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NAEW&C Force
Geilenkirchen, Germany



NEWCOMERS' GUIDE



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WELCOME TO NATO AIR BASE GEILENKIRCHEN,

home of the NATO Airborne Early Warning and Control Force Headquarters, the E-3A Component and the Mission Support Engineering Centre. As your E-3A Component Commander, I am excited to welcome you and your families to our team of professional military and civilian Airmen. You are joining a team that has been dedicated to the security of the NATO Alliance for over 37 years, and as part of that legacy, you will be helping ensure our success for years to come.

Since 1982, the NATO AWACS program has provided a high-readiness airborne capability to the Supreme Allied Command as part of the NATO Integrated Air and Missile Defense System and beyond, to include operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, the Balkans, and the United States. You should be justifiably proud that your nation has chosen you to be a part of NATO's leading edge force in demonstrating alliance air power!

Our mission of providing responsive Air Battle Management for NATO is one that I am very proud of. Your expertise and talents will be critical in executing this mission and making our organization the best in NATO. I ask that you come ready to do your J.O.B., challenge the status quo, and strive to be bold, innovative leaders that propel our team forward. We have to be the absolute best we can, because others are counting on us and we will not let them down. With this Newcomers' Guide, combined with that of NATO Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum, you'll find access regarding the many services offered in the local



areas, as well as helpful tips to make your move as easy as possible. Of course, your greatest resources in this exciting and challenging assignment are the multinational teammates and friends you will meet in your time here! Whether it's understanding NATO operations or getting recommendations for how to spend your free time here in the tri-border region, you will find a great resource in the wealth of knowledge and experience of the professionals here at Geilenkirchen.

On behalf of the NATO Airborne Early Warning and Control Force Commander, Major General Lebert and myself, I am excited that you and your families have chosen to join our Geilenkirchen family. To be part of a multinational organization that time and time again has answered the call, all the while enjoying the cultural benefits that such an assignment presents, will no doubt leave you with a wealth of lifetime memories!

Brigadier General Charles B. McDaniel
E-3A Component Commander



Welcome to the border triangle Netherlands, Germany and Belgium

Congratulations, you are going to stay in one of the most wonderful and international regions of Europe. To make your first steps here as easy as possible, we would like to assist you as we do this for more than 20 years. Hundreds of newly arrived personnel have appreciated the personalized attention we give to every resident in our owner managed hotel. That's because we love to host guests from all over the world!

At City Hotel and the adjacent apartment building you will find tailor-made accommodation for you, your family and your pets until you have found your private home. We offer various short-term fully furnished apartments with hotel service. Our house is located in the heart of Geilenkirchen, only 15 km from

JFC Brunssum and very close to the NATO Airbase in Teveren (Germany). In our cosy town you will find many different restaurants and shops in walking distance.

In our Bistro Café Fleur you will always meet someone to share experiences and to learn more about our region. Our friendly staff speaks English fluently and will be happy to help you with any questions you may have regarding your future life in our neighbourhood. Among the amenities we offer free WI-FI throughout the whole building helps you to stay in contact with your friends and family all over the world.

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WELCOME TO GEILENKIRCHEN,

a city of 29,000 inhabitants, only a stone's throw away from the Dutch border. Although Geilenkirchen is placed in the most western part of Germany, it is right in the middle: our city is situated in the heart of the transnational and economically dynamic area, called "Euregio Maas-Rhine"; in direct neighbourhood to the Netherlands, and in the middle of the cultural and scenically charming region between the rivers Maas and Rhine. We, the citizens of Geilenkirchen, feel cosmopolitan and at the same time very attached to our city. It is you, members of the NATO E3A-component and your families, who make Geilenkirchen an exceptionally international place, and we are proud about it. We are pleased to welcome you in Geilenkirchen, and I would like to explain what exactly makes our city so attractive and likeable.

Surrounded mainly by rural countryside, the town has a population of over 29,000. Geilenkirchen owes its traditional key position in the daily life of the surrounding region to its convenient location and easy access. The town centre is surrounded by dozens of well-maintained villages that pride themselves on their cleanliness and are home to a particularly easy-going lifestyle. Geilenkirchen offers its inhabitants a high standard of living and above average leisure time activities. Apart from its excellent shopping facilities, Geilenkirchen has the full range of educational institutions and a whole range of social and care institutions – a modern hospital, old people's homes and nursery schools. Making good use of one's leisure time is hardly a problem here, with sport centres and gymnasiums, both indoor and outdoor tennis facilities, indoor riding, gliding and model aeroplane aerodromes and numerous recreational and sports grounds round off the options. If you are interested in sports together with people from Geilenkirchen and find new friends, you might like to join one of the many sport clubs and fitness centres.

Those in search of peace and quiet will find the town in the valley of the River Wurm – nestled between hidden castles and stately homes, old water-powered mills and impressive farm houses – the ideal choice. A particular attraction



is the nearby Teverener Heath, a unique natural reserve which surrounds the air base.

As we are proud to be more international than you might expect from a small town, many of our shop owners, doctors, and other service providers – the public officers in my town hall included – speak English quite well, so that communication with the people in Geilenkirchen will not be a problem. One of our trump cards is the fact that you find a remarkable concentration of specialized doctors, a very good hospital and other facilities of the health economy.

