Everyday life

Mobility Public transport

In Passau, there is only one main train station. This means that we also do not have an underground network. The best form of public transport are the buses.

You can find information regarding the timetables and the routes here: https://vbp.stadtwerke-passau.de/ busfahrplaene.html

The Central Bus Station is the ZOB (Zentraler Omnibus Bahnhof). Nearly all buses stop at this station. With most other bus stops, you can find the bus going in one direction on one side of the road and the bus going in the other direction directly opposite on the other side of the road.

VBP operates around 17 lines that run throughout the city. With the combined 'Bus & Bad' ticket, you can travel to the swimming pool and enter it for a cheaper price. A single ticket in Passau costs €2.00, an 8-trip ticket €10.00.

For further information check: www.stadtwerke-passau.de/ bus-parken/fahrpreise.html#c294

Using your campusCard as a bus pass

As an enrolled doctoral student, your CampusCard functions as your bus pass. The bus pass for Passau costs €22.50 per semester at the time of writing (summer semester 2019–20). The fee is payable at matriculation and re-registration and is included in the 'semester contribution'. Before you can use your CampusCard as a bus pass for the first time you should make sure that:

- your CampusCard displays the VBP logo
- your CampusCard has your photograph on it
- you have validated your CampusCard for the current semester

If you do not have your picture on your CampusCard, you can still use it as a bus pass but you will need to carry additional photographic ID (i.e. your passport, foreigners registration card or, if you are an EU citizen, your national ID card) whenever taking the bus. The semester bus pass is valid throughout the semester for which you have validated your card. The summer semester runs from 1 April to 30 September and the winter semester from 1 October to 31 March.

Driving in Germany

In Germany, we drive on the right hand side of the road. If you are an EU or EEA citizen, your driving licence is usually valid in Germany. If you are not an EU or EEA citizen, you may need an international driving licence or an official translation of your licence. If you take up residence in Passau for more than six months, you have to apply for validating your licence in Germany at the driving licence department of the City of Passau ('<u>Die Führerscheinstelle der Stadt Passau</u>'). You can download the <u>application form</u> on the department.

Documents you need for the application Documents provide the application

- Your driving licence
- (if necessary: with translation)
- Registration certificate (if necessary: with translation)
- Police record from country of residence
- (if necessary: with translation)

Clearance certificate

The application costs \in 140, the German clearance certificate \in 13. Please note that every case is different. Contact us if you have any questions regarding your driving licence.



Stadt Passau, Dienstleistungszentrum Passavia Vornholzstr. 40 94036 Passau Phone: +49 851 3960 E-mail: fuehrerscheinstelle@passau.de

Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure Phone: +49 30 183003060 E-Mail: buergerinfo@bmvi.bund.de

Read more > www.bmvi.de/EN > Validity of foreign driv

> Validity of foreign driving licences in the Federal Republic of Germany

Carsharing

The carsharing Passau association gives you the opportunity to share cars with other users. There are <u>seven places</u> where you can find the cars. For example, one car is located behind the Nikolakloster building, another car in the historic centre and one at the central train station.

As a new resident of Passau, you can request a coupon for the use of the services of the carsharing association with a value of \in 100. If you are a holder of the Passau family pass, there is no admission fee. For detailed information and conditions, please visit the carsharing passau website.

Read more

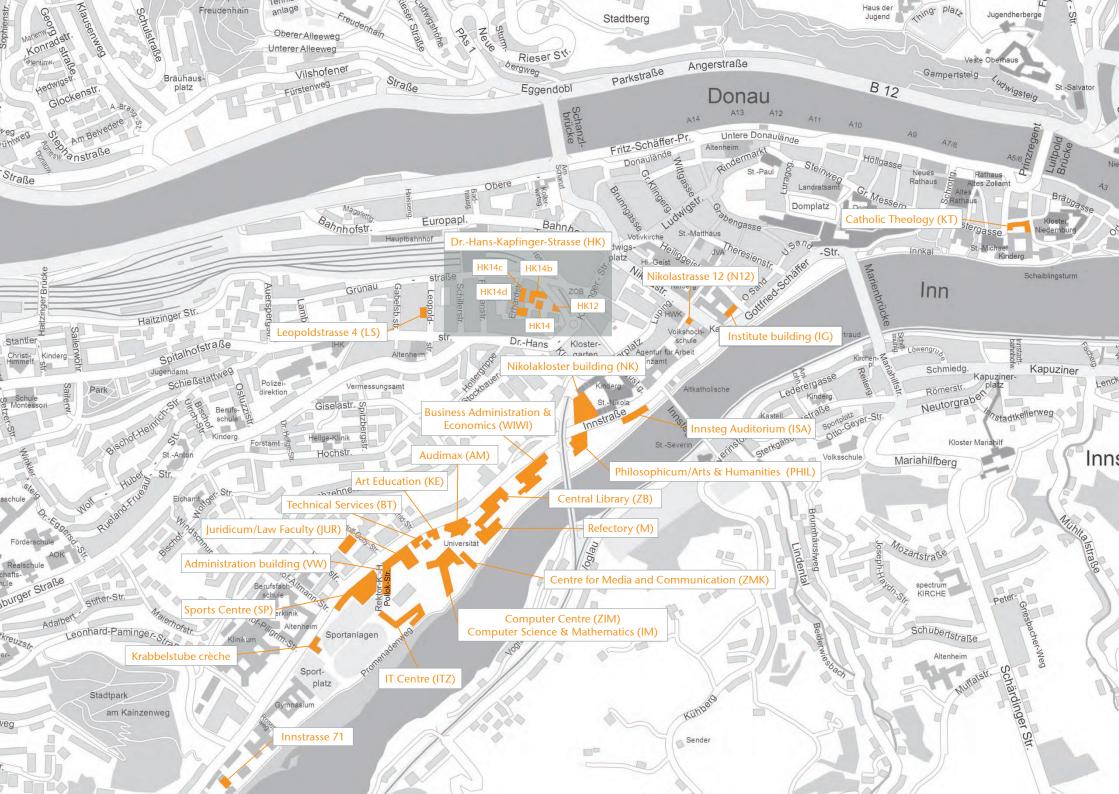
www.carsharing-passau.de

Bicycles

Many people in Passau use bicycles since most places in Passau are in easy biking distance and you can find places to park your bicycle all over campus and city. There are also bicycle routes for daytrips around Passau. If you want to rent a bike, you can do so at 'rent a bike', which is situated close to the central train station.

Website for more information

www.fahrradverleih-bahnhof-passau.de/pages/intro.php





General information

Recycling in Germany

In Germany, waste is not simply thrown into the rubbish bin but recycled. This means you are expected to separate at least paper, organic waste, glass and tin cans. Your house will have three different bins: a blue one, a brown one and a black one. The blue one is meant for paper only, the brown one for organic waste and the black one is for the residual waste. For different types of glass and cans, extra boxes will be provided, which can be found in several locations.

