Welcome to Neubrandenburg

A Guide for Women with an International Background



Hello,

I am so happy this book has found its way to you.

My name is Lila and I'm also a woman living in the city of Neubrandenburg. This book is a little guide for all the other women who live here too. Like a handbook that shows you where to find answers to your questions.

In this book, you will find information on topics like education, language, children, healthcare, housing, how to get help if you experience violence, equality, leisure activities in Neubrandenburg and much, much more. For example, in this book I will tell you where you can take a language course, how to find a place to live, what offers are available for childcare, or who you can talk to if you are in a dangerous situation. You will find all the most important terms and contacts at the end of each chapter. There are 16 topics with lots of information.

In some chapters, you will see a finger. This finger means: more information. I want to give you lots of tips so that you have a pleasant time here in Neubrandenburg. This book can help you even if you've been living here for a while already.

I made the book together with lots of women who come from different countries and now live in Neubrandenburg. These women told me what issues are important for them, what information helped them and what information they didn't have but wanted. I collected all of this together and wrote this book.

I hope this information is helpful to you.

I wish you all the best as you settle in here!

Welcome to Neubrandenburg. It's great to have you here!

Yours, <u>lil</u>a



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History and Politics



Germany

You are in the country of Germany. Germany is made up of **16 Federal States** (or 'Bundesländer' in German). Rules and laws are made by either the Federal German Government (or the 'Bund') or by the governments of the **16 Federal States**. For example, it is the Federal Government that sets the rules on foreign policy. The Federal States make the rules on education, meaning schools and universities. Because the 16 Federal States make a lot of the rules themselves, they can react to issues that are important to them quickly. We call this **Federalism**. The rules always depend on the **ruling party**.

Mecklenburg-Vorpommern

You are in the State of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. The State of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern has been governed jointly by the SPD and Die Linke since 2021. Manuela Schwesig is the Prime Minister of the State. The State Capital of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern is Schwerin. This is where the State Government (or 'Landesregierung' in German) and State Parliament (or 'Landtag' in German) are located. Mecklenburg-Vorpommern only came into being in 1990 after the reunification of West and East Germany. Before that, the five States we have today – Brandenburg, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt and Thuringia – together formed the German Democratic Republic (GDR). Sometimes, these 5 States are also called East Germany.



Neubrandenburg

Mecklenburg-Vorpommern

Germany

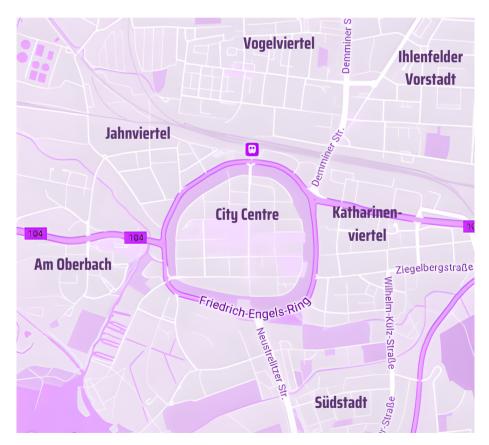
Neubrandenburg

To be specific, you are living in the city of Neubrandenburg. Neubrandenburg is the third largest city in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern after Rostock and Schwerin. Neubrandenburg has **64,289 inhabitants** and is divided into **10 districts**. **More information** on the City of Neubrandenburg can be found on the city website (available in several languages) and in the next few chapters of this book.

City website: www.neubrandenburg.de



Here is a **map of the City of Neubrandenburg** to help you get your bearings:



Information on Daily Life



Drinking water 🖳

The water that comes out of the tap in your home and in public buildings is called "drinking water". You can drink this water because drinking water is strictly regulated in Germany. Unless you see "Not drinking water" (or "Kein Trinkwasser" in German), in which case it is not clean and you should not drink it because it can make you ill.

Separating your rubbish 📆 👖

In many districts in Neubrandenburg, you are required to separate your rubbish. This is **important** because that way your **rubbish can be recycled**. The system is slightly different in each city, but mostly you separate your rubbish as follows:





Many **drinking bottles**, whether glass or plastic, have a so-called "Pfand" value, or deposit, printed on them, between **8 and 25 cents**. You **get your money back for this deposit** when you **return** your empty bottles to the supermarket that carries the drinks brand. Each supermarket has special machines for this called **Pfandautomaten**. Thanks to this system, drinking bottles can be **recycled** and we save on resources that would otherwise be used to make new bottles and help **protect the environment**.



You can find out when each bin is emptied in the City of Neubrandenburg's "dein nb" smartphone app (the app is in German).

To do this, you have to enter your street and house number in the app.

Daylight savings

Germany has summer time and winter time, meaning that the clocks either qo forwards one hour or back one hour on certain days of the year. Summer time begins on the last Sunday in March. Winter time begins on the last Sunday in October. Daylight savings was originally introduced to save energy.

Deutsche Post



Deutsche Post delivers letters and parcels. You can also buy stamps or boxes here. You can send letters by going to a branch of Deutsche Post (=the post office) or bu putting a stamp on them and taking them to a **post box**. **Post boxes** in Germany are **yellow**. There are lots of **post boxes** in Neubrandenburg. On these **post boxes** you can see what times postal workers collect letters from each post box. You can find your nearest branch of Deutsche Post on the **Deutsche Post website** (in German):

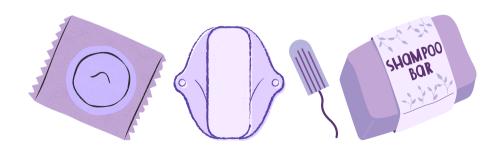
www.deutschepost.de/de/s/standorte.html

High street pharmacies 🙃





In a high street pharmacy (or 'Drogeriemarkt' in German), you will find personal hygiene products (shampoo, shower gel), plus period products (tampons, menstrual cups, pads), pregnancy tests or contraceptives (condoms). You can also buy groceries in these shops.





There are set days in the year when people in Germany do not work. These are called "public holidays" (or 'Feiertage' in German). These are days when people don't work because of a Christian or public celebration. The public holidays in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern in 2022 are as follows:

| 01/01/2022 | New Year's Day |
|------------|--|
| 15/04/2022 | Good Friday |
| 18/04/2022 | Easter Monday |
| 01/05/2022 | Labour Day |
| 26/05/2022 | Ascension Day/Christi Himmelfahrt |
| 06/06/2022 | Whit Monday/Pfingstmontag |
| 03/10/2022 | German Unity Day/Tag der Deutschen Einheit |
| 31/10/2022 | Reformation Day/Reformationstag |
| 25/12/2022 | Christmas Day |
| 26/12/2022 | Boxing Day |
| | |

Smoking and alcohol



Smoking is prohibited in **public indoor spaces** such as schools, government buildings, hospitals, airports, restaurants and bars. Many places have **special smoking areas**. You will recognise these areas by the cigarette symbol.

Alcohol may be consumed **from 16 years of age** in Germany. However, this only applies to drinks with an **alcohol content of 15% or less**, such as beer, wine or sparkling wine. Alcoholic drinks **with more alcohol (16% or higher)**, such as rum, whisky and vodka, may be consumed from **18 years of age**. You must not **drive** if you have drunk alcohol (only **up to 0.05%**). You may **ride your bike** with an alcohol concentration of up to **0.16%**. This is important because otherwise you may pose a risk to yourself and others.

