

Living in Berlin

Everything you need to know about living in Berlin



What is in this Booklet

All the intricate details you will need to get settled and sorted in Berlin.

1 Public Transport

A quick guide to the BVG and what is included in a ticket price.

2 Emergency Numbers

A list of numbers that we hope you won't need but should remember just in case.

3 Anmeldung

How to register your address in Berlin and get your Tax ID number.

4 Recycling in Berlin

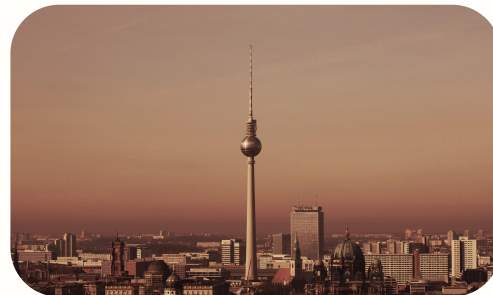
How to make sure that you're recycling properly in Berlin.

5 GEZ (TV Radio Tax)

How to make sure that GoLiving pays for your TV/Radio Tax

6 Other GoLiving Booklets

How to quickly access all of our other booklets.





Public Transport or BVG

What it is, and how it works!

Overview

Brief Overview of the BVG

BVG (Berliner Verkehrs-Aktiengesellschaft) is the public transport in Berlin! All buses, trams and trains (Bahn) are operated through one company and therefore one ticket! The transport system is comprehensive and reliable, there's very few benefits to driving in the city. Most trains run until around midnight on weekdays, and all night on the weekends. During the weekdays when the trains aren't running there are always buses, so you can always get home.

Specifics

What to look out for

The Ring Bahn

The line that runs around the centre of the city

U-Bahn or S-Bahn

U is for underground and S means overground.

Validate your ticket

You must always stamp your ticket with the time and date or it will be rejected

What are the zones?

The zones determine what regions you're allowed to travel in and how much your ticket will cost.

Zone A is the city centre and is anywhere within the Ring Bahn.

Zone B is outside the ring but still within the city limits, (Spandau and Pankow are in this zone).

Zone C is far outside the city, places like Schönefeld Airport and Potsdam.

How much does it cost?

Single Trip/Einzelfahrschein (valid for 2 hours)

Zone AB €2.80, Zone BC €3.10, Zone ABC €3.40

Day Ticket/Tageskarte (all day until 3am next day)

Zone AB €7.00, Zone BC €3.10, Zone ABC €3.40

4 Single Trips/4-Fahrten-Karte Einzelfahrschein

Zone AB €9.00, Zone BC €12.00, Zone ABC €13.80

1 month Ticket/Monatskarte

Zone AB €81.00, Zone BC €83.20, Zone ABC €100.50

You have to pay more to bring a bike on a train

What To Do in an Emergency

Some emergency numbers we hope you won't need

Fire



Police



Berlin Emergency Numbers

Here is a quick runthrough of all the emergency numbers used in Berlin, but also what you should do if there is an urgent issue in your apartment.

Police

The number for the Police in Germany is:

110

Calls are free from all phones and can also be called while the phone is locked.

People on the other end of the line can be expected to speak English and German but will definitely be able to find someone who can communicate with you.

Fire Brigade/Ambulance

The number for the Fire Brigade or Medical Emergency is:

112

Similarly to the Police, all calls to this number are free and can be dialed out while the phone is locked.

Useful Phrases:

I need an ambulance – Ich brauche einen Krankenwagen
Heart attack – Herzinfarkt
I need a doctor – Ich brauche einen Arzt
I need a hospital – Ich brauche ein Krankenhaus
There's been an accident – Es gab einen Unfall
I am allergic to... – Ich bin allergisch gegen...
Hospital – Krankenhaus
Sick – Krank

GoLiving

If there is something dangerous in the apartment, please call the emergency services before trying to contact us.

If there is an emergency such as a leaking pipe, no power or something dangerous and unavoidable then please contact us at the following email address:

emergency@goliving.eu

This is only for emergencies as this will alert the whole team. **It is only to be used for issues that must be immediately resolved.** Misuse of this email will result in a sassy email from a community manager!!!!

A close-up photograph of a person's hands signing a document. The person is wearing a light blue button-down shirt. They are holding a dark blue pen with a silver clip and are in the process of writing on a white piece of paper. The background is blurred, showing more of the person's shirt and the desk surface. The overall lighting is soft and slightly dim, giving it a professional yet approachable feel.

How to Get Your Anmeldung

What it is, and how to get it!

Anmeldung

Your Anmeldung is how you register your address in Berlin

3. Register your Address

To get your Tax ID number you need to register an address that you live at in Berlin. You can do this at every GoLiving apartment without problem.