The locations are shown here:

https://geoportal.passau.de/WebOffice/synserver?project=FACH-DATEN_WO&client=core&language=de&x=1495000&y=6203000&scale=25000&view=Recycling

Bottle return or 'Pfandsystem'

When you buy drinks in Germany, they usually come in plastic or glass bottles. Instead of throwing the empty bottles away, most of them can be recycled. To make sure that customers know this and have the motivation to take the bottles to recycling stations, Germany has introduced a cash deposit schene ('Pfand').

'Pfand' means that when you bring a bottle to a designated recycling machine you will get some money back. This can be between 8 and 25 cents per bottle. Recycling machines can be found in most supermarkets (Rewe, Edeka, Aldi etc.), usually at the main entrance or in the back.

Bottles that usually have a deposit are: water, beer and soft-drink bottles, aluminium cans and multiple use containers. There is usually no deposit for: most juice and milk bottles, wine bottles and bottles with a 'Grüner Punkt' logo. If a bottle is part of the deposit system you will find a symbol or the word 'Pfand' next to the barcode.

Pets

Please get your landlord's written permission if you wish to keep a pet, as pets might not be allowed in your apartment.

Number of people living in one apartment

It is unusual to share a single-room apartment with another person and your landlord might even prohibit living there with more people.

Never pour or shake anything from windows or balconies

Make sure flowerpots or boxes on windows or balconies are secure and that watering them doesn't create a nuisance for the neighbors below.

Cleaning the house

Have a look at the rental contract to check if you are required to clean the stairways, the footpath etc. If there is no paid service, you might be on cleaning duty every few weeks.

Winter road clearance or 'Winterdienst'

When there is snow and ice in the streets everyone is obligated to clear the pavement in front of their house every morning so that there is no risk of people falling and injuring themselves. If you are renting an accommodation, check your rental contract or ask your landlord about your responsibilities regarding this.

Airing your room

Make sure to open the window regularly to air out your room(s). As most houses in Germany do not have an air conditioning system, you should do so every morning and evening. Windows in Germany are usually locked with the handle facing downwards. If you want to open them, you can either twist the handle to the side (so the window can swing open) or upwards (then the window tilts open at the top). This second option allows you to get fresh air without a draft, which is very practical at night. However, do not leave your windows tilted when you are not at home! Burglars look for tilted windows, as it is far easier to break into a home when the window is tilted.

Toilet paper

In Germany, you can flush toilet paper down the toilet. However, please make sure not to throw other paper or hygiene products into the toilet.

Tap water

Tap water is of excellent quality and may be consumed without concerns. It is even common to drink tap water at home if you prefer non-sparkling water.

Electricity

In Germany, the standard voltage is 230 V. The standard frequency is 50 Hz. The power sockets used are of type F. Please check if you need an adapter or converter to use your devices!

Important phone numbers

The emergency telephone number for police, fire brigade and medical rescue services (i.e. ambulances) is 112. This emergency number works throughout Europe and even in some countries and territories outside Europe! There is another Germany-specific number, 110, for calling the police directly. These numbers can be dialled for free from any landline or mobile phone.

- 112 Emergency telephone number
- 110 Police emergency hotline
- 116117 24-hour medical advice hotline (not for emergencies)
- 08919240 Poison emergency hotline

Safety

Germany is a very safe country with a low crime rate. Especially in the rural areas like Passau—Germans tend to regard the police as a reliable safety guarantor as well as their 'Freund und Helfer' ('friend and helper'). Most incidents of street crime involve the theft of unattended items and pick pocketing. Particularly bicycle theft is a widespread type of crime in Germany, unfortunately also in Passau, so please make sure to always lock up your bike.

Take the usual precautions (do not leave your valuables unattended, do not walk around in obscure places alone at night) and you will be safe during your stay!

Non-smoking laws

Smoking is prohibited in some public places such as on public transportation, including railway platforms and restaurants or cafes. Sometimes separate smoking areas are provided. Fines for violations range from \in 5 to \notin 1,000. If you want to smoke at work and your working time is recorded in BayZeit (the University's time recording system), you need to clock out and leave the building!

'Du' or 'Sie'?

Germans tend to be very formal. We reserve the informal address 'du' only for people we know well and have grown fond of. In an office environment, people with whom you work together closely may 'offer you the "du"' ('das "du" anbieten') after a while. However using 'du' before this has happened is a faux pas. As a rule of thumb, 'du' is used when speaking with:

- family
- friends
- children and youngsters up to about age 16
- coworkers (blue-collar workers are more likely to use 'du' straight away)
- members of some clubs, interest groups, or political parties

In all other situations, use 'Sie'—particularly when talking to adult strangers and white-collar co-workers. When in doubt, use 'Sie', as it is better to err on the side of formality rather than being too familiar.



The German climate

Spring, summer, autumn and winter are usually markedly different from each other in these parts. As we enjoy both warm summers and cold winters, please make sure you have appropriate clothing.

Spring

Spring is the period from March to May. The German saying 'Der April macht, was er will' (April does what it wants) explains it best: the weather is fickle during this time. There may be temperatures in March up to 23° Celsius (73.4°F) but it might still freeze in the nights and rain a lot.

Summer

Summer is a pleasant and warm time in the Passau area. From June to August, it is usually warm and quite sunny with a few intermittent showers. The days are long and the daytime temperatures may hover around 30°C (86°F).

Autumn

From September to November, the temperature falls rapidly. While it is still warm in September and you can still enjoy the German 'Altweibersommer' (Indian summer), it might already snow in November! If you have a car, this is the time to change your tyres!

Winter

The winter period is from December to February. In the height of winter in January, the average temperature may be about $2^{\circ}C$ ($36^{\circ}F$). This may drop to about $-10^{\circ}C$ ($14^{\circ}F$) or even $-15^{\circ}C$ ($5^{\circ}F$). Snow is common in the Passau area in winter.



Washing laundry

Launderettes

Innstadt Waschsalon Kapuzinerstrasse 2 94032 Passau Mobile: +49 171 637 4763 Monday–Sunday 7 a.m.–10 p.m. www.innstadt-waschsalon.com

Waschtreff Neuburger Strasse 19 94032 Passau Mobile: +49 1512 1606650 Monday–Friday 7 a.m.–10 p.m. Eichberger Reinigung Spitalhofstrasse 90 94032 Passau—Haidenhof Nord Phone: +49 851 55303 www.eichberger-reinigung.de

El Sadek Amina Miriam Reinigung Am Bramerhof 4 94034 Passau-Grubweg Phone: +49 851 7564 5449

Märtl Vinzenz Inh. Elisabeth Frank Unterer Sand 16 94032 Passau-Altstadt Phone: +49 851 2545

Modex in the DEZ shopping centre (Refill X) Neuburger Strasse 104b 94036 Passau Monday–Friday 8:30 a.m.–6 p.m. Saturday 8:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Communication

Mobile phones

To get a German number, you need a German SIM card. You can either get a contract (suitable for longer stays) or a prepaid number (suitable for short stays, because you do not have to cancel the contract when you leave). You can buy the SIM-Cards and get a contract or a prepaid card in the Telekom-Shop, the O2-Shop, Tchibo and some supermarkets like Aldi. To find a fitting tariff for you check: www.simtarife.de

Please be aware that the average contract runs for 24 months and is automatically extended for an additional year if you don't terminate it on time. Note that most contracts **cannot be terminated** earlier!

