



**P**ARENT  
**T**EACHER  
**G**RO<sup>••</sup>SMILE<sup>••</sup>**P**

**GUIDE TO ULM  
& NEU-ULM**

Prepared by the Parent Teacher Group (PTG)  
& Community Advisory Team (CAT)  
International School of Ulm/Neu-Ulm

4<sup>th</sup> Edition  
August 2014

# International School of Ulm/Neu-Ulm

## Guide to Ulm and Neu-Ulm

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4th Edition - August 2014

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

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

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

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

The main objectives of the PTG are to support and enrich our children's learning experience, to celebrate our international community and to help facilitate communication among parents, staff and students.

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

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

Parents at ISU  
Parent-Teacher Group (PTG)  
Community Advisory Group (CAT)  
2010, 2014

### **About Ulm: History of the City**

Ulm, founded around 850, is rich in history and traditions as a former Free Imperial City (German: *freie Reichsstadt*). At first, Ulm's significance was due to the privilege of a *Königspfalz*, a place of accommodation for the medieval German kings and emperors on their frequent travels. Later, Ulm became a city of traders and craftsmen. One of the most important legal documents of the city, an agreement between the Ulm patricians and the trade guilds (German: *Großer Schwörbrief*), dates from 1397. This document, considered an early city constitution and the beginning of the construction of an enormous cathedral (Ulm Münster, 1377), financed by the inhabitants of Ulm themselves rather than by the church, demonstrate the assertiveness of Ulm's medieval citizens. Ulm blossomed during the 15th and 16th centuries, mostly due to the export of high-quality textiles. During the Reformation, Ulm became Protestant (1530). With the establishment of new trade routes following the discovery of the New World (16th century) and the outbreak and consequences of the Thirty Years' War (1618–48), the city began to decline gradually. In 1810, Ulm was incorporated

into the Kingdom of Württemberg and lost its neighbourhoods on the other bank of the Danube, which came to be known as Neu Ulm. The city became an important centre of industrialization in Southern Germany in the second half of the 19th century, its built area now being extended beyond the medieval walls. The construction of the huge cathedral, which had been interrupted in the 16th century due to economic reasons, was resumed and eventually finished (1844–91) in a wave of German national enthusiasm for the Middle Ages. Like all other German cities, Ulm came under the control of the National Socialists in 1933. During World War II, the city was heavily damaged by allied air raids. Most of the city was rebuilt in the plain and simple style of the 1950s and 1960s, but some of the historic landmark buildings have been restored.

### **Today's Ulm**

Ulm is a city in the German Federal State (*Bundesland*) of Baden-Württemberg, situated on the river Danube (*Donau*). The city, whose population is estimated at 124,000 (2012), forms an urban district of its own (*Stadtkreis*) and is the administrative seat of the Alb-Donau district. Today, it is an economic centre due to its varied industries and it is the seat of a university (University of Ulm, founded in 1967). Internationally, Ulm is primarily known for its Ulm Münster and as the birthplace of Albert Einstein. A walk through Ulm and Neu-Ulm opens a lot of different views. For sure, there is the outstanding steeple of the Ulmer Münster. The largest cathedral in South Germany is particularly famous for its church spire - the world's highest church steeple - 161.53 metres from the bottom to the top. From the top you will have a fantastic panorama view. There are also the historical quarters (for example Fischerviertel, Auf dem Kreuz), which give an impression of daily life in former ages. The colourful town hall and the old warehouses are evidence of the pride and wealth of the medieval city. Aside from the city centre, you will find jewels elsewhere as well, such as the yard of the former convent in Söflingen or the baroque monastery in Wiblingen. On the hills around the city there are the majestic buildings of the former Bundesfestung, a gigantic fortress all around the cities of Ulm and Neu-Ulm. Of note is also the variety and originality of Ulm's museum and theatre world. The 'Lion Man' in the Ulm Museum, aged 32,000 years, made of mammoth ivory, was found in the valley of Lone (Lonetal) and is the oldest known man-animal sculpture in the world. The Museum of Bread Culture takes you through the history of bread and its making but also displays work arts by Breughel and Kollwitz. Looking at Neu-Ulm, the museums at Petrus Square, with their permanent exhibitions of the sculptor Edwin Scharff, constantly display special exhibitions as well. The legendary conductor Herbert von Karajan began his career at Ulm Theater. Ulm experienced big growth in the decades following World War II, with the establishments of large new housing projects and new industrial zones. In 1967, Ulm University was founded, which proved to be of great importance for the development of the city. Particularly since the 1980s, the transition from classical industry towards the high-tech sector has accelerated, with, for example, the establishment of research centres of companies like DaimlerChrysler, Siemens and Nokia and a number of small applied research institutes near the university campus. The city today is still growing, forming a twin city of 170,000 inhabitants together with its Bavarian neighbour city of Neu-Ulm. It also seems to benefit from its central position between the cities of Stuttgart and Munich - the cultural and economic hubs of Southern Germany - not to mention its proximity to Austria and Switzerland. (Wikipedia)

### **Helpful Information for Daily Life**

#### *Activities for Children*

Once your children are happy and have activities where they can meet others, things seem to go a bit smoother for everyone in the family – even Mum!!! Germany has a lot to offer children and their parents. Information is available for play groups (Spielgruppe), gymnastic (Turnen) classes for all ages, craft (Basteln) classes and other after school activities can be readily obtained from the local newspapers and recommendations from friends and

neighbours. The local adult education school (Volkshochschule), social programs, churches and local sport clubs (Vereine) offer additional opportunities for the family. These can be found in the telephone directory or in informational catalogues published periodically. The "Volkshochschule" in particular, publishes a catalogue twice a year (in Spring and Autumn) and cities (Städte) have active "Volkshochschule" programs.

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

### *Appliances*

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

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

### *Banking Terms*

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

### *Cleaning Services*

Although hiring a cleaning woman (Putzfrau/Haushaltshilfe) is quite common in Germany, inexpensive and good ones are still hard to find. There are several ways to go about finding someone:

- Ask other transfers if they can recommend anyone.
- Talk to your German neighbours for suggestions.
- Put a small ad in your local newspaper.
- Set up interviews before choosing an applicant.

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

### *Washing instructions/Symbols*

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

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

### *Dry Cleaners*

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

### *Postal Services*

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

### *German Culture*

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



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

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

You may find that people stand too close, or cut in front of you in ways that seem inconsiderate. Then, to add insult to injury, they don't say anything. Or, they don't smile when you expect it or they take so long to reply. All these are examples of ways that conceptions of time and space differ from culture to culture. The offender doesn't say anything because within the context of his culture, he hasn't done anything wrong. You should remember that cultural norms are something you carry with you from place to place. They are rarely shed or relearned. Learning to be a foreigner which you now are, means learning to accept and tolerate all these things. This probably won't prevent you from feeling annoyed at times, but it may help prevent you from losing perspective and developing feelings of hostility.

In the cities and in most villages, the hours of 13:00 to 15:00 and between 22:00 and 07:00 are quiet time, both outside and inside. Keep the children quiet, don't mow the grass, cut wood, or use any other loud machines such as a grass trimmer or leaf-blower. Also, musical instruments may be practiced for just 90 minutes at a time. Sundays are a day of rest and you shouldn't do garden work, wash cars or do any other work that the neighbours can see. Quiet hours are respected for the entire day on Sundays as well as all day on each public holiday. No lawn-mowing on Labor Day, and no building a Sauna in your backyard on December 26<sup>th</sup>!

## **Section 1: Health Services**

### **1.1 Emergency numbers**

Police / Ambulance **110**

Fire and other Emergency & Rescue **112**

Red Cross Ambulance **19222**

Poison control Munich **089 19240** or Freiburg **0761 19240**

Crisis line (counselling in different languages) **0800 1110111**, 0800 1110222

Emergency medical service in Ulm & Neu-Ulm 19222 and 0731 /140 0140

(An operator will connect you to physicians in private practices on call)

### **Directory Enquiries Germany 11837**

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

### **General Information on Health services**

Most Germans belong to the German health care system. As a foreigner you are entitled to healthcare as well, but you have to register first. You will then get a card which you need to show to any doctors you are seeing.

There is no need for a pre-registration with the doctor you want to see. Just phone a doctor for an appointment. Many doctors give priority to patients residing in their area. If you or your child is sick on a weekend or evening, first phone your doctor and listen to the recorded message. You can also find out the physicians on call via telephone in Ulm at **0731 /1710 26521** or in Neu-Ulm **01805 191212**, but not everyone there speaks English. In Ulm the University Hospital departments, which are distributed all over the city, provide emergency care and treat patients with referrals. Whereas Internal Medicine is on Eselsberg, Pediatrics, Urology, ENT and Eye care is on Michelsberg and Surgery on Safranberg. More information is available on <http://www.uniklinik-ulm.de>. Even where the doctors speak fluent English, receptionists and staff at the front desk do not necessarily speak English. This can make it more difficult in the beginning when making appointments. Office staff will generally get to know you and work with you though. Speak slowly and clearly, and they will do their best to help you. If you are on "private" insurance, you will have no trouble getting appointments anywhere. Watch out for the doctors that will do "every" test because you are private and will be paying for it.

### **For Children in Ulm**

University Hospital of Ulm (Universitätsklinikum Ulm)  
Pediatrics (Abteilung für Kinder- und Jugendmedizin)  
Klinikbereich Michelsberg  
Eythstr. 24  
89075 Ulm  
Tel.: 0731/500-57444

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

### **Chemist / Pharmacist / Apotheke / On-Call Physicians**

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

### **1.2 Doctors – Children (Kinderarzt- Pediatrician)**

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

#### **Ulm & Neu-Ulm**

Dr. med. Matthias Böker  
Pediatrician (Pädiatrie)  
Ulmergasse 7 89073 Ulm  
Tel: 0731/60841

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

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

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

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

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

### **Biberach**

Dr. Klaus Pfänder  
Rißstr. 17 88400 Biberach an der Riss  
Tel: 07351/711 25  
Speaks good English, is nice and professional.

In Germany, there is an established series of pediatric screening exams. These Exams “Untersuchungen” are named U1- U11:

#### U1 – immediately following birth

The infant is given vitamin K immediately after birth to prevent an increased risk of bleeding. The examination covers recording the medical history, examining glands, and newborn’s hearing test.

