



metropolregion nürnberg

SEE IT. FEEL IT. STAY.



EUROPEAN METROPOLITAN REGION
NUREMBERG

WELCOME TO THE NUREMBERG METROPOLITAN REGION

WELCOME TO CENTRAL FRANCONIA



THE NUREMBERG METROPOLITAN REGION

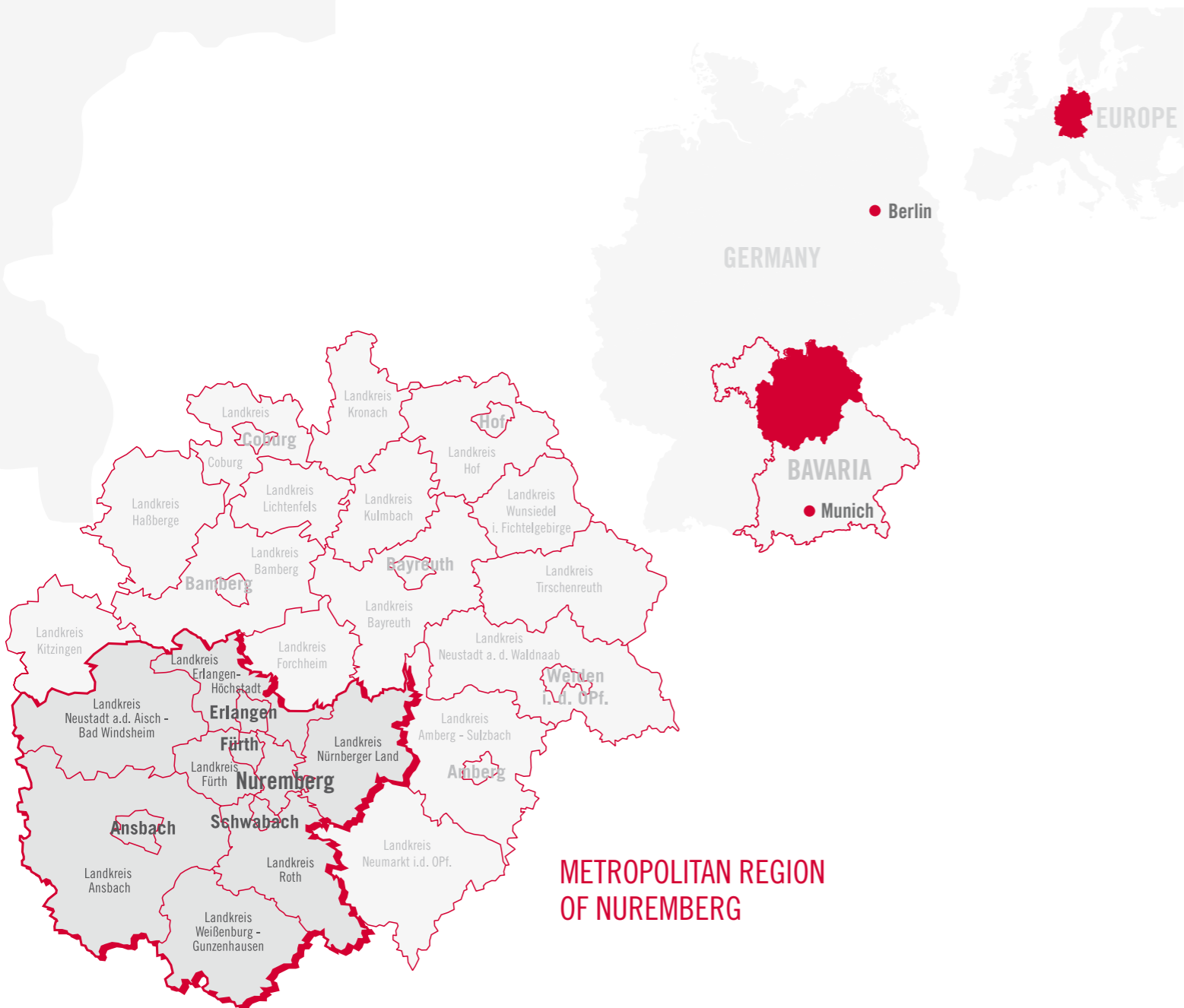
Central Franconia is the most populous area of the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region. We are a veritable 'hotbed of creativity' and look forward to meeting people with innovative drive and creativity who want to make their dreams come true in our region.

A new start is always exciting. Regardless of whether you are moving to our area from another region in Germany, another country in Europe or even another continent: We would like to help you to settle in. This brochure intends to give you an idea of what makes our region so unique and how you can shape your life here. We would like to share information and tips with you on where to obtain further information and whom to contact to make sure you feel at home with us as soon as possible.

We sincerely hope that you will arrive safely, that you will be amazed at the opportunities open to you here, that your time here will be a happy one – and that you will stay.

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METROPOLITAN REGION OF NUREMBERG

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EUROPEAN METROPOLITAN REGION OF NUREMBERG

1 WELCOME TO THE NUREMBERG METROPOLITAN REGION

WELCOME TO CENTRAL FRANCONIA

EUROPEAN METROPOLITAN REGION NUREMBERG

Here in Germany's South, we like to come top of the class – yet we also have like to have plenty of spare time in which to enjoy ourselves. In the European Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg, the sober professionalism that lies behind state-of-the-art technology, major corporations, successful family-run businesses, and science rests on the cheerful contentment that characterises its people. We would like to invite creative people from around the globe to share our enjoyable life. As an internationally important, powerful, economic region, we are proud of the fact that we already offer people hailing from over one hundred and fifty different countries employment and a place they and their families can call home.

Thanks to its excellent infrastructure, the region is easily accessible, whether you are driving or flying – you can even get to us by boat! Our international airport offers flights to almost anywhere in the world. Four important motorways cross the Metropolitan Region – and the Main-Danube canal is popular with tourists and trading companies alike. We also feel that our proximity to the border gives us another, special responsibility; we view ourselves as the gateway for those member states that have joined the European Union only recently.

Not only major corporations but also small and medium-sized family-run businesses have successfully put down their roots in the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region. Despite their different sizes, all of the local companies have one thing in common: Urbaneness and diversity, providing prospective employees with a huge range of choices when it comes to employment opportunities. The region's companies manufacture for an international market; they are busy exploring new materials, developing environmentally friendly technologies, conducting health care or medical research or organising national and international logistics. They also share their knowledge: Consultancy and service provision are two of the region's strongest sectors.

Where does all this expertise come from? The Metropolitan Region is home to twenty universities, twenty-two research institutions, and numerous education establishments offering further training and qualification opportunities. There are many different kinds of openings. We feel responsible for the people who move here. The Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg therefore aims to provide a wide spectrum of important first points of call for the newly arrived, offering guidance on anything from employment opportunities and vocational qualifications, to the German school system, designed to

lend a helping hand in coping with the barrage of information and the unfamiliar, and, of course, with the ubiquitous paperwork.

And if you do not subscribe to the urban lifestyle, do not let the term 'metropolitan' discourage you from coming here! The region's rural areas also have much to offer to those who prefer life in the country. You can still easily commute to the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region's cities by public transport or car, making it easy to combine rural pleasures with all of the advantages life in the city has to offer. Wherever you decide to settle – life in the European Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg is comfortable and, in comparison with other metropolitan areas, exceptionally affordable. It is also very safe.

The Nuremberg Metropolitan Region is very open-minded: singles are as welcome here as families are. We want prospective Metropolitan Region citizens to feel at home here the minute they arrive – whether they are three years old, or eighty-three! There are plenty of schools and pre-school nurseries for children – including some with an international focus. Professional institutions are in place to help care for elderly relatives. The Nuremberg Metropolitan Region is one of Germany's most family-friendly economic regions – and quite a few lone incomers have met the love of their life here.

