HOW TO GET TO GREIFSWALD

Greifswald is located in the north-east of Germany, close to the Baltic Sea (where others make their holidays) and the border with Poland. Greifswald can be reached by train (from Berlin, Hamburg, Szczecin), by ferry (nearest ports: Sassnitz-Mukran, Rostock), or by plane (nearest airports: Hamburg, Berlin, and Lübeck which is a Ryanair-low-fares-destination with connections from London-Stansted, Glasgow, Shannon, Stockholm, Pisa, and Milan/Bergamo). A train journey from Berlin takes about 3 hours (direct trains), from Hamburg about 4 hours (min 1 change in Stralsund), from Szczecin about 2 hours (change in Pasewalk). The motorway A20 provides easy access by car from all major cities.

As the International Office we organize (with the help of Greifswald students) a welcoming service. Thus, all students who would like to be met at the railway station should just send us their arrival details.

Flights should be booked either to:
Airport Berlin-Tegel (phone: +49-(0)1805000186);
Airport Berlin-Schönefeld (phone: +49-(0)1805000186);
Airport Hamburg-Fuhlsbüttel (phone: +49-(0)40-50752557);
Airport Hamburg-Lübeck (phone: +49-(0)451-58301-0).

From Berlin-Tegel buses (X9, 109) run every 20 minutes to the railway station “Zoologischer Garten”. From Berlin-Schönefeld you can take a shuttle bus to the nearby railway and S-Bahn-station (suburban line). Direct trains to Greifswald depart from “Zoologischer Garten” and “Ostbahnhof”.

Hamburg-Fuhlsbüttel: There are bus connections (Airport City Line, Airport Express) to Hamburg “Hauptbahnhof” (central railway station).
Hamburg-Lübeck: Bus No. 6 takes you to the main railway station in Lübeck, a taxi to the railway station costs about € 16,-.

Ferries run regularly from Trelleborg/Sweden and Klaipėda/Lithuania to Saßnitz-Mukran on the nearby Isle of Rügen (phone: +49-(0)38392-550). The ferry from Gedser/ Denmark takes you to Rostock (approx. 100km west of Greifswald; phone: +49-(0)381-6662444). For further information about the ports consult: www.dasan.de/katalog/d/reisen/verkehr/seeverkehr/faehraefer.html
STUDYING AND LIVING IN GREIFSWALD

The modern Greifswald with its approx. 55,000 inhabitants has, as a cosmopolitan town, remained true to its Hanseatic heritage. Despite its small-town charm Greifswald is, with its university, meeting place of students, scientists, artists, and entrepreneurs from all over the world. The townscape is characterized by the students (among them more than 600 international students from about 70 countries), who really make Greifswald a young, vibrant, and lively town. It is often proclaimed that studying in Greifswald is extraordinary since the people living and here are actually spending their time where most people are spending only their holidays – close to the Baltic Sea.

VISA

► EU nationals do not require a visa to enter Germany. The same applies to nationals of countries with which Germany has arranged special agreements. Information about entry regulations is available at German Embassies or Consulates as well as on the website of the German Foreign Office (www.auswaertiges-amt.de). There one also finds relevant addresses, visa requirements for individual countries and also application forms. Please contact the nearest embassy or consulate well in advance to apply for a visa for educational purposes. To do this one normally will have to present a notification of admission to the University of Greifswald. Please be aware that sufficient financial means to cover costs of study and living have to be proven (currently amounting to approx. € 580 per month). This certification may be, for example, a letter confirming the award of a scholarship or grant, or any other document confirming funds for study and living costs in Germany.

After the arrival in Greifswald international students have to register as Greifswald residents with the local Residents’ Registration Office (Einwohnermeldeamt) within 10 days. With the residents’ registration form they can apply to the Aliens’ Registration Office (Ausländerbehörde) to obtain a residence permit.

Do not forget: passport, passport photograph, rental contract. You will find the registration form in the office itself.

Address:
Spiegelsdorfer Wende 1
Haus 1
Phone: 03834/524132
Aliens’ Registration Office

The Aliens’ Registration Office (Ausländerbehörde) is right next to the Residents’ Registration Office. All international students have to get registered here.

Do not forget: passport, two passport photographs, rental contract, proof of health insurance, study certification (Studienbescheinigung, to be issued after matriculation respectively enrolment with the central student’s administrative office) and proof of sufficient financial means.

