



19.11.2009

WORKING HOLIDAY STAY IN GERMANY

The Working Holiday Scheme is based on a bilateral agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and New Zealand, which entered into force on 1 December 2000. It aims to enable young citizens of New Zealand to gain an insight into the culture and daily life of the Federal Republic of Germany, allowing them to travel to Germany for a stay of up to 12 months. Since the Working Holiday Scheme is intended to promote greater mutual understanding, the applicant's primary aim should be to visit Germany. However, to help finance the stay, jobs can be taken up with different employers of the visa holder's choice as long as the holiday purpose of the stay is being upheld. There is no time limit for the employment as long as the maximum total stay of one year is respected.

Who can apply?

To be eligible for a working holiday visa under the German/New Zealand Working Holiday Scheme, you must:

- be aged between 18 and 30 (both inclusive) at the time of application
- be a citizen of New Zealand
- not be accompanied by any children on your visit
- be in good health

How to apply?

The visa is available from the German Embassy in Wellington. If your current residency is outside of New Zealand you can also apply with the local German Embassy or Consulate General.

The visa is also available from the local immigration office in Germany after your arrival there.

To apply for a visa you need the following documents:

- your **New Zealand passport**, which must be valid for at least three more months after the expiry date of the visa;
- **one application form** "Antrag auf Erteilung einer Aufenthaltserlaubnis" (Application for a residence permit) duly filled in and signed; one **biometric passport photo**
- **evidence of sufficient funds** to cover your living expenses in Germany during the first 3 months of your stay, i.e. a monthly minimum of € 250. Evidence of funds may be in form of copies of account statements or by providing a letter from a guarantor.
- **evidence of health insurance** valid in Germany to remain in force through your stay;
- valid travel documents and an aeroplane return ticket or evidence of sufficient funds to purchase such a ticket.
- **120.00 NZ\$** visa fee as cash or cheque
- **self-addressed courier envelope**

Other documents and/or a visit to the German Embassy may be necessary.

Is the visa valid in other countries?

The working holiday visa allows you to stay and work in Germany only.

Can I apply for another visa in Germany?

You may apply to extend your residence permit or alter its character (e.g. to study or work for a longer period) by filing the appropriate application with the competent Immigration Department in Germany. You will find the competent immigration office in the county or city council office responsible for your intended place of residence.

How or where to find a holiday job in Germany?

In all larger towns you can obtain information from the local employment office (Arbeitsamt). However, this office can only be of assistance if you want to spend at least several weeks working for the same employer. Otherwise you are advised to establish direct contact with potential employers. Between May and September the "Zentralstelle für Arbeitsvermittlung" (Central Employment Agency) can be contacted for seasonal job opportunities. This office will also be able to answer any further questions regarding employment during your working holiday stay.

Zentralstelle für Arbeitsvermittlung der Bundesagentur für Arbeit (ZAV)

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