



Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften Hamburg  
*Hamburg University of Applied Sciences*



# Study Abroad in Hamburg

Arrival Guide  
for International Guest Students

## **WELCOME TO HAMBURG UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES!**

You are starting on a new adventure with study abroad in Germany. We are sure you will love Hamburg, the city on the water and one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

Coming from a different country and from a different culture, most people find the first days in a new country daunting. Things can be difficult, especially if you don't speak the language. But don't worry, we have a buddy system (weBuddy) of HAW students who will help you feel welcome and support you during your first weeks in Hamburg.

This guide will help you with the first 6 steps that you have to complete after arriving in Hamburg and contains other information about living and studying in Germany and at Hamburg University of Applied Sciences.

For all other questions you have a Student Exchange Coordinator or Erasmus Professor in your faculty, who will help you with questions:

### **Faculty of Engineering & Computer Science:**

Hella Rieger ([hella.rieger@haw-hamburg.de](mailto:hella.rieger@haw-hamburg.de))

### **Faculty of Business & Social Sciences:**

Lea Andres ([lea.andres@haw-hamburg.de](mailto:lea.andres@haw-hamburg.de))

### **Faculty of Design, Media & Information:**

Nir Alon ([nissemnir.alon@haw-hamburg.de](mailto:nissemnir.alon@haw-hamburg.de))

### **Faculty of Life Sciences:**

Astrid von der Heide ([ls-international@haw-hamburg.de](mailto:ls-international@haw-hamburg.de))

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More information at [www.haw-hamburg.de/studyabroad](http://www.haw-hamburg.de/studyabroad)



[facebook.com/HAWHamburgStudyAbroad](https://facebook.com/HAWHamburgStudyAbroad)



## HAMBURG ARRIVAL CHECKLIST – 6 Steps to get started

When you arrive in Hamburg, you must complete the following steps **within the first two weeks of arriving in Hamburg**. Please ask your buddy to help. This is what they are there for. And please complete the steps in the following order:

**Step 1: Log into HELIOS:** This is the HAW Hamburg student information system. Here you can download your proof of enrolment (*Immatrikulationsbescheinigung*), which you will need for the next steps. Log in under: **www.haw-hamburg.de/helios**. You can find your user name and temporary password at the bottom of page 2 (see: »HAW Mailer«) of your student ID papers in your welcome pack. A translation of Page 2 is provided in your welcome pack.

**Step 2: Register your Hamburg address** with the local authorities **within 7 days of arriving** in Hamburg and get a **Meldebestätigung**. For further information and where to go please look at **Visa & Residence Permit** (pages 5&6 in this arrival guide). Non-EU students, who don't have a visa for the full semester, must also apply for a residence permit within 3 months of arrival.

**Step 3: Open a German bank account.** This is not compulsory, but it makes paying rent, AOK, etc. a lot easier, as you can arrange for direct debit payments on a monthly basis. You will need the *Meldebestätigung* and an *Immatrikulationsbescheinigung* for this as well as your passport. We recommend the HASPA or the Deutsche Bank, especially for American guest students who have an account with the Bank of America.

**Step 4: Get your HAW Hamburg Student ID/Chip card:** Go to the Chip Card Office (Room 77, Stiftstr. 69, ground floor) and get your official student ID. Please bring your paper student ID and semester ticket (in your welcome pack) and your passport. Office hours are Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri; 10 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. - 4 p.m.

**Step 5: Complete your AOK registration and get your AOK health insurance card:** This is only for overseas students who have registered with the AOK for health insurance. Please bring the *Immatrikulationsbescheinigung*, *Meldebestätigung*, bank account details and passport. We have arranged a group appointment for you at Schlüterstr. 22, 20146 Hamburg, (Tel.: 2023-2212). The appointment date is in the buddy program timetable which will be sent to you by eMail.

**Note:** *Turkish students with an AT/11 have to go to the AOK and get an exemption form, which they must then give to the International Office.*

**Step 6: Finalize your Learning Agreement and class schedule:** Speak to the Student Exchange coordinator or Erasmus Professor for your Faculty to discuss what classes you want to take, to finalize a course schedule and sign your Learning Agreement. They are also there to answer other questions regarding your stay in Hamburg.

