



LEADERSHIP, INCLUSIVENESS, SERVICE and TEAMWORK

Welcome to Schweinfurt! We're very proud of our community and we're sure you'll find your new home very comfortable. We think you'll find it a great place to live, work and enjoy.

We understand that transitioning to a new community, especially overseas, can be very difficult and confusing. However, we have a team here, ready to assist you with your needs and to make your transition as smooth as possible.

Schweinfurt is a highly deployable community and we are committed to providing you with all the resources necessary to not only make your transition to Schweinfurt as smooth as possible, but also to make your tour here as easy and normal as possible. We have many great organizations, programs and facilities to fit your needs. We hope you'll take full use of these resources to make your home away from home an enjoyable and exciting place to live.

One of the best ways to meet new people, learn new skills and get connected with the community is to find a field that interests you and volunteer with that organization. Volunteers are the backbone of our community, and we'd be grateful to have you as part of the team.

The community values that we live by everyday are Leadership, Inclusiveness, Service and Teamwork. We strive to uphold these values in everything we do, and we make it our goal to have the Schweinfurt Garrison Community user friendly and inviting to everyone.

You can learn more about the Schweinfurt Military Community by visiting our website, <http://www.teamschweinfurt.com> as well as the "Schweinfurt Army Garrison" Facebook page. Both of these resources are great ways to learn about the community and be fully informed about the most up-to-date events and exciting changes.

Again, welcome to your new home. We're glad you're here, and we hope you'll make this experience one you'll never forget.



Garrison Command Sergeant Major
CSM Eric Gordon



Garrison Commander
LTC Michael Runey



Garrison Deputy Commander
Mr. Kevin Griese

- 4 WWW.TEAMSCHWEINFURT.COM AND [FACEBOOK](#)
- 5 WWW.TEAMSCHWEINFURT.COM RESOURCES
- 6 NEWCOMER RESOURCES
- 7 SURROUNDING REGION
- 8 HISTORY OF SCHWEINFURT
- 9 WEATHER AND ECONOMY
- 10 [BEFORE MOVING TO SCHWEINFURT](#)
- 11 [PLANNING AND PACKING](#)
- 12 [60 DAYS OUT CHECKLIST](#)
- 13 [SHIPPING YOUR GOODS TO GERMANY](#)
- 14 [VETERINARY TREATMENT FACILITY](#)
- 15 [ARRIVAL TO FRANKFURT AND SCHWEINFURT](#)
- 16 [HOUSING](#)
- 22 TRANSFORMERS
- 23 [FURNITURE AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS](#)
- 24 [SCHOOLS](#)
- 25 [SCHOOL REGISTRATION](#)
- 26 [SCHOOL DRESS CODE](#)
- 27 [RELOCATION ASSISTANCE](#)
- 28 [EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM](#) and
WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN
- 29 PHONE AND INTERNET
- 31 [DRIVERS LICENSE](#)
- 32 LEARNING THE EURO
- 33 VEHICLE INFORMATION
- 34 PLANES AND TRAINS
- 35 CONVERSION CHARTS
- 36 [VALUE ADDED TAX RELIEF \(VAT\) FORM](#)
- 37 FINANCIAL SERVICES



Welcome!

WWW.TEAMSCHWEINFURT.COM and [FACEBOOK](https://www.facebook.com/SchweinfurtArmyGarrison)



1,000+ Resources combined into ONE location

www.teamschweinfurt.com

For all resources check out the Schweinfurt A-Z page

Before moving to Schweinfurt be sure to thoroughly research two great resources.

The Schweinfurt Community website can simply be found at www.teamschweinfurt.com. This website has all the connections to the units and organizations around the community. Everything from the [Moving to Schweinfurt page](#) for newcomers to the [JOLT Weekly](#) update for all volunteer and paid job listings around the community are listed on this site.

The main page of www.teamschweinfurt.com has icons for [Job listings](#), the [Community Calendar](#), [Schweinfurt A-Z links](#), [Facebook](#) and even [Flickr](#). This very easy to use resource was made for you and developed by Soldiers and Civilians like you.



The age of social media has encompassed the world and the Schweinfurt Community is no different. The [Schweinfurt Army Garrison Facebook page](#) is the Garrison's way of communicating with the you and your way of communicating with the Garrison. We want to know what is going right and what needs to be fixed. Everyday people from around the community log on to the Schweinfurt Army Garrison Facebook

page to ask questions about the status of changes in the community, provide recommendations for how to better the community, and find goods or resources within the local area. Click on the "like" button to see postings & post comments/ questions yourself. With a couple thousand friends on the Schweinfurt Army Garrison Facebook page, you'll always find someone to answer your question or point you the right direction.

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WEB SITES

<http://www.teamschweinfurt.com> (USAG Schweinfurt home page, links to all organizations through Schweinfurt A-Z listing)

www.move.mil (US military relocation assistance)

www.planmymove.org Military Homefront relocation site

www.schweinfurt.de (Schweinfurt city's website, click "Interaktiver Stadtplan" for the city street map.)

www.schweinfurter-land.com (Schweinfurt Regional website with information on museums, recreation, bike trails, camping, etc. Mostly in German, but you will find an English summary if you click on "Die Region".)

www.germany-tourism.de (The German National Tourist Board official English language website, with links to travel and recreation attractions all across the country.)

PRINTED MATERIAL AVAILABLE FROM SCHWEINFURT ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICES

ACS Class Calendar: A calendar full of classes and activities open to you.

Flea Market Guide: A monthly guide of locations and times.

Schweinfurt City Bus Guide A guide of times and locations for the city bus.

Schweinfurt Community Phone Directory: On-post phone numbers.



Area Events: A monthly schedule of local beer fests, wine fests, markets, concerts and carnivals.

Things to Do, Places to Go: A guide to historic and entertainment attractions within an easy drive of Schweinfurt.

Activities and Events around Schweinfurt: A guide to local parks, museums, sport facilities and other attractions.

Lakes and Castles: A guide to lakes and castles around Germany.

The JOLT Weekly local job listings located on www.teamschweinfurt.com

Operation Self-Reliance Handbook, the "Smart Book"
A self-help guide to assist you around the community.





Map of Europe

The Schweinfurt Community is located in Germany within Central Europe. From here, many other countries, capitols and points of interest are easily reachable within a half days drive.

Germany is comprised of sixteen states. Schweinfurt is located within the Lower Franconian Region of the State of Bavaria in South Eastern Germany.

Bavaria is a beautiful state with picturesque views and enjoyable cities such as Munich, Nuernberg, Wuerzburg, Bamberg, and

the traditional city of Rothenburg ob Der Tauber. Many castles, the Romantic road, and even part of the Alps are located within the State of Bavaria.



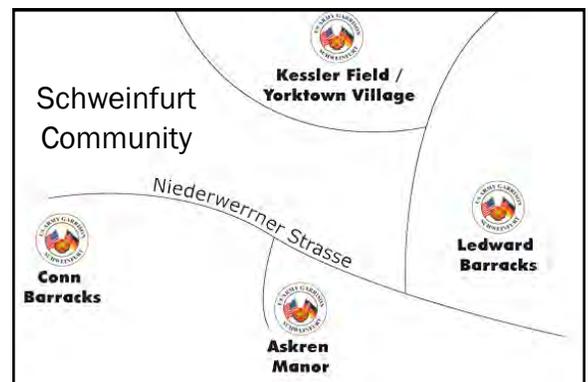
Map of all 16 states in Germany



Map of the German state of Bavaria with the Franconian Military Community highlighted

The Garrison Community is located on the Western Edge of the City of Schweinfurt. Four main posts or "kaserns" make up the Garrison Community. Each kasern is within short driving, biking or walking distance of each other as well as many off post living quarters. Of the four kasernes, Conn Barracks is the only kasern which is not located immediately within the city of Schweinfurt. The Schweinfurt Garrison is part of the Franconian Military Community with partner Garrisons in Bamberg and Ansbach.

