pertaining thereto can be obtained directly from them.

Enrollment

The main enrollment period for the kindergarten year (referring both to kindergarten and daycare) beginning on 1 August 2022 is in January 2022. If the child shall be enrolled for a date other than 1 August, then it should be done in due time – at least 3 months in advance – so that it can be scheduled in the issuance of available places.

All children admitted to daycare centers or childminding services must provide proof of measles vaccination.

The enrollment can be made [online](#) or in writing (forms available [here](#)). For the registration, the Child-ID is needed which will be sent automatically by mail in November before the child's 1st birthday.

All kindergartens, daycare centers and childminders have a limited number of places available and not every institution is capable of offering all possible care hours. For this reason, it may not always be possible to accommodate a child in the institution of choice.



Fees

Since 2019, the kindergarten childcare for children from the age of 3 until they start school is non-contributory in Bremen.

Contributions remain payable for daycare for children under 3 years of age, for lunchtime meals and after-school care (*Hortbetreuung*).

Details can be obtained from Performa Nord who runs the municipal childcare contributions service ([Kita Beitragsservice](#)).

Find out more:

[The Senator for Children and Education](#)

[KiTa Bremen FAQ](#)

[Directory of Daycare Providers](#)

[Yellow Pages: Kindergärten](#)

[Yellow Pages: Kinderbetreuung](#)

German-English kindergartens:

[The Toddlers](#)

[Punch and Judy](#)

[Kids at Jacobs](#)

German-Chinese kindergarten:

[Drachenkinder](#)

German-French kindergarten:

[Interkulturelle Schule](#)

German-Italian kindergarten:

[Girotondo](#)

German-Spanish toddler group:

[Las Mariquitas](#)



School Education in Bremen

In Germany, the responsibility for school and university education lies with the ministries of education of the 16 federal states. Therefore, parts of the education system may be differently structured and termed. Children with main residence in the State of Bremen have to attend a Bremen-based public or private substitute school. The Bremen School Act ([Bremisches Schulgesetz](#)) provides for a compulsory school attendance (*Schulpflicht*) of 12 years, thereof 10 years full-time compulsory education.

School Enrollment Requirements

By 31 March of any year, the verbal skills of all children becoming school-agers the following year are assessed by special language tests, which will – if necessary – be followed by a compulsory language tuition program. Children of migrants who only have little or no previous knowledge of the German language, start their school enrollment with a special language course of several months before they are integrated into the regular form.

Compulsory School Attendance

The compulsory school attendance begins on 1 August for all children who turn six before 30 June. At the request of the parents and in accordance with a medical certificate, also children who turn six before 30 September can be enrolled to primary school on 1 August. Children who turn six between 1 October and 31 January may possibly be enrolled on 1 August, but only on basis of an explicit recommendation of the school doctor and the kindergarten.

At the school's option, lessons can be given on five or six weekdays and by way of an all-day school with obligatory lessons from 8 am to 4 pm (*Ganztagsschule*).

Basic School Education System in Bremen

Age	Grade	University or apprenticeship	University or apprenticeship	
18	13			
17	12			
16	11			
15	10			
14	9			
13	8			
12	7			
11	6			
10	5			
9	4			
8	3			
7	2			
6	1			
5		Kindergarten		
4				
3				
2		Childcare		
1				

Source: Die Senatorin für Kinder und Bildung



School Types

- *Grundschule* (primary school)
 - *Oberschule* (high school / secondary school)
 - *Gymnasium* (senior high school)
- The **primary school** comprises grades 1 to 4 and provides education and care Monday through Friday from 8 am to 1 pm (so-called 'reliable primary school'). English as a foreign language is introduced from grade 3.

During grade 4 parents receive a recommendation from the primary school regarding the next stage (*Oberschule* or *Gymnasium*) of their child's education. If parents do not attend this consulting, the school will bindingly assign the student to a school type.

- The **Oberschule** offers the achievement of the following diplomas:
 - *Abitur / Allgemeine Hochschulreife* (upper high school degree / pre-university qualification) typically after a nine-year course of education at the end of grade 13.
 - *MSA mittlerer Schulabschluss* (secondary school diploma) after a six-year course at the end of grade 10
 - *ErwBBR Erweiterte Berufsbildungsreife* (enhanced vocational training level) at the end of grade 10
 - *eBBR Einfache Berufsbildungsreife* (basic vocational training level) at the end of grade 9

The *Oberschule* offers a common syllabus to children of mixed ability on different educational levels. Classes have a maximum of 25 students. Students of grades 5 to 10 are enabled to learn at least two foreign languages.

In the course of their subsequent vocational training, degree holders of the vocational training and secondary education level still have to attend a vocational school in order to comply with the 12 year-long compulsory education.

- At the **Gymnasium** the achievement of the *Abitur* is scheduled after an eight-year course of education. The syllabus demands a rapid learning aptitude of the students and provides a uniform educational level. However, also the a.m. other degrees may be obtained.

