Cost of Living in Germany



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- average cost of living in germany
- average expenses in germany per month
- average rent in germany for students

Meta Description: Discover the cost of living in Germany for international students. Learn about rent, food, transportation, and tips to reduce expenses. Start planning now

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Ever dreamt of exploring fairytale castles, strolling through lively Christmas markets, or maybe even getting a world-class education in the heart of Europe? Then Germany might just be your perfect match! But before you start packing your bags, you're probably wondering: is Germany expensive to live in?

The answer is a bit complex and depends on your taste. Germany offers a high quality of life without necessarily costing an arm and a leg. However, where you decide to live will play a big

role in your budget. As an Indian student living in Germany, you can expect to spend **INR 88K to INR 1.3L (€980 to €1,500) per month** including rent.

If you compare this with the cost of living in the US, you will find that the cost of living in Germany for Indian students is **10.1% cheaper than that in the USA**.

This handy guide will help you navigate the cost of living in Germany. You will learn all about how to find an affordable apartment to fill up your grocery basket with delicious German treats.

You will also learn about transportation costs, entertainment options, and how to stretch your Euros further. By the end, you'll have a clear picture of what it takes to live comfortably in Germany and maybe even have some extra cash left over for a trip to the Alps. Have a look!

Key Highlights

Here's an overview of everything you will learn in greater detail in this blog.

Highlight	Details
1 Month Living Cost in Germany	INR 1.3L (€ 980 to € 1,500)
Average Rent in Germany for Students	INR 32K to 45K (€350 to €500)
Average Food Expenses	INR 18K (€200)
Transportation Expenses	INR 4.5K (€49)
Top Universities in Germany	● Technical University of Munich ● Ludwig Maximillian University Munich ● Heidelberg University
Major Scholarships In Germany	● Unimoni Student Stars Scholarship ● TUM Scholarships for International Students ● Hani Zeini Scholarship
High-Paying Jobs In Germany	● Software Architects ● Product Engineers ● Doctor/Surgeons

Why Choose Germany?



Germany can be the perfect place for you to launch an exciting European adventure. Filled with history, Germany has lively cities and a world-class education system. Furthermore, the German job market is booming, making it an appealing option for those seeking professional opportunities.

The demand for skilled workers will reach **three million by 2030 in Germany.** This translates to a promising future for potential part-time work opportunities to help manage your average cost of living in Germany.

Here are some reasons why you should choose Germany as your highest study destination.

- **Education Powerhouse:** Germany has excellent universities; five **of the top universities in Germany are ranked in the top 100 QS World University Rankings, 2025.** Imagine yourself surrounded by academic excellence, getting into groundbreaking research or mastering your chosen field!
- **High Quality of Life:** Your living expenses in Germany buy you more than just a place to stay. You'll have access to excellent healthcare, efficient public transportation, and safe, clean cities. The cost of living in various German cities might surprise you, but the return on investment in terms of overall quality of life is undeniable.

- **Student-Friendly Cities:** Germany offers a variety of student-friendly cities, each with its unique charm. From the lively culture of Berlin to the historic beauty of Munich, you'll find a place that perfectly mixes affordability, safety, and exciting experiences. Many cities like Berlin, Munich, Frankfurt etc, offer excellent public services and student discounts, further helping you with your budget.
- **Sustainable Lifestyle:** Germany is a leader in sustainability, ranking **3rd globally in the Environmental Performance Index 2024.** As a student in Germany, you'll be part of a society deeply committed to a greener future, influencing both your education and everyday life.

Also Read: *Study in Germany After 12th: Courses and Admission Guide*

Cost of Living in Germany for Students

Germany, with its historic cities, exciting culture, and world-class universities, might be your dream destination for studies. Germany is great for history and architectural buffs. Did you know the **country has around 25,000 castles**? But before you start planning your itinerary, it's important to understand the cost of living as a student.

Germany offers a surprising perk for budget-conscious students, and that is affordability! Compared to other European countries, the cost of living in Germany for Indian students can be a much more economical choice.

One of the biggest factors affecting your budget will be accommodation. Studying in Germany means you can find comfortable and affordable places to live without breaking the bank.

In fact, **compared to France, you might save nearly 27.3% on rent, and 7.5% compared to the UK.**

Here's an overview of key expenses, including student housing, food, transportation and miscellaneous costs for 1 month living cost in Germany.

