

Sneak Peek: Living and studying in Karlsruhe

August 2025



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2. Uni & Campus
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4. Leisure time in Karlsruhe
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1. Karlsruhe



About 300.000 residents



Climate: Karlsruhe is one of the warmest and sunniest cities in Germany



Founded in 1715 with originally 32 streets radiating from the palace into the parks and the Hardtwald of the Upper Rhine Plain ("Fan City")

1. Karlsruhe



Marktplatz with pyramid



“Residence of the Law”: KA is the seat of the Federal Constitutional Court, the Federal Court of Justice and the Federal Prosecutor General



One research university (KIT), one uni of education (PH), one uni of applied sciences (HKA), and several colleges

1. Karlsruhe



“UNESCO Creative City of Media Arts” and seat of the ZKM (Center for Art and Media)



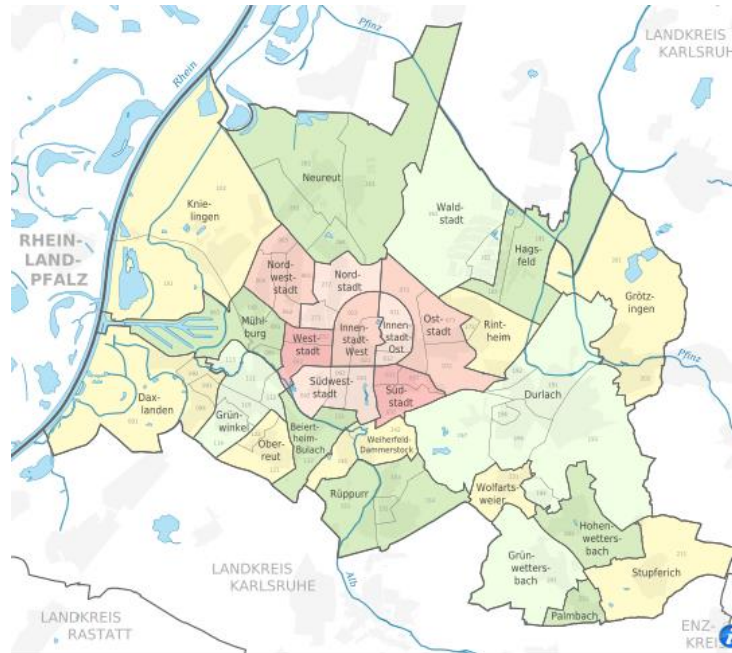
Karl Drais from Karlsruhe invented the “running machine”, the predecessor of today’s bicycle.