There is no lack of opportunities to meet and mingle – because we also like to party. There are plenty of typical regional festivals such as the 'Erlanger Bergkirchweih' – a kind of Franconian Oktoberfest –, for example, being celebrated throughout the summer. The cities organise major cultural events such as Nuremberg's 'Blue Night', and there is also a host of equally enjoyable smaller local festivals just waiting to be discovered. The Metropolitan Region's beautiful landscape has much to offer in the way of hiking, swimming, cycling or climbing. And history lovers can delve deeply into the past here, even as far back as the Stone Age.

Life is never boring in the Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg – because we know that being good at so many things includes being top of the class when it comes to having fun. Which you can only do if you feel utterly content. Stay with us and get to know the European Metropolitan Region Nuremberg. The following pages contain some essential information in order to help you to find your feet and feel at home in the Home for Creative Minds.





STARTING WORK:

CAREERS IN THE EUROPEAN METROPOLITAN REGION NUREMBERG

2

The European Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg is a bit like an MP3 player: It delivers top results despite its compact size. Approximately 150,000 companies generate a gross domestic profit of more than 106 billion euros (2009). This amazing result is not only produced by major corporations, but also by the region's many successful small and medium-sized enterprises.

Although they may not scream and shout about it, they have every confidence in their abilities and are busy developing and processing products which can later be found in all four corners of the world. Our reputation as Home for Creative Minds is well-deserved: Bavaria is the German federal state with the highest number of patent applications. Of these, twice as many as you would expect if you were to base the respective calculation on number of inhabitants and companies who originate from Central Franconia. Many well-known global market leaders are based in the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region, as well as a number of not-so-well-known but equally successful companies. All of these companies currently employ around 1.8 million people and are always open to new ideas – and they have vacancies for creative people from around the world.

The bosses of the Metropolitan Region's small and medium-sized businesses are not unapproachable non-entities – they are people like you and me, and colleagues generally tend to know each other quite well. Anyone working in the Metropolitan Region also profits from the diversity of our industries and companies. Once you are here, one opportunity often leads to another. Independent of whether your strength lies in academic research or whether you feel more at home in a workshop, tinkering away at inventing new gadgets for the automotive industry, whether you excel at co-ordinating logistics processes or are looking for future solutions that are environmentally-compatible, or whether you enjoy sharing your knowledge with one of the specialist consultancy firms based here.

And another thing: Anyone interested in educating and qualifying themselves further, even though they are busy earning a living, can do so at one of our numerous educational establishments – you can do anything, from learning an additional foreign language to a degree in business administration. The Nuremberg Metropolitan Region is dynamic. The people who live here not only develop their careers further within existing companies, but they also set up new ones. The region is a magnet for start-ups – and welcomes this influx of fresh ideas. The Nuremberg Metropolitan Region is the region with the second-highest number of start-ups in Germany. We are therefore quite proud of the fact that we have a lively 'start-up scene' going here. And we support our start-ups – with our expertise, by helping them to realise their ideas and by encouraging them to talk to others in a similar situation.

DID YOU KNOW ...?
The MP3 format was developed at the Erlangen Fraunhofer Institute.

CENTRAL FRANCONIA'S LARGEST EMPLOYERS ARE:

- Siemens
- Schaeffler Group
- Sparkasse
- Bosch
- Datev
- MAN
- Adidas
- Areva
- Volksbanken
- Raiffeisenbanken
- Diehl
- N-Ergie
- Nürberger Versicherungen
- Hofmann Personal
- Fürst Gruppe
- Rehau
- VAG
- Playmobil
- Ergo Direkt
- Schwan Stabilo
- GfK

Important additional information for job seekers from outside of Germany is given in Chapter 6.

See Chapter 10 for the Metropolitan Region's further education and qualification opportunities.

2.1 THE METROPOLITAN REGION'S STRONG SECTORS:

EVEN STRONGER WITH YOU ON BOARD!

THE METROPOLITAN REGION'S STRONG SECTORS:

- Transport, traffic and logistics
- Automotive
- Information and communications
- Medical and health care
- Energy and environment
- New materials
- Automation and production technology

You can find detailed information on the Metropolitan Region's and the district of Central Franconia's economy at:



www.nuernberg-ihk.de

The Metropolitan Region is a bubbling, sizzling, sleuthing, brewing, calculating and always busy hive of entrepreneurial activity. We have many strengths: With your help, we want to build them up even further. We want everyone to prosper and do well, and we believe that shared prosperity is founded on growth. Not on a growth at an inhumane, reckless speed but on steady and perpetual growth. Maybe you have already heard or read something about the driverless underground trains we have here in Nuremberg. These are the first vehicles of their kind in the world and maybe serve to give you an idea of the exciting projects our transport and logistics sector is currently working on. Around 75,000 local people are either directly or indirectly involved in the development, testing and utilisation of new drive technologies. They are busy inventing alternative individual transport ideas, creating intelligent traffic management systems and working on great advances in the field of railway engineering. Which, by the way, is quite a tradition in our area: The 'Adler', ferrying people to and fro between Nuremberg and Fürth, was Germany's first locomotive.

Today, more than 40,000 locally based mechanical and electrical engineers and information technicians are currently working on simplifying and automating production processes. Whether they are employed by major corporations or small and medium-sized enterprises, both the international market and the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region benefit tremendously from their combined innovative drive, because their inventions help the employers based in the region to continue to produce their goods here.

We could manufacture a complete car locally, but the German automotive industry would hardly be able to do so without us. Around 85,000 people work for small and medium-sized businesses or major corporations such as Schaeffler and Leoni; all of them are either directly or indirectly involved in the automotive industry's value creation chain. It depends on many different components such as mechatronics, electronics, mechanics, plastics and textiles.

Basically, the automotive companies don't have to look much further than their own doorstep to find the people who are busy developing new materials. Around 300,000 of the Metropolitan Region's people work for companies, specialising on the production of materials for use in the automotive industry, in aeronautical engineering and rail-bound transport technologies, in mechanical engineering, in the semi-conductor manufacturing industry, the textile industry and in the medical, energy and green technology sectors. No other region or city in Germany has such an unparalleled cluster of University-based material research activities to offer: Approx. 1,200 researchers apply themselves extensively to the broad field of material sciences within the scope of scientific projects.

Another nationally unique local aspect: The consolidated diversity of manufacturers, research institutes and educational establishments, clinics and medical technology, and medical and health care service providers also makes the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region a true 'medical valley'. Around 45,000 people work here for approx. 200 companies in the field of medical technology alone – the Siemens Healthcare head office is also in the Metropolitan Region.

We keep our eyes peeled: The Metropolitan Region is one of the world's most indicative market research locations. Both international institutions and regional service providers are extremely interested in the information the institutes gather here. Our locally based service providers specialise mainly in auditing and tax consultancy; other fields include communications, the design industry or the trade fair and conference business – because as an international trade fair location, we have quite a bit of experience in that area, which we are happy to share with others.



RELAX AND START UP: WE'LL TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING ELSE

New ideas can prosper and thrive here. We believe that the people who have them should be allowed to focus on the essentials. We have over twenty business advice centres ('Gründeragenturen'), business development centres ('Gründerzentren') and business skills initiatives ('Kompetenz-initiativen') dedicated to helping start-ups in the Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg.

The business advice centre staff offer advice on any grants available for start-ups, will help you to find alternative financing sources, and also offer guidance on how to compete for public contracts. The business development centres also like to share their knowledge with you – as well as offering you a chance to establish your own office with a minimum initial outlay.

The business skills initiatives give new entrepreneurs the chance to meet up with representatives from well-established companies leading to an exchange of ideas at expert level from which both sides benefit – either through knowledge transfer, networking, or direct co-operation. Seven business skills initiatives, each focusing on a particular industry, have so far been set up in the Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg. They are specifically aimed at start-ups in the following sectors: Transport, traffic and logistics, energy and environment, automotive, new materials, information and communications, automation and production engineering and medical and health care. Get in contact with us – and you will soon find the right home for your ideas.