REGISTRATION AT UNIVERSITY

► If not indicated otherwise, enrolment is possible until two weeks prior to the commencement of lectures at the beginning of each term. All students receive their student identity card
(Studentenausweis) as well as an email account including username and password in order to have access to the university network and the internet.

Do not forget the following documents:
- D1: Original (or authenticated copy) of admission to Higher Education Institutions (HEI) (A-level Certificate or similar document);
- Document proving health insurance;
- Passport/Identification;
- Passport photograph;
- + N: Admission certification for subjects with restricted admission;
- Students changing the higher education institution must bring a list of all courses attended so far, a confirmation that they have enrolled for a HEI (including the number of terms completed), a confirmation that they have been taken off the register of a HEI, and the transcript of records, if applicable;
- All international students also need to present a document proving sufficient knowledge of German as well as their student’s visa.

FEES AND COSTS

► The University of Greifswald does not charge any tuition fees for regular degree courses. All students just have to pay their enrolment fee (currently € 50, 50 per semester), as a small contribution to the student union and the student administration.

LANGUAGE COURSES

► Please note that we offer intensive German language courses two to each term for CAMPUS EUROPAE students. This course is free of charge. If you like to participate in the course, please indicate your wish on the application form, which you get at your home university.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

► Application at the University: 15th of July for winter semester

15th of January for summer semester

Applications for LEP’s: End of June

ACCOMODATION

► The student administration of Greifswald University offers a number of modern student’s hostels (Wohnheime) where most of the international students live. Students usually share flats with several single and twin study-bedrooms, shared kitchen and toilet facilities. Via bus or bike the town centre and the university sites are within easy reach from all students’ hostels.

The average monthly rent ranges from about € 120 to € 170 (incl. energy, water, heating, waste disposal, and TV connection). Rooms in student’s hostels are allocated by the student administration, where you have to send their application form as early as possible. This form can be downloaded from the student administration’s website (www.uni-greifswald.de/~studwerk/), which also provides a list of student’s hostels and a description of facilities.

For all CE students coming to Greifswald accommodation can be arranged by the International Office (whose colleagues get in touch with the student administration on behalf of exchange students). CE students should therefore submit their application form to the International Office.
Apart from student’s hostels there are, of course, private landlord’s/-ladies, building contractors, and residential building co-operatives offering rooms and flats. Both the student administration and the student union (AStA: www.asta-greifswald.de) can help with providing further information.

Rental Contract
After the completion of the rental contract, which you get in Greifswald with your welcome bag, wwith the student administration a deposit of € 100 respectively € 125 (depending on the room) has to be paid. For signing the contract students should bring either a paying-in slip from their bank or pay the deposit in cash. They also have to present their study admission certification.

SERVICES AT THE UNIVERSITY

► The University Library (Universitätsbibliothek) holds a stock of about 1.9 million titles (incl. papers and magazines). At computer work stations students may search national and international databases and use the university network and the internet. The library is particularly proud of its valuable collection of medieval manuscripts and incunabula (early prints, before 1500), with one of the greatest treasures of the early art of printing: the 36-line Gutenberg Bible.

► The University’s Computer Centre (Universitätsrechenzentrum) operates all computing facilities and the university’s network. Open access computers are available throughout the university and modern networking provides access from these to central computers, information servers and the library system. In addition, the university network and the internet can be accessed from all students’ hostel rooms. Introductory courses as well as printed and online information are provided to help students with the use of computing facilities and individual applications. Computing staff are also available to give first hand help and advice. www.uni-greifswald.de/~urz/urz.html.

► The Language and Media Centre offers general and subject-related courses in modern foreign languages (English, French, Russian, Swedish, Spanish, and Polish) on different levels of competence. Furthermore, a multimedia self-access centre provides excellent resources for individual foreign language learning. A small fee is charged for the participation in language courses. www.uni-greifswald.de/~fachspra/index.html

► Student Union (AStA)
AStA (Allgemeiner Studentenausschuss) stands for self-administration of students as well as (and above all) student life outside the lecture halls, seminar and reading rooms. For all Greifswald students the AStA or Student Union performs important advisory tasks, particularly in matters of housing, jobbing and as a mediating authority between students, academics and university administration. The different departments of the Student Union reflect the varied tasks: the department for international students (Ausländerreferat), the department for freshers, the department for study und teaching, etc. You will find further information on www.asta-greifswald.de.

