



## WELCOME TO DRESDEN, GERMANY

Dresden has a long history as the capital and royal residence for the Electors and Kings of Saxony, who for centuries furnished the city with cultural and artistic splendor. The city was known as the Jewel Box, because of its baroque and rococo city center. Today Dresden is still a cultural, educational, and political center of Germany and Europe. The Dresden University of Technology is one of the 10 largest universities in Germany. The economy of Dresden is one of the most dynamic in Germany and is dominated by high-tech branches, earning the area the title of “Silicon Saxony.”

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**CLIMATE**

Dresden has an oceanic climate, influenced by its inland location, with warm summers and slightly colder winters as compared to the German average. There is significant rainfall throughout the year in Dresden. Even the driest month still receives a lot of precipitation.

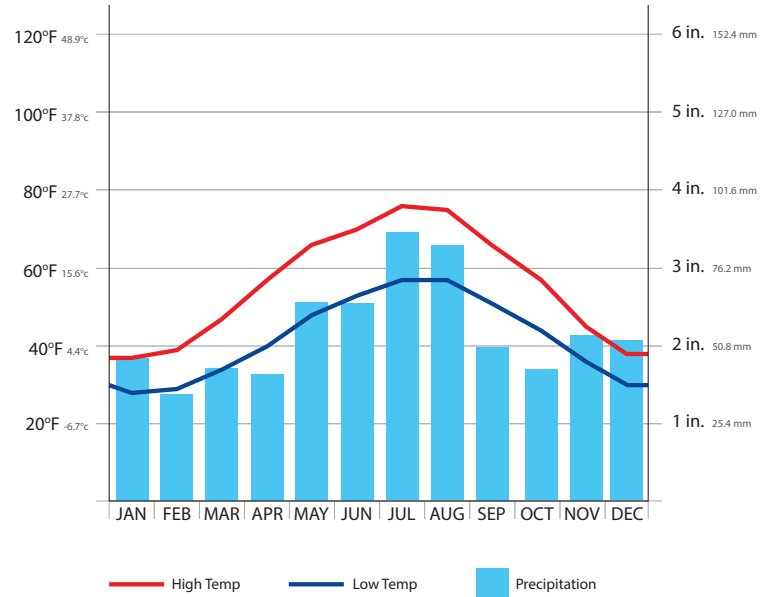
**Average High/Low Temperatures**

	<i>Low / High</i>
January	28°F (-2°C) / 37°F (3°C)
July	57°F (14°C) / 76°F (42°C)

**Average Precipitation**

Rain	26 in. (664 mm)
Snowfall	14 in. (358 mm)

**Dresden Climate Graph**



**GEOGRAPHY**

Dresden lies on both banks of the Elbe River, mostly in the Dresden Basin, with the further reaches of the eastern Ore Mountains to the south, the steep slope of the Lusatian granitic crust to the north, and the Elbe Sandstone Mountains to the east. The city is located in the Saxony region of eastern Germany, less than 20 miles from the border of the Czech Republic. Dresden is about 120 miles south of Berlin. Triebenberg is the highest point in Dresden at 1,260 feet (384 meters).



**COST OF LIVING**

Just like any medium-sized city, Dresden has an array of different neighborhoods that range from poor to very expensive. Most of the population enjoy a high standard of living, citing a great work-life balance. Dresden recently surpassed Berlin as Germany's "Hot Real Estate Market." Living costs in Germany do depend on your location, employment, and circumstances. Below are the median home purchase price and median monthly rent for the city of Dresden.

**Key Metrics**

Median Home Price

€549,000

Approx. \$587,952 USD\*

Median Monthly Rent (3 BDRM)

