

# Travel and Accommodation

The Summer School will take place at the Faculty of Human Sciences (IBW-Gebäude, Herbert-Lewin-Straße 2, 50931 Köln). The University of Cologne offers an interactive map on its website (only in German). The IBW-Gebäude is building #211 on this map:

<http://www.uni-koeln.de/uni-plan/interaktiv>.

The closest tram/trolley stop is Universitätsstraße (lines 1 and 7). To find out about public transport options, please check: <http://auskunft.kvb-koeln.de/kvb/cgi/page/eingabeRoute?lang=UK>.

The closest airport is [Cologne/Bonn \(CGN\)](#), about 15 minutes by train from Cologne central station. The bigger international airports of [Düsseldorf \(DUS\)](#) and [Frankfurt \(FRA\)](#) can be reached in as little as 40 minutes or one hour by train, respectively.

Cologne central station (Köln Hauptbahnhof) offers train connections to all major German cities and many cities in neighbouring countries (e.g. the Netherlands, Belgium, Austria, but also the UK and France).

For information about train connections to and from Cologne, please see:

[http://www.bahn.de/p\\_en/view/index.shtml](http://www.bahn.de/p_en/view/index.shtml).

Below you will find a list of hotels and hostels that are close to the venue of the summer school. All of the options listed here are within a 10-25 minutes walking distance from the building where the summer school will take place.

All prices cited are for one night and were given as of mid-June 2016.

## Hotels

### **Hotel Flandrischer Hof\*\*\***

3-star hotel. Rooms starting at 82€/night.

The hotel is located in Belgisches Viertel (Belgian Quarter), one of Cologne's youngest and hippest neighbourhoods, full of boutique shops, cafés, clubs and restaurants.

Walking distance to summer school venue: 15-25 min.

Website: <http://www.flandrischerhof.de/default.aspx?lang=en>

### **Park Inn Köln City West**

4-star hotel. Rooms starting at 80€/night.

This hotel is closest to the summer school venue and the tram/trolley stop Universitätsstraße, but a bit further away from the city centre (15-20 minute walk or 3-4 tram stops).

Walking distance to Summer School venue: 10-15 min.

Website: <http://www.parkinn-hotel-koeln.de/en/>

**Hotel Chelsea**

3-star hotel. Rooms from 71€/night.

The hotel is located in Belgisches Viertel (Belgian Quarter), a bustling part of town that offers a great variety of restaurants, cafés and bars.

Walking distance to summer school venue: 15-20 min.

Website: <http://www.hotel-chelsea.de/rooms/>

**Meininger Hotel Köln City Center**

Rooms from 61€/night.

The hotel is located near Rudolfplatz, which means that it is convenient to get to the Summer School venue, but also to Neumarkt and the city centre. The area offers ample choice in terms of restaurants, bars and cafés.

Walking distance to summer school venue: 20-25 min.

Website: <https://www.meininger-hotels.com/en/hotels/cologne/>

**Hotel Lasthaus am Ring**

Rooms from 68€/night.

The hotel is located near Rudolfplatz and thus easily in walking distance from the Summer School venue (or you might prefer to take the tram/trolley, which would mean that you could arrive at the venue in less than 10 minutes).

Walking distance to summer school venue: 20-25 min.

Website: <http://www.hotel-lasthaus.de/en/>

# Hostels

## **A&O Hostel Köln Neumarkt**

Centrally located at Neumarkt (the main square and central tram/metro hub in downtown Cologne). As per website, dorms start at 9€ per person and night, single and double rooms at 16€ per person and night. More realistically, though, due to high volume of bookings single rooms with bathroom en suite from 60€.

Walking distance to summer school venue: 20-25 min.

Website: <http://www.aohostels.com/en/cologne/koeln-neumarkt/>

## **Die Wohngemeinschaft - Hostel**

The hostel offers individually decorated two-, three- and four-bed rooms, as well as dormitory-style accommodation, starting at 20€ per person and night. The Wohngemeinschaft is also a café bar and theatre.

Walking distance to summer school venue: 15-20 min.

Book via <http://www.hostel-wohngemeinschaft.de/en/home.html>

## **Weltempfänger Hostel Cologne**

This backpacker hostel, located in Ehrenfeld, one of Cologne's youngest and most culturally diverse neighbourhoods, full of cafés, bars, clubs, restaurants and markets, offers individually decorated dormitory rooms for either 6, 4 or 2 people as well as double and single rooms. The rooms are all decorated on a unique theme. Realistically, a single room would cost about 45€/night.

Walking distance to summer school venue: 20-25 min.