Classes have a maximum of 30 students. Students of grades 5 to 10 must at least learn two foreign languages. A third foreign language may be selected in grade 8 or 9. During the final two years (qualification phase) the tuition consists of obligatory and optional units with individually selectable profiles and emphases, e.g. a bilingual syllabus of instruction which enables the achievement of a language competence going far beyond the performance of regular foreign language classes. The qualification phase is completed by the *Abitur* exams; bilingual courses may require additional tests according to international qualification standards.

Find out more:

The Bremen Senator for Children and Education: [Bildung in Bremen](#)

Directory of public and private schools: [Bremen School Navigator](#)



International School of Bremen

The [International School of Bremen](#) is a private, college-preparatory school and offers English-language education from Kindergarten to grade 12. It was established in 1998 to serve students in the international community of Bremen (roughly 60% international students representing 40 nationalities and 40% German students).

The programs include the International Early Years Curriculum (IEYC), the International Primary Curriculum (IPC) in grades 1 to 5, the Cambridge Lower Secondary Curriculum in grades 6 to 8, the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) in grades 8 to 10 and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP) in Grades 11 and 12.

Address

International School of Bremen
Badgasteiner Str. 11
28359 Bremen
Phone: 0421.5157790

Studying in Bremen

University of Bremen

The [University of Bremen](#), founded in 1971, is a medium-sized German university which offers more than 100 master's and bachelor's degrees as well as the state law exam.

With 270 professors and nearly 20,000 students, among them 2,500 international students from all five continents, the University of Bremen offers a large spectrum of subjects, sorted into 8 main areas of study: Society & Education; Culture, Media, Art & Music; Teaching Career; Human & Health Sciences; Nature & Environment; Language & Literature; Economics & Law; Mathematics, Engineering & Production.

Internationality is a key strategic feature of the University of Bremen, which is part of many networks and partnerships around the world. Individuals from more than 100 nations live, study, and work on the campus. Teaching and research activities are internationally oriented.

Address

Universität Bremen
Bibliothekstraße 1
28359 Bremen
Phone: 0421.218-1



Bremen City University of Applied Sciences

The City University of Applied Sciences ([Hochschule Bremen](#)) enjoys a long tradition that goes back to 1799. Approximately 9,000 students enroll in 67 degree courses in areas such as engineering, natural sciences, economics and social sciences; about two-thirds are required to complete semesters of study or praxis abroad.

The International Graduate Center (IGC) was founded by the City University as an interdisciplinary graduate school for management and leadership. For applicants with a first university degree, the IGC offers several MBA and Master degrees in the area of international and European business and management. All full-time courses are taught entirely in English. The IGC has currently about 500 students from more than 60 countries.

Addresses

Hochschule Bremen
Neustadtswall 30
28199 Bremen
Phone: 0421.5905-0

[International Graduate Center \(IGC\)](#)

Langemarckstr. 113
28199 Bremen
Phone: 0421.5905-4133

Bremerhaven University of Applied Sciences

The [University of Applied Sciences in Bremerhaven](#) was founded in 1975. Thanks to its predecessor institutions the education tradition of the university can be traced back to more than 140 years ago. Currently it offers 25 attractive study programs and has about 3,000 students from 40 different countries. Bremerhaven University of Applied Sciences is continuously expanding its international partnerships with other institutions, whereby special value is placed on ensuring that these enable students of all disciplines to undertake periods of stay abroad.

Address

Hochschule Bremerhaven
An der Karlstadt 8
27568 Bremerhaven
Phone: 0471.4823-0



University of the Arts Bremen

The University of the Arts ([Hochschule für Künste Bremen](#)) is a publicly funded university whose roots in music, arts, and design date back to 1873. The University runs a faculty of art & design and a faculty of music with approximately 900 students, 65 professors and over 200 lecturers and teachers. It has a decidedly international character and has established an extensive network of international partnerships and cooperative agreements. Around one third of all students enrolled at the University of the Arts come from abroad.

Address

[Hochschule für Künste](#)

Am Speicher XI 8

28217 Bremen

Phone: 0421.9595-1000

Jacobs University Bremen

[Jacobs University](#), founded in 2001, is a private English-language university, characterized by a truly intercultural community. Over 1,500 students from more than 110 nations currently live and study on the residential campus. Jacobs University is a research-oriented university with a broad portfolio of undergraduate and graduate study programs from the natural and social sciences to engineering and economics. Study exchange programs are offered in conjunction with 18 international partners, amongst others with Rice University, Washington State University and Carnegie Mellon University.