DISTANCE				
	Askren Manor	Conn Barracks	Ledward Barracks	Yorktown Village / Kessler Field
Askren Manor		2.1 miles	0.6 miles	1.1 miles
Conn Barracks	2.1 miles		2.6 miles	2.7 miles
Ledward Barracks	0.6 miles	2.6 miles		0.4 miles
Yorktown Village / Kessler Field	1.1 miles	2.7 miles	0.4 miles	



Schweinfurt was first documented in 790, however the city really grew during the early part of the 13th century. This is when the city moved from the "old town" to its current location, and a city wall, towers, and city gates were built. Schweinfurt was completely destroyed during a land feud around 1250, and in 1282 King Rudolf I of Habsburg made Schweinfurt a free city within the Holy Roman Empire. Since this time, Schweinfurt's coat of arms has been of the imperial white eagle. The city joined Martin Luther's Reformation in 1542, but was destroyed during the Margravian War in 1554. During the thirty years war, Gustavus Adolphus erected fortifications which can still be seen today. Schweinfurt's Rathaus (City Hall) was constructed in 1572 and Leopoldina (the main city hospital) was created in 1652.



During the Napoleonic Wars of 1796-1801, Schweinfurt suffered heavy casualties and eventually lost its designation as a free imperial city in 1802. In 1814, the city became protected by the Kingdom of Bavaria under the control of the grand duke of Wurzburg.

In 1852 the first railway junction was opened and Schweinfurt became a world leader in the production of ball bearings. Philipp Fischer invented the peddle bicycle in Schweinfurt during 1853 and Friedrich Fischer invented a machine which further developed the ball bearing industry in 1883.



In 1939 Schweinfurt produced 90% of the ball-bearings in Nazi Germany, and these factories quickly became the target of the Allied powers. Attempting to cripple the Nazi war machine, Schweinfurt was bombed 22 times during Operation Pointblank between June 1943 and April 1944. This included the largest aerial bombardment ever attempted on 14 October 1943, known as "Black Thursday". This second raid on Schweinfurt had little to no effect on the war, and due to stockpiles of ball-bearings the Nazi war machine was able to continue on. More than one thousand German civilians were killed in the aerial raid and one-fourth of the American aircraft did not return to England. On 11 April 1945, the US 42nd Infantry Division entered Schweinfurt and held the city until the end of World War II. US Soldiers have continued to occupy Ledward and Conn Barracks since 1945. In 1946 the first free municipal elections were held since 1933.

The cities 1200th anniversary was held in 1991 and in 1998 German and American veterans and survivors of the bombing raids came together to dedicate a war memorial to their fallen comrades.



Today, Schweinfurt continues to grow as an industrial community. It has a lot to offer, including the George Schäfer Museum the "Stadtgalerie" mall and many other enjoyable attractions.

WEATHER

Located in the Lower Franconia region within the state of Bavaria, Schweinfurt is a city of approximately 54,000 people and spans approximately 14 sq. miles. Situated on the Main river it is surrounded by rolling hills, vast fields and green forests. Around the city the hills form a bowl shape which helps prevent harsh climates. The weather is usually of moderate temperature. During the summer, it rarely reaches above a hundred degrees and during the winter it rarely drops below freezing. Air conditioners are hard to come by in the summer months and fans are definitely necessary to help cool your home. During the main winter season, a small amount of snow will fall and cover the ground. While the ground may be covered with snow for two months, it often does not accumulate to more than 6 inches. However if you travel approximately one hour in any direction from Schweinfurt, you will often find that more snow has fallen and accumulated.



ECONOMY

Schweinfurt is an enjoyable city for shopping and browsing. Hundreds of stores line the downtown area with everything from clothing, house goods, and bike shops to antiques, sport shops and hobby shops.

Whatever the item is that you're looking for, you'll probably find it in downtown Schweinfurt.

In 2009 the first ever Schweinfurt city mall, the "Stadtgalerie" opened for business. Filled with shoppers six days a week, it holds many small stores and a variety of restaurants.



Schweinfurt has become a leading ball bearing and automotive parts manufacturing center. Six major companies employ a large percentage of the population while many other smaller companies produce everything from laminates to 3-D Imagery.



SPONSORSHIP

When planning your move, **one of the first things** you need to do is request a sponsor from your new unit. You can do this by signing in to the [EASI-Gate](#) (European Assignment/ Sponsorship Integrated Gateway) website and inputing your information. Your new unit will receive this information & assign you a sponsor who is best suited to fit your needs. Find the EASI-Gate website at <https://www.updb.hqsareur.army.mil>.

Once your sponsor receives the notification, they should contact you and assist you with your movement to Schweinfurt. Once you arrive, your sponsor should pick you up and assist you with your transition for at least two weeks.

In Schweinfurt we also have a [Spouse Sponsorship program](#) in which spouses or dependants can receive a sponsor from a community volunteer. This sponsorship will last approximately two weeks or until you feel comfortable enough to no longer need a sponsor. For questions about the Spouse Sponsorship program, please contact the [Schweinfurt Army Community Services](#) office or the [Sponsorship Officer](#) located on the TeamSchweinfurt website.

DOD civilians, contractors and military of other services should contact the gaining agency or USAG Schweinfurt ACS directly to request a sponsor.



DOCUMENTS TO HAND CARRY

Be sure to hand carry all critical paperwork with you during your trip.

This includes:

- 10 copies of your orders and amendments
- Shipping Documents
- Travel Information
- Passports
- DA 31 Leave form
- Birth and Marriage Certificates
- Powers of Attorney
- Bank Information
- Unit/Garrison phone numbers
- EFMP Paperwork (Can take up to 120 days so begin paperwork early)

*** Soldiers on orders do not need a passport to come to Europe. However everyone needs a tourist passport to travel around Europe. Dependents must have a No-Fee passport before coming to Europe.***

WHEN YOU'RE PLANNING...

When planning your move, it is highly encouraged that you DOCUMENT EVERYTHING being shipped. You should do this multiple ways. **FIRST**, you should write down each item by specific description and serial number if available. This should include if possible the company that made the item, the location, if possible, of where it was purchased and the approximate cost of the item. Be sure to separate your lists by the type of shipment on which it was sent, for example unaccompanied baggage. **SECOND**, you should take pictures of everything. You don't necessarily need a hard copy of the picture, but be sure to have at least a **digital copy**. If something happens to your goods during the shipment, you want to be able to prove what you had and the condition that it was in.



Below are items allowed to bring and items not to bring to Germany.

ALLOWED

Linens/ Towels
 Bike
 Grill– No gas canisters
 Clothing
 Furniture (consider size)
 110-240v Computers
 Television, DVD players and Game systems
 Infant and Child equipment/ toys
 Clothes
 Curtains
 Bow and arrows

**NOT ALLOWED**

Major Appliances: Washer, Dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator, stove
 Liquids including hygiene items
 Wireless phones
 Firearms– including BB guns and Paintball guns (without an approved German Waffenbesitzkarte)
 Items for resale
 Alcoholic beverages
 Controlled drugs
 Medicines of ALL types
 Tobacco Products over 8 oz.
 Plants, seeds or soil
 Fireworks and explosives
 Ammunition
 "Pirated" DVDs, CDs and copyrighted items
 Meat, Cheese, Fish, Fruits, Nuts or Wheat

To help assist you with your move to Schweinfurt, we have created a list of things to think about and complete prior to departing for Schweinfurt. The items below are things which you should think about approximately 60 days from your departure date. This list cannot possibly include everything, but does include many of the main tasks to think about and consider.