**Note:** *In the Dept. of Design the class schedule is put together after the orientation week which is the first week of the semester.*

## VISA & RESIDENCE PERMITS

Not everyone needs a visa to enter Germany, but everyone has to complete Step 1 when they enter Germany. And students who don't have a passport from an EU or European Economic Area (EEA) country or Switzerland also need to complete Step 2. Please ask your buddy to help you.

### Step 1: Registering your address

All students must register their address **within 7 days** of entering Germany. You will get a proof of address (*Meldebestätigung*), which you should look after very carefully, as you will need it to open a bank account and get a residence permit.

You will need:

- your passport/photo ID
- registration form (download, see link below)
- your rental contract \*
- administration fee of 6 Euros

### Where do you do this?

At the Hamburg Welcome Center (you will need an appointment) or at the *Einwohnermeldeamt* (see addresses and opening hours opposite)

\* If you are subletting a flat (*Untermiete*) or staying with someone until you find somewhere to live, you can write the name of the person from whom you are subletting on the form. If that person is not the main person registered at that address, you will also need a copy of the rental contract. If you are staying in a hostel or hotel, you can give its name and address. Once you get your own rental contract, please inform the local authorities of this address.

*Download the documents here:*

[www.haw-hamburg.de/english/international-guest-students/visa-residence-permits.html](http://www.haw-hamburg.de/english/international-guest-students/visa-residence-permits.html)

## Step 2: Getting a Residence Permit

Students who don't have a passport from an EU or EEA Country or Switzerland or who were not given a six-month visa by the German embassy, also need to apply for a residence permit **within 3 months** of arriving. You will need:

- an application form (download, see link)
- your passport
- a biometric photo not older than 6 months
- a *Meldebestätigung* or a registration form (download, see link)
- proof of health insurance
- proof of enrolment (*Immatrikulationsbescheinigung* - HELIOS)
- proof of finances (bank statement or letter in Euros, 659 Euro/month)
- administration fee for eAT: 100 Euros

### Where do you do this?

At the Hamburg Welcome Center.

<b>Hamburg Welcome Center</b> Alter Wall 11 20457 Hamburg Phone: +49 (40) 428 54-5001 (Appointment necessary)	<b>Einwohnermeldeamt Hamburg Mitte</b> Steinstraße 1/Ecke Johanniswall 20095 Hamburg Phone: +49 (40) 428545454
Mo. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tu. 8 a.m. - 12 noon We. 8 a.m. - 12 noon Th. 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Fr. 7 a.m. - 12 noon	Mo. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tu. 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. We. closed Th. 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Fr. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

## ACCOMMODATION - ROOM in HALL

If you have a room in hall, then your buddy will collect the key and take you to your hall of residence when you arrive. If you don't have a buddy, please collect the keys from the hall manager (office hours: mon, wed, fri 9 – 10 a.m. and mon-thur 2-3 p.m.) or by appointment. Contact details for each hall can be found here:

[http://www.studierendenwerk-hamburg.de/studierendenwerk/en/wohnen/halls\\_of\\_residence/](http://www.studierendenwerk-hamburg.de/studierendenwerk/en/wohnen/halls_of_residence/)

During your stay please remember:

1. Rent must be paid by 5th of the month. Please ensure that the money arrives on the Studierendenwerk Hamburg account on time to avoid administration fees. This does not apply to the first month, if you are arriving after 5th. You can pay that rent in cash when you arrive.
2. Your room should be clean when you arrive and when you leave. On departure please do not leave any personal belongings, rubbish, etc. in your room. If it is not tidy, you will be billed for any cleaning.
3. The keys should be given to the hall manager when you leave. This also gives you the opportunity to show him/her the room and make sure everything is all right before you leave so you will get your deposit.
4. The key to your room is also the key to the whole apartment. If it is stolen or lost, you will have to pay for all the locks to be changed, not just yours. This can cost several hundred Euros. So: DO NOT LOSE THE KEY!
5. If the director of hall leaves you a message regarding rent, etc., please get in touch immediately. If you do not understand the message because it is in German, do not ignore it, ask someone.
6. Please show consideration for your neighbours; parties are to be held in the bar of your hall of residence only.



## PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION / GUEST ROOMS

If we were unable to provide you with a room or you are staying for a year and have to find a room for the second semester, these websites might be helpful, when looking for somewhere to live:

[www.campus-hamburg.de/wohnboerse/angebote.html](http://www.campus-hamburg.de/wohnboerse/angebote.html)

[www.tuhh-wohnboerse.de](http://www.tuhh-wohnboerse.de) (rooms in Hamburg-Harburg)

<http://www.wg-gesucht.de/en/>

### Other accommodation websites:

[www.wg-zimmer.de](http://www.wg-zimmer.de)

[www.studenten-wohnung.de](http://www.studenten-wohnung.de)

[www.wg-welt.de](http://www.wg-welt.de)

[www.suchezimmer.de](http://www.suchezimmer.de)

[www.studenten-wg.de](http://www.studenten-wg.de)

[www.wohnpool.de](http://www.wohnpool.de)

[www.wg-fuer-dich.de](http://www.wg-fuer-dich.de)

[www.wohn-hh.de](http://www.wohn-hh.de)

**Gustav-Radbruch-Haus, Rahlstedt and Kiwittdamm offer guest rooms. Contact the hall managers directly to apply.**

It is difficult to find a room in Hamburg so please start early and in addition to the websites put a notice on the university notice boards or ask students who are going abroad, if they are renting out their rooms.

In German a shared flat is called a »*Wohngemeinschaft*« or WG



## HEALTH MATTERS

### EU Students

Students from the EU and from countries with which Germany has a Social Agreement can remain in their national health insurance scheme. Please bring the »European Health Insurance Card« with you. You can go directly to the doctor or hospital with your card and get medical treatment.

### Non-EU students

Non-EU Students must be insured in the German national health system. You registered with the AOK as part of your enrolment. The AOK provides you with unlimited medical treatment and covers stays in hospital. The AOK costs 77 Euro/month and must be paid for a full semester (Sept. – Feb. or March – Aug.). The AOK will provide you with a health insurance card once you have completed enrolment with them as part of the Hamburg programme (see First Steps). We will cancel your AOK registration at the end of your semester or year.

### What does the national health system provide?

The health insurance scheme pays for the costs of medical treatment by a doctor or dentist as well as periods in hospital. If you are prescribed medicine then you will have to pay a set fee. If you need a doctor who speaks a foreign language you can find one here and choose the language in the field of "Fremdsprache"

<http://www.kvhh.net/kvhh/arztsuche/index/p/274/0/suche/hausarzt>

AOK Health Insurance  
Schlüterstraße 22  
20146 Hamburg  
Tel.: +49 40 2023-2212  
Fabian.niess@rh.aok.de  
Mon-wed & fri. 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Thur. 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

## Pharmacies & Medicine

In Germany medicine is available only from pharmacies (*Apotheke*). With prescription medicines you will have to pay between 4 – 5 Euros depending on the price of the medicine. With medicines that do not require a prescription you do not need to go to the doctor first. Pharmacies are normally open Mondays to Fridays from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. - 12. After 6 p.m. and on Sundays and bank holidays some chemists offer an emergency service.

## Emergency

If you need a doctor during the night, at the weekend or on public holidays you can use the emergency service [*ärztliche Not- und Bereitschaftsdienst*]. To find a doctor near you, you can call the central number [040] 22 80 22. If you need urgent medical attention at the weekend, you can go to Out-Patients at your nearest hospital, e.g. St. Georg Hospital beside the Berliner Tor Campus, the UKE in Eppendorf or the Asklepios Klinik Barmbek.

**If you need an ambulance call 112 (Police: 110)**



## MONEY, BANK ACCOUNT, TRANSACTIONS AND COST OF LIVING



### Money

In Germany we have the EURO. 1 and 2 Euros are coins; the bank notes are 5 Euros, 10 Euros, 20 Euros, 50 Euros, 100 Euros, 200 Euros and 500 Euros. Smaller coins are cents: 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 cents. The following EU countries also have the Euro which makes travelling easier: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain.

### Bank account & money transactions

We recommend that you open a bank account to make paying your rent, etc. easier. A lot of students open an account with the Hamburger Sparkasse (HASPA). American students often choose the Deutsche Bank, as it is part of the consortium which includes the Bank of America. Opening an account (see First Steps – checklist).

As a student you will not be charged fees for the account. You can apply for an EC card (debit card and for the ATMS) which should take 14 days.