Cost of Living in Germany	Average Cost of Living in Germany Per Month
Average Rent in Germany for Students	INR 32K to 45K (€350 to €500)
Food	INR 18K (€200)
Transportation	INR 4.5K (€49)
Miscellaneous	INR 20K (€220)

Average Rent that Goes Towards the Cost of Living in Germany

When it comes to budgeting for your student life in Germany, where you choose to live will significantly impact your expenses, especially rent. Here's the key: understanding average rent

prices in different areas will help you find the perfect balance between affordability and your preferences.

Here's a quick overview of the average monthly rent in Germany

Type of Accommodation	Average Expenses in Germany Per Month
Shared Apartment	INR 22K to INR 45K(€240 to €490)
University Dormitory	INR 32K to 45K (€350 to €500)
Private Apartment	INR 63 to INR 81 (€700 to €900)

Cost of Food in Germany

Germany is a paradise for food lovers, and luckily for students, it doesn't have to break the bank! From supermarkets to local markets, there are plenty of ways to keep your grocery bill under control.

Supermarket chains like Lidl and Aldi offer great deals on everyday essentials, and many even have student discount programs. Local farmer's markets are a fantastic option for fresh, seasonal produce at affordable prices.

Whether you're cooking up meals in your student dorm or grabbing a bite with friends, eating well in Germany is both delicious and budget-friendly.

Here's a quick overview of the average cost of food in Germany.

Item	Estimated Cost
Milk (1 litre)	INR 90 (€1)
Eggs (12)	INR 272 (€3)
Loaf of Bread	INR 181 (€2)
Rice (1 kg)	INR 272 (€3)
Potatoes (1 kg)	INR 136 (€1.5)
Mineral Water (1.5 l)	INR 72 (€0.8)
Chicken (1 kg)	INR 1.2K (€13)

Transportation Cost in Germany

Germany has a fantastic public transportation system, making it easy and affordable to navigate its cities. Discounted transport passes and student fares are widely available, making your daily commute to class or weekend adventures a breeze on your wallet.

Just like India, Germany also has many Ride-Hailing and Taxi apps available like Taxi.eu, Uber, FreeNow, BlablaCar, Clever Shuttle, etc. You can use any to find affordable cabs to reach your destination.

So, whether you're exploring the historic streets of Heidelberg or venturing out to the scenic landscapes surrounding Freiburg, Germany's transportation system will keep you connected without breaking the bank.

Here's a quick overview of average monthly transportation in Germany

Mode of Transport	Estimated Monthly Cost
Public Transport	INR 4.5K (€49)
Taxi	INR 408 (€4.5) Per Ride

Please Remember: Germany is an excellent choice for those seeking a top-notch education while living in a vibrant and historic country.

The cost of living in various German cities like Berlin, Munich, Frankfurt, etc., will factor into your overall expenses, but the knowledge and cultural experiences you'll gain are priceless.

To help you budget effectively, consider these monthly living costs alongside your tuition fees. This will give you a clear picture of your expected monthly expenses in Germany.

Cost of Living in Berlin

Have you ever thought about visiting Berlin? It's the capital of Germany and a super big city, nine times bigger than Paris! Berlin is also famous for having the coolest giant outdoor art gallery in the whole world.

This city is all about new things and excitement. There's always something fresh to discover, which is why so many people keep coming back. You'll never get bored here!

It's also a pretty affordable city. In fact, it's the cheapest major city in Western Europe! Expect to spend around €2,000 a month if you're living there by yourself.

Here's a quick overview of the average cost of living in Berlin, Germany.

Particulars	Average Monthly Costs
Accommodation	INR 91K (€1K)
Groceries	INR 23K (€250)
Health Insurance	INR 18K (€200)
Transportation	INR 9.1K (€100)
Miscellaneous	INR 20K (€220)

Here's a city-wise cost of Accommodation you will have to pay in Germany.

City	Rent/ Month
Berlin	INR 82K to INR 1.1L (€900 to €1.2K)
Munich	INR 1.1L to INR 1.4L (€1.2K to €1.5K)
Frankfurt	INR 80K to INR 1.1L (€870 to €1.2K)
Hamburg	INR 69K to INR 90K (€758 to €1K)
Aachen	INR 47K to INR 60K (€518 to €650K)

Also Read: Cost Of Studying In Germany: Tuition Fees & Universities

German Student Visa Cost

Germany, a land filled with history and innovation, might be your dream destination to study. Did you know? It is now easier than ever to get into Germany; the **country has a 90% visa acceptance rate for Indian students.** But before you start planning your application, you should know about the cost of a German Student Visa.