#### U2 – third to tenth day of life

The infant is given vitamin K to prevent an increased risk of bleeding. In addition, administering vitamin D and fluoride from the fifth day of life should prevent rickets (softening of the bones) and caries. In the U2, the doctor will check for any malformation and birth injuries. This examination is both physical and neurological. The infant’s blood is examined for different metabolic disorders that can be treated. An initial hip screening (sonography) is possible.

#### U3 – fourth to fifth week of life

Your child will be given vitamin K, vitamin D and fluoride. The doctor will focus on motor development, social behaviour (smiling), neurological exam (newborn’s reflexes), nutritional condition, sight and hearing, physical examination, hip screening.

#### U4 – third to fourth month

Your child is again administered vitamin D and fluoride to prevent rickets and caries. Immunisation also starts now. The doctor examines the infant with a view to motor development, social behaviour and playing, neurological exam, nutritional condition, sight and hearing, physical examination

#### U5 – sixth to seventh month

Once again the doctor will give your child vitamin D and fluoride. The doctor will concentrate on motor development, social behaviour and playing, neurological exam, identifying any delays in mental or physical development; initiating support measures, nutritional condition, sight (squinting), hearing (special hearing test if in doubt), physical examination

#### U6 – tenth to twelfth month

Rickets prevention is now complete (continues in the six winter months of the second year). Further immunisations are due. The doctor will examine motor development, social behaviour and playing, neurological exam, identifying any delays in mental or physical development; initiating support measures, nutritional condition, sight (squinting), hearing (special hearing test if in doubt), physical examination

#### U7 – 21st to 24th month

The child is given vitamin D and fluoride once more. The doctor will also examine motor development, social behaviour and playing, speech development, neurological exam, identifying any delays in mental or physical development; initiating support measures, nutritional condition, sight (squinting), hearing (special hearing test if in doubt), physical examination

#### U7a – 34th to 36th month

This examination – also called the “kindergarten check” – closes the longer interval between the check-ups at the age of two and four years. In this check-up, the doctor will again pay particular attention to the physical development of your child and make sure development is appropriate for the child’s age. The doctor will check your child’s sight and whether they have complete vision. The following will also be examined: allergic reactions, socialisation and behavioural difficulties, obesity, problems with language development, dental and oral abnormalities and jaw occlusion

#### U8 – 46th to 48th month (three and a half to four years)

Preventive measures on this occasion include caries prevention with fluoride tablets. Immunisations that are not complete are continued. The doctor will focus on motor development (check of fine motor skills, e.g. while painting), social behaviour and playing, speech development (problems with pronunciation), neurological exam, identifying any delays in mental or physical development; initiating support measures, nutritional condition, sight using eye test, hearing (special hearing test if in doubt), physical examination, urine test, tuberculosis test.

#### U9 – 60th to 64th month (five to five and a half years)

Caries prevention with fluoride tablets and immunisations are continued. In addition, regular visits to the dentist are now included in preventive care. The doctor will concentrate on motor development (checking development of fine motor skills, balance and coordination), social behaviour and playing (elimination of behavioural difficulties or hyperactivity), speech development (problems with pronunciation), neurological exam, sight using eye test, hearing (special hearing test if in doubt), abnormalities of the vertebral column, legs or feet, physical examination, urine test.

### **1.3 Doctors for Women (Frauenarzt- Gynecologist)**

#### **Ulm & Neu-Ulm**

Dr. med. Bärbel Grashoff

OBGYN (Frauenheilkunde u. Geburtshilfe)

Olgastrasse 83-85 89073 Ulm

Tel: 0731/610041 Fax 0731/60211728

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

Dr. Irene Zirbs-Papaschalis und Dr. Kölle-Frick

Hafengasse 2 89073 Ulm

Tel: 0731 966800

Speaks English.

Dr. Rüdiger Pfeiffer

Südlicher Münsterplatz 37 89073 Ulm

Tel.: 0731 / 6 60 60

Nice and professional Gynecologist in the city center.

## **Bad Buchau**

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

### **1.4 Doctors – General Practitioners (Allgemeine Arzt)**

#### **Ulm & Neu-Ulm**

Dr. med. Brigit Seifried  
Internist

Ulmergasse 7 89073 Ulm  
Tel. 0731/60841

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

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

Citipraxis  
Doctors Christine Durr and Frohmut Helmes  
Munsterplatz 20, 89073 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 62321

<http://www.citypraxis.de/service-kontakt>

Good adult general practitioner for adults and kids. They also do accupuncture for back and knee problems. Speaks English. Online appointment scheduling is also available.

#### **Wiblingen**

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

### **1.5 Doctors – Internists**

#### **Ulm & Neu-Ulm**

Dr. Thomas Hammann  
Internist, Gastroenterologist  
Gartenstr. 36 Neu-Ulm  
Tel. 0731/73 997

Good adult general practitioner, specialized in Gastroenterology.

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

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

#### **Biberach**

Dr. Johannes Reck  
Dr.med. Frank-Dieter Braun  
Fachärzte für Allgemeinmedizin

zugelassene Gelbfieberimpfpraxis (subspecialty: yellow fever vaccinations and travel medicine)

Rissstraße 17-19, Risscenter 88400 Biberach

Tel.: 07351 – 6334

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

### **1.6 Doctors – Ear Nose And Throat (HNO-Arzt, Hals, Nase, Ohren-Arzt) Ulm & Neu-Ulm**

Dr. med. Gabriele Boger-Conrad

Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist

Söflinger Strasse 168 89077 Ulm

Tel. 0731/37237. Speaks English well.

Dr. Liljana Blazon

Augsburger Str. 6 89231 Neu-Ulm

Tel. 0731/704 2670

Is very professional and thorough. Is good with kids. Speaks English.

University Hospital of Ulm (Universitätsklinikum Ulm)

Ear, Nose and Throat department (Abteilung für Hals-Nasen-Ohrenheilkunde)

Klinikbereich Michelsberg

Frauensteige 12 89070 Ulm

Tel. 0731/ 59570

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

### **1.7 Doctors – Orthopaedic Surgeons Ulm & Neu-Ulm**

Orthopedic University Hospital of Ulm with center for paraplegia at the Hospital for Rehabilitation

(Orthopädische Universitätsklinik mit Querschnittgelähmtenzentrum am Rehabilitationskrankenhaus Ulm)

Oberer Eselsberg 45 89081 Ulm Tel.: 0731/177 1107

Dr Elsharkawi

Hirschstrasse 23, 3rd floor 89073 Ulm

Tel: 0731 68434

Has their own xray facility. Speaks English. There are many specialists in this building, dermatologist, dentist, eye doctor, etc. The closest parking is the Deutschhaus parking garage.

### **1.8 Doctors – Skin Specialists (Hautarzt) Ulm & Neu-Ulm**

Dr. Petra Gottlöber und PD Dr. Guntram Bezold

Augsburger Str. 6 89231 Neu-Ulm

Tel.: 0731/75556

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

University Hospital of Ulm (Universitätsklinikum Ulm)

Department of Dermatology and Allergies (Klinik für Dermatologie und Allergologie)

Maienweg 12 89081 Ulm Söflingen

Tel. 0731/500 – 57514

Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. Gertraud Krähn-Senftleben

Dermatologist

Ulmer Str. 26 89143 Blaubeuren

Tel: 0 73 44 2 15 95

Classical and surgical Dermatology, Allergology. Specialties are Pediatric Dermatology, atopic eczema and skin cancer prevention. Her children attended ISU for many years.

### **1.9 Doctors – Eyes (Augenarzt)**

#### **Ulm & Neu-Ulm**

Dr. W. Haupt, Prof. Dr. C. Spraul and Dr. Geiselhart

Basteistr. 37 89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731/222 52

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

Dr. Annette Czech

Marktplatz 15+16 89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731 4033110

Dr. Czech is a parent at ISU.

University Hospital of Ulm (Universitätsklinikum Ulm)

Ophthalmology department (Universitäts-Augenklinik und Poliklinik)

Klinikbereich Michelsberg

Prittwitzstr. 43 89075 Ulm

Tel.: 0731 500 59001, outpatient appointments: 500-59023 or -59024

### **1.10 Urologists (Urologen)**

#### **Ulm & Neu-Ulm**

University Hospital of Ulm (Universitätsklinikum Ulm)

Urology and Oediatric Urology (Abteilung für Urologie und Kinderurologie)

Klinikbereich Michelsberg

Prittwitzstr. 43 89075 Ulm

Tel.: 0731 500 27822

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

### **1.11 Outpatient Surgery (ambulante OP)**

#### **Blaustein**

Dr. Sabine Aicham und Dr. Haas

Venenklinik Blaustein

Gemeinschaftspraxis

Juraweg 1 89134 Blaustein

Tel: 07304 / 434501 Internet: [www.venenklinik-blaustein.de](http://www.venenklinik-blaustein.de)

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

### **1.12 Physiotherapists (Physiotherapeut)**

#### **Ulm & Neu-Ulm**

ActivReha

Christine Glatz

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

Maria-Anne Widemann  
Munsterplatz 23, 89073 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 64816  
Also offers many alternative treatments like hot stone, shiatsu massages or mud baths and migraine treatments.

### **1.13 Dentists (Zahnarzt)**

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

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

Praxis Wackelzahn  
Schwerpunkt Kinderzahnheilkunde (Specialty pediatric dentistry)  
Dr. med. dent. Wiebke Ankner  
Edisonallee 5 89231 Neu-Ulm / Wiley  
Tel.: 0731 176 3456  
Fax: 0731 176 3451  
info@praxis-wackelzahn.de  
www.praxis-wackelzahn.de  
Competent and good with children.

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

Dr Urban  
Eberhardstrasse 3, 89073 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 28280  
Speaks fluent English and very competent

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

Dr. Wolfgang Kohl  
Kelternweg 122 89075 Ulm  
Tel. 0731/55 3044  
Speaks English and also treats children, but is not a Pediatric Dentist.