The banks in Hamburg are open Monday to Friday, generally from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. and from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.; Thursdays usually until 6 p.m.

Cash and EC cards are the usual form of payment. EC cards are also used to get money from ATMs at the bank. Paying with credit cards is not quite as

widespread in Germany as in other countries. Small shops and restaurants will generally not accept credit cards.

In Germany it is not possible to write people cheques (eg. for the rent). There are various ways of conducting monetary transactions with a German bank account:

**Wire Transfer** (*Überweisung*) is used to transfer money from your account to another account, e.g. to pay an invoice. You can fill in a wire transfer form and hand it in at your bank or you can use a bank terminal.

**Standing order** (*Dauerauftrag*): If you have regularly recurring payments, of the same amount, such as your rent, you can arrange a standing order with your bank, so that it can be deducted automatically from your account on an agreed date and transferred to the account of the recipient.

**Direct debit** (*Lastschrift*): This is a practical method of payment if you have recurring sums which vary in size, such as the telephone bill. You give the recipient a direct debit authorization (*Einzugsermächtigung*) which allows them to deduct the respective amounts from your account. Of course, you can always cancel the authorization and stop the direct debit. This method of payment may be new to you and you may be suspicious that it could be open to abuse. However, all direct debits are registered on your bank statement so that you can check them and revoke any incorrect debits.

## **COST OF LIVING**

Being Germany's second largest city, Hamburg is a relatively expensive place to live. You should therefore be prepared to have monthly costs of between 600 – 800 Euros for rent, food, leisure activities, etc. The actual total will depend on where you live and on your lifestyle; how often you go out at the weekend or if you plan to travel in Germany and abroad while you are in Hamburg.

## **BUDDIES**

If you requested a buddy, then we will have matched you with a German student who will collect you at the airport or train station when you arrive and take you to your accommodation. Your buddy will also help you with the points that need to be completed as part of the Arrival Checklist on pages 3 & 4. We hope that your buddy will become a good friend during your study abroad in Hamburg.



## **HAMBURG ORIENTATION**

If you registered for the Hamburg Welcome Programme you will have a great opportunity to get to know the city and the other international guest students before classes start. The timetable was sent by eMail before you got to Hamburg, so you know where to be and when. We hope you enjoy the things we have chosen for you and have fun walking round the city and chatting with your new international friends.

Please make sure that you pay the fee for the Hamburg programme in cash to the tutors on the first day, if you have not already made the payment by wire transfer from your home country. Please also ensure that you are on time for the events, as we have made appointments for the group and it is also not fun for the others if they have to hang around and wait for late-comers. If you get lost, please call one of the tutors who will help you find the group.

### **BERLIN WEEKEND**

If you registered for the Berlin Weekend we know you will have a fabulous time in our capital city. You will have the opportunity to see the historic sights and also make the most of Berlin's night life. The timetable for the weekend was sent to you by eMail before you got to Hamburg.

Please ensure that you are punctual for the bus to and from Berlin as it does not wait for latecomers. And the Berlin Welcome Card you get is valid for public transport for the whole weekend, so keep it safe. Also make sure that you have the mobile phone numbers of the tutors, just in case you get lost or want to meet up with the group later.

### **GERMAN LANGUAGE COURSE (only in winter semester)**

If there are at least two weeks before classes begin, we can offer you an intensive German course with Colon Language Center, Colonnaden 96 (U2 Gänsemarkt). If you are registered for this class, please pay for the course on the first day of class, either in cash or by credit card, directly to Colon.

### **INTERNATIONAL WELCOME DINNER**

In order to officially welcome everyone to Hamburg we have arranged an international potluck welcome dinner and we hope you will come. Our guest students bring delicious food from all over the world to make a great international buffet and our Spanish students often make sangria, so we have a lovely evening together.

## ON CAMPUS

### STUDENT ID

You will receive a provisional (paper) student ID with your welcome pack. The student ID comes with a semester ticket and information about the HELIOS Mail account and student information system. The student ID and semester ticket are valid for only two months. Please do not laminate them, as they then become invalid.

