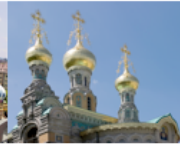




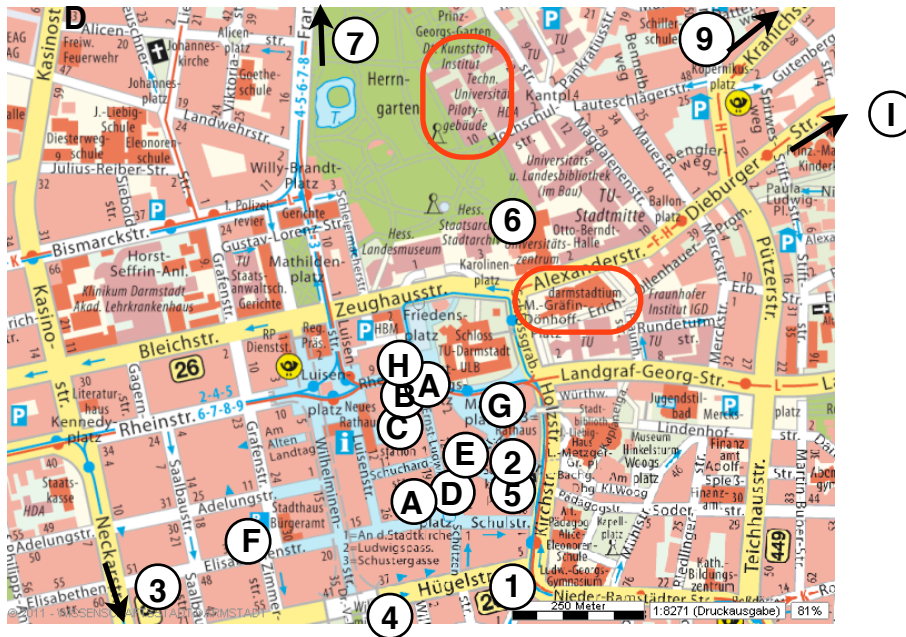
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## Quick Snacks in Darmstadt

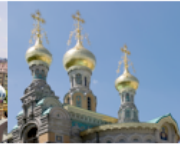
Basically, it is very easy to grab a quick snack in downtown Darmstadt. “German fast food” is typically a (large) *pretzel*, a *currywurst* (hot sausage with special curry sauce), a slice of pizza or a *döner kebab* (Turkish lamb meal in a bread). Almost anywhere within the pedestrian area, it will be easy to find a café or other shop that sells food. We provide some recommendations to get you started. My favorites are **A** and **H**:



- A. Ditsch:** small shops that sell snacks, such as pizza slices or croissants. A “must” are their pretzels (in German, *Brezeln*, singular *Brezel*), which are sold for €0,60 and are widely considered to be the best pretzels in town. The pretzel come fresh from the oven and are usually still hot. The shops indicated are next to the entrance of “Kaufhof” and opposite the Saturn shop. Any other bakery will offer pretzels, and you should certainly not leave Germany without tasting them—unless you are allergic to wheat.
- B. Kaufhof:** this is a warehouse that stocks a variety of things including clothes, pen and paper. In the basement, you can find several small restaurants and cafés that offer small meals, such as pasta, chinese food, or fresh fish. Address: **Rheinstr.**, opposite the City Castle.
- C. Carree:** although a part of this large building is currently empty, it still contains an interesting selection of food from (very small) shops, including Italian, Thai and Vietnamese food, as well as French Fries and a tiny McDonalds. You can also buy fresh fruit, meat, or vegetables.
- D. McDonald’s** also has a number of branches in Darmstadt. The main McDonald’s is on the Ludwigsplatz, there is tiny one in the Carree (C), and one in the main station. The one on Ludwigsplatz is indicated on the above map.
- E. Nordsee** (“North Sea”) offers “seafood to go” with sandwiches or other preparations. You can also eat sitting down in here, but the sitting capacity is rather limited.
- F. Subway** in **Elisabethenstr.** offers its well-known selection of fried sandwiches and salads.
- G. Extrablatt:** Interesting if you are looking for small dishes for lunch and dinner, or a rich (potentially late) breakfast. They also stock a number of German newspapers you can read here. Address: **Marketplace**.
- H. Best Worscht in Town:** a small snack point sitting in front of the **Kaufhof** (B) in a separate small building. It sells *currywurst*, a sausage with curry-based sauce, in a range from “mild” to “far too hot to eat”. On its scale, **A** is mild while **F** can lead to a call for the ambulance, and **B** or **C** depend on your taste. *Highly recommended, but please start with the mild A version first!*
- I. Biergarten Darmstadt:** this offers beer and cider (the state drink made from apples, refreshing on hot days but sour—you may want to add some water or lemonade to it). Address: **Dieburger Str. 97**.