1. Move to Berlin

You arrive in Berlin and join the GoLiving Community, congratulations! Now, in the spirit of German Bureaucracy, you need to get things sorted.

Getting set up in Berlin**2. Start your Job**

You're starting a new job in a brand new city. To pay the correct amount of tax you need to get a Tax ID, to get this you need an Anmeldung.



Your Anmeldung is how you officially register yourself at an address in Berlin. It allows you to get a Tax Number so you don't have to pay around 50% tax if you don't have it!

Book Appointments in Advance

It is possible to get an appointment at a **Bürgeramt** (the registration office) on the day, but it could be on the other side of the city. It is much easier to book an appointment in advance.

Step by step guide to getting your Anmeldung

Although we won't be there with you at the Bürgeramt, with this step by step guide through, it is as close as we can possible get!

Move into the apartment

It's move-in day! We'll personally come and move you into your apartment and give you all the paperwork that you need. We'll also:

- **Put your name on the letterbox**
- We'll make sure that GoLiving is on the buzzer (you **do not** need your name on the buzzer)

The paperwork that we're going to give to you is:

- **A** (deep breath) **Wohnungsgeberbestätigung** (von-ungs-gabe-er-besh-tate-i-gung), basically a form we sign and give to you saying we know you live there
- An Anmeldung Form that is translated into English
- As the officials are **legally not allowed to speak any other language than German** we'll give you a letter from us that will explain everything about us and your rental status to them

Go to the Bürgeramt

To get your Anmeldung, you'll need to take:

- The **Wohnungsgeberbestätigung** we gave to you
- Your ID
- The filled out Anmeldung Form

Although they aren't able to speak to you in any other language than German, with all the paperwork that we have given you, there should be limited conversation required anyway.

[Click here to book an appointment online](#)

What happens next?

That's it, you're all done. You should receive a letter in the post in the next few weeks with your tax number that you can give to your employers.

If you find yourself moving out, we will have absolutely no problem providing you with a (deep breath)

Mietschuldenfreiheitsbescheinigung

A confirmation from us that you have paid rent on time.

A photograph of four large recycling bins lined up against a grey wall. From left to right, the bins are yellow, blue, red, and green. Each bin has a matching colored lid and is mounted on two black wheels. The bins are placed on a brick-paved sidewalk. The text 'Recycling in Berlin' is overlaid in white, bold font in the center, with the subtitle 'A simple guide to Recycling in Berlin' below it.

Recycling in Berlin

A simple guide to Recycling in Berlin

Recycling

Berlin and its Recycling Paradise

Berlin takes it incredibly seriously, and we want to reflect this sustainable attitude. This is a quick guide so you don't get caught out! We provide every apartment with **four bins**:



1. Cardboard

Cardboard is recycled and should be collected in a separate bag, ideally a paper bag from a supermarket!



2. Plastic

Similarly to Cardboard, when you're throwing away any plastic, separate it into a one of the 4 bins so it can be recycled.



3. Bio Waste

We provide every apartment with bio bin bags, so that if you're throwing away organic waste, the bag will degrade away!



4. Other

And lastly there are the things that don't fall into any of these categories. There is a bin for these things, hopefully there isn't too much! You must **recycle glass** separately that you don't claim "pfund" (see right) on.