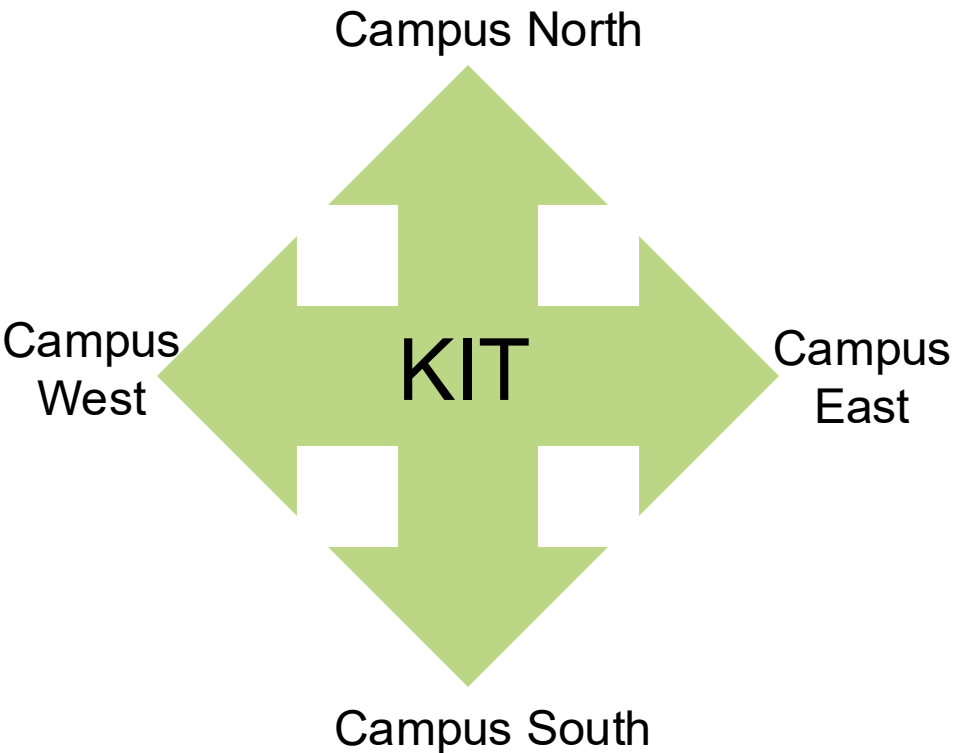
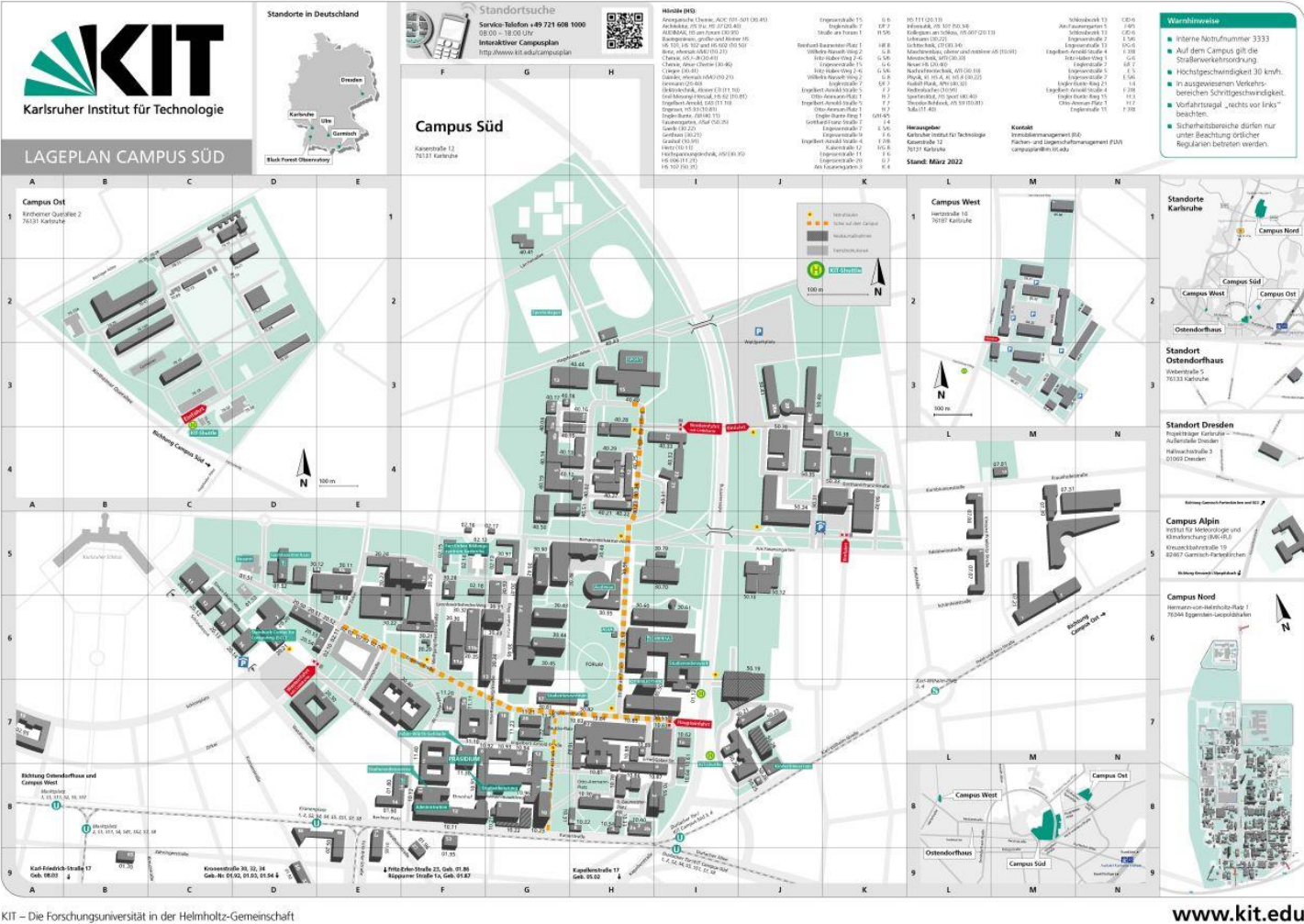
Germany's first real email was received on August 2, 1984 in the computer center of Karlsruhe University.

