

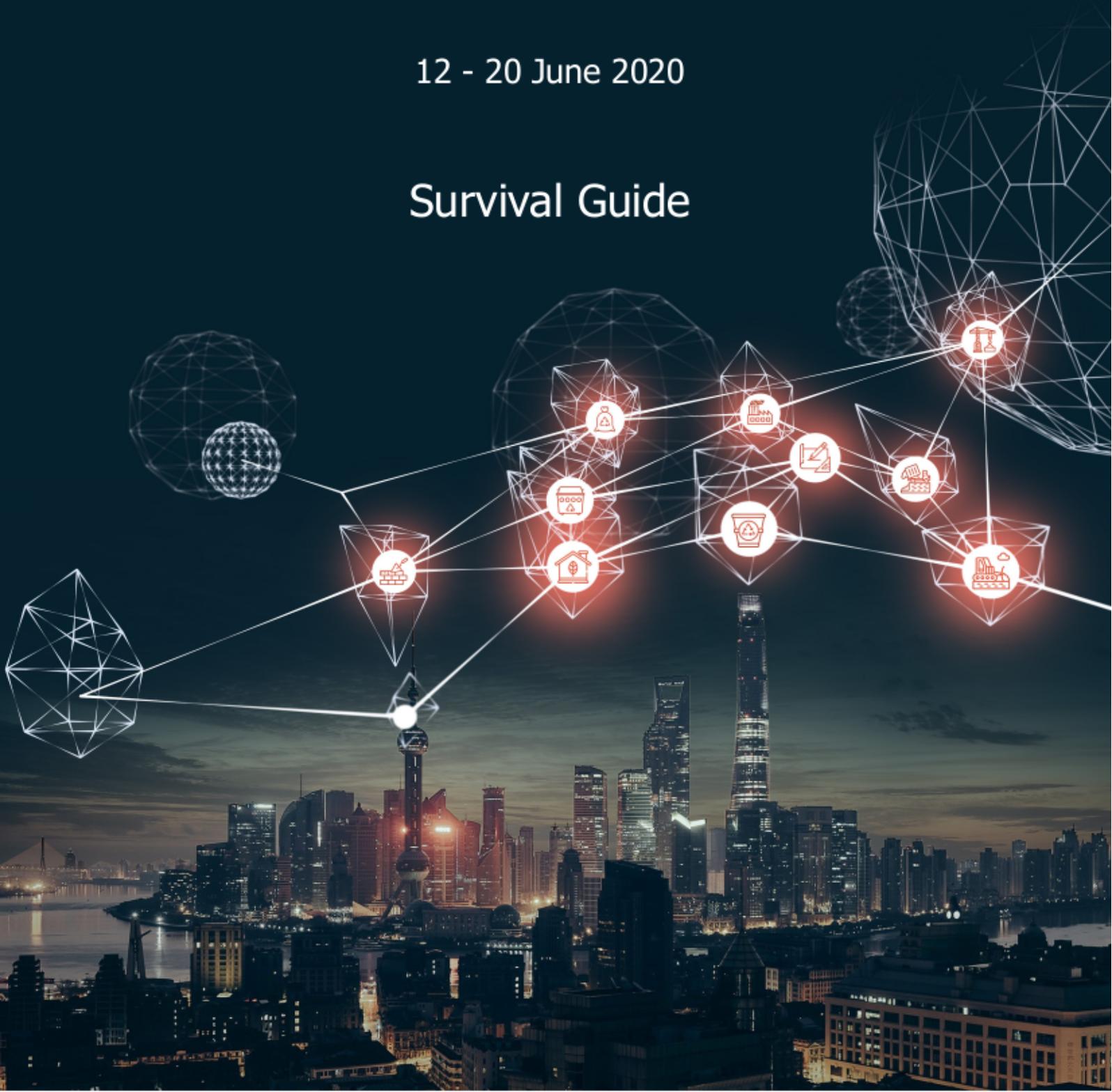
BEST
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SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS IT'S THE CIRCLE OF LIFE

12 - 20 June 2020

Survival Guide



Hey you!

You've already read the course description and want to find out more about our awesome city Aachen?

You need some additional information before sending your motivational letter? You are not sure which way is the best to buy your flight tickets?

Then you have the right document in front of you!

This small survival guide will help you with your trip scheduling and will introduce you to the most important and useful facts about Germany when traveling to the course. If you still have any additional questions after applying to the course and reading the survival guide, just feel free to use the contact information provided in the next section.

We are more than happy to make your journey to Aachen as smooth as possible.

Your LBG Aachen



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1. Contact information

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2. How to reach Aachen

2.1 By plane

There are several airports in the surroundings of Aachen. The best way to come to Aachen from the airports is by train. To find the exact connection, you can use this website:

<https://www.bahn.com/en/view/index.shtml>

This is where you will want to arrive!



2.1.1 Dortmund Airport

Take a shuttle to the central train station Dortmund Hbf and then the train directly to Aachen.