2.2

BUSINESS SUPPORT CENTER

You already run your own business in another country and are thinking of relocating to Nuremberg or Fürth? The 'Nürnberg Fürth for Excellence' Business Support Center provides:

1. Furnished offices,
2. Secretarial services, and
3. a welcome package with set advisory services.

www.n-f-excellence.de

FINDING EMPLOYMENT IN CENTRAL FRANCONIA:

Bundesagentur für Arbeit (Federal Employment Agency) recruitment portal
<http://jobboerse.arbeitsagentur.de>

Classified advertisements in the Nürnberger Nachrichten and Nürnberger Zeitung newspapers
<http://bit.ly/Mu2df0>

Step Stone Jobs
www.stepstone.de

Monster
www.monster.de

BUSINESS ADVICE CENTRES, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTRES AND BUSINESS SKILLS INITIATIVES IN CENTRAL FRANCONIA

THE BUSINESS ADVICE CENTRES WILL ADVISE YOU ON ANY GRANTS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE AND ON OTHER FINANCING SOURCES:

IHK Nürnberg für Mittelfranken (Nuremberg Chamber of Commerce and Industry Central Franconia):



<http://bit.ly/P5S72l>

You can find more information that may be of interest to you here:

<http://bit.ly/OJzyBt>

HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES IN THE NUREMBERG METROPOLITAN REGION:

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)

Executive MBA Business Management (Universität Erlangen Nürnberg)
www.mba-nuernberg.info

MBA 'General Management' for Non-Financials (Georg-Simon-Ohm Management Institute)
www.gso-mi.com/mba-en.html

MBA 'General Management' for Financials (Georg-Simon-Ohm Management Institute)
www.gso-mi.com/mba-en.html

MBA in Agricultural Management (Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Sciences)
<http://bit.ly/MKYRxy>

MBA in Regional Management (Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Sciences)
www.hswt.de/info/master/rm.html

THE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTRES NOT ONLY OFFER ADVICE BUT ALSO THE CHANCE TO ESTABLISH YOUR OWN OFFICE AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE:

Innovations- und Gründerzentrum Nürnberg-Fürth-Erlangen
www.igz.de

Medical Valley Center
www.medical-valley-center.de

Erstes Energie-Technologisches Gründer- und Innovationszentrum Deutschlands
www.etz-nuernberg.de

Schwabacher Unternehmens-Gründerzentrum SCHWUNG
www.schwung.de

Technologie- und Innovationszentrum Ansbach
www.tiz-ansbach.de

Business development centre Nuremberg
www.klee-center.de

FURTHER VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGINEERS AND TECHNICIANS:

DAA-Technikum Nürnberg
www.daa-technikum.de

Rudolf Diesel Fachschule Nürnberg
www.rdfnuernberg.de

TÜV Rheinlandschule – LGA Fachschulen gGmbH: Bioengineering, Electroplating, Environmental Engineering
www.lga.de

Fachschule für Techniker der Stadt Erlangen
www.technikerschule.erlangen.de

Fachschule für Maschinenbau Roth
www.bs-roth.de

Fachschule für Maschinenbau/ Fachakademie für Medizintechnik
www.medizintechniker.de

OTHER PLACES WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADVICE, NETWORK AND USE EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURES FOR A REASONABLE PRICE:

Netzwerk Nordbayern
Netzwerk Nordbayern ('Northern Bavarian network') is a network of entrepreneurs interested in supporting and promoting the setting up and development of innovative technology, IT and life science companies. It offers help with drawing up a business plan, establishing contacts and finding capital.
www.netzwerk-nordbayern.de

The NFFX (Nürnberg Fürth for Excellence) assists with direct investments in the Nuremberg and Fürth region from abroad.
www.n-f-excellence.de

'Invest in Bavaria' will help you to set up a branch or office in Bavaria or to expand your existing local facilities:
www.invest-in-bavaria.de

Coworking Space Nürnberg
www.coworking-nuernberg.de/clever-arbeiten

See www.nuernberg-startups.de/ for contacts and information about Nuremberg's 'start-up scene'.

THE BUSINESS SKILLS INITIATIVES OFFER YOU A CHANCE TO MEET PARTNERS FROM YOUR PARTICULAR FIELD:

TRANSPORT, TRAFFIC AND LOGISTICS
CNA Center for Transportation & Logistics – Neuer Adler e. V.
www.c-na.de

AUTOMOTIVE
ofraCar – Automobilnetzwerk e. V.
The 'ofraCar' network links Northern Bavaria's suppliers to the automotive industry
www.ofracar.de

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
Nürnberger Initiative für die Kommunikationswirtschaft – NIK e. V.
www.nik-nbg.de

MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE
Medical Valley EMN e. V.
www.medical-valley-emn.de

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
ENERGIRegion Nürnberg e. V.
www.energieregion.de

NEW MATERIALS
KINEMA -Kompetenzinitiative Neue Materialien
www.kinema.de

AUTOMATION AND PRODUCTION ENGINEERING
Automation Valley Nordbayern
www.automation-valley.de

For an overview listing all networks and knowledge and technology transfer institutions in the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region, visit:
<http://bit.ly/MstQWt>

See mehrwertzone.net for information and contacts in the creative industries.



DIVERSE, SAFE AND ALWAYS CENTRAL:

3

LIVING IN THE METROPOLITAN REGION OF NUREMBERG

Do you like to be woken up by a cock crowing or do you prefer the sound of the big city as a wakeup call? Whatever your preference: In the European Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg, you are never far from either. Thanks to our excellent infrastructure, the Metropolitan Region's cities are within easy reach from wherever you are. Life here is convenient – and, compared to other metropolitan areas, remarkably affordable. In the country as well as the city. Regardless of whether you prefer to spend your leisure time rambling across the fields, cycling or partying: You never have to worry about getting home safely. Because the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region is one of the safest regions in Germany.

3.1 SMALL FLAT, SPACIOUS HOUSE

RENTS AND PROPERTY PRICES IN THE METROPOLITAN REGION

Properties for sale and to let are advertised in the local newspapers' weekend editions and online. See the following search engines for a wide selection of regional accommodation for sale and to let:

Metropolitan Region Property Agency Service
<http://bit.ly/LvTqdC>

Immowelt and Immowelt-Service especially for northern Bavaria
<http://bit.ly/9zycC>
www.immowelt.de

Admittedly it is not easy to decide between the different lifestyles the Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg has to offer. The wide range of choices includes lovingly restored period properties competing with modern apartments or lofts, Art Nouveau villas, sprawling farm houses and newbuilds for young families.

You can expect to pay around three hundred euros a month for a well-appointed flat in the Metropolitan Region. Rents are usually somewhat higher in the city centres. Particularly in the university towns, such as Erlangen, Nuremberg, Bamberg or Bayreuth, small flats are hard to come by and therefore slightly more expensive. There is no shortage of two to three roomed flats, however: it should not take you long to find a place to stay. In the suburbs, you can expect to pay rents of around 1,000 Euros a month for a terraced house with garden – the rents are even more affordable out in the country.

The Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg is also worth looking at if you are thinking about buying your own flat or house: Flats start at 40,000 Euros, terraced and semi-detached houses at approx. 180,000 Euros.

The picture is similar where building plots are concerned. Whilst you would need to invest between 150 to 650 Euros per square metres in one of the larger cities such as Nuremberg, for example, prices start at 95 Euros per square metre of plot in the medium-sized towns. Plots in rural areas are for sale from as little as 20 Euros per square metre.



MOVING HERE FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY: TO RENT OR TO BUY – HOW DO I RENT A FLAT?

Unlike in many other countries, most people in Germany live in rented accommodation. The European Metropolitan Region Nuremberg is no exception, there is a wide choice of rental property available. Renting offers many advantages: In qualitative terms, rented properties are no different to owning your own home, you do not have to enter into any long-term financial commitment and tenants' rights in Germany are well-protected by the so-called 'Mieterschutz': very specific regulations that ensure that rents cannot be raised unreasonably and the property's owner cannot terminate the lease at short notice.