Address

Jacobs University Bremen

Campus Ring 1

28759 Bremen

Phone: 0421.20040



Churches and Denominations in Bremen

Protestant Church

[Bremische Evangelische Kirche](#)

Franziuseck 2 – 4
28199 Bremen
Phone: 0421.5597-0

Catholic Church

[Katholischer Gemeindeverband in Bremen](#)

Hohe Str. 8 – 9
28195 Bremen
Phone: 0421.3694-0

Other Denominations

[Jüdische Gemeinde in Bremen](#)

Schwachhauser Heerstr. 117
28211 Bremen
Phone: 0421.4985104

[SCHURA - Islamische Religionsgemeinschaft Bremen e.V.](#)

Goosestr. 25
28237 Bremen
Phone: 0421.1676536

[International Baptist Church Bremen](#)

Hohenlohestr. 60
28209 Bremen
Phone: 0421.57890529

[Methodist Church](#)

Schwachhauser Heerstr. 179
28211 Bremen

[Buddhistisches Zentrum Bremen](#)

Wachmannstr. 2
28209 Bremen
Phone: 0421.89781680



WFB Wirtschaftsförderung Bremen GmbH - Bremeninvest

On behalf of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen, WFB Bremen / Bremeninvest is responsible for the development, strengthening and marketing of Bremen as a business and experience location. As a convinced ambassador for Bremen in terms of quality of life and economic attractiveness, WFB supports the marketing of Bremen to tourists and takes care of Bremen's successful positioning in the global competition for business locations.

International investors are looked after by the international team of Bremeninvest, bundling all services which meet the requirements of foreign investment. The competent team of Bremeninvest provides full support for the set up of an office, formation of a company, finding logistics services providers, settling immigration matters for international managing directors and finding office or warehouse facilities.

WFB and Bremeninvest offer one-stop business support services. With their specialized local network the economic developers can guarantee arrangement of contacts to all the relevant partners in Bremen – always in accordance with the individual needs.

Address

[WFB Wirtschaftsförderung Bremen GmbH](#) / [Bremeninvest](#)

Bürgermeister-Smidt-Str. 101

28195 Bremen

Phone: 0421.9600-10

mail@wfb-bremen.de

World Trade Center Bremen

[World Trade Center Bremen](#), operated by Bremeninvest, has been a licensed member of the [WTCA](#) World Trade Centers Association since 1991. At the location in Bremen Airport City, one of Europe's most noteworthy service sector areas, WTC Bremen is concentrating on its core business: supporting internationally operating companies and foreign direct investment in the Hanseatic City of Bremen. A flexible range of office premises, expert advice and all-round support rendered by the experienced team at Bremeninvest are specially tailored to the individual needs of these firms.

Address

World Trade Center Bremen

Hermann-Köhl-Str. 7

28199 Bremen

Contact

Elisabeth Breidbach

International Clients Support

Phone: 0421.9600-241

elisabeth.breidbach@wtc-bremen.de



Point of Single Contact

Points of Single Contact (PSCs) aim to assist European service sector companies in navigating through legal procedures. The [PSC Bremen](#) coordinates the entire start-up process, keeps you informed about progress and monitors compliance with deadlines.

Address

Point of Single Contact Bremen
Agnes Knelangen
Hinter dem Schütting 8
28195 Bremen
Phone: 0421.163399-475
agnes.knelangen@wfb-bremen.de
office@ea.bremen.de

[Online Business Registration](#) (Gewerbeanmeldung)

Welcome Service Bremen

The [Welcome Service](#) of the business support agency [Unternehmensservice Bremen](#) advises foreign business founders and foreign skilled workers of Bremen-based companies in questions related to residency status, recognition of qualifications and other queries of the daily life in Bremen. If you belong to the described group and feel challenged with similar thresholds, feel free to contact the Welcome Service for your personal consultation. The service is free of charge.

Contact

Manuel Kühn
Project Manager Welcome Service
c/o Unternehmensservice Bremen
Hinter dem Schütting 8
28195 Bremen
Phone: 0421.163399-477
manuel.kuehn@wfb-bremen.de

STARTHAUS Bremen & Bremerhaven

The [STARTHAUS](#) is an initiative of Bremen's development bank [BAB](#) (Bremer Aufbau-Bank), a subsidiary of WFB Bremen. It offers comprehensive start-up consulting for those who are studying and already have an innovative start-up idea, would like to take over a company or are unemployed and would like to generate own income.

Address

STARTHAUS Bremen
Domshof 14/15
28195 Bremen
Phone 0421.9600-372



Bremen Chamber of Commerce – CCI for Bremen and Bremerhaven

For more than five hundred years, the self-administration body of Bremen's economy has endeavored to promote the success of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen and its business enterprises. The [Chamber of Commerce](#) asserts the interests of Bremen's business community in political and social aspects. This includes lobbying for efficient infrastructure, promoting regional and urban development, upgrading research infrastructure as well as the expansion of traffic connections in response to changing requirements. All Bremen-based traders (roughly 52,000) are compulsory members of the Chamber.