€1,200

Approx. \$1,285 USD\*

\*Based on exchange rate at the time of publishing

**TRANSPORTATION**

**Airport**

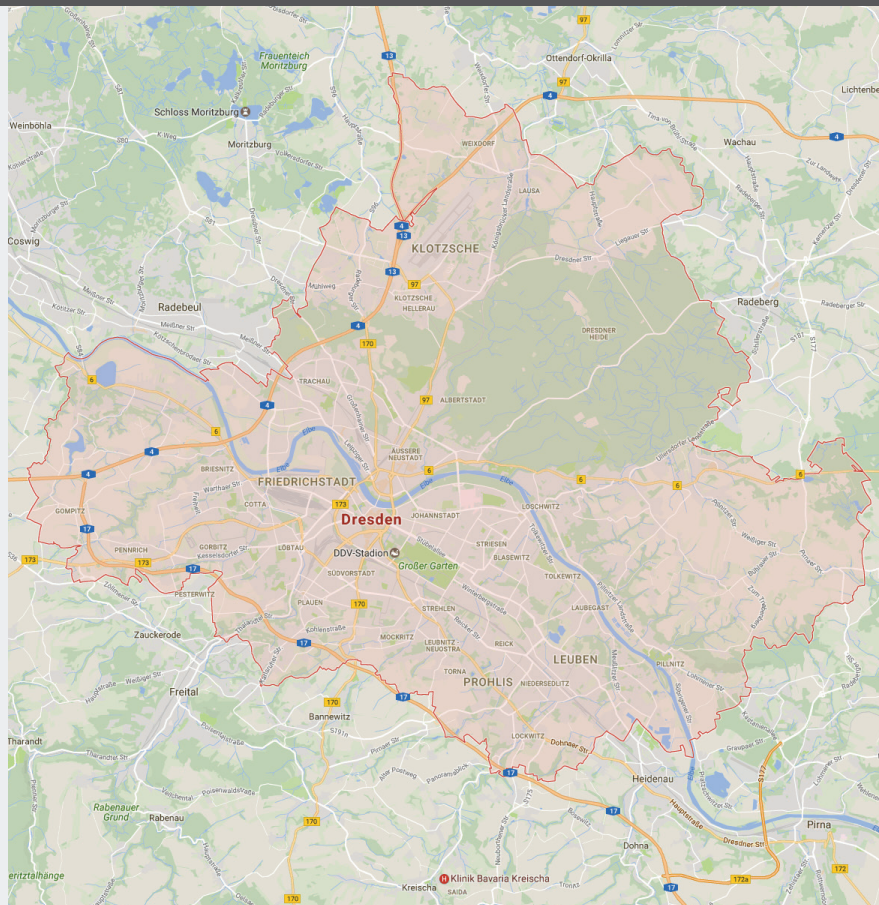
Dresden Airport (DRS)

**Roads**

The Bundesautobahn 4 (European route E40) crosses Dresden in the northwest from west to east. The Bundesautobahn 17 leaves the A4 in a south-eastern direction. In Dresden it begins to cross the Ore Mountains towards Prague. The Bundesautobahn 13 leaves from the three-point interchange "Dresden-Nord" and goes to Berlin.

**Rails**

There are two main inter-city railway hubs in Dresden: Dresden Hauptbahnhof and Dresden-Neustadt railway station. The most important railway lines run to Berlin, Prague, Leipzig, and Chemnitz. A commuter train system operates on three lines alongside the long-distance routes. Dresden has a large tramway network that includes twelve lines on a 124-mile (200 km) network. The city also has the Dresden Funicular Railway, which has been carrying passengers back and forth since 1895.



**VISA AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

**Type of Business Visas**

The Schengen “C” visa is the typical visa issued to business travelers. Note that many nationalities benefit from a visa waiver arrangement with the Schengen area and are permitted to enter visa free for business visits of up to 90 days in any 180 day period during the visa validity.

**Basic Requirements**

1. Intention of a genuine visit for business and not for paid employment;
2. Proof of medical coverage of at least EUR 30,000;
3. Evidence that there are no restrictions on his or her traveling to Germany;
4. No intention to permanently reside in Germany;
5. A ticket for onward travel from Germany;
6. Proof of funds.



**EMPLOYMENT PERMITS**

**Basic Requirements**

The principle visa category for temporary employment in Germany is the Residence Permit with Work Permission for employees under the International Personnel Exchange protocols. This is a category for employers to sponsor approved skilled workers to work in Germany on a temporary basis.

Note that there are several different specific categories of employment authorization in Germany including International Personnel Exchange for temporary assignments on expatriate contracts and local hires for long-term personnel who will be on a local contract.

**Process Overview**

The process for obtaining a Residence Permit with Work Permission is as follows:

1. Work Authorization application – filed with responsible local German Labor Office/local Alien office depending on type of application;
2. Long Stay Visa application – for visa nationals only. Filed with the Germany Consulate General with jurisdiction over the employee’s place of residence.
3. Entry into Germany;
4. Town Hall Registration;
5. Biometric Data Submission and Residence Permit application – upon finalization of the Town Hall Registration, the Residence Permit with Work Authorization application can be filed.

*\*This summary is intended for informational purposes only and is not an authorized guide on how to obtain work authorization*



**DRESDEN FAKTEN (DRESDEN FACTS)**

**Language**

The language spoken in Dresden is German. Street signs and official buildings are almost exclusively in German. Additionally, Germans value formality. It's usual for strangers to greet each other, for example, when they enter a store, elevator, or waiting room. The handshake is part of the greeting ritual especially among work colleagues and acquaintances.

**Currency**

The currency in use in Dresden is the Euro. The usual methods of payment in Germany are cash and EC-cards (bank cards). Unlike other countries, credit cards are not accepted in many shops and restaurants. Checks are becoming less and less common. Payment with EC cards or credit cards may require an additional form of identification.. The exchange rate (at time of publishing) is \$1 USD = €0.93 Euro.