Clearing current location

- Contact Army Community Services for relocation information
- Contact current Relocation/ Transition manager
- Inform landlord of your move
- Contact your transportation office
- Have your vehicle inspected for shipment
- Schedule vehicle for shipment
- Prepare house for clearing
- Schedule for housing inspection
- Seek financial assistance for budgeting requirements of relocation
- Research your relocation entitlements
- Notify current bank of relocation
- Ensure your current drivers license will not expire while in Germany
- Contact current Vet Clinic
- Contact Insurance Company
- Contact utility companies
- Contact Health Care providers at current location
- Prepare for a place to stay if you vacate your house before the day you fly.
- Prepare change of address at post office

Preparing for Schweinfurt

- Research www.teamschweinfurt.com, especially the Moving to Schweinfurt page and the A-Z list
- Begin planning for Child Care Services
- Contact Schweinfurt schools for enrollment
- Research housing options in Schweinfurt
- Contact Schweinfurt Housing office
- Research the Schweinfurt ACS loan closet
- Contact your new unit and/ or unit sponsor
- Stay in constant communication with unit sponsor
- Separate items to ship to Germany vs selling or keeping in the US
- Separate Unaccompanied baggage from Household goods
- Separate items you will hand carry to Schweinfurt
- Schedule for household goods pickup
- Contact Schweinfurt Vet Clinic with questions
- Have pets receive ISO microchip and Rabies test renewal if bringing to Germany
- Research helpful websites such as Military Homefront and Move.mil
- Contact Schweinfurt Health Clinic
- Research and begin studying for German drivers test
- Take photographs of household goods and prepare documentation
- Create a list of phone numbers you may need from both organizations at your current location and organizations in Schweinfurt.



WHEN YOU'RE PACKING...

When considering what to ship and what not to ship to Schweinfurt, the first thing to remember is size of living quarters. It is possible that quarters which you are used to may be larger than what is available in Schweinfurt. Be sure to check out the Schweinfurt housing site on www.teamschweinfurt.com when considering what you should pack.

You will not need to ship major appliances. Large kitchen items such as a refrigerator, range, washers and dryer will be provided to you when you arrive. However, consider whether or not to bring 110v appliances as these items could be ruined even with the use of transformers. **Temporary items such as kitchenware are available from the lending closet, but they are only available for your first 90 days.**



WHEN YOU'RE SHIPPING...

You will most likely be authorized three types of shipment. The first two types of shipment are your household goods and your unaccompanied baggage. The major difference between the two shipments is the weight limit and the amount of time which the shipment will take to arrive in Schweinfurt. Weight limits do vary based off of rank and number of dependents, and will range from 8,000 to 18,000 lbs.

Unaccompanied baggage is a Space Available shipment by air. This normally takes approximately 45 days from pickup to drop off. Normal Unaccompanied baggage items include clothing, bedding, equipment, or any items needed within the first few months of being in Germany. Soldiers are authorized 500 lbs plus 350 lbs for each dependent over the age of 12 and 175 lbs for each dependent under 12. **However, the total weight used for this shipment will be subtracted from the overall weight of the entire shipment.**

Household goods is a separate shipment which normally take 2-3 months as it is transported by sea. This shipment should include the remainder of the items you are shipping up to the total authorized weight limit.

Keep in mind that your shipments are based off WEIGHT and not a certain NUMBER of times your items are shipped. Thus you could have multiple shipments as long as the TOTAL amount of weight does not surpass your allotment. The US Government WILL pay for storage in the United States but NOT in Germany. So it may be better to place items in temporary storage in the United States until you find quarters in Germany and then decide whether or not to ship your large items.

Personally owned vehicle (POV) is your third type of authorized shipment. Be sure to talk with your current transportation office about any requirements in shipping your POV. The POV does not have to be converted to German specifications, however there will probably be requirements for shipment which your vehicle must meet. From the time of shipment, vehicles can take up to three months to arrive on post. A motorcycle or moped may be considered a POV as long as another vehicle is not being sent.

COMING TO EUROPE

Pets traveling to Germany from the US must have an ISO Standard Microchip (15 digits, 134.2 kHz). Pets must then be vaccinated for Rabies AF-TER having the ISO chip inserted. This rabies vaccine has to be at least 21 days old upon arrival in Germany. If you are coming from what the EU considers a 3rd world country (this includes Korea) you will need a FAVN test before coming to Germany. You need to register your pet with the Schweinfurt VTF within 2 weeks of arriving to avoid paying German dog taxes.



PCSing WITH YOUR PET

Pets' vaccines need to be kept up-to-date because valid vaccinations are a requirement for traveling to most countries. You will need a Health certificate within 10 days of flying, so please contact the VTF as soon as you know your flight date to schedule this appointment. Exotic animals and birds may require special permits, so allow at least six months to prepare them for travel.

PET PASSPORT

Blue Pet Passports are required for traveling in Germany and around other EU countries. EU passports can be issued by our VTF or by off-post Veterinarians. If your pet does not have an ISO chip, the pet will receive one and then the passport can be issued.



DANGEROUS DOGS

There are two classes of dangerous dogs. Each class has its own requirements.

Class I: These dogs are strictly prohibited in the State of Bavaria with no exceptions.

These include:

- American Staffordshire Bullterrier
- Bandog
- Staffordshire Bullterrier
- Bull Terrier Tosa-Inu
- Pit bull

Class II: These dogs are allowed in the State of Bavaria only with registration and temperament testing: These include:

- Alano
- American Bulldog
- Bullmastiff
- Dogo Argentino
- Dogue de Bordeaux
- Fila Brastiliero
- Mastiff
- Mastino Napoletano
- Mastino Espanol
- Dogo Canario (Pero de Presa Canario)
- Rottweiler
- Perro de Presa Mallorquin
- Cane Corso (Italian Mastiff/ Italian Corso Dog)

ARRIVAL TO FRANKFURT

All Soldiers moving to Germany must fly into Frankfurt International Airport (FRA). Only arrive in Frankfurt Monday through Friday. After you arrive at Frankfurt, ensure you look for uniformed Army personnel at the US Military's Frankfurt Gateway Reception Center (FGRC) and check in with them for further instructions.

In the event no Army official from the FGRC is present, report to the United Services Organization (USO) located outside of Concourse C of Terminal 1, or the front desk of the Sheraton Hotel, adjacent to Terminal 1.



Begin your journey at the FGRC at the Frankfurt Airport Sheraton Hotel.

Upon completion at the FGRC all Soldiers E-1 thru E-8, CW1 thru CW4 and O-1 through O-4 will be manifested and must ride the bus to Schweinfurt.

The bus ride from Frankfurt to Schweinfurt is approximately 2 hours.

NOTE: Once you check in at the FGRC, you no longer have the opportunity to take leave.

**FRANKFURT GATEWAY RECEPTION CENTER**

From the US 00149-6969-5973815 or 01149-6969-5973816

From DSN 344-6915 or 344-6916

- **Bus DEPARTS Frankfurt airport at 1100 and 1500**
- To be manifested on the bus, proceed to the **Aircrew Reception desk of the Frankfurt Airport Sheraton Hotel**, located across from **Terminal 1**, **between Departure Hall B and C**.

ARRIVAL TO SCHWEINFURT

Upon arrival to Schweinfurt you will be greeted at Building 40 on Conn Barracks by a member of the staff for the Central Processing Facility. After a 5-10 minute orientation, you will be released to your unit. Your unit is responsible for securing quarters for you, either in the Barracks or the Bradley Inn.

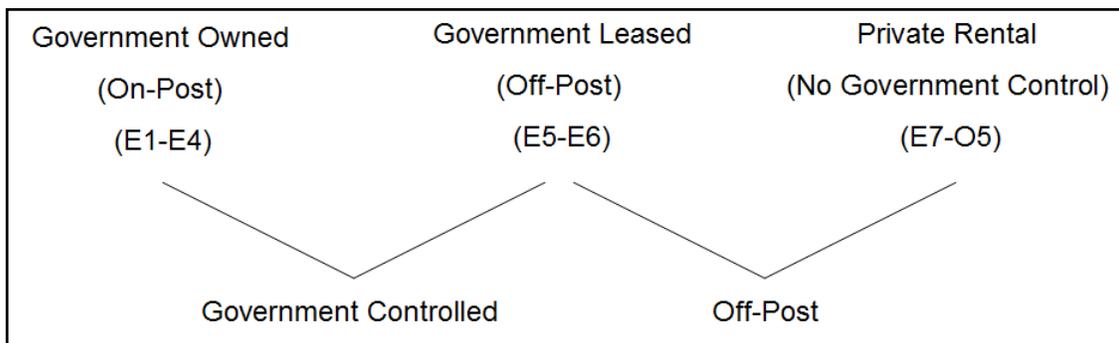
Hopefully when you arrive, a room is available for you immediately. When this happens, you are not charged any money for your stay at the Bradley Inn. However, if the Bradley Inn is full, you will be placed in an off-post hotel. **If this happens, you be charged for your length of stay.** Cost per night at an average hotel can be approximately 90 Euro. Most hotels bill you after 7-10 days. It is a good idea to set aside enough money to pay for this stay. After you pay for the hotel, you can go to finance and they will reimburse you for the hotel.

