

International Language Camp in Hohensolms

Age Group	8 – 12 and 13 – 16 years old
Period	30.06.2019 – 24.08.2019
Duration	From 1 week (7 days / 6 nights)
Languages	English (A1 – B2), German (A1 – B2)
Course	Intensive language course with 20 lessons per week
Accommodation	Residential
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">+ The perfect destination for your first language trip alone+ A camp experience with international students+ Accommodation in a real medieval hill castle+ A small, safe and historic village with 750 inhabitants

In Hohensolms castle where once the earls of Solms resided you can now learn English, French or German during your school holidays. The free time programme will allow you to explore the 14th century castle alongside your teachers as well as discover your hidden talents in our many workshops and medieval games. As the day draws to a close you may embark upon our torch-lit hike where you can finish the evening baking bread around a camp fire as part of our medieval party. English, French and German are spoken throughout the programme. In no time you'll notice your language fluency dramatically improving.

The Hohensolms youth hostel lies above the city of Hohensolms on the Ramsberg mountain, with views over the Aartal. The extremely spacious bedrooms and classrooms are located in various buildings throughout the castle complex. Our programme takes place in the Student Lounge in the Knights' Hall as well as in the castle courtyard. Sport and games are, however, by no means forgotten about as the castle grounds boasts a plethora of sporting facilities; from beach volleyball courts and football fields to table tennis tables, Hohensolms has it all. In addition, the castle is only a few minutes away from Hohensolms village.

Services

Arrival

- + Arrival is on Sunday (arrival 14:00 – 17:00)
- + Departure is on Saturday (departure 08:00 – 11:00)
- + Self-arranged arrival by car to / from the youth hostel in Hohensolms
- + Self-arranged arrival to the airport Frankfurt International (FRA); Transfer to / from the youth hostel in Hohensolms including Meet & Greet and Check-In service optional
- + Self-arranged arrival to the main station Frankfurt; Transfer to / from the youth hostel in Hohensolms including Meet & Greet and Check-In service optional

Accommodation

- + From 7 days / 6 nights, additional weeks (7 days / 7 nights)
- + Accommodation in the Jugendburg youth hostel Hohensolms, sharing a 6 to 8 bed room with shared shower and toilet with students of other nationalities
- + Full board with breakfast, lunch/packed lunch, dinner

- + Students need to bring towels for personal use and swimming (for an extra fee towels are available in the residence as well)

Language Course

- + Intensive language course English (A1 – C1) or German (A1 – C1) each with 4 lessons in the morning every day for 5 days (in total 20 lessons a week at 45 minutes) with qualified native speaker teachers
- + Placement test at the beginning of every week
- + Class size maximum 15 students
- + Provision of teaching material (textbook, workbook, folder, pen)
- + Certificate with an individual grade in accordance with CEFR at the end of the course

Free Time and Supervision

- + One full-day trip per additional week every Saturday, e.g. to Koblenz including a visit to the Deutsches Eck, Frankfurt/Main, Heidelberg or Mainz including a museum visit
- + One half-day excursion per week e. g. to Castle Braunfels, Open-Air Museum Hessenpark or to Marburg, Wetzlar, Limburg, or Gießen
- + Daily activity and sport programme in the afternoon, e.g. workshops, sport (all entrance fees incl.)
- + Daily evening programme with supervisors, e.g. welcome party, BBQ-party, bowling, film evening, games evening, talent show, farewell party
- + Access to all facilities in the youth hostel (a welcoming castle courtyard with a table tennis table and a students' lounge in the knight's hall with games etc.)
- + Daily feedback session „Time to Talk“ (TTT)
- + Free time programme in international groups with German and English speaking supervisors
- + Camp languages English and German
- + Staff to student ratio 1 : 10 (for every 10 students 1 supervisor) for 8 – 12 years olds and 1 : 15 (for every 15 students 1 supervisor) for 13 – 16 years olds
- + 24/7 Emergency Hotline and around the clock care with the team on the camp

Additional Services

- + Extensive information material before the beginning of the trip
- + Student ID card with emergency contacts
- + Wi-Fi available in the students' lounge

Not included in the price

- + Travel Insurance (Third Party, Medical, Accident) optional (additional fee)

Prices and Dates

Course Dates	One Week	Additional Weeks
30.06.2019 – 06.07.2019	729 EUR	729 EUR
07.07.2019 – 13.07.2019	729 EUR	729 EUR
14.07.2019 – 20.07.2019	729 EUR	729 EUR
21.07.2019 – 27.07.2019	729 EUR	729 EUR
28.07.2019 – 03.08.2019	729 EUR	729 EUR
04.08.2019 – 10.08.2019	729 EUR	729 EUR
11.08.2019 – 17.08.2019	729 EUR	729 EUR
18.08.2019 – 24.08.2019	729 EUR	–

Additional prices	Surcharge
Deposit (will be returned at the end of the course)	50 EUR
Travel Insurance: Third Party, Medical, Accident for EU citizens** (per day)	1.10 EUR
Travel Insurance: Third Party, Medical, Accident for non-EU citizens** (per day)	2.00 EUR
Invitation / booking confirmation for visa (plus postage)	30 EUR

Transfers (always one-way)	Surcharge
to / from airport Frankfurt International (FRA)*	140 EUR
to / from main station Frankfurt*	140 EUR
UM service fee (when UM booked with the airline)	40 EUR

* Taxi can be shared for 1 – 3 students travelling together (with the same flight or train)

** EU = European Union + Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland

Minimum number of participants for every date and language course: 25 students

Procedures and programme itinerary may be subject to change!