Internet access

If you stay in a long-term accommodation, you also might need to conclude a contract with an internet provider. Similarly to mobile phone plans, internet contracts tend to have an average contract period of 24 months. However, some providers allow you to terminate your contract earlier when you leave Germany.

If you live in a shared flat, you can always consider sharing a contract. Please keep in mind that the installation of the service takes a few weeks. If you're only staying for a short time, we recommend that you use the internet facilities on campus: the University of Passau provides Wi-Fi access and various computer rooms, which you can access with your university user account (aka 'ZIM-Kennung'). Computer rooms are located in the following buildings:

Rooms 057 and 058 in the Law Faculty building (JUR), Innstrasse 39

- Rooms 046, 047 and 058 in the Computer Science and Mathematics building (IM), Innstrasse 33
- Rooms 030, 031 and 032 in the Business & Economics building (WIWI), Innstrasse 27
- Room 117 in the Nikolakloster building (NK), Innstrasse 40)
- Room 29/30 in the Department of Catholic Theology (KT), Michaeligasse 13

Streaming digital content: the German legal perspective

Streaming and downloading digital content, including music, films and TV series in Germany can lead to very serious legal consequences. The general rule of thumb is: the downloader is only legally permitted to download content that has been paid for or is legally shared. This is because under German law a copyright holder may require an internet server to disclose the name and address of the internet connection holder—and sue that person for damages arising from illegal downloads carried out using that internet connection.

Read more

www.young-germany.de/topic/ live/your-digital-rights-in-germany

Shopping and groceries Groceries

The best known low budget supermarket chains are 'Aldi', 'Lidl', 'Penny' and 'Netto'; for more special treats as well as fresh cheese, meat and fish sold at specialised counters, go to 'Rewe' or 'Edeka'. Opening hours vary from state to state. In Bavaria, most supermarkets and shopping centres are open from Monday to Saturday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Smaller shops tend to close earlier and also have a lunch break.

On Sundays and national holidays, shops are usually closed, yet you might find some open bakeries on Sunday mornings. Another exception are shops at train stations, which have extended opening hours and are also open on Sundays. Last but not least, petrol stations also offer some (high-priced) drinks and basic food supplies and are ususally open around the clock.

Many supermarkets offer organic products and you can find locally grown vegetables and fruits as well as homemade food products at weekly farmers' markets (see below). Also, most supermarkets nowadays offer a small selection of vegan and vegetarian products such as milk substitutes and tofu. Chains such as 'Bioladen', 'Naturkostladen' or 'Reformhaus' specialise in organic and vegetarian and vegan products and shop assistants here are well trained in nutritional questions.

Please note that there is a deposit on many plastic and glass bottles. You will recover it when you return the bottles to the shops (see page 82).

Weekly markets

- Domplatz in front of the cathedral Saturdays 7 a.m.–2 p.m.
- Klostergarten (across the street from the Nikolakloster) Tuesdays and Fridays 7 a.m.–2 p.m.

Shops offering international food

- Asia Shop Heiliggeistgasse 1 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 751672
- Ceylan Market (Turkish) Grünaustrasse 13
 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 20967091
- Medeo (Russian)
 Spitalhofstrasse 73a
 94032 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 8519720
- OMOWEST Afroshop Grünaustrasse 12 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 21031412
- Orientalische Spezialitäten (Arab) Nibelungenstrasse 10 94032 Passau

Health-food shops

- Biobäckerei Wagner Ludwigsplatz 4 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 9890307 https://wagner.bio/
- Bio-top Grabengasse 16
 94032 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 36321
 www.biotop-passau.de
- Denn's Biomarkt Regensburger Str. 70 94036 Passau Phone: +49 851 75 63 88 69 www.denns-biomarkt.de/passauregensburger-str-70/marktseite
- Der mymuesli-Laden Theresienstrasse 5
 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 2302024 www.mymuesli.com
- Reformhaus Buck
 Wittgasse 8
 94032 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 3171 8
 www.reformhaus-buck.de



Shopping centres

- Dreiflüsse Einkaufszentrum (DEZ) Neuburger Strasse 104b
 94036 Passau
- Stadtgalerie
 Bahnhofstrasse 1
 94032 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 8517970

Furniture shops

- Ahollinger Schreinerei & Möbelwerkstätte Eck 2
 94034 Passau Phone: +49 851 51271
 www.ahollinger.com
- Die Trödelbuam (second-hand furniture) Wiener Str. 14 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 98858489 www.troedelbuam.de
- Möbel Schuster Inh. Walter Schuster Neustifterstrasse 27 94036 Passau Phone: +49 851 966550 www.moebelschuster.de
- Mömax Passau Steinbachstrasse 15 94036 Passau www.moemax.de
- XXXLutz Hiendl Steinbachstrasse 42 94036 Passau Phone: +49 851 8810 www.xxxlmoebelhaeuser.de

Additionally, don't forget to check social media to find second-hand furniture. The keyword 'Flohmarkt' (flea market) might be of help.

Image: colourbox.de

Medical issues

As mentioned before (page 41 Social security), you will need statutory health insurance in Germany. To help you get acquainted with the medical system in Germany, here are a few important topics and tips.

Doctor's appointments

In Germany, if you need a doctor's appointment you go to a general practitioner ('Hausarzt') first. If you are in need of a specialist, you will get a referral ('Überweisung').

Please remember to always bring your health card to your appointments! You are advised to generally have the card with you in case of a medical emergency.

If you don't speak German well, you can bring a person to interpret for you or a family member or friend to help you out. Please be aware that your insurance does not cover the cost of an interpreter. You can also find a multilingual doctor, search on the internet pages of the federation of contracted medical practitioners ('Kassenärztliche Bundesvereinigung'). It is also available as an app, just look for 'BundesArztsuche'.

The medical consultation

Your doctor should inform you about:

- The diagnosis
- What treatment they recommend
- How the treatment works, how long it will take, what the risks are and whether it involves pain
- Whether the treatment only eases the symptoms or cures the illness itself
- What other types of treatment are available
- What screening tests you are due for

Professional confidentiality

In Germany, doctors and practice personnel are not allowed to pass on information about you, your health status and your family to others. This means you can openly talk with your doctor about anything you may be concerned about. Without your express consent, your doctor will not inform your spouse or life partner, other family members or anyone else.