The next work day you will start in-processing your unit. You will be processing your DA31, updating your DD93 and SGLI. You will also in-process your mailroom and receive a box number.

The following work day you start in-processing at Building 40 on Conn Barracks, the In-processing Training Center. In-processing starts at 0715 in classroom #2 on the second floor. You will fill out a sizing sheet for Central Issue Facility (CIF). You will complete enrollments forms for TRICARE and the Library. You will sit down with the housing office to get the appropriate housing. You will in-process through the Installation Access Control System (IACS) and the ID card office.

WHAT TO EXPECT IN A HOME

Three types of housing are available for living in Schweinfurt. The three types are [Government Owned Housing](#), [Government Leased Housing](#), and [Private Rental](#). Housing is provided based on the size and needs of the family and is available on Askren Manor and in Yorktown village. USAG Schweinfurt has approx 707 government housing units (on-post), 559 government leased housing units (off-post), and 500 private rental housing units (off-post). Our priority of government-controlled (government housing and government leased housing) housing goes to families whose sponsor holds the rank of E-1 thru E-6. There is limited government housing (on-post) for senior grade (typically O-4, E-9, and CW4 and up). Almost all families with sponsors E-7's through O-3's will live in private rental (off-post).



Government-controlled housing consist of Government Owned (On-post) quarters and Government Leased (Off-post) quarters. Government-controlled housing is mandatorily assigned to enlisted E1 through E6. Currently, there is no Government-controlled family housing for Soldiers in the ranks of E7 thru O3/CW3. Private rental housing is however authorized. All Government-controlled quarters have dishwashers with the exception of a few leased housing units. Flooring in quarters is either hardwood, tile, or linoleum. 110/220 voltage is available in almost all Government-controlled quarters.



Stairwell apartments on Askren Manor

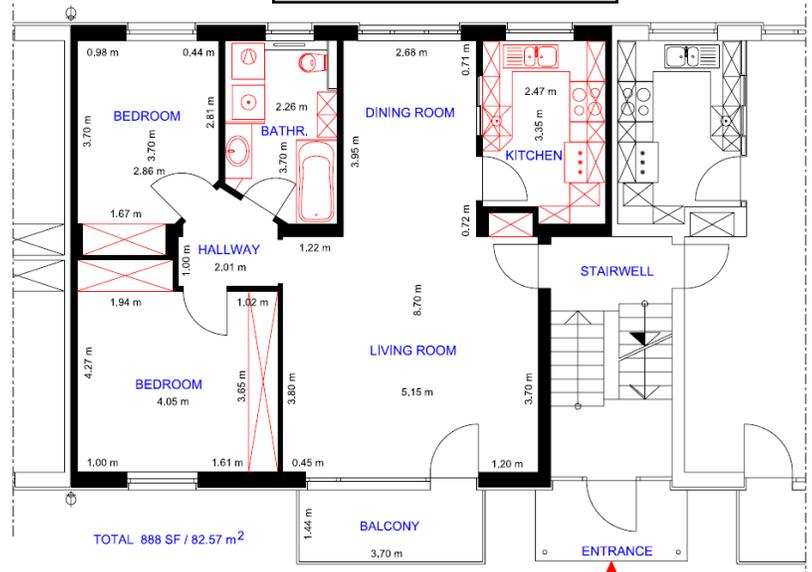


Typical German village outside of Schweinfurt

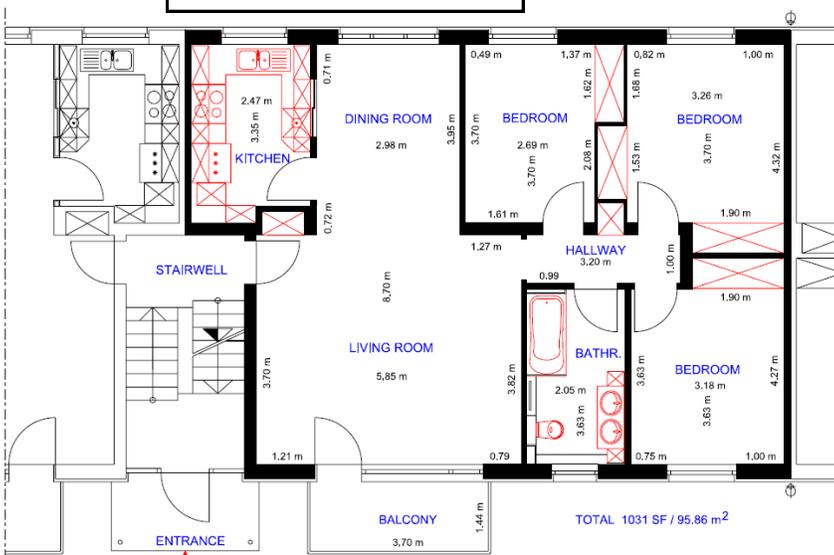
Be sure to check out the continually updated **[housing information](http://www.teamschweinfurt.com)** on www.teamschweinfurt.com

Stairwell quarters with 2, 3, 4 and 5 bedrooms are available on Askren Manor. These quarters have built-in kitchens, cabinets and built-in ward- robes. Washers and dryers are in a common use laundry room, either on the floor level, or in the base- ment. 110/220 voltage is available in all government owned buildings. A total of two pets are allowed in each set of quarters, however be sure to check out the rules and regulations for having pets on post.

2 Bedroom Layout



3 Bedroom Layout



4 Bedroom Layout

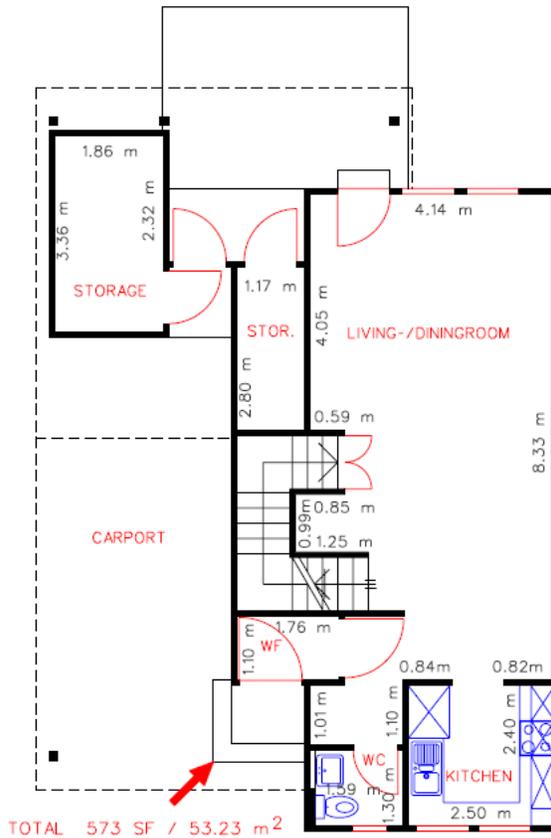


Located on Kessler Field, [Yorktown village](#) is the only other on-post living quarters for Soldiers and their families. Yorktown is set aside for Soldiers of rank E1-E4 with up to one child. Buildings are two story duplex style living areas with a car port and shared backyard. There are no basements in the buildings, however two medium size storage units for each family are attached to the backside of the building. All buildings are on 110 volt power so no transformers are needed. Washers and dryers are provided on the second floor between the two bedrooms. Pets are allowed in Yorktown village, however be sure to check out the rules and regulations for having pets on post.