Address

Handelskammer Bremen – IHK für Bremen und Bremerhaven
Haus Schütting, Am Markt 13
28195 Bremen
Phone: 0421.3637-0

Bremen Chamber of Crafts

The [Chamber of Crafts](#) represents the interests of 5,400 crafts enterprises with 31,000 employees to politics and administration. In addition, it regulates and monitors vocational training in the skilled trades and provides individual advice to its member companies on numerous topics relating to business management, business start-ups, training and continuing education.

Address

Handwerkskammer Bremen
Ansgaritorstr. 24
28195 Bremen
Phone: 0421.30500-0

Employment Agency Bremen-Bremerhaven

The [Employment Agency](#) provides labor market services such as job placement and employment promotion and regulates financial compensation benefits.

Address

Agentur für Arbeit Bremen-Bremerhaven
Doventorsteinweg 48-52
28195 Bremen
Phone: 0421.178-2535
0800 4 5555-00 (for employees)
0800 4 5555-20 (for employers)

[Online Placement of Job Offer](#)



Honorary Consulates in Bremen

[Angola](#)

[Austria](#)

[Bangladesh](#)

[Belgium](#)

[Brazil](#)

[Chile](#)

[Colombia](#)

[Denmark](#)

[Ecuador](#)

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[United Kingdom](#)

[Uruguay](#)

Honorary Consulates in Bremerhaven

[Haiti](#)

[Hungary](#)

[Iceland](#)

[Namibia](#)

Find out more:

www.konsulate-bremen.de



Culture, Museums, Leisure and Events

Bremen and Bremerhaven offer numerous leisure activities for both young and old. Below you will find just some of the many things to see and enjoy in and around Bremen.

A) Culture

a) Market Square, Town Hall and Cathedral

Bremen's magnificent town hall ([Rathaus](#)) and the [Roland](#) statue on market square ([Marktplatz](#)) received the UNESCO World Heritage status in June 2004. The market square is often the backdrop to glittering parties and the setting for political rallies. Surrounding the Roland statue are the town hall, the city state's local parliament ([Haus der Bürgerschaft](#)), and the [Schütting](#), seat of the Bremen Chamber of Commerce. Domshof, the cathedral grounds, plays host to the market which is held daily. Next to the town hall is Bremen's colossal cathedral, [St.-Petri-Dom](#).

Bremen's town hall dates back to the 15th century and is considered to be one of the most beautiful of its kind in Germany. After 1605, the town hall facades were redesigned in the style of Weser renaissance. To the rather plain looking west side of the town hall are Bremen's famous town musicians, the [Bremer Stadtmusikanten](#). Just a few feet away from the four town musicians, down a few steep steps, is the famous wine cellar and restaurant [Bremer Ratskeller](#). Since it was erected in 1405, German wines were stored and sold there. With about 650 varieties the *Ratskeller* has the world's greatest selection of German wines.

Opposite the town hall is the [Böttcherstraße](#), a street that is not only home to a shopping arcade but also bursting with culture.

b) Schnoor

Bremen's oldest district, the [Schnoor](#), is a maze of lanes lined with little 15th and 16th century houses set close together like a string of pearls (German: '*Schnur*'). It is located between the cathedral area and the river Weser and is home to numerous collectors and passionate craftsmen, cigar turners and pipe carvers, toy collectors and model shipmakers.

c) Traditional Events

The [Schaffermahlzeit](#), the oldest fraternity dinner in the world, has been taking place every year since 1545 on the second Friday of February. It is held in the upper hall of the town hall for about 300 ship owners, captains, merchants, and external guests. The course of the event has always followed fixed traditions. For centuries, only men were invited, but since 2015, the Schaffermahlzeit also regularly welcomes women.

The [Eiswette](#) of 1829 has developed into a unique social event. Bets are taken on 6 January at a place called Punkendeich at Osterdeich as to whether the 'master tailor', who may weigh no more than 99 pounds, will manage to cross the River Weser without getting his feet wet. The question has had the same answer for decades - but that doesn't matter. It is simply a spectacle worth seeing that draws hundreds of spectators every year.



d) [Theater am Goetheplatz and Kleines Haus](#)

The Goetheplatz Theater has the appearance of a temple dating back to the days of classicism. Built in 1913, it has been lovingly restored on several occasions and, being a four-layered theater, is a leading stage for opera, drama, ballet, and children's and youth theater.

e) Bremer Shakespeare Company

Founded in 1983, the first and foremost aim of the [Bremer Shakespeare Company](#) is the production of Shakespeare's plays in repertory. The plays are collectively produced, no single concept straightjacketing the production, no star actor subjecting all other performers, but making provision for each actor to voice his or her very own view.

f) Bremer Philharmoniker

As one of the world's most traditional orchestras with a history of almost 200 years, the [Bremer Philharmoniker](#) can be experienced practically every day during the season. Through its diverse artistic commitment, the Bremen Philharmonic Orchestra is the mainstay of music life in northwest Germany.

g) Die Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen

With its unique sound and fresh interpretations, the [Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen](#) inspires audiences around the world just as it does in Bremen. Under the direction of the Estonian star conductor Paavo Järvi, the Bremen ensemble became an international top orchestra.