Pharmacies and medication

You can obtain medication and wound dressings in pharmacies ('Apotheken'). Pharmacies are identified by a large letter A above the entrance and are open during normal business hours. During the night and weekends, there is always one pharmacy on call in each local area. You can find out which one, e.g. via the internet (search for 'Apothekennotdienst'). The overnight and public holiday on-call rosters for your area are also displayed on the doors of pharmacies.

Prescribed medication

You can obtain certain prescriptions-only medicines ('verschreibungspflichtige Arzneimittel') at pharmacies only upon presenting a doctor's prescription ('Rezept'). At the pharmacy, you can also be informed about when and how you must take the medication. It may happen that the pharmacy has to order certain medications in. In this case, the pharmacist will tell you when to return to pick up your medication.

Statutory health insurance will only pay for medication prescribed by a doctor using the red prescription form. Special regulations apply to e.g. strong painkillers; these must be prescribed using a special narcotics prescription form. In general, you have to pay ten percent of the cost of prescribed medication (at least 5 and at most 10 euros). This is called co-payment ('Zuzahlung').

Examples:

- For medication that costs €20, you pay €5
- For medication that costs €80, you pay €8
- For medication that costs €120, you pay €10

In any case, you never pay more than the price of the medication.

Exempted from co-payments are:

- Medication for children under 18 years
- Medication prescribed in connection with pregnancy or childbirth

If you have statutory health insurance cover, the pharmacy will invoice the insurance fund directly. You only pay the mandatory co-payment. Some medications are also available in versions called 'Generics' ('Generika'). Generics are medications with the same composition of active ingredients as the branded versions. You can ask your pharmacist about them. For some generic medications, you don't have to make co-payments.

Oral health care

Your statutory health insurance fund covers the total cost of measures to preserve your natural teeth. This also applies if your teeth cannot be preserved and must be extracted.

Regular preventive dental check-ups are important—even if you don't have any dental complaints. These examinations help to detect and treat certain diseases early. You can obtain a bonus booklet ('Bonusheft') from your health insurance fund, in which the check-ups are recorded. If you can prove that you have been to the dentist at least once a year (at least once every six month for under 18 year olds), statutory health insurance funds will make a larger contribution to the cost of dental prosthetics, should they become necessary.

Dental prosthetics include crowns, bridges and dentures. Statutory health insurance funds contribute, depending on the diagnosis, a fixed subsidy ('Festzuschuss'). They cover 50 percent of the cost of medically necessary measures. If you have attended a dental check-up at least once a year for the last five years (bonus booklet!), the subsidy increased to 60 percent, and to 65 percent after ten years.

Vaccination

Each year, still thousands of people become ill because of dangerous infectious diseases. Vaccinations ('Impfungen') effectively protect from diseases caused by bacteria and viruses and from their health effects. When many people are vaccinated against a certain disease, it can no longer spread throughout the population. Ask your doctor about vaccinations—for yourself and your children.

In Germany, there are recommendations about when certain vaccinations should be given. Children are vaccinated against the most important diseases as part of scheduled child health checks ('U-Untersuchungen'). Some vaccinations must be given several times to achieve an effective level of protection, and some vaccinations must be boosted regularly in adulthood. The cost of recommended vaccinations and some travel vaccinations is covered by health insurance. If you have not been living in Germany for long, have your vaccination status and that of your children checked by a doctor. The vaccinations you receive are entered into a vaccination record ('Impfpass'). If you do not have a vaccination record yet, ask for one at your doctor's practice or health insurance fund.

Preventive health checks and screening

Your health insurance fund will cover medical examinations for children, adolescents and adults for the purpose of detecting diseases, health issues and risk factors early. By attending these examinations regularly, you are making an important contribution to your health. Some health insurance funds offer bonus schemes as an incentive to attend such examinations.

Important regular health check-ups are:

General Health Checks

Biennial check-up (starting at age 35) for early detection of diseases of heart and circulatory system, diabetes and kidney disease

- Skin Cancer Screening Biennial check-up (starting at age 35)
- Bowel Cancer Screening Offered for ages 50 and above (stool sample test or colonoscopy)
- Cervical Cancer Screening (women) Annual screening test for women aged 20 and above (gynaecologist)
- Breast Cancer Screening (women) Annual screening for women aged 30 and above (gynaecologist)
- Chlamydia Screening (women) Annual test for women up to the age of 25 (gynaecologist)

- Prostate cancer screening (men) Annual screening for men aged 45 and older
- Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening (men)

One free ultrasound examination for men over the age of 65

Child health

After the birth of a child, parents receive a medical examination record for their child, which details when certain health checks are due. In general, this routine schedule consists of ten health checks (called U1 to U9, including U7a). The examinations are covered by (statutory) health insurance.

The first health check (U1) takes place immediately after birth. The U2 health check takes place between the 3rd and 19th day of life—at the hospital or at a paediatrician's practice. Health checks U3 to U9 are carried out at the paediatrician's practice during the period up to the 64th month of life. The adolescent health check J1 between ages 12 and 14 also takes place there.

Medical care at hospitals

You will only be treated at a hospital if the care that can be provided at your doctor's practice is not sufficient for your needs, or in case of an emergency. If you have statutory health insurance cover, you cannot be treated at a private hospital.

Prescribing hospital treatment

Your doctor will determine whether you need to be treated at a hospital and refer you there. This is done using a hospital admission referral ('Einweisungsschein'), which you must bring to hospital with you. On your referral, your doctor will also indicate which hospital is appropriate for carrying out the required treatment. Please note that you may incur a cost if you go to a different hospital for your treatment than the one indicated on the referral.

Hospital agreement

If you have to stay in a hospital for treatment for several days, you will make an agreement with the hospital. In most cases, the agreement is made in writing. This means that both you and the hospital will sign. Only sign the agreement if you have understood it and ask to be given a copy. Please ask for clarification if anything is unclear.

Emergencies

An emergency is any life-threatening illness or injury for which you need immediate medical care. Emergencies include high fever, broken bones, head injuries, strong bleeding, shortness of breath, poisoning and loss of consciousness. Please do not call the emergency headline if you do not have an emergency as you are delaying and impeding the response to real emergencies.

If you think a situation is life-threatening, for example, after a severe accident, call the emergency services ('Rettungsdienst') by dialling 112. Explain calmly and clearly where the affected person is located, what has happened and what state the person is in. Listen attentively and answer all questions as well as you can.

If you need medical advice outside of opening hours and can't wait to reach your family doctor, contact the on-call medical service ('ärztlicher Bereitschaftsdienst') by dialling 116117. This number works without a prefix throughout Germany and is free of charge. You will be connected to the on-call medical service in your area.