Dr. Wolfgang Kohl  
Kelterweg 122 89075 Ulm  
Tel. 0731/55 3044

Dr. Jochen Mellinghoff und Kollegen  
Pfaugasse 14 89073 Ulm  
Tel. 0731/621 58  
Fax 0731/610 196  
praxis@dr-mellinghoff.de

### **Biberach**

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

### **1.14 Orthodontists (Kieferorthopäde)**

Dr. Dietmar Czech  
Marktplatz 15+16 89073 Ulm  
Tel. 0731 62000

Dr. med Leif-Konradin Sailer  
Edisonallee 5 89231 Neu-Ulm  
Tel: 0731 1763450

Dr. Czech is a parent at ISU, an oral surgeon and speaks excellent English.

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

### **1.15 Psychologists, Psychiatrists and Counselling Services**

#### **Ulm & Neu-Ulm**

#### **Psychologist and Psychiatrists – Adults**

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

#### **Psychologist and Psychiatrists – Children**

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

Dr. med. Karin Mühlbacher  
Ärztin für Kinder- u. Jugendpsychiatrie u. -psychotherapie  
Donaustr. 8 89231 Neu-Ulm

Bayern / Deutschland  
Tel.: 0731/972 3773

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

### **1.16 Radiologie/Neuroradiologie/Nuklearmedizin Ulm & Neu-Ulm**

Gemeinschaftspraxis  
Olgastrasse 87 89073 Ulm  
Tel. 0731/9 67 44-0  
Info. [www.radiologiezentrum-ulm.de](http://www.radiologiezentrum-ulm.de)  
Fantastic radiology facility. Modern, efficient. Radiologists read your tests on site immediately after taken, give results to you and do follow-up all in one visit. Radiologists speak English.

### **1.17 Other Health Services**

Alcoholics Anonymous (Anonyme Alkoholiker)  
Ulm area: 07307 / 92 37 41  
Support group for families of alcoholics Al-Anon

Drug helpline (Drogenhilfe Ulm-Alb-Donau eV)  
Radgasse 3 Ulm  
Tel. 0731/92 60930 [www.drogenhilfe-ulm-alb-donau.de](http://www.drogenhilfe-ulm-alb-donau.de)

## **Section 2: Pets**

Dogs have to be registered in Germany. You register them at the same place you registered you and your family. You must pay a small fee and they send you a registration tag to be hung on your dog's collar. If your pet has an electronic chip implanted, you can register them on one of the two institutions directly on their website. This will enable you to find your pet much faster in case they are lost in Germany. Most Germans are very honest and will call the police or animal shelter as soon as they see a stray dog.

The local animal shelter can be found at:

Tierheim und Tierschutzbund Ulm/Neu-Ulm  
Örlinger-Tal-Weg 40 89081 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 65906  
[tierheim-ulm.de](http://tierheim-ulm.de)

### **2.1 Veterinarians / Tierärzte**

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

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

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

Dr Stefan Grenier  
Hauptstraße 52, 89233 Neu-Ulm  
Tel: 0731 9717297  
Speaks good English and very good with pets.

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

## 2.2 Pets - Holiday Care

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

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

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

**Hundepension Ruhetal**  
Ruhetal 2 89081 Ulm  
Tel: 0731/66997  
<http://www.hundepension-ulm.de/>

**Ulmer Hundeschule-Ulmer Hundepension**  
Wiblinger Straße 102  
89231 Neu-Ulm  
Tel: 0731/84417  
<http://www.ulmer-hundeschule.de/>

**Residenz am Wald**  
Egginger Street 100 89155 Erbach  
Tel: 07305 - 956 0956  
Mobil: 0172-72 52 106  
<http://www.hundezentrum-klauer.de/>  
This is a luxury hotel for dogs!

## 2.3 Pets – Dog training

All the above dog dog hotels also provide dog training, or can help you to find someone.

Camundi Hundetraining  
Ludwigsfeld  
Neu-Ulm  
Kerstin Wittich  
Tel: 0731 1537750  
Mob: 01723075157  
[www.camundi.de](http://www.camundi.de)

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

## Section 3: Religious/Social Groups

### 3.1 Churches

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

[http://www.ulm.de/leben\\_in\\_ulm/kirche\\_religion.4330.3076,3665,4330.htm](http://www.ulm.de/leben_in_ulm/kirche_religion.4330.3076,3665,4330.htm)

#### Catholic Churches

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

#### Protestant/Evangelical Churches

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

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

John-F.-Kennedy-Str. 6

Neu-Ulm

Service at 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. am, English translation available upstairs on the balcony.

Contact: Pastor Thomas & Ruth Greiner

Tel. 0731/708 6508 or church: 980 7632

Pastors can speak English. Sunday school for children.

#### Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Baumgartenstrasse 5 Neu-Ulm

Services Sundays 10:45 a.m.

[www.mormon.org](http://www.mormon.org)

Tel. 0731/ 87602

#### The English Church in Ulm- Service in English

Ulmer Münstergemeindehaus, Münsterplatz 21, Ulm.

Grosser Saal, on the 1st Floor above ground level, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month at 17:30.

The vicar from St. Catherine's Anglican Church in Stuttgart leads the service. Reverend Ken Dimmick

Tel. 0176 99762001, vicar@stcatherines-stuttgart.de; <http://www.stcatherines-stuttgart.de/>

#### Zionskirche (United Methodist)

- Erlöserkirche, Römerstraße 85, 89077 Ulm

- Christuskirche, Karlstraße 12, 89129 Langenau \*Sunday evening service in English, 5:30 p.m.

- Gemeinschaftshaus, Hauptstraße 57, 89143 Gerhausen

Contact: Pastor Engelhardt Tel. 0731/67 501

Pastor speaks English. Religious instruction for children is available and they have a Sunday school for children.

#### Russian Orthodox Church Gemeinde "Hl. Valentin u. Pasikratus"

Münsterplatz, Ulm city center

731/4039099

#### Synagogue

Beit Chabad Württemberg [www.chabadw.de](http://www.chabadw.de)

Jewish Community in Ulm, Neutorstraße 28, Ulm city centre, 731/1436788

Rabbi Schneur Zalman Trebnik

Chabad Lubavitch Tel: 49-731-969-1691

<http://jhva.wordpress.com/2012/12/02/einweihung-der-neuen-synagoge-in-ulm/>

#### Mosque "Moschee"

IGMG Ulm

Schillerstraße 29 89077 Ulm

### **3.2 Playgroups**

#### **English Play Group**

Familien bildungsstätte ulm e.V (fbs)

Sattlergasse 6. 89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731/96 286-0 Homepage: [www.fbs.ulm.de](http://www.fbs.ulm.de)

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

### **3.3 Social Clubs And Groups**

#### **Ulm & Neu-Ulm**

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

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

Facebook groups

-English stammtisch in Ulm: 600 member group made up of all nationalities between the ages of 25 and 40, living in and around Ulm. They get together in a restaurant in Ulm, one Thursday per month to practise speaking English. Their website often gives information about festivals or bands playing in Ulm and families holding playgroups for young children. Members are willing to give general information about living in Ulm.

-International Families in Ulm: Started by a parent in ISU, this group is focused on helping new families integrating to Ulm by providing information a family might need and moral support!

-Foreign language Group Ulm: For people wanting to speak their own language or practise a foreign language. Chinese, French, Spanish, Russian...are some of the languages that can be heard during their monthly meetings!

-English movies in Ulm: Here you can find weekly posts of English movies showing in Ulm and people to go with!

-International School of Ulm / Neu-Ulm: Events are posted, but for the most up-to-date news, see [www.is-ulm.de](http://www.is-ulm.de)

### **3.4 Baby Sitters**

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

familien bildungsstätte ulm e.V (fbs)

Sattlergasse 6. 89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731/96 286-0 Homepage: [www.fbs.ulm.de](http://www.fbs.ulm.de)

Tagesmütterverein e.V.:

Deinselsgasse 18 Ulm (City Center)

Tel. 0731/60 280941

They provide childcare "Mothers" and are really helpful.

The school generally keeps a list of Upper School students who would be willing to babysit. Ask in the office.

## Section 4: Shopping

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

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

### 4.1 Supermarkets

#### Marktkauf

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

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

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

#### Kaufland

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

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

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

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

#### Edeka

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

Edeka, Bahnhofstrasse 91, 89231 Neu-Ulm.

#### Alnatura

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

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

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

### 4.2 Food Shops: German/English

Metzgerei: Butcher

Konditorei: Dessert, confectionary shop

Backerei: Bakery

Feinkost: Gourmet, upscale, speciality food market

Fresh Fish – Heilbronner Fische Geflügel Wild,

Rebengasse 8, 89073 Ulm. Tel: 0731 66588

This fresh fish shop is also a fish restaurant! You choose your fish from the fish stand and choose the cooking method before going to your table! They also have fresh chicken and game.

### 4.3 Food Shops: Speciality & International

Asia – Shop Nguyen,  
Deutschhausgasse 7, 89073 Ulm.

Phuc Think Van Thuc Dinch,  
Memmingenstrasse 39, 89231 Neu Ulm  
Tel: 0731 87265

### 4.4 Wine Merchants

Wein Bastion  
Schillerstrasse 1  
89077 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 66993  
[www.weinbastion.de](http://www.weinbastion.de)

### 4.5 Markets

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

### 4.6 Shopping Malls

#### **Blautal-Center**

Blaubeurer Strasse 95, 89077 Ulm. Open: Mon-Sat 09:30-20:00.

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

### 4.7 Department Stores & Clothing

#### **Abt**

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

Münsterplatz 7, 89073 Ulm. [www.abt-ulm.de](http://www.abt-ulm.de). Open: Mon-Fri 09:00-19:00. Sat 09:00-18:00.

#### **C&A**

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

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

#### **Müller**

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

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

**H&M**

Fashionable clothes for adults, teens and children. A branch can also be found at the Blautal Center Bahnstr. 10, 89073 Ulm. (located on the pedestrian street). Open: Mon-Sat 10:00-20:00.

**Peek & Cloppenburg**

Department store with clothes for adults and teens and children. (located on the pedestrian street). Bahnhofstr. 8, 89073 Ulm. Open: Mon-Fri 09:30-20:00. Sat 09:30-19:00.

