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Important facts about life in the district of Augsburg

A warm welcome

Dear new citizen.

We are delighted that you have arrived in the district of Augsburg! We warmly welcome you and invite you to get to know the Augsburg region at its best. You will see: the district of Augsburg has a lot to offer! Whether family, leisure or work - our region has a wide range of offers for all walks of life.

It's not easy to keep track of all these offers. That's why we have created the "Integreat" app for you. Here you will find important information, addresses, contacts, tips and tricks to help you find your way around.

I can assure you: There are dedicated and friendly people working in our authorities, organisations and institutions who will be happy to help you! So don't hesitate to get in touch if you need help, don't understand something or want to make a suggestion. Numerous contact persons are available to answer any questions you may have.

I hope you enjoy discovering the district of Augsburg!

Yours

Martin Sailer

District Administrator

Nautin Sailer







Keywords: Welcome, Arrival, New residents, Augsburg district, Orientation

To the Integreat app

This guide will support you in your everyday life in the district of Augsburg. You will find here

- · important addresses
- contact persons
- · Tips and tricks

They can help you find your way around the district of Augsburg.

The Integreat app has several chapters. Each chapter deals with a different topic. You can find all chapters in the category "Local information". For example, you will find

- Information on medical care
- · Information about schools
- German courses
- · Helpful offers from institutions in the district of Augsburg

The information changes and we update the pages regularly. So please check your app often.

You don't need internet access to use the app. You can also use the app offline. The app updates itself when you are online again.





A few important functions of the app:



Change language

The Integreat app is available in many languages. You can change the language here.



You can enter a search term here.



You can find important, current news here.



PDF erstellen Print PDF

A page is of particular interest to you? Then you can print the page as a PDF.



Feedback Give feedback

Your feedback is important to us! You can give us your opinion here.

- What do you like?
- What information are you missing?
- Is some information not up to date? Then you can also use this function to report it.





♀A tip:

You can also use the <u>Integreat app of the city of Augsburg</u>. Many offers or events in the city of Augsburg are also interesting for citizens of the district of Augsburg. You can switch using this function:



Change location

We hope that we can provide you with important information with the help of this app. And that the app will make it easier for you to find your way around the district of Augsburg. A warm welcome!

Do you have any questions, ideas or comments about the app? Then please contact us:

Education office in the district of Augsburg

▲Sybille Lichti

082131022112

@Sybille.Lichti@LRA-a.bayern.de

Keywords: orientation, information, questions, how does the app work

The district introduces itself

The district of Augsburg

What is a district?

A district is an amalgamation of several towns, markets or municipalities. The district of Augsburg comprises a total of 46 towns, markets and municipalities.

The district of Augsburg

The district of Augsburg is an attractive place to live and work. That is why more and more people are moving to the district. Just over 250,000 people now live here. This makes the district of Augsburg the third largest district in Bavaria.

The district of Augsburg is very popular with companies, investors and start-ups. For example because of





- its central location between Munich and Stuttgart
- · its proximity to the city of Augsburg
- · ideal transport connections.

The district of Augsburg combines an attractive economic area with an excellent quality of life. Here you can enjoy pure joie de vivre in a wonderful natural and cultural landscape.

City or countryside?

The district of Augsburg surrounds the city of Augsburg from the north, west and south. Nevertheless, the city of Augsburg and the district of Augsburg are two independent municipalities.

The city and district of Augsburg work closely together in many areas. Together with the district of Aichach-Friedberg, the district and the city of Augsburg form the A3 region: www.region-a3.com.

The Augsburg District Office

The Augsburg District Office administers the district of Augsburg.

Mr Martin Sailer has been District Administrator of the district of Augsburg since 2008. The district administrator is elected by the citizens. He heads the district office.

The District Office is a district authority. At the same time, it is a state authority of the Free State of Bavaria.