Here's an overview of types of German study visas, their cost and processing time.

Visa Type	Estimated Processing Time	Visa Cost
Schengen Visa	Four Weeks	INR 6.8K (€75)
German Student Visa	Four Weeks	INR 6.8K (€75)
German Student Applicant Visa	Four Weeks	INR 6.8K (€75)
German Language Course Visa	Four Weeks	INR 6.8K (€75)

Cost of Studying at Top Universities in Germany

Germany is a magnet for international students. In Fact, **the number of International students from India coming to Germany for higher education has increased by 100% in the last five years.** Public universities in the country are particularly attractive due to their affordability.

Germany stands out as a fantastic option for acquiring a high-quality education without breaking the bank. While tuition fees vary depending on the program and university you choose, Germany consistently offers excellent value for the quality you receive.

However, it's important to understand that most programs require you to demonstrate proficiency in either German or English, typically assessed through standardised language tests.

Here's an overview of language proficiency test scores.

Test	Score
IELTS	6 or higher
TOEFL	80 or higher
TestDaF	TDN 4 or higher

By the end of this guide, you'll have a clear understanding of the costs involved in living and studying in Germany, allowing you to make informed decisions about your exciting academic adventure!

Here's a list of top 5 universities in Germany for international students alongside their tuition fees.

University Name	QS World Ranking 2025	Annual Tuition Fees
Technical University of Munich	28	INR 1.8L to INR 2.7 (€ 2K to € 3K)
Ludwig Maximillian University Munich	59	INR 80K (€ 880)
Heidelberg University	84	INR 27K (€ 300)

Free University of Berlin	97	INR 54K (€ 595)
RWTH Aachen University	99	INR 55K (€ 608)

Also Read: Study in Germany without IELTS: Universities & Program

Scholarships to Reduce the Cost of Living in Germany

Even though Germany is a lot cheaper than other Western European countries like the **USA (13.5% expensive), the UK (6.8% expensive), and Ireland (17.9% expensive)**, it might still seem a tad expensive from back home.

So, even though the country might be your dream destination for studies, the cost of living in Germany can cause some worry. Here's some good news: scholarships can be a game-changer!

These financial lifesavers can significantly reduce the cost of living in Germany, making your academic adventure much more affordable.

These scholarships can cover not just your tuition fees but also contribute to your monthly living expenses. Whether you're drawn to the busy capital of Berlin or the charm of historic Munich, scholarships can help offset the cost of living in various German cities.

Here's a list of major scholarships available for international students.

Scholarship Name	Offered By	Benefits (Lump Sum)
Unimoni Student Stars Scholarship	Unimoni India	INR 3L
TUM Scholarships for International Students	Technical University of Munich	INR 45K to INR 1.6L (€500 to €1,800)
Hani Zeini Scholarship	Hani Zeini	INR 84K ($1K)
QS Undergraduate Scholarship	QS ImpACT!	INR 4.2L ($5K)

SC2 Undergraduate Scholarship	Center for Cyber Safety and Education	INR 84K to 4.2L ($1K to $5K)

Also Read: Scholarship for Germany: Popular Scholarship and Tips to Apply

How to Reduce the Average Cost of Living in Germany?

Did you know what Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Liechtenstein all have in common, **the German language**? **It is the fifth most spoken language in the world.**

Germany is a fantastic option for students seeking an affordable study-abroad experience! While creating a budget is key, there are many ways to stretch your Euros further and experience all that Germany offers.

Here are some practical tips to manage and potentially lower your cost of living in this vibrant country.

1. Finding Your Affordable Abode

Consider shared flats or student dormitories. These options are typically much cheaper than private apartments.

You can also explore neighbourhoods outside city centres.

- In Berlin, areas like Friedrichshain or Prenzlauer Berg might be more affordable than Mitte.
- Hamburg might offer better deals in Eimsbüttel or Winterhude compared to the city centre.

Research different areas with good public transport connections for the best balance of affordability and convenience.