**Galleria Kaufhof**

Department store with diverse range of products. Clothes, sportswear, lingerie, childrens clothes, toys, jewellery, purses, suitcases etc., (located on the pedestrian street). Bahnhofstr. 5, 89073 Ulm. Open: Mon-Sat 09:30-20:00.

**Modehaus Walz**

Upscale department store with clothes for adults and children. (Located on the pedestrian street). Bahnhofstr. 4, 89073 Ulm. Open: Mon-Sat 09:30-19:00.

**SportSohn**

Huge sports store with EVERYTHING in sportswear, casual wear and sports articles. Located on the pedestrian street at the end towards the train station. Bahnhofstr. 16, 89073 Ulm. Open: Mon-Fri 09:30-20:00. Sat 09:30-19:00.

**Junior Schmid**

Very big clothing store with casual wear for women and casual and sports wear for children. Very large shoe section. The store is also located in three other cities – some have men's clothing also. Berliner Strasse 8, 89250 Senden.

**4.8 Furniture & Interior Furnishings****IKEA** <http://www.ikea.com/de/de/store/ulm>

Self service furniture store. All items come packed flat for self-assembly. Assembly and delivery service is available for a fee if requested. Blaubeurer Str. 10, 89077 Ulm. Open: Mon-Thur 09:30-21:00. Fri-Sat 09:30-22:00.

**Inhofer** [www.inhofer.de](http://www.inhofer.de)

Very large furniture store. Also sells rugs and carpets. Big interior decorating section. Ulmer Str. 50, 89250 Senden.

**Möbel Borst** [www.moebel-borst.de](http://www.moebel-borst.de)

Very much like Inhofer, only smaller. Karpfenweg 8, 89584 Ehingen. Open: Mon-Fri 09:00-19:00. Sat 09:00-18:00.

**Möbel Mahler** [www.moebel-mahler.de](http://www.moebel-mahler.de)

Borsigstraße 15, 89231 Neu-Ulm (near Burger King and McFit)  
Open 10 am to 8 pm M-F and 9 am to 8 pm Saturday. Tel. 0731 140420  
New store with a wide variety of furniture and furnishings

**Möbel Prinz** [www.moebel-prinz.de](http://www.moebel-prinz.de)

Lämmerweg 4, 89079 Ulm (Eisingen).  
Open: Mon-Wed 09:30-18:30. Thur-Fri 09:30-19:30. Sat 09:30-16:00.  
Upscale furniture store. Good selection of garden furniture in Summer.

**4.9 Home Improvements / D.I.Y. Stores****Bauhaus**

Blaubeurer Str. 110, 89077 Ulm.



### **Hornbach**

Finningerstrasse 47, 89231 Neu-Ulm  
Tel. 0731 72 90 80 Mon-Sat 07.00-20.00

### **Praktiker**

Blaubeurer Str. 50, 89077 Ulm. [www.praktiker.de](http://www.praktiker.de)

### **Praktiker**

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

## **4.10 Toys**

**Abt** Münsterplatz 7, 89073 Ulm. [www.abt-ulm.de](http://www.abt-ulm.de). Open: Mon-Fri 09:00-19:00. Sat 9:00-18:00.

**Müller** Check [www.mueller.de](http://www.mueller.de) for a location near you.

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

## **4.11 Factory Outlets**

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

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

“Der Grosse Schnäppchenführer Bayern“ von Waldmüller Heinz (“Schnäppchen” means a bargain, “Führer” means guide)

Books can be bought online at [www.buch24.de](http://www.buch24.de) or “google” the titles for different web sites.

Outlet City Metzingen, Reutlinger Str. 63, 72555 Metzingen. Open: Mon-Fri 10:00-20:00 Sat 09:00-18:00. Check the website for brands and special openings etc. [www.outletcity-metzingen.com](http://www.outletcity-metzingen.com)

## **Section 5: Services**

### **5.1 Hairdressers / Barbers / Beauty**

#### **Stylewerk**

Kapellengasse 5 89077 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 3886996

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

#### **Friseur Le Coup**

Deutschhausgasse 15 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 6026020

This salon is run by Werner Dössler who happens to be married to a former ISU teacher! Werner speaks English as do some of his stylists. Christina (a stylist from California) is particularly good at colour.

#### **Beauty Center Söflingen**

Schlossergasse 56 89077 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 3885410

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

### **5.2 Garbage**

A cultural difference one may notice immediately concerns garbage. In general, Germans are more conscientious about the environment and recycle almost everything. The method of handling recyclables and garbage collection varies from town to town. Therefore it is important to call your local Rathaus (town hall) to obtain the correct information. Each town will provide an annual calendar listing

dates for the various types of pickups as well as what is allowed to be recycled. But the following will provide some general information. Note that Christmas tree pick-ups will generally be on one day during the first or second week of January, depending on your areas pick-up schedule.

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

## Section 6: Dining Out

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

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

### 6.1 Traditional German Food and Ambience

#### Zunfthaus der Schiffsleute

Fischergasse 31 89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731 64411

[www.Zunfthaus-ulm.de](http://www.Zunfthaus-ulm.de)

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

**Wilder Mann**

Fischergasse 2 89073 Ulm  
Tel. 0731 2058743

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

**Brauhaus Barfüsser**

Paulstrasse 4 89231 Neu-Ulm  
Tel. 0731 974480

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

**Drei Kannen**

Hafenbad 31/1 Ulm  
Tel. 0731 67717

**Zur Brezel**

Roter Löwe Hotel  
Ulmer Gasse 8 89073 Ulm  
Tel. 0731 974 7100

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

**Gerberhaus**

Weinhofburg 9 89073 Ulm im Fischerviertel  
Tel: 0731 69498

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

**Schwarze Henne**

Baurengasse 13 89073 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 9215113

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

**Forellenfischer, Weiler**

Aachtalstrasse 6 89143 Blaubeuren/Weiler  
Tel: 0734 46545

Serves excellent German food. Leave the kids at home.

**Erstes Ulmer Pfannkuchenhaus**

Allgäuer Hof, Fischergasse 12 89073 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 67408

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

**Zur Forelle**

Fischergasse 25 89073 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 63924

Great cosy restaurant that offers a wonderful variety of regional and international food including fresh fish in a beautiful 380 years old building. [www.zurforelle.de](http://www.zurforelle.de)

**Brauerei & Gasthof Schlössle**

Schlössleweg 3 89231 Neu-Ulm  
Tel: 0731 77 390

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

## 6.2 Italian Food

### Da Franco

Neuer Graben 23 Ulm Tel. 0731 30585

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

### Helfenstein

Beyerstrasse 14 89077 Ulm

Tel. 0731 32490

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

### Ristorante Boccaccio

Michelsbergstr 8 Ulm

Tel: 0731 66220

Excellent food. Lacks in ambience.

### Ristorante Pizzeria Bei Angelo

Jahnstrasse 1 89134 Blaustein

Tel: 0731 51868

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

### Tanivera

Weinhofberg 7 Ulm

Tel. 0731 8801730

Located in Fischerviertel, there's space outside.

### Taverna Azzurra

Kronengasse 4/2

Tel: 0731 9752848

## 6.3 Continental/International Food

### Bei Erika

Olgastrasse 141 89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731 25323

Intimate setting; fresh eclectic food with menu changing daily. A la carte or four course beef or fish set menu available with aperitif.

### Dada

Turmstrasse 43 89231 Neu-Ulm

Tel. 0731-1598669

Accepts credit card.

### Lago

Friedrichsau 50 89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731 9502777

[www.lago-ulm.de](http://www.lago-ulm.de)

Great location in the Friedrichsau park. Upscale, nice evening out.

### Stephans-Stuben

Bahnhofstrasse 65 89231 Neu-Ulm

Tel. 0731 723872

[www.stephans-stuben.de](http://www.stephans-stuben.de)

Surprisingly located right near ISU in an unassuming location, this restaurant is consistently ranked the No. 1 restaurant in Ulm. Elegant atmosphere with attentive service.

### Truffel

Ehinger Strasse 44 89155 Erbach

Tel. 07305 8021

[www.hotel-koegel.de](http://www.hotel-koegel.de)

Identified as one of the best kitchens in the region. 10-15 minutes outside of Ulm.

### **Wiley-Club**

Wiley-Strasse 4 89231 Neu-Ulm

Tel. 0731 86704

[www.wiley-club.de](http://www.wiley-club.de)

Old US Army officers club. Open, beautiful atmosphere with consistently good, varying menu and international cuisine. Great for large parties or family gatherings. Also good night club spot on certain evenings. Boasts to have the longest bar in Europe!

### **Yamas**

Herrenkellergasse 29 Ulm

0731 4078614

## **6.4 Japanese Food**

### **Kon-Ya Sushi**

Ludwidstrasse 11 Neu-Ulm

Tel. 731 4036 1511

<http://www.sushi-kon-ya.de/>

### **Sushi Lounge**

Neue Strasse 83 Ulm

Tel. 0731 184 89 89

[mail@sushi-lounge-ulm.de](mailto:mail@sushi-lounge-ulm.de)

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

### **Yu**

Wileystrasse 21 89231 Neu-Ulm

Tel. 0731 83811

[www.restaurant-yu.de](http://www.restaurant-yu.de)

Wonderful Japanese steak house in old, cave like setting. Several steps up from a Benihanas. Great for a group of people or an adult special occasion.

## **6.5 Chinese and Thai Food**

### **Asia-Van Ulm**

Hoheschulgasse 1, Ulm

0731 602 7600

<http://www.asia-van.de/>

### **China-Restaurant Chausee**

Herrlinger Strasse 35 Söflingen

Tel: 0731 384835

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

### **Thai Haus Tuitong**

Olgastrasse 62 89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731 602 7961

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

### **Zero-Up**

Rebengasse 6, 89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731 1416850

Original Chinese, great food.

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

## 6.6 Indian Food

### **Anondo**

Syrlinstr 22 89073 Ulm

Tel: 0731 1416753

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

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

## 6.7 Spanish and Mexican Food

### **Andale**

Herdbruckerstrasse 18 Ulm

Tel 0731 1525454

### **Besitos**

Neue Strasse 71 Ulm

Tel: 0731 1847987

Spanish tapas bar; great bar atmosphere.

