

HOLIDAY SEASON 2021/2022

The pandemic situation continues to cause travel restrictions. This may affect you if you plan to travel to your home country over the upcoming holiday season: Germany is currently classified as a risk country by many countries worldwide. Assume that entry from Germany is subject to restrictions. For example, proof of vaccination or recovery and current test results are required. The same applies if you want to return to Germany after the holidays. The same regulations apply as for a first-time entry. Carefully consider whether you want travel home over the holiday season.

ADVICE ON TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

TIPS FOR PLANNING YOUR TRIP AND ENTERING YOUR HOME COUNTRY

- Make sure that your residence permit is valid beyond your planned return date. If necessary, apply for an extension and a “Fiktionsbescheinigung”.
- Carefully check the regulations for entering your home country. These can change at any time and at short notice. Use the available websites of your home country for this purpose. In particular, take into account any quarantine periods after entering your home country.
- Check whether your German vaccination, recovery or test certificates are recognised.
- If you need to provide proof of current rapid antigen or PCR tests, there are various [test centres](#) available. Please note that there will be a time delay when receiving your PCR test results and the validity of the PCR and rapid antigen test results is usually limited in time.
- Please take into account that if you become infected with the coronavirus in your home country, Germany will not take you back for medical treatment. Make sure that you have sufficient health insurance coverage in your home country. If in doubt, take out travel health insurance.
- Check whether all planned transport connections are still in place. Due to the current situation, air travel may be restricted. Also, make sure that you can travel back as planned. Contact the airline or transportation company you plan to use for more information on this.

TIPS FOR THE RETURN TRIP TO GERMANY

- In general, you will be able to travel back, even from [virus variant areas](#), if you are fully vaccinated.
- You will have to observe all the regulations that also apply to those entering for the first time:
- You must [register online](#) before entering the country.
- Requirements for testing and providing proof, as well as quarantine requirements after entry depend on how the [German Robert Koch Institute](#) has classified the country you are returning from. We have compiled all regulations currently in effect and keep this list regularly updated for you: <https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/639238.html>

IF YOU ARE STAYING IN GÖTTINGEN OVER THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Christmas is a Christian festival, but today in Germany it is primarily a family celebration. People travel home and spend the festive season with their loved ones. Shops and most recreational facilities are closed on the evening of 24 December, and all day 25 and 26 December.

If you are staying in Göttingen, you may also want to spend these days with other people, even if you do not celebrate the Christian Christmas. We have put together a list of options for you where you can gather with people from Göttingen and all over the world over the holidays:

- [Foyer International: Offers for students by students](#) for the holidays will be announced soon.
- [Göttinger Gastfreunde e.V.](#): The Göttingen Host Friends is an initiative by Göttingen citizens for students from all over the world to bring everyday life in Germany closer to you. Get in touch early and make holiday plans with the Göttingen Gastfreunde.
- [KHG – Catholic University Community](#): The Catholic University Community offers events for people of all faiths and denominations over the holidays.
- [Religious communities in Göttingen](#): Many other religious communities offer events over the Christmas holidays.