



Hier
beginnt's

TIPS FOR LIVING IN MAGDEBURG

Summer Semester 2026

Hier
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OVGU SAYS

WELCOME!



Presentation Structure

Hier
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1. Public Transportation
2. Housing and Tenant Obligations
3. Shopping and Public Holidays
4. Orientation and Leisure in Magdeburg
5. Contacts and Support Services



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1. Public Transportation

1. Public Transportation

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Deutschlandticket (included in your semester ticket)



- You have to **activate** the ticket before you can use it
 - Possible from March 25
- Activate the ticket in the **easy.GO-app** & have the ticket ready on your phone **before entering** any form of public transport (your student ID card is not necessary!)
- Access to **public transportation** system in Germany **in every city**
 - Valid from April 1, 2026 - September 30, 2026 → Re-activate for new semester
 - The only public transport you **cannot** use it for long-distance trains (ICE, IC/EC)



How to -
Public Ticket

[FAQ](#)

1. Public Transportation

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Long distance traffic in Germany:

- Deutsche Bahn (DB) → **DB App** for timetables
- Flixbus/FlixTrain → **FlixBus App** for ticket booking and timetables

Public transportation in Magdeburg:

- Trams and busses → **INSA App**, easyGo App or DB App for timetables



A decorative graphic consisting of a solid blue horizontal line extending from the left edge of the slide to a blue circle. From this circle, a blue line continues vertically down the right side of the slide. A pink line also extends vertically down the right side, overlapping the blue line and forming a jagged, zig-zag pattern.

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2. Housing and Tenant Obligations

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Problems in finding accommodation?

- Assistance in finding accommodation for new international students:
- Help with creation of shared apartments („WG“)

Info Session: Finding Housing (Studentenwerk Magdeburg)

March 19, 2026 from 12 to 2 p.m. via Zoom

- Workshop with steps for finding housing in Magdeburg, get to know housing providers, how to identify rental fraud

from 02.03. individually via Zoom:

ab 02.03. individuell per Zoom:

housing@studentenwerk-magdeburg.de

from 23.03. in person at the IKT (dorm 9):

ab 23.03. persönlich im IKT (Wohnheim 9):

Tue: 3 pm - 6 pm + Fri: 10 am - 1 pm

Di.: 15:00 - 18:00 + Fr.: 10:00 - 13:00 Uhr

2. Housing and Tenant Obligations

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After Finding Accommodation → Rental Agreement („Mietvertrag“)

Pricing models:

- Rental apartments usually start at €350 + deposit (min. €250)
- Fixed rent each month, bills included
- Basic rent („Kaltmiete“) + bills (heating and operating costs) = total rent („Warmmiete“)
 - Be mindful with showering, turning on the heating, etc. in order to lower „Warmmiete“
 - Some rental agreements include a fixed electricity provider, e.g. student dorms of Studentenwerk Magdeburg



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Electricity

Note: this only applies to flats without a fixed supplier, it doesn't apply to student dorms



- Before moving, research and compare different suppliers online (e.g. [check24.de](https://www.check24.de))
 - Magdeburg's default supplier („Grundversorger“) is SWM, may be more expensive than others
 - Choose a supplier with suitable conditions and sign contract online
- In some cases: take a photo of your electricity meter reading („Stromzählerstand“) on your move-in day or an employee comes to read the electricity meter



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Internet

- Before moving, research and compare different providers online (e.g. check24.de)
 - Concrete questions? → Contact providers
- Choose a provider with suitable conditions and sign contract online, follow their process
- Arrange for a technician to set up your WiFi-Router
 - Note: **eduroam** and **OVGU WiFi** are available in most areas on campus
 - Free WiFi in Magdeburg: **Otto Hotspot**

2. Housing and Tenant Obligations

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What is the Broadcasting License Fee?


- Legally prescribed contribution for citizens, companies, institutions
- Serves to finance public broadcasting service based on contributory model
- Fee is paid directly to the public broadcasting service

English FAQ for students:



2. Housing and Tenant Obligations

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The screenshot shows the website interface for Rundfunkbeitrag. At the top, there are logos for various German public broadcasters (ARD, ZDF, Deutschlandradio) and the text 'BEITRAGSSERVICE'. Below this is a search bar and a main heading: 'Ihr Rundfunkbeitrag – Online-Service schnell und sicher'. A section titled 'Bürgerinnen und Bürger' contains a paragraph of text and a list of service buttons. The button 'Wohnung anmelden' is highlighted with a pink circle. Other buttons include 'Namen, Adresse, Zahlungsweise ändern', 'Befreiung/ Ermäßigung beantragen', 'Nebenwohnung befreien', 'Wohnung abmelden', 'Kontaktformular', and 'Alle Formulare'. To the left of the text is an image of a woman wearing a headset, representing customer service.