As you see, retailers, landlords, estate agents, doctors, school-directors, and the people at the town hall are prepared to welcome you with a smile and offer their services. But, actually, it is your neighbours and all the inhabitants of Geilenkirchen who welcome you, warmhearted, open-minded, and – you wouldn't expect it, but it's typical for the region – humorous.

I invite you to discover more about Geilenkirchen in English on www.geilenkirchen.de.

Have a good time in Geilenkirchen!

Best regards

Georg Schmitz

Mayor

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COLOPHON

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NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen

Chapter
1



LOCATION

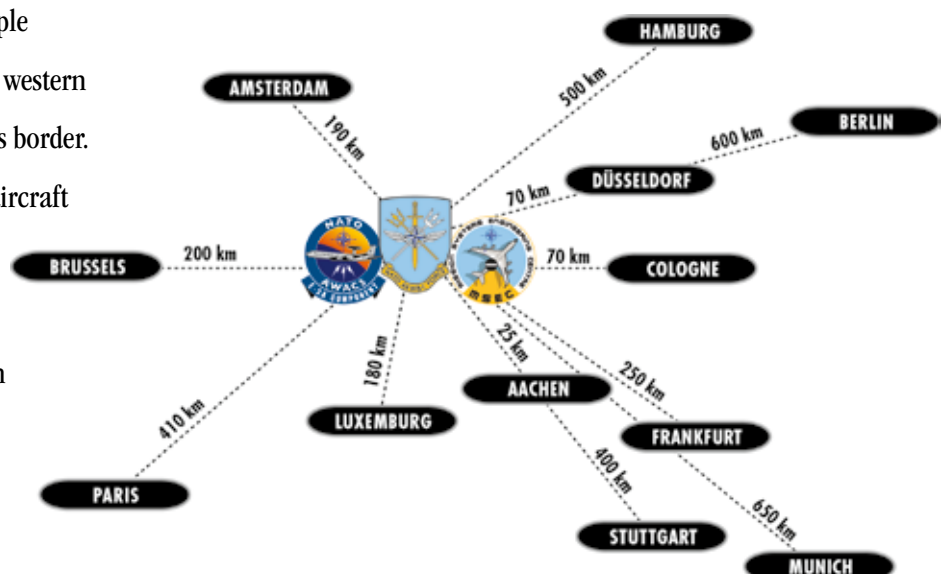


NATO Air Base (NAB) Geilenkirchen is situated four kilometres west of the city of Geilenkirchen, which has a population of about 29,000 people (current as of Dec 2015). This is in the most western part of Germany, adjacent to the Netherlands border. NAB Geilenkirchen is home to NATO's E-3A aircraft and is often referred to as "GK".

Geilenkirchen is only 25 km north of Aachen and 70 km west of Köln, or as it is known in English and French, Cologne. The town of Brunssum, the Netherlands, lies 8 km west

of the base and is the location of Joint Force Command, Brunssum.

NAB Geilenkirchen is located only a 10-minute drive from the Dutch border, a 30-minute drive from Belgium and another two hours from the French border. Some of the major western European cities are within a couple of hours drive: Brussels, 200 km; Luxembourg, 180 km; Paris, 410 km; Amsterdam, 190 km. Also the world-famous wine-growing Rhein and Mosel Valleys are only a two-hour drive from Geilenkirchen.





Main Gate of RAF Geilenkirchen, the building on the right is now Pass and Registration Office.

HISTORY

The air base, which is surrounded by farmland and a natural woodland reserve, was constructed after World War II by the British armed forces. Known to the local population as “Flugplatz Teveren”, it was used by the British Royal Air Force (RAF) from May 1953 onwards as a base for various fighter squadrons.

Fighter planes at RAF Flugplatz Teveren undergoing maintenance in what is now Hangar 2.



RAF flying operations in Geilenkirchen ended in January 1968. The air base was handed over to the German Air Force in March 1968, and in August of that year it became the home of a German missile unit (Flugkörpergeschwader 2) equipped with surface-to-surface missiles of the Pershing type and supported by the US Army 85th Field Artillery Detachment.

Following the decision to use the airfield as the main operating base of the E-3A Component, a large-scale programme of construction work was started in 1980 in order to convert the existing operational and support facilities into suitable accommodation for the E-3A unit. Since then, most of the buildings on base have been renovated to meet present-day standards, and various new buildings have been added.

The most important project at the 620-hectare base was the upgrading of the runway to a length of 3048 metres

and a width of 45 metres, together with the construction of new aprons and taxiways and the expansion of the air traffic control tower. An IT building to include the flight simulator and the mission simulator was also constructed. Large-scale renovation and expansion of the four existing hangars and accommodation blocks gave the air base a completely different appearance.

At the start of January 1980 the first E-3A Component personnel arrived at the base to launch the organizational build-up. At the end of 1981 the German missile unit left the base and was relocated in Niederheid, north of Geilenkirchen. Until its deactivation in July 1991, the US Army 85th Field Artillery Detachment remained at the NATO air base.



The flight simulator gets installed.

On 31 March 1982, Germany handed the airfield over to NATO for use as the main operating base of the E-3A Component.