It has various tasks:

- Compulsory tasks (e.g. construction and operation of hospitals, youth welfare, social welfare services, nature conservation).
- Voluntary tasks, which are organised at its own discretion depending on financial possibilities (e.g. promotion of cultural or social facilities)

The district office offers many services for citizens. For example, advice centres for families, older people or young people. You can find a good overview on the website (see below).

Good to know: Friendly people work at the district administration office!

The staff will be happy to help you!

- Do you need help?
- · Don't understand something?
- Would you like to suggest something?

Then get in touch!

You will find a contact person for almost every question. They will be happy to help you.

Augsburg District Office

Prinzregentenplatz 4, 86150 Augsburg

\.0821 31020





@info@LRA-a.bayern.de

Monday to Friday from 7.30 am to 12.30 pm, Thursday additionally from 2 pm to 5.30 pm

→ www.landkreis-augsburg.de

→ www.landk

Q A tip: The district administration office has a virtual citizens' office. This means you can make some appointments online from home. This saves you a trip to the district office. You can find out which services you can use via the Virtual Citizens' Office here.

What you need to use the virtual citizens' office

- Smartphone, laptop or PC with webcam and microphone
- · Stable internet connection

You can find a summary of all online services of the district administration office here.

Towns, markets and municipalities in the district

The district of Augsburg includes **46 towns, markets and municipalities**. The district has a large area. It takes about 45 minutes by car from the northernmost municipality to the southernmost municipality.

<u>Here</u> you can find a map of the district. It shows you all the towns, markets and municipalities. You get a good overview of the district.

There is a **city of** Augsburg and a **district** of Augsburg. Please note: They are independent of each other. Pay attention to this! For example, if you are looking for an authority. The city of Augsburg, for example, has its own immigration office. Do you live in Augsburg? Then the Foreigners' Registration Office of the City of Augsburg cannot help you. This also applies to other authorities. For example, the education authority.

City, market or municipality? Or is it a municipality?

It is not easy for many people to understand the terms. We would like to briefly explain them to you:

- "Municipality" is a generic term. It includes: Counties, towns, markets and municipalities.
- "Municipality" is a generic term. It applies to towns and markets. It does not apply to rural districts. This is because rural districts consist of municipalities.
- "Towns" are municipalities with more than 5,000 inhabitants. They fulfil a central function due to their location. They are important for the neighbouring municipalities.
- "Markets" are municipalities with market rights. The market right certifies the importance
 of the municipality for the neighbouring municipalities. For example with regard to:
 Location, size or offer (e.g. many shops). The market is an intermediate stage between a
 municipality and a town. It is larger than a municipality. But smaller than a town. The term
 "market" is a speciality for Bavaria. There are no markets in most German federal states.





Cities, markets and municipalities in the district of Augsburg at a glance

We would like to introduce you to the towns, markets and municipalities in the district. You can click on the name of your municipality. This will take you to the website. There you will find lots of interesting information. For example, about local offers. Or local advice centres.

Six towns:

- · Bobingen.
- Gersthofen.
- Königsbrunn.
- Neusäß.
- Schwabmünchen.
- Stadtbergen

Eight markets:

- <u>Biberbach</u>
- Diedorf
- Dinkelscherben
- Fischach
- Meitingen
- Thierhaupten
- <u>Welden</u>
- Zusmarshausen

Municipalities:

- Adelsried
- Allmannshofen
- <u>Altenmünster</u>
- Aystetten
- Bonstetten
- Ehingen
- Ellgau
- Emersacker





- Gablingen
- Gessertshausen
- Graben
- **Großaitingen**
- Heretsried
- <u>Hiltenfingen</u>
- Horgau
- Kleinaitingen
- Klosterlechfeld
- <u>Kühlenthal</u>
- Kutzenhausen
- Langenneufnach
- Langerringen
- Langweid am Lech
- Mickhausen
- Mittelneufnach
- Nordendorf
- Oberottmarshausen
- Scherstetten
- <u>Untermeitingen</u>
- <u>Ustersbach</u>
- Walkertshofen
- Wehringen
- Westendorf

Seven administrative communities (VG for short):

Some municipalities have joined together. They are then an administrative community. VG for short. This means that they work together in the administration of their municipalities.