Medical services Hospitals

- Klinikum Passau Innstrasse 76 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 5300-0 webmaster@klinikum-passau.de www.klinikum-passau.de
- Klinik Passau Kohlbruck Kohlbruck 5 94036 Passau Phone: +49 851 5305-0 info@rehafachzentrum.de www.rehafachzentrum.de

Rehabilitation centre for haematological, oncological, metabolic and orthopaedic illnesses

Physicians who speak foreign languages

General practitioners

This list represents only an overview and does not purport to be exhaustive.

- Dr. med. Arpad Geller
 Dr.-Hans-Kapfinger-Strasse 16
 94032 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 59933
 Languages spoken: German, English, Hungarian, Russian, Romanian & Serbo-Croatian
- Dr. med. Felicitas Busse Grünaustrasse 13 Hauptstrasse 44
 94167 Tettenweis Phone: +49 8534 249 praxis.busse@telemed.de www.praxis-busse.com Languages spoken: German & French



Dr. med. Manfred Kronawitter Prinz-Eugen-Strasse 3 94034 Passau Phone: +49 851 493490 info@hausarzt-passau.de www.hausarzt-passau.de Languages spoken: German & English

Gemeinschaftspraxis am Klostergarten Kleiner Exerzierplatz 14 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 55552 praxis@hausarzt-passau.com www.hausarzt-passau.com Languages spoken: German & English

Dermatologists

- Dr. med. Antoinette Gassenmaier & Dr. med. Gerhard Gassenmaier
 Bahnhofstrasse 24
 94032 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 6004
 g.gass@passau-hautarzt.de
 www.dr-gassenmaier.de
 Languages spoken: German & English
 - Dr. med. Claudia Elsner Schießstattweg 64 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 9881950 praxis@hautaerztin-passau.de https://hautaerztin-passau.de Languages: German & English

Obstetricians and gynaecologists

- Dr. med. Annemarie Zauner & Dr. med. univ. Roya Meysami Hochstrasse 6 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 490714130 www.mvz-klinikum-passau.de/fachabteilungen/gynaekologie-mvz-hellge-klinik/leistungen/?fsize=988 Languages: German & English
- Dr. med. Johannes Schneeberger Ludwigsplatz 4 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 37931379 praxis@dr-j-schneeberger.de www.frauenarzt-schneebergerpassau.de Languages spoken: German, English, Russian & Hungarian
- Gabriele Scherrer Kleiner Exerzierplatz 4 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 51547 Languages spoken: German, English, French, Italian & Spanish

Psychologists

 Dipl.-Psychologin Claire Thomas Innstadtbahnhofweg 2
 94032 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 4901655
 kontakt@psychotherapie-claire-thomas.de

www.psychotherapie-claire-thomas.de Languages spoken: German & English

Dentists

- Dr. Alexander Hartmann
 Dr.-Hans-Kapfinger-Strasse 14a
 94032 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 2277
 info@al-dente-plus.de
 www.al-dente-plus.de
 Languages spoken: German & English
- Dr. Ritzinger ZA Suttner Grabengasse 16
 94032 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 36537
 info@dres-ritzinger-suttner.de
 www.dr-ritzinger.de
 Languages spoken: German, English & Arabic (Syrian)

Urologists

 Dr. med. Volker Walther Kleiner Exerzierplatz 12 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 6364 urologie-passau@t-online.de www.urologie-passau.de Languages spoken: German, English & French

Orthopaedists

 Dr. med Holger Fritzsching Dr. Emil-Brichta-Str. 7 94036 Passau Phone: +49 851 9882620 office@gz-passau.com www.dr-fritzsching.de Languages spoken: German, English, Italian & Spanish



Image: colourbox.de

Family and children

To help you find your work–life balance, the University offers a crèche for your youngest. We are happy to assist you in finding a place in a municipal or privately run daycare centre or kindergarten.

In Germany, school is compulsory for children aged 6 to 15. If you are arriving with children of compulsory school age, we will gladly help you to get them placed in a suitable school.

Childcare Crèche

The University of Passau wishes to ensure that its members are able to balance their family life and work or studies. Therefore, our own crèche, situated at the western end of the campus next to the sports grounds, takes care of children aged ten months to three years. The crèche, which is called 'Krümelkiste' (literally 'box of crumbs') is located at Innstrasse 47. Two group rooms offer plenty of place for playing, climbing, sliding or doing craftwork. Furthermore, the children take lunch together.

The opening hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.The 'Krümelkiste' was founded in 1990 on the initiative of students and staff with children. The Student Services Association ('Studentenwerk') took over the running of the crèche in 2008. If you intend to bring your children to Passau for your stay, please get in touch as early as possible, either directly with the crèche or with us. For more information on registrations, fee, services and a picture gallery, visit www.campuskinder. info/passau (please note that the website is only available in German).

Kindergarten

Kindergarten is for children aged three to six, however unlike primary and secondary school, attendance of a kindergarten is not compulsory. The City of Passau and other providers offer various child care facilities.

Further information as well as an overview of all facilities are available on the website of the City of Passau. The website is only available in German. Please contact us if you need help finding a suitable kindergarten.

Kindergarten in Passau

www.passau.de/LebeninPassau/ Kinder,JugendlicheundFamilie/Betreuungsangebote/Kindergaerten. aspx

Schools

For children aged six to fifteen, school is compulsory in Germany. Up to 4th grade, children attend primary school, followed by one of three types of secondary school: Mittelschule, Realschule and Gymnasium. The former two provide vocational and higher vocational qualifications respectively, while the latter leads to the Abitur, the German higher education entrance qualification.

Which type of school the pupil goes to depends to a large part on his or her performance at primary school. If you are planning on a longer stay with a child in Germany, you need to register with a school or apply for an exemption. The website of the City of Passau, www. passau.de, has more details and a list of all schools located in Passau and its surrounding area; however, the website is only in German. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need help finding a suitable school.

The parent-and-child room at the University

Students, academics and university employees with children are now offered a well-equipped separate room on the University's premises that allows them to work and study without worrying about child care: Parents can use a computer desk to keep up with university assignments or work, while a play area with toys, stuffed animals and children's books meets the little ones' needs. A cosy couch and a portacrib further offer both parents and children the chance to take a rest; a kitchenette is available for heating up meals. The parent-and-child room forms part of the University's efforts to strengthen its family-friendly profile. The parentand-child room is located on the first floor of the Central Library (room 117). The room is locked; keys can be borrowed from the central information desk. You will need to leave your CampusCard as a deposit while in possession of the key. Guest researchers are welcome to make use of this facility. If accompanying partners without a CampusCard want to use the room, please let us know and we will arrange to get the key for you!