The Federal Republic of Germany formally handed over Geilenkirchen Air Base to NATO on 31 March 1982.



AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

In the early 1970s, various NATO studies indicated that an airborne early warning (AEW) system would greatly enhance the Alliance's existing airspace defence system. In December 1978 the members of NATO's defence Planning Committee (DPC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the procurement and operational use of an AEW system. This decision by the member nations launched NATO's largest procurement programme of that time. The NATO Airborne Early Warning & Control Force (NAEW&CF) was established in January 1980. The Headquarters of the NAEW&CF was situated in Mons, Belgium. In November 2015, the NAEW&CF moved to NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany, as a result of a major reorganization programme.

ORGANISATION

NAEW&C Force

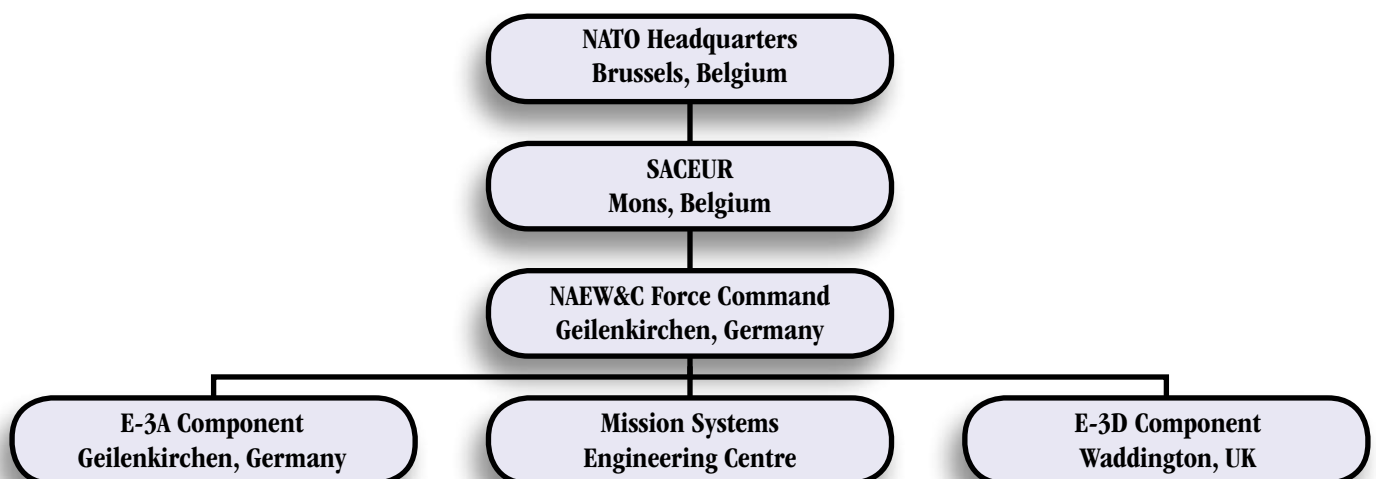
The NAEW&C Force has two units with operational capability: The NATO E-3A Component in Geilenkirchen, Germany, with 14 E-3A aircraft, and the E-3D Component of the Royal Air Force (RAF) in Waddington, UK, with six E-3D aircraft crewed solely by RAF personnel.

At the end of 1988 the E-3A Component was declared fully operational. The E-3D Component achieved fully operational status on 1 July 1992.

Mission Systems Engineering Centre (MSEC)

Next to these two operational units, the Mission Systems Engineering Centre (MSEC) constitutes a separate entity which is also located at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen. The Mission Systems Engineering Centre (MSEC) provides engineering services for the E-3A aircraft on-board mission systems, the mission sensor systems and E-3A ground support systems. Moreover, the MSEC maintains one of a kind engineering and laboratory facilities on base. The organization is thus fully dedicated to the development of E-3A mission systems.

The NAEW&C Force is commanded on a rotational basis by either a US Air Force or a German Air Force major general. The deputy commander is an RAF Air Commodore. Force Command reports directly to the Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR).





Overview of the construction site showing Hangar 2, the Air Traffic Control, Tower and the Crash and Fire Department

17 NATO member nations participate in the NAEW&C Force programme: Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. Fifteen of these nations provide military personnel

to the E-3A Component (the UK flies its own E-3D aircraft, and Luxembourg does not provide military personnel).

E-3A Component

The build-up of Main Operating Base (MOB) Geilenkirchen and the E-3A Component began in January 1980.

In October 1980 the Component was granted the status of an international military headquarters by decision of the NATO Defence Planning Committee (DPC). Flying operations began in February 1982 after delivery of the first E-3A-aircraft. The Component was officially activated on 28 June 1982 and achieved full operational capability at the end of 1988.



The Air Traffic Control Tower still under construction.

The E-3A Component is one of the two operational units of the NAEW&C Force. It holds a unique place in military history because it was the first multinational flying unit established by the Alliance. Its mission is to perform all surveillance and battle management tasks ordered by the NAEW&C Force Commander on behalf of the SACEUR.

The post of E-3A Component Commander in the rank of brigadier general is held alternately by the US Air Force and the German Air Force. The deputy commander is always a colonel of the Netherlands Air Force.