h) Kunsthalle Bremen

Bremen's [Kunstverein](#) (art association) with presently over 10,000 members was one of the first in Germany. Founded in 1823 by the citizens of Bremen, it still runs the [Kunsthalle](#) art gallery with its own funds. Over the centuries, a rich and diverse collection has been assembled, containing outstanding paintings and sculptures as well as precious holdings of graphic art. In 2011 the Kunsthalle re-opened in new splendor, substantially extended and modernized.

i) Weserburg

The [Weserburg](#), Bremen's museum of modern art is located in the middle of the River Weser in the heart of the Hanseatic City. Constantly alternating presentations of works from famous private collections as well as special exhibitions show the dynamic development of modern art from the sixties to the present.

j) [Focke Museum](#) (Bremen State Museum of Art and Cultural History)

One park and six houses showcase 1,200 years of fascinating municipal and cultural history in permanent and temporary exhibitions, at the Focke laboratory and in the children's museum.



k) Gerhard-Marks-Haus and Wilhelm-Wagenfeld-Haus

The sculpture museum [Gerhard-Marks-Haus](#) and the design museum [Wilhelm-Wagenfeld-Haus](#) which looks after the estate of the Bremen-born product designer and Bauhaus student Wagenfeld, are located in two former guard buildings opposite each other on Am Wall.

l) Museen Böttcherstraße

The [Böttcherstraße Museums](#) provide the architectural and cultural highlight of the Böttcherstraße ensemble. They include the Ludwig Roselius Museum, featuring exquisite furniture, carpets, wall coverings and decorative art, and the Paula Modersohn-Becker Museum, displaying masterpieces of the pioneer of modern painting.

m) Übersee-Museum

In the [Übersee-Museum](#) the combination of collections focussed on ethnology, trade and natural history is connected to a harmonious experience which is unique in Europe. Here visitors can immerse themselves in distant continents and discover the fascinating cultures and natural environments with unique exhibits from across the world, masterful animal dioramas and real plants.

n) [Stadtbibliothek Bremen](#) (Bremen City Library)

As a place of lifelong learning, the City Library promotes the playful acquisition of knowledge in the ever increasing convergence of culture, daily management and creative leisure activities as well as intra- and inter-cultural integration.

o) Deutsches Schiffahrtsmuseum Bremerhaven

The [German Maritime Museum](#) – Leibniz Institute for German marine history (DSM) is the largest of its kind in Germany. The museum building is presently in the process of renovation. The first part shows a shipwreck with a fascinating story: the Bremen Cog of 1380. Its discovery in the river Weser in 1962 prompted the founding of the museum and now represents the focus and starting point of the new design und exhibitions.

Find out more:

[Bremen Theater Groups](#)

[Bremen Museums](#)



B) Leisure

a) ÖVB Arena

Bremen's event hall [ÖVB Arena](#) with its distinct roof construction resembling that of a ship's bow, is located next to the central station. The gigantic rooms inside host concerts, trade fairs, the Bremen Sixdays, and many other events.

b) Glocke

The [Glocke](#) concert hall, one of the foremost music venues in Northern Germany and the traditional home of music in Bremen, is situated in the heart of Bremen's city center. The elegant art deco design and excellent acoustics characterize this out-standing venue not only for the performance of classical music, but also for musicals, jazz, chanson evenings, comedy, plays and readings.

c) Sendesaal Bremen

The [Sendesaal Bremen](#), formerly a recording studio of the radio station Radio Bremen, is now operated as a public event center for music events. Due to its special construction, the hall has unique acoustics.

d) Metropol Theater Bremen

In 2018, the former Bremen Musical Theater was renamed in [Metropol Theater Bremen](#). For many years, the theater has captivated the audience with a diverse program of all genres.

e) GOP Varieté Theater

The architecturally outstanding [GOP Varieté Theater](#) at Bremen Überseestadt presents novel, electrifying shows, excellent food and an atmospheric ambiente.

f) Universum® Bremen

In [Universum Bremen](#) more than 300 exhibits on the subject areas technology, humans, and nature let you experience and understand scientific phenomena. The outdoor area offers more fascinating stations on the topics of water and wind. The 27 m high tower *Turm der Lüfte* does not only offer a great view over Bremen but also surprises with interesting exhibits to try out and explore.

g) Weserstadion

The wohninvestWESERSTADION is the home stadium of the local football league team [WERDER BREMEN](#). It is situated on the north bank of the River Weser, only about a kilometer away from the city center.

h) Golf Sport

The 18 hole superbly designed golf course of [Golf-Club Oberneuland](#), situated just 15 minutes from Bremen city center, is not only challenging and memorable but a pleasure to play. Find out more on [golf courses in and around Bremen](#).