Punctuality •

Being on time, or punctual, is very important in Germany! This applies to **appointments** which you might have with your doctor or school, for example. If you need a lot of time and cannot arrive on time, **call the person and let them know**.



Public Authorities

Public authorities are **public institutions** which can issue you and your family with official documents, give members of the public official orders and pay out benefits in the form of money. In Neubrandenburg, there are various authorities that may be important for you. The **most important authorities** and their duties are:

Agentur für Arbeit / Job Centre



The Agentur für Arbeit (or 'Employment Agency') is responsible for you if you were employed but have just lost your job. In this case, they pay out unemployment benefits called **Arbeitslosengeld 1** for up to one year.

The **Job Centre** is where you need to go if you have been unemployed for a long time or if Arbeitslosengeld 1 is not enough. In this case, the Job Centre will pay out Arbeitslosengeld 2.

Sozialamt/Social Services **(**



Social Services is important for **social welfare** and other related matters. If you are **in** the process of applying for asylum, you will get money from Social Services. Once your **asylum process is over**, you can get money from the **Job Centre**.

Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge (BAMF)



The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (or BAMF) examines why you left your home country, and **decides** whether or not you can be granted **asylum** in Germany...

Ausländerbehörde/Immigration Office 🔘



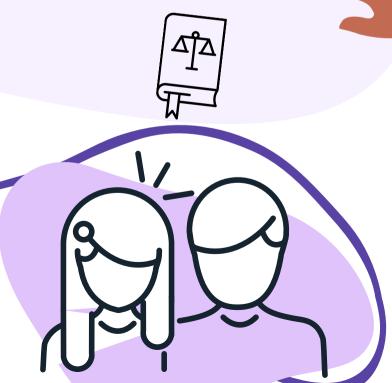
The Immigration Office is responsible for **residency issues**. The Immigration Office makes decision on granting or denying you a **residence permit**, and can verify your identity and in certain cases order that you leave the country. It is very important that you attend all appointments here!

Police ***



The police are there to protect against dangers and ensure your **safety** in the city. You can **contact the police if** you are in **danger** and need **help**, for example if you experience violence or are the victim of theft. You can also inform the police if you are verbally abused.

In Germany, there is a fundamental law called the **Grundgesetz**. The Grundgesetz is the **Constitution of Germany**. Everyone in Germany must abide by this Constitution. The Constitution says that **nobody should be treated worse because of their gender, sexual identity, beliefs or political views**. However, it can still sometimes happen that you receive worse treatment, **such as during interviews with public authorities**. We call this **discrimination**. Discrimination is **not right** and **you can do something about it**. I will tell you more about this in the chapter on Discrimination.



The **current contact details** for the public authorities are:

Jobcenter Mecklenburgische Seenplatte Süd

Ponyweg 37 - 43 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 7664090

F-Mail:

Jobcenter-MSE-Sued@jobcenter-ge.de www.jobcenter-ge.de/Jobcenter/MSE-Sued

Neubrandenburg Police

Stargarder Str. 6 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 55820oder 110 E-Mail:

pp.neubrandenburg@polmv.de www.polizei.mvnet.de/Polizei/PPNB

Neubrandenburg Social Services

An der Hochstraße 1 17036 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 570875271



Neubrandenburg Immigration Office

An der Hochstraße 1 im Haus C 17036 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 57087 5810 E-Mail: auslaenderbehoerde@lkseenplatte.de

Agentur für Arbeit

Neubrandenburg Ponyweg 37 - 43 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 7661010 F-Mail:

Neubrandenburg@arbeitsagentur.de www.arbeitsagentur.de

Gender equality 1 1

According to the Constitution, as a woman in Germany you have the same rights as a man! This means that you can decide for yourself who to be with and whether you want to get married. You can separate from/divorce your partner (= end your marriage) and you can also decide whether or not you want kids.

You can **display your love in public** and hug and kiss other people. It does not matter what your **sexual orientation** is because **homosexual relationships** and **marriages** are permitted in Germany just the same as **heterosexual relationships**. A homosexual relationship means that a person is attracted to a person of the same gender. E.g. a man is attracted to a man or a woman to a woman. A heterosexual relationship means that a person is attracted to a person of the opposite gender. E.g. a man is attracted to a woman or a woman to a man. There are also people who have relationships with either men or women. These people are **bisexual**.

Some people change their gender or do not feel comfortable as a man or a woman. **Being transgender** means that a person does not identify with the gender they were assigned at birth. For example, a person who was born a man prefers to live as a woman. **Being intersex** means that a person was born with both male and female sexual characteristics. This person often does not feel that they are either a man or a woman. In Germany, these people are also free to live their lives as they choose.



If you have more questions regarding sexual orientation, gender and sexuality, you can contact one of the following **help** and advice centres:

rosalila Beratung & Bildung (for general advice and education)

Feldstraße 3 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 37937815 E-Mail: beratung@rosalila.de www.rosalila.de

Centrum für sexuelle Gesundheit Neubrandenburg (for sexual health issues)

Feldstraße 3 (Phönixeum) 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0381 / 1285022 E-Mail: info@csg-mv.de www.csg-mv.de

Caritas im Norden Schwangerschaftsberatung (for pregnancy counselling)

Heidmühlenstraße 17 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 58145 30

E-Mail:

beratung-nbdg@caritas-im-norden.de www.caritas-mecklenburg.de/caritasvor-ort/region-neubrandenburg



AWO Stadtverband Neubrandenburg e.V. Schwangerschafts- und Schwangerschaftskonfliktberatung (for pregnancy counselling and counselling on pregnancies in conflict situations)

Friedrich-Engels-Ring 42 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 5443683 E-Mail: schwangerschaftsberatung@awo-nb.de www.awo-nb.de

Ehe-, Familien- und Lebensberatung Neubrandenburg (for family and marriage advice)

Morgenlandstraße 8 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 5443608

E-Mail: sekretariat@efl-neubrandenburg.de www.ehe-familien-lebensberatung.info

queerNB e.V.

17019 Neubrandenburg E-Mail: info@queernb.de www.queernb.de International Women's Day is celebrated every year around the world on 8 March. This day is about raising awareness in society regarding the rights and equality of women. The City of Neubrandenburg also holds events on this day, organised by the city's Equal Opportunities Officer, Christina Küster. If you are interested in these events, you can find more information on the City of Neubrandenburg website.



City website: www.neubrandenburg.de





the **"International Against** 17 Dau Homophobia. Biphobia and Transphobia" (IDAHoBIT). This day is about raising awareness regarding the rights of homosexual, bisexual, and trans people. intersex The Citu **Neubrandenburg** also holds events on this day. If you are interested in these events, you can find more information on the queerNB website.

Many cities around the world also celebrate "Christopher Street Day" (CSD) once a year. On this day as well, some homosexual, bisexual, intersex and trans people around the world raise awareness of their rights and march through the streets with music and colourful outfits. This day is also celebrated in Neubrandenburg. The venue of the event switches every year between the cities of Neubrandenburg and Neustrelitz. If you are interested in these events, you can find more information on the

queerNB website.

Website: <u>www.queernb.de</u>



Getting Around



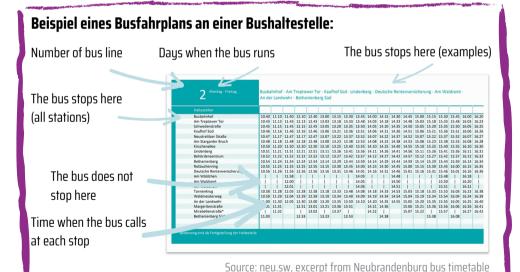
In Neubrandenburg you have a number of different options for getting from one place to another. You can go by bus, train, taxi, car, bike or even boat.