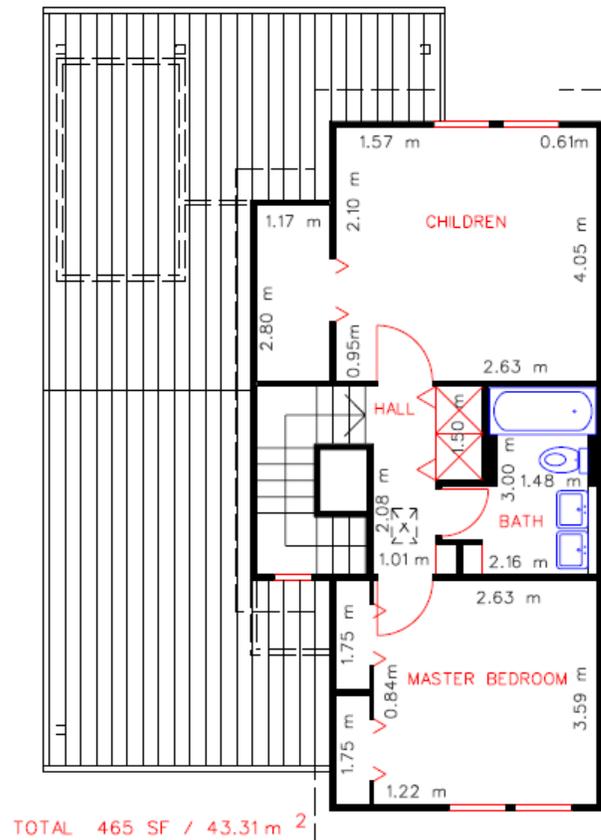
Duplex style quarters in Yorktown village. (Front yard on the left, back yard on the right)



Below are blueprints for the main ground floor and second floor duplex style quarters.



Main/ Ground Floor



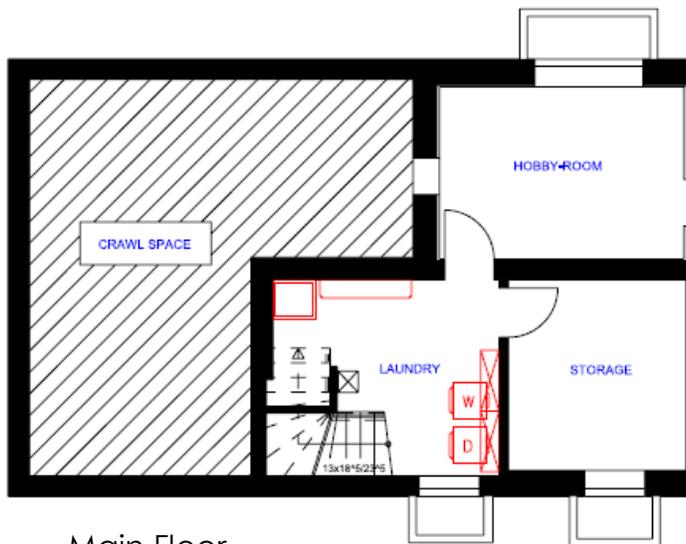
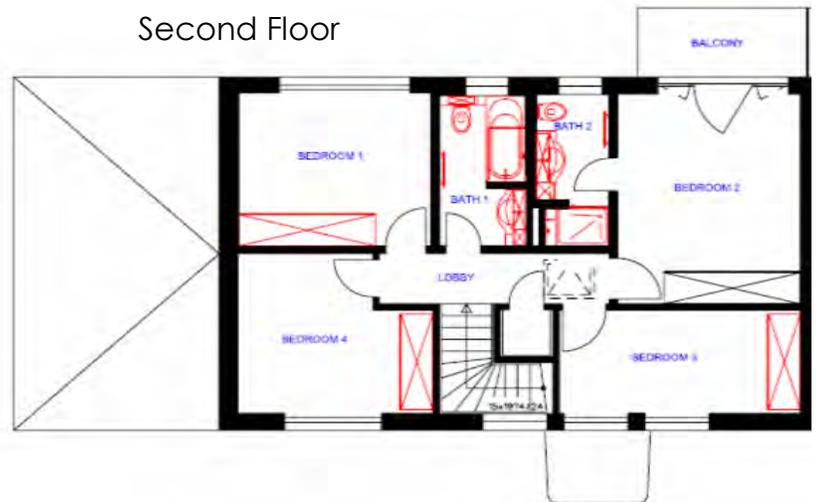
Second Floor

Askren Manor has one area set aside for key leaders. These quarters on Jackson Street are the only Government owned (on-post) living areas for Command Sergeant Majors and Field Grade officers. There is no on-post living quarters available for junior officers O1-O3.

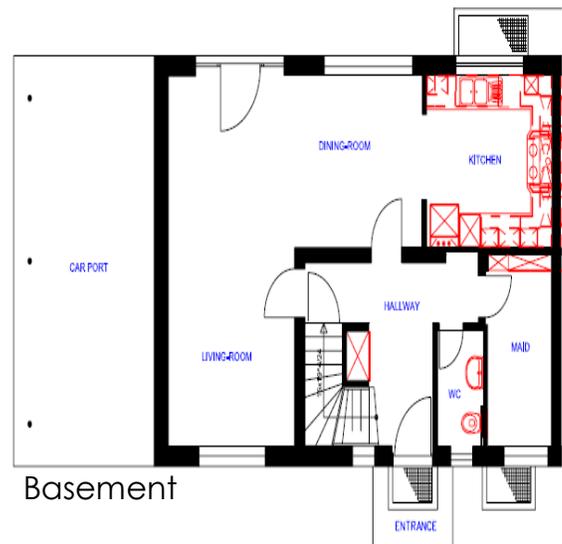
The living quarters on Jackson street are duplex style buildings with a basement, main and second floor. These buildings have a large back yard and a car port is attached to the side of the building.



Second Floor



Main Floor



Basement



Barracks, located on Conn Barracks and Ledward Barracks, are provided for Single Soldiers. Soldiers of rank E1-E4 are authorized 90 sq ft. of space while Soldiers in the rank of E5 and E6 are authorized 180 sq. ft. Most barracks rooms have a 1+1 or 2+2 latrine. Single NCO's of higher rank are authorized Senior NCO quarters which are located on Conn Barracks.



Typical Barracks located on Ledward and Conn

Typical Barracks located on Conn



Government Leased

Government leased quarters are homes throughout the community which the government has inspected and has a part in paying the rent to the landlord. These quarters are for Soldiers and family who wish to have government involvement in the apartment and yet still live off-post in the community.

These quarters have built-in kitchens and one wardrobe per bedroom. Most of the leased quarters have rolladens (Exterior Blinds). Some leased housing complexes have underground garages, while others have carports or garages. Many of the leased housing apartments have 110/220 voltage.



The housing office operates under an "OPEN REFERRAL", first-come, first-serve system. Private rental (off-post) housing is normally available within 30 days regardless of bedroom

requirement. Personnel authorized to seek private rental housing must contact the housing office prior to signing a lease for off-post housing.

Obtaining off-post housing in USAREUR is a much different process than found at a military community in CONUS. The majority of the private rental housing units registered with this community are located within a 5-25 minute drive from post.



Private Rentals in Schweinfurt-
Top and Bottom apartments

Apartment types vary from 1-4 bedroom units, in many cases without light fixtures or kitchen cabinets. Housing personnel will assist you in locating housing which meets your requirements.

In most instances, landlords require 1-2 months security deposit for off-post housing, anywhere from approximately \$390 - \$1300 which is put into an interest bearing account and returned to you if there are no damages when you leave.



Private Rentals in Schweinfurt-
Top and Bottom apartments

Most landlords in this area prefer to rent to families with no pets. Rent for apartments varies from \$350 through \$900 depending on the size and the number of bedrooms. Rent varies from \$700 through \$1,200. All rental fees are monthly, and do not include utilities (heat, water, sewage, trash, etc.).