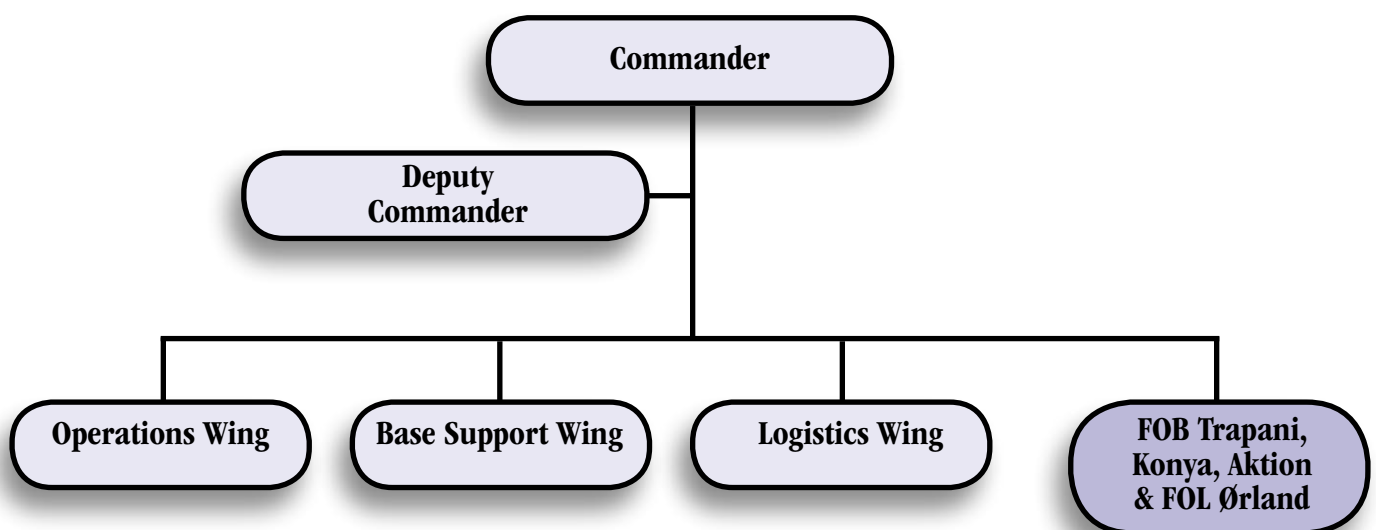
The structure of the E-3A Component comprises three wings: Operations, Logistics and Base Support. The Operations Wing is commanded by an Italian colonel; the Logistics Wing, by an American colonel; the Base Support Wing by a German colonel.

Around 22 multinational crews from 15 of the 28 NATO member nations are assigned to the E-3A Component's two operational squadrons. The E-3A Component has a multinational workforce of around 1,400 military and civilian personnel.

There are three Forward Operating Bases (FOB) and one Forward Operating Location (FOL). The FOBs and FOL are each located at a national air base. Around 15 NATO personnel from the respective host nations work for the Component at the FOBs/FOL.

The E-3A Component has 15 E-3A aircraft. These modified Boeing 707s are easily identifiable from the distinctive radar dome mounted on the fuselage. The E-3A usually operates at an altitude of around 10 km. From this altitude a single E-3A can constantly monitor the airspace within a radius of more than 400 km and can exchange information – via digital data links – with ground-based, sea-based and airborne commanders. By using pulse Doppler radar, an E-3A flying within NATO airspace can distinguish between targets and ground reflections and is therefore able to give early warning of low- or high-flying aircraft operating over the territory of a potential aggressor.

From 1985 until 2011 the E-3A Component also operated three Trainer Cargo Aircraft (TCAs), a modified version of the Boeing 707-320C, for transporting cargo and passengers. The last TCA was taken out of service at the Component in December 2011. From the start of 2012, a commercial company took over the cargo and passenger transport tasks formerly accomplished by the TCAs.



KEY HISTORICAL DATES REGARDING FLYING OPERATIONS AT GEILENKIRCHEN

- 1932 - 1937 Germany's Lufthansa landings
- 1951 British Royal Air Force begins construction of RAF Station Geilenkirchen
- May 1953 Base is officially opened. Belgian fighter aircraft are first to use the base
- Jan 1968 Royal Air Force Station Geilenkirchen closes with the ending of flying operations
- Mar 1968 The Air Base is turned over to the German Air Force
- Aug 1968 German Missile Wing Number 2 arrives as the new base occupant
- 1978 NATO decides to buy and operate AWACS aircraft
- 1980 Construction programme begins to prepare for the AWACS
- NATO Airborne Early Warning Force is established
- 1981 German Missile Wing 2 moves to Niederheid Selfkant Kaserne
- Feb 1982 The first E-3A arrives at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen
- May 1985 The last of 18 E-3A aircraft arrives on base
- 1988 The first Trainer Cargo Aircraft (TCA) is delivered to the Component
- Dec 1989 The final TCA is received
- Dec 2011 End of TCA era
- Jan 2012 Commercial cargo transport services start
- June 2015 First NATO E-3A AWACS aircraft retires in Tucson, Arizona, USA
- Nov 2015 NAEW & C Force Headquarters moves from Mons, Belgium to NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen
- Dec 2017 Second NATO E-3A AWACS aircraft retires in Tucson, Arizona, USA



NATO AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING AND CONTROL FORCE CREST

The crest was designed and originated by the NAEW Force Command staff and also authorized by the three Major NATO Commanders in 1980.