Before the semester begins you should go to the chip card office to get your official student chip card (see First steps – arrival checklist)

### Staying for a second semester?

If you are enrolled for two semesters, then you will have to re-register for the second semester. The deadlines for registration are 28. February for the summer semester and 31. August for the winter semester. To re-register all you have to do is pay the semester contribution (please check with the Student Exchange Coordinator or International Office how much it is) to the following account:

Recipient:	HAW Hamburg
Bank:	HSH Nordbank
Account:	106666000
Sorting code:	210 500 00
IBAN:	DE11210500000106666000
BIC:	HSHNDEHH
Reference:	YearSemesterMatrikelnr.Name, First name (e.g. 201211839564Mustermann, Karl)

The semester is “1” for the summer semester and “2” for the winter semester.

**IMPORTANT:** Please don't forget the reference, as our system cannot automatically find your payment otherwise.



Within a few days of transferring the money you can validate your chip card in one of the machines on campus, e.g. Berliner Tor 5 foyer.

If you decide you would like to stay for a second semester, but are only enrolled for one semester, then you need to speak to your Student Exchange Coordinator or Erasmus professor and ask them if it is possible to extend your stay. Please provide them with a new Learning Agreement with the courses for the new semester. They will inform the International Office, if an extension is approved. You also need to check with your home university, if they approve a second semester. Once you have approval, you make the payment on page 15.

## HELIOS

HELIOS is the HAW Hamburg electronic student information system. Under HELIOS Campus Online you can download your proof of student status (*Immatrikulationsbescheinigung*) and for some degree programmes register for exams\* and print off your transcript of records.

In order to use this system you need to log in using your HELIOS Mail account. Information about your user name (*Benutzername*) and initial password (*Initialpasswort*) can be found on page 2 of your student ID and semester ticket papers.

\* To register for exams you will need TAN numbers. These are available at the Info Point in the Students' Centre, Stiftstraße 69 on the ground floor. You will have to show your student ID and passport. If you can't register for exams using HELIOS, please speak to your Student Exchange Coordinator or Erasmus professor.

[www.haw-hamburg.de/helios](http://www.haw-hamburg.de/helios)

## **CHOOSING COURSES & REGISTERING FOR CLASS**

As a guest student you do not have to choose courses from one specific semester; you can pick and choose classes in different semesters. You must however, stay within one degree programme.

With your registration for the HAW Hamburg you sent us a Learning Agreement with your choice of courses. Once you get to Hamburg your Student Exchange Coordinator, Erasmus professor or buddy will help you put together your study plan for the semester. All students register for courses at the beginning of the semester, so do not worry that you are not registered for classes before you get to Hamburg.

Students in the design degree programmes will have the opportunity to meet professors and hear about their classes during an orientation week at the start of the semester. They will then register for classes.

## **LEARNING AGREEMENT**

Once you have chosen your classes please sign a (new) learning agreement and give it to your Student Exchange Coordinator or Erasmus professor. This is extremely important for your transcript of records.

## **TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS**

Getting a transcript of records at the end of your stay does not always occur automatically, so we would appreciate your help in this matter, so that you can get a correct transcript of records. Please inform your Student Exchange Coordinator, if you decide not to take an exam in a subject in your Learning Agreement. And please ensure he/she knows where it should be sent.

## **EUROPEAN CREDIT TRANSFER SYSTEM (ECTS)**

You can take a maximum of 30 ECTS credit points in one semester in Hamburg. One ECTS is generally considered = 0.5 US credit.

## LIBRARIES

Each campus has its own library with books, etc. specific to the subject majors of the site. Your student ID/chip card is also your library card. The libraries are generally open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday – Friday (with librarian service) and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. without librarian services. For exact times for your campus: [www.haw-hamburg.de/?id=16609](http://www.haw-hamburg.de/?id=16609)

## REFECTORIES & CAFETERIAS

Each campus has its own refectory and often additional cafés and snack bars in the foyers. The refectories all offer several meals for lunch – also with vegetarian options and pasta and salad bars. Some also have a breakfast service. Meal prices range between 2.50 – 4.50 Euros.

## UNIVERSITY SPORTS PROGRAMME

The university sports programme offers a wide variety of sport and leisure activities at reasonable prices. Team sports such as basketball and football as well as individual courses or fitness courses in the gym. They offer a free orientation week before the programmes start:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hochschulsport-Hamburg/165494876838582>

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR & PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

The main holidays during the semesters in Hamburg are Easter and Christmas and the university will break for these holidays. In May/June there are also a couple of public holidays linked to the church calendar, where the university is closed. On public holidays shops, banks and post offices are shut in Germany. There is also increased traffic on roads, rail and at airports as Germans use these days for long weekends or short breaks.