Bus •

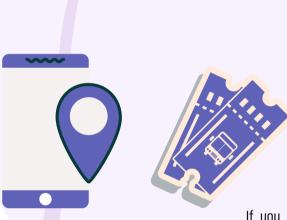
Neubrandenburger Stadtwerke (neu.sw) is responsible for the buses in Neubrandenburg. There are **11 lines** running from the **Central Bus Station/Zentraler Busbahnhof (ZOB)** to all areas of the city. You can check what time each line departs from which stop using the **"dein nb" smartphone app** from **Neubrandenburger Stadtwerke** (in German), by looking at the **timetables** at each bus stop or by going to the **Neubrandenburger Stadtwerke website** (in German).

Neubrandenburger Stadtwerke website: <u>www.neu-sw.de/fahrplanauskunft</u>





When travelling by bus, it is important that you press the **STOP button** in good time before your stop. That way, the driver knows which stop you want to get off at. You can buy a **ticket for the bus** from the driver or as a digital ticket in the **"dein nb" smartphone app** (in German).





If you are a wheelchair user and you would like to take the bus but the gap between the bus and the bus stop is too high, the driver can help you using a ramp. Just signal to the driver with your hand when the bus is approaching.

STOP

Train 🛱

If you want to **travel outside of Neubrandenburg**, you can take the train. Most trains are operated by **Deutsche Bahn (DB)**. The **train station in Neubrandenburg** is located directly **next to** the **Central Bus Station (ZOB)**. You can use the Deutsche Bahn website (available in several languages) to check **departure times** and **platform numbers** for the **train**.

Deutsche Bahn website: www.bahn.de

You will also find **train departure times** in the train station's **main building** where there is a large digital board attached to the wall. **Train tickets** can be bought on the Deutsche Bahn website, in the Deutsche Bahn ticket office at the station or from a ticket machine at the station. You can also use the **Deutsche Bahn Super Saver/Sparpreisfinder** (available in several languages) to find **discounted train tickets**. For longer journeys, it's a good idea to buy your ticket several weeks ahead of time as tickets are often cheaper then.

Sparpreisfinder Deutsche Bahn website:

www.bahn.de/angebot/sparpreis-flexpreis/sparpreisfinder



Bicycle



Another way to get around in Neubrandenburg is by bike. Bikes can be ridden by women and men, the same as for driving a car. It's important that you switch on the light on your bike when it gets dark out. That way, you can see the road better and drivers can spot you more easily. If you want to learn to ride a bike, BIKEYGEES e.V. in Berlin offers free training sessions for migrant women.

Taxi



You can also use taxis to get around Neubrandenburg and the surrounding area. You should always ask about the price before setting off because taxis are usually the **most expensive form of transport**. You will almost always find taxis parked **in front of the train station in Neubrandenburg**. There are various different taxi companies in Neubrandenburg. You can find them online.

Car



You can also get around in Neubrandenburg by car because in Germany **you as a woman have the right to get a driving licence**. Register with a **driving school** if you would like to get a **driving licence**. There are several driving schools in Neubrandenburg. You can find them online. The **driving test** consists of a **theory test and a practical test**. In the theory part of the test, you have to answer a set of questions, while in the practical test you have to show that you can drive a car. You can **register with a driving school** from the age of **16** ½. However, these courses are **not cheap** so it's a good idea to ask around for advice first. **From the age of 17** you can drive a car using your driving licence but there must be a **passenger** with you who is a qualified driver. **From the age of 18** you can drive a car by yourself.

Rethra ferries



From **May to October**, you can **take a trip on the Tollensesee lake** with Rethra ferries. These ferries call at these **stops** twice a day: Badehaus/swimming baths, Wassersportzentrum/water sports centre, Gatsch Eck, Klein Nemerow, Alt Rehse and Nonnenhof. You can also travel to the neighbouring Lake Lieps with the ferry.

If you have any more questions about travelling by bus, train or ferry, or about free cycling courses, you can contact the following **advice centres**:

Deutsche Bahn Neubrandenburg

Am Bahnhof 5-6 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 030 / 586020930 E-Mail: reiseportal@bahn.de www.bahn.de

Bikeygees e.V.

Friesenstraße 11 10965 Berlin Telephone: 030 / 54637790 E-Mail: all@bikeygees.org www.bikeygees.org

Neubrandenburger Verkehrsbetriebe GmbH (Rethra Ferries)

Warliner Straße 6 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 3500524 E-Mail: rethra@neu-sw.de www.neu-sw.de/linienschiff

Neubrandenburger Stadtwerke

Tel. 0800 / 3500800 www.neu-sw.de/busverkehr

Right to Asylum



Every person, whether a woman or a man, who flees persecution in their home country has the right to apply for asylum in Germany. You can apply for asylum at the Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge (BAMF). This office decides whether or not you are recognised in Germany as a refugee. The decision-making process regarding your application for asylum includes a hearing. This hearing is very important. The hearing can be held a few hours, days or even weeks after you apply for asylum, depending on what country you come from. It is important to explain all your reasons for fleeing your home country. One reason might be gender-based persecution. This means that you face problems in your home country because you are a woman.

Before the interview, you can inform the BAMF that you would like to have a woman conduct your hearing. You also have the **right to** an **interpreter** during the interview (=a person who speaks your language). You can also let the BAMF know beforehand that you would like this person to be a woman. Additionally, you can bring someone you know to this interview as a companion.

You also have the right to your **own asylum process** regardless of your marital status. It does not matter whether you are married, divorced, in a partnership or single. This means that you have the opportunity to get a residence permit independently from your partner.

Migration and integration advice centres are advice centres which can help you integrate into life in Neubrandenburg. The advisor can give you answers to questions relating to: language, education, housing, healthcare and family. Because there are so many different areas you can get advice on, I will give you recommendations on where to go for advice in Neubrandenburg across the different chapters of this book.

You can contact various **migration or integration advice centres** or Flüchtlingsrat Mecklenburg-Vorpommern e.V. in Schwerin for detailed answers to your questions **on the right to asylum**.

The **relevant contacts** are:

Flüchtlingsrat Mecklenburg-Vorpommern e.V.

Advice for asylum-seekers 19002 Schwerin Telephone: 0385 / 5815790 E-mail: kontakt@fluechtlingsrat-mv.de www.fluechtlingsrat-mv.de

ASB Regionalverband NB/MST e. V.

Integration advice Oststadt
Einsteinstraße 21
17036 Neubrandenburg
Telephone: 0395 / 7615643 oder 0176
24150145
E-mail: gemeinwesenarbeit@asb-nbmst.de
www.asb-nb-mst.de/asbangebote/saf.html

AWO Migrationszentrum

Migration advice Demminer Straße 44 17034 Neubrandenburg

Café International

Legal advice & immigration advice

Regular sessions on fourth Wednesday of the month, 14:00 – 16:00 or by appointment,

Café open daily Neutorstraße 7 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0174 / 3739669 E-mail: kontakt@cafe-international.org www.cafe-international.org/cafe-international

Deutsches Rotes Kreuz Neubrandenburg

Migrationsberatung
Weidegang 9
17034 Neubrandenburg
Telephone: 0395 / 37951880
www.neubrandenburg.drk.de

ASB Regionalverband NB/MST e. V.