The distinctive NATO Airborne Early Warning Force Command insignia is composed of a NATO star on a silver Air Force wing, a golden sword and a golden and silver trident, all on a blue background.

The NATO star symbolizes the multinational personnel in the NATO AEW Force Command. The Air Force wing depicts the Airborne Surveillance and Command and Control duties of the Force.

The golden sword and the golden and silver tridents represent the (at that time) three major NATO Commanders: Supreme Allied Command Europe, Commander-in-Chief Channel and Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic.

The blue background symbolizes the sky, the operational element in which the NAEW&C Force serves.



WEATHER

Geilenkirchen has a cool, maritime climate, influenced by moisture-laden winds from the Atlantic Ocean, sweeping across the lowlands of Belgium and the Netherlands.

Partly cloudy to cloudy skies are common, especially between October and March. During this period, frequent storms, originating in the North Atlantic Ocean, bring gusty westerly winds and periods of wet weather. Particularly during fall and winter, there is the possibility of heavy fog and even black ice on the road.

During mid-winter, around January and February, north-easterly winds may prevail bringing temperatures below 0 degrees Celsius from Siberia to Western Europe and Geilenkirchen. Except for winter storms, winds are generally around 10 knots from the southwest to west. Most thunderstorms occur during the summer, averaging five to seven days per month. The greatest amount of annual

precipitation is also received during this time.

Precipitation occurs on an average of six to eight days a month throughout the year, with annual totals averaging 769 mm (30.3 in). Most of the precipitation is rain, with snow occurring less than 20 days per year. Despite its northerly location, Geilenkirchen has a relatively mild climate.

ACCESS TO NATO AIR BASE GEILENKIRCHEN

NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen maintains a 100% ID check at all times. All military and civilian Component members and their family members are issued NAEW&C Force ID cards or entry passes (depending on their status). Holders of a NATO member-nation military ID card can enter the base without a pass from the Visitor Pass Office. However, a temporary parking permit is required. The parking permit has to be displayed visibly in the vehicle while on base. Access can be denied if an individual does not have an ID card.

Domestic animals (dogs, cats, etc.) are only allowed on the Component for brief periods of time, provided they are on a leash and under the immediate control of the owner.

SECURITY ON BASE

The Security Squadron provides 24/7 base entry, flight line, restricted area and base perimeter security control accomplished by a Civil Guard force.

The members of the Component's International Military Police perform law enforcement, investigations and Customs duties.

Physical, Industrial and IT Security specialists oversee all pass control and ID matters as well as security

clearances. They also train and educate Divisional Security Officers (DSO's) and perform Physical Security inspections of all civilian areas.

The Force Protection Training Section trains all deployable Force members, whether military or civilian, in the procedures and skills required to survive and continue to operate in a peacetime to war environment. This involves Individual Deployment Training (IDT) and Individual Common Core Skills (ICCS) training.

DRIVING ON BASE

German traffic rules apply on NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen. The speed limit on base is 35 km/h unless otherwise posted. The traffic rules are the same as those throughout Germany, including yielding to the right at unmarked intersections.

Stickers, tags, plates, or other objects of a political nature in any language are prohibited on NATO Air Base GK. Washing of privately owned vehicles on the premises of the NATO Air Base is not allowed. You are encouraged to use the car wash facilities available in the neighbouring communities. Vehicles must be parked in designated parking areas; parking on grass areas is strictly prohibited. Stopping on the roadway is prohibited, except for loading and unloading passengers or cargo. This must be

accomplished without any delay (3 minutes maximum).

The International Military Police runs a point system for traffic violations on base. Drivers who accumulate a certain number of points within a prescribed period of time will lose their base driving privileges for 14 days to 12 months. There is also a parking violation system. If drivers accumulate 3 parking violations or more within a year, base driving privileges may be withdrawn for one to three months.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

The Medical Squadron provides a crash crew medical response capability during MOB airfield hours of operation. It also provides emergency medical and dental care for all on-base personnel, conducts flight physical examinations and performs immunizations required for Component personnel. The Occupational Health Officer conducts physical examinations of the Component's military and civilian personnel, as required by Host Nation laws and regulations relating to occupational health, industrial safety and environmental protection. The Branch also runs a first aid training programme in English and German for all Component members.

The U.S. Clinic provides routine outpatient medical and dental care for US military members and their families and routine outpatient medical care for military members and families of all other participating nations, except Germany.

The German Medical Branch gives medical service to German soldiers in accordance with national German regulations. It is collocated with the NATO Clinic.



WORK AND PERSONNEL

The working language at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen is English, although many languages may be heard. Working/office hours are based on a five-day week from 0800 to 1700 hours, including a 30-minute lunch break, Monday through Thursday, and 0800-1430 hours on Fridays. During working hours, personnel are authorized to use up to two hours per working week to keep up their physical fitness.