You can find our academic calendar here:

[www.haw-hamburg.de/english/haw-hamburg/facts-figures/academic-calendar.html](http://www.haw-hamburg.de/english/haw-hamburg/facts-figures/academic-calendar.html)

## LIVING IN HAMBURG

### PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Your welcome pack contains a paper semester ticket which allows you unlimited travel on Hamburg's buses and underground system (U- & S-Bahn). This is only for the first days in Hamburg until you get your chip card, which is your student ID and semester ticket. To find out where the nearest train station or bus stop is or how best to get to your destination, use the following website: <http://www.hvv.de/en/index.php>



### CYCLING

Hamburg has lots of cycle paths and cycling is a good way of getting from A to B. If you can't bring your own bike, you can get one cheaply from a second-hand bicycle shop or through advertisements in the AVIS newspaper. Or you can rent a Stadtrad bike 24/7 at bike stations all over the city.

For more information: <http://stadtrad.hamburg.de>

You can take your bike on the underground, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. and after 6 p.m. during the week and all day at the weekend.

## **TELEPHONING**

Guest students generally get a German pre-paid mobile phone. Some supermarkets offer pre-paid packages; e.g. Aldi, Real. If you have a smart phone that you can use in Germany, it is better to ask the mobile phone companies about pre-paid rates; e.g. O2, Telekom, Vodafone. The country code for Germany is 0049 and the area code for Hamburg is 040.

## **INTERNET**

As a student enrolled at Hamburg University of Applied Sciences you will get a password, so that you can use the internet terminals in your department and in the libraries.

The halls of residences offer internet in the rooms. You will need to bring an Ethernet cable or buy one at Saturn in town. Please be advised that the download capacity is restricted and possibly a lot less than you are used to at home.

## **POST OFFICE & POSTAGE**

The Post Office is open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. The post offices and post boxes are yellow with a black post horn. A letter (up to 20g) or a postcard to a destination within Europe costs 75 cents. For postal rates for overseas and parcels, please ask your local post office. Postal collection is generally twice a day, with last collection at 5.30 p.m.

## **ELECTRICITY**

The voltage in Germany is 220 AC. Plugs are two-pin continental size.

## SHOPPING & EATING OUT

Hamburg is made up of different districts and each has its own shopping area and »personality« with small shops, chain stores and shopping centres. The most variety for clothes, shoes, books, etc. can be found in the city centre – on and around the main shopping streets Mönckebergstraße and Spitalerstraße. Or you can try the big shopping centres such as Hamburger Meile (U2 Mundsburg) or Wandsbek Quarree (U1 Wandsbek Markt).

### Opening Hours

Opening hours in Hamburg vary depending on where you are. The big shops in the city centre as well as the large shopping centres and supermarkets are open from 9/10 a.m. – 8 p.m, Monday to Saturday. Smaller shops may close at 6 p.m. during the week and at 2 p.m. on Saturdays. Shops are closed on Sundays. In an »emergency« some groceries, newspapers, etc. can be bought at the main station and at petrol stations.

**Electrical equipment:** Saturn on Monckebergstraße

**Art supplies:** Boesner (Lerchenfeld); Jerwitz (Kleiner Schäferkamp 29)

**Karstadt:** Department store, Mönckebergstraße

**IKEA:** S21 Billwerder-Moorfleet (3 stops from Berliner Tor)



## Shopping for food

There is a wide selection of supermarket chains with an equally wide range of prices, so it is worth looking around. The cheapest supermarkets are Aldi, Penny, Real and Lidl with their own brands. You will find a wider range of fresh fruit and vegetables in supermarkets such as Rewe, Spar or Edeka), at the regional markets throughout Hamburg (usually twice a week) or in the small Turkish and Moroccan corner shops, for example on Stein-damm or Lange Reihe near Berliner Tor. Being an international city there are lots of these little shops in Hamburg, as well as African and Asian shops with their own range of specialties.