Child benefit, parental benefit and healthcare for children

Child benefit (Kindergeld)

As a public sector employee, you will receive child benefit from the state's family fund. Please fill in the application form for child benefit.

www.lff.bayern.de/formularcenter/ kindergeld/index.aspx

Please send the form to the state finance office at the following address: Landesamt für Finanzen-Dienststelle Bayreuth, Tunnelstrasse 2, 95448 Bayreuth.

Child benefit is granted for all children up to 18 years, and in some cases even beyond that age. If you are not a public-sector employee, you will still get child benefit, but the administering unit is the Federal Employment Agency (Bundesagentur für Arbeit) rather than the state finance office.

Q For further details and the application form, visit:

www.arbeitsagentur.de/web/content/EN/index.htm.

The service number for child support of the Federal Employment Agency is: +49 800 4555530.

Parental benefit (Elterngeld)

Parental benefit is a state benefit intended for parents who wish to take some time off their work to look after their child during the first few months. If you have a baby during your stay in Germany, you are also entitled to parental benefit. However, rather than being a permanent subsidy, it is limited to the first 12 to 14 months immediately following the child's birth.

The amount of Elterngeld you will receive is based on the net income of the parent dedicated to caring for the newborn, ranging from a minimum amount of €300 to a maximum of €1,800. Even if you were not in regular employment before birth, you are entitled to parental benefit. If the mother and father share the parental leave entitlement and lose income, they receive a maximum of 14 months' parental benefit together. In this case, one parent can claim a minimum of two and a maximum of 12 months' parental benefit.

Nationals of EU Member States and Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland are entitled to parental benefit in the same way as German nationals if they live or work in Germany. For other foreign citizens, the entitlement depends on the residence title. People with a settlement permit ('Niederlassungserlaubnis') are entitled to parental benefit, while those here on a temporary residence permit ('Aufenthaltserlaubnis') are only entitled if they are also entitled to work in Germany or have already legally worked here.

For further details, visit the following websites:

www.zbfs.bayern.de/sprache/english/families-children.php www.bamf.de/EN/Startseite/startseite-node.html

Healthcare for children

In Germany, all vaccinations are voluntary, but many vaccinations are highly recommended. The costs of these recommended vaccinations are covered by your German health insurance.

Public playgrounds Old Town

Innbrücke

- Innpromenade-Stadttheater
- Ortsspitze
- Pfaffengasse

Innstadt

- Boiotro
- Mariahilfberg
- Göttweiger Strasse
- Voglau

Haidenhof-Nord

Dr.-Stefan-Billinger-Strasse

Graneckerstrasse

Gründlwiese—Schießstattweg

- Karlsbader—Breslauer Strasse
- Kohlbruck
- Königsberger—Breslauer Strasse
- Liegnitzer Strasse
- Vogelweider Strasse
- Westerburger Strasse
- Franz-Xaver-Kurländer-Strasse

Haidenhof-Süd

- Dr.-Ritter-von-Scheuring-Strasse
- Leonhard-Paminger-Strasse (Kainzenpark)
- Spitzberg

The Passau family pass

The Passau family pass ('Passau-Familienpass') gives you er access to numerous discounts and special offers that are good for your family budget. The family pass should encourage all families to spend quality time together. The free pass is available from both citizens' service offices ('Bürgerbüro', see p. 37). Parents with a child younger than 18 years can apply for the pass.

You can download your application here:

www.passau.de/LebeninPassau/ Kinder, Jugendlicheund Familie/Familienpass/Wobekommtmanihn.aspx

Leisure time in the Passau area

The City and the County of Passau have a lot to offer in the way of leisure activities. Whether you enjoy cultural highlights, museums and galleries or large sports grounds-there is much fun to be had in and around Passau.



Culture

Culture is a big deal in Passau-both on campus and in town. Concerts, readings, exhibitions and other events take place regularly in the University's own Culture Café (Kulturcafete), located in the Nikolakloster building. During the semester, numerous student societies and clubs ensure a lively and multifaceted student life on campus. Museums, galleries, music and literature, theatre and cabaret offer a wide range of possibilities. On the website of the City of Passau, there is a list of all cultural facilities as well as associations situated in the City of Passau and its surroundings. To keep abreast of the cultural events, check the calendar of the City of Passau at its website.

www.kalender.passau.de

Theatre

- Passauer Volksbühne

 (amateur theatre)
 Innstrasse 71
 94032 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 37930102
 kontakt@theaterpassau.de
 www.passauer-volksbuehne.de
 (performances once a year)
- ScharfrichterHaus Passau Milchgasse 2
 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 35900
 info@scharfrichter-haus.de
 www.scharfrichterhaus.de
- Stadttheater Passau Gottfried-Schäffer-Strasse 2
 94032 Passau Phone: +49 871 922080 landshut@landestheater-niederbayern.de www.landestheater-niederbayern.de

Volkstheater Passau (amateur theatre) Klosterberg Passau—Grubweg Phone: +49 171 1062215 www.volkstheater-passau.de

Museums

- Domschatz- und
 Diözesanmuseum (cathedral museum)
 Residenzplatz 8
 94032 Passau
 Open: 1 May–31 October
 Phone:+49 851 3933330
 www.bistum-passau.de/dom-kultur/
 museum-am-dom-passau
- Glasmuseum Passau Schrottgasse 2 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 35071 info@glasmuseum.de www.glasmuseum.de
- Museum Moderner Kunst (modern art) Bräugasse 17 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 3838790 info@mmk-passau.de www.mmk-passau.de
- Oberhaus Museum (castle museum) Veste Oberhaus 125 94034 Passau Phone: +49 851 396 800 museumskasse@passau.de www.oberhausmuseum.de
- Römermuseum Kastell Boiotro (Roman museum)
 Lederergasse 43
 94032 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 34769
 boiotro@passau.de
 www.stadtarchaeologie.de/museum

International societies

- German-French Society Ms Heidi Weber Innstrasse 81 d
 94036 Passau
 Phone: +49 0851 7563666
 mail-an-heidiweber@web.de
 www.dfg.passau.de
- German-Hungarian Society Mr Reinhard Wachtveitl Breslauer Str. 4a
 94036 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 2314
 info@duf-passau.de
 www.duf.passau.de
- German-Iranian Society Mr Hadi Haddad Steinweg 16 94032 Passau Mobile: +49 178 2308878 info@digp.de www.digp.de
- German-Italian Society Maria Rosa Iacono-Schwarz Hubertusweg 1 94034 Passau Phone: +49 8531 91700 vorstand@dig-passau.de www.dig-passau.de
- German-Japanese Society Mr Norbert Palsa Göttweiger Str. 15 94032 Passau Phone: +49 171 8321590 djg.passau@gmx.net www.djg.passau.de

- German-Russian Society Ms Larissa Riffel
 Wolf-Huber-Strasse 3
 94032 Passau
 post@drg-passau.de
 www.drg-passau.de
- German-Spanish Society Asociación Hispano-Alemana de Passau e.V.
 Am Erlenbach 5
 94032 Passau
 Ms Patricia Vásquez Covarrubias
 Phone: +49 851 98839615
 hola@dsg-passau.de
 www.dsg-passau.de
- German-Turkish Society Ms Dr. Brigitte Moser-Weithmann Klothildenstr. 20 81827 Munich passau@dtg-bayern.de www.dtg-bayern.de

Cafés and restaurants

When you enter a German restaurant or café, you do not have to wait until the waiter offers you a table. You can seat yourself at any free table you like.