Some offices or stations operate beyond these regular hours, or even work in shifts around the clock. The possibility exists to use the flexitime system for all military, NATO civilian and Local Wage Rates/Non-Appropriated Fund (LWR/ NAF) personnel.

The base employs a non-smoking policy and smoking is only permitted inside designated areas.

There are additional duties and privileges, such as tax-free purchases, covered under the "Agreement between the Parties of the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the status of their Forces" signed in 1951. These privileges are also covered under the "Protocol on the Status of International Military Headquarters, set up pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty" from 1952 and the "Supplementing Agreements" of March 1967 and the latest supplement of March 1993. covered under the "Protocol on the Status of International Military Headquarters, set up pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty" from 1952 and the "Supplementing Agreements" of March 1967 and the latest supplement of March 1993.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Public Affairs Office primary mission is to support communication, on and off base. As NATO's only integrated multi-national flying unit, the E-3A Component often generates media interest. Especially when the NATO E-3A supports operations and exercises, the media attention increases. The Force's Component is routinely featured in print and broadcast media worldwide.

PAO maintains the public website, Facebook, Twitter and provides internal and external media coverage. The monthly base newspaper "NATO Skywatch" is designed to provide a broad look at events and activities on base, ranging from operational to family and social events. To support the external audience, the Community Relations program seeks to develop strengthened ties between our neighbours and the base. The office offers a variety of products to support public education.

If you are approached by media on Force's activities, please inform PAO. The PA Office is located in Building 212, can be contacted at 1080, 1081 or 1082.

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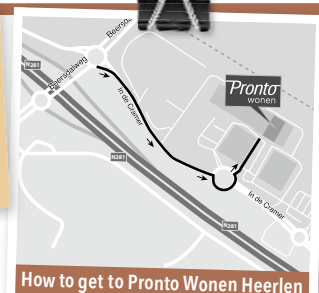
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Once Arrived

Chapter
2

IDENTIFICATION

Passport and national identity papers, which are required, must usually be acquired before leaving one's home nation. It is recommended that all newcomers and their families have a tourist passport if they intend to travel outside of Germany during the tour. All newcomers, however, need a valid passport or national identity card; this is obligatory for members of the Force as well as their family members.

Military family members also need to have a "Status Certificate" in their passports, indicating their NATO status. indicating their NATO-status in their passports. Transportation arrangements for household and personal effects should be made before leaving home country.

Some of the Force's participation nations have sponsorship programmes in which the National Support Unit nominates a sponsor to assist their military personnel during the settling-in period. It is extremely valuable to contact that person before arrival for information and help. For NATO-

civilian personnel, sponsorship will be arranged by the Civilian Personnel and Manpower Branch (CPO). The CPO informs the unit or organisation concerned as soon as the exact date of arrival is known. The unit then nominates a sponsor and informs Personnel Division accordingly.

All newcomers are encouraged to contact their respective National Support Units or sponsor before departing from their present post to make any necessary arrangements (e.g., transportation requirements, who to contact when arriving after duty hours or on a holiday, accommodation requirements, etc.).

Personnel assigned to the Force and their family members are subject to the "Agreement between the Parties of the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the status of their forces", dated 19 June 1951 and other international agreements. The status of the various nationalities may be different. The National Support Units and the Force's legal advisor can provide information and guidance.

IN-PROCESSING

When arriving at the Component, there are certain procedures to follow.

- All military personnel will first report to their national authorities for national in-processing and the first steps of international in-processing.
- NATO Civilians and Local Wage Rate personnel are required to report to the Civilian Personnel Office, building 222.
- Contractor personnel will report to their respective contractor agencies or representatives on base.

It is beyond the scope of this guide to cover questions of a strictly national nature, but there are issues of national scope that need to be achieved before arriving at the base (e.g. security clearances.)

MAIL - OFFICIAL AND PERSONAL

One of the first things anyone stationed at the NAB should know is how to get mail. Because there are several different national military systems in use, this may become confusing. Below is a general guideline which can be used.

If in doubt, do not hesitate to contact the Central Registry at base extension 4524 or via commercial telephone number +49 (9)2451 63 4524.

The NAEW &C Force mailing address for official use only is:

HQ NAEW&C Force GK / (insert office symbol)

Postbox 4xxxx

D-52511 Geilenkirchen, Germany



At NATO Air Base no personal mail will be delivered to offices. National support units may provide additional information on how to get personal mail. Office symbols and Post Box numbers of the various National Support Units are listed below.

Unit	Office symbol	Postbox
Belgian National Support Unit	NSBEL	633001
Czech National Support Unit	NSCZE	633002
Danish National Support Unit	NSDAN	641001
German National Support Unit	NSDEU	722600
Greek National Support Unit	NSGRC	633003
Hungarian National Support Unit	NSHUN	633010
Italian National Support Unit	NSITA	626000
Netherlands National Support Unit	NSNLD	633004
Norwegian National Support Unit	NSNOR	633005
Portuguese National Support Unit	NSPOR	633006
Polish National Support Unit	NSPOL	633009
Romanian National Support Unit	NSROM	633011
Spanish National Support Unit	NSESP	633008
Turkish National Support Unit	NSTUR	633007
US National Support Unit	NSUSA	624000
Civilian Personnel Office	HFHC	411001

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

There are both military and commercial telephone lines available at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen. The commercial number for the switchboard is 63-0, and base extensions are 63-followed by the on-base extension.