1. Karlsruhe

1. Annual competition „**most bike friendly city in Germany**“: Karlsruhe won in 2018 and 2020 and always performs well
2. Religion: ca. 24 % catholic, ca. 22 % protestant, ca. 6 % muslim, ca. 48 % confessionless or are part of another religious group
3. Football: Karlsruher Sport Club (KSC)



2. Uni & Campus



2. Uni & Campus: Campus South



KIT 24/7 Library: new & old



Audimax: Lectures, concerts...

2. Uni & Campus: Campus South



Mensa: lunch



Cafeteria: coffee, bread, snacks
Monday to Thursday :Dinner (Lecture times)

2. Uni& Campus: Campus South



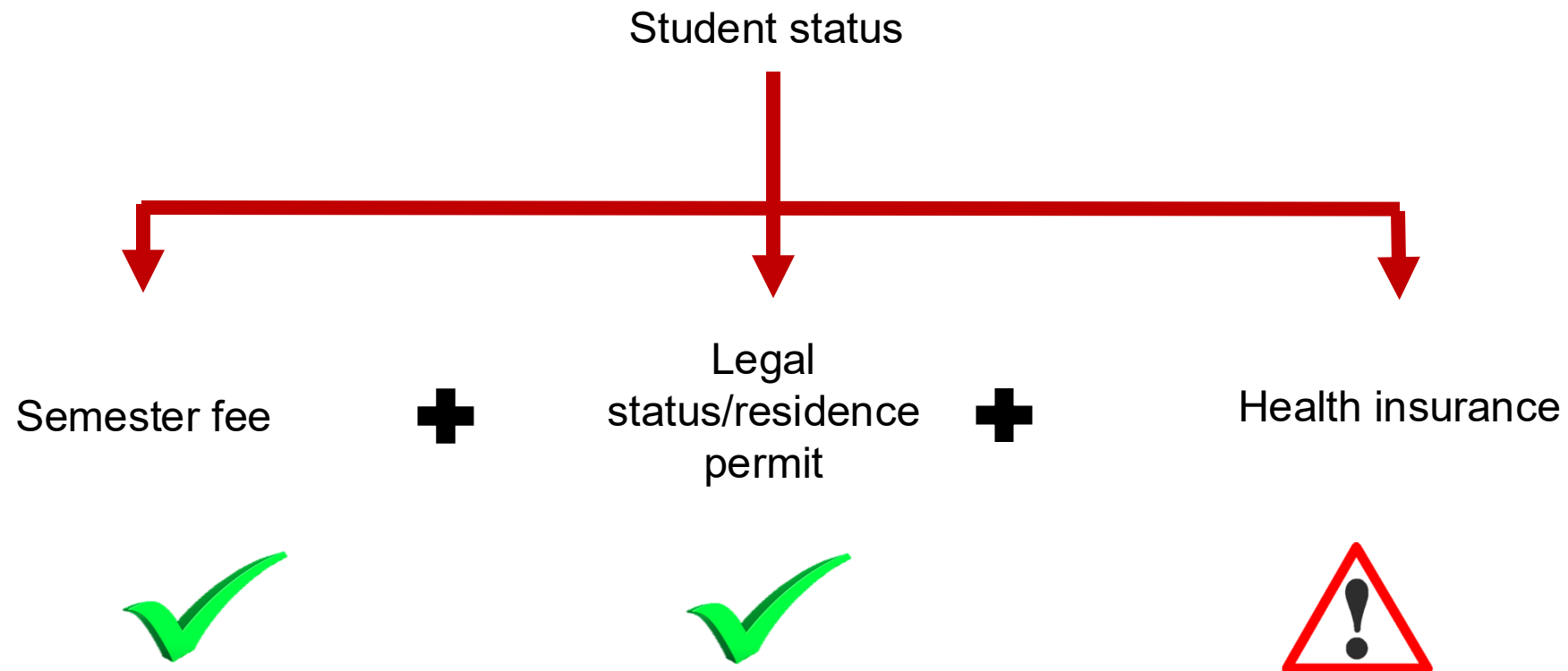
Ehrenhof



Sportcenter: swimming, football, university sports...

2. Uni & Campus

■ Obtaining and maintaining student status



2. Uni & Campus

■ Workspaces

- Group rooms can be booked via the Raumbuchung of the KIT library
- You can work in the “Kulturküche” without having to buy something
- in the cafeteria (KIT-canteen), in the AKK
- in other cafés or private

■ Finding learning groups

- Ask your fellow students in class
- Online by using the “Lernpartnerbörse”
- Through the International Buddy Program

2. Uni & Campus

■ Learning groups



2. Uni & Campus

■ For problems during your studies

■ Temporarily unable to continue your studies