i) Schlachte Embankment

When the sun shines down on Bremen, locals and tourists head for the [Schlachte](#) embankment on the banks of the River Weser. The terraces, restaurants, pavement cafés and beer gardens offer wonderful views of the water. The Kafenmarkt at the Schlachte is a meeting point for young and old every Saturday morning throughout the summer months. Live music, improvisations, market criers, food and drink, complemented by an antiques and bric-a-brac market on the banks of the River Weser.

j) The Viertel

If you walk down Goetheplatz to Ostertorsteinweg, you'll ultimately come to what people in Bremen call the [Viertel](#), a colorful and lively district full of culture and lifestyle tightly clustered together. The Viertel is home to over 300 different shops, delicatessens, cafés, bars, and international restaurants.

k) Havenwelten Bremerhaven (Harbor Worlds Bremerhaven)

The [Havenwelten Bremerhaven](#) at the River Weser dyke is a maritime tourism resort with unique attractions: Climate House® Bremerhaven 8° East, Atlantic Hotel Sail City, Mediterraneo shopping mall, German Emigration Center, [Zoo at the Sea](#), Historical Museum Bremerhaven and German Maritime Museum.

l) Deutsches Auswandererhaus (German Emigration Center Bremerhaven)

The [German Emigration Center](#) opened in 2005 as a museum unique in Europe, dedicated to the German and European history of emigration and immigration. In 2012, a new extension wing was inaugurated which focuses on the history of Germany as a country of immigration. By relating emigration and immigration in the past and the present, the German Emigration Center has become the first migration museum in Germany.

m) Klimahaus® Bremerhaven 8° Ost

The [Klimahaus Bremerhaven 8° Ost](#) is a unique world of weather, climate and climate-change knowledge and experience. Travel the world along the eighth longitude, cross five continents and experience the earth's climate zones close up – exciting and spectacular.

Find out more:

[Bremen Tourism](#) (⇒ [Guided Tours and Trips](#))

[Bremerhaven Tourism](#)

[Portal of the Federal State of Bremen: Two Cities - One State](#)

[Bremen City Portal \(German Version\)](#)

[Bremerhaven City Portal](#)

[Bremen City Initiative](#)



C) Relaxation

a) Bürgerpark

The [Bürgerpark](#) meets with the ÖVB Arena on its north side. Spanning an area of over 200 hectares, this is the largest privately financed city park in Germany. It is a paradise of sparse woods and meadows, old, gnarled trees, as well as picturesque canals and lakes. Bremen's [Shakespeare Company](#) performs some of its shows here during the summer. And a classical [open-air concert](#) traditionally marks the conclusion of the summer season.

b) Wallanlagen Park

The city's ramparts which once formed an extra line of protection around the boundary walls were transformed into a green belt. The [Wallanlagen](#) park right in the heart of the city is a veritable display of horticultural art and the perfect place for a relaxing stroll.

c) [Rhododendron Park](#) and [Botanika](#)

Bremen's impressive collection of rhododendrons and azaleas totals around 10,000, making it the second largest in the world. The flowering season lasts six weeks, the best time to visit is the month of May. The horticultural science center botanika lies in the heart of the Rhododendron Park. In the discovery center all the senses are stimulated: interactive experiments and multimedia stations provide a fascinating tour of Asia, which reveals some of the diverse sounds and smells that nature has to offer.

d) Knoop's Park

[Knoop's Park](#), one of Bremen's loveliest parks in the North of Bremen with a total area of 65 hectares, offers beautiful open green spaces and some 7 km of walk ways, tree-lined avenues and romantic paths.

e) [Stadtwaldsee](#) / [Werdersee](#) / [Weser beach by Café Sand](#)

The beaches of the lakes Werdersee and Stadtwaldsee (also called 'Unisee' / University lake) and the sandy beach by Café Sand (reachable via a direct ferry connection from the Viertel) are very popular among those seeking relaxation and sunshine in the summertime.

f) Blockland

[Blockland](#) is not only Bremen's largest contiguous agricultural area but also its natural recreational area No. 1. To go by bike, on foot or on inline skates along the top of the Blockland dyke is certainly one of the most beautiful ways to spend a sunny day in Bremen. And in a freezing winter, the natural ice rink [Semkenfahrt](#) attracts lots of ice skaters.

Find out more:

[Bremen - The Greenest Major City in Germany](#)

[Parks in Bremen](#)



Bremen's Calendar of Events

Below we have compiled some highlights of events taking place throughout the year. Due to the pandemic, changes or cancellations may occur.