The area code for Geilenkirchen is 02451. From outside Germany, dial the country code for Germany (+49) and drop the initial "0" from the area code. For example, a call to the German NSU from outside Germany would be: +49-2451-63-2132.

NATIONAL SUPPORT UNITS	ext.
Belgian National Support Unit	2471
Danish National Support Unit	2124
German National Support Unit	2130
Greek National Support Unit	2164
Hungarian National Support Unit	2177
Italian National Support Unit	2170
Netherlands National Support Unit	2180
Norwegian National Support Unit	2186
Polish National Support Unit	2178
Portuguese National Support Unit	2194
Romanian National Support Unit	2069
Spanish National Support Unit	2190
Turkish National Support Unit	2196
United States National Support Unit	2210

ON BASE FACILITIES ext.

Chaplain	2229
Human Resources Office	2324 / 2327
Command Post	5555
International Housing Referral Office	4961
IMP Desk Sergeant (Routine)	4819
Legal Advisor (NATO)	2470
Military Personnel Office	2300
E-3A Club	4990
Public Affairs Office	2486 / 2454
Rotodome Dining Hall	4935

EMERGENCY NUMBERS ext.**On Base:**

Fire Brigade	3333
Medical Emergency	4444
Police	2222

Off Base (Civilian services):

Police	110
Fire / Medical/Police	112

LEAVE/VACATION

One of the major concerns of people moving to a foreign country is the opportunity to take leave and holidays to tour their new area. Although it is a NATO organisation, leave policy for the Force follows individual national entitlements. In the relevant Orders the policies regarding leave/vacation are spelled out.

**HOLIDAYS**

The Force observes German national and legal holidays since it is located in Germany; this applies to all Force members. Holidays for each of the forward operating sites follow the holiday schedule of the nation in which they are located. A master listing is published for each year, stating the holidays in each of the countries.



GERMAN HOLIDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

New Year's Day

January 1st, celebrates the beginning of the new year.

“Heilige Drei Könige”

This celebrates the feast of the three kings or Epiphany on January 6. This feast commemorates the arrival of the three kings in Bethlehem. In rural areas in Germany with a large number of Catholics, children, made up as the three kings go from house to house, carrying the star-shaped lantern on a stick; they are known as “star singers”. They sing their traditional song and usually receive donations for various charities. They may mark the letters B-C-M in chalk near your door for the names of the three kings.

Carnival and “Fasching”

“The Crazy Time” officially opens 11 minutes after 1100 on the 11th day of the 11th month of the proceeding year, but it reaches a fever pitch in the week leading up to lent. This is truly one of Germany’s and Holland’s most celebrated times of the year, dating back to pre-Christian times. There

is a theme of costume balls, parades, lots of drinking, singing, and simply “letting loose” of the German and Dutch people.

Good Friday, Easter and Easter Monday

Europe celebrates the Christian holidays of Good Friday, Easter and Easter Monday to commemorate the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

May Poles

In Germany, on the eve of the first of May, admiring unwed gentlemen place a birch tree decorated with colourful ribbons on the roof of their girlfriend’s homes. Some roof tops may have multiple trees because more than one young lady lives in the house – or perhaps there is more than one admirer. The trees come in all sizes and shapes and are always affixed to the roof after dark so the girlfriend is “surprised” in the morning.

Labour Day.

In Europe, May Day, May 1, celebrates a workers’ day.

Ascension Day

This day is celebrated 40 days after Easter as the day Christ ascended into heaven.

Whit Sunday and Monday

Also known as Pentecost, this festival commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles.

Corpus Christi

This “Body of Christ” festival of the Catholic Church honours the presence of Christ in the sacrament of the Eucharist. Outdoor processions are usually held on this day, blessing the fields for a bountiful harvest.

Oktoberfest

Originally, this celebration was for the end of the harvest. Many towns, including Geilenkirchen, have Oktoberfest celebrations complete with beer, German folk bands, bratwurst, and fun.

German Unity Day

On October 3, Germans celebrate the re-unification of East and West Germany in 1990.

All Saint's Day

November 1 is All Saint's Day, the feast of all known and unknown saints. The lovely evergreen arrangements sold in the fall and early winter are placed on the graves.

St. Martin's Day

November 11 is the feast day of St. Martin. In Germany, you'll see children carrying bright paper lanterns through the streets as they sing songs about the sun, moon and stars and some towns have big lantern parades. Children then receive candy or goodies after the parade.

St. Nicholas Day

In The Netherlands, “Sinterklaasavond” and in Germany, “Nikolaus Tag” is celebrated on 5 December and December 6 respectively. This day commemorated Bishop Nicholas of Myra who lived in the Fourth century. According to legend, he gave enormous endowments to three daughters of impoverished noblemen. Children leave their shoes out of the night of December 5, hoping to receive gifts and sweets in them. In some villages, St. Nicholas comes to the home of children to bring small gifts or sweets.

