



## WELCOME TO KARLSRUHE, GERMANY

Karlsruhe is the second-largest city in the state of Baden-Württemberg, in southwest Germany, near the French-German border. It has a population of over 300,000. The city is the seat of the two highest courts in Germany and home to several universities and centers of industry. Karlsruhe is the birthplace of both Karl Drais, the inventor of the bicycle, and Karl Benz, the inventor of the automobile. The city offers a beautiful blend of historic sites like the Karlsruhe Palace and modern museums, theaters, and festivals.

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**CLIMATE**

Karlsruhe experiences an oceanic climate and its winter climate is milder, compared to most other German cities. Summers are also hotter than elsewhere in the country and it is one of the sunniest cities in Germany. Precipitation is almost evenly spread throughout the year.

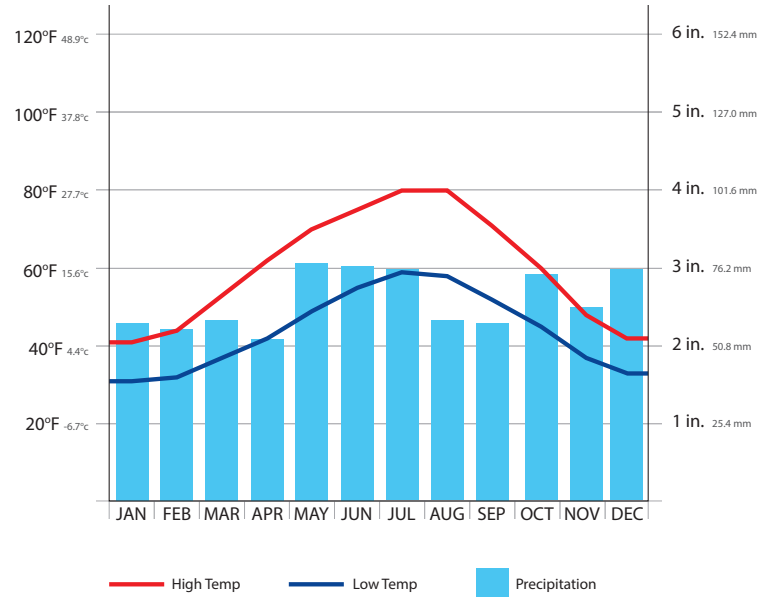
**Average High/Low Temperatures**

	<i>Low / High</i>
January	31°F (-1°C) / 41°F (5°C)
July	59°F (15°C) / 80°F (27°C)

**Average Precipitation**

Rain	31 in. (783 mm)
Snowfall	5 in. (123 mm)

**Karlsruhe Climate Graph**



**GEOGRAPHY**

The city lies at an altitude between 328 feet (100 meters) on the eastern shore of the river Rhine and 1,056 feet (322 meters) near the communications tower in the suburb of Wettersbach. The 49th parallel runs through the city center. The land north of the city consists of parks and forests. The region is known for its fertile soil and excellent vineyards. Karlsruhe is 418 miles (673 kilometers) from Berlin and 186 miles (300 kilometers) from Munich. However, the southwestern portion of Karlsruhe is less than 3 miles (5 kilometers) from the French border.



**COST OF LIVING**

Just like any major city, Karlsruhe 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. 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 Karlsruhe.

**Key Metrics**

Median Home Price

€689,000

Approx. \$748,082 USD\*

Median Monthly Rent (3 BDRM)

€1,175

Approx. \$1,276 USD\*

\*Based on exchange rate at the time of publishing

**TRANSPORTATION**

**Airports**

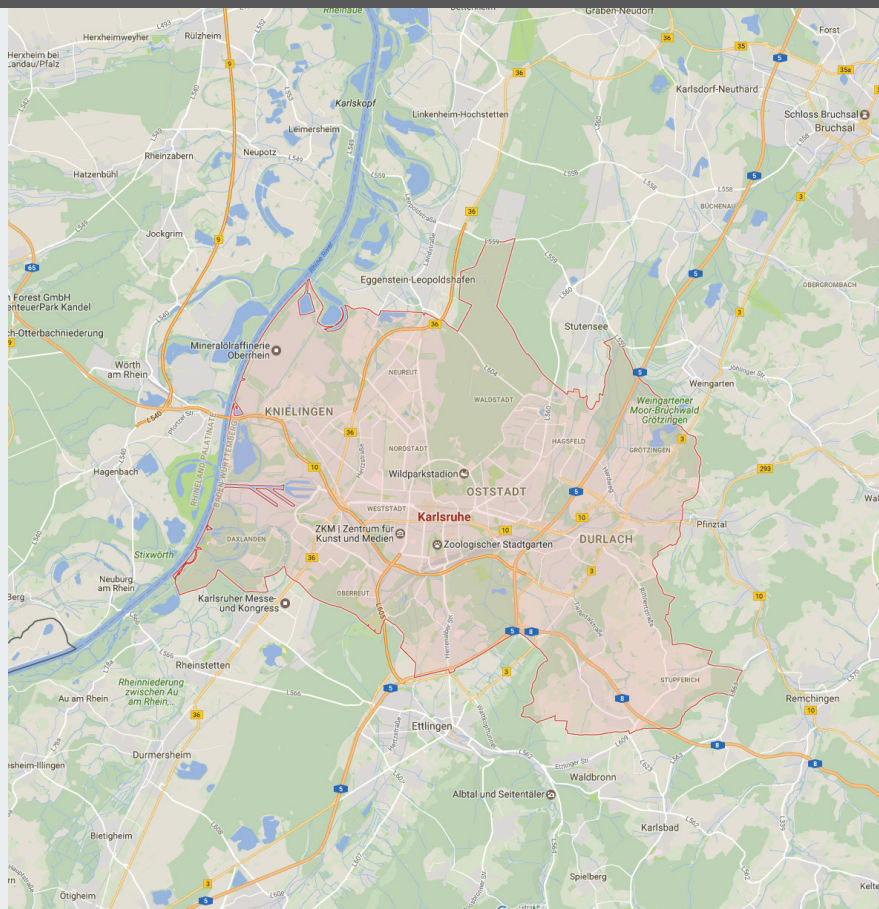
Baden Airpark (FKB) - 25 miles (40 Kilometers) away  
 Stuttgart Airport (STR) - 52 miles (84 kilometers) away