### **Casa Lorca**

Frauenstrasse 134 Ulm

Tel: 0731 6021977

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

### **Enchilada Mexican Restaurant & Bar**

Schelergasse 6 Ulm

Tel: 0731 60859

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

### **Peppers**

Deinsels-Gasse 8 89073 Ulm

Tel.0731 2908259

## 6.8 Greek Food

### **Poseidon's Grillgenuesse**

Frauenstrasse 31 89073 Ulm

Tel. 0731 64247

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

### **Paradies**

Ruhetal 17 89081 Ulm

Tel. 0731 554505

[www.papapostolou.com](http://www.papapostolou.com)

Fresh daily specials; highly ranked by the Restaurantfuehrer guide.

## Section 7: Sports and Hobbies

Please be aware that Germans walk around nude in the changing rooms and some showers are unisex. Saunas are also unisex and used nude with a towel to lay on. Some provide only women times. Check the pools or gyms beforehand if they provide this.

### 7.1 Swimming Pools and Mineral Baths

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

Find pools in any German city here: <http://www.schwimmbadcheck.de/>

#### **Donaubad Wonnemar**

Wiblinger Strasse 55 89231 Neu Ulm

0731 985990

Sun-Thurs 10.00 to 22.00, Fri-Sat 10.00 to 23.00 from October to April; closes one hour earlier in summer. [www.wonnemar.de/ulm/](http://www.wonnemar.de/ulm/)

#### **Bundeswehrhallenbad**

Hörvelsingerweg 1, OT Jungingen Ulm

Tuesday 5-8 pm, Saturday 8-10 am

#### **Hallenbad Neu Ulm**

Kantstrasse 4 Offenhausen, Neu-Ulm (across the street from the school)

Tel: 0731 97 8680

#### **Westbad**

Moltkestrasse 30 Ulm

Tel: 0731 1613480

#### **Bad Blau**

Boschstrasse 12 89134 Blaustein

Tel: 07304 802162

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

#### **Jordanbad**

88400 Biberach an de Riss, Biberach

Tel: 07351 343100

[info@jordanbad.de](mailto:info@jordanbad.de)

#### **Thermalbad Waldsee – Therme**

Tel: 07524 941221

#### **Sonnenhof Therme mit Saunalandschaft**

Bad Saulgau

Tel: 07581 48390

#### **See- und Hallenbad Senden**

Steinlestrasse 12, 89250 Senden

Tel 07307 90200

### 7.2 Sport Clubs

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

**SSV ULM 1846 e.V**

Stadionstrasse 17, Ulm  
Tel: 0731 18460

Provides many different sporting activities for children at very affordable prices. You have to go directly to their offices to get a catalogue or collect a form to join.

**7.3 Gyms and Health Clubs****Aktiv Posten**

Schillerstrasse 1/6 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 602 6901

**Halo Gym**

Stadionstrasse 17 89073 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 1846 200  
Halo-ulm.syncope.de

Directly facing the Danube river, this gym provides various types of courses, especially in the mornings and evenings; Cycling, Step, Ballooning, Yoga, Stretch, Zhumba, Aqua aerobics...It also has a large gym with ample equipment. They provide flexible membership forms but you have to join the SSV sports club, (for a small fee) before you can use their gym. This is done through them.

**FFW First Fit Wellness GmbH & Co**

Herrlinger Strasse 36 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 379 9012

Lessingstrasse 8 Neu-Ulm  
Tel: 0731 79997

**Fitness 20 Ltd**

Einsteinstrasse 35 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 383380

**Fitness Point Lady**

Söflingen in der Wanne 57 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 57711  
Judenhof 8 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 1517855

**FITZ Fitness Zentrum Ulmer Hochstrasse**

Einsingen Am Buergele 11  
Tel: 07305 921218

**McFit**

Vorwerkstrasse 2, 89231 Neu-Ulm  
0731 9756 704 [www.mcfite.com](http://www.mcfite.com)  
Open 24 hours

**Mrs. Sporty**

Locations in Ulm, Neu-Ulm, Soeflingen, etc.  
[www.mrssporty.de](http://www.mrssporty.de)

**Olympia Fitness**

Wiblinger Strasse Neu Ulm  
Tel: 0731 9807078

**Petri Daniel Sport Pyramide**

Heigeleshof 2 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 619395

**Pietschmann Haraid**

Böfingen Eberhard Finckh-Strasse 26 Ulm



Tel: 0731 263788

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

**Top Fit**  
Finninger Strasse 71 Neu Ulm  
Tel: 0731 2077735

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

**Zieher Carola, Tatendrang**  
Trollingerweg 16 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 9503890

#### **7.4 Dance Schools**

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

**Havva Eva Marklowski**  
Karlstrasse 56 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 1537970

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

**Edith Maria Moldering Tanzstudio**  
Ulm-Böfingen  
Tel: 0731 265999

**Studio Sabine Wlodek**  
Marlene Dietrich Strasse 5 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 98588755

**Tanzstudio Persien**  
Wagnerstrasse 65 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 9317884

**Tanzschule Step to Dance**  
Tel: 0731 9808444

**Ten Dance GmbH**  
Neue Strasse 103 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 60066

#### **Ballet Schools**

**Ballettschule Das Studio**  
Pfarrer Weis Weg 18 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 3870600  
ISU students have attended this school. The owner is British and the school is associated with the British Royal Ballet.

**Ballettschule des Ulmer Theaters**  
Olgastrasse 73 Ulm

Tel: 0731 1614452

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

**Ballettverein Ulm**

Wagnerstrasse 65 Ulm

Tel: 0731 9317825

**Stoermer Chemnitz Elke**

Hausener Strasse 19/1 Neu Ulm

Tel: 07307 33379

**Wetzel Ursula**

Karlsbader Strasse 15 Neu Ulm

Tel: 0731 82247

## 7.5 Ice Skating Rink

**Donaubad Wonnemar Ulm/Neu-Ulm**

Wiblinger Strasse 55 Neu Ulm

Tel: 0731 985990

Open October to March. [www.wonnemar.de/ulm/](http://www.wonnemar.de/ulm/)

## 7.6 Climbing

**sparkassendome DAV Kletterwelt Neu-Ulm**

Nelsonallee 17 89231 Neu-Ulm

Telefon: 0731 / 60 30 75 – 10 Internet: [www.sparkassendome.de](http://www.sparkassendome.de)

## 7.7 Music Teachers and Music Schools

Almost all towns have a Musikschule (music school). Looking in your local phone book or local newspaper will help you to find the phone number and location of the school nearest you. Generally speaking, you can register any time, with the contract for lessons running for a year but paid quarterly or annually. The Musikschule offers classes from Kindergarten to Advanced in most instruments.

Brachmann Gabriel

Hoehenblick 9 Einsingen

Tel: 07305 7496

Bruno-Frey-Musikschule

Wielandstr. 27 88400 Biberach

Tel: 07351 51-248

Gunkel Werner (Guitar)

Memminger Strasse 39 Neu Ulm

Tel: 0731 85906

Joanna Jezierska-Miglionico (Piano)

Tel: 1573 4486735

Provides private piano lessons in English as well

Kleinhans Thomas Institut (Guitar)

Thalfinger Strasse 62/2 Neu Ulm

Tel: 0731 9316337

Lorraine Zhang (Violin, Piano)

Neu-Ulm

Tel: 0731 403 88664

Private lessons in English or German

Musikschule der Stadt Ulm

Marktplatz 19 Ulm

Tel: 0731 161 4730/4734/4735 [www.ulm.de](http://www.ulm.de)

Musikschule der Stadt Neu Ulm  
Gartenstrasse 13 Neu-Ulm  
Tel: 0731 9807380  
[www.neu-ulm.de](http://www.neu-ulm.de)

Musikschule Heidenheim  
Olgastr. 16  
89518 Heidenheim  
musikschule@heidenheim.de  
Telefon 07321 327 4510

Musikschule Schure (Violin)  
Oeschwende 38  
89081 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 1537801

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

Musikstudio Lillian Chang-Schiebe  
Tokajerweg 88 89075 Ulm  
Tel. 0731 551917

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

Verbands-Musikschule Langenau  
Kuftenstrasse 19 89129 Langenau  
[http://www.vv-langenau.de/03\\_musikschule/anmeldung.php](http://www.vv-langenau.de/03_musikschule/anmeldung.php)

Yamaha Musikschule Steinacker  
Herrlinger Strasse 64 Söflingen  
Tel: 0731 3870434

## **7.8 Gardening**

Bentner Richard  
Dornstadter Weg 24 Jungingen  
Tel: 0731 65408

Frey Werner  
Blaubeurer Strasse 227 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 381255

Roeder Johannes  
Soeflingen Strasse 43 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 30506

Vogt Thomas  
Stuttgarter Strasse 153/1 Neu-Ulm  
Tel: 0731 64124

Blessing Herbert  
Am Kaltwaesslerle 43 Ulm  
Tel: 0731 81602

Vietzen Hermann  
Baumgartenstrasse 28 Neu-Ulm  
Tel: 0731 81006

## Section 8: Family and Leisure Activities

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

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

### 8.1 Enjoying Ulm and Neu-Ulm

#### 8.1-1 General Information

#### *Where do I go for general information about our town?*

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

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

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

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

Biking and Walking: There are walking and bike paths that will take you almost anywhere in Ulm/Neu-Ulm. Note that when there's a line on the pavement/sidewalk, it means that bikes have right-of-way on the lane closest to the road, and pedestrians should stay on the far right. You can get Radkarten (Bike Maps) and/or Radtouren (Bike Tours) in the Stadthaus. Some are free and others can be purchased. Make sure you have little bells on all of your bikes. Bike and pedestrian traffic is heavy, especially in the city, and you and your children will need to use the bells often. (There are several bike shops in the area and a large bike store near IKEA for all your bike needs).