- → please contact us **as soon as possible** and if necessary request a break semester

■ Severe illness:

- → **Submit a medical certificate** confirming that you are unable to continue your studies for health reasons from ... to ...

■ Not able to take an exam:

- → de-register
- → in the case of an oral exam after a written exam has been repeatedly failed: **contact us immediately**

3. Food & Drinks: Grocery shopping

■ Supermarket / Drogerie

(Bakery / Butchery / Pharmacy)

- Monday – Saturday, usually 8 am – 8 pm (usually 9 am – 6 pm)
- Closed on Sundays
- There are also international supermarkets (Asian, Indian, African, Turkish etc.)
- Rewe - Europaplatz open until midnight

■ Weekly market (Marktplatz, Gutenberg Platz, ...)

- Only on certain days, usually before midday

■ Gas station / Kiosk / Train station

- Open on all weekdays, sometimes also open at night



3. Food & Drinks: Going out

■ Breakfast / Brunch

- Cafés, Bakeries (Café Palaver, Bäckerei Visel, Extrablatt)

■ Lunch

- KIT canteen, Kulturküche, lunch table in restaurants

■ Sweets

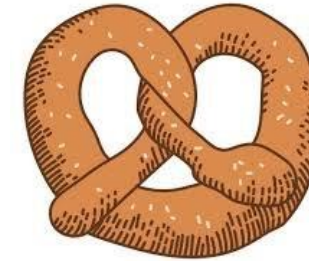
- Cafés, ice-cream parlour, Bakeries

■ Dinner

- KIT cafeteria,
- Student bars: Oxford, Stövchen, Café Emaile, Café Bleu etc.,
- Take-Away (Würstchen, Burger, Döner, Pizza, Chicken, ...)