January

[Bremen Sixdays](#)

[Bremen Tattoo Marching Band Festival](#)

February

[Bremen Classic Motor Show](#)

[Bremen Samba Carnival](#)

April

[Osterwiese Fun Fair](#)

[jazzahead! music fair and festival](#)

June

[Poetry on the Road](#)

[La Strada International Street Performance Festival](#)

July

[Summer in Lesmona - Picnic with World Class Orchestra](#)

[Breminale Festival](#)

August

[International Maritime Festival](#)

[Musikfest Bremen - Classical Music Festival](#)

[Shakespeare in the Park](#)

September

[Maritime Week on the Weser](#)

[Music and Light at Hollersee](#)

October

[Bremen Marathon](#)

[986th Bremer Freimarkt Fun Fair](#)

November / December

[Bremen Christmas Market](#) and [Schlachte Zauber Historical Winter Spectacle](#)

Complete events calendars are available here:

[Top Events in Bremen](#)

[Weser Kurier: Events](#)



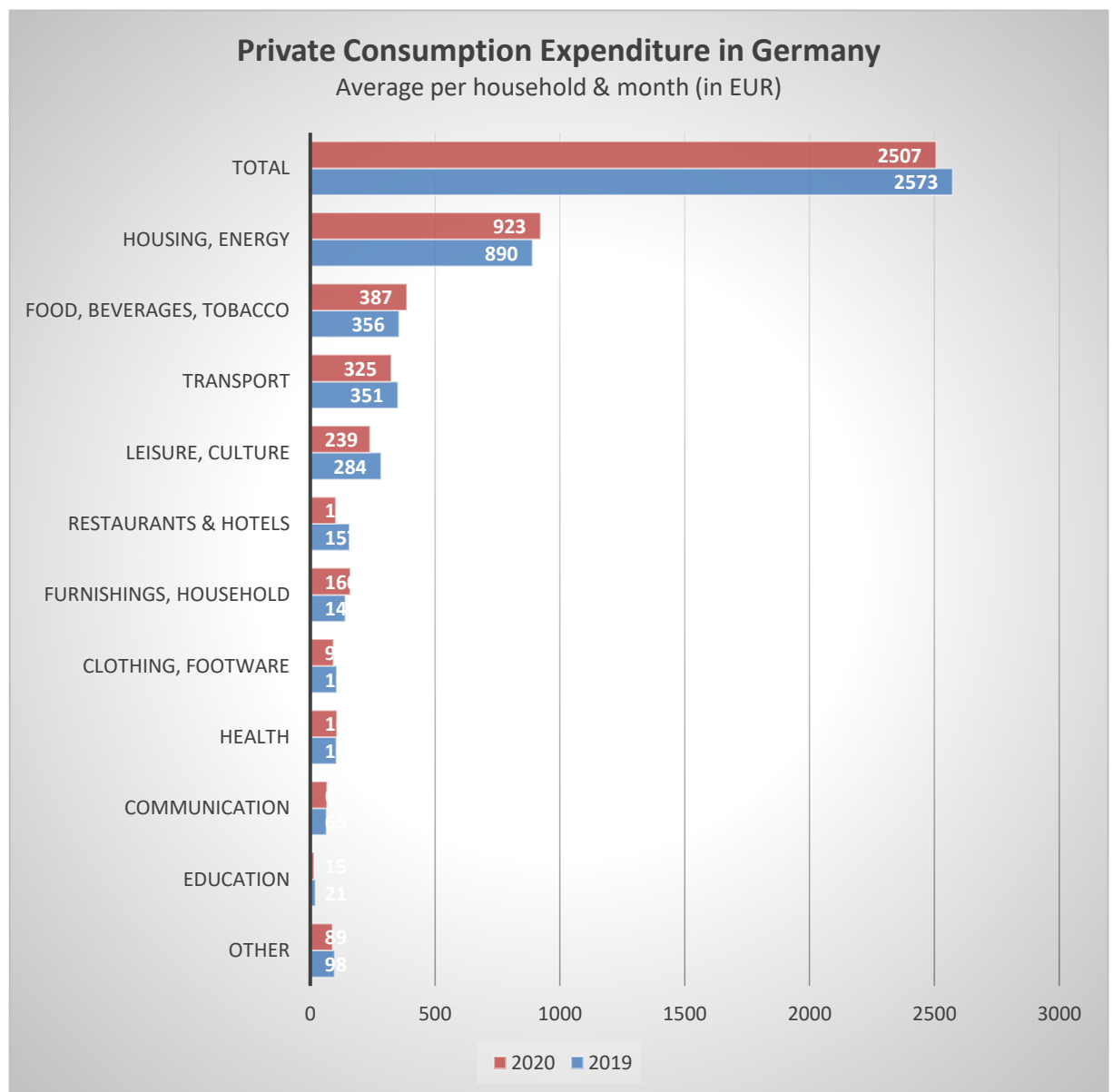
Comparative Price Levels



Source: [Statistics Eurostat](#)