How to rent a property:

1. Look for a suitable property: Search for flats or houses meeting your criteria in the regional daily newspapers and on online search portals in the 'Zur Miete' (to let) section.
2. Make an appointment to view the flat or house with the estate agent or owner of the property.
3. If you like the flat or house, and the owner would like to let it to you, you need to sign a tenancy agreement. This usually details the amount of rent you need to pay per calendar month, excluding heating and ancillary costs and utility bills (the so-called 'Kaltmiete', literally 'rental amount due cold'). The landlord is also entitled to add various other costs, the so-called 'Nebenkosten' ('ancillary costs', such as the services of a caretaker, gas for heating, water, electricity, insurances etc.), to this on a pro rata basis. Make sure you ask your landlord which costs are covered by the ancillary costs detailed in the lease, and which costs/utility bills you will be responsible for on top of the monthly rent.
4. Usually, it is your responsibility to register with the respective local energy providers for heating and electricity. Just ask your landlord for the local providers' contact details.
5. It may take several weeks for your telephone, internet access and TV to become operational. It is therefore a good idea to choose the respective provider(s) well in advance of your actual moving date. You will be able to carry your respective contract(s) over to another address should you decide to move somewhere else in the area at a later date.
6. In Germany, a licence fee must be paid for owning a radio, TV or internet-enabled computer. This is usually approx. five to twenty euros a month. You must register with the GEZ, the licencing authority, as soon as you have installed any one of these devices in your new home. The respective forms are available from post offices, banks and online at www.gez.de



3.2

TRAVEL LINKS: THE METROPOLITAN REGION'S TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

i For detailed information on the regional public transport system, visit: www.vgn.de

The Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg has excellent connections – literally. You do not necessarily have to own a car in order to get around. The Verkehrsverbund Großraum Nürnberg public transport service covers the Metropolitan Region's entire area: Trains will carry you from the suburbs to the city centre, busses from village to village or from one urban district to another. In Nuremberg, the driverless underground whizzes around, unaffected by traffic jams and rush hour.

Quite a few of the larger companies have agreed with the local public transport service that their employees can buy season tickets at a discounted rate. By the way, it is also easy and safe to switch to cycling during the summer months. Not only does the pan-European cycling route run through the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region for 320 kilometres – our cities and rural districts also cater for cyclists with generously proportioned and well-maintained cycle lanes and routes to allow you to commute easily and safely between them.

It is a quick way of getting wherever you want to get to in the Metropolitan Region: Your workplace, shopping facilities, home, or why not visit some of our exciting local attractions by bike? Because it will usually take you no more than half an hour to get to wherever you want to go.

REGIONAL MARKETS AND INTERNATIONAL BRANDS

SHOPPING IN THE METROPOLITAN REGION

Do you love fresh fruit and vegetables? Then you've come to the right place! Because our region also has many farmers who deliver their harvest fresh produce directly to the local retailers and markets. It has not been transported over long distances as it has basically been grown almost outside your own front door. Of course that doesn't mean that you can't buy a mango from Brazil or wine from Italy locally! In the region's towns and rural districts, you can find everything your heart desires: We have big shopping centres as well as a host of small, select shops.

3.3

i For more information about regionally produced food, visit www.original-regional.info

HEALTHY LIVING

We don't just call ourselves a 'Medical Valley', we really are one. However, our medical specialists do not carry out their research in ivory towers: Local patients benefit directly from the local specialists' medical expertise. That is why the level of healthcare is excellent in the Metropolitan Region. Besides the large university and city hospitals, there are dozens of smaller and medium-sized clinics serving both the rural and the urban population. It does not take much effort to live a healthy lifestyle in the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region. The good air quality, the numerous recreation facilities, and the diversity of the local landscape, as well as a good work-life balance, all contribute significantly to the fact that people feel extremely comfortable here.

3.4

i See Chapter 5 for more information on regional destinations for exciting days out.

i This chapter is all about the leisure time activities available in the region.





FAMILY VALUES IN THE EUROPEAN METROPOLITAN REGION NUREMBERG

4

We are looking for people, not grafters – Because although having a rewarding career is enjoyable – if it does not leave you enough time to spend with your family, it will not make you truly happy. That is why the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region is one of Germany's most family-friendly economic regions. We make sure that all age groups, from new-borns to senior citizens, are looked after and have opportunities for socialising – in kindergartens, adventure playgrounds, (international) schools, at sports events, or in one of the Metropolitan Region's over one hundred nursing homes for senior citizens. Feel at home here – and look forward to each day.

CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY, FAMILY-FRIENDLY REGION

4.1

In 2010, the Metropolitan Region Nuremberg launched the 'Mehrwert Familie (Added Value Family)' prize in co-operation with the Bertelsmann Foundation and the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth. It was won by seven regionally-based companies; the winners included small enterprises with less than fifty staff as well as international major corporations. The Metropolitan Region views their respective corporate cultures as exemplary and inspirational: Their employees are allowed to manage their working hours flexibly, they know that good care will be taken of their children in the company crèche, and that their direct line managers will consider their respective individual life situations and work with them to find solutions.

In the Metropolitan Region's thirty-five family alliances, citizens, towns and cities, local communities, companies, unions, foundations and a great number of other people and bodies get together to steadily work on improving the situation for families even more. Both the region and its population benefit tremendously from the resultant feeling of togetherness – share it with us!

☀ For tips on family-focused leisure time activities, visit

www.frankenkids.de
www.fam24.de
www.famos-nuernberg.de/Archiv.721.0.html
www.bezirksjugendring-mittelfranken.de

📍 Bündnisse für Familie in Mittelfranken (Central Franconia - family associations)

Ansbach
<http://bit.ly/PqTnN>
Ansbach (County)
www.familienlandkreis.de

Erlangen
www.erlanger-familienbuendnis.de

Erlangen-Höchstadt
www.buendnis-fuer-familie.de

Fürh
www.fuerther-buendnis-fuer-familien.de

Fürth (County)
<http://bit.ly/OvzKIW>

Neustadt a. d. Aisch – Bad Windsheim
<http://bit.ly/RpUrmS>


Nürnberg
<http://bff2-nbg.de/Familienatlas.1019.0.html>

Nürnberger Land (County)
www.nuernberger-land.de/html/bff/start.html



4.2 STATE, PRIVATE, ARTISTIC OR WITH A FOCUS ON MATHEMATICS?

SCHOOLS AND PRE-SCHOOL NURSERIES IN THE METROPOLITAN REGION

 You can find a list of **child day-care centres** in Bavaria and the Metropolitan Region, broken down into local councils and districts, here:

www.kita-bayern.de
www.kita.de/kitas/bayern

This page will give you an overview over **private schools** in Bavaria and the Metropolitan Region:
<http://bit.ly/SJIMTW>

This is where you can find out more about the Metropolitan Region's **international schools**:
<http://bit.ly/MxE2Rg>

The European Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg has almost one thousand pre-school nurseries and child day care centres to choose from. You can base your choice on location, educational focus, opening times or additional support offered to your child. A list of child day-care centres and pre-school nurseries in your area, including the respective contact details, is available from your local town hall („Rathaus“) or youth welfare office („Jugendamt“).


Would you like your child to learn Greek or Spanish, or does he or she show a talent for mastering mathematical equations? The Nuremberg Metropolitan Region's wide spectrum of secondary schools with a special focus on music, science or modern languages allows you and your family to take your child's preferences and talents into account when choosing a school.

Besides the state primary schools and the three performance-related types of state secondary school („Mittelschule“, „Realschule“ and „Gymnasium“), there are also various private educational institutions in the Metropolitan Region with different focuses including, of course, international schools where children are educated bilingually. Regardless of which type of school you choose for your child, the fact is: In the national league tables, pupils from Bavarian schools often do better than their peers in other German federal states. That is why Bavarian schools, including those in the Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg, have an excellent reputation.

