

Tips from students for students

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Sofia Dräger

- From Italy/Germany
- In Göttingen since 2018
- B.A. History and Political Science



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- From India
- Came to Germany in 2016
- PhD in Göttingen

The first steps:

- Housing
 - WG? living alone?
 - Studentenwerk
 - wg-gesucht.de
- Orientation week:
 - Welcome services
 - Navigating Uni structure
 - Welcome week parties and events
 - Understanding bureaucracy



iStock

Getting to know people at Uni

- Welcome week parties
- Welcome week events
- Courses at Uni (classmates)
- Language classes (iik, Goethe institut)
- Unisport, events from Unisport
- University politics: get involved!
- Events such as Nacht des Wissens and other uni events
- Tagging along with Wg mates



Göttinger Tageblatt

Get to know people Outside Uni - Clubs

- Different hobbies as well: Anu used facebook groups for board games, there's a subreddit too, MeetUp;
- Göttingen is good for this, since students are everywhere
- Sports outside of uni: ASC, TWG, you can also sign up for gyms
- Socialising
- University politics!!
- German Vereinswesen: strong culture of volunteering: DLRG, THW
- Sprachcafé
- Music: University orchestra, choir, you can sign up for music classes
- Studentenwerk culture events: dance classes like lindy hop and salsa, photography classes

Get to know people Outside Uni - Events

- Spieleburg: Boardgame meetups „Spieleabend“
- Diva Lounge and Weltladen Café: Sprachcafé
- Nörgelbuff: live music, karaoke, salsa events
- University Sports: events at the start of the semester like introduction to climbing classes, hiking events
- P-Café: Regular events like game nights, jam sessions, barista workshops
- Studentenwerk: night flea market
- Public transport is free with your student ID! Make your own event! Hiking in the harz
- Bowling
- Laser Tag

Germans and German Culture

- Not all Oktoberfest – it's not all beer
- Waste disposal however is a big deal and people get weirdly intense about it
- „Ruhezeit“
- People are more reserved – it takes longer than you make friends, that doesn't mean they don't like you
- Self responsibility: there are a lot of public services and offers, but few of them are advertised; ask for help!

Germans and German Culture

- Bargeld – always have cash
- Public drinking
- DB



**NOO OUR TRAIN IS 2
SECOND LATE I'M GOING TO
COMPLAIN ABOUT IT**

**HEY OUR TRAIN IS 3 HOURS
LATE IT IS PRETTY GOOD**



**HEY OUR TRAIN IS ACTUALLY
COMING THAT'S PRETTY GOOD**



Our daily life - Uni work

Sofia

- lots of work during the semester break for papers
- prefer to work at the library rather than at home
- try to give myself as much structure as possible by sticking to a fixed schedule

Anu

- PhD: More a full time job than studies - takes up most of your time

Our daily life - free time and hobbies

Sofia

- swimming and textile arts
- currently very involved in university politics - senate and AStA (=student union)
- october 15th and 17th: Get to know what opportunities there are to get involved!

Anu

- board games
- violin
- currently getting my driver's license