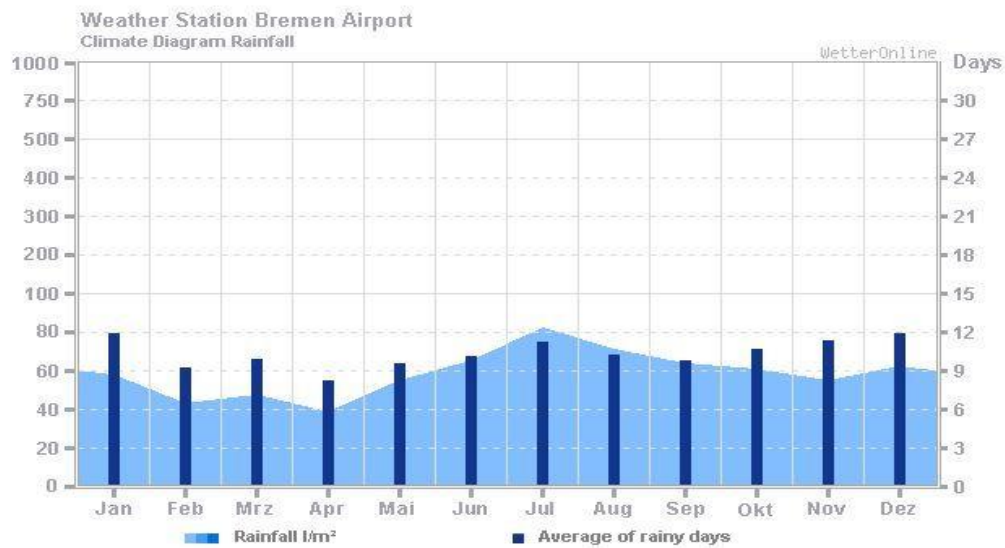
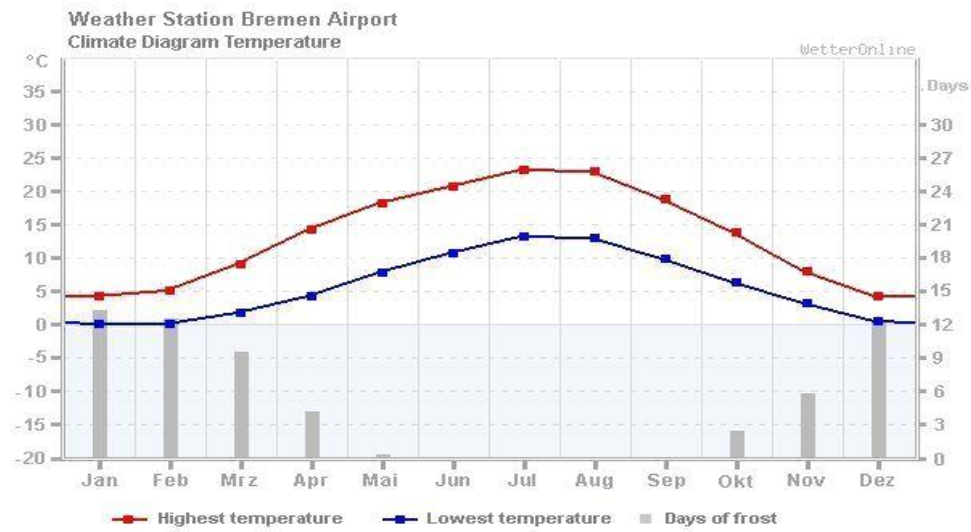
Private Consumption Expenditure



Source: [DESTATIS Statistisches Bundesamt](https://www.destatis.de/EN/Home/Navigation/Navigation.html)



Climate



Source: www.wetteronline.de/wetter/bremen



Public German Holidays 2022

January 1	New Year's Day	entire Germany
January 6	Epiphany	only in Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria and Saxony-Anhalt
March 8	International Women's Day	only in Berlin
April 15	Good Friday	entire Germany
April 18	Easter Monday	entire Germany
May 1	Labor Day	entire Germany
May 26	Ascension Day	entire Germany
June 6	Whit Monday	entire Germany
June 16	Corpus Christi	only in Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria, Hesse, North Rhine-Westphalia, Rhineland-Palatinate, Saarland
August 15	Assumption Day	only in Bavaria and Saarland
September 20	World Children's Day	only in Thuringia
October 3	Day of German Unity	entire Germany
October 31	Reformation Day	only in Brandenburg, Bremen, Hamburg, Lower Saxony, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, Schleswig-Holstein and Thuringia
November 1	All Saints' Day	only in Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria, North Rhine-Westphalia, Rhineland-Palatinate and Saarland
November 16	Penance Day	only in Saxony
December 24	Christmas Eve	entire Germany
December 25	Christmas Day	entire Germany
December 26	2nd Christmas Day	entire Germany
December 31	New Year's Eve	entire Germany

February 28 Carnival Monday ('*Rosenmontag*'): In the Rhineland area, carnival processions take place and most offices are closed.

Find out more: [Feiertage 2022](#)

School Holidays Federal State of Bremen 2022

Winter	January 31 – February 1
Easter	April 4 – 19
Whitsun	May 27 and June 7
Summer	July 14 – August 24
Autumn	October 17 – 29
Christmas	December 23 – January 6, 2023

E&OE

Find out more: [Schulferien 2022](#)



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Cover Photo: WFB / Jonas Ginter

