

Report on German Course in Schwäbisch Hall in Goethe Institute

August 2016

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Duration of the course: 1st – 25th August 2016

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Travelling and arrival

The first day of the month is always planned as an arriving day. I would recommend to arrive that day because everything is ready for you since then, including your accommodation and pick up at the train station, if needed. I would recommend to look up the deals available on train tickets, because Deutsche Bahn is reliable and affordable, especially when you book in advance online.

Most of the trains stops at Schwäbisch Hall – Hessenthal station, there is a bus service that runs directly to the front of the Goethe Institute. You can drop off your bags in the main entrance of the Institute to pick up after the interview before collecting keys and heading to the Wohnheims.

Right after arrival, you should expect that teachers from Goethe Institute will want to find out your level of German. No need to be stressed about it, they open wide range of classes from level A1 (which is basically level 0) to classes C2 (comparable to native speakers). They will test you through interview and written exam. This will take approximately an hour and half and then you will be escorted to your accommodation. It is only 5 minutes by walk from Institute, well equipped and prepared. Most probably you will share a bathroom with another person and kitchen with all other students in the house. However meals: breakfast and lunch are provided in canteen, so you do not need to worry about spending much time on cooking.

Classes

Courses take place every working day since 8.30 am until 12.30 pm. It includes two breaks. You will be allocated to the class according to our previous level of German and you will be part of that group of students all the course. Mostly the early morning class is focused on new grammar rules and exercises, later conversation time and the part right before noon is dedicated to games, watching videos or making presentations, e.g. about your home country and traditions. Thorough preparation is required most of the time. You will also work with textbook, provided by institute.

Free Time

By taking a course in Goethe Institute you are joining very diverse international community of students from all over the world. You will have a chance to socialize not even during the classes, but also during extensive after-school time in the afternoon and during weekends. Goethe Institute organises very interesting and enriching program, e. g. tour to close cities like Frankfurt or Heidelberg, parties every Friday night or movie evenings. If you are

interested in even more adventure, you can borrow bicycle in Institute for free and explore surrounding area on your own.

The town also has a lot of open areas to relax or wander, which is very pleasant. The funding provided by the Scholarship covers accommodation, weekday breakfasts and midday meals, course fees and also €250 spending money. We were also invited to visit town hall and Mayor's office and we really appreciated Mayor's invitation to one of Schwäbisch Hall's open air theatre play. Indeed I felt welcomed in Schwäbisch Hall and it was amazing way how to spend part of summer.

I can fully recommend to visit Goethe Institute in Schwäbisch Hall. Do not hesitate to apply for this programme next season.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lucie Bohdalova". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Lucie Bohdalova