Startseite

Ihr Rundfunkbeitrag – Online-Service schnell und sicher

Bürgerinnen und Bürger

Sie sind umgezogen und möchten uns Ihre neue Adresse nennen oder Sie möchten auf unsere Anfrage zur Beitragspflicht antworten? Diese und viele weitere Anliegen können Sie einfach über unsere [Formulare](#) mitteilen.

► Lesen Sie mehr zum Thema 'Informationen für Bürgerinnen und Bürger'

- Wohnung anmelden**
- Namen, Adresse, Zahlungsweise ändern
- Befreiung/ Ermäßigung beantragen
- Nebenwohnung befreien
- Wohnung abmelden
- Kontaktformular
- Alle Formulare

Mandatory licence fee for each residence!

- Regardless of how many people live in apartment / how many devices
- **18.36 € per month / residence**

Register with your German address to avoid debt:



Rundfunkbeitrag.de

2. Housing and Tenant Obligations

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- Individual contribution number (everyone has one), not apartment-related
- Shared apartment: 1 person pays, share the amount so that everyone contributes (except Bafög recipients)
- If roommate is already paying for the apartment → Indicate it on registration form with contribution number of person paying
- Report changes: relocation, payment details
- Deregister your residence when leaving

Rundfunkbeitrag.de

2. Housing and Tenant Obligations

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Tenant Obligations: Generally...

- Rest time at night: avoid loud noises between **10 p.m. – 6 a.m.** (mon.-sat.) and **all day on Sundays**
- Be mindful of your neighbours and the ways you may potentially disturb them
 - Mutual respect is key to peaceful living
- Do not litter common areas such as staircases and hallways

2. Housing and Tenant Obligations

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Tenant Obligations: Generally...

- Air out your room or flat *daily* to avoid mold and to regulate your room temperature and humidity
 - **Typically, there is no air-con. in German flats**
- **Save energy** and turn off the heating while windows are open
- Turn off the lights in rooms you are not currently in and before leaving your flat

2. Housing and Tenant Obligations

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Living in student dorms or shared „WGs“

- Specific **house rules** may apply (e.g. no smoking, adherence to hygienic standards, etc.)
 - Rule violations may result in contract termination
 - **Community areas are to be cleaned** after each use (kitchen, bathroom...)
 - Please respect people's privacy and personal belongings
- You might want to consider coming up with a cleaning schedule to keep everyone happy and involved in looking after your flat

2. Housing and Tenant Obligations

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Waste Separation



Choosing the correct bin:

Yellow bin: plastic, metal and composite materials

Blue bin: paper and cardboard

Brown bin: organic waste (use bio-degradable bags only)

Black bin: unsorted, unrecyclable waste

- Non-returnable **glass** is to be separated by colour (white, green, brown)
- There are separate donation containers for old **clothes**
- Beware - bulky waste, electronics, batteries and hazardous waste are treated specially



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3. Shopping and Public Holidays

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Shopping in Magdeburg

- **Groceries:** Edeka, NP, Lidl, Aldi, Netto, Rewe, Kaufland, Penny
- **Major shopping centres:** Allee Center, City Carré, GALERIA, Flora Park, Börde Park
- **Drug stores:** Rossmann, dm
- **Electronics:** Media Markt, Medimax
- **Furniture, household:** IKEA, Sconto, SB Möbel-Boss, Woolworth, Action, Tedi
- **Laundromat:** SB Waschsalon Bloomest, SB Waschsalon Laundry, Buckau

3. Shopping and Public Holidays

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For used furniture/household appliances...



Take a look at:

- "An- und Verkauf" (Purchase and sale) shops in Magdeburg
- Ebay
- IKUS WhatsApp group "Sharing is caring"
 - Contact ikus@ovgu.de

3. Shopping and Public Holidays

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Mobile Data and Making Phone Calls

- Recommendation: Pre-paid SIM-card
- Buy in supermarket (e.g. Aldi, Lidl, Edeka, NP, Rewe,...)
- Common providers: Aldi Talk, Lidl Connect, O2, Vodafone, Telekom
- Identification via video-chat might be necessary



3. Shopping and Public Holidays

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Deposit system in Germany

Cans, plastic and glass bottles:

- Operate on deposit system – get your money back!
 - 0,25€ per disposable plastic bottle or can
 - 0,08 - 0,15€ per reusable glass bottle
- Return at every grocery or beverage store near you, use the refund in the grocery of return
- Keep an eye out for the following symbol:



3. Shopping and Public Holidays

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Supermarkets are closed on Sundays!

