Accommodation Guide

Campus Schwenningen

Important: HFU does not have on-campus accommodation and cannot reserve a room for you. You must apply directly to the residence or landlord.

For Exchange Students

➢ SWFR student dormitories – apply here, but apply to several alternatives as well

Studierendenwerk Freiburg-Schwarzwald (SWFR) is a state-run, non-profit organization for student affairs and a reliable provider of student living.

We will NOT make a reservation for you. We will, however, forward a list of our exchange students to the SWFR. This might increase your chances, but we recommend to search for other options as well. Due to high demand it is not guaranteed that your application at SWFR will be successful. (Please let us now if you DO NOT want us to forward your name to the SWFR).

Good to know: You will receive a confirmation link every 14 days. You need to click this link to keep your application active.

Dormitories in Villingen-Schwenningen : Studierendenwerk Freiburg-Schwarzwald
Online Application : Studierendenwerk Freiburg-Schwarzwald

➢ Strong private options

For the following options, the websites are only available in German, but the landlords speak English:

- **Flät Mikroapartments, Wasenstraße 18, 20, 22:** https://myflaet.de/
- **Neckar Apartments:** https://neckarappartements.de/wohnungen/
- **Students-Lake-House:** https://www.studentenwohnheim-vs.de/
- **Neckar Tower / Bürk Areal / Spittelstrasse:** https://wbg-vs.de/wohnungen-fuer-studierende-in-villingen-schwenningen/
- **Studentenzimmer VS:** *Objekte Kurzzeitmiete - Immobilien & Studentenzimmer in VS-Schwenningen*
- **Rooms in shared apartments, Alleenstraße 28:** No website available. You can contact the landlords Mr. or Mrs. Quentin via e-mail at: MietwohnungVS@gmx.de or by telephone at: 0157 88190589 (Landlords speak English, German and French)

➢ More places to search

We recommend using the following search engines:

WG-Gesucht.de www.kleinanzeigen.de www.immobilienscout24.de

If you are already in Schwenningen, and you have not been able to find a room/apartment, you can have a look at the **"Schwarzes Brett" (notice board)** in building C, ground floor (the corridor that leads to room A 0.XX). There you can also find room listings ("Vermieten/Mieten").

How to improve your chances

✓***Apply early:*** *Apply as soon as you receive your admission letter.*
✓***Start the visa process early:*** *If you need a visa, start the application as soon as you can. Some landlords do not begin the room-assignment process until a valid visa has been presented.*
✓***Do not over-filter your search:*** *If a portal has filters, do not set too many requirements. Search a little above your preferred maximum rent if possible. Only accept a rent you can actually afford.*
✓***Be flexible:*** *Increase your chances by accepting different room sizes, shared flats and locations within a few kilometers. A balcony, private bathroom, exact floor or exact move-in day can be treated as optional.*
✓***Apply for several housing types:*** *Apply simultaneously for SWFR, private student residences and WGs. Do not wait for an answer from one provider before applying elsewhere.*
✓***Prepare your papers:*** *Have your passport/ID, admission letter and visa status (if applicable) ready.*
✓***Reply quickly:*** Keep your mobile number and email address up to date and *check your spam folder from time to time. Respond promptly to offers.*
✓***Write a short, friendly introduction:*** *Include your name, university/program, semester dates, age, whether you are a non-smoker…*

Good to know

- ✓ *Before signing any private rental agreement or paying a room, make sure that you know all the conditions of the rental agreement*
- ✓ *Your landlord may ask you to sign a contract for a personal liablity insurance. The personal liability insurance protects your assets by paying claims and damages in case you injure other people or damage the property.*
- ✓ *In Germany a "furnished room" does not always include everything you might expect. To ensure you have a comfortable start, please ask your landlord if the following is included:*

  - ***Mattress*** *(a mattress is not always provided for hygiene reasons)*
  - ***Bedding & Linens***
  - ***Towels***
  - ***Kitchenware***

  We highly recommend planning a quick shopping trip on your first or second day to buy these essential items.
  Please keep in mind that stores are closed on Sundays!

Some terms you may come across while searching for an apartment

Kaltmiete, die

Die Kaltmiete (KM) is the exclusive rent or basic rent and refers to the monthly rent of the property (room/flat) i.e., the rental amount **does not include utilities**.

Warmmiete, die

Die Warmmiete (WM) is an inclusive rent which **includes utilities (Nebenkosten)**. The included utilities are usually water, heating and waste disposal, but it may vary. The inclusive rent is paid monthly and it doesn´t usually include power supply or internet. When doubts, ask for the detailed overview to the landlord/landlady.

Kaution, die

Die Kaution (KT) refers to the security deposit. The landlord or landlady may ask you to pay a deposit of **up to three months' exclusive rent** as security when you sign the agreement. This will be refunded when you move out, unless you have damaged the property or failed to pay the rent.

Nebenkosten, die

Die Nebenkosten (NK) refers to the **utility costs**. For example, water, heating, trash collection, cleaning and landscaping. The estimated utility costs are paid every month with the rent. Every year the landlord calculates the real costs and will provide with a bill **(Nebenkostenabrechnung)**. Here you may end up getting money back or paying more for the calculated difference.