- VG Gessertshausen (municipalities of Gessertshausen and Ustersbach)
- VG <u>Großaitingen</u> (municipalities of Großaitingen, Kleinaitingen and Oberottmarshausen)
- <u>VG Langerringen</u> (municipalities of Hiltenfingen and Langerringen)
- <u>VG Lechfeld</u> with headquarters in Untermeitingen (municipalities of Klosterlechfeld and Untermeitingen)
- <u>VG Nordendorf</u> (municipalities of Allmannshofen. Ehingen. Ellgau. Kühlenthal. Nordendorf and Westendorf)





- <u>VG Stauden</u> based in Langenneufnach (municipalities of Langenneufnach. Mickhausen. Mittelneufnach. Scherstetten and Walkertshofen)
- <u>VG Welden</u> (Welden market and the municipalities of Bonstetten, Emersacker and Heretsried)

 \mathbb{Q} Each municipality in the district has its own website. There you will find all offers and contact persons in your municipality as well as current information. It's worth taking a look. Just have a look!

Important authorities

Office for Foreigners and Integration District of Augsburg

Tasks

The Office for Immigration and Integration regulates the residence of foreign nationals whose main place of residence is registered in the district of Augsburg. The Office for Immigration and Integration is also known as the Immigration Office.

Making an appointment

To speak to a member of staff at the Office for Foreigners and Integration, you must make an appointment. You can make an appointment <u>here</u>.

- When booking an appointment online, you will first see "Your appointment has expired". You must then click on "Book new appointment".
- Then you have to select the "Service". This means: Why do you need the appointment?
- Then click on the appropriate box with your place of residence and enter the number of people (including children) who require a residence permit.
- The waiting time for an appointment is now at least 4 weeks. You need to be patient because a lot of people need an appointment at the moment.

You can also download many documents from the Foreigners' Registration Office website.

Contact details

OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION AND INTEGRATION

Prinzregentenplatz 4, 86150 Augsburg

@Auslaenderamt@LRA-a.bayern.de

www.landkreis-augsburg.de/asyl-auslaenderwesen-in...

©Opening hours:

Mon. to Fri. 07:30 - 12:30 Thurs. 14:00 - 17:30

Keywords: residence, registration, immigration office, Office for Immigration and Integration, appointment, make an appointment





Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF)

The BAMF is a federal authority. It is specifically responsible for asylum, migration and integration in Germany. The BAMF therefore also carries out asylum procedures.

This means that

- It examines the asylum application.
- · It organises hearings.
- It decides on the asylum application.

There is a branch office in Augsburg:

Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF)

Augsburg branch office August-Wessels-Straße 27 86156 Augsburg

<u>091194328655</u>

@service@bamf.bund.de

www.bamf.de (multilingual)

Central Foreigners' Registration Office (ZAB)

The Central Aliens Authority Swabia (ZAB)

The Central Aliens Authority Swabia is an authority. It looks after refugees. For example, it is responsible for

- Asylum seekers in reception centres
- · Asylum seekers in shared accommodation centres
- Rejected asylum seekers

The authority has many different tasks. The tasks of the authority include, for example

- · Determining identity and nationality
- · Issuing tolerated stay permits
- Return counselling and return assistance
- Terminating stays
- · Obtaining documents for the journey home

Is the ZAB responsible for you? Then you will usually have a fixed contact person there. And you have a reference number. File number means: You have a specific identification number





at the authority. All letters to you will bear this reference number. Are you writing a letter to the ZAB? Then always include the file number! Then the ZAB will know immediately that this letter is from you.

Find out more here.

Government of Swabia

Would you like to go to the ZAB in person? Then go to this address. This is the visitor address.

