

# Let's get a roof over your head!

Your personal housing hunt bible

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## 1 When to start looking for accomodation?

Heidelberg is notoriously infamous for decent affordable housing options. So in short, the best suggestion would be the earlier, the better. If you want a place in the student dorm then preferably half a year in advance. There are around 36,000 students who need a roof over their head, so with around 7,000 new students arriving in the winter semester, the housing market is especially challenging at this time (September/October). In contrast, around 2,500 arrive in the summer. However, at the beginning of the winter semester, only around 1,000 - 1,500 rooms become free (in the summer semester this number is around 500 - 700). This means that, unfortunately, only a small proportion (around 13%) of all new students find accommodation in a student hall. The rest have to look for accommodation in the private housing market.

## 2 Where to start looking?

### 2.1 Student Residences

Heidelberg student union provides around 4,800 rooms in flat shares in around 65 halls of residence to students at Heidelberg. The rental price of rooms in flat shares are between €170 and €350 according type and facilities. Student residences at Heidelberg University are administered by the Studierendenwerk, an independent organization providing various services to the student population. Although the number of available rooms is quite limited (only 15 per cent of all Heidelberg students can be housed in student residences).

More detailed information about the Studierendenwerk student residences (including pictures of each residence) is available online : [https://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/en/wohnheime\\_neu](https://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/en/wohnheime_neu)

- Check out the dorms: [https://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/en/wohnheime\\_neu](https://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/en/wohnheime_neu)
- Fill in the form: [https://www.studentenwerk.uni-heidelberg.de/en/living\\_online\\_application](https://www.studentenwerk.uni-heidelberg.de/en/living_online_application) at the earliest. Keep the following in mind while applying.
  - ! Apply early - preferably half a year in advance
  - ! Apply for dormitories with many rooms; in smaller dormitories, the chances of getting a room are much worse
  - ! Specify several housing complexes when applying (three possible), be flexible in your choice. You can also specify additional locations by the notes
  - ! Most important: Do not apply exclusively for single apartments, but also for rooms in shared flats; otherwise the chances are extremely low to hopeless

### 2.2 Private Housing Market

Rent prices are generally high in Heidelberg, and there is a real shortage of reasonably priced living space. You'll need to factor in around €500 a month for a 1-room apartment on the private housing

market. A room in a private flat share can be found for around €300-€400

**Tip:** it is much cheaper to live in the areas surrounding Heidelberg than in the city itself, plus with the semester ticket (more information can be found on [https://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/en/advice\\_benefits#Ticket](https://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/en/advice_benefits#Ticket)) you can get to university quickly and cheaply.

### 2.2.1 Private accommodation service by the student union

You can find offers at the service centre : [https://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/en/advice\\_servicecenter](https://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/en/advice_servicecenter). Please present your student ID or admission certificate.

### 2.2.2 Student halls of residence provided by (private or church) sponsors

Around 1,000 rooms in Heidelberg and the surrounding area are available with sponsors, e.g. church-related sponsors. You can find the list here:

<https://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/sites/default/files/download/pdf/wo-in-hd-andere-traeger-en.pdf>.

\*Note: You must apply directly to the respective halls of residence - you cannot apply through the Heidelberg student union.

### 2.2.3 Newspapers with housing offers

- [Rhein-Neckar-Zeitung](#)
- [SperrMüll](#)
- [Badische Anzeigen Zeitung](#)
- [Wochenkurier](#)
- [Mannheimer Morgen](#)
- [Südwest Presse](#)

## 2.3 Online housing platforms

- [Studierendenwerk](#) :Online private rooms
- [Studenten-WG](#) :Rental accommodation platform (commission-free)
- [WG-gesucht](#) :largest commission-free rental accommodation platform
- [Zimmer 69](#) :for students, by students, no registration, no adverts
- [HomeCompany](#) :Short-term rental of furnished rooms
- [Quoka](#) :Property search engine
- [Immobilio](#) :Property search engine
- [Immonet](#) :Property search engine
- [WGcast](#) :free flat share room platform
- [Wohnungsmarkt24](#) :countrywide property portal
- [immowelt](#) :countrywide property portal
- [hometogo.de](#):countrywide property portal
- [immo-suche](#) :countrywide property portal
- [ImmobilienScout](#):Property search engine

## 2.4 Temporary accomodation while you look

You should plan in enough time to look for a place to live in Heidelberg. The best way to do this is to be in Heidelberg yourself. You can't assume that you'll find your perfect room within a couple of days, so it is recommended to book a room in a cheap hostel, a hotel or in a B&B during the time you're looking for accommodation.

Examples of cheap hostels in Heidelberg are:

- Jugendherberge Heidelberg: <http://www.jugendherberge-heidelberg.de/>
- Steffi's Hostel: <http://www.hostelheidelberg.de/>
- Lotte Hostel: <http://www.lotte-heidelberg.de/>
- Boarding House Heidelberg: <http://www.boardinghouse-hd.de/>
- Seven Days Boarding House Heidelberg: <http://sevendays-hd.de/de>
- Monteurzimmer: <http://www.monteurzimmer-heidelberg.de/>