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## Regular Lunches and Dinners

In Germany, lunch is usually eaten between 12:00 and 14:00 (or 2 PM). Many restaurants may not take orders for lunch after 14:00 or 15:00. Dinner is usually eaten comparatively early as well, typically between 18:00 and 20:00. Typical German dishes include *steaks* and especially *schnitzels* (a flattened cutlet without bone, usually with potatoes or French Fries) served with different sauces, e.g. mushrooms (“Jägerschnitzel” or “Hunterman’s Cutlet”), peppers (“Pfefferschnitzel”) or onions (“Zwiebelschnitzel”).

Here are some suggestions for going out for lunch or dinner, linked to the map for the snack bars:

1. **Sitte**: international cuisine with a monthly changing theme and some “staples”, such as steaks and “Schnitzels”. The whole menu is also available in English—please simply ask for it. Address: **Karlstr. 15**.
2. **Bockshaut**: One of the best places to go for German food in the oldest restaurant and hotel in town! An English menu card is available. Address: **Kirchstr. 7**, next to the old city church.
3. **Lahore Palace**: this is a great place to go for freshly prepared Indian food. My personal favorites are “anything from the Tandoori”. You should also try the hand-made “Lassis” (yoghurt-based drinks). English menus are available. Note: they prepare their food only after your order, so please be prepared to wait 30-45 minutes before being served. This means that this is more a place for a relaxed dinner than for a “quick lunch”. Note: **you have to go down the stairs to the basement**, otherwise you will end up in a different restaurant! Take tram 7 or 8 for two stops from “Luisenplatz” station, and cross the street to your right. The restaurant is “hidden” behind a small parking lot. Address: **Eschollbrücker Str. 5**.
4. **Karagöz** offers great Turkish food. This restaurant is only open from 6 PM onwards on weekdays, as well as between 12:00 and 15:00 on Saturdays and Sundays. Address: **Sandstr. 32** opposite the theater.
5. **Kartoffelhaus Pelle** (“potato skin house”). The focus lies on typically German meals based on potatoes. Especially good are the gratinated potato bakes with cheese, and the pizza with a potato base. Note: this is very satiating, so you should bring a good appetite and should not initially order dessert! Address: **Schulstr. 16**, *somewhat hidden*. With the city church at your back and facing the Bockshaut, turn left and continue across a small market square. The restaurant is at the end and to the left.
6. The **Welcome Hotel** also offers a nice selection of German and international dishes. They have a high level, but are also by far the closest place to the conference site and CS Department. Address: **Karolinenplatz 4**, opposite the conference center.
7. **Sardegna**: good and freshly prepared Italian food, at the opposite corner of the “Herrngarten” park from the CS Department. Address: **Kahlertstr. 1**.
8. **Bavarian Beer Garden**: a regular beer garden (great for wine or cider lovers!), but also offering full meals. Take the “H” bus in direction “Kesselhutweg” to Kastanienallee, then walk into the side street. Address: **Kastanienallee 4**.
9. **Burg Frankenstein**: the ruins of an old castle (the name should sound familiar!) not far from Darmstadt. You should take a taxi to reach it, since you will otherwise have to face a (very) steep and long hill climb! It boasts a great view on clear days. Address: **Burg Frankenstein**, south of Darmstadt.