Central Foreigners Authority Swabia Kobelweg 82 86156 Augsburg

****08213274698

@zab-poststelle@reg-schw.bayern.de

Opening hours

Monday to Friday 08:30 am - 11:45 am Tuesday and Wednesday additionally 1 pm to 4 pm

You can also make an appointment in person. Then you can also get an appointment outside these times.

Postal address

Are you sending a letter to the ZAB? Then use the postal address! Do not send the letter to the visitor's address!

Government of Swabia 86145 Augsburg

Keywords: Central Aliens Authority, Aliens Authority, Asylum seeker, Asylum, Duldung, Return counselling, Return assistance, Residence, Return home

Job centre and citizens' income

What does the job centre do?

The job centre helps people in special situations. For example:

- People who have been unemployed for a long time.
- People who are not entitled to unemployment benefit I.
- People whose income is not sufficient to cover their living costs.





The job centre pays out the citizen's allowance. Jobseekers are supported by the job centre in their search for a job or qualification.

What is the citizen's allowance?

The citizen's income replaced unemployment benefit II on 1 January 2023.

Citizen's income is the basic income support for jobseekers. It is a benefit of the welfare state. The citizen's income ensures the minimum subsistence level for people who cannot finance their living expenses from their own income or assets. The citizen's allowance must be applied for at the job centre. The citizen's allowance is financed from tax revenue.

The amount of the citizen's allowance varies. It depends on several factors. Among other things, it depends on the number of people in the household. And how old the people in the household are. You can find an overview of the standard requirements here.

 \mathbb{Q} A specialist is responsible for you at the job centre. You should work well with her. Have you missed something? Then your citizen's allowance may be reduced.

Who receives citizen's allowance?

Citizen's allowance is paid to people who are capable of work and entitled to benefits.

These are people who...

- are at least 15 years old and have not yet reached retirement age.
- live in Germany and have their centre of life here.
- · can work at least 3 hours a day.
- · are in need of assistance.

Asylum seekers do not receive a citizen's allowance. They receive benefits in accordance with the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Act.

Recognised refugees receive citizen's allowance.

How do I apply for citizen's allowance?

You have various options for applying for citizen's allowance. You can apply for citizen's allowance online. You can find the online form here. You can also apply in writing, by telephone or in person.





 \bigcirc Please make sure that you complete your application correctly and in full. There is a help text for every online application. The help text will help you fill in the form.

 \mathbb{Q} You must provide proof of all information. This means that you need documents as proof. The application states which ones you need. But only send copies! No originals!

Which job centre should I contact?

There are many different job centres. Each job centre is responsible for a specific municipality. You can find the job centre for the district of Augsburg here:

Jobcentre Augsburger Land

PHermanstr. 11, 86150 Augsburg

4.0821998880 or 082199888991

@jobcenter-Augsburger-Land.Hermanstrasse-11@jobcen...

Monday to Friday from 7.30 am to 12 noon, Thursday additionally from 2 pm to 5.30 pm

Search terms: livelihood security, no money, Hartz IV, unemployment benefit II, unemployment benefit 2,

Employment agency and unemployment benefit

The Federal Employment Agency is a public authority. It looks after the German labour market.

What does the Employment Agency do?

It performs various tasks for citizens:

- · Career counselling for young people, first-year students and university graduates
- · Placement of apprenticeships or jobs
- Promotion of vocational training and further education
- Services to promote participation in working life (inclusion)
- Payment of unemployment benefit I (ALG I for short)
- Promotion of equal opportunities for women and men
- Information on the labour and training market and on employment promotion services and benefits
- · Payment of child benefit





Which employment agency can I contact?

The Augsburg Employment Agency is responsible for the district of Augsburg:

Augsburg Employment Agency (visitor address)

Wertachstr. 28, 86153 Augsburg

€08004555500 or 08213151125

@Augsburg@arbeitsagentur.de

Monday to Friday from 8 am to 12 pm

www.arbeitsagentur.de

How does unemployment benefit I (ALG I) work?