Website: <http://www.koeln-hostel.de/index.php?lang=en>

You can also look for alternative accommodation options via the following websites:

[www.hrs.de](http://www.hrs.de)

[www.hostelworld.com](http://www.hostelworld.com)

[www.booking.com](http://www.booking.com)

[www.airbnb.de](http://www.airbnb.de)

Traditionally, late summer and early autumn are prime time for exhibitions and trade fairs in Cologne. Thus, booking a room at affordable prices can be a challenge. However, there are always deals to be had thanks in large part to late cancellations or because a hotel/hostel maybe was not sold out in the first place.

# What to do/see in Cologne?

Cologne is a very welcoming and tourist-friendly city that has a lot to offer.

The most famous sight of Cologne is its cathedral (Kölner Dom), but the city is also known for its breweries and the historic old town (Altstadt) close to the River Rhine. For general information about what to do and see in Cologne, please go to the city's official tourist information website: <http://www.cologne.de/>. More information can be found here, too: [http://www.cologne-tourism.com/?\\_ga=1.246970758.303457345.1467035963](http://www.cologne-tourism.com/?_ga=1.246970758.303457345.1467035963).

If you want to explore Cologne a bit more "off the beaten track", you might want to check out the recommendations by locals on spottedbylocals.com: <http://www.spottedbylocals.com/cologne/>.

The following list gives an overview of some of the most famous and perhaps worthwhile attractions the city of Cologne has to offer:

## Sight-seeing and museums:

[Cologne Cathedral](#) (Kölner Dom): With a height of just a fraction under 158m or 518ft, the monumental Gothic cathedral is the third highest church building in the world and attracts about 10,000 visitors each day.

[Cologne Zoo](#) (website in German only): Cologne Zoo boasts the largest elephant enclosure north of the Alps and has opened the new "Hippodom", a 3,500m<sup>2</sup> African-style riverside, which, amongst others, is home to hippopotamuses, crocodiles and antelopes, in 2010.

A visit to one of Cologne's thirty or so breweries (in order to drink a proper "Kölsch"): According to locals, many of the world's best beers are from Cologne (Reissdorf, Gaffel, Früh, Sion, etc.).

A visit to the [Chocolate Museum](#), complete with chocolate tasting and a great insight into the history of chocolate and cocoa.

A visit to the [German Sport and Olympic Museum](#) (website in German only): A real highlight for sport buffs and young children, the Sport and Olympic Museum is a highly interactive and informative museum with a focus on the history of sport and its political and societal implications.

A trip to the panorama platform of the [KölnTriangle](#) tower in Deutz: For just 3€, the platform offers a 360°-view of the city, the river and the surrounding area. The breathtaking scenery is not the only attraction the KölnTriangle tower has on offer, though, as it also accommodates a [Mongolian restaurant](#).

## Outdoors:

For those of you who prefer to spend their spare time (and perhaps also a bit less money) closer to the venue of the Summer School, we can recommend relaxing at the "Aachener Weiher", a park with a beautiful pond almost directly opposite the campus of the Faculty of Human Sciences. It is a popular destination for students and families alike, spending long

summer/autumn evenings there having barbecues, the odd cold beverage, playing games or sport or just reading a good book while enjoying the weather and scenery.

The newly-built “Rheinboulevard”, which will be opened in late August/early September 2016, is another great place to spend some time without spending too much money. You could bring a book or a beer and while away the evening with the iconic view of Cologne Cathedral and Hohenzollern Bridge in the background.

A walk along the banks of the River Rhine: A walk along the Rhine leads you past some of Cologne’s most iconic sights – Cologne Cathedral, the [Kranhäuser](#) (crane houses) and the historic old town part. You could stop for a meal or a drink at Heumarkt, a beautiful medieval square that used to serve as a market square (and an execution ground) and nowadays houses many pubs and bars.

A stroll through the “Flora”, the city’s botanical gardens: The “Flora”, located next to Cologne Zoo in the north of Cologne, is a fantastic place to wind down after a long day. Entry to the park and the plant houses is free. There is also a lovely café that serves hot food and drinks.

### **Sport:**

If you enjoy a good run to recharge your batteries after a long day, both banks of the Rhine offer scenic views of the city and Cologne’s seven bridges allow you to run anything between a few miles and a full marathon distance. A little closer to the Summer School venue, the “Decksteiner Weiher” and the “Stadtwald” are two green and relatively quiet options to jog or go for a walk.

### **Family:**

A trip to nearby amusement park “[Phantasialand](#)”: The amusement park in Brühl is a fun way for the entire family to spend the day. Many roller coasters, bungee drops and family-friendly action shows await the eager guest in “Phantasialand”. However, it is quite pricey as tickets cost 45€ for adults (12+ years of age) and 29€ for children from the age of four to eleven.