► Student Administration (Studentenwerk)
The Studentenwerk Greifswald was founded in 1921 as Verein Studentenhilfe der Universität Greifswald e.V. (registered charity of social support for students). The Student Administration operates the Mensa (refectory) with up to 2500 guests every day as well as five student’s hostels with some 850 beds. The Student Administration is also in charge of the student grant’s office (Amt für Ausbildungsförderung) and the social advisory service in case of very difficult study and living conditions as well as financial and personal problems (Sozialberatung, Mensa am Wall, Room 0.10; Tue: 9-12 and 14-17, Thu: 9-12 and 14-16). The Student Administration also supports, of course, cultural and integrative initiatives of Greifswald students, in particular the student clubs. For further information please consult the website: www.uni-greifswald.de/~studwerk.
**Mensa/ Refectory**
The refectory (Mensa) and cafeteria (address: Am Schießwall) offer meals and snacks at low prices. They are open from 11am to 2pm on weekdays, though the biggest crowds gather between 12am and 1pm. Besides a self-service pasta bar and a salad bar there are four serving counters where you may choose from the menus of the day. At the tills of the refectory you have to pay with the “MensaCard” which costs € 5 and can be recharged at the machines in the entrance hall. The refectory also opens from 5pm to 7pm in the evening.

Those who prefer to eat in cafés, bistros or restaurants, will not be disappointed in Greifswald, particularly not in the town centre: there are plenty of possibilities to enjoy Italian cuisine, and you certainly won’t have to do without your everyday doner kebab. Yet, popular student meeting places at lunchtime are, above all, the Café Caspar (with two menus of the day and a range of snacks such as bagels and sandwiches), the S-Bar (with delicious homemade soups and sandwiches), the Café Lichtblick (soups, menu of the day, salads, snacks), and the Domburg (snacks, dishes, menu of the day).

In student’s hostels, also in shared flats, of course, students cook their meals themselves. Apart from student clubs and pubs shared kitchens are certainly the most important places of student life.

**University Sport**
A strong mind can only dwell in a healthy body – following this principle we recommend all students to participate in university sport, which in Greifswald can offer special options, due to its geographical situation. At Greifswald University students are able to surf on the Greifswalder Bodden (Bodden = bay), to row on the river Ryck or to do their sailing licence, after they have attended their lectures and seminars. But also on firm ground many other sports are open to all students: football, basketball, volleyball, rugby, badminton, several forms of martial art, and equestrian sport. Additionally, dancing courses are offered every term.

The university sports centre has very well equipped sports halls, gyms, fitness centres, a tennis court, and a huge water sports centre. So, there are many different offers for both ambitious professional and those who simply do sports for fun and relaxation.

For detailed information consult: [www.uni-greifswald.de/~sport/hochschulsport/hochschulsport.html](http://www.uni-greifswald.de/~sport/hochschulsport/hochschulsport.html)

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**OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION**

**Bank account**
- Opening a German bank account (Girokonto – current account) is essential, as monthly payments such as rent or health insurance will have to be made by direct debit from a German bank account. To open an account one needs to show a passport and the student’s visa, also the rental contract and the matriculation certificate.

International students should find out as much as they can about banking in Germany beforehand. It is advisable to just contact the bank in one’s home country and ask how the money can be best transferred to Germany, also whether the bank has a cooperation agreement with any of the banks in Germany and whether cash cards from the home bank can be used in Germany.

**Mobile Phone**
- As in most countries there is a broad variety of different mobile phone networks. So, which one you should choose is definitely related to the quantity of phone calls make and SMS you write. But the most prominent providers are T-Mobile D1 and Vodafone D2.
CONTACTS

▷ CE-Coordinator
   Stefan Loyen
   by phone: +49-3834-861116
   by fax: +49-3834-861120
   by email: stefan.loyen@uni-greifswald.de
   Internet: http://www.uni-greifswald.de/~aaa/start/start.html

▷ CE-Professors
   It is advisable to ask/contact the Student Representatives or the Coordinator rather than the CE – Professors.

▷ CE-Students Representative
   Monika Peiz (ce@asta-greifswald.de)