In USAREUR, utilities such as gas, electricity, water, sewage and trash are much more expensive than utilities in CONUS. Only one utility company requires a security deposit of \$195 which is reimbursed to the tenant when he/she vacates off-post housing, provided the tenant does not owe money to the utility company.



Single private rental around Schweinfurt

After you arrive to Schweinfurt, transformers are very important for your household. Transformers are small gray or black boxes which convert 220-volt European current into 110-volt power which is used by your American appliances.

Before you used a transformer you need to ensure the appliance you are using does not exceed the transformer rating. Every transformer is rated in watts or volt-amps. Look closely at large appliances such as vacuums, toasters and hair dryers which may require a transformer with a rating of 1,000 watts or more. New transformers can cost between \$50-\$200. During your time in Germany it may become safer and more cost-effective to buy a European appliance.



AAFES sells new transformers as well as additional fuses. The Thrift Store and Freecycle center on Ledward Barracks usually have transformers for resale from households who have left the community. These two outlets can repair some transformers and offer tips for keeping your transformers working and keeping your home safe.

Generally, you won't need transformers if you live on-post or in Government leased housing, but check to be sure before plugging anything into an outlet.

ELECTICAL TRANSFORMERS

How big of a transformer do you need? Here are some examples.

75 Watts: Small radios; tape recorders; some sewing machines; most curling irons.

300 Watts: Stereos; mixers; TV and VCR (together); typewriters; small fans; video games.

750 Watts: Computer monitor and CPU (together, without a printer); humidifiers; travel irons; freezers; washing machines.

1000 Watts: Regular irons; table griddle/grill; percolators; vacuum cleaners; portable heaters; power tools; some microwaves.

1600/2000 Watts: Computer with monitor and printer; popcorn poppers; toasters; broilers; heaters; frying pans; hot plates; dishwashers; dryers; air conditioners; some microwaves.



High intensity halogen lamps require the use of a transformer. Lamps that use incandescent bulbs can be plugged directly into a 220 outlet if you use a plug adapter and replace the bulb with a 220 V bulb.

In USAREUR, the following personnel are eligible for [furniture and household equipment support](#):

- Soldiers with command-sponsored family members.
- DOD civilian personnel, if one of the following applies:
 - a. Recruited from the continental United States (CONUS).
 - b. Recruited within USAREUR, receiving Living Quarters Allowance (LQA) and full logistic support.
- Unaccompanied personnel who are residing in Unaccompanied Personnel Housing: SEQs/BOQs
- Unaccompanied personnel who are authorized to reside in private rental housing.
- Soldiers residing in Barracks.



Typical Government Furniture—
(Couch, Chair, Table, Bookshelf, and TV stand)



Typical Government Furniture—
(Table, Chairs, Bookshelf, & Drawer Chest)

Soldiers and civilian personnel, authorized to ship their full Joint Federal Travel Regulations (JFTR) weight allowance, may be provided temporary furniture (loaner sets) while household goods (HHG) are inbound. However, keep in mind that these items are only available for 90 days upon arrival. These items could include:

- Double Bed
- Single Beds
- Nightstands
- Couch
- Easy Chairs
- Dining Table and Chairs
- End Tables
- Chest of Drawers or Dresser
- Wardrobe (if not build in)



Occupants living in private rental housing may choose to obtain the following items and have them placed in their home. These items are available for the duration of the Soldiers tour.

- Dishwasher
- Range
- Refrigerator
- Washer
- Dryer



For all school related information, be sure to check each school specific website which can be found within the A-Z menu at www.teamschweinfurt.com



The [Schweinfurt Elementary/ Middle School](#) is located on Askren Manor located very close to Ledward Barracks. The elementary school includes Sure Start and grades Kindergarten– 5th grade, while the middle school has grades 6-8. The after school Teen Center is located on Yorktown Village, next to the High School. Visit their website to learn more about the school and some of the exciting things happening there.

The [Schweinfurt High School](#) is located on Kessler Field across the street from Ledward Barracks. The High School includes grades 9-12. The after school Teen Center is also located on Yorktown Village, next to the High School. Visit their website to learn about the programs offered at SHS.



HOMESCHOOLING

Homeschooling is an option parents have when deciding how to best educate their children. It is an alternative for parents and families in the Schweinfurt community.

To support those families in Schweinfurt choosing to homeschool, a group called the Schweinfurt Homeschoolers meets monthly where parents can discuss curriculums, bounce ideas off each other, and simply mingle with others in a similar situation.

For information on Homeschooling and German Kindergarten, contact the School Liaison Officer

GERMAN KINDERGARTEN

This program is generally for children from ages 3-6 years of age. The students are not required to speak German, but will be submersed with the German culture. It is important to sign up as space is often limited. German Kindergarten fees are generally very reasonable and often less expensive than CDC services.

ENROLLING YOUR CHILD IN SCHOOL

- 1) Register your child in any DoDDS school online at the school website or by stopping by school office.
- 2) After you have filled out the forms , go to the appropriate school.

Bring with you:

- copy of your orders, showing proof of residency
- military ID card
- child's birth certificate (only if you are registering a kindergartner or new first grade student)
- updated immunization records
- any pertinent legal documents (court custody papers, etc.)
- copy of school records (suggested)



FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH

Free and reduced lunch is available for qualifying Families with students in K-12. Apply at the ACS office. Bring a copy of your orders (showing all command-sponsored family members) and your most recent end of month LES.

AFTER SCHOOL OPTIONS

School is out, you're still working, and you're unsure of what to do with your children. You have a few options to chose from. Your elementary child may go to School Age Center (SAC), your middle schooler may go to the Teen Center, or you may opt to have your child go to a Family Child Care (FCC) provider. All of these locations require prior sign-up.



USAG SCHWEINFURT ELEMENTARY/ MIDDLE SCHOOL

LEG WEAR

Navy, Blue, or Khaki (Middle School students may also wear Black or White)

Cotton, Polyester, Corduroy, Long pants (Docking style, no baggy cargo)

Shorts, Jumpers, Skirts, or Walking Shorts (mid thigh or longer)



SHIRTS

Red, White, Navy, or Light Blue (Middle School students may also wear Green or Orange)

Short or long sleeve polo or dress shirts, turtleneck long sleeve shirts, sweaters, official PTSA shirts, sweatshirts, or jackets



FOOTWEAR

Socks-Navy, Red, or White

Shoes-sturdy tie, buckle, or casual shoes

No platform shoes, sandals, or dress shoes with slick leather soles



AVAILABLE SOURCES:

- AAFES
- www.aafes.com – French Toast store is available through the concentric mall, with a military discount
- www.jcpenny.com
- www.gap.com
- Local stores -H&M, E-Center, etc.

If you have any questions about the dress code, please call your school.

SCHWEINFURT HIGH SCHOOL

The Schweinfurt High School's colors are Red, Black and Silver with the mascot being the Razorback. The High School does not have a solid color dress code, but be sure to check out the High School Handbook for guidelines about what to wear, which can be found on the school website.



NEWCOMER SPOUSE SPONSORSHIP

In Schweinfurt we understand that your relocation can be a very challenging and stressful experience. That's why we've created a program which dependants can now receive sponsorship assistance from volunteers in the community. With this one to two week program you will be assisted with your needs so you are not left to discover for yourself. This program meets every Tuesday from 1000-1100 at the Conn Club on Conn Barracks. Come check it out and ensure that you have a positive welcoming tour in Schweinfurt.

SCHWEINFURT NEWCOMERS AWARENESS PROGRAM (SNAPS)

SNAPS is a five day orientation to Schweinfurt and our Military Community for spouses. The course covers German language and culture, customs, courtesies, food, visits to St. Joseph's and Leopoldina Hospitals, a walking tour of downtown Schweinfurt that includes learning how to use the public transportation system, and a tour of local attractions. Childcare is provided for SNAPS attendees. Space is limited and reservations are required. Children must first be registered with CYSS central registration in the Commons, Bldg. 224. Sponsors can sign their newcomers up for SNAPS prior to their arrival.