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

Parking with a "Parkschein": In public lots and on the streets, where indicated, you will need to pay to

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

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

Car2Go in Ulm is part of a relatively inexpensive rental car system available 24h 7/7 and is useful for the occasional need of a small 2 seater car. To use them, you first have to be a member by registering yourself on their website, then go down to a registration office to get a sticker to put on your driving licence. When you need a car, you go onto their website to find out where there are cars available, take it and just leave it at your destination! But be careful, if you need it to go back, someone else may have already taken it if you left it unattended! There are also possibilities to reserve a car beforehand. Parking garages have allocated parking spots for these cars. Cost in summer 2014 was 0.31/minute driving /parking, 14,90eur an hour or 69eur a day. [www.car2go.com/en/ulm](http://www.car2go.com/en/ulm)

### **8.1-3 Festivals and Seasonal Markets**

### ***What are the traditional Ulm/Neu-Ulm events?***

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

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

Men, be aware that women in your offices might cut off your tie on the last day of Fasching as is the tradition. In return they give you something to drink!

"Schwörmontag" (Oath Monday) (July): The biggest festival unique to Ulm is "Schwörmontag", which is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in July each year. Although it is technically the swearing in of the new mayor, there is much celebration the weekend before the swearing in, as well as the day of the swearing in.

During the weekend before Oath Monday, people pack the banks of the Danube to see 1,000 lit candles that are released to float down the river.

On Oath Monday, the city returns to the Danube for "Nabada", a carnivalesque water parade. "Nabada" is Swabian dialect and means "Hinunterbaden" (down-bathing) in High German because you bathe down in the river. Throughout the Nabada parade, prepare to get wet if you are too close to the shore, as many of the boats floating by have water guns and hoses. On a warm day, the kids can head down in bathing suits. And, yes, of course, there will be beer and wurst. If you want to join in, all you have to do is buy or make a raft and float down the Danube in the morning. Be ready to get wet!

Every fourth year, for hundreds of years, there has been a traditional battle on the river between the farmer and his wife, who wear traditional costumes. (Next battle is in 2017). Pick a side to cheer for and see which one ends up in the water first.

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

"Das Original französische Dorf – Le petit Paris" Festival (August): ("Das Original französische Dorf" means the original French village – "Le petit Paris" means little Paris in French) On the grounds of

Friedrichsau, Ulm pays tribute to all things French. A French town is erected, with a miniature Eiffel Tower and all, and you can enjoy French foods and wine. This is easy to reach via bike ride along the Danube.

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

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

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

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

In this area of Germany, many people let nature and the seasons dictate their food choices and patterns in a charming (and more environmentally friendly) manner that is lost in most modern industrialized nations. Foods that are available in the Fall will disappear overnight and will be replaced with the next season’s bounty. While this process is initially disappointing and a bit disorienting -- especially when you have found something you love -- you will quickly find yourself pleasantly anticipating the return of the seasonal foods, always fresh and ready to eat at the peak of their natural growing cycles. Their absence during the rest of the year truly enhances enjoyment of them when they return. A strawberry that does not taste like a strawberry will never be the same.

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

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

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

August/September: **Pumpkin and apples** dominate the markets, as do **“Johanisbeeren”**, which are small bright red, very tart berries used for sauces and marmalades and Plums “Zwetchgen” which are made into cakes.

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

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

December: Ah, all of the X-mas food specialties are too plentiful to mention. **Waffles, cookies, marzipan, Xmas chocolates, etc. Oh, and “Glühwein” (hot spiced wine)** is everywhere. For the kids and as a non-alcoholic treat, try hot “**Kinderpunsch**”, which is also very good. Local favorites for the holidays also include **Lebkuchen, Spekulatius, and Stollen**. Give them all a try!

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

### **8.1-5 Parks, Green Spaces and Other Outdoor Fun**

### ***Where do I go for outdoor playtime?***

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **8.1-6 Indoor Family Activities**

### ***What do we do locally on those rainy days?***

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

#### **a. Culture and Art**

Unless otherwise indicated, all information for locations, opening hours and ticket prices can be found at [www.ulm.de](http://www.ulm.de)

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **b. Family Fun**

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

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

Ceramic Painting: For an afternoon of ceramic painting, contact [www.atelierkeramik.de](http://www.atelierkeramik.de) Wileystrasse 21, Neu-Ulm, 89231, Tel. 0731-8-24

Kreativraum Courses for children, holiday crafts, etc. Contact Cordula Krusche, Jörg-Stocker-Weg 21, 89081 Ulm, Mobil 0175 20 200 26 [info@kreativraum-ulm.de](mailto:info@kreativraum-ulm.de) [www.kreativraum-ulm.de](http://www.kreativraum-ulm.de)

Movie Theaters: See Section 9 for a listing of local movie theaters. The Xinedome theater in Ulm will occasionally show “OV” movies, ie, Original Version, which means that they will be in English if originally filmed in English. Go to [www.xinedome.de](http://www.xinedome.de) and look at Special Events. OV movies will usually run for a very short time and only for a few select movies. When you are really desperate, there is an English movie theater in Stuttgart near the army base, listed below in the Baden-Württemberg section.

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

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



## 8.2 Exploring Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria

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

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

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

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

Stuttgart: [www.stuttgart-tourist.de](http://www.stuttgart-tourist.de)

Munich: [www.muenchen.de](http://www.muenchen.de)

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

#### 8.2-2 The Romantic Road

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

Würzburg ([www.wuerzburg.de](http://www.wuerzburg.de))

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

Tauberbischofsheim ([www.tauberbischofsheim.de](http://www.tauberbischofsheim.de))

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

Lauda-Königshofen ([www.lauda-koenigshofen.de](http://www.lauda-koenigshofen.de))

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

Wickersheim ([www.wickersheim.de](http://www.wickersheim.de))

Renaissance palaces with Versailles style gardens; health resort town.

Creglingen [www.creglingen.de](http://www.creglingen.de)

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

Schillingfürst ([www.schillingfuerst.de](http://www.schillingfuerst.de))

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

Dinkelsbühl [www.dinkelsbuehl.de](http://www.dinkelsbuehl.de)

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

Nördlingen In Reis ([www.noerdlingen.de](http://www.noerdlingen.de))

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

Donauwörth ([www.donauwoerth.de](http://www.donauwoerth.de))

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

Friedberg ([www.friedberg.de](http://www.friedberg.de))

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

Hohenfurch ([www.hohenfurch.de](http://www.hohenfurch.de))

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

Peiting ([www.peiting.de](http://www.peiting.de))

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

Wildsteig ([www.wildsteig.de](http://www.wildsteig.de))

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

Halblech ([www.halblech.de](http://www.halblech.de))

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

Füssen ([www.fuessen.de](http://www.fuessen.de))

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

Bad Mergentheim ([www.bad-mergentheim.de](http://www.bad-mergentheim.de))

Spa town; see Castle of the Teutonic Order

Röttingen ([www.roettingen.de](http://www.roettingen.de))

Röttingen Festival in summer; romantic town in lower Franconia.

Rothenberg ob der Tauber ([www.rothenberg.de](http://www.rothenberg.de))

Famous Christmas town and market; preserved medieval town. There is a medieval festival each year around August.

Feuchtwangen ([www.feuchtwangen.de](http://www.feuchtwangen.de))

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

Wallerstein ([www.wallerstein.de](http://www.wallerstein.de))

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

Harburg ([www.harburg.de](http://www.harburg.de))

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

Augsburg ([www.augsburg.de](http://www.augsburg.de))

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

Landsberg am Lech ([www.landsberg.de](http://www.landsberg.de))

Founded by Henry the Lion 700 years ago; look for dominant „Schmalz“ tower.

Schongau ([www.schongau.de](http://www.schongau.de))

Medieval walls, gateways and towers demonstrate its Bavarian fortress history.

Rottenbuch ([www.rottenbuch.de](http://www.rottenbuch.de))

Health resort town in the beautiful Ammer valley; see Maria Geburt convent church.

Steingaden ([www.steingaden.de](http://www.steingaden.de))

Subalpine countryside is a hiker's paradise; world famous pilgrimage church.

Schwangau ([www.schwangau.de](http://www.schwangau.de))

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

Zugspitze. ([www.zugspitze.de](http://www.zugspitze.de))

Germany's highest mountain at 2964 meters; take train up the mountain and see mountain peaks of Germany, Austria, Italy and Switzerland.

### **8.2-3 The Bodensee (Lake Constance) [www.bodensee-info.com](http://www.bodensee-info.com)**

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

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

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

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

[www.bregenz.at](http://www.bregenz.at)

This city is famous for 2 things.

- The cable car (Pfander) that takes you up to the mountains in the Austrian Alps and provide an amazing view on the way up and down. Once up there you can visit a mountain zoo, have a meal at any of the restaurants with a view or go for walks on the many trails.

- The music festival, which is held from end July to end August. The highlight of this festival is the Opera on the lake. An amazing set is built up each year to host this outdoor opera and famous operas like The Enchanted Flute are staged each year for a month. Special ferrys are available, from various cities around the lake, during the opera period to take you to and forth the show. Be sure to book early!

[www.bregenzfestspiele.com/en](http://www.bregenzfestspiele.com/en)

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

## **8.3 Other Cities and Towns in Germany**

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

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

**Public Transportation:** Germany has a great train system (Deutsche Bahn) that is easy to use. You can go to [www.db.de](http://www.db.de) and reserve the English version of the website in your favorites. Once you familiarize yourself with the website, you can book tickets and reserve seats on-line and print the tickets from your home computer. Look into getting a yearly DB25 or DB50 card that will get you all of your tickets 25% or 50% reduced, respectively, and allow your children under age 14 to travel for free. If both spouses purchase the DB card, the second spouse's card is cheaper. If the working spouse travels frequently for work, you may be able to get your company to pay for the card. There is also a card that allows unlimited riding for a year, but it is expensive. When possible, it is wise to reserve

seats. You can get seats around a table or in a semi-private compartment. If you miss your train, your tickets are usually good for subsequent trains, but your reserved seats will no longer be available. Many trains have a Bord-Bistro where you can get food and drinks.