2.1.2 Düsseldorf Airport

Take a train from Düsseldorf Flughafen Terminal to Düsseldorf Hbf (Central Station). From there, you can take a train to Aachen.

2.1.3 Düsseldorf Weeze Airport

Take the bus SW1 to Weeze Train station (or the shuttle bus to Kevelar). From there you take "Nord-West-Bahn" to Krefeld, where you can catch the train to Aachen.

2.1.4 Brussels Airport

Take a train from Bruxelles-Nat.-Aéroport to Leuven and from there another train to Liège-Guillemins. There you will find several trains which lead to Aachen.

2.1.5 Köln/Bonn Airport

Take a train from the station Köln/Bonn Flughafen to Köln Hbf (Central Station) and from there the train to Aachen.

2.1.6 Charleroi Airport

Take a bus from the airport to Charleroi Sud train station and from there a train to Liège-Guillemins. There, you will find trains to Aachen.

2.1.7 Maastricht Airport

Take the bus from Beek, M-A-Airport bus station to Meerssen, and from there a train to Heerlen. In Heerlen you will find a train to Aachen.

2.2 By train

2.2.1 From Cologne Central Station (Köln Hauptbahnhof (Hbf))

From Cologne, there are two regional trains departing once every hour: RE 1 & RE 9.

2.2.2 From Düsseldorf Central Station (Hbf)

From Düsseldorf, there is a direct train to Aachen Hbf: RE 4. It goes every hour. Another possibility from Düsseldorf is to take a train to Cologne and then take another train from Cologne to Aachen (see above), but this will take longer than the direct connection.

2.2.3 From Maastricht

There are several possibilities to come to Aachen from Maastricht. You can take the train to Heerlen and then take the bus, or you can take the train to Liège and then the Thalys (a more expensive train) to Aachen.

There is also a bus driving from Maastricht Centraal to Aachen Hbf:

The Line 50 goes every 30 min. The ticket for the whole day costs only 8 € (one way is cheaper).

2.2.4 Train prices in Germany

Unfortunately, the ticket price system for trains in Germany is quite complicated. Luckily, depending on the number of people travelling together the price can change. For example, if you go alone from DUS Airport to Aachen Central Station, the price is: 20€, and from Cologne/Bonn Airport it's: 16€. But, if you travel in a group of up to 5 people, the price is 40€ total, which means 8€ per person for 5 people, 10€ per person for 4 people etc. The name of this ticket is: **NRW-Ticket**. It's best to go to the helpdesk and ask for it, but you can also try at the machines.

The NRW-Ticket is valid for the whole state (NRW = **N**orth **R**hein - **W**estfalia, ger. Nordrhein - Westfalen), so you can use it to go from Cologne to Aachen, as well as from Düsseldorf to Aachen. You can only use it for regional trains, but there won't be any high speed trains to Aachen anyway.

2.3 By car

2.3.1 Access via the motorways

From Belgium: Coming from Liège take the A44 towards Kreuz Aachen (highway cross), there change to the A4 (direction Antwerpen/Maastricht). Take the exit Laurensberg.

From the Netherlands: Coming from Antwerpen/Maastricht, take the A4 and there the exit Laurensberg.

From Düsseldorf: Coming from Düsseldorf via the A44, change to the A4 (direction Antwerpen/Maastricht) at Kreuz Aachen and continue until the exit Laurensberg, where you get off the highway.

From Cologne: Coming from Cologne via the A4, stay on the motorway (no changing at Kreuz Aachen) in direction Antwerpen/Maastricht. Get off the motorway at the exit Laurensberg.

2.3.2 Going from the exit Laurensberg to the Central Train Station

Leaving the motorway behind, continue in direction Zentrum/RWTH.

This road is very long and finishes in a large crossing, where the road you are on (Roermonder Straße) crosses with a large road. Turn left here.

You will now be on the so-called "Alley Ring". Stay on this ring all the time, until you reach the crossing shown below:



Try to arrive at this central station, where we will pick you up and bring you to your accommodation.

3. What to bring

Remember to bring all this stuff to Aachen:

- Yourself
- Passport or ID
- Health insurance

- Some cash (EUR) for extra expenditures
- Sleeping bag
- Towel
- Some typical food & drinks & any other random stuff (e.g. flags) from your country for the International Evening
- Fancy and chic clothes for official opening
- Personal hygiene stuff (e.g. toothbrush, soap...)
- Some casual clothes
- Some sports clothes
- Swimming suit
- Umbrella
- Photo camera
- A copy of this Survival Guide!
- BEST Spirit :D
- Personal medicine supplies
- If you have one, bring your (international) student card • Anything legal and fun!



4. In & around Aachen

4.1 Short introduction to Aachen

The city of Aachen is located in the so called Three-countries-corner (ger. Dreiländer-Eck) between Belgium, The Netherlands and Germany at roughly $\phi 50^{\circ} 46'$

5° N, 6° 5' 28" O at GPS in the German republic of North Rhine-Westphalia. Aachen is a historical European city. It has several names like Aken (Dutch), Aix-la-chapelle (French) or Aquisgran (Spanish), and was the coronation city for the Kings of the Holy Roman Empire since Charlemagne.