Shops closed (holidays in Sayony-Anhalt):

- April 3, 2026 Good Friday
- April 6, 2026 Easter Monday
- May 1, 2026 Labor Day
- May 14, 2026 Ascension Day ("Christi Himmelfahrt")
- May 25, 2026 Whit Monday

Aldi at main
station
Magdeburg is
open 365 days a
year

A decorative graphic consisting of a horizontal blue line extending from the left edge of the slide to a solid blue circle. To the right of the circle, the text 'Hier beginnt's' is written in a blue, sans-serif font. On the right side of the slide, there are two vertical lines: one blue and one pink. Both lines are jagged and zig-zagging, resembling a stylized path or a decorative border. The blue line is on the left of the pink line, and they both extend from the top to the bottom of the slide.

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4. Orientation and Leisure in Magdeburg

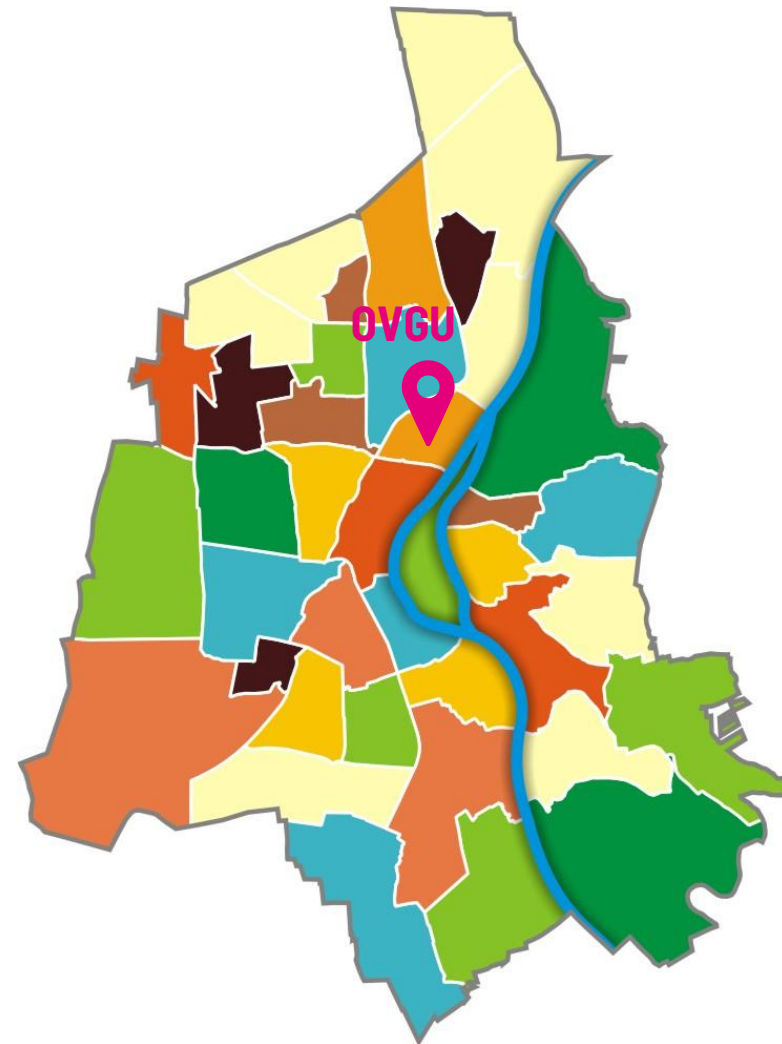
4. Orientation and Leisure in Magdeburg

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Popular districts for students:

Alte Neustadt: University quarter, Nordpark, centrally located, Wissenschaftshafen

Altstadt: City centre, Alter Markt, Hasselbachplatz, Magdeburg Main Station, shopping centres, bars, restaurants, lively and busy