Integration advice Südstadt Neustrelitzer Str. 109 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 351 753 91 or 0176 / 241 501 45 E-mail: :

gemeinwesenarbeit.sued@asb-nb-mst.de www.asb-nb-mst.de/asbangebote/saf.html

Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe e. V.

Integration advice Tilly-Schanzen-Straße 17 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0162 / 139 5112 E-mail: melanie.bucklitsch@johanniter.de



Language



In Neubrandenburg you have several different opportunities to learn the German language. For example, you can attend a basic orientation course, integration course, professional language course or other free language courses. Men and women can attend all language courses!

Basic orientation course:

- **Aim**: Information on daily life and basics of German
- **Attendance** voluntary if your asylum process is still ongoing
 - **Provided by**: Agentur der Wirtschaft
 - 300 hours
 - free

Integration course:

- Orientation course (100 hours) + Language course (600 hours)
 - **Aim**: Level B1 and basic knowledge about Germany
 - Attendance with residence permit, sometimes also with right to remain/ temporary suspension of deportation (or 'Duldung' in German)
- **Attendance** application by the course provider to the BAMF
 - free (if you are receiving social welfare)

Language course providers who offer integration courses in Neubrandenburg can be found on the **BAMF website** (in German and English):

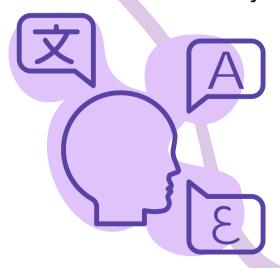
www.bamf-navi.bamf.de/de http://



Professional language course:

- **Aim**: to improve general language skills or language skills for a specific profession
- Requirement: successfully completed integration course
- **Attendance**: where permitted by the Agentur für Arbeit, the Job Centre or BAMF
- free (if you are receiving social welfare)
- **Provider**: Lernstudio Neubrandenburg, Deutsche Angestellten Akademie (DAA), Bildungswerk der Wirtschaft, genres e.V.

If you have any other questions about attending basic orientation courses, integration courses, or professional language courses, you can also contact a migration or integration advice centre (you will find these in the chapter on Right to Asylum). You can also contact language course providers in Neubrandenburg, the Job Centre or the Agentur für Arbeit.



The current contact details for the language course providers are:

Agentur der Wirtschaft

Gebrüder-Boll-Straße 1A 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 5706980 E-mail: info@adwi.de www.adwi.de

Deutsche Angestellten Akademie (DAA) Neubrandenburg

Gebrüder-Boll-Str. 1 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 55842359 E-mail: info.mv@daa.de www.daa-mv.de

Lernstudio Neubrandenburg

Demminer Straße 5 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 5584330 E-mail: info@lernstudioneubrandenburg.de www.lernstudioneubrandenburg.de

Bildungswerk der Wirtschaft

Torfsteg 11 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 430770 E-mail: info@bdw-mv.de www.bildungswerk-wirtschaft.de

genres - Gesellschaft fürnachhaltige Regionalentwicklung und Strukturforschung e.V.

Helmut-Just-Straße 4 17036 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 5707220 E-mail: info@genres-online.de www.genres-mv.de

MSE Adult Education Centre

Bienenweg 1 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 35172001 E-mail: vhs@lk-seenplatte.de www.vhs-mse.de

Jobcenter Neubrandenburg

Ponyweg 37 - 43 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 766 4090

E-mail:

Jobcenter-MSE-Sued@jobcenter-ge.de www.jobcenter-ge.de/Jobcenter/MSE-Sued

Agentur für Arbeit Neubrandenburg

Ponyweg 37 - 43 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 7661010 E-mail: Neubrandenburg@arbeitsagentur.de

www.arbeitsagentur.de

Other language opportunities:

Café International offers various **language groups for free**. If you are interested, you can chat to an employee to get assigned to a group.

Neutorstraße 7 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 017610092206 E-mail: kontakt@cafe-international.org www.cafe-international.org/cafeinternational

The CARIbuni der Caritas association also offers a free Language Café every Friday from 9:00 – 10:00.

Max-Adrion-Straße 45 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 45550523 E-mail: caribuni@caritas-im-norden.de www.caritas-mecklenburg.de/caribuni

There is also free language support available for children of mothers with or without an immigrant background. The project is called Griffbereit (which means "At the Ready").

RAA Mecklenburg-Vorpommern e. V. 2. Ringstraße 11 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 01711711902 E-mail: mehrsprachigkeit@raa-mv.de The local college, Hochschule Neubrandenburg, offers an intensive German language course (Level: B2) for people who want to study at the college. This course begins in October and ends in March the following year. There are also German courses for beginners (4 hours a week) designed specially for students from overseas (Level: A1, A2 and intermediate B2). If not all places are taken, people who are not studying can also attend the language courses as guests learners.

Brodaer Staße. 2 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 56931110 E-mail: refugees@hs-nb.de

The Nordstart NB association offers a free German language course for migrants aged 27 and over. This course is held online every Friday from 12:00 - 14:00.

An der Hürde 1 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 3588 215 E-mail: m.wahl@nordstart.de In Germany, German is the only language used within government and public authorities. Because of this, most employees working for public authorities will talk to you in German and give you all the important documents in German. Employees working for public authorities do not have to provide you with an interpreter for holding an interview with you. You therefore have the right to a precise explanation of the documents. It is important to know that you do not have to sign anything you do not understand and that you can always bring a companion with you to your appointment, such as a relative, friend, social worker or family member, to help with translation.

If you have an appointment with a **public advice centre**, an **interpreter** can often **come with you for free**. Please **do not bring your child with you to translate**. At these appointments, you will often be talking about information that may really upset your child.



Education

In Germany, you as a woman have the right to an education and to go to work. You can choose a job that you find fun. You can even work or go to school when you have a family and children. Your children can be looked after while you are at work (you can find more information on childcare in the next chapter on Childcare).

Completing your schooling

If you are above the school-leaving age and want to complete your schooling in Neubrandenburg, you can do this at the **MSE adult education centre**, the **evening school (Albert-Einstein-Gymnasium)**, at a technical college or at a free education centre.

Middle School (10th grade):

Where: at the MSE adult education centre

- required for education

You need:

- A residence permit
- Minimum age 18 y.o.
- B2 Language certificate
- Basic knowledge of English
- prior approval of your school certificates

General Secondary (12th grade):

where: the Albert-Einstein-Gymnasium
You need:

- A residence permit or a confirmation of your right to remain in Germany for the school term
- Minimum age 19 y.o.
- You must have graduated from Middle School or a similar level
- **B1 Language certificate in German** and **a second foreign language**



You can have school certificates from other countries verified by visiting the Ministry of Education in Schwerin.

If you have any other questions about completing your schooling, contact the evening school, the MSE adult education centre or the Ministry of Education. The relevant contacts are:

MSE Adult Education Centre

Bienenweg 1 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 35172001 E-mail: vhs@lk-seenplatte.de www.vhs-mse.de

Albert Einstein Gymnasium / Evening School

Demminer Straße 42 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 35171600 E-mail: info@abendgymnasiumnb.de www.aeg-nb.de

Ministry of Education in Schwerin

Telephone: 0385 / 588 7217 E-mail: J.Olejko@bm.mv-regierung.de



Education and work



Whether or not you can take up education or employment in Germany depends on your residency status. If you have a residence permit, then you have the option of entering education or going to work. If you have a temporary suspension of deportation (known as a 'Duldung' in German) or right to remain (known as an 'Aufenthaltsgestattung' in German), it might be the case that the immigration authorities will not permit you to enter education or go to work.