Aachen is famous for its Cathedral, the Rathaus and its many Spas. It serves as a big health resort for the region because of the geothermal springs, which are the hottest in continental Europe (74°C). Casanova, Peter the Great, Charlemagne and many other historical figures used to bath in Aachen, so for centuries it was known informally as the "Spa of Kings".

The University of Aachen, also known as RWTH University, is one of the leading German Universities for Science and Technology. Currently, among other things, RWTH is involved in car and aircraft development, interdisciplinary research in material and biomedical science, not to mention the collaboration with CERN and ICECUBE.

It would be difficult to find such a concentration and variety of technical and scientific potential in any other region of Europe. "Our future is shaped by what we know!". This is successfully demonstrated in the Aachen region. Research and instruction at its best are provided by five centres of higher education, including the world famous RWTH. In addition to this, Aachen has three Fraunhofer Institutes, the largest university hospital in Europe (Uniklinik) and top international research facilities, such as the Aachen Ford Research Centre.

All this potential for research and development has produced a platform for the exchange of „know-how“ in the Aachen region. Top products manufactured by traditional and High-Tech firms bear witness to this.

Of course, you will learn much more about the city and Germany during our course!

4.2 Money and Prices

As you already know, from January 1st 2002 we pay in Euro. Other currencies are not accepted!

Exchange offices:

You will find them at the airport, but unfortunately not at the railway stations of Aachen, Cologne or Düsseldorf.

Tip:

It's better to bring some Euros with you, since the chances to change money depend on your arrival time for the course.

Banks:

They are open on weekdays from 9.00 to 16.00, with a 1h30 lunch break around noon.

ATM:

The "Amazing Trading Machine" will always give you money if your bank account is covered. You can find them nearly at every corner or mayor building. You can use your EC-, Debit- or Credit Card on those. The charges depend on your bank institute, but are usually around 5€.

As for some common prices, here is a short overview:

beer in a bar	~3€ for 0.5l, ~2.3€ for 0.3l
bottle of beer in a shop	0.5-0.9€
crate of beer in a shop (20 bottles @ 0,5l)	~11€
tequila, vodka, jägermeister	~13€
kebab	3-4€
pizza	5-7€
belgium fries with currywurst	~5€ depending on special sauce :)
pack of cigarettes	6€ for 19-pack
pack of condoms	~6€ for 24-pack
Big Mac (for those who know the index :D)	3.69€
Aachener printen (our famous baked good)	~10€ per kilogram

4.3

4.4 Electricity

The Voltage output in Germany is 230V at a frequency of 50Hz.

Plugin type C and F are used in Germany. If you are not sure how they look like, the pictures show them.



5. Survival German

German is known to be not exactly the easiest language ever, but you'll do good enough if you use this.

Basic German – Anfänger:

English	German
Hello	Hallo

Bye	Tschüss
Yes	Ja
No	Nein
Thanks	Danke
Please	Bitte
Sorry	Entschuldigung
Right	Rechts
Left	Links
One	Eins
Two	Zwei
Three	Drei
Four	Vier
Five	Fünf
Six	Sechs
Seven	Sieben
Eight	Acht
Nine	Neun
Ten	Zehn

Intermediate German – Amateur:

English	German
Hi! My name is...	Hi! Mein Name ist...
What's your name?	Wie heißt du?
How are you?	Wie geht es dir?

I come from...	Ich komme aus...
Where do you come from?	Woher kommst du?
How long will you stay here?	Wie lange bleibst du hier?
I will stay till Sunday.	Ich bleibe bis Sonntag.

Advanced German – Profi:

English	German
I'm looking for the Pontstraße.	Ich suche die Pontstraße.
The party starts at...	Die Party fängt um ... Uhr an.
Could I have a beer, please?	Könnte ich bitte ein Bier haben?
Could I have another beer, please?	Könnte ich bitte noch ein Bier haben?
Where's the beer?!?	Wo ist das Bier?!?
One Weizenbeer, please.	Ich möchte diesen Teppich nicht kaufen. Bitte.
I am hungry!	Ich brauch ein Schnitzel!
One Currywurst extra mild	Eine Currywurst Au Huur bitte!
Do you have a boyfriend/girlfriend?	Hast du einen Freund / eine Freundin?
I like you	Ich mag dich
I love you	Ich liebe dich
To your place or to mine?	Zu dir oder zu mir?
I'm a strawberry - eat me!	Ich bin eine Erdbeere - Iss mich!
Yay, no speedlimit!	Juhu, keine Geschwindigkeitsbeschränkung!

<p>I'm lost.</p>	<p>Ein riesiges Eichhörnchen hat mir meine Nuss geklaut. Als ich es verfolgte, kam ich vom Weg ab. Jetzt weiss ich nicht mehr, wo ich bin!</p>
<p>The transcending subplot of this drama clearly criticizes the role of doctors in a modern society.</p>	<p>NEIN! NEIN! NEIN!</p>

We are waiting for you!



See you very soon in Aachen!