■ Drinks

- Beer pubs, wine taverns, bars, clubs



3. Food & Drinks: Going out prices

- **cheap** → student bars, take-away, canteen, cafeteria, Kulturküche, lunch table in restaurants
- **expensive** → Restaurants à la carte, evening



- → **Opening hours** are very different, check in advance!
- → **Alcohol** Beer, wine from the age of 16 / liqueur from the age of 18 (ID or drivers license)

4. Leisure time in Karlsruhe

■ For every day

- Karlsruhe city
 - Castle/castle grounds, Günther-Klotz-Anlage, City-Park, botanical garden,...
 - Museum, theater, ZKM, ...
- Entertainment:
 - Games: Escape Room, Adventure Box, Bowling, etc.
 - Cinemas: Schauburg, ZKM, Schloss Gottesaue, Kinemathek, ...
- Hobbies in clubs:
 - Sport clubs: KSC, SCC, ...
 - Musical societies, orchestra
 - Animal welfare and nature conservation
- Sports grounds:
 - University-campus, Günther-Klotz-Anlage, SSC Sportpark, ...
 - Fächerbad, Europabad, Rüppurrer Schwimmbad, Sonnenbad, ...



4. Leisure time in Karlsruhe

■ Excursions for the weekend

■ Half-day (ca. 3-5h)

- Turmberg
- Rheinstrandbad
- various “Baggerseen”



■ Whole day

- “Pfälzer Wald” / Palatinate Forest
- “Schwarzwald” / Black Forest
- City trip to Baden-Baden



4. Leisure time in Karlsruhe

■ Excursions for the weekend

■ “Baggerseen”:

From larger lakes with snack bars, beer gardens and large sunbathing lawns (e.g. Epplesee) to smaller lakes with hardly any infrastructure and small bays (e.g. Neureuter Baggersee), there is something for everyone here



■ “Elsass and Straßburg” (Alsace and Strasbourg):

Whether it's a city trip to Strasbourg or a country vacation among the vineyards - French croissants for breakfast and Alsatian tarte flambée for lunch either way made for a fantastic stay



4. Leisure time in Karlsruhe

■ Karlsruhe “must-do’s”

■ Visit the [“ZKM”](#) (Centre for Art and Media):

Great expositions and events that often address current topics and are designed in an interactive and multimedia way

■ Visit [“Das Fest”](#):

Many German and international artists at the main stage; many other concerts, shows, etc. at the other stages and in the area around the stages

➔ you only need tickets for the main stage, the rest is free



5. Finding friends

- Fellow students in learning groups or when working on a project together
 - Take part in the Internationalen Buddy-Programm
 - University sport or other sports clubs
 - Partake at events from the Studierendenwerk
 - Volunteering:
 - at University groups, at AStA, at the „Kulturküche“, in other projects,...
- Mein Ehrenamt @ international KIT happily supports you at finding the right opportunity for you



6. Rules for living together

■ Nighttime

- Please try to be quiet from 10 pm to 6 am

■ Living together in a student dormitory

- Clean up regularly, do your dishes, air the kitchen during or after cooking, be considerate in general

■ Punctuality

- Be punctual when you have an appointment (maybe even 5 minutes early), cancel an appointment if you can't attend it

6. Rules for living together

■ Respectful interaction

- It is not acceptable to treat somebody differently or to discriminate against somebody due to his*her sex or gender, physical or mental capabilities, religion or ideology, sexual orientation, social background, skin color, age, or nationality!

- Should you experience discriminatory behavior yourself, please don't hesitate to contact
 - **AStA**
 - **Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination Working Group of International Office**
 - **KIT's anti-discrimination officer** Dr. Suzan Stutz (https://www.sts.kit.edu/english/7496_7418.php)

7. Waste separation and disposal

- Envelopes
- Books
- Catalogs
- Paper, cardboard, cartons
- Paper bags
- Paper and cardboard packaging
- Magazines

- Ash
- Light bulbs
- Rubber
- Hygiene articles
- Ceramics
- Butts
- Rags
- Porcelain
- Vacuum cleaner bags
- Dressing material
- diapers



- Aluminium foil
- Beverage cartons
- plastics
- metals
- Polystyrene
- Packaging made of wood, metal or plastic
- Balcony and pot plants
- Egg shells
- Vegetable waste
- Coffee filters
- Non-woody green waste
- Fruit peelings
- Raw & cooked food waste
- Tea bags

7. Waste separation and disposal

★ Glass



The glass containers are color-coded. The most common types are white glass, amber glass and green glass. Green and amber glass can often be disposed of together in the colored glass garbage can.