## Interesting Museums in Darmstadt

Again, this is only a selection of what Darmstadt offers, focussing on those museums not too far from the conference site.

10. The **Mathildenhöhe** Darmstadt, the “Artisans’ Colony”, an original Russian Chapel, the Wedding Tower (currently being renovated), and a museum with a very interesting Art Nouveau exhibition. If you are interested in Art Nouveau, this is the place to go! Note: this museum is right next to the museum shop; it is *not* the large building directly next to the Wedding tower. The whole area is great for a leisurely stroll. The current exhibition in the main museum is on *Serious Games: War - Media - Art*. The museums are open Tuesday to Sunday from 11:00 to 18:00.
11. The porcelain collection of the Hessian Dukes (“**Hessisches Porzellanmuseum**”) includes a large selection of fine bone china dishes, vases etc., owned by the Prince of Hesse-Darmstadt. The museum is open Friday to Sunday between 10:00 and 17:00 and is in the Herrngarten (13) next to the university.
12. Normally, we would highly recommend the *Hesse State Museum* close to the university. Alas, this is still in the process of being renovated and will not be open for the conference.
13. The *Herrngarten* is great for a short walk or jogging tour. Be a bit careful when it gets dark here.



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14. The *Park Rosenhöhe* is great for longer walks, although the signs are all only in German.
15. The *Waldspirale* (the central image in the logo) is a sight of its own—a **very** unusual building with no right angles, based on a design by artisan Friedensreich Hundertwasser.

Kranichstein, a suburb to the North-East, reachable by tram lines 4 and 5 from “Luisenplatz” (final stop in direction “Kranichstein”), has three other version interesting sights. You can also take “U” bus in direction “Messel”. The trams work best for #18, the bus for #16 and #17 (stop “Jagdschloss Kranichstein”).

16. The **Bioversum** is a relatively new museum that shows the animals and plants living in the local forests or fields. Many things can also be tried out, making this a **great place to visit with children**. It is open Tuesday to Saturday from 11:00-17:00 and Sunday 10:00-18:00. Address: Kranichsteiner Straße 253; entrance fee €3, kids €2.
17. Right next to the Bioversum is the museum in the former Hunting Lodge of the Grand Dukes of Hesse-Darmstadt (“**Jagdschloss Kranichstein**”), which shows a selection of old weapons and other exhibits. It is open Wednesday to Saturday 13:00-18:00 and Sunday 10:00-18:00; entrance fee €3, €1 for kids.
18. Finally, the **train museum** (“**Eisenbahnmuseum**”) shows several old trains and a big model railway. Opening hours: Wednesday and Sunday 10:00-16:00; entrance fee €5, kids up to 14 years old €2.50.

## Fun Stuff for Kids (... mostly)

19. The **Vivarium** is a little but nice zoo that also boasts a walk-through kangaroo pen, and a petting zoo area. Address: Schnampelweg 4; please take the “K” bus to its last stop but one (“Bot. Garten / Vivarium”) in direction “TU-Lichtwiese”. Opening times: 9:00-19:00 (admission ends at 18:00). Entrance fee €4.50, kids up to 12 €1.50.
20. The **Botanischer Garten** (botanic garden) is close to the Vivarium and shows a large selection of interesting flowers and other plants. Also take the “K” bus in direction “TU-Lichtwiese” to the stop “Bot. Garten / Vivarium”. Opening hours: Monday to Saturday 7:30-19:30, Sunday 7:30-12:00.
21. **Leos Spielpark** is an indoor game park for kids, located at Landwehrstr. 75. It is open on all days between 10:00 and 19:00. The entrance fee is €3 for adults, €3.80 for kids aged up to 3, and €6.50 for kids aged 4 to 14. Note: kids **must** play in socks—both shoes and playing bare-foot are a “no-go”. Of course, you can stow your walking shoes at the entrance area.