FROM COMPANION TO HIGHFLYER: SUPPORT FOR YOUR PARTNER

4.3

You have been offered a position in the European Metropolitan Region Nuremberg – and your partner is going to accompany you. We won't leave either of you on your own when it comes to getting settled here. The Dual Career Network of Northern Bavaria, in co-operation with the region's chambers of commerce and industry, provides a service specifically aimed at the husbands and wives of scientists working here: For example easier access to the local science-related employment market by publishing your professional profile in good time. It also serves as a platform for getting in touch with companies based in the region.

 For more information about the **Dual Career Network** Northern Bavaria, contact:
Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
<http://bit.ly/NBVe3w>

FRIENDS AND FAMILY: SENIOR CITIZENS IN THE METROPOLITAN REGION

4.4

The Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg's senior citizens often appear to be quite sprightly for their age! Probably because we look after them so well ... There are hundreds of facilities for senior citizens in the European Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg's towns, cities and rural areas, including assisted living facilities and nursing and retirement homes where older people are cared for by professionals and can socialise with their peers. However, above all, our senior citizens organise their own entertainment: They share their knowledge with their peers or the younger generation, teach each other how to use the internet, or meet up to go on day trips together.

MOVING HERE FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY: THE GERMAN SCHOOL SYSTEM

All children aged six and above are required to attend school. Most schools are state-run – there are no school fees to pay for these. As the sixteen German federal states are each responsible for the schools in their particular state, curricula and teaching materials used vary according to the region you are moving to. The basic system, however, is the same all over Germany.

- 1. Primary school:** Children usually start their education at the age of six. They stay in primary school for four years. Depending on your child's primary school performance, you can decide at the end of their fourth year at primary school which type of school they should visit next.
- 2. Secondary school - „Mittelschule“ and „Realschule“:** Children attend „Mittel“ or „Real“ secondary schools from the fifth to the ninth or tenth grade. Once they have successfully completed their education at one of these two types of school, usually at around the age of sixteen, they can either start a vocational training course or move on to a higher-level secondary school, called a „Gymnasium“, or attend a college of higher education with a special focus on a certain vocational field, called a „Fachgymnasium“.
- 3. Gymnasium or Fachgymnasium:** At the end of the twelfth grade, pupils sit a final exam. If they pass this, they are awarded an Abitur or a Fachabitur (depending on the type of Gymnasium they are at). This entitles them to study at a university („Hochschule“, „Universität“) or at a university of applied sciences or college of higher education („Fachhochschule“). An Abitur or Fachabitur does, of course, not oblige young people or adults to study at university, they can also opt for a vocational training course.



LIFE'S A PARTY:

HAVE FUN IN THE METROPOLITAN REGION OF NUREMBERG!

„Feierabend!“ Time to clock off. Although we like to deliver outstanding results, we are not careerists. On the contrary: We quite like to enjoy ourselves as well! The European Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg offers plenty of scope for that. During summer, for example, there's one music festival after another – and in winter, our numerous small but characterful pubs invite you to sit out the cold season in their cosy atmosphere. You can explore over a dozen local recreation areas on foot, by bicycle, climbing, by boat or on horseback. The streets and houses in our old town centres are full of history and our museums are also by far not the only places where you can find art, leaving you with only one difficulty to face: deciding what to discover first. We hope you have a great time!


TRADITIONAL ROASTS, SOPHISTICATED SUSHI AND A PARADISE FOR BEER LOVERS

Another fact we are extremely proud of: the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region boasts well over two hundred breweries. Nowhere else in the world will you find this many breweries in an area this size – and if you appreciate a good beer, you will be bowled over by the different magic potions we make with just three simple ingredients: water, hops and malt. And even if you don't actually like beer very much, the breweries are still a worthwhile destination for a day-trip, as many of them have their own rustic restaurant attached, including a beer garden, of course. They tend to serve extremely generous portions of regional specialities – from ‚Schäuferle‘ to ‚Kirschenmännle‘.

Or go on a culinary journey around the world: The Nuremberg Metropolitan Region's chefs roll sophisticated sushi, season pasta the way it is done in Naples or spice up your life with a hearty Hungarian goulash. The longer you live here, the more extended your culinary geographical knowledge will become. Although it also has to be said that the restaurants often prefer to use regionally produced ingredients – food which has not been transported over long distances – to ensure that you get to enjoy it as fresh as it can possibly be. We also have a solution on hand for those of you who like barbecuing but don't have their own outdoor space to do it in: Why not visit one of the numerous public parks – most of them have excellent barbecuing areas for public use.

5

5.1

 For an overview on all breweries in the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region, visit: <http://bit.ly/K1FfcT>

GASTRONOMIC DICTIONARY

QUAINT AND TYPICAL FRANCONIAN DISHES:

Kirschenmännle:
A pudding made from dried black bread, rum, almonds and cherries.

Schäuferle:
Pork butt roast served with
Fränkische Klöße:
Franconian potato dumplings, boiled in water.

Saure Zipfel:
Boiled frying sausages in a vinegar and onion marinade.

5.2 STRANGE BUT NICE: NUREMBERG METROPOLITAN REGION TRADITIONS

For an overview over **Kirchweih fairs** and other **festivals** celebrated in the region, go to:

<http://bit.ly/LYvOR7>

You can find an overview over **Franconian festivals** at:
www.fraenkische-schweiz.com

Around Shrovetide, the end of the cold season is greeted with loud stomping. People tramp through the Metropolitan Region's villages wearing wooden animal masks, the so-called 'Perchten', to rid the world of the furry animal called winter. Although it usually still takes a while for the warmer weather to arrive – the spectacle is definitely worth it.

Soon afterwards, the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region's village fountains become colourful: To celebrate Easter, the villagers decorate their village fountains with lovingly painted Easter eggs. Why not make a roundtrip through the region's villages and choose your favourite fountain!

There are many reasons for us to look forward to spring and summer, not least the traditional 'Kirchweihen' fairs and 'Volksfeste' festivals – the first one in the diary is already a very special one: the 'Walberla Kirchweih'. For a start, you have to climb a mountain in order to visit the fair, as it is held at the top of the Ehrenbürg mountains. The 'Erlanger Bergkirchweih' is an annual fair that is equally famous. Every year, thousands of visitors come in droves to sit in the shade of the tall trees with their friends and listen to live music and drink a few beers together. Various 'Kirchweihen', originally a kind of parish fair, are celebrated throughout early summer all over the Metropolitan Region's towns and villages: Watch the villagers raising their colourfully decorated maypole in the village centre. A Kirchweih fair usually last three days and until it is over, the villagers traditionally have to defend their maypole against thieves from the neighbouring villages.

In June, the Johannisfeuer, a bonfire, is lit to mark Midsummer, and at the end of August, 'Kürbisfeste' (pumpkin festivals) are celebrated, the first sign that autumn and winter are coming. Soon after that, the Christmas markets will ensure that children and adults alike look forward to the festive season with eager anticipation. The most famous of these markets is Nuremberg's Christkindl market, of course.

5.3 LIVING HISTORY

Take a trip back in time – visit the remains of a Roman limes and find out how Europe's borders were established hundreds of years ago. The Fränkisches Freilandmuseum in Bad Windsheim (the Franconian outdoor museum) shows how the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region's architectural style has changed throughout the centuries, from the Middle Ages to the 20th century.

A walk through the Metropolitan Region's historic city centres is also like a living history lesson: Castles and gables will tell you something about life in the Middle Ages, splendidly decorated Art Nouveau houses tell of the local merchants' and traders' wealth at the beginning of the 20th century. Sudden changes in the architecture are reminders of World War II and the following years, when much had to be rebuilt. You will find much evidence of the region's attempts to deal with what happened during Germany's National Socialist era. From the so-called 'stumbling stones', which are engraved with names of victims to serve as a reminder of this terrible time, to the Dokumentationszentrum at the Reichsparteitagsgelände, a museum at the former Nazi party rally grounds in Nuremberg dedicated to documenting this era.



ART, THEATRES, INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS

The Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg's museums are definitely worth a visit: Because they satisfy scientific curiosity as well as a thirst for history and fine arts. However, you do not necessarily have to visit a museum to find art in the Metropolitan Region – it is present at almost every corner. The artists based in this region also hold open days at their studios once or twice a year, allowing the general public exciting insights into the way they work.