If you are allowed to go to work and want to work in the same profession as you did in your home country, you can **apply for recognition of your professional qualifications**. **Different administrations (Chambers)** are responsible for this **depending on your profession**. You can visit this website (in German and English):



www.anerkennung-in-deutschland.de

to find out which Chamber is the one that will verify your professional qualifications. You can also call the "Living and Working in Germany" Hotline and ask there. If you do not have documents proving your vocational training in your home country, then you can take a practical exam. In this exam, you will show that you can work in this profession. However, this rule does not apply to all professions. You can call the "Living and Working in Germany" Hotline to ask about this as well.

If you have any other questions regarding work and education, there are various advice centres in Neubrandenburg that you can contact. The genres - Gesellschaft für nachhaltige Regionalentwicklung und Strukturforschung e.V. association can help you with any questions you might have about getting your professional qualifications recognised (=diplomas and certificates). A migration or integration advice centre might also be able to help you with any questions (you will find these in the chapter on Right to Asylum). Additionally, TFA GmbH runs a project in Neubrandenburg where you can learn German, try out jobs and get help with day-to-day life. You will need an A2 Language certificate for this. You can only attend if you have a so-called Aktivierungs- und Vermittlungsgutschein (a discretionary voucher for back-to-work help and job placements) from the Agentur für Arbeit. Just ask for one there.

Important contacts regarding education and work are:

genres - Gesellschaft fürnachhaltige Regionalentwicklung und Strukturforschung e.V.

Helmut-Just-Straße 4 17036 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 5707220 E-mail: info@genres-online.de www.genres-mv.de

Agentur für Arbeit Neubrandenburg

Ponyweg 37 - 43 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 7661010 E-mail:

Neubrandenburg@arbeitsagentur.de www.arbeitsagentur.de

TFA- Trainings- und Fortbildungsakademie GmbH

Nonnenhofer Straße 24/26 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 3588 219 E-mail: bstarck@tfa-akademie.de www.tfa-akademie.de

Hotline "Arbeiten und Leben in Deutschland"

(auf deutscher und englischer Sprache) Montag bis Freitag von 9 Uhr bis 18 Uhr Telephone: 030 / 1815 1111



Higher education

Different rules apply to education if you wish to attend **higher education** at a university of college. You can study **regardless of your residency status**. If you are doing a Bachelor's or Master's for the first time, you can apply for financial support from the state. This money is called **BAföG**.

You must apply for further studies. Many universities and colleges use the online platform Uni-Assist. This is also where diplomas from your home country are reviewed and passed on to the university. However, this is not a free service. You also have to apply directly to some universities and colleges. Every programme has different requirements and deadlines for applying. Study programmes usually begin in September (college) or October (university). It's a good idea to get all the information one year before your programme starts. It often takes a lot of time to get diplomas translated, and sometimes you need to also complete a language course first.

In **Neubrandenburg**, we have the **Hochschule Neubrandenburg** college where you can attend **various different degree programmes**. At the Hochschule Neubrandenburg, you can **study in German or English**. To be **accepted to a programme** conducted in German, you will need a B1 Language certificate with a grade of "Good"/"Gut". To be accepted to a programme conducted in English, you will need a B2 Language certificate.

Perhaps you don't have your diplomas anymore? Then you can take the "**TestAs**" **test** through **Uni-Assist**. In this test, you will show that you are able to study at the college or university. This test is **free for refugees**. **For example**, you need to pass this test and an entrance exam to attend the Hochschule Neubrandenburg.

If you have any more questions about studying at the Hochschule Neubrandenburg, you can contact the **International Office** at the **Hochschule Neubrandenburg**. For any questions about **Uni-Assist**, you can contact the association:

Hochschule Neubrandenburg

International Office
Telephone: 0395 / 56931110
E-mail: mackedanz@hs-nb.de

Uni-Assist

Telephone: 030 / 201646001

For questions relating to
education, you can also contact
a migration or integration
advice centre in
Neubrandenburg (you will find
these in the chapter on Right

to Asylum).



In Germany, **children have rights** according to the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.** This means that all **children should grow up without violence**. What this means is that children should not be beaten or insulted. All children are allowed to go to school and their parents should help them with this. **This applies to girls and boys** and is also set out in the **German Constitution**, **the Grundgesetz**.

Daycare/Kita 🖒

Parents should share childcare responsibilities equally, meaning not just one person looks after the children. You can also get help with childcare: you can bring your children to a place where lots of children can play together for half a day (=a few hours each day). This is called daycare (or 'Kita' in German). You can do this as soon as you and your children have been placed in collective accommodation. It does not matter what residency status your children have. If you or your partner go to work, your children are entitled to all-day daycare (more than 7 hours a day). Daycare is free in the State of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. You can get a daycare registration form for your children from the Youth Office (or 'Jugendamt' in German). When registering, you can write down which daycare you want your children to go to. If there are free places at the daycare, you will be invited in. Sometimes, there are no free places. In this case, you will be put on the waiting list. Alternatively, you have the option of getting a nanny to look after your children.



School 년



Schooling is mandatory in Germany. This means that your children must go to school, regardless of whether they are a girl or a boy. Your children are required to attend school as soon as you and your family move into collective accommodation in Neubrandenburg. As a parent, you also have certain duties in this regard. This means that you must send your children to school regularly. And you must call the school if your children cannot go to school, e.g. because they are ill. Also, there are often meetings at school where you can talk to teachers or other parents. At a parents' evening, for example, you will get information from your children's teacher (or teachers) about how your child is performing in school. At PTA meetings, you and other parents plan events for your children.

There are special classes for children with a migrant background called DaZ Classes (German as a Second Language). In these classes, your children can spend lots of time practising German. This is good preparation for regular classes. The Grundschule Ost Neubrandenburg primary school, for example, offers these classes to children up to 10 years of age.

Your children's school certificates are verified by the Ministry of Education in Schwerin. You can find more information on this website:

https://www.bildung-mv.de/

If you have any more questions relating to the topic of children, you can contact a migration or integration advice centre in Neubrandenburg (you will find these in the chapter on Right to Asylum). Or you can contact the authorities or institutions mentioned above directly.



The **relevant contacts** are:

School Office Neubrandenburg

Neustrelitzer Straße 120 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 380783 00 E-mail: poststelle@schulamt-nb.bm.mv-

regierung.de

Youth Office Neubrandenburg

An der Hochstraße 1 17036 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 570873173

Grundschule Ost Neubrandenburg

Robert-Koch-Straße 52 17036 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 5551188 E-mail: draeger@gs-nb.de www.gs-nb.de

Ministry of Education in Schwerin

Telephone: 0385 / 5887217 E-mail: J.Olejko@bm.mv-regierung.de

In Germany, your child can receive so-called preventive health check-ups with a paediatrician regardless of whether they are a girl or a boy. At these check-ups, the doctor checks whether your child's development is appropriate for their age. Your child may also be given important vaccinations at these check-ups. One vaccination which your child must have in order to be able to go to daycare or school is the measles vaccine. There are a total of 10 preventive health check-ups. Preventive health check-ups are free for your child, no matter what residency status your child has. You can find local paediatricians for your child on the internet.

Healthcare



In Germany, your access to healthcare depends on your residency status.