2. Getting Around on a Budget

Germany boasts an excellent and affordable public transport system. Monthly passes are a lifesaver, allowing you to navigate cities and explore surrounding areas without breaking the bank. A travel card will allow you to travel on all public transport like rail, bus, and tram, etc.

Here's an overview of the cost of a monthly transportation pass in different cities.

Cities	**Monthly Travel Card Cost**
Munich	INR 6K (€66)

Berlin	INR 7.4K (€81)
Frankfurt	INR 8.1K (€89)
Hamburg	INR 7.5K (€83)
Cologne	INR (€91)

3. Foodie Fun on a Student Budget

Become a master of discount supermarkets like Aldi or Lidl. These stores offer great deals on everyday essentials, keeping your grocery bill under control.

You can also embrace local farmers' markets for fresh, seasonal produce at affordable prices. Not only is it delicious, but it's budget-friendly!

Cooking meals in your student's digs is significantly cheaper than eating out regularly. Plus, it's a great way to explore German cuisine. For those nights on the town, look for "Mittagstisch" (lunch menu) deals, which are usually cheaper than evening meals.

Here's an overview of shop budgeted restaurants for students in Germany.

Restaurant	**Cost Per Meal**
Flamingo Fresh Food Bar	€5
Zola Pizzeria	€7.50
Angry Chicken	€8

4. Saving on Utilities and Services

Be mindful of your energy consumption to keep utility bills low. Simple steps like using energy-saving appliances and LED bulbs can make a difference.

Research different mobile phone plans and internet providers to find the best deals for students. Many companies offer special student discounts, so shop around!

5. Entertainment on a Shoestring

Explore the abundance of free attractions and museums in German cities. Did you know there are more than 200 museums and attractions in Germany that you can visit for free. Some notable places are Mercedes-Benz Museum, Topography of Terror, Dachau concentration camp, Memorial and Museum Sachsenhausen, Wildpart Wiehl, Wittringen Castle and many more.

By implementing these strategies, you can potentially reduce your monthly living costs in Germany by a significant amount. This allows you to enjoy the high quality of life Germany offers while staying within your budget. Remember, Germany awaits with open arms and affordable adventures!

Also Read: Part-Time Jobs in Germany for International Students in 2024

Top 10 High-Paying Jobs in Germany

Germany isn't just about affordability for students, **it is also the 15th most peaceful country in the world as per the Global Peace Index.**

The country can also be a launchpad for a successful, well-paying career! While some jobs require extensive education and experience, the financial rewards and professional growth opportunities can be very attractive.

Imagine working in a field you're passionate about, whether it's medicine, law, or technology. These high-paying careers offer impressive salaries and fulfilling career paths, making your investment in education truly worthwhile.

This is just another perk of studying and living in Germany – the potential to build a successful and financially secure future.

Here's a list of some of the highest-paying jobs in Germany

Job Title	**Average Annual Salary**
Software Architects	INR 36L to INR 54L (€40K to €60K)
Product Engineers	INR 72L to INR 77L (€80K to €85K)
Doctor/Surgeons	INR 84L to INR 1.36Cr (€93K to €150K)
Management Consultants	INR 63L to INR 68L (€70K to €75K)
Data Scientist	INR 63L to INR 75L (€70K to €83K)
Neuroscientist/Biotechnologist	INR 62L to INR 77L (€69K to €85K)
Pilots	INR 63L to INR 75L (€70K to €83K)
Legal Consultants	INR 63L to INR 71L (€70K to €78K)
Project Manager	INR 54L to INR 63L (€60K to €70K)
Actuary	INR 63L to INR 68L (€70K to €75K)

Important Note: *The salaries mentioned in the table are approximate and may vary as per the recruiter and experience.*

Also Read: How to get a Germany Student Visa for Indian Students

To Conclude

Germany offers a unique blend of affordability and quality living, making it a fantastic place to study. Cities across Germany have reasonable housing options, efficient public transportation, and a thriving cultural scene. This caters to a wide range of student needs, all while maintaining a reputation for safety and academic excellence.

On average, cost of living in Germany for Indian students can be between INR 88K to INR 1.3L (€980 to €1,500) per month including rent.