Friends of the stage are called on to dare to experiment in the Metropolitan Region. Decide between the state opera house and small off-theatres where you are sitting close enough to the actors and the play to be able to experience their excitement first hand.

Music lovers can easily fill their diaries in the Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg. Whilst they are still reeling from attending the Rock im Park or Taubertal festivals, the next famous event is already around the corner: The Bardentreffen, where hundreds of buskers meet in Nuremberg's city centre to perform their songs together with international artists on stages all over the city.

In July and August, Wagner devotees from all corners of the globe start their annual pilgrimage up the famous Green Hill to attend the Bayreuth Festival. The 'Classic Open Air Nuremberg' series of concerts are also held in August. At what other time of the year could the weather be perfect for listening to a live orchestra whilst having a picnic on the lawn in front of the stage?

Not only do we celebrate music, but also the written word: For example, during Erlangen's annual poetry festival or at one of the numerous poetry slams that take place in the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region's arts centres and pubs.

5.4

To satisfy your **cultural** needs, visit:
<http://bit.ly/LP9Jo0>

An overview over all festivals in the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region is shown at:
<http://bit.ly/MKnm7f>
<http://bit.ly/NZgsuC>

Tip: Buy an **'Entdeckerpass' (discovery pass)**, and you can visit numerous leisure attractions in the Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg once a year for free or at substantially discounted admission charges:
www.entdeckerpass.com

5.5 MINI-CINEMAS AND SALSA: THE METROPOLITAN REGION'S NIGHTLIFE

☕ See the following websites for more information on recommended **cultural events, restaurants and nights out**:

- Curt**
www.curt.de/nbg
- Plärrer – city magazine with event listings**
www.plaerrer.de
- Frankentips**
www.frankentips.de
- Mehrwertzone**
www.mehrwertzone.net

Hardly an evening goes by when there is not something exciting going on in one of the **Nuremberg Metropolitan Region's numerous bars, pubs and clubs**. Dance to the sounds of electronic music, swing your hips to salsa or enjoy a glass of red wine or a cocktail in a sophisticated bar. You will have noticed the Metropolitan Region's wide choice of bars and pubs as soon as you have arrived here. However, the longer you stay, the more insider tips you will get. You might, for example, be told to visit a rather odd pub where artists pay off their tab with paintings. Or be told where to find intimate bars with a mini, living room size cinema attached. Have fun discovering them!

5.6 FRESH AIR: SPORTS AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

☀ For tips on **day trips** in the Metropolitan Region, see:
<http://bit.ly/PsefIC>

🌳 For an overview of the Metropolitan Region's **nature parks**, visit:
www.metropolregion-im-gruenen.de

See the following websites for **local sports events** and facilities:
<http://bit.ly/NwcmME>

For more information on **water sports**, see:
www.fraenkisches-seenland.de

And find out more about **climbing**:
www.frankenjura.com

The Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg offers many opportunities for spending your leisure time outdoors, even if you live in the city. Ten nature parks are just waiting for you to hike, cycle, or just relax in them. Or maybe you prefer to go spelunking in one of the numerous stalactite caves.

The Nuremberg Metropolitan Region is also home to the Fränkische Schweiz, 'Franconian Switzerland', one of the world's most popular and challenging climbing regions. What's more, redpoint climbing was actually invented here! The local forests also have many hiking and mountain biking routes to offer. Or you can go swimming in, or sailing on, one of the region's dozens of lakes. Another option is gliding: There are several locations in the Metropolitan Region where these light machines take off from. There are also numerous golf courses for those who prefer to keep their feet firmly on rather more sophisticated ground. Or you could go horseback riding. International top athletes regularly compete against each other at one of our local events: for example the Challenge Roth or the Metropolmarathon in Fürth.



FACEBOOK

Several **Facebook groups** have been set up to help you meet other people living in the Metropolitan Region and those who have recently moved to the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region:

Nuremberg group
<http://on.fb.me/L2Hvac>

New in Fürth
<http://on.fb.me/NDaUTm>

New in Nuremberg
<http://on.fb.me/LPn23l>

New in Ansbach
<http://on.fb.me/LPnbDK>

New in Nuremberg *Women only*
<http://on.fb.me/M5TG5t>

WHATEVER YOUR INTERESTS
ARE – YOU'LL NEVER BE
BORED IN THE NUREMBERG
METROPOLITAN REGION.



MOVE HERE, FEEL AT HOME – STAY!

6

HOW TO MAKE A SUCCESSFUL START IN THE METROPOLITAN REGION OF NUREMBERG

A new start is exciting – even more so in a foreign country. Anyone moving to Germany will be faced with far more baffling things than motorways without speed limits or the natives' rather pronounced devotion to many different kinds of bread. The European Metropolitan Region of Nuremberg will also have some surprises in store for you, in terms of everyday life here, working here, and how you can spend your leisure time here. Look forward to what we have to offer – we're looking forward to meeting you! And we want you to feel at home with us right from the start: The following pages therefore contain some important hints and addresses for a successful start in the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region.

VISA OR NOT?


PLANNING TO MOVE TO THE METROPOLITAN REGION

For qualified professionals moving here from outside the EU, the so-called **'EU Blue Card'** is a passport to Germany. Academics and highly qualified professionals can apply for it at a German consulate or embassy in their home country as soon as they have signed a contract of employment with a company in Germany, provided their new annual salary exceeds 44,000 Euros. In exceptional cases, experts in the fields of mathematics, information technology, science, engineering or medical practitioners may qualify for a Blue Card if their agreed annual salary amounts to at least 35,000 Euros.


If you were unable to find employment in our region beforehand due to the distance, you have six months after your arrival here in which to look for a job locally, providing you can prove that you are able to support yourself during that time.

If you have entered Germany with the **'EU Blue Card'**, you can apply for indefinite leave to stay as early as thirty-three months later by applying for a so-called **'Niederlassungserlaubnis'**, or permanent residence permit. If you can prove an excellent command of German, the **'Niederlassungserlaubnis'** may already be granted after only twenty-two months. Australian, US, Israeli, Canadian, Japanese citizens and citizens of the Republic of Korea may also apply for a residence permit after they have entered Germany. EU nationals do not require a visa.

6.1


 See Chapter 2 for information about **finding employment** in the Metropolitan Region.


 Is the **'EU Blue Card'** an option that could apply to you? Do the quick check: <http://bit.ly/Q5EN5H>

 The following website offers information on **visa requirements** and **working and living in Germany**: www.make-it-in-germany.com

6.2 DR OR MASTERS?

ACADEMIC PROFESSIONS IN GERMANY AND WHOM TO CONTACT IN THE METROPOLITAN REGION OF NUREMBERG

 A list of all professions or occupations that fall under the above mentioned regulations in Germany may be found at: <http://bit.ly/Om2x0K>