## Darmstadt Card

The Darmstadt Card, available at the tourist information store at the central Luisenplatz, is valid for up to two days and offers reduced entrances to many museums, as well as the free use of the city bus and tram lines. (Note: nothing prevents you from buying another one for the following day(s)).

## Shopping in Darmstadt

Many shops are in the pedestrian area of Darmstadt, and walking around and looking out can be interesting! Here are some special shops:

- The **Oktogon** (*six-sided body*) shop at the Artisans’ Colony on the Mathildenhöhe offers a selection of postcards, posters, books of plates, replicas of Art Nouveau jewelry, and other offers. Well worth visiting!
- The **tourist shop** at the Luisencenter at the Luisenplatz (see the column in the second image in the logo) also offers a selection of typical souvenirs.
- The **Luisencenter** is a shopping mall in the city center of Darmstadt, right on the Luisenplatz, with many shops of diverse types and smaller cafés.
- On the outskirts of Darmstadt is the **Loop 5** shopping center, which is far bigger and nice to explore, made in the style of an airport. Simply take the busses K5506, 5513, or 5515 from the central train station at bus station number 12.
- The **Bärentreff** (#22) is one of Guido’s most popular shops in Darmstadt. It stocks a large variety of self-made typical “German Gummy bears” (aka jelly babies). It is in the pedestrian area close to the Carree exit, Schuchardstr. and is indicated by the letter **I** on the first map. **Note: only take your kids or teenagers here if you are willing to spend some money!**





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## Links for the above elements

Of general Interest and Use:

- Darmstadt Card: <http://www.darmstadt-marketing.de/darmstadt-card>

Snacks:

- Ditsch (pretzels and more): <http://www.ditsch.de/en/home/nocache.html>
- Kaufhof Darmstadt: <http://www.galeria-kaufhof.de/sales/unternehmen/filialen/darmstadt.asp?FLEXID=0>
- Carree: <http://www.city-carree.com/>
- McDonalds: <http://www.mcdonalds.de/> , <http://www.burgerking.de/>
- Nordsee: <http://www.nordsee.com/en/>
- Subway: <http://www.subway-sandwiches.de/index.php?id=572&store=28721>
- Extrablatt: <http://www.cafe-extrablatt.com/>
- Best Worscht in Town: <http://www.snack-point.com/index.php>
- Biergarten Darmstadt: <http://www.biergarten-darmstadt.com/>

Restaurants:

- Sitte: <http://restaurant-sitte.de/en/>
- Bockshaut: <http://www.bockshaut.de/content/EN/>
- Lahore Palace: <http://www.lahore-palace.de/>
- Karagöz: <http://www.karagoez.com/>
- Kartoffelhaus Pelle: <http://www.pelle-darmstadt.de/>
- Welcome Hotel DA: <http://www.welcome-hotel-darmstadt.de/en/12291152-0C08-30F4-34C572004583FBB9>
- Sardegna: <http://sardegna-da-franco.de/>
- Bavarian Beergarden: <http://www.bayerischer-biergarten.de>
- Burg Frankenstein: <http://www.frankenstein-restaurant.de/>

Museums:

- Mathildenhöhe: <http://www.mathildenhoehe.info/>
- Hessisches Porzellanmuseum: <http://www.porzellanmuseum-darmstadt.de/museum.html>
- Park Rosenhöhe: <http://www.park-rosenhoehe.de/>
- Waldspirale: <http://www.darmstadt.de/darmstadt-erleben/sehenswuerdigkeiten/waldspirale/>
- Bioversum: <http://www.bioversum-kranichstein.de/startseite/> (in German)
- Jagdschloss Kranichstein: <http://museum.jagdschloss-kranichstein.de/startseite/>
- Eisenbahnmuseum: <http://www.bahnwelt.de/>

Fun Stuff for Kids (...mostly)