Right to remain/temporary suspension of deportation (Duldung)

+ less than 18 months in Germany:
limited entitlement to healthcare, e.g. if you experience pain

Exceptions: pregnancy or emergencies (apply for additional benefits in advance with Social
Services/Sozialamt)
for each doctor's appointment: requires treatment youcher from Social

Services (valid for 3 months)

Right to remain/temporary
suspension of deportation
(Duldung) + more than 18
months in Germany:
OR residence permit:
unlimited entitlement
to healthcare
Chip card instead of treatment
voucher

If you feel unwell and want to visit a doctor, you can contact a GP (or 'Hausarzt' in German) first. You will need an appointment for this. You can get an appointment by telephoning the GP surgery. You can find GPs in Neubrandenburg on the internet. If you need a doctor because of an urgent medical issue and your GP's surgery is closed, you can call the out-of-hours healthcare service. You will then be seen by a doctor at your home or in a doctor's surgery. If you suffer a medical emergency, you can also call the emergency services at any time.

The telephone numbers are:

Out-of-hours healthcare service

Telephone: 116 117

Fire/Search and Rescue

Telephone: 112

If you have any more
questions relating to the topic
of healthcare, you can contact
a migration or integration
advice centre in
Neubrandenburg (you will find
these in the chapter on Right

to Asylum).

Mental health

As well as physical **illnesses**, you can also suffer health problems related to your mental health, or your **inner thoughts and feelings**. This might be triggered by unpleasant events or a lot of stress, for example. You can look for help if you notice that you constantly **feel sad, overwhelmed, anxious or tired**. You can contact a **mental health advice centre**. There, you can tell the **advisor** about all your worries, thought and feelings. The advisor will try to help you through this tough time. Everything you tell them will remain a secret

If you need **more intensive help** with your experiences, then you have the option of seeing a **therapist** or **psychotherapist**. You can tell this person all your worries, thought and feelings too, and they will discuss and look at your experiences in more depth. They do this using **therapy**.

If you are worried or concerned about something, you can also get counselling by phone (in German), or contact the Muslim counselling hotline (in Turkish, Arabic and Urdu) or the Doweria hotline (in Russian). These counselling services are only available by phone. This might make it easier for you to talk about your concerns and unpleasant events.

There is also the **Social Psychiatric Service** (in German) that offers advice over the phone or face-to-face. Neubrandenburg also has **Mental wellbeing advice for refugees** and **Family, marriage and life advice** teams which you can contact if you are experiencing a difficult living situation.

If you want to go to therapy, this depends on your residency status and how long you have been in Germany, the same as for other health services. If you have a right to remain or temporary suspension of deportation (Duldung) and have been in Germany for less than 18 months, Social Services will decide whether or not you can go to therapy. If you have been in Germany for longer than 18 months, you are entitled to unrestricted healthcare. This will make it easier to apply for therapy. The costs for this therapy are always paid for by Social Services.

The **relevant contacts** are:

Ehe-, Familien- und Lebensberatung (for family and marriage advice) Neubrandenburg

Morgenlandstraße 8 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 5443608 / E-mail: sekretariat@eflneubrandenburg.de

Muslim Counselling Hotline

Telephone: 030 / 443509821

Mental Wellbeing Service

All phone numbers available at www.lk-mecklenburgische-seenplatte.de under Angebote → Sozialpsychiatrischer Dienst

Hochschule Neubrandenburg: Mental wellbeing advice for refugees

Brodaer Straße 2, Raum 347 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 015111835056 E-mail: ortmann@hs-nb.de

Counselling by phone

Telephone: 0800 / 1110222

Doweria Hotline

Telephone: 030 /440308454



There is also a smartphone app called "ALMHAR – Mental health aid for refugees". This app offers information in Farsi, English and Arabic relating to mental health symptoms and provides tips on how to deal with these.

Pregnancy



If you are wondering whether you are pregnant, you can buy a **pregnancy test** at any **registered pharmacy** or **high-street pharmacy** in Germany. You can also go to a **gynaecologist**. The gynaecologist can also do a test with you and will help you if you are pregnant. You can find gynaecologists in Neubrandenburg on the internet. You can book an **appointment** by phoning the doctor's surgery.

If you are pregnant, then you don't need to worry about getting healthcare during your pregnancy, even if your residency is uncertain. This is because you cannot be deported from Germany for 6 weeks before and 8 weeks after giving birth. However, you will need a treatment voucher from Social Services in order to get healthcare. You can present this to the gynaecologist and the midwife who are looking after you so that you can get all the preventive health check-ups your child needs. A midwife is someone who helps and supports you throughout your pregnancy and birth, and afterwards as well. It is important that you go to all your health check-ups. These will look at how you and your baby are doing. All check-ups are entered into a so-called "Mutterpass" (or Mum's Passport). You will get this from your gynaecologist.

You can go to a **hospital** to **give birth** to your child. The **hospital** in Neubrandenburg is called "**Dietrich Bonhoeffer Klinikum**". **After you give birth**, it is important that you and your child go to see a **paediatrician** regularly.

In Germany, it is possible to have a termination or abortion if you are pregnant but do not want to have a baby. If you are claiming benefits, this service is also free. However, there are a few rules you need to follow in Germany in order to get an abortion performed by a doctor. An abortion is only possible:

- if the abortion is performed within the first twelve weeks of conception
- if you have visited a recognised counselling centre for counselling on pregnancies in conflict situations before the procedure (you will receive a paper = certificate of counselling here which you must show to your gynaecologist before the abortion)
- if the pregnancy counselling takes place three days before the abortion

In Germany, you may choose whether or not you want to have a child! If you need help with a decision or have questions relating to pregnancy, the best thing to do is to contact the pregnancy counselling centres in Neubrandenburg. In an emergency, you can also call the "Pregnant Women Emergency Hotline" or visit the Dietrich Bonhoeffer Klinikum hospital. The relevant contacts are:

AWO Stadtverband Neubrandenburg e.V.
Schwangerschafts- und
Schwangerschaftskonfliktberatung (for pregnancy counselling and counselling on pregnancies in conflict situations)

Friedrich-Engels-Ring 42 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 5443683

E-mail:

schwangerschaftsberatung@awo-nb.de

www.awo-nb.de

→ The association offers counselling on pregnancies in conflict situations

Dietrich Bonhoeffer Klinikum

Salvador-Allende-Straße 30 17036 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 7750

Caritas im Norden Schwangerschaftsberatung (for pregnancy counselling)

Heidmühlenstraße 17 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 58145 30

E-mail: beratung-nbdg@caritas-imnorden.de

www.caritas-mecklenburg.de/caritasvor-ort/region-neubrandenburg

→ The association does not offer counselling on pregnancies in conflict

Hilfetelefon Schwangere in Not

(pregnancy emergency hotline)

Telefon: 0800 / 4040020

Social Services Neubrandenburg

An der Hochstraße 1 7 17036 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 570875271



Discrimination



If you are treated worse than someone else because of your appearance, gender, religion, background or sexuality, then we call this discrimination. Discrimination is forbidden in Germany, no matter whether it's directed against women or men!

If you experience or **have experienced** discrimination, you can defend yourself against it or **look for help**. In Germany, we have a law on equality called the **Allgemeine Gleichstellungsgesetz (AGG)** which is intended to protect you against discrimination. In this context, it **does not matter what your residency status** is. The **AGG protects you in two areas**:

Everyday situations:

 Discrimination when househunting, at a club, when taking the bus or the train, or when you want to open a bank account

Example: You are not allowed to move into a flat or house because your German is not good.