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What awaits you in the language camp in Hohensolms

Arrival and Accommodation

The arrival day for our language camp in Hohensolms is on Sunday. Your parents will either bring you to the youth hostel by car, or you will come by plane to Frankfurt International airport, or by train to Frankfurt main station. The day of departure is always Saturday. If you arrive or depart by plane or train, we recommend you sign up for a transfer to/from the youth hostel as early as possible upon booking. You will then be picked up punctually and won't need to worry about anything.

Depending on your age, if you have booked a UM service (UM = Unaccompanied Minor) with your airline, you should also book the UM service for an extra fee additional to the transfer to the camp as early as possible with us, as airport checks and procedures are long and complicated.

Please organise your arrival and departure so that you check in between 14:00 and 17:00 and check out between 08:00 – 11:00. Lunch on the day of arrival and departure is not included in the price.

In the youth hostel you will live with students of other nationalities in modern 4 to 8 bed rooms. Every room has its own shower and toilet. As the building is over 650 years old and has been redeveloped many times over the centuries, every room has its own character and design. Depending on travel dates students of the same nationality may be accommodated in the same room.

Please be aware that on arrival at the youth hostel we must receive a deposit of 50 euros per student. This will be returned to you when you leave the camp, providing that you have left everything in order, e.g. you have not lost the room key.

As we offer full board to our students, you will begin the day with a good breakfast in the morning. You can choose from a wide range of foods at the breakfast buffet. After lessons every student will have a lunch break before the afternoon activities. Whether you eat lunch in the youth hostel or have a packed lunch depends on the timings of the subsequent programme. There will always be a hot meal for dinner, when you can fill your plate with food from the buffet.

Please let us know upon application whether you are a vegetarian, a vegan or have any other dietary requirements. We will try to accommodate your preferences and cater for individual needs wherever possible.

Language Course

Your intensive language course will always take place in the morning with 4 lessons a day for 5 days. German students can learn English, whereas students from other countries can learn German or English. At the beginning of every week each student will take a language placement test, which the teachers will use to help them in their preparation for the lessons. Even though we will separate the groups by level whenever possible, sometimes, depending on the booking situation, different levels may be taught in the same class together. However, this will have no great effect on your ability to learn, as after all at home you also have different levels in your class at school. Our teachers are experienced in preparing the best lesson material appropriate for each individual student. There is always a maximum of 15 students in our classes, so lessons are manageable and give you the opportunity to actively participate in class a lot more than in school.

Learning to use the language actively is the primary aim of the lessons. Our teachers create their own motivating, cultural and original lesson plans. They can be about a whole range of real life topics in the form of discussions, role plays, interviews and other active elements. You will simply be able to speak and you should seize this opportunity as speaking the language will aid your learning success and motivation and allow you to take further steps with the language in the future. Your vocabulary and knowledge of grammar will also automatically expand and improve, not only through rote learning, but also through speaking and listening.

Our teachers are native speakers. That means that they do not only speak the language fluently, but they have an ingrained understanding of their native culture. Moreover, they have experience in communicating their language to students from other countries.

We teach from the levels A1 (beginner with previous knowledge) to B2 (upper intermediate) in both languages in accordance with the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages). We have different lesson material for every level, and the certificate that you receive at the end of your stay will indicate the level at which and for how many hours you were taught.

Free Time and Supervision

It is our policy to always offer a range of activities and programmes to our students. Every afternoon you will have a varied programme of activities. Together with all the other international students, you will have fun exploring the sights of the town or participating in sports activities.

After dinner there is an evening activity in the youth hostel; sometimes you will be dancing together at a party or taking part in other activities. Just like in the afternoons, you will also have the opportunity to practise your foreign languages here, as you will want to get to know the students from other countries. In the breaks in between lessons, as well as in your free time in between activities and meal times, you can explore the castle and its idyllic courtyard. Perhaps you will play a round of table football or table tennis, or you will simply sit and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere in the grounds.

Every day ends with our daily feedback session "Time to Talk" (TTT) before our students go to bed. Here, you can share what you have especially liked or did not like so much during the day with your leaders. You can ask questions, and you will be told about any relevant information for the next day.

The highlight of the week is the day trip. You will go to a city, such as Frankfurt, Koblenz, Heidelberg or Mainz and will see the most important sights on a tour and visit an exciting museum.

The free time programme is organised and led by our German and English speaking supervisors. There will always be a ratio of ten students (for 8 – 12 years olds) or fifteen students (for 13 – 15 years olds) to at least one supervisor. Our supervisors will know 'their' students, just as you will get to know your supervisors. They are always there for you to talk to, whether you feel unwell, have a question, or just simply want to have a chat.

Furthermore, we have a 24-hour emergency hotline every day which we will react to immediately should there be a bigger problem.

Good to know

Before the beginning of your stay you will receive a detailed information pack from us about the camp, everything you need to know about arrival, what you should pack and the activity programme.

As soon as you check in at the camp, you will receive your ID card with all the important contact numbers, so that you can reach your supervisors by telephone if you need to.

You can access Wi-Fi in the students' lounge free of charge. However, the Wi-Fi signal is not effective in all areas of the hostel due to the nature of the building.

Please note, that your regular health insurance generally will not cover all treatment costs incurred in Germany. We, therefore, generally recommend purchasing foreign health insurance as well as accident and liability insurance. You can purchase these insurances without hassle through us as a complete pack for the duration of your stay.

If you do not book your insurance through ASTUR, we will need to see proof of your existing insurance before your arrival.

If you need a visa to enter Germany you will be required to show proof that you have purchased a respective insurance in order to apply for the visa. It is best to talk to your agency or with us directly. We are always happy to help.

Nationality Mix

Last year, there were up to 99 different nationalities in Hohensolms. Students arrived from Germany, France, China, Russia, Italy, Spain, Romania and many more!