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

### **8.3-2 Festivals and Seasonal Markets outside of Ulm**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### **a. Museums**

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

## **Museums in or near Stuttgart**

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

### “Museum am Löwentor”

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

### “Württembergisches Landesmuseum Stuttgart“ (Altes Schloß Museum)

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

### “Staatsgalerie” (State Art Gallery)

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

### Mercedes Benz Museum

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

### Tour of Mercedes Benz Factory

Tel: (07031) 902447 (07031) 902620

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

### Porsche Museum

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

### Museum for Volkskultur in Wurttemberg

Schloß Waldenbuch, Waldenbuch. Tel: (07157) 8204. Open: Tues. – Sat. 10:00 – 17:00. Sundays 10:00 – 18:00. Admission is free. Go back in time to experience life in 17th century. Tools, furniture - complete rooms set up the way it was then. One room is set up to show a typical store.

### Urweltmuseum Hauff [www.urweltmuseum.de/Englisch/Frameseite\\_eng.htm](http://www.urweltmuseum.de/Englisch/Frameseite_eng.htm)

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

## **Museums in or near Munich**

Unless otherwise indicated, information regarding these museums can be found at [www.muenchen.de](http://www.muenchen.de). This is not a complete list of Munich’s museums.

### Deutsches Museum

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

### BMW Museum and BMW World [www.bmw-welt.com](http://www.bmw-welt.com)

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

### Bavarian Film Studios

Visit the worlds of Caberet, Never Ending Story and Das Boot, which were all filmed in this studio.

Learn about special effects and other filming techniques.

### **Other Museums in the Greater Ulm Area**

Die Welt Von Steiff [www.steiff.de](http://www.steiff.de) Tel. 07322/131-1

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

„Hohenloher Freilandmuseum Wackershofen“

[www.schaebischhall.de/en/culture/hohenloher-freilandmuseum.html](http://www.schaebischhall.de/en/culture/hohenloher-freilandmuseum.html)

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

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

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

„Deutsches Automuseum“ (German Car Museum)

[www.deutsches-automuseum.de](http://www.deutsches-automuseum.de)

Schloß Langenburg Tel: (07905) 1041

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

„Pfahlbau Museum“ of Unteruhldingen (Bodensee)

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

„Schwäbisches-Allemanisches Fastnachtsmuseum“ (Narren (Fool's) Costume Museum)

[www.narenschopf.de/Ausstellungen/English/english.html](http://www.narenschopf.de/Ausstellungen/English/english.html)

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

„Sinnwelt Museum“ (Senses World) (Biberach)

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

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

### **b. Planetariums**

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

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

Laupheim Planetarium

[www.planetarium-laupheim.de](http://www.planetarium-laupheim.de)

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

### **c. Castles / Schlösser**

Ludwigsburg Palace & Gardens

[www.schloss-ludwigsburg.de](http://www.schloss-ludwigsburg.de)

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

Schloss Solitude

[www.schloss-solitude.de](http://www.schloss-solitude.de)

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

Schloss Lichtenstein

[www.schloss-lichtenstein.de](http://www.schloss-lichtenstein.de)

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

Burg Hohenzollern

[www.preusse.de/en/today/burg\\_hohenzollern.html](http://www.preusse.de/en/today/burg_hohenzollern.html)

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

Linderhof Castle (One of King Ludwig’s Castles)

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

Linderhof Palace is situated in the Graswang Valley, near the village of Ettal. The only palace King Ludwig II lived to see completed, the gardens are extensive and are worth a visit.

Neuschwanstein Castle (Inspired the Disney Castle)

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

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

Hohenschwangau Castle (Across from Neuschwanstein)

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

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

#### **d. Additional Parks and Playgrounds**

Hohenpark Killesberg (Stuttgart)

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

Waldheim

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

#### **e. Zoos and Wildlife Parks**

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

Wilhelma Zoo (Stuttgart)

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

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

Aidlingen Pony Hof

[www.ponyhof-gechingen.de](http://www.ponyhof-gechingen.de)

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

Wildpark Pforzheim

[www.stadt-pforzheim.de](http://www.stadt-pforzheim.de)

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

Allensbach Wildpark (Bodensee)

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

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

Affenberg (Bodensee)

[www.affenberg.com](http://www.affenberg.com)

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

Tierpark Hellabrunn (Munich)

[www.tierpark-hellabrunn.de](http://www.tierpark-hellabrunn.de)

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

SeaLife Konstanz

[www.sealifeeurope.com](http://www.sealifeeurope.com)

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

Alpakahof

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

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

#### **f. Amusement and Adventure Parks**

You can go to [www.germany-tourism.de](http://www.germany-tourism.de) and click on "Theme Parks" for a list of all of the amusement and adventures parks in Germany. We have also listed some of the closer parks in the area for your reference.

Legoland

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

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

Conny Land

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

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



### Tripssdrill Erlebnis Park

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

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

### Europa Park

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

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

### Spieleland Ravensburger

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

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

## **g. Boats and River Cruises**

### Rhine River Cruises

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

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

### Neckar River Cruises

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

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

## **h. Ski Areas**

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

### **Day and Weekend Ski Resort Recommendations**

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

#### **Unterjoch:**

Speiserlifte  
Tel: 08324 7223  
Sonnenhanglift  
Tel: 08324 8081

#### **Obersdorf:**

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

#### **Balderschwang:**

Riedberger Horn  
Tel: 8326 7773  
Hochschelpen  
Tel: 8326 7773

## **Longer Ski Vacation Recommendations**

Flauchau Ski Area

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

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

Kumbichl Hotel

Mayrhofen Austria Tel: (0043) 528562371

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

Hotel Gruner Baum

Bad Gastein, Austria Tel: (0043) 643425160

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

Alpenrose

Berwang Austria Tel: (0043) 56732424

[www.diekinderhotels.com](http://www.diekinderhotels.com). 2-3 hour drive from Stuttgart area. Highly recommended for families.

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

### **i. Miscellaneous Family Leisure Activities**

Robinswood Kletterwald (Rope Course and Climbing in the Forest)

[www.robins-wood.de](http://www.robins-wood.de) 0173 89 70 349 Rope climbing/courses in the trees for the whole family. Near Schloss Scherneck in Scherneck.

Alpsee Coaster

[www.alpsee-bergwelt.de/en](http://www.alpsee-bergwelt.de/en)

Ratholz 24, Immenstadt

Tel: 08325 252

The Alpsee coaster, only an hour from Ulm, is Germany's largest year round toboggan run and operates in virtually every kind of weather. Even at night! At a length of nearly 3000m it consists of 68 curves, 23 waves, 7 jumps and 4 bridges! The speed can be individually controlled by each rider and rides last between 5 to 10 minutes. This ride is open to children from the ages of 3, if riding with someone aged 14 and above, and solo riders have to be aged 8 and upwards and measure at least 1m40 in height.

Bobbahn Donnstetten

[www.bobbahn-donnstetten.de](http://www.bobbahn-donnstetten.de)

Böhringen Strasse 12 D-72587 Römerstrein

Summer and winter tobogganing. There are also bungee trampolines and a ski-lift available.

Busalp Toboggan Run (Switzerland)

Jungfrau region of Switzerland. An 8.2 km toboggan run from Busalp to Grindelwald. Catch the bus in

Grindelwald to Busalp. There is one each hour, at 9:25, 10:25, and so on. Load your sled on the back and ride the bus to the mountain top, then sled for 15 minutes down again. It is possible to go as fast or as slow as you like, so it is good for young children.

Dream Bowl Bowling Lanes (Stuttgart)

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

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

## 8.4 Planning Your European Vacations

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

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

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

[www.visiteurope.com](http://www.visiteurope.com)  
[www.austria-tourism.at](http://www.austria-tourism.at)  
[www.germany-tourism.de](http://www.germany-tourism.de)  
[www.italiantourism.com](http://www.italiantourism.com)  
[www.franceguide.com](http://www.franceguide.com)  
[www.visitsweden.com](http://www.visitsweden.com)  
[www.spain.info](http://www.spain.info)  
[www.visitscotland.com](http://www.visitscotland.com)  
[www.czech.cz](http://www.czech.cz)  
[www.polandtour.org](http://www.polandtour.org)

[www.switzerland.com](http://www.switzerland.com)  
[www.greecetourism.com](http://www.greecetourism.com)  
[www.us.holland.com](http://www.us.holland.com)  
[www.visitdenmark.com](http://www.visitdenmark.com)  
[www.visitfinland.com](http://www.visitfinland.com)  
[www.discoverireland.com](http://www.discoverireland.com)  
[www.visitbritain.com](http://www.visitbritain.com)  
[www.hungarytourism.hu](http://www.hungarytourism.hu)  
[www.serbiatourism.org](http://www.serbiatourism.org)

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

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

Stuttgart Airport  
[www.flughafen-stuttgart.de](http://www.flughafen-stuttgart.de)

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

Munich Airport  
[www.munichairport.de](http://www.munichairport.de)

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

Memmingen Airport  
[www.allgau-airport.de](http://www.allgau-airport.de)

Memmingen airport is about a 35 minute drive from Ulm. This is a very small airport with limited travel routes but discount fares are often available.

Frankfurt International Airport

[www.frankfurt-airport.de](http://www.frankfurt-airport.de)

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

Zurich, Switzerland Airport

[www.zurich-airport.com](http://www.zurich-airport.com)

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

Friedrichshafen Airport

[www.fly-away.de](http://www.fly-away.de)

Small airport; Ryan Air flights and a direct train connection from Ulm.

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

German Wings [www.germanwings.de](http://www.germanwings.de) This is the Southwest airlines of Germany; no seat assignments, so get there early to check in.

TuiFly [www.tuifly.de](http://www.tuifly.de) You can get great deals to remote locations, but flight days will be limited.

Ryan Air [www.ryanair.com](http://www.ryanair.com) Discount flights flying out of Friedrichshafen airport.

Air Berlin [www.airberlin.com](http://www.airberlin.com) Discount airline flying to many vacation destinations; look for last minute deals.

Lufthansa [www.lufthansa.de](http://www.lufthansa.de) Major airline related to United Airlines, but often has deals and best flight times and routes.

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

[www.dohop.com](http://www.dohop.com)[www.skyscanner.com](http://www.skyscanner.com)

[www.skylow.com](http://www.skylow.com)

[www.gooflight.com](http://www.gooflight.com)

[www.cheapflights.com](http://www.cheapflights.com)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Homelidays [www.homelidays.com](http://www.homelidays.com) Great European network; must register to use; system allows for lessor and lessee to rate the other.