Furthermore, it is totally normal that the bill is split and everybody pays exactly for what they consumed. Not every restaurant accepts credit or debit cards! Ask the waiter before you order if you want to pay by card. Please note also that not giving tips is a big no-no! Only if the service was terrible you should leave no tip at all. In all other cases, a 10 percent tip is normal. Enjoy your meal!

On its website, the Tourism Office of the city of Passau offers an overview of cafés, bars and restaurants.

https://tourism.passau.de/eatdrink/

Public Library

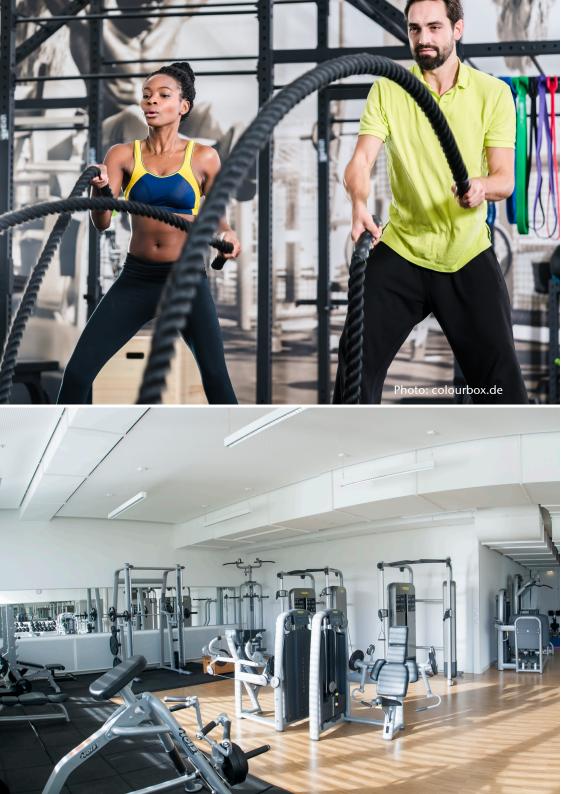
The Europa-Bücherei is a public library offering a wide selection of books and media, including audio CDs, DVDs and magazines, for an annual fee of ≤ 12 (adult tariff) or ≤ 8 (student tariff).

- Europa-Bücherei (main branch) Schiessgrabengasse 2
 94032 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 929890
 europabuecherei@passau.de
 http://europabuecherei.passau.de
 START.aspx
 Opening hours:
 Tuesday to Friday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
 Saturday: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
 Monday: closed
- Neustift branch Neustifterstrasse 52
 94036 Passau Phone: +49 851 82349
 Opening hours: Tuesday: 12 noon-5 p.m. Thursday: 10 a.m.-11:45 a.m. & 12:45 p.m-5 p.m.

Cinemas

- CINEPLEX Passau Nibelungenplatz 5a 94032 Passau–City Centre Phone: +49 851 9883550 www.cineplex.de/passau
- Film Theater Metropolis
 Dr.-Hans-Kapfinger-Strasse 11
 94032 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 752815
 www.cineplex.de/passau
- ProLi Passau Unterer Sand 13 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 2655 www.cineplex.de/passau
- ScharfrichterKino Passau Milchgasse 2
 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 9883550
 www.cineplex.de/passau
- Unikino Passau
 University of Passau
 Business & Economics building
 Innstrasse 27
 94032 Passau
 Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. at the HS10 during the semester
 Phone: +49 551 48805580
 www.unifilm.de/studentenkinos/Passau





Sports and activities Sports at the University

The Sports Centre of the University offers the ideal chance for physical balance. On spacious outdoor grounds and indoor installations, about 40 different kinds of sports are available, including Aikido, table tennis, fitness courses, wintersports, rowing, yoga and various dance courses.

The indoor facilities comprise two gymnasiums, a climbing wall and a fitness area with a top-of-the-line weighlifting and cardio area. The outdoor facilities include a football pitch, athletic track, basketball courts as well as a beach volleyball field. The university's canoeing and rowing boathouse is located approximately two kilometres upstream on the river Inn. Please check the website of the Sports Centre for up-to-date information



You can sign up for the courses online through the website once you have paid the Sports Centre user fee (usually by bank transfer). Please keep in mind that you need your CampusCard to pass the turnstiles at the entrance.

Swimming

In Passau, you can either go swimming at the swimming pool (peb) or at one of our lakes in the surrounding area.

Unterer Ilzstausee

Near Passau-Hals Features:

- a big lawn
- changing cubicles
- catering

Stausee Oberilzmühle

Near Salzweg Features:

- a big lawn
- changing cubicles
- a jetty

Freudensee

Near Hauzenberg Features:

- 🕨 a big lawn
- a playground
- a beach volleyball field
- table tennis
- catering

Swimming pool (peb)

 Indoor and outdoor swimming pool Messestrasse 7
 94036 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 560260
 https://peb.stadtwerke-passau.de

Other sports

In Passau, there is much more to discover, such as a big ice skating arena or numerous bike and hiking trails. Around 100 sports and leisure clubs offer sports from asphalt curling to the water sports disciplines and look forward to new members.

Due to the proximity to Austria as well as to the Bavarian Forest and the Czech Republic, there are many recreational possibilities. A guided tour of the castle (Veste Oberhaus) or a bike tour to the Mostbauer are worthwhile leisure activities.

Skiing

Bavaria and Austria offer perfect conditions to go for a skiing trip in winter. Skiing in the Passau area is possible in <u>Hochficht</u> or in the <u>Skizentrum Mitterdorf</u>, which are both located about 60 km from Passau.



Networking Day Trip to Gmunden in Upper Austria, June 2019

Every semester, the Welcome Centre puts together a programme for you to stay in touch with fellow international academics at the University of Passau.

and strates

Leisure activities in the region

There are various activities you can enjoy in your free time in the Passau area. Here are some ideas.

Getting around

When going on a trip, you first have to choose between different transportation possibilities. Here is a list to inform yourself:

The public train system is run by DB. If you are travelling within Bavaria, the <u>Bayern Ticket</u> (day ticket for 1-5 people for travelling within Bavaria) might be a good deal for you.

www.bahn.com/en/view/index. shtml

 For cheap ways of travelling check out the bus company Flixbus.
 www.flixbus.de

Car rentals www.rentalcars.com/en

 Bicycle rentals
 www.fahrradverleih-bahnhof-passau.de/pages/en/home.php

Accommodation

If you are planning to stay overnight you can choose between hotels, hostels, B&B and AirBnBs. The best way to find a good accommodation is to check online. You can also find websites to compare prices and services.