The Federal Employment Agency pays out unemployment benefit I. Unemployment benefit I is paid to people who have lost their job. But not everyone receives ALG I. This is because it is an insurance benefit. Benefits are therefore only paid to people who have previously paid into the insurance scheme. You must have paid in for at least 12 months. And this must be within the 30 months prior to your unemployment.

Have you become unemployed? But haven't paid into unemployment insurance or haven't done so for long enough? Then contact the <u>job centre</u>. You will then receive <u>citizen's</u> allowance.

Living in Germany

Information about living in Germany

Handbook Germany

Every country has its own culture, customs and traditions. The "Handbook Germany" website shows life in Germany with videos and texts. The information is available in 9 languages:

- German
- English
- Arabic
- Ukrainian
- French
- Pashto
- Turkish
- Persian
- Russian





Just landed

The website "<u>Just landed</u>" also provides an insight into life in Germany. You will find there: Information about life in Germany, classified ads, a property market and a job market specifically for international workers. There are also forums and communities. So you can get in touch with other people.

The website is available in 8 languages:

- German
- English
- Spanish
- French
- Italian
- Dutch
- Polish
- Russian

Facts about Germany

On the website <u>"Facts about Germany"</u> you will find lots of interesting information about Germany. The website is available in eight languages:

- German
- English
- French
- Spanish
- <u>Portuguese</u>
- Russian
- Arabic
- Chinese

Equality between women and men

In purely legal terms, women and men are equal in Germany. This means that women and men have the same rights in Germany. Every person - whether man or woman - is allowed to make decisions about themselves and their own lives. Women and men should have the same opportunities - personally, professionally and within the family.

In everyday life, equality between women and men has not yet been achieved in Germany. That is why the Federal Government is actively promoting equality. For example, through these activities:





- The compatibility of family and career is promoted through measures such as parental allowance, the expansion of childcare and all-day education and childcare programmes in primary schools.
- The federal government is committed to increasing the number of women in management positions. For example, a quota for women on company supervisory boards has been in place since 2016.
- Women still earn less than men. In future, men and women should receive the same salary for equivalent work. The so-called "Remuneration Transparency Act" makes a valuable contribution to this. The law makes it possible for employees to receive information about the criteria and procedures according to which they are paid.

Freely selectable gender identity / LGBTQIA+

Gender diversity

Sexual orientation is a central aspect of one's personality. In Germany, every person is allowed to choose their own sexual identity. Everyone is free to decide who they are with and who they love. And every person is free to live out their own sexual orientation. Because this is an important right, it is enshrined in law (**General Equal Treatment Act**).

In Germany, a great deal of effort is being made to break down rigid role models and open up the view to all ways of life. A lot has therefore happened in recent years:

- Since 2011, anyone can have their gender changed in official documents. Regardless of whether a gender reassignment from male to female or from female to male has taken place or is planned.
- In addition, since 2013, parents no longer have to ascribe a gender to their children on their birth certificate.
- Same-sex couples have been allowed to marry in Germany since 1 October 2017.

What does LGBTQIA+ or LGBT mean?

LGBTQIA+ or LGBT are abbreviations from the English language.

In German, the abbreviation LSBTTIQ is often used, which stands for the following terms:

L=lesbian - S=gay - B=bisexual - T=transgender - T=transsexual - I=intersexual - Q=queer.

- · Lesbians are women who love other women.
- · Gays are men who love other men.
- Bisexuals fall in love with people regardless of their gender.
- Transgender people are women who were born in a male body or men who were born in a female body.
- Like transgender people, transsexuals are also born in the "wrong body" and change their appearance through hormones and operations.
- Intersex people have both male and female genitals.
- People with asexual orientation have little to no interest in sexual activity.
- Queer stands for everything that deviates from traditional gender roles and partner models.
- The "+" in LGBTQIA+ means that there are even more sexual or gender identities.





