

Activist-Guidebook for the SB62

This document contains important and useful information for your stay in Bonn. Please reach out if you have any questions or suggestions for improvement!

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Important Cultural Information

- Please read the **Code of Conduct** carefully — it already includes a lot of useful cultural tips.
- In Germany, it's not common for people to host strangers. The fact that they are opening their homes to help young activists attend the conference **is a big gesture** — please don't take it for granted!
- Hosts are offering their accommodation **for free**. Remember, it's not a hotel and the hosts are not there to clean up after you.
- Be respectful to your hosts and always **follow their house rules**. In Germany, rules and agreements are taken seriously and are usually non-negotiable. If you agree on a meeting time, make sure to be **punctual**.
- Always keep your space **clean and tidy**.
- Communication is key: If you are unsure about the house rules or if your travel plans change, be honest with your hosts and **communicate with them clearly**.
- By **valuing your host's hospitality**, you ensure a successful BedExchange, which will hopefully ensure that the host will offer their accommodation again in the next year.

Practical information regarding your host family

- **Save your host's contact information** so you can easily reach them if needed.
- Let your hosts know your exact arrival time **in advance**.
- **Always close and lock the door** when you leave the house.
- Respect **quiet** hours and be considerate **during the night**.
- **Don't invite anyone to the accommodation** unless you have your host's explicit permission.
- **Never give the keys** to anyone else.
- **If you decide not to stay** at your assigned accommodation and know someone who still needs a place, **please contact the BedExchange team**. They will try to reassign the spot.
- **Important: Do not send your friends directly to the accommodation, and do not share your host's contact details or address with anyone.**



Public Transportation

Short answer: we recommend the app eezy.nrw. It has everything you need and the tickets are cheapest there if you don't travel far from Bonn.

- Bonn has a **good public transport system**. It is **the best way to get around** and to the conference center. We recommend these apps to look for connections:
 1. [DB Navigator](#) for regional and (inter)national trains.
 2. [BONNmobil](#) for transport in Bonn (busses, trams).
- **Where to buy transport tickets:** You can buy most tram and bus tickets via the [SWB app](#), eezy.nrw or mobil.nrw. This applies to individual as well as day/week tickets.
- **Public transport tip:**
 1. **If within North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW)** — the region where Bonn is — we recommend using eezy.nrw. This app automatically **finds the cheapest ticket for every ride based on your location**, and you'll never pay more than 58€ per month, no matter how often you travel. Just make sure you have **a modern smartphone and GPS turned on** to use it properly.
 2. If longer distances **outside of NRW**, **"Deutschlandticket"**, which is a ticket **valid for all Germany**, might be the simplest option for you.
 - **58€ per calendar month**, valid for all regional transport in Germany (no high speed trains included!)
 - It's **digital only** (so **take a screenshot of the QR Code** if you need it)
 - It's tied to you as a person (**you need your ID to use it**).
 - It's a subscription so **you need to cancel** it on time or immediately (**10th of a month**).
 - You can buy the ticket via **the apps mentioned above**. Normally you have to **pay with IBAN**.
 - Payment via **Paypal**:
 - Download App "[VRR Bus&Bahn](#)"
 - Create an account within the app
 - Connect Paypal as a method of payment
 - Choose **"Deutschlandticket"**

You yourself are responsible for buying your tickets. This is not your host's responsibility!


SIM Cards / Internet

There are two methods to get a **SIM card**:

1. Cards you have to activate with personal data:

- SIM cards can be bought at the check-out of most **supermarkets** like **Lidl** or **Aldi**
- **O2** is also a good option.
- You will need to **activate the SIM Card** by verifying it with your ID.
- More information on how this works will be provided soon.

2. Cards from a convenience store that just work:

- Go to a store that sells **Lyca-mobile cards**, for example this one: <https://www.openstreetmap.org/node/3745941726#map=19/50.738102/7.101291>
- You can often see the logo from outside: 
- These **prepaid cards** are often empty but you can buy a **10€ code** at **the shop with it**. When you charge it, the card gets activated. Wifi and phone number should work right away with **no further activation required**.



Visa

- As soon as you are matched with a host, **ask them about the proof of accommodation. It is your responsibility to remind the host to provide it.**
- Additionally, we can provide a Visa letter supported by the city governance of Bonn. **With this VISA letter, you can additionally proof that you are staying in Bonn with the BedExchange.** We will send you the VISA letter together with information about your host.
- If you have any further questions or need help. Don't hesitate to contact visa@bonnclimatecamp.org.
- If there are changes in your stay due to the visa, **communicate this with your host and us by logging into the sing-up form and tell us that you will not be coming.**

Other Information

- Make sure you have an **adapter for German (EU) power sockets.**
- Tap water is of a very high quality in Germany and perfectly safe to drink. You can refill your bottle at basically any sink. **No need to buy bottled water.**
- **For recycling purposes,** we have a deposit system on **most bottles and cans.** Don't throw bottles with the sign with a bottle and a can and underneath an arrow away. **You can return them at a machine in the supermarket and get the deposit back.**
- We also **sort our trash** so when in doubt about the different bins, **ask your host about it.**

First Contact with your Host (E-Mail Template)

Dear [name of your host],

The BedExchange Team has assigned you as my host for the SB60 conference in Bonn this June. I am happy to hear that you can provide me with accommodation and am looking forward to meeting you.

I will stay in Bonn from [date of arrival] to [date of departure] and would like to ask if you will be able to host me for the entirety of this period. At what date and time would it be possible for me to move into the accommodation? And please do let me know about the house rules or anything else I need to know before arriving.

Let me know if you have any questions. I am looking forward to staying with you.

Thank you very much for hosting me during the conference!

All the best,