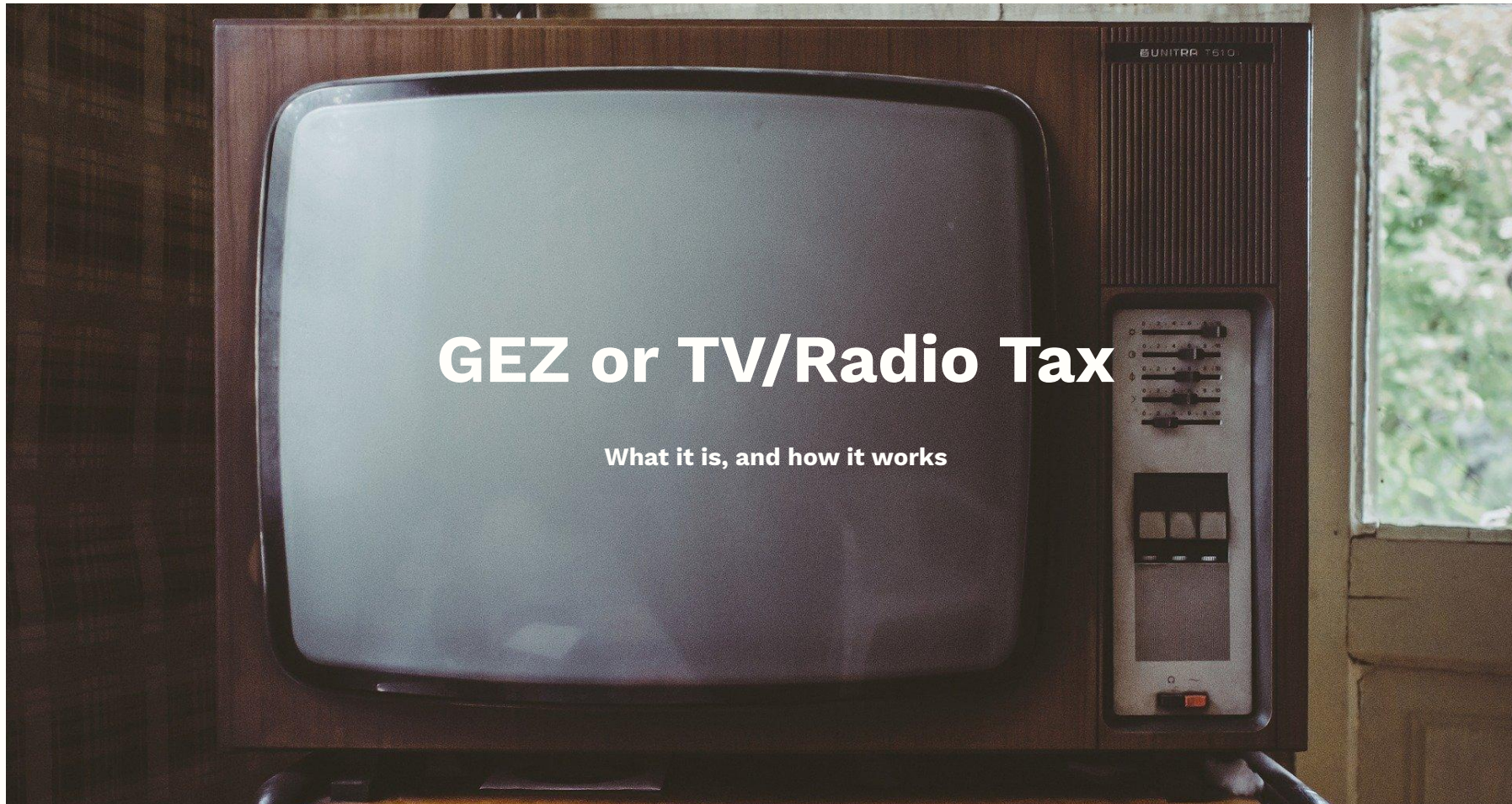
As a modern community, we want to make sure that you have everything that you need to be as environmentally responsible as possible. If anything is missing, or we could do more, please let us know!

NEVER THROW AWAY PLASTIC BOTTLES

Most plastic and some glass bottles have "pfand", money that you can get back at a supermarket. If you're out and don't want to save it, put it by a bin and it can be collected by the homeless, who make money from it.

GEZ or TV/Radio Tax

What it is, and how it works



A quick and easy guide to get the GEZ done

A few weeks to months after doing your Anmeldung (registering your GoLiving address) you may receive a very official looking letter asking for money for TV and Radio. This is a quick guide to make sure that **this is included in your monthly rent**.

Brief Overview of the GEZ TV/Radio Tax

The German public service broadcasters are financed by the license fee. This way of funding enables media coverage independent from commercial or political interests. It also ensures that everyone has free access to information through a number of media outlets

WHO has to pay the fee?

In Germany every household, no matter how many people are living in it and no matter if the TV and Radio is used, has to pay a monthly amount of money.

HOW MUCH?

The fee is 17.50 per month per household

Step by Step

1. You receive a letter in the post from the Rundfunkbeitragsbehörde
2. **GoLiving has an account and will pay everything.**
3. You must fill in the “Rundfunkbeitragsbehörde” to with GoLiving’s details so they know who to charge

Please open the letter and fill out the “**Antwortbogen**” with the following information:

- Tick the box: **“Die Wohnung ist bereits von einer Mitbewohnerin oder einem Mitbewohner zum Rundfunkbeitrag angemeldet.”**
- Fill in the **Beitragsnummer**: 454736470
- Fill in the Name of the **“Mitbewohner”**: GoLiving GmbH
- Fill in the **date**
- Sign the **document**

After you filled out the form please send the document back.

[Other Books](#)

Thanks for Reading

If you thought this was useful, please take a look at the other booklets in the GoLiving Library!



What to do in Berlin

Our comprehensive guide of things to do in Berlin, including our favourite places, events for the calendar and much more.

[Click here to access book](#)



Living With GoLiving

All you need to know about living in a GoLiving apartment. How to pay rent, find out about community events, report issues and more.

[Click here to access book](#)