Support

You will also find acceptance and support in the district of Augsburg. There are organisations that look after the LGBTIQ* scene. In general, this is about

- · Equal rights and equal treatment
- · Fighting discrimination and misanthropy
- Educating the LGBTIQ* scene

Contact points

- Counselling and support for under 27-year-olds can be found at the "Queersupport" staff.
 More information at https://queersupport.de/
- The staff at GLADT e.V. also offer support in German, English, Arabic, Turkish, French and Kurdish by calling <u>0305876849300</u> or sending an email to <u>info@gladt.de</u>. More information at: https://gladt.de/

There are the following organisations and associations in the city of Augsburg that look after the LGBTQIA+ scene. They are primarily concerned with equal rights and equal treatment, the fight against discrimination and misanthropy as well as educating the LGBTQIA+ scene.

Queerbeet Augsburg e.V.

Queerbeet Augsburg e.V. is a group for LGBTQIA+ young people aged 14 to 27 in Augsburg and the surrounding area. They organise group evenings, school projects and other activities and are a point of contact for LGBTQIA+ issues.

More information at: www.queerbeet-augsburg.de

CSD Augsburg - Christopher Street Day Augsburg e.V.

The Christopher Street Day Augsburg association organises the well-known CSD in Augsburg, as well as other events such as IDAHIT*. They are particularly committed to the interests of queer people.

More information at: www.csd-augsburg.de

Queer Christians Augsburg

Queer Christians Augsburg is a group of bi-, trans-, asexual, lesbian and gay Christians of all ages. The group meets once a month (Fridays 19:00). The dates can be found at: https://qcaux.de/termine/ The group is open to all queer people who are interested in the Christian faith or who are searching in this regard.

More information at: https://qcaux.de/

· Café Queer at the Moritzpunkt

The Café Queer is open every 1st Tuesday of the month at 19:00. Cultural events and discussions on current socio-political topics take place here. Everyone who wants to meet in a friendly and open atmosphere is welcome.





Moritzplatz 5, 86150 Augsburg

More information at: https://qcaux.de/cafe/

Keywords: LGBTQ, LGBTQIA+, queer, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, transgender, intersexual, CSD, equal treatment, equal rights, discrimination

Religion

Religion in Germany

Germany is a predominantly Christian country. Many people belong to the Catholic or Protestant faith. Of course, there are also many people who belong to other faiths. Meanwhile, many people no longer have a denomination. This means that they do not belong to any religious community or denomination. Christianity still plays a major role in Germany. That is why there are also many statutory Christian <u>public holidays</u>. Other religious holidays are also observed at school. Pupils who wish to celebrate religious holidays can be exempted from school. This should be discussed with the school at an early stage. Faith is a private matter in Germany. State and religion are separate. However, the state and religion work closely together. For example, there are religious education lessons at school. In Germany, every person is free to choose their own faith. Freedom of religion is a valuable asset.

Freedom of religion

Freedom of religion is the law in Germany. Everyone has the right to choose and practise their own faith. The Basic Law must not be violated in the process.

Freedom of religion includes

- All people are free to practise and choose their religion and beliefs.
- All people have the freedom not to be religious. Anyone who does not believe in God may also say so publicly.
- People with different religions and beliefs may marry each other. A marriage must be performed at the registry office. Only then is it a legally binding marriage. Any person may also marry within the framework of religion. However, this is not legally binding in Germany.

The Basic Law can be read in nine languages <u>(German, Arabic, English, Farsi, French, Kurdish-Kurmanci, Russian, Spanish, Turkish)</u>: <u>www.bamf.de</u> (search term: "Broschüre: Das Grundgesetz").

Religious centres and associations





There are various intercultural associations, religious sites, initiatives and organisations in the district of Augsburg and the city of Augsburg.