Landeshauptstadt Magdeburg

4. Orientation and Leisure in Magdeburg

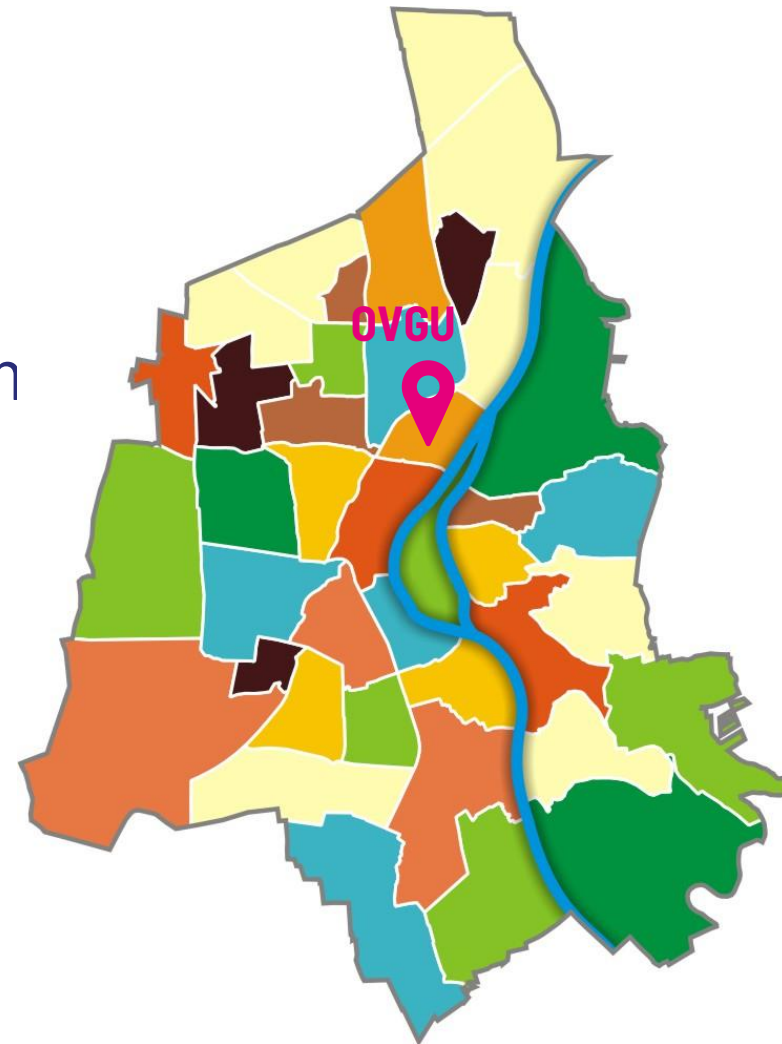
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Popular districts for students:

Buckau: Slightly off centre, cultural sights (Gruson-Botanical-Garden, Technikmuseum...), student favourites such as „Datsche“, Elbe riverbank, green areas and street art

Neue Neustadt: Near university, major Kaufland, Moritzhof (cultural centre), lively

