

Independent Traveler Infos # 03 TGAC

Travel to Germany: electrical devices & communication: Electrical appliances in Germany run on 220 – 240 volts. Sockets take round-pronged plugs. Running your american electrical toothbrush or hair-dryer could result in serious damage. Gadgets usually need both a voltage converter and a plug adaptor. Most rechargeable electronics such as notebooks, cameras, iPods and mobile phones function for a voltage range of 100 – 240 volts – that means you only need a plug adaptor. Check the information on the power supply unit of your electrical devices: "Input: 100–240V" is what you need to see there! If you are uncertain ask the fabricator or your local dealer – best before you start your journey. Hi-Fi Internet Access "Hot Spots" became more common within the last 10 years in Germany, but don't rely on it – especially in small towns and rural areas. Most cities have "Internet cafes" – ask your hotel staff, tourist information centers or just (young) people. Tri-band or Quad-band mobile phones function in Germany. Make sure you know about the costs for outgoing and incoming calls including your mailbox. If you have an unlocked SIM-card phone you could just switch to a German SIM card which are available in any mobile phone shop. Calling abroad in this case is expensive. German phone numbers (landline and mobile) always start with "0". To call a German number from anywhere abroad use the country code +49 and drop the first "0". To call abroad from inside Germany dial "00" followed by the country code (USA: "1") and the phone number. Public phones operate either with coins or calling cards which are available at post offices, kiosks and tourist information centers. Emergency calls are free. In Germany you can call the police at "110" or the emergency doctor / fire department at "112". In case of an emergency don't hesitate to ask a german speaking local or passerby to help you making the call – especially to provide the information where exactly you are located! For more information and if you have questions [contact us](#).

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