- Vivarium: <http://www.zoo-darmstadt.de/>
- Botanischer Garten: <http://www.bio.tu-darmstadt.de/botanischergarten/index.de.jsp>
- Leos Spielpark: <http://www.leos-spielpark.de/index.html>

Shops:

- Oktogon: <http://www.mathildenhoehe.info/www/artikelshop/>
- Tourist Shop DA: <http://darmstadt-marketing.de/darmstadt-shop/>
- Luisencenter: <http://www.luisen-center.de/en/seite/home.php>
- Loop 5: <http://loop5.de/>
- Bärentreff: <http://www.baeren-treff.de/index.php?id=73&shop=6>



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Note: numbers 15-19 are outside this map. For #15 (Waldspirale) and #19, you need to walk for perhaps two more minutes.

## Tipping Practice in Germany

Books could be (and probably have been) written about how to properly tip waitresses, taxi drivers, etc. in different countries. In Germany, there are no really “fixed rules” or “unwritten laws” about this. The following is provided to give you some idea on an accepted and acceptable practice. Of course, you can always tip more than stated below (the tipped person will not be likely to object), or less if you were not satisfied with the service. In general, waiters, taxi drivers etc. get a decent base wage and are thus less dependent on heavy tips as in some other countries. Still, tips are sort of expected and “figured into the budget”.

Tips are usually given for personal services rendered, e.g., to waiters, taxi drivers and potentially the room maid on the last day. They are not usually given in shops, gas stations, or to bus drivers.

Rule of thumb: round up to the next **sensible** euro amount. Below are some examples:

- You had lunch for a total bill of Euro 17.28. You can round up to 18, 19, or 20 euro, depending on much you appreciated the service (using 20 euro would normally be rather much).
- You and your group enjoyed a great dinner for a total bill of euro 85.72 that you are sharing between your group. Rounding to Euro 90 is perfectly fine (neither “too little” nor “far too much”).
- A taxi took you to your destination for a bill of Euro 8.75. The cab driver would appreciate if you rounded this up to Euro 10.



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## A Primer for the German Language

In theory, most Germany younger than (say) 50 should speak (some) English. Then again, you know the difference between theory and practice...

### “Touristy” words

English	German
Cab	Taxi
Restaurant	Restaurant
Snack	Imbiss, Snack
Pizza	Pizza
Fast Food	Fast Food
bus / tram stop	Bus-/Bahnhaltestelle
Hotel	hotel
Police	Polizei

### General Phrases

English	German
Doctor	Arzt
Dentist	Zahnarzt
Hospital	Hospital, Krankenhaus
Please	Bitte
Thank you (very much)	Danke / Vielen Dank
Reception	Rezeption, Empfang

### Food

Germans put separate words together into a single merged word, which can make it hard to understand what we are talking about. This is (alas) especially true for food. The good news is that there is a very simple rule (easier than in English!): if you know the *name of the animal*, you essentially add “*fleisch*” (*meat*) to it. Thus, “pork” (a meat coming from a pig, German “Schwein”) is “Schweinefleisch”.

The large differences in “logic” and the wording between English and German mean that if a restaurant has no English menu and you have no dictionary, getting the meaning across may be very hard.

English	German	English	German
Meat	Fleisch	Tomatoes	Tomaten
Pork	Schwein, Schweinefleisch	Cucumbers	Gurken
Veal	Kalb, Kalbsfleisch	Salad	Salat
Turkey	Truthahn, Pute, Putenfleisch	French Fries	Pommes, Pommes frites
Lamb	Lamm, Lammfleisch	Side Dishes	Beilagen
Chicken	Huhn, Hühnerfleisch	Side Salad	Beilagensalat
Beef	Rind, Rindfleisch	large / small	groß / klein
Vegetarian	Vegetarisch	rare / medium / well done	blutig / medium / gut durch
Vegetables	Gemüse	Dessert	Dessert, Nachtisch
Steak	Steak	Entrée	Vorspeise
Cutlet	Kotelett (with bone), Schnitzel (flattened, no bone)	Ice cream	Eis, Eiskrem