Mesopartner Summer Academy

Practical Hints and Travel Information

How to get to Hotel Grenzfall

Upon arrival at the Berlin airport, you can choose between public transport or a taxi service.

<u>Taking public transport</u>: Public transport is easy to navigate and the cheapest option (currently 4 euros). We recommend that you download the DB app (https://www.bahn.com/en).

<u>Taking a taxi</u>: The taxi ranks are directly outside Terminal 1 and cost, on average, 49 euros. Please print out the <u>hotel address</u> to have it ready for the taxi driver since the entrance can be tricky to find. Taxis usually accept both credit cards and cash.

Summer Academy venue

Our venue for the Summer Academy is the Hotel Grenzfall in Berlin, a small hotel themed around integration. Each participant will have a single room. The hotel is close to the city centre in the former East Berlin, close to the Wedding and Mitte districts. The hotel is across from the <u>Wall Memorial Park</u>, set on the former border strip in a five-hectare area. It is ideal for an early morning workout or run.

Hotel Grenzfall, Ackerstrasse 136, 13355 Berlin

- Telephone: +49 (0)30 34 33 33-00
- Email: erlebnis@hotel- Grenzfall.de
- Website: https://hotel-grenzfall.de/
- Contact card: Add the contact card (vCard file) to your address book for Outlook, iPhone etc.

Mesopartner covers your accommodation from Sunday to Friday morning.

CHECK-IN Sunday, 2 July 2023 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 early.

CHECK OUT Friday, 7 July 2023 before 10:00 (unless you are staying for the anniversary celebration) The hotel will keep your luggage locked up until your departure.

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

Welcome Dinner – Sunday evening

We will open the Academy with a welcome dinner at 19:00. Please meet us in the hotel restaurant at 18:45.

Information access during the Summer Academy

During the Summer Academy, we will refer to supporting documents and resources. We will give you access to an online folder with all the resources after the academy.

Evening programme

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



What is included in "full board"?

All meals are included in your participation fee. This includes one drink (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 exact dosage in Germany.

Communication

The hotel offers access to free wireless internet. Remember to arrange for roaming from your mobile service provider. Note, however, that roaming charges can be very high. An excellent alternative to roaming is to download one of the numerous eSIM roaming apps.



Don't forget to bring <u>cables</u> and <u>chargers</u> for your electrical devices.

Bring your **power plug adapter** for your cables/chargers. The hotel does not provide adapters, cables and chargers! These adapters fit into <u>German power sockets</u> (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 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 it may also drop to 15 degrees. We advise you to bring garments you can wear in layers that you can put on or take off according to the weather. **Bring at least one warm jacket**. See the <u>weather_forecast for Berlin</u>.

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 (euros) or by credit card. Changing money or withdrawing cash from an ATM when arriving at the airport or central station is best. You can explore Berlin and shop on Wednesday afternoon and evening.

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 <u>requirements</u>.

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



Entering Germany: customs procedures

When you arrive in Germany, customs officials usually ask the reason for your visit. We recommend mentioning that you are attending an international training event. It will not be helpful 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** ready to present.

For further information on <u>entry regulations</u> into the EU/Germany and the Schengen Agreement, click Entry and Residence.

Please familiarise yourself with the <u>COVID-19 entry and quarantine regulations in Germany</u>.

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

- Information about <u>Berlin Economy</u>
- Sightseeing tips and touristic information about Berlin

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