Reform: Faculty of Medicine, University Hospital, calm, green



Landeshauptstadt Magdeburg

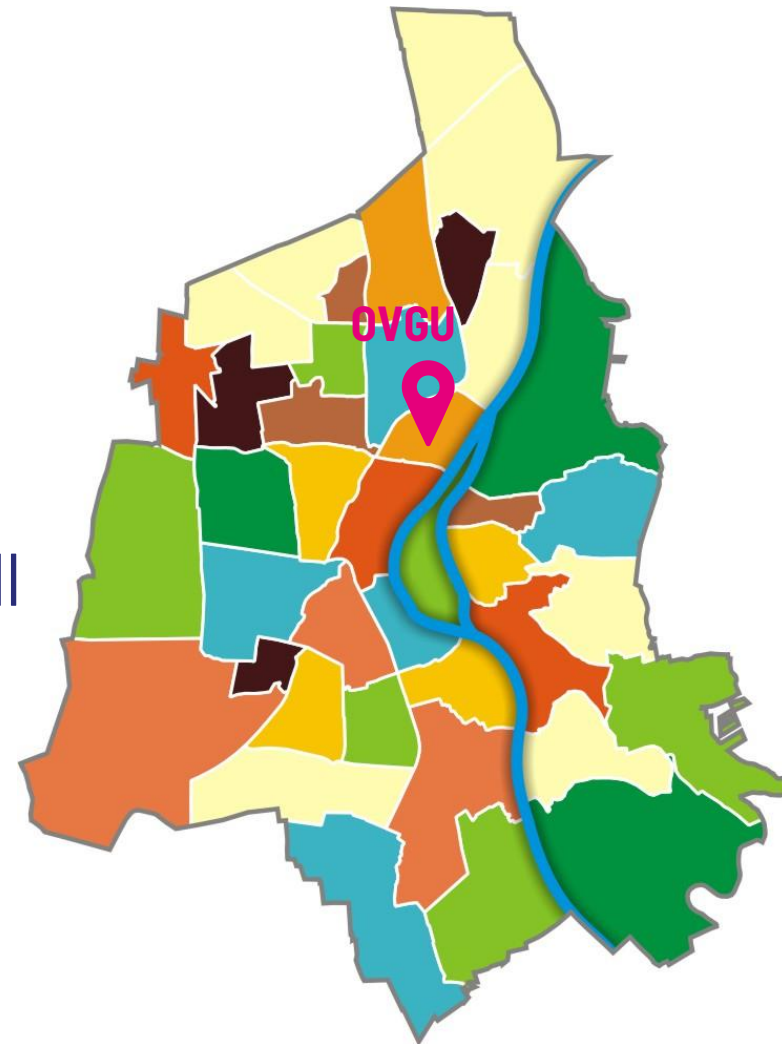
4. Orientation and Leisure in Magdeburg

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Popular districts for students:

Stadtfeld Ost: Most popular for students, green, small cafés, restaurants, slightly away from university but accessible by tram and bike

Sudenburg: Slightly off centre however well connected with university, shops, cafés, especially near „Halberstädter Str.“



Landeshauptstadt Magdeburg

4. Orientation and Leisure in Magdeburg

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Things to Do and See in Magdeburg

Sights:



Datsche

Gruson Gewächshäuser

Stadtpark Rotehorn



Wasserstraßenkreuz

Elbauenpark

Grüne Zitadelle

Events:

- [Dates-md.de](https://dates-md.de)
- [Magdeboogie.de](https://magdeboogie.de)
- [„Welcome to OVGU“](#)
App



4. Orientation and Leisure in Magdeburg

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- **City library:**
 - Intercultural events, readings, language café
- Cafés, restaurants, bars, meeting points
 - Hot spots: University square, Hasselbachplatz, Stadtfeld Ost, Buckau
- Popular gyms:
 - McFIT, EASYFITNESS.club, FIT/ONE, Fitness First
 - **CampusFIT on Campus, Sports courses at OVGU**

4. Orientation and Leisure in Magdeburg

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- **Walking along** the banks of the **Elbe**, in the **parks** (Stadtpark Rotehorn, Elbauenpark, Nordpark, Herrenkrugpark, Glacis Park...)
- **Culture** (some at student prices):
 - Magdeburg Theater
 - Magdeburg Cathedral, monasteries
 - Cultural History Museum
 - Puppet theater
 - Exhibition halls (e.g. Hyparschale)
 - Cinemas (CinemaxX, Moritzhof)



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5. Contacts and Support Services

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Magdeburg Welcome Service



Questions about arriving and living in Magdeburg?

- Information on work and study, housing, language courses, family, leisure activities, health, residence and work permits
- Information events and workshops, networking
- Individual advice by email, telephone, digitally and on site
 - Email: welcome@stadt.magdeburg.de

When?	Mon., Wed.	By arrangement
	Tue., Thu.	9 a.m. – 12, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Where?	Breiter Weg 120a, 39104 Magdeburg	



5. Contacts and Support Services

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AGSA (Foreign Society Sachsen-Anhalt)

- Language Café
- Conversation course „German in everyday life“
- SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Club
- Counselling services: work, health insurance, queer counselling
- Internships and theses

Where?

Einewelthaus

Schellingstraße 3-4, 39104 Magdeburg



5. Contacts and Support Services

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Exchange & local associations:

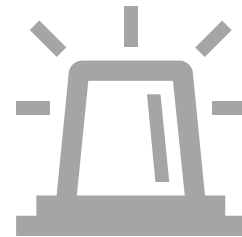
- Freiwilligenagentur Magdeburg (Volunteer Agency)
- Magdeburg Indians e.V., Syrisch-Deutscher Kulturverein e.V.,
Haus des Schutzes: Darul Aman
- Other international associations: Contact **AGSA**

5. Contacts and Support Services

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Important Emergency Numbers:

- Fire department / Ambulance: **112**
- Police: **110**





ANY QUESTIONS?