Whether you're drawn to Germany's historic charm, world-class universities, or exciting job opportunities, it's definitely a compelling destination. Planning your move or study abroad experience can be smoother by looking into scholarships and budgeting strategies. This will help you manage your finances effectively and get the most out of your time in Germany.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How much is the cost of living in Germany as an international student?

Ans. The cost of living in Germany for international students typically ranges from **INR 88K to INR 1.3L (€980 to €1500) per month.** This includes expenses like rent, food, transportation, and other living costs. The total cost can vary depending on the city you live in and your lifestyle. It's essential to budget wisely to ensure you can cover all your expenses while enjoying your time in Germany.

Q. What is the average rent for students in Germany?

Ans. The average rent in Germany for students ranges from **INR 32K to 45K (€350 to €500)** per month. This can vary depending on the type of accommodation and the city. University dormitories and shared apartments are usually more affordable options compared to private apartments. Choosing the right accommodation can significantly impact your overall cost of living in Germany.

Q. How can I reduce my cost of living in Germany?

Ans. To reduce your cost of living in Germany, consider sharing an apartment or living in a student dormitory, shopping at discount supermarkets, and using public transportation. Additionally, cooking at home instead of eating out and taking advantage of student discounts can help you save money. These strategies can significantly lower your monthly expenses.

Q. How much should I budget for food each month in Germany?

Ans. You should budget around **INR 18K (€200) per month for food in Germany**. Shopping at discount supermarkets like Lidl and Aldi can help keep your grocery costs down. Local markets also offer fresh and affordable produce, making it easier to manage your food budget. Cooking at home rather than eating out regularly can further help reduce your cost of living in Germany.

Q. What are the top universities in Germany?

Ans. Some of the top universities in Germany include the **Technical University of Munich, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, and Heidelberg University**. These institutions are known for their high academic standards and are ranked among the top universities globally. Studying at these universities can provide an excellent education while managing the cost of living in Germany.

Q. Are there scholarships available for international students in Germany?

Ans. Yes, there are several scholarships available for international students in Germany. Some popular ones include the **Unimoni Student Stars Scholarship, TUM Scholarships for International Students, and the Hani Zeini Scholarship**. These scholarships can help cover tuition fees and living expenses, reducing the overall cost of living in Germany.

Q. What is the cost of living in Berlin for students?

Ans. The cost of living in Berlin for students is approximately **INR 1.8L (€2000) per month**. This includes accommodation, groceries, health insurance, transportation, and miscellaneous expenses. Berlin is one of the more affordable major cities in Western Europe, making it a popular choice for international students looking to manage their cost of living in Germany.

Q. What are the general eligibility requirements for Indian students to study in Germany?

Ans. Indian students need to have completed higher secondary education (12th grade) for undergraduate studies or hold a relevant bachelor's degree for postgraduate studies. Proficiency in English or German is required, usually demonstrated through **IELTS, TOEFL, or TestDaF scores.** A valid student visa is also necessary to cover the cost of living in Germany while studying.

Q. What are the average monthly expenses for students in Germany?

Ans. Average monthly expenses for students in Germany include **rent (INR 32K to 45K), food (INR 18K), transportation (INR 4.5K), and miscellaneous costs (INR 20K). Total monthly expenses typically range from INR 88K to 1.3L (€980 to €1500),** depending on your lifestyle and location. Proper budgeting helps manage the cost of living in Germany effectively.

Q. How affordable is Germany compared to other European countries?

Ans. Germany is generally more affordable compared to other Western European countries. For instance, rent in **Germany is nearly 27.3% cheaper than in France and 7.5% cheaper than**

in the UK. This makes Germany an attractive destination for students looking for quality education at a lower cost, balancing the cost of living in Germany with excellent academic opportunities.

Q. How important is it to learn German while studying in Germany?

Ans. Learning German is highly beneficial while studying in Germany, although many programs are offered in English. Proficiency in German can enhance your job prospects, help you integrate into the local culture, and make daily interactions easier. Many universities offer language courses for international students, which can help lower the overall cost of living in Germany.

Q. How can scholarships help reduce the cost of living in Germany?

Ans. Scholarships can significantly reduce the cost of living in Germany by covering tuition fees and contributing to monthly expenses. Scholarships like the Unimoni Student Stars Scholarship and TUM Scholarships for International Students provide financial support, making your academic journey in Germany more affordable. Applying for scholarships is a smart way to manage the cost of living in Germany.