Corks go to waste, and aluminium lids need to be placed in 'Wertstoffe' ---- the yellow one

7. Mülltrennung und –entsorgung Sperrmüll

■ Bulky waste is...

- bulky furniture from private households that can't be disposed in common garbage bins due to their size or property

■ Batteries and rechargeable batteries

- must not be disposed of in the general waste, but at special collection points (= e.g. box at the supermarket entrance).

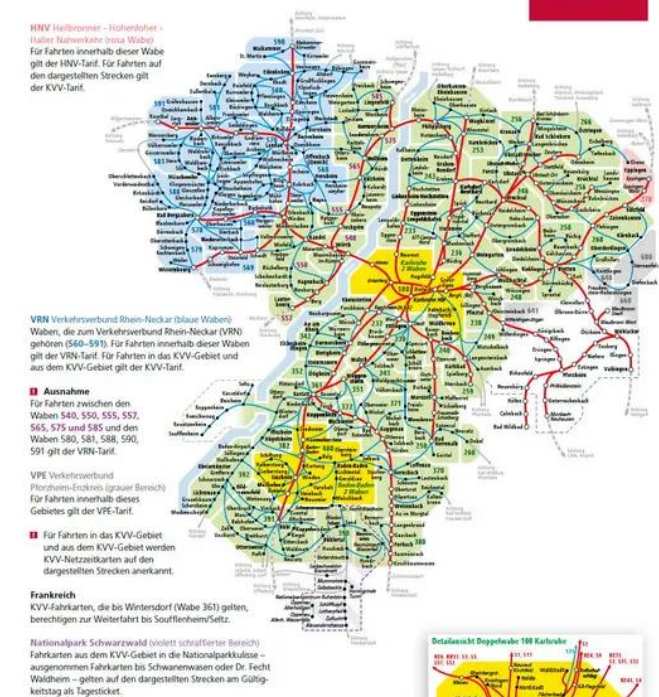
8. Traffic

- **Public transport (= “Öffis”) Bus, trams, metro, regional trains**
 - For students **with KIT-Card** and with certificate, free in the KVV-area
 - On weekdays from 6 pm to 6 am,
 - On weekends and on holidays
 - For students **with KIT-Card and Studicket** in the KVV-area
 - always
 - For students with the **Deutschlandticket UNI** in public transport in all of germany
 - always
 - **Does not apply** for Flixtrain, ICE, IC, EC, other long-distance trains

KVV: Karlsruher Verkehrsverbund – Tram and Bus



**HNV Heilbronn - Hohenloher -
Haller Nahverkehr (rosa Wabe)**
Für Fahrten innerhalb dieser Wabe
gilt der HNV-Tarif. Für Fahrten auf
den dargestellten Strecken gilt
der KVV-Tarif.



	Bahnlinien
	Bushlinien
	Bahn-/Bushlinien außerhalb KVZ
	erster Halt außerhalb KVZ
	KVV-Regionale
	KVV-Doppelverkehrs
	VRV-Wabe
	VPE-Wabe
	HRV-Wabe
	Strecke
	Stadt / Ort / Gemeinde
	Haltstrecke

8. Traffic

DB: Deutsche Bahn and „Deutschlandticket“



- **Unlimited** travel for 58 Euro each month
- **In whole Germany** for all public local transportation. (Not with IC, EC, ICE)
- D-Ticket JugendBW (annual) for students **up to 27 years old** (473€ per year ~ 39,42€ per month)

8. Traffic

■ Overview over the most important traffic signs (pdf)

- Having a phone call or listening to music with headphones while riding a bike is forbidden
- Riding your bike drunk (1,6 permille, suspicious driving or causing an accident) is a crime. **Attention:** even 0,3 permille can be prosecutable if you can't drive responsibly due to your alcoholisation

■ Renting or buying a bike

- KVV-Nextbikes can be rented for free for 30 min
- Second-Hand bikes can be bought at many different places in Karlsruhe

■ Repairing your bike

- Repair station (KIT) – location at KIT Campus Süd:
 - Building 30.21, Physics (Entrance Gerthsen-HS) / Building 30.51, between library and student house
- AK Metall (Hadiko)
 - Metal workshop in the basement of Hadiko K4 (Klosterweg 28, opening hours: tue + thu, 6-7:30 pm)

■ Keeping your bike → always lock your bike!!



