

# Homestay Immersion Program in Germany

## 2010 Dates and Prices\*

Suggested Dates\*\*: June 23 - July 21

Prices: \$1,450 for 4-week program  
\$575 for optional Berlin Tour  
(airfare not included)

\*We reserve the right to adjust program prices if there is a major change in the currency exchange rate. In this case, applicants may cancel and receive a full refund.

\*\*contact Andeo for other date options



## Program Highlights

- individual homestay placement with a German family
- contact with German teenagers
- optional Berlin tour

## Welcome to Germany!

Spend your summer discovering German culture as part of a family! Start your day with a Nutella-centric breakfast, bike through the countryside with your new friends, practice your German during afternoon walks with your host family, and experience Germany's unique blend of tradition and modernity. For this program, our partners in Germany choose families who either have teens at home or can introduce you to people your age in the extended family or neighborhood.

## Program Structure

Once you step off the plane in Hamburg, you will be met by a local coordinator and escorted to your host family. Because students and families are matched based on shared interests and not on location, you may be staying anywhere in the country. Most families live within a few hours from Hamburg. For the next weeks, you will eat, sleep, and play like the Germans do. Enjoy! Throughout your stay, you will have the support of the local coordinator.

## Optional Berlin Tour

Finish your stay with a 3-day tour of Germany's truly cosmopolitan capital! Berlin is considered one of the most exciting cities in Europe and offers many opportunities to learn about Germany's history and get a glimpse of its future, too. Highlights may include a visit to the *Bundestag*, a close-up photo shoot of the Brandenburg Tor, a tour of the Charlottenburger Schloss, or a picnic in one of Berlin's many public parks. Please note that a minimum of two students is required to offer the tour.

## Prerequisites

We recommend this homestay immersion program for students who have studied German for at least one year, who really want to use and improve their language skills, and who feel ready to dive in to a different lifestyle and culture. You won't spend a lot of time with other American students, and you should not expect to do a lot of traveling. If you prefer a program that offers language classes and organized group activities, take a look at our homestay study program in Freiburg!

*"My host family was absolutely wonderful. Every member of the family was extremely caring and helpful in my learning experience. Now I understand almost 100% of German, and my speaking ability has improved significantly. I love the German culture and it was just as great as I imagined it to be!"*

-Ani, 2008-



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# Frequently Asked Questions

**What does the price include?** A homestay placement, travel insurance, pre-departure orientation materials, and on-site support in Germany.

**What is a host family?** Host families come in all shapes and sizes, but what they all have in common is a strong interest in sharing their culture. All host families are screened by our partner organization in Germany and provide warm, welcoming homes for international students.

**Will there be someone my age in the home?** In most cases, yes. If a family does not have teens at home, they will introduce you to teens in their extended family or neighborhood. And since young people in Germany tend to do activities with groups of friends rather than one-on-one, you may have opportunities to make friends outside your host family circle, too.

**Will my family speak English?** They might, but they know that you are coming to use and improve your German skills, so they will encourage you to speak their language.

**When will I receive my host family placement information?** You will receive host family details and contact information in the week prior to your arrival date, possibly earlier.

**But what will I DO all day?** That depends on your host family's daily schedule and lifestyle. You can expect to speak German, meet German people, explore the neighborhood you are staying in, and participate in family activities like meals, family gatherings, grocery shopping, or a few weekend outings. The key to enjoying an immersion program is to stay curious and take every opportunity to practice your German and learn something new about your host culture.

**Will there be an orientation?** Once you are accepted into the program, we will send you comprehensive orientation materials that cover everything from packing suggestions to dealing with culture shock.

**When should I book my flight?** After you have officially been accepted into the program. Information about the arrival/ departure airport and times will be included in your acceptance letter.

**Can I get high school credits for this program?** Possibly. Talk to your teachers before the end of the school year about the option of completing an independent study project during or after your stay abroad.

**What travel documents will I need?** That depends on the length of your program, your citizenship, and other individual factors. Entry requirements change frequently, so we strongly recommend that you contact your nearest German embassy or consulate to get up-to-date information. Generally, U.S. citizens need a passport, but not a visa for a short-term stay. It is your responsibility to obtain all necessary travel documents for your stay in Germany.

**Can I speak to people who have participated in the program before?** Definitely! Please contact our office and we can provide you with the email addresses of students who have been on this program.

**How do I apply?** Complete the initial application form and return it to ANDEO with a \$500 deposit. We will then send you a detailed application with questions about your family and interests, a medical statement and release form, an agreement that spells out behavior expectations, directions for writing a letter to your host family, and three reference forms. You will have about 3-4 weeks to complete this. The decision to accept you into the program will be made based on your completed application. If for any reason we cannot accept you into the program, your deposit will be refunded in full.

**What is the application deadline?** The deadline is May 1st. However, we recommend that you apply as soon as you feel that all your questions have been answered and you have decided that this is the right program for you. Programs sometimes fill up early.

**Who should not apply for this program?** Students who are currently experiencing excessive behavior problems, drug or alcohol abuse, eating disorders or other psychological disorders that might interfere with the program, or students who have experienced these issues in the past year should not apply.

**Are there any scholarships?** No, ANDEO is a non-profit organization and we try to keep prices as low as possible for all participants. For students who want to fundraise for their program abroad, we have compiled some ideas and suggestions. You can find them on our website at [www.andeo.org](http://www.andeo.org).



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*Like having options? Take a look at our other homestay immersion programs in France, Mexico and Spain! We also offer homestay study programs in Costa Rica, Ecuador, France, Germany, Japan and Spain!*

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