Situations at work:

- Discrimination regarding the application process, paying you for your work, your working conditions, promotions or terminations

Example: You receive less money because you come from another country.

The State of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern does not yet have any single advice centre for victims of discrimination. However, the LOBBI advice centre can offer assistance to victims of right-wing violence. You can contact this centre if you have experienced specific xenophobic (right-wing) violence in the form of physical injuries, threats or targeted damage to your property. There is also the Regional Centre for Democratic Culture MSE (Regionalzentrum für demokratische Kultur MSE). This Centre can offer you help and advice in crisis situations with a presumably extreme right-wing background. You can also call the hotline run by the German National Anti-Discrimination Centre (Antidiskriminierungsstelle des Bundes). There, you can share your experiences or ask questions. The relevant contacts are:

LOBBI Ost

Tilly-Schanzen-Str. 2 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0160 / 8442189

E-mail: ost@lobbi-mv.de www.lobbi-mv.de Beratungstelefon der Antidiskriminierungsstelle des Bundes

Telephone: 0800 / 5465465

Mo- Do: 9-15 Uhr

Regionalzentrum für demokratische Kultur MSE

Friedrich-Engels-Ring 48 17033 Neubrandenburg elephone: 0395 / 5638877 E-mail: info@cjd-rz.de

E-mail: into@cjd-rz.de www.cjd-rz.de

Help for People Experiencing Violence



As a woman in Germany, you have the right to a life without violence because violence against women is forbidden in Germany! It is not permitted for anyone to touch you physically against your will or to force you into sex. Also, nobody is allowed to physically abuse you, beat you, insult you, degrade you or persecute you. It does not matter here whether you know this person or not. Even your partner is not allowed to do these things! It is also forbidden in Germany to marry or circumcise girls and women against their will. It is important to know that nobody can force you to do anything you don't want to.

If you experience violence in collective accommodation, you can contact an employee working in this accommodation at any time. Even the security staff. Collective accommodation in Neubrandenburg operates an anti-violence policy intended to protect you as a woman against violence. If you experience violence and can't talk to anyone about it or get any help, you can go to the "Maxi" advice centre for victims of sexualised violence in Neubrandenburg. You can also call the Violence against women helpline or visit the Women's Shelter (Frauenhaus) in Neubrandenburg. You can also take your children with you to the Women's Shelter. A women's shelter is a place for women and their children only, and is there to offer you protection. You can live there. The address of the shelter is secret. No-one can find you there and you are safe. You can use any of these options any time you experience violence, no matter where you live. The relevant contacts are:

Quo vadis e.V. Advice Centre for Victims of sexualised violence - Maxi

Helmut-Just-Straße 4 17036 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 570 6661 E-mail: bsmaxi@gmx.de

www.quovadis-neubrandenburg.de

Violence against Women Helpline

Tel: 08000 / 116016 Advice is available in 17 languages

Quo vadis e.V. Women's Shelter Neubrandenburg

Mobile: 0160 99269205

Overnight, on weekends and on public holidays, women are admitted by the police.

Telephone: 0395 7782640

Polizei: Telephone: 0395 55 82 5224 E-mail: fksh-nb@gmx.de www.quovadis-neubrandenburg.de In Neubrandenburg, you can take a **self-defence course - for women and girls only**. On this course, you will learn how to defend and protect yourself in case of attack. You can take this course at **EWTO Schule** or **Polizeisportverein 90 Neubrandenburg e.V.** You can enquire about prices there.

EWTO Schule

Max-Adrion-Straße 6a 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0172 / 3810499

E-mail:

info@ewto-schulen-ferdyn.de www.ewto-schulen-ferdyn.de

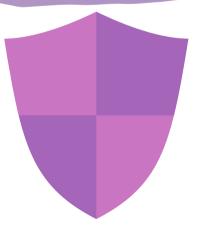
Polizeisportverein 90 Neubrandenburg e.V.

Telephone: 0179 / 9007633

E-mail:

kampfsport@psv90-neubrandenburg.de www.psv90-neubrandenburg.de





Housing



If you are **moving out of collective accommodation** and are looking for a place to live, there are **a number of different ways you can find housing**. In Germany, **women can view** and **rent a property just like men can**. In Neubrandenburg, we have the **Neuwoges** housing association and **Neuwoba** housing cooperative. Both companies offer properties for rent. You can look at **available properties online on the companies' websites**.

The best way to book a viewing is by phone. You can ask about costs when you view a property. In Germany, we have so-called "cold rent" (Kaltmiete) and "warm rent" (Warmmiete). "Cold rent" means the basic rent, i.e. not including utilities. Utilities means the costs for heating and water. "Warm rent" includes both the "cold rent" and utilities. This is the amount that will be taken from your bank account every month. It is important that you take a good look at the condition of a property during a viewing. If you notice issues like damage or mould in the property, you should address this directly. You should also ask about connections for the telephone, internet, TV, kitchen and washing machine.

You can take another person with you to a property viewing. Including as a translator. When you get the lease agreement for your property, you should read how long your lease is for (= term) and whether your rent will increase. Only sign a document that you understand! You can always have the contract explained to you in more detail. If you are receiving benefits, it's important that you only sign the lease agreement after the public authorities have given you permission. When the property is handed over to you, the landlord or landlady will often fill out a check-in inspection form. This form lists any issues that were already present in the property. This is where you can record broken doors or mould, for example. It is important to note down everything. Otherwise, you will have to pay for it later. A good checklist for moving in to a new property can be found on the Verbraucherzentrale website (available in German, English, Arabic, Russian and Farsi):

www.verbraucherzentrale.de



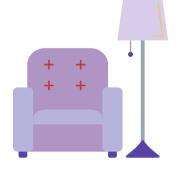
If you have any other questions about housing, you can contact a migration or integration advice centre (you will find these in the chapter on Right to Asylum) or alternatively Neuwoba and Neuwoges.

The **relevant contacts** are:

Neuwoba Neubrandenburger Wohungsbaugenossenschaft eG

Demminer Straße 69 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 45530

E-mail: neuwoba@neuwoba.de www.neuwoba.de





Stargarder Straße 7 a 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 450 1 450

E-mail: kundenzentrum@neuwoges.de www.neuwoges.de

There are also people who rent out their properties privately. You can find these people on platforms like Facebook in the "Wohnungsmarkt in Neubrandenburg und Umgebung" group or in the eBay classifieds under "Housing"/"Wohnungen".

Finances



As a woman in Germany, you can open a bank account by yourself and take sole control of your money! Having an account is important because in most cases any money you are entitled to can only be paid in to a bank account. For example, you might receive money into your account every month from Social Services, the Job Centre or your company. So it's important you have an account with a bank. You can choose the bank yourself. You can find all the different banks on the internet. If you would like an account, you will need an address and your ID document. You can give the address of a friend, an advice centre or any family you have living in Germany as your address. You can always take someone with you to your appointment at the bank if you need help translating into German. You should only sign something you understand here as well. If the bank rejects your application for an account, you can have this decision reviewed by the German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (or BaFin).

Telephones

As a woman in Germany, you have the right to have your own **phone/smartphone**. You can get **mobile phones on a contract** or **without one (pre-paid)**. If you go for a phone contract, you should read through the contract carefully. There are different contracts out there, some run for two years, others one year. Some contracts include international calls, others don't. If you don't want to take out a phone contract, you can buy a **pre-paid SIM card** for your phone. You can usually find these in the supermarket. You can put money on your card here to make calls or use the internet until the balance on your card runs out. Pre-paid cards are good because you only pay for what you use.