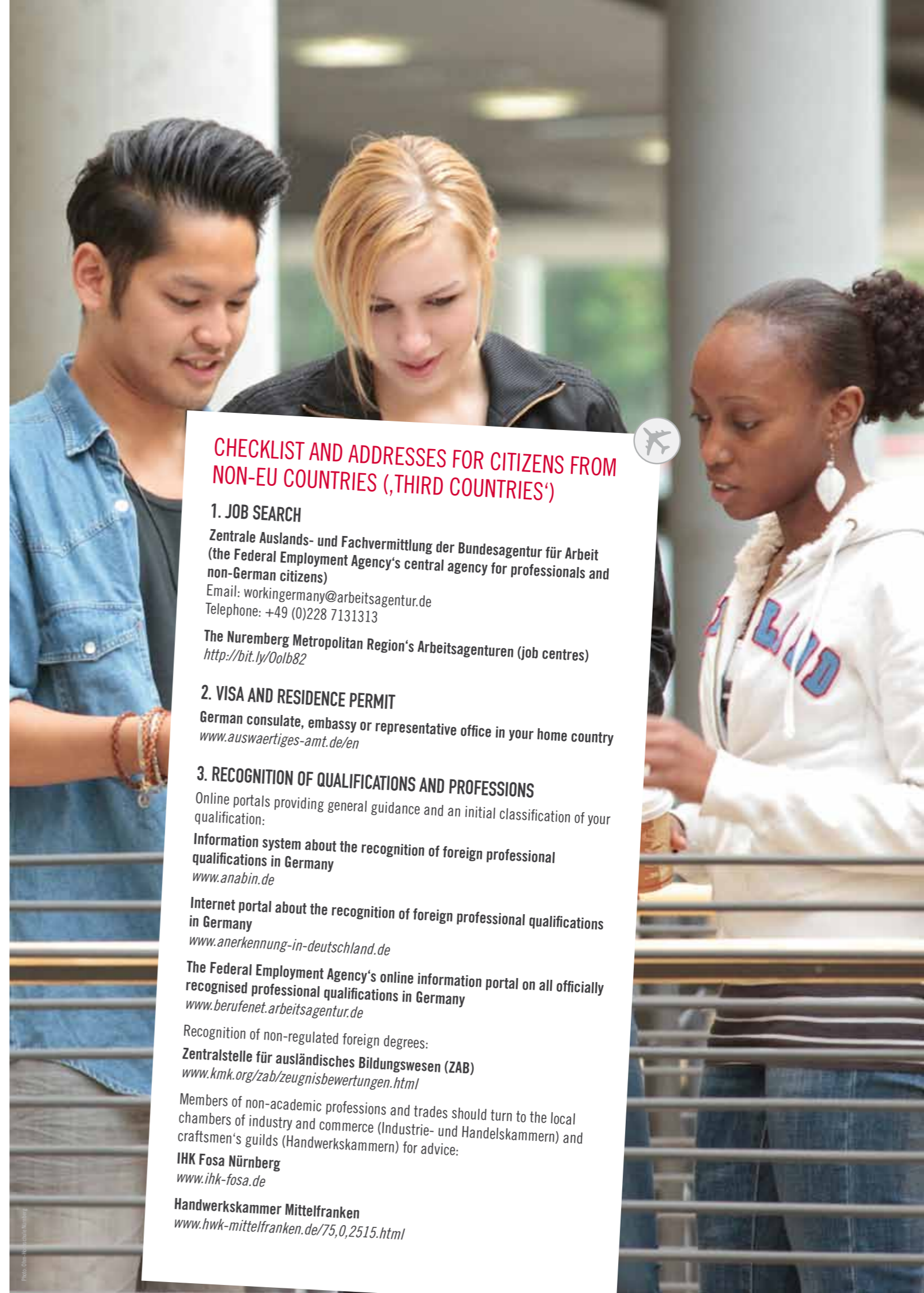
 See page 31 for a list of whom to contact.

When you are job hunting in Germany, it can be an advantage to have your university degree or professional qualification officially recognised, as an exact description of your qualification on form of an official document makes it far easier for your potential employer to assess your skills. In most professions, getting qualifications gained outside of Germany officially recognised is voluntary – however, for sixty professions it is compulsory. The regulated professions cover occupations requiring the verification and certification of certain professional capabilities. If, for example, you want to work in this country as a medical practitioner, engineer, health worker or master of a trade, you must get your professional qualification officially recognised.

If you have an academic qualification, your first port of call should be the Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen (ZAB), which offers advice on the recognition of non-German academic qualifications. All other professions and trades should approach one of the local chambers of industry and commerce (Industrie- und Handelskammern) and the Metropolitan Region's craftsmen's guilds (Handwerkskammern). They will also support your application for the recognition of qualifications in the non-regulated professions and trades.

6.3 SOCIAL SECURITY IN THE NUREMBERG METROPOLITAN REGION

An extensive network of protection schemes ensures that you can rest assured: As soon as you are employed by a company, you automatically become a member of the German social security and healthcare insurance system. You can choose between dozens of statutory and private health insurance providers. You must tell your employer which insurance company you have decided on, as the cost of your health insurance is split between you and your employer. Your employer will also deduct some of your salary at source to pay the compulsory long-term care and unemployment insurance and statutory state pension scheme contributions. That way, you are always on the safe side, regardless of how your life situation might change.



CHECKLIST AND ADDRESSES FOR CITIZENS FROM NON-EU COUNTRIES ('THIRD COUNTRIES')

1. JOB SEARCH

Zentrale Auslands- und Fachvermittlung der Bundesagentur für Arbeit (the Federal Employment Agency's central agency for professionals and non-German citizens)

Email: workingermany@arbeitsagentur.de

Telephone: +49 (0)228 7131313

The Nuremberg Metropolitan Region's Arbeitsagenturen (job centres)
<http://bit.ly/Oo1b82>

2. VISA AND RESIDENCE PERMIT

German consulate, embassy or representative office in your home country
www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en

3. RECOGNITION OF QUALIFICATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Online portals providing general guidance and an initial classification of your qualification:

Information system about the recognition of foreign professional qualifications in Germany
www.anabin.de

Internet portal about the recognition of foreign professional qualifications in Germany
www.anerkennung-in-deutschland.de

The Federal Employment Agency's online information portal on all officially recognised professional qualifications in Germany
www.berufenet.arbeitsagentur.de

Recognition of non-regulated foreign degrees:

Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen (ZAB)
www.kmk.org/zab/zeugnisbewertungen.html

Members of non-academic professions and trades should turn to the local chambers of industry and commerce (Industrie- und Handelskammern) and craftsmen's guilds (Handwerkskammern) for advice:

IHK Fosa Nürnberg
www.ihk-fosa.de

Handwerkskammer Mittelfranken
www.hwk-mittelfranken.de/75,0,2515.html

6.4 TAXES

TAXATION ISSUES ARE NO PROBLEM IN THE METROPOLITAN REGION AS WE HAVE SO MANY TAX CONSULTANTS LIVING AND WORKING HERE!

i You can get some idea of your annual tax bill, or annual or monthly disposable income (i. e. your income less social security contributions and income tax) with the help of one of the **gross-net income calculators** on the internet, for example at: www.brutto-netto-rechner.info

Each month, your employer transfers between fourteen and forty-five percent of your salary – depending on the amount you earn – to the local tax office on your behalf (pay-as-you-earn). This means that initially, you do not have to worry about your income tax payments and annual tax return. As soon as you arrive in the country, you must register with your local Einwohnermeldeamt; from now on, you will be registered as living at your address and be given a Lohnsteuerkarte, an income tax card. You must give this card to your employer who will then deal with all other income tax related matters for you.

Your monthly pay-slip will tell you exactly how much of your salary has been deducted at source to pay your social security insurance contributions and income tax payments. Once a year, all employees must file a tax return with the Finanzamt, their local tax office. If you need a helping hand with filing your tax return, you've come to the right place when you decided to settle in the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region: the area is a magnet for business and tax consultants. Not only does the locally based company Datev develop special tax software that is used all over the world; a number of globally active tax consultancies such as Rödl and Partner also have their head offices here.

6.5 GOODBYE TO LONELINESS:

BRING YOUR FAMILY TO THE METROPOLITAN REGION OF NUREMBERG

i Who will help my partner to **find employment** after he/she has joined me in Germany? See Chapters 2 and 4 for more information on where to find respective support.

i See Chapter 4 for information about the Metropolitan Region's **schools** and **childcare facilities**.

Discover the European Metropolitan Region Nuremberg together with your family – it's worth it. Once you have been granted a residence permit or leave to remain indefinitely, found a flat that is large enough to accommodate your partner and children, and have an income that is sufficient to support you all, you are in a position to ask your family to join you. Your wife or husband must be aged eighteen or older in order to be permitted to join you. Once you and your partner have been granted residency, all of your children below the age of sixteen will also be granted residence.