GIVING UNDERSTANDING TO TEENS IN SCHWEINFURT (G.U.T.S.)



G.U.T.S. is a one day orientation just for TEENS. You'll learn how to get around and get along in your new community. Some of the G.U.T.S. highlights include: useful German phrases, dealing with Euros, the city bus system, a walking tour of downtown Schweinfurt and places to go on post like the sports fields, movie theater, teen center, library and computer lab.

LENDING CLOSET

Located at Army Community Services this program is offered for arriving personnel and provides basic house-keeping items on temporary loan for sixty (60) days. To use the Lending Closet, you must bring a copy of your PCS orders (must be current within 60 days) for arriving personnel. An extension is available if the household shipment has not arrived within sixty days. Be aware that you must provide your own transportation for Lending Closet items!





An **Exceptional Family Member** is any Family member with any physical, emotional, developmental, or intellectual needs that require special treatment, therapy, education, training, or counseling. This includes, but is not limited to, anyone with: asthma, seizure disorders/epilepsy, diabetes, mental health disorders, depression/anxiety, developmental delays, speech or language impairment, hearing or visual impairment, behavioral issues or physical challenges

The EFMP is a mandatory enrollment program. It is designed to ensure that Families with special needs will receive the medical, education, community support, housing and personnel services they require at their duty location. Enrollment in EFMP will enable the Army to pinpoint an assignment that will have the resources available to meet the needs of your Family.

The EFMP Manager can assist with such things as enrollment and disenrollment, Family travel requests, relocation/transition assistance, Family advocacy, housing, and other resources, and works closely with DoDDs schools, housing, MWR, CYS, health clinic and other community agencies.



The **Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Overseas Program** provides several important benefits: nutritious food that will contribute to a healthier diet, education on nutrition and proper diet, tips on how to prepare a balanced meal, nutrition and health screening, and access to other resources to lead a healthy life. WIC Overseas is designed to provide additional nutritional food items to supplement other foods purchased by eligible beneficiaries.



Your family gross income must fall at or below 185 percent of the U.S. income guidelines. A family whose gross exceeds 185 percent may be eligible if the woman, her infants or children are determined to be at nutritional risk for medical or dietary reasons.

Pregnant women are eligible throughout their pregnancy and up to six weeks after delivery, or when the pregnancy ends. Breastfeeding women can continue to use the program until the infant's first birthday, while women who are not breastfeeding can use it for up to six months after the child's birth.

You have many options for phone and internet service. While TKS is located on post, other services are available within Schweinfurt. High speed DSL and ISDN lines are available in most areas. Cell phones and different plans can be purchased from many locations in Schweinfurt. As in the States, rates and special offers vary almost weekly. Shop around for the best price on the package of services that meets your needs.



TYPES OF PHONES

Your American phone will work with an adapter which you can purchase at the PX. You could also rent a phone from Deutsche Telekom or buy a new phone at the PX, Thrift Shop or at a German electronics store.

FEES

There are no free phone calls in Germany. All calls, local and long distance, are charged by the minute or unit. Rates are different for days, evenings and weekends. You can also get special deals for lower cost calls to the US. You can get cell phone service for a flat monthly fee, for a certain number of minutes, or on a strictly per-minute charge. Keep in mind that phone and internet plans AUTOMATICALLY ROLL OVER without the consumer signing any paperwork. Consumers MUST end their plan when they no longer want the service.



GERMANY TOLL-FREE NUMBERS AND PAY-PER-MINUTES NUMBERS

Phone numbers that start with the prefix 0130 or 0800 are toll free numbers in Germany. American toll-free numbers, such as 1-800, will not be free if called from outside the United States. **WARNING!!!** Beware of calling phone numbers that start with "0190". Similar to 1-900 numbers in the States, these calls can cost you anywhere from €1.50 to €36.00 per minute!!!

WARNING!!! It is illegal to own or operate, cordless transmission equipment which operates in the 900 megahertz range. Many phones in the United States use this frequency range. Use of this equipment is illegal in Germany because radio frequency bands are used differently in Europe. Use of these transmitters may interfere with air traffic control, private businesses, radars, security and televisions. The penalty can be imprisonment up to 20 years or a fine up to €5,000. If you are unsure whether or not your phone is legal, bring it to Germany and talk to a phone expert who can help.

OTHER PHONE INFORMATION

- Local phone numbers may be 2 to 10 digits long, and city codes are 3 or 4 digits long. For example, Schweinfurt's code is 9721,
- To call a number within Germany: 0+city code + local number.
- To call Germany from the US: 011-49-city code- local number (no 0 with the city code).
- To call the US from Germany: 001-area code-local number.
- Cell phones in Europe work on two different sets of radio frequencies, known as D1 and D2. It is usually cheaper to call a phone number in the same system as your phone than the other system. Both systems use different radio frequencies than cell phones in the US, so unless you brought a tri-band or better cell phone from the States, it won't work in Germany.
- Some pay phones will take coins or credit/debit cards, but most require a prepaid phone card.
- The DSN phone system on-post is completely separate from the German system and functions like the US phone system.
- Using a cell phone while driving is illegal without the use of a hands free device.



INTERNET SERVICES

There are many options for choosing your internet provider in Schweinfurt. Many times packages will be available for purchasing Internet, cell phone service, and a cell phone all with one plan. Whichever company you decide to use, ask about Long Term Evolution (LTE) which is the 4G connectivity in Germany. LTE may take less time for setup and activation. In Germany, it could take up to 2 months before your internet connection is set up. The internet providers work much differently than in the US. Additionally, be sure to remember that internet plans continue to roll over until you physically contact the provider to turn off the service. Below is a list of some of the common Internet providers in Germany and the additional services they provide. Be sure to research all you options and have a legal officer look over your contract before making any final decisions.

	Telekom	TKS	Kabel Deutschland	Vodafone	O2	Alice	E-Plus
Internet	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Home Phone	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Cable TV	X	X	X			X	
Cellphone	X	X	X	X	X	X	X



GETTING A DRIVER'S LICENSE

Driving rules and signs are different in Germany, and they are strictly enforced. To be allowed to drive your POV (privately owned vehicle) in Germany, all US military personnel, civilians and Family members must have a valid US state license, attend the drivers' orientation class "Driving In Europe" and pass the required tests. A study guide of German traffic rules and road signs can be downloaded from the Drivers Testing Activity on www.teamschweinfurt.com. The drivers test can be very difficult so it is very important to study prior to taking the class and the test.



Drivers testing classes are given Mon-Wed at 0900 and tests are conducted Mon-Wed at 1300.

MOTORCYCLES

A special class and test is required to be licensed to ride a motorcycle in Germany. These are offered monthly, by appointment only.

For further information on these procedures, contact the Drivers Testing Station, Conn Barracks, Bldg 36.

**INTERNATIONAL DRIVER'S LICENSE**

Your US Forces driver's license is only valid in Germany. If you plan to drive to other countries in Europe, you must get an International Driver's License. Those living in the Schweinfurt area (Kreis Schweinfurt) do this at the Landratsamt building (downtown near Galleria Kaufhof). Go to the Führerschein (driver's license) office. You will need to bring your USAREUR license, your passport, and an additional passport photo. Cost is about 15€.

CHILD SEATS

German law requires that all children under 12 years of age, under 4'11" tall, or weighing less than 80 pounds **MUST** use an approved child seat or booster seat. Newborns up to 3 years of age, weighing up to 40 pounds, must use a full car seat. **Children under 10 are not allowed to ride in the front seat.**



CURRENCY

Most countries of the European Union (EU) have switched to the Euro (€). This makes travel between countries much easier than it was just a few years ago. You don't have to worry about changing money at every border. It also means you don't have to pay extra fees every time to change money.

There are some exceptions: Switzerland (Swiss Francs), Great Britain (Pounds), Poland (Zlotie), Sweden (Kroner), Denmark (Kroner) and Czech (Kronen). One Euro is divided into 100 cents. There are 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 cent coins, 1 and 2 Euro coins, and 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, and 500 Euro bills.