**Roads and Rails**

The Verkehrsbetriebe Karlsruhe (VBK) operates the city's urban public transport network, comprising seven tram routes and a network of bus routes. The Turmbergbahn funicular railway, to the east of the city center, is also operated by the VBK.

The VBK is also a partner, with the Albtal-Verkehrsgesellschaft and Deutsche Bahn, in the operation of the Karlsruhe Stadtbahn, the rail system that serves a larger area around the city. This system makes it possible to reach other towns in the region.

Karlsruhe is well-connected via road and rail, with Autobahn and InterCityExpress connections going to Frankfurt, Stuttgart/Munich, and Freiburg/Basel from Karlsruhe.



## 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.

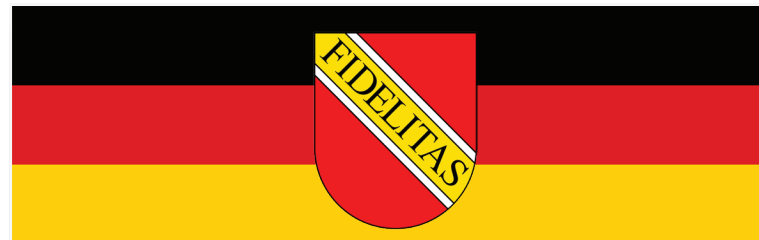
Note that there are several different specific categories of employment authorization in Germany including International Personnel Exchange for temporary assignments on expatriate contracts and local hires for long-term personnel who will be on a local contract.

### 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*



## KARLSRUHE FAKTEN (KARLSRUHE FACTS)

### Language

The language spoken in Karlsruhe 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 Karlsruhe 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

Karlsruhe is a city that not only celebrates its rich history, but knows how to really enjoy the present. Summers come alive with festivals. Das Fest is a three-day event with music and food. The African Summer Festival is another three-day event that includes music, dancing, drumming, food, and children's programs. The Baden State Theater sponsors the Handel Festival every year. Whether dancing, hiking, or exploring museums and historic sites, people in Karlsruhe know how to have a good time.

SPORTS

Pro Teams

- Badener Greifs - Football (American)
- BG Karlsruhe - Basketball
- Karlsruher SC - Football (Soccer)

Major Venues

- Europahalle
- Sportzentrum Eggenstein
- Wildparkstadion



OUTDOORS & ADVENTURE



Parks and Trails

- Fritsschlach Park
- Gunther-Klotz-Analage Park
- Schlossgarten Park



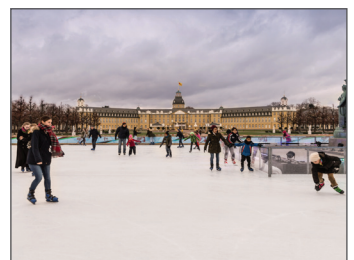
Fun Attractions

- Karlsruhe Botanical Garden
- Karlsruhe Zoo
- Wildschweingehege



Historic Sites

- Karlsruhe Palace
- Palais du Prince Max
- Turmberg Ruins



Discover More

- [gogermany.about.com](http://gogermany.about.com)
- [karlsruhe.de](http://karlsruhe.de)
- [karlsruhe-tourism.de](http://karlsruhe-tourism.de)

SHOPPING & DINING



Karlsruhe's Delicacies

Germany is known 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. Karlsruhe 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 desert.



From Malls to Markets

Karlsruhe's number-one shopping street, Kaiserstraße, is home to the trendiest and most renowned labels. Additionally, there is always something new and quirky to be found in the small boutiques on the smaller streets that branch off like a fan. International shops and more artsy stores can be found in the well-known "Ettlinger Tor" and "Postgalerie" shopping centers. There many markets in Karlsruhe that offer everything from fresh flowers, fish, cheeses, produce, and more.

ART & CULTURE

Karlsruhe has some wonderful, historic theaters that attract top acts from around the world. There are also many museums and art galleries in Karlsruhe that will engage the minds of visitors of all ages. From the state-sponsored opera house to an old weapons factory turned into an art museum, Karlsruhe has been a source of original artistic expression.

Museums & Galleries

- Badisches Landesmuseum
- Center for Art and Media
- Künstlerhausgalerie
- Museum in der Majolika
- Pfingstbaumuseum Durlach
- Rechtshistorisches Museum
- Staatliche Kunsthalle
- State Museum of Natural History
- Verkehrsmuseum

Theaters

- Badisches Staatstheater
- Eine Welt Theater
- Insel Theater
- Kammertheater
- Sandkorn-Theater
- Seebühne Veranstaltungsort
- Theater die Kauze
- Tollhaus Center
- Volksbühre Karlsruhe



**EDUCATION IN KARLSRUHE, 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>Karlsruhe Institute of Technology</b> Karlsruhe, Germany
	<b>Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences</b> Karlsruhe, Germany
	<b>Karlsruhe University of Art and Design</b> Karlsruhe, Germany
	<b>Karlsruhe University of Education</b> Karlsruhe, Germany
	<b>University for Music</b> Karlsruhe, 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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