Special regulations apply to children who are older than sixteen. You should contact your local foreigners registration office ('Ausländerbehörde') for more details on these. If your wife or husband has an academic qualification, they may take up work in Germany as soon as they have joined you. If your partner does not have a university degree, they will have to wait for at least two years before they can look for employment.



CHECK LIST

WHAT ARE THE STEPS NECESSARY FOR MY FAMILY TO JOIN ME IN THE METROPOLITAN REGION?

1. In your home country:

Your family has to apply for a residence permit for the purpose of family reunification at a German representative office (embassy, consulate) in your home country. If your partner does not have any academic qualifications, they must prove a basic knowledge of German in order to be allowed to join you. Those with academic qualifications do not have to deliver this proof. After an application has been received, it can take several months for a residence permit to be granted.

2. In the Metropolitan Region:

Once your family has arrived, you have to register them with the Einwohnermeldeamt as living at your address, and also inform your city's or district's aliens registration office (Ausländerbehörde) of that fact. To register them, you need to present a valid passport for each member of the family, as well as your marriage certificate, all birth certificates, your most recent German income tax liability notification and your lease (assuming that you are renting the property you all live in). However, what exactly you will be asked to present may vary. It is therefore advisable to contact your local residents and foreigners registration offices beforehand to ask them what exactly they require for registration.

There are dozens of integration course providers in the Metropolitan Region Nuremberg for you to choose from. Your first port of call will usually be one of the education centres ('Bildungszentrum') or adult education institutes ('Volkshochschulen'), where your or your partner's proficiency in the German language is assessed in order to decide which level you are at. You will then be given a list of language schools in your local area. It is also a good idea to turn to the Metropolitan Region's adult education institutes for advice and practical support if you want to improve your German for professional reasons only.

6.6 IT DOES NOT ALWAYS HAVE TO BE 'FRANCONIAN'!


LANGUAGE COURSES IN THE NUREMBERG METROPOLITAN REGION

You probably won't be philosophising with the village bakery's sales assistant about life and the universe straight away. Nevertheless, if you and your family learn German, you will enjoy life in the European Metropolitan Region Nuremberg so much more from the outset. Because there is so much to discover here – and the Metropolitan Region's citizens like to tell you about it. Don't be afraid of making mistakes: Just start to talk! Although many people here speak a local dialect that may make it difficult for beginners to understand what we are saying, all of us will understand 'standard German' as taught in the language schools.

The so-called integration courses are specifically aimed at people who have moved here from another country. They offer you and your family the chance to gain a good grasp of the language fast as they are intensive courses. The integration courses also cover other general and useful information about everyday life in Germany and German culture, the country's history and its politics. The courses usually consist of six hundred hours spent learning the language and a sixty hour general orientation course. Both finish with an exam for which you do not have to pay anything. After passing these exams, EU Blue Card holders can then apply as early as twenty-two months after their arrival here for indefinite leave to remain.

If your knowledge of the German language is extremely limited, the authorities may also insist that you attend an integration course. You will find out whether this applies to you when you visit your local Ausländerbehörde (foreigners registration office) to collect your residence permit. If you are prevented from attending an integration course because your working hours do not permit it, you may be granted an exemption from compulsory attendance.

6.7 STAY IN TOUCH: YOUR CULTURE IN THE METROPOLITAN REGION OF NUREMBERG

 The website of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees ('Bundesministerium für Migration und Flüchtlinge') has a list of **integration course** providers in your area:
<http://bit.ly/vwAAX8>

 Many of those who have moved to the Metropolitan Region from other parts of Germany or other countries network in a typical German way – by forming an association. However, many also join Facebook groups in order to get in contact with each other and organise activities. We have listed some of them on pages 27 and 35 for you.

Many people from many different cultures have settled in the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region – **why not contribute your personal history and culture to life here?** Please bring your culture with you when you come here: Meet up with fellow countrymen and women, celebrate the festivals celebrated in your home country – and share your culture with us. We want to get to know you and are looking forward to the food, music and knowledge you and many other people from around the world can contribute to our lives here to make them even richer. Openness is part of our culture. You are most welcome to follow your religion in the Metropolitan Region, whatever it may be. See the information part of this chapter for where you can do so.

GET IN CONTACT WITH PEOPLE FROM YOUR HOME COUNTRY NOW LIVING IN CENTRAL FRANCONIA AND NUREMBERG

EUROPE

France

www.dfi-erlangen.de

Italy

www.dante-alighieri.de

Greece

DGG in Mittelfranken e. V.
www.dgg-mittelfranken.de

Griechische Gemeinde Fürth und Umgebung e. V.
Hirschenstr. 17, 90762 Fürth

Great Britain

www.deutsch-britische-nuernberg.de

Poland

www.krakauer-haus.de
www.pu-nbg.de

Romania

<http://romanima.blogspot.de>

Russia

www.rdkev.de

Landsmannschaft Deutsche aus Russland in Ansbach
<http://lmdr.de/landes-und-ortsverbande/bayern/ansbach>

Landsmannschaft der Deutschen aus Russland Fürth

Email: info@lmdr-fuerth.de
www.bruecken-erlangen.de

Spain

www.centro-espanol.com

Turkey

Türkische Gemeinde in der Metropolregion Nürnberg
www.tgmn.de

Türkischer-islamischer-sozialer Kulturverein Gunzenhausen und Umgebung

<http://gunzenhausen.de/db/index.php?show=clubs>

Türkischer Kultur- und Unterstützungsverein

West-Traien Nürnberg-Fürth e. V.

Telephone: +49 (0)911 28 55 495

Verein der Einheit und der Anhänger von Atatürk e. V. Fürth

Email: ataturk.ve.fuerth@gmail.com

Ukraine

www.nuernberg-charkiw.de

Hungary

www.ungarinnuernberg.de

Ungarischer Kulturverein Nürnberg

Facebook: <http://on.fb.me/Q6brD1>

AFRICA

Verein Afro-Deutsche Nürnberg/Afrika Kultur Zentrum

www.afro-deutsche.de

Für Afrikanerinnen, Asiatinnen und Lateinamerikanerinnen

www.invia-nuernberg.de/kofiza.htm

Egypt

Deutsch-Ägyptischer Verein Nürnberg-Fürth e. V.

Email: mohamed.y@freenet.de

Cameroon

www.kasen-ev.de

AMERICA

Argentina

Centro Argentino de Franken e. V.
www.centro-argentino-franken.de

Brazil

Brasilianisch-Deutscher Kreis Erlangen/Nürnberg
<http://bit.ly/OdEwbk>

Nicaragua

www.nica-nuernberg.de

USA

Amerikahaus Nürnberg

www.amerikahaus-nuernberg.de

ASIA

Afghanistan

Afghanischer Kulturverein Mittelfranken e. V.
Telephone: +49 (0)163 2850857

China

www.kongzi.de/index.php?sid=2

India

www.namaste-erlangen.de
www.deutschindischerkreis.de

Indonesia

Facebook: www.facebook.com/#!/groups/71706493650/
<http://kf-ev.de>

Laos

Laos Kulturgruppe Nürnberg
Telephone: +49 (0)713 7422568

Philippines

<http://bit.ly/LwyCQx>

Thailand

www.thaikultur.net

<http://thaikultur.webnode.com>

Vietnam

<http://huongvietlove.npage.de>

Buddhistisch Vietnamesische Gemeinde in Nürnberg und Umgebung e. V.

Telephone: +49 (0)171 8711496

EX-PATS

www.womensgroup.de

www.henhaus.org

www.internations.org/nuremberg-expats

Club International Erlangen

<http://vhs-erlangen.de/vhs%20Club%20INTERNATIONAL.html>

INFORMATION ON RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

www.dasein-nuernberg.de/religion.html

www.erlangeninfo.de/kirchen-erlangen.htm

www.erlanger-moschee.de/moschee-online/

www.moscheesuche.de/moschee/bundesland/Bayern/10

www.jkg-erlangen.de

www.zentralratjuden.de/de/topic/59.html?gemeinde=63

www.ikg-nuernberg.de



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www.allianz-pro-fachkraefte.de