VacationRentals [www.vacationrentals.com](http://www.vacationrentals.com) Another user friendly system for owner rentals.

[www.ItalyPerfect.com](http://www.ItalyPerfect.com)

[www.ParisPerfect.com](http://www.ParisPerfect.com)

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

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

ExcellentEurope [www.ExcellentEurope.com](http://www.ExcellentEurope.com) Great network of Italian rentals.

CanalApartments [www.canalapartments.com](http://www.canalapartments.com) Nice selection of canal apartments in Amsterdam.

[www.holidaysrentals.co.uk](http://www.holidaysrentals.co.uk) Can be used for UK based rentals; prices in pound usually too high for non-UK rentals

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

[www.tripadvisor.com](http://www.tripadvisor.com)

[www.expedia.com](http://www.expedia.com)

[www.orbitz.com](http://www.orbitz.com)

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

[www.luxury-alliance.com](http://www.luxury-alliance.com)

[www.epoquehotels.com](http://www.epoquehotels.com)

[www.boutiquehotelsandresorts.com](http://www.boutiquehotelsandresorts.com)

[www.lhw.com](http://www.lhw.com)

[www.slh.com](http://www.slh.com)

[www.smallelegant-hotels.com](http://www.smallelegant-hotels.com)

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

[www.castleandpalacehotels.com](http://www.castleandpalacehotels.com)  
[www.reidsguides.com](http://www.reidsguides.com)

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

[www.diekinderhotels.com](http://www.diekinderhotels.com)  
[www.MySwitzerland.com](http://www.MySwitzerland.com)

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

[www.europebandb.com](http://www.europebandb.com)  
[www.bedandbreakfast.com/europe.html](http://www.bedandbreakfast.com/europe.html)  
[www.ibbp.com/europe.html](http://www.ibbp.com/europe.html)  
[www.bedandbreakfast.net/europe.asp](http://www.bedandbreakfast.net/europe.asp)  
[www.europeandrelax.com](http://www.europeandrelax.com)

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

[www.luxuryresorts.com](http://www.luxuryresorts.com)  
[www.saniresorts.gr](http://www.saniresorts.gr)  
[www.dertour.co.uk](http://www.dertour.co.uk)

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

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

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

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

[www.timeforkids.com](http://www.timeforkids.com)  
[www.kidseurope.com](http://www.kidseurope.com) They have great kids activity books for Italy and Great Britain you can order, print out and take with you.  
[www.initaly.com/regions/kidsintro.htm](http://www.initaly.com/regions/kidsintro.htm)  
[www.lifeinitaly.com/travel/italy-with-children.asp](http://www.lifeinitaly.com/travel/italy-with-children.asp)  
[www.greece4kids.com](http://www.greece4kids.com) This website was written by an 8-year old. Great for your kids to explore.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **Section 9: Entertainment**

### **9.1 DVDs**

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

### **9.2 Cinemas**

Kino Lichtburg  
Frauenstrasse 61  
Tel: 0731 65400

Mephisto  
Rosengasse 15  
Tel: 0731 6021218

Obscura Filmkunst im Roxy  
Schillerstrasse 1  
Tel: 0731 6022858

Xinedome  
Am Lederhof 1  
Tel: 0731 140200

Dietrich Theater  
Marlene-Dietrich Strasse 11  
Tel: 0731 9855598

## Section 10: Learning German

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

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

### **Berlitz**

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

Münsterplatz 6, Ulm

Tel. 0731/1762520

### **inlingua**

Neue Strasse 72, Ulm

Tel. 0731-6 25 25

e-mail: [inlingua-ulm@t-online.de](mailto:inlingua-ulm@t-online.de)

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

Ulmer Volkshochschule

EinsteinHaus

Kornhausplatz 5 89073 Ulm

Tel: 0731 1530-0

[info@vh.ulm.de](mailto:info@vh.ulm.de)

[www.vh.ulm.de](http://www.vh.ulm.de)

## Section 11: Reading Material

### 11.1 Books in English

#### **Gondron**

Hirschstrasse 12 89073 Ulm

tel. 0731/1449-0

[www.ulm@gondrom.de](mailto:www.ulm@gondrom.de)

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

Good selection of English books. Fast ordering service.

#### **Hugendubel**

Hirschstrasse 26-30 89073 Ulm

Tel. 01801/484 484

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

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

#### **Treffpunkt Buch** in Bahnhof (Train Station)

Small selection of English books. Hours: M-Sat. 7:30 - 20:30, Sun. 9:00 - 20:30

[www.Amazon.de](http://www.Amazon.de) and [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk)

[www.Play.com](http://www.Play.com) Books DVDS etc., delivery is free.



## 11.2 Newspapers and Magazines in English and Other Languages

The Internationale Press Bookstore in the Bahnhof in Ulm has international papers and magazines.  
Store hours: Mon to Friday 5:00 - 21:00 Saturday 6:00 - 21:00 Sunday 6:30 - 21:00  
Subscriptions can be arranged to the following:

### HERALD TRIBUNE

International newspaper in English with local country paper in English as well. Published Monday-Saturday  
Tel: (0130) 848585 Fax: (069) 971-26311

### THE EUROPEAN

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

### USA TODAY & NEWSWEEK

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

### STARS AND STRIPES

Published by the US military Tel: (0130) 840048

## Section 12: Services for Drivers

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

Ulm - Head Office

Neue Str. 40 Ulm

Tel: (0731) 962 10 - 0

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

Fahrerlaubnis (Driving licence)

Bürgerdienste

Sattlergasse 2 Ulm

Tel: (0731) 161 – 3226

Kfz Zulassung (Vehicle registration)

Bürgerdienste

Sattlergasse 2 Ulm

Tel: (0731) 161 – 3228

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

Schilder-Point (licence plates)

Sattlergasse 8

Tel: (0731) 403 7150

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

Kantstrasse 8

89231 Neu-Ulm

Tel: 0731 7040503 [www.landkreis.neu-ulm.de](http://www.landkreis.neu-ulm.de)

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

Autowerkstatt (Car Repairs)

Autohaus Hagemann

Einsteinstr. 41 89077 Ulm (Söflingen)

Tel: (0731) 384715

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

Auto Dienst (Car Services / Repairs)

Schmid Günter

Herrlinger Strasse 58

Tel: 0731 384044

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

#### Car rental agencies

Which one to take is a question of taste, and the widely distributed ones with offices in Ulm are AVIS, Europcar, Hertz, National and Sixt. There is a local car rental agency in Neu-Ulm called Buchbinder which also rents vans and moving vans. We have positive experience with:-

National - Pickup Location  
Mähringer Weg 43 89075 Ulm  
Tel: (0731) 954 700

## 12.2 General Driving Information from A - Z

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Parking:** For street parking you will often have to use the parking disc (Parkscheibe) to show your arrival time, and time may be limited to 30 or 60 minutes. Parking ticket machines (Parkscheinautomaten) are now commonly used for curbside parking as well. Watch your time and do not overstay your time limit. Parking controllers are frequent in the city. Fees at parking garages are paid at machines which are generally near the exit doors; don't forget to pay before you go back to your vehicle.

#### Rules for driving (some important ones):

- Right turn at a red light is not permitted unless there is a green arrow pointing right attached to the light, but you must still first stop at the line before you go.
- Overtaking or passing is allowed only on the left, even on multiple lane streets.
- City buses and trams always have the right of way. As do cyclists and pedestrians – very often stepping out in front of you without so much as a glance, so be watchful.

- A gold diamond sign indicates a priority road, and traffic facing the gold/yellow diamond has right-of way.
- When there are no priority road signs you must give priority to the car to your right. Yield to the car on your right, even if they may be on a smaller road. (unless they have a “stop line”)
- Stop for anyone using a white-striped zebra pedestrian crossing.
- You'll find stop signs, but no 3-, 4-, or all-way stop signs. If at an intersection is no sign, vehicles coming from the right have right of way!
- When approaching a motorway traffic jam, it is recommended to turn on the hazard warning lights.
- “Bei Nässe” under a speed limit sign means travel below this speed when the road is wet.
- “Anlieger frei” means the road is open only to residents.
- In a traffic circle, signal right only when you are approaching your exit.

**Seatbelts:** The use of seatbelts is mandatory in front and rear, and carseats are required for babies and children.

**Speed limits:** are the following unless otherwise posted:

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

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

**Tolls:** There are no tolls to pay on German Autobahns, but you must buy a sticker “Vignette” to travel on the freeways in Austria, Switzerland, and some other European countries. These can be purchased at ADAC or at a service station near the German border.

Website for some good information: [www.howtogermy.com/pages/driving.html](http://www.howtogermy.com/pages/driving.html)

## Section 13: Conversion Charts and Useful Information

### 13.1 Speed

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

### 13.2 Temperatures

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

### 13.3 Lengths

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

### 13.4 Weights

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

### 13.5 Fluid Volume

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

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

### 13.6 Oven Temperatures

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

### 13.7 Electrical Current

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

## 13.8 Clothing Sizes

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Section 14: Useful Websites

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

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

[www.coyotecom.com](http://www.coyotecom.com)

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

[www.gogermany.about.com](http://www.gogermany.about.com)

Helpful travel info.

[www.mapblast.com](http://www.mapblast.com)

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

[www.eurolloyd.de/lastminute](http://www.eurolloyd.de/lastminute)

Last minute vacations.

[www.travel-finder.com](http://www.travel-finder.com)

A search engine dedicated to travel related sites

[www.german-castles-road.com](http://www.german-castles-road.com)

A list of royal hotels throughout Southern Germany

[www.dict.leo.org](http://www.dict.leo.org)

Online German/English dictionary

[www.hemispheresmagazine.com](http://www.hemispheresmagazine.com)

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

[www.travelwithyourkids.com](http://www.travelwithyourkids.com)

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

[www.munich-tourist.de/english/m.htm](http://www.munich-tourist.de/english/m.htm)

For planning a trip to Munich.

[www.howtogermaany.com](http://www.howtogermaany.com)

Helpful hints about moving to Germany.

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

Order English books and merchandise.

[www.countrycallingcodes.com](http://www.countrycallingcodes.com)

Telephone dialing instructions from any country to any other country.

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

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