All transactions for goods and services on US military installations are in US Dollars. Banks on-post offer conversion between many types of currency. Cash machines on-post give you the choice of US Dollars or Euros. Most American credit and debit cards will work at off-post cash machines ("Geldautomat" in Germany, "Bankomat" in other countries) to get Euros. However, you may be charged an international transaction fee by your bank to use these machines.

TIPPING

In Germany, a 15% gratuity is automatically included in all restaurant checks. It may or may not show up on the bill, but it is always there. The local custom is to round the total up to the next Euro when you pay the bill, for example, €11.40 you'd pay €12.00, but you are under no obligation to do so and will not be looked down upon if you pay the exact amount. Do not leave the tip on the table.

Note: The waiter/waitress will not bring the bill until you request it. Pay the waiter/waitress at your table when they bring the bill.

Other countries have different expectations, so be aware of that when you travel outside Germany. Austria works the same way as Germany. France, Italy, Switzerland and Belgium expect 15% to be added when you pay the bill. In Poland and the Czech Republic, add 10 to 15%.



BUYING A NEW VEHICLE

American made model cars are for sale from AAFES representatives on Ledward Barracks. European model cars can be purchased in and around Schweinfurt from a local dealer, minus the 19% value added tax normally included in the price (if the dealer accepts the value-added tax, VAT, form.) If you plan to take the car back to the States, make sure that you buy a car with American specifications. Conversion is extremely expensive. Check with the dealer to see if they will ship the vehicle back to the States (either as part of the purchase package or at your own expense.)

BUYING A USED VEHICLE

Buying a used vehicle is a definite alternative. Second-hand cars (often third- or fourth hand) are usually plentiful and inexpensive. However, you must be prepared to spend some time and/or extra money on them. It is recommended you buy a used car that the owner guarantees will pass inspection. Again, be sure the car has American specs if you plan to take it back to the States. A used vehicle can be purchased through:

- “Stars & Stripes” classified ads
- “Bavarian News” classified ads
- Advertisements on bulletin boards throughout the community
- A German car dealer



AUTO INSURANCE

You will most likely pay more for auto insurance in Germany than in the US. There are only a few American companies that can insure you overseas (USAA being one of them). We recommend you request free auto insurance quotes prior to purchasing a vehicle.

TIRE SPEED RATINGS

If you have shipped a car from the states, check the speed rating of the tires on your car. Many American tires are only rated for about 75 mph (120 km). Driving faster than the speed rating of your tires can put you in danger of a high-speed blowout on the Autobahn.



AIRPORTS

The two airports closest to Schweinfurt are at Frankfurt and Nürnberg. The Frankfurt Airport (Flughafen) is the second largest airport in Europe, with hundreds of airlines connecting to literally every part of the world. It's about 2 hours away by car or train. It has its own train station, which makes this an attractive alternative to driving (avoiding Autobahn traffic and airport parking fees).



Nürnberg is a smaller airport than Frankfurt, so it's less crowded and easier to navigate with your luggage. It's about an hour away from Schweinfurt by Autobahn. However, there are a limited number of airlines that fly from Nürnberg and most flights take you first to another major hub to change planes (such as Amsterdam, London or even Frankfurt).



TRAIN TRAVEL TIPS

- Be ready when the train comes into a station. It will only stop 1 to 2 minutes. It's more important to get on the train than get into the correct car, although it's much easier to move from car to car on the platform than inside the train.

- Yellow departure and white arrival timetables are posted at all train stations. Trains are listed by time. Read across to find the train number, track, and cities on the route.

- First Class and Second Class cars are indicated by a "1" or "2" on the cars. Most people travel 2nd class (like coach on airplanes).

- Pack light. You must carry everything yourself, up steps into the train and down narrow aisles to your seat. You will also need to carry your luggage up and down crowded stairways in the train stations. On the train, luggage goes in overhead racks or under your seat. Especially large suitcases can be left at the end of the aisle in each car.

- If your travel calls for changing trains, be prepared. Again, the train will only stop for a minute when it's in the station. Passengers will be at the door well before the train reaches the station. After leaving the train, take the stairs under or over the tracks to change platforms. You may only have 5 minutes to change platforms. The platform numbers will be printed on your ticket.



Centigrade to Fahrenheit

0	32
10	50
20	68
30	86
40	104
50	122
60	140
70	158
80	176
90	194
100	212
120	250
135	275
150	300
160	325
180	350
190	375
200	400



General Measurements

1 Centimeter	0.3937 in
1 Inch	2.54 cm
1 Meter	3.280 Feet
1 Meter	1.094 Yards
1 Kilometer	1.61 Miles
1 Gram	0.035 Ounce
500 Grams	1.1 Pounds
1 Kilogram	2.2 Pounds
1 Pint	0.473 Liters
1 Quart	0.946 Liters
1 Ounce	3.785 Liters
1 Pint	0.551 Liters
1 Quart	1.101 Liters



Distance/Speed

Miles	Kilometers
10	16
20	32
30	48
32	50
40	64
50	80
60	95
63	100
70	115
75	120
80	128
90	145
100	160



WHAT IS TAX RELIEF?

The Tax Relief program enables members of the U.S. Forces to buy goods and services on the German economy without paying the 19% value-added tax (VAT). This tax is automatically included in the price of all merchandise in German stores. VAT forms are available for specified individuals who work for and/or with the U.S. military and their Families.

TAX RELIEF OFFICE—SCHWEINFURT

Ledward Barracks, The Commons

Open Monday-Friday 0830-1300 and 1400-1630
Closed on German and American holidays.

DSN: 354-1780 or CIVILIAN: 09721-96-1780

HOW DOES THE SIMPLIFIED TAX RELIEF PROCEDURE WORK?**A. For purchases under € 2500**

Before you go shopping, stop by the Tax Relief office in the Commons on Ledward and buy tax exemption forms. They cost \$4 each, and are discounted for volume purchases (up to 10 at one time for \$30).

The forms are good for two years from issue date. There is no refund for unused tax exemption forms. You must have a valid ID card with you to purchase the forms.

When shopping, check with the merchant prior to your purchase to verify if they will accept the tax exemption form. This is a voluntary program. German vendors **DO NOT** have to accept the paperwork (even so, most of the vendors in the Schweinfurt area do take them, such as furniture stores, building supply stores and car repair shops.) Should the vendor not understand the procedures, feel free to contact the Tax Relief office at 09721-96-1780 and the Tax Relief clerk will talk to the vendor and explain the correct procedures. In addition, the Tax Relief office will provide you with the guidelines for use of the tax relief forms for all purchasing agents (German and English language.)

The method of payment is up to the merchant (Euros, Dollars or credit card). You may have to use a special checkout line or go to the store's office to complete the paperwork. The merchant will complete the application and order form (AE Form 215-6b.) and return 2 copies to you. You must return the white copy to the Tax Relief Office; the pink copy is for your records.

Please note: When you PCS out of Germany, be sure to return any unused forms to the Tax Relief Office prior to your departure. It is very important for the Tax Relief Office to clear all forms in its system.

B. For purchases over € 2500— Stop in to the VAT office and ask for details.

BANKING

There are two American banks on post for those interested in opening a local account in US dollars. They offer the full range of banking services such as savings and checking accounts, car loans, debit cards, account transfers and ATMs.

DOD Community Bank

(a division of Bank of America)

Ledward Barracks Bldg 226

CIV 09721-88096

DSN 354-6403

**Andrews Federal Credit Union**

Ledward Barracks Bldg 224

CIV 09721-796860

DSN 354-6891

In Germany, an electronic bank transfer is usually used in the situation where you would mail someone a check in the States (such as rent or utilities). The vendor will give you their bank and account numbers. You just need to fill out a form at the bank and the funds will be transferred between accounts. This is a major benefit for having a local account.

Many of the local German stores do not accept credit cards or personal checks.
Plan to do your shopping using Euros if you're not sure about the store.

