

# Mesopartner Summer Academy

Berlin, Germany, 4 to 8 July 2022



## Practical Hints and Travel Information

### How to get to Hotel Grenzfall

Upon arrival at the [Berlin airport](#), you have a choice between [public transport](#) or taxi service. Click on the public transport hyperlink for directions to reach the hotel. The taxi rank is directly outside Terminal 1. Print out the [hotel address](#) to have it ready for the taxi driver since the entrance can be tricky to find. Taxis usually accept both credit cards and cash. It is easiest to withdraw cash inside the airport before you leave the airport. There is an ATM close to the hotel if you need additional cash later in the week.

### Summer Academy venue

Our venue for the Summer Academy is the [Hotel Grenzfall](#) in Berlin, a small hotel that is themed around integration. Each participant will have a single room. The hotel is located close to the city centre in the former East Berlin. Close by, between the Wedding and Mitte districts. The hotel is right across from the [Wall Memorial Park](#), set on the former border strip in a five-hectare area. It is ideal for an early morning workout or run.



Mesopartner covers your accommodation from Sunday to Friday morning.

### **CHECK-IN** Sunday 3 July 2022 before 18:00

The earliest check-in time at the hotel is 14:00. Although the hotel staff will do their best to have your room ready when you arrive, please be patient if you must wait a little while, especially if you arrive quite early.

### **CHECK OUT** Friday 8 July 2022 before 10:00

The hotel will keep your luggage locked up until your departure.

If you have booked extra nights at the hotel or booked a double room, you can settle the account directly with the hotel when checking out.

### Welcome Dinner – Sunday evening

We will meet in the hotel restaurant at 19:00 for our Welcome Dinner.

## Information access during the Summer Academy

During the Summer Academy, you will have access to additional and supporting documents to support the learning. Hotel Grenzfall has Wi-Fi and we will give you access to an online folder for this use.

## Evening programme

As part of the learning experience, we will be going out on excursions every evening during the Academy, except for Wednesday night. You are welcome to change into more comfortable clothes and shoes before we leave for the excursions in the evenings, but the time between finishing the day and leaving for the evening is usually quite tight.

Wednesday afternoon we will focus on mentoring the different groups. If you are not part of a group, you will have a free afternoon for shopping and exploring from around 15:00.

## What is included in "full board"?

All meals are included in your participation fee. This includes one drink per meal, which may be a non-alcoholic beverage, a hot drink, a beer or a glass of wine during dinner. We will not cover costs for additional alcoholic or soft drinks. Wednesday evening will be free and you can decide if you would like to join us for dinner or if you would prefer to go out on your own.

## Medicine and Health issues

If you are using prescribed medicine or allergy medicine, it is best for you to bring this with you, as the medicine that your doctor prescribes in your country may not be available under the same name or at the same dosage in Germany.

## Communication

If you use a GSM mobile phone and your provider offers a roaming option, your cellphone will most likely work in Germany. Note, however, that roaming charges can be very high. Please verify this to avoid unpleasant surprises when you get back home. Each hotel room has a phone, and the hotel offers access to free wireless internet.



### **Don't forget to bring cables and chargers for your electrical devices.**

Bring your own **power plug adapter** for your cables/chargers. The hotel does not provide adapters, cables and chargers! These adapters fit into [German power sockets](#) (see a picture of what German power sockets look like) Note: Germany's electrical system runs on 220V.

## Dress code and summer clothes

The dress code for the Summer Academy is smart casual. This means that you won't need a necktie, and it will be up to you whether you want to wear a jacket or just a shirt or sweater. Please bring comfortable shoes as we will be doing some walking on several occasions.

In July it is summer in Germany, expect temperatures of around 25 degrees Celsius. However, one of the features of the climate in central Europe is its complete unpredictability. It may be hot, with temperatures of up to 37°C, but the temperature may also drop to 15 degrees. We would advise you to follow the "onion principle", i.e. to bring garments that you can wear in layers which you can put on or take off according to the weather. **Bring at least one warm jacket.** See the [weather forecast for Berlin](#). There is a good chance of rain during the week. We recommend you bring a rain jacket or umbrella. We do have some umbrellas to hand out during our evening events.

### **Shopping and Spending Money**

Don't forget to bring your credit card. Shopping can be paid for in cash (Euro) or by credit card. If you want to make purchases over the Internet (i.e. train tickets), please be aware that this is only possible by credit card. You may also want to bring a cash card (debit card) which will allow you to withdraw cash from ATMs. Bringing cash in Euros is a good idea. Changing cash from a foreign currency to Euros is possible, but it can be expensive, and during the Academy week, it will be difficult to find time to go to a foreign change bureau. It is best to change money at an airport, e.g. when changing aeroplanes or arriving at the airport.

### **Packing your suitcase: hand luggage regulations at the airport**

Remember there are restrictions on liquids that can be taken into the cabin of flights within the EU. Make sure your hand luggage on Lufthansa meets the [requirements](#).

We also strongly recommend attaching name tags to all your luggage, showing the hotel's address and phone number.

### **Entering Germany: customs procedures**

When you enter Germany, customs officials may ask you for the reason for your visit. We recommend mentioning that you are attending an international training event. It will not be very useful to refer to "Mesopartner", as our company is small and our events are not widely known to the public. In any case, have your **Invitation Letters and Health Insurance Receipt** ready to present. Bring these documents in your **hand luggage** (not in your suitcase).

For further information on [entry regulations](#) into the EU/Germany and the Schengen Agreement, click on Entry and Residence.

Please familiarise yourself with the [COVID-19 entry and quarantine regulations in Germany](#).

If you want to learn more about Berlin look at the following information links:

- Information about [Berlin Economy](#)
- [Sightseeing tips and touristic information](#) of Berlin

**Have a safe trip, and we look forward to seeing you in Berlin!**