## Eating out or in

Hamburg is an international city, a fact reflected in its variety of cafés and restaurants. Lots of nationalities are represented, but also German food, including typical Hanseatic (Hamburg) food. A good place to start is the Schanze, Hamburg's trendy area with lots of student friendly restaurants and bars. Take the U3, S3 or S21 to Sternschanze. Here you can find all kinds of food – from Korean, Turkish and Indian dishes to Italian, Vietnamese and of course German cuisine. Restaurants and bars in Hamburg have a no-smoking policy.

Or invite some friends or your flat mates in your hall of residence and cook something typical for your country. It is a great way to get to know people.

In Germany service in restaurants is not included in the bill. It is usual to round up the bill by at least 10% when paying rather than paying the amount on the bill and leaving a tip on the table.

*“Zusammen oder getrennt?”* – This is the question waiters will ask when they bring the bill and you are eating out as a group. It means: Is one person paying for everyone or are you paying separately? *“Getrennt”* means each person wants to pay separately.

## LEISURE

### Out of doors in Hamburg

Hamburg is Europe's »greenest« city with beautiful parks, such as Stadtpark or Planten un Blomen – ideal for jogging, cycling or just hanging around with a group of friends and a barbecue. You can sail on the Alster Lake in the middle of town or hire a canoe and row along the canals on a sunny day. The river Elbe flows into the harbour and has its own sandy beach and trendy beach clubs in the summer.



### Museums & Fine Arts

Hamburg has 50 museums and galleries with a wide variety of permanent and temporary exhibitions. For example, in the *Hamburger Kunsthalle* (free entrance for art students) you can see the masterpieces by Caspar David Friedrich, in the *Museum für Hamburgische Geschichte* you can learn more about your new home town or in the *Deichtorhallen* look at exhibitions of modern photography.



## Theatres & Cinemas

Hamburg offers no end of choice from big, classical theatre productions to musicals and fringe theatre as well as a State Opera House and an internationally acclaimed ballet company. If you like going to the movies, Hamburg has everything from big multiplexes to smaller cinemas with art house programmes. The Savoy Cinema on Steindamm near Campus Berliner Tor shows films in English.

## Night life

Hamburg is famous for the *Reeperbahn* with its night clubs, bars and people partying to the early hours of the morning. Rock and pop concerts are often held here in the »Docks« or »Große Freiheit« – and also in the Stadtpark in the summer.

The »Schanze« is also a favourite area with students with its multi-cultural image and wide range of pubs and bars and places to eat and meet with friends. And at weekends Hamburg's public transport system runs through the night to help you get around and home again.

**What's on in Hamburg? [www.szene-hamburg.de](http://www.szene-hamburg.de)**

## A word on safety...

Hamburg is a large metropolis and a harbour city but it is also a **safe city**. So, you can enjoy what the city has to offer – day and night – and get home safely with the public transport system of underground trains and buses. Please enjoy responsibly.

## LEARNING GERMAN

The HAW Hamburg is unfortunately not able to offer German language classes, as we do not have a Language faculty. If you are interested in learning or brushing up on your German during your semester in Hamburg we can recommend the following options for evening classes:

### Language Schools in Hamburg:

UNS University Service  
[www.unsgermany.de](http://www.unsgermany.de)  
(3x2.5 hrs/week à 8 weeks: 280 Euro)

COLON Language Center  
[www.colon.de](http://www.colon.de)  
(3x2 hrs/week à 4 weeks: 144 Euro\*; 2x2hrs/week à 4 weeks: 114 Euro\*).  
\* includes a 20% discount for our guest students, can be booked monthly.

Volkshochschule Hamburg  
[www.vhs-hamburg.de](http://www.vhs-hamburg.de)  
2x1.5 hrs/week for 14 weeks: 160 Euro (B1) or 50 Euro (A2)

uni sprachkurse  
[www.uni-sprachkurse.de](http://www.uni-sprachkurse.de)  
This language school offers classes on the Campus Berliner Tor.

### Peer 2 Peer Tandem:

The Peer 2 Peer Tandem programme at the HAW Hamburg connects students from different countries who are interested in learning each other's language. Tandem partners meet on a regular basis with each language being spoken half of the time. Participation is free. Contact the International Office to join this programme.

### Learn German online:

[www.deutsch-uni.com](http://www.deutsch-uni.com)