8. Traffic

■ Long-distance

- Deutsche Bahn
- [Flixbus](#)
- BlablaCar

■ Transportation of furniture

- Rent a car from AStA

■ Traveling by car

- Check whether your drivers licence is valid in Germany
- Car sharing: Stadtmobil

9. „Rundfunkbeitrag“

- Fee for public media (*ARD, ZDF, Deutschlandradio*)
 - 18,36 € monthly per apartment/flat
 - Shared flat: one person has to register, costs can be shared
 - A room in a student hostel classifies as an apartment if it can be accessed from a commonly used hallway, has its own postbox and it's own bell
 - Exemption only due to social or health issues and has to be requested

10. Health care

■ "Hausarzt" - Family doctor / general practitioner

- For general complains / for initial assessment
- Refers to a specialist if necessary
- Find a family doctor: <https://www.arztsuche-bw.de/> or via [doctolib](#)
- List of foreign-language doctors: <https://www.intl.kit.edu/istudent/15470.php>

■ Medical on-call service / Patient service tel. 116117

- If your family doctor is not available (weekends, holidays, at night)
- If there is **no** emergency, but the complaints cannot wait until the next day

10. Health care

■ Hospital - central emergency room

- Address: „Städtisches Klinikum“, Franz-Lust-Straße 29, House E, Karlsruhe
- Care of acutely threatened, ill or injured people

■ Ambulance

- In case of an emergency call **112**

■ Even in an emergency

- Always have your **health insurance card** with you

Examples of statutory health insurance companies:

- [AOK](#) (Allgemeine Ortskrankenkasse)
- [BARMER](#)
- [DAK Gesundheit](#)
- [Techniker Krankenkasse \(TK\)](#)

10. Health care

- Psychological Help (PBS) of the „Studierendenwerk“
 - For psychological problems: Exam anxiety, depression, loneliness, etc.
- Clinic for Psychiatry and Psychotherapeutic Medicine
 - For severe psychological or emotional problems

10. Health care

■ Insects:

- Mosquitoes, ticks, wasps in summertime (forest, lawn, parks etc.)

■ Solutions:

- Insect repellent spray (Insektenschutzspray)
- Vaccination against tick-borne encephalitis
- Long pants
- See your doctor if you can't remove a tick yourself and/or if you observe a red circle around the bite (lyme disease)



Wichtige Notrufnummern / Emergency Call

- 112 - Feuerwehr und Rettungsdienst / fire department and rescue service
- 110 – Polizei / Police department
- Preparation:
 - Who's calling? (Name, location, phone number)
 - Where happened the event? (location, address)
 - What happened? (discription of the event, traffic accidence, fire, etc.)

11. Further information

■ Further information...

- ... about living in Germany can be found in the Ratgeber: [Leben in Deutschland](#) or on the website make-it-in-germany.com
- ... about living in Karlsruhe can be found on the city website, at [expat-ka](#) (in English) or at the [Stadtwiki](#)

Thanks for your attention and we hope you liked it 😊



For the slides or any other questions please contact us:

welcome@intl.kit.edu

Or visit us at the
[International Student Hub:](#)

Kaiserstraße 14, Building
01.90, ground floor



We would like to hear your thoughts:

Please fill in our "less than 2 minutes" questionnaire. Thank you!

See ink in Zoom-chat:

<https://easy-feedback.de/umfrage/2024392/Rjpm4H9>

<https://easy-feedback.de/umfrage/2024627/iDmCu54>