Cities to visit **Budapest**

The Hungarian Capital is well known for its thermal baths and its rich historic architecture.

Ceský Krumlov

This Czech town is known as an UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Regensburg

The old medieval town of this Bavarian city is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Linz

This Austrian City holds the title of UNESCO City of Media Arts.

Munich

The Bavarian capital offers a rich cultural scene and a number of events (e.g. Oktoberfest, Christmas Markets, Theatron Music Festival).

Prague

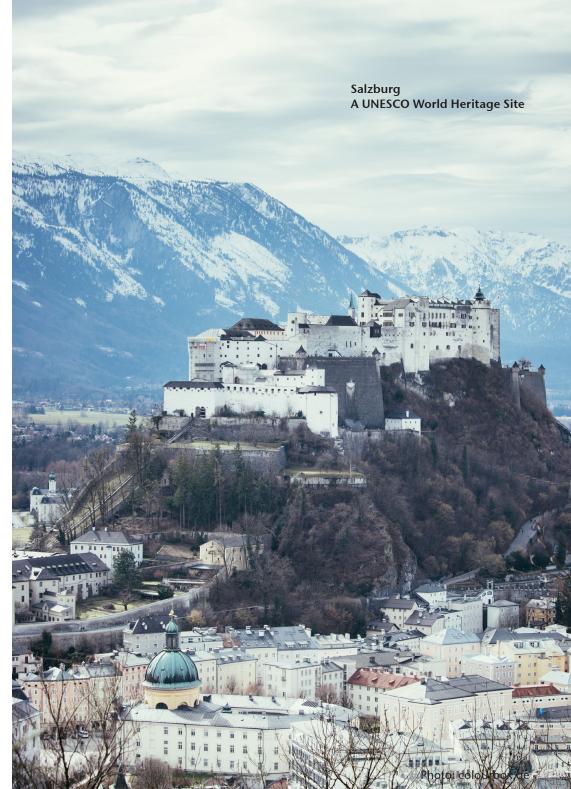
The capital of the Czech Republic offers historic buildings from various periods and a rich cultural scene.

Salzburg

This Austrian UNESCO World Heritage Site is well known as Mozart's birthplace and for its annual performing arts summer festival.

Vienna

The capital of Austria offers historic buildings, museums and a rich music scene.



Other interesting trips

In the Passau area, you can find beautiful routes for hiking trips (e.g. in the Bavarian Forest), the Danube cycle path allows you to make biking trips as far as Vienna and there are various boat trips to go on as well. In winter, the area also offers skiing opportunities.

Trip to the wildlife park in Ortenburg

High above the town of Ortenburg and directly next to the Renaissance Castle, the wildlife park holds many native and exotic animals. In a natural landscape with great old trees, you walk through the park on landscaped paths. Numerous benches invite you to linger and watch the animals. Children can also enjoy themselves on a playground and in the animal petting zoo.

More about the wildlife park: www.wildpark-ortenburg.de

Hike or bike to the famous Mostbauer in Austria

The small tour is best started at the university and leads you about 7 kilometres along the river Inn. During this trip, you can enjoy the beautiful nature of our region. When you reach the small beer garden, you can sample the famous Austrian Most and traditional Austrian snacks. Afterwards, we advise to walk on to Wernstein (about 2 kilometres further up-

river) and take the train back to Passau or continue walking/hiking back to Passau on the other Inn side.

More about the Mostbauer:

https://mostausschankuntererinn. gemeindeausstellung.at

Museumsdorf Bayerischer Wald (Tittling)

This open-air museum village lets you see and experience Bavarian history. On 25 hectares, you can visit over 150 buildings built between 1580 and 1850. The 'inhabitants' of the village additionally demonstrate some of their work skills, like cloth printing and glass painting.

More about the museum village www.museumsdorf.com

Lake Chiemsee

The biggest lake in Bavaria offers a beautiful scenery and a possibility to relax and go for a swim. You can visit its two bigger islands by boat and see the palace on Herrenchiemsee and the monastery on Frauenchiemsee.

www.bavaria.by/experiences/nature-outdoors/excursions/bavarian-lakes-rivers/lake-chiemsee/

Religion

Bavaria is a traditionally catholic place in Germany but all religions are welcome here. Places of worship and prayer for different religions:

Islam

- Islamische Gemeinschaft Passau e.V. Roßtränke 6, 94032 Passau
- Vereinigung Passauer Muslime e.V. Ostuzzistrasse 2, 94032 Passau

Judaism

Unfortunately, there is no synagogue or Jewish Community in Passau. The nearest places of prayer and worship are:

- Wittelsbacherstrasse 11
 94135 Straubing
- Sankt-Jakobs-Platz 18 80331 München/Munich

Protestant Christians

- Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirchengemeinde Passau St. Matthäus Dietrich-Bonhoeffer-Platz 1 94032 Passau
- Friedenskirche der evangelisch-lutherischen Kirchengemeinde Passau St. Matthäus Von-Rudhart-Strasse 10, 94032 Passau

Catholic Christians

- Bistum Passau
- Domplatz 7, 94032 Passau Dom St. Stephan
- Domplatz, 94032 Passau
- Stadtpfarrkriche St. Paul Steinweg 15, 94032 Passau
- St. Gertraud
 Kirchplatz 1, 94032 Passau
 St. Severin
- Am Severinstor 10, 94032 Passau

- Universitätskirche St. Nikola Kleiner Exerzierplatz 15, 94032 Passau
 St. Anton
- Neuburger Strasse 68, 94032 Passau St. Michael
- Schustergasse 14, 94032 Passau

Other

Evangelisch-Freikirchliche Gemeinde (EFG) Passau Baptisten Leonhard-Paminger-Strasse 37, 94032 Passau

Shelters and other helpful addresses

- Battered Women's shelters SKF Frauenhaus (Catholic) 24h-Help: +49 851 89272 Info@frauenhaus-passau.de
- SOLWODI Passau: Languages: German, English, Russian, Romanian
 24h-Help: +49 851 9666450
 Passau@solwodi.de

These shelters rely on donations.

Other addresses

- AIDS-Beratungsstelle Niederbayern (aids/HIV information and help) Bahnhofstrasse 16b, 94032 Passau Phone: +49 851 71065 kontakt@aidsberatung-niederbayern.de
- Pro Familia Niederbayern e.V.
 Schwangerschaftsberatungsstelle (Help and consultations in case of (unwanted) pregnancy)
 Leopoldstrasse 9, 94032 Passau
 Phone: +49 851 53121