Ordering over the internet



If you are ordering something over the internet, you should only buy from **trustworthy** sellers or companies. You will notice that when you enter your contact details, the price is not too high or too low and the **total price** is also shown. It's a good idea to **check out reviews** of the shop.

If you have any more questions relating to the topic of finances, contracts and complaints, you can contact the **Verbraucherzentrale consumer advice centre** in Neubrandenburg:

Verbraucherzentrale Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Neubrandenburg

Kranichstraße 4a Telephone: 0381 / 2087050 www.verbraucherzentrale-mv.eu/ beratungsstellen/neubrandenburg

Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht (BaFin)

Telephone: 0228 / 299 70 299 www.hafin.de



There is **free WiFi** available in the **city centre in Neubrandenburg** (within the city walls). This WiFi is called **Lokalfuchs (meaning 'Local fox')**. You have to connect to the WiFi but no personal data will be collected when you do this.

Day Trips and Leisure Activities in Neubrandenburg



Day Trips

There are various **places** in Neubrandenburg that you can use for **day trips** or **taking a walk**, such as:



Leisure activities

Neubrandenburg also has **special leisure activities for women**, for **your family** or for **your children**. The **latest offers** and **contact details** are:

Women's Meet-up at Café International Tuesdaus. 10-12 Uhr

Neutorstraße 7 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 017610092206 E-mail: kontakt@cafe-international.org www.cafe-international.org/cafeinternational

Inter-Cultural Garden

Am Reitbahnsee 38 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 03955706453 oder 01749159899

E-mail: gbl@skbz-nb.de

Soziokulturelles Bildungszentrum Neubrandenburg e. V. (Arche N.) Sociocultural Education Centre

Reitbahnweg 38 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 7880759 E-mail: skbz-arche.e.v@t-online.de

www.skbz-nb.de

AWO Migrationszentrum Youth Migration Service in the City

Hr. Joel Ilchmann Telephone: 0395 / 56607924 Mobile: 0173 / 8450319 E-mail: joel.ilchmann@awo-nb.de

CARIbuni der Caritas

e.g. Music lessons, football,
parents' breakfast
Max-Adrion-Straße 45
17034 Neubrandenburg
Telephone: 0395 / 45550523
or 0178 / 3675 860
E-mail: caribuni@caritas-im-norden.de
www.caritas-mecklenburg.de/caribuni

DRK Kreisverband NB e. V. Meeting Place and Migration Centre

Weidegang 9 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 37951880 or 0174 / 167 0483 E-mail:

migration@neubrandenburg.drk.de www.neubrandenburg.drk.de/angebote/ migration/migrationsarbeit.html

CJD NORD Kuviwa - Kultur Video Waren

Inter-cultural media workshop Siegfried-Marcus-Str. 20 17192 Waren (Müritz) Telephone: 0151 / 20593937 www.kuviwa.de

AWO Stadtverband NB e. V. Family Centre

Friedrich-Engels-Ring 42 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 5665371 E-mail: familienbildungsstaette @awo-nb.de www.awo-nb.de

ASB Regionalverband NB/MST e. V. Residents' Meetings (East)

Einsteinstraße 21 17036 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 7615643 www.asb-nb-mst.de/asbangebote/bewohnertreff-asb.html

Neubrandenburg District Management Nordstadt – Ihlenfelder Vorstadt

Ravensburgstraße 23
17034 Neubrandenburg
Telephone: 0395/ 4309634
or 0170 / 4532537
E-mail: quartiersmanagement
@neubrandenburg.de
www.quartiersmanagementneubrandenburg.de

ASB Regionalverband NB/MST e. V. Residents' Meetings (South)

Neustrelitzer Str. 109 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 4550919 www.asb-nb-mst.de/asbangebote/bewohnertreff-asb.html

City Office, Datzeberg

Max-Adrion-Straße 5 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 4309699 or 0176 / 63184360 E-mail: stadtteilbuero@asb-nb-mst.de

City Office, East



Juri-Gagarin-Ring 2 17036 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 - 77 82 4688 oder 0152 / 2173 2136

E-mail: stadtteilbuero.oststadt@asbnb-mst.de

Nordstart NB Kiez Akademie

An der Hürde 1 a 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 3588216 E-mail: b.starck@nordstart-nb.de

City Office, South

Neustrelitzer Str. 109 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 35175391 or 0176 / 64002034

E-mail:

stadtteilbuero.sued@asb-nb-mst.de

The "dein nb" smartphone app shows you the latest leisure activities and cultural events happening in Neubrandenburg. Just go to Events under the nb Services menu (in German).

Clubs for children and young people:

Jugendverein der Briefmarkensammler Neubrandenburg e. V. (stamp collecting)

Johanna-Kinkel-Straße 1 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 7072557

www.NB-Phila.tk

Alternatives
Jugendzentrum e. V.
(alternative youth centre)

Seestraße 12 17033 Neubrandenburg E-mail: email@ajz-nb.de www.ajz-nb.de

ASB Regionalverband NB/MST e. V. Children and Young People Meet-Ups Konnex

Neustrelitzer Straße 107 17033 Neubrandenburg

Telephone: 0395 / 4555303

E-mail: hannes.below@asb-nb-mst.de www.asb-nb-mst.de/asb-angebote/konnex.html

Friends of the Earth Germany (BUND) Young Friends

Friedländer Straße 12
17033 Neubrandenburg
Telephone: 0395 / 56 66 512
E-Mail: info@bund-neubrandenburg.de
www.bund-neubrandenburg.de/
bundjugend
/aktivengruppe

polylux e. V.

Alfred-Haude-Straße 7 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 35176530 E-mail: post@polyluxev.de www.polyluxev.de

T.O.N.I. e. V. Neubrandenburg

Uns Hüsung 29 / 31 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 557 914 65 E-mail: toni-ev@gmx.de www.toniverein.de

Sozial- und Jugendzentrum Hinterste Mühle gGmbH (Social and Youth Centre)

Hinterste Mühle 2 17033 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 769590 E-mail: sjz@hinterste-muehle.de www.hinterste-muehle.de

Landjugendverband Mecklenburg-Vorpommern e.V. (Regional Youth Association)

Trockener Weg 1b 17034 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 451 3607 E-mail: laju-mv@gmx.de www.laju-mv.de

Jugendkunstschule Junge Künste NB e.V. (arts school)

An der Hochstraße 13 17036 Neubrandenburg Telephone: 0395 / 77824823 www.junge-kuenste.de



If you are receiving **benefits**, you can apply for the **education card** for your **child if they are aged 0 to 25 years old**. You can use the education card to **cover some or all of the costs of lunch** at **daycare** or at **school**, **school trips**, **excursions**, **school supplies**, **tutoring** and **leisure activities** for your child. For more information, visit the education card website (in German):

www.bildungs-karte.org

http://

or the Mecklenburgische Seenplatte Region website

(in various languages):

<u>www.lk-mecklenburgische-seenplatte.de/Angebote/Soziales-</u>
<u>Familie/Bildung-und-Teilhabe</u>





And so, this guide comes to an end

One more tip for you:

The information in this book may change. Laws can change, for example, as can leisure activities and advice services.

It is therefore important that if you have any questions, the first thing you do is contact an advice centre or public authority to check the information I've given you. Don't just follow the information in this book!

I wish you all the best

Yours, <u>lil</u>a











Hochschule Neubrandenburg University of Applied Sciences

Legal notice

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