LIFESTYLE & ENTERTAINMENT

Dresden is a city that not only celebrates its rich history, but knows how to really enjoy the present. The city is home to world-renowned music ensembles that perform operas, symphonies, and choral pieces. Throughout the summer, the outdoor concert series "Zwingerkonzerte und Mehr" includes dance and music. Another big event each year in June is the Bunte Republik Neustadt, a culture festival lasting 3 days in the city district of Dresden-Neustadt. Bands play live concerts for free in the streets and people can find all kinds of refreshments and food.

SPORTS

Pro Teams

- ESC Dresden Eislowen - Ice Hockey
- Dresden Monarchs - Football (American)
- Dresden SC - Football (Soccer)
- Dresden Titans - Basketball
- Dynamo Dresden - Football (Soccer)
- SC Borea Dresden - Football (Soccer)

Major Venues

- EnergieVerbund Arena
- Glucksgas Stadium
- Heinz-Steyer Stadion
- Margon Arena



OUTDOORS & ADVENTURE



Parks and Trails

- Dresden Heath
- Grober Garten
- Zwinger Gardens



Fun Attractions

- Dresden Botanical Garden
- Dresden Park Railway
- Dresden Zoo



Historic Sites

- Dresden Castle
- Kunsthof Dresden
- Pillnitz Castle



Discover More

- dresden.de
- dresden-tourismus.de
- gogermany.about.com

SHOPPING & DINING



Dresden's Delicacies

Germany is well-renowned for its flavorful food and great beer. From informal finger food to down-to-earth home-style cooking and the subtlest dishes, there is something of everyone. Dresden has no shortage of great establishments at which to get traditional German meat dishes, root vegetables, and, of course, world-famous German beer. The area is also known for its German white wine. Be sure to enjoy a local Riesling with your German pastries for dessert.



From Malls to Markets

There is nothing that can't be found in Dresden's largest shopping center. The Altmarkt Galerie is a massive mall located in the middle of the city's main tourist district and is home to stores that sell the wares of top designers and world-recognized brands. For a more local feel, visit the boutique shops in the Quartier an der Frauenkirche. There you will find narrow streets full of locally-owned stores that offer merchandise that represents the city and its region.

ART & CULTURE

Dresden has some wonderful, historic theaters that attract top acts from around the world. There are also many museums and art galleries in Dresden that will engage the minds of visitors of all ages. From William Butler Yeats and Oscar Wilde to the Boomtown Rats and U2, Dresden has been a source of original artistic expression.

Museums & Galleries

- Albertinum Gallery
- Bundeswehr Military History Museum
- Dresden Armory
- Dresden City Museum
- Dresden Porcelain Collection
- Dresden Transportation Museum
- Galerie Neue Meister
- Gemaldegalerie Alte Meister
- German Hygiene Museum
- Gruned Gewolde Museum
- Mathematisch-Physikalischer Salon
- Staatliche Kunstimmlugen

Theaters

- Albrechtberg Palace
- Boulevardtheater
- Carte Blanche Theater
- Projekttheater
- Semperoper Opera House
- Staatsschauspiel
- Theater-Baukasten
- Theaterkahn



**EDUCATION IN DRESDEN, GERMANY**

In Germany school is compulsory for at least nine years for children of six and older. The school system is made up of primary schools, secondary schools and grammar schools. According to Saxon school laws, at the beginning of the school year, all children who have turned six by June 30th of the current calendar year are required to attend school.

**Pupils from other countries**

Foreign children who have already started school in their home country must register for German schools at the Saxon Education Agency (Sächsische Bildungsagentur). Pupils who do not speak German or whose German is insufficient must first attend a preparatory class. Here they learn German as a second language and are prepared for the transition to the regular class of their age group.

**Primary school (Grundschule)**




Primary school covers first to fourth grade. The emphasis in these four grades is on basic knowledge (reading, writing, arithmetic) and on study and social skills. In addition, a foreign language is taught in order to lay the foundations and understanding for learning languages.

**Secondary school (Mittelschule)**

Secondary schools convey both general knowledge and information to prepare the pupils for their future jobs. This is true for both subtypes of these schools, the secondary modern school (Hauptschule) and the intermediate modern secondary school (Realschule).

**Grammar (Gymnasium)**

The grammar school (Gymnasium) takes on especially well-performing pupils and prepares them for demanding careers or university studies. Pupils receive intensive instruction in their chosen field.

Notable Colleges & Universities	
	<b>Academy of Fine Arts</b> Dresden, Germany
	<b>Dresden University of Applied Sciences</b> Dresden, Germany
	<b>Palucca University of Dance</b> Dresden, Germany
	<b>Technische Universität Dresden</b> Dresden, Germany
	<b>University of Music Carl Maria von Weber</b> Dresden, Germany

**CONNECT WITH GMS**

Founded in 1987, Global Mobility Solutions (GMS) is a global corporate relocation services company that specializes in workforce mobility. The company’s corporate relocation services include global assignment management, domestic relocation management, and a range of pre-decision solutions. GMS is a perennial winner of the *HRO Today* “Baker’s Dozen” customer satisfaction surveys, being named a top relocation provider for the last four years in a row.

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