Christmas Markets

In the weeks before Christmas, Christmas Markets are held in many German and Dutch towns and cities. A wide variety of hand-crafted and factory-made products are available at these markets. The Christmas Markets in Nürnberg, Aachen, and Köln are particularly well known. “Glühwein”, a hot, spiced wine, is a popular drink during this time of year.

Christmas

Christmas is a time for family. Family members usually put up their Christmas tree on Christmas Eve and then the “Christ Child” brings gifts.

Boxing Day

December 26 is the day, traditionally, that gentry would give presents to servants and tradespeople. This day is also the Feast of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr.

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Housing

FINDING A HOME

Since there is no on base housing at Geilenkirchen, MOB members and families live in surrounding communities. There are several factors to consider in making a housing decision. Houses may be up to 25 kilometres from the base (up to 15 miles). A sum equivalent to one or two month's rent as deposit may be required when signing the contract. This money is refunded after subtraction of the cost of any necessary repairs.

Do not expect to get large individual houses with a large garden around it. Most of the newly-constructed houses are row/town houses (attached houses) with a living space of approximately 100 square meters (often spread over two stories) but normally with a full basement.

Caution: When using a real estate broker to rent a house, the fee is normally up to two times of the monthly rent. This is negotiable, but only before the agent finds a house.

German houses and apartments normally do not have closets, light fixtures or kitchen facilities; sometimes they do not even have a kitchen sink. Generally, they are rented “completely empty”. Furthermore, an accommodation may only be used in accordance with its designed purpose; a warehouse cannot be used as living quarters.

When moving out, the living quarters must be left in the same condition as at the beginning. For example, if the interior was completely repainted before arrival, painting must be done before leaving, usually at your own expense. Unless your contract states differently, or a special agreement exists, the normal term of notice of termination in Germany is three months.

RENT

Normally rent is divided into two parts: “Kaltmiete” or “Warmmiete”, simply meaning “Cold” or “Warm” rent. These expressions pertain to the two parts: “Kalt” means just the basic rent for a house or apartment. “Warm” means the amount of money really paid which includes the basic rent and other charges for utilities. These charges may include cold and warm water supply, heat, waste disposal, used water disposal, street cleaning charges, etc. These are paid for by monthly instalments and are summed-up once a year.

The landlord is required by law to prove by a specified bill the exact amount of charges incurred and how they are divided between all the users.

UTILITIES

Electricity is 220 volt/50 cycles in Germany, using fittings of a common European style. Electricity is moving towards 240 volts in increments throughout most of Europe to reach a common voltage. Electrical equipment is now being made for 240 volts but can still be used at the lower levels. To obtain electricity, the local company must be approached personally. Payment for electricity, in the local area, is in bi-monthly instalment, determined by the last year's amount while the exact reading is performed once a year. This is called reconciliation. When moving in, you can expect to pay what the previous tenants paid until reconciliation. Thereafter, the amount charged is balanced and possibly changed for the next year. If the bill is overpaid for the previous year, a refund is issued. If the bill isn't paid in full, the amount is charged.

HEATING

Most houses and apartment buildings use natural gas or fuel oil for heating. If renting a single house, you will have to take the necessary steps to be supplied with gas from a local company or with oil from one of the local suppliers. Oil companies have varied prices for oil so shopping around for the best price. The price may also be different according to the amount ordered and is generally cheaper in the summer.

WATER AND SEWAGE

The cost of water is based on the amount of water used and its removal. Normally the landlord is charged for the used water removal and he or she, in turn, will charge the tenant(s).

GARBAGE

Garbage is generally picked up once a week - the landlord usually provides all necessary information about the dates and which containers to be used. Communities throughout Germany have different schedules, so check with your landlords or look online for the schedule of the town you live in.

All communities in the local area have strict procedures for the separation of garbage.

There are several ways that garbage is separated, depending on the local communities. Bottles and tin cans and paper/cardboard boxes can be taken to special containers situated throughout the community or are collected at your house on set dates.

“Grunschnitt,” or “green garbage”, such as grass or branches are handled different per community. The green garbage has to be disposed in the container with the green lid.

The last regular category of garbage is known as “yellow bag”. It comes in the form of either a yellow garbage container (could also be a normal container with yellow lid only) or as yellow plastic bags. Either one is for collecting all plastic/Styrofoam materials, dual fabric containers/packing material, like the containers for milk and beverages, aluminium foils, etc. In general terms, everything bearing the markings “der grüne Punkt” (the green dot) should be put in those containers with one exception, and that’s paper. Everything should be cleaned before disposal.

Fees for garbage collection are normally not included in the rent. Glass, paper and plastic are not to be emptied into the garbage bin. Every town in Germany provides glass collection containers which can other be found in central locations, such as near a supermarket or market square. The glass containers are green, brown, and white each for the respective colour of glass. In smaller communities, there might only be one container for all colours of glass waste.



TELEPHONE, INTERNET CONNECTION

“Deutsche Telekom” is the major, German company to install telephone and Internet services at your home. A person from DeutscheTelecom will activate the requested phone/internet connection by visiting your house. Bills can be automatically withdrawn from a German bank account.

Get inspired at Woonboulevard Heerlen

With more than 130,000 m² of shop and showroom space in 50 specialized shops, the home improvement retail park Woonboulevard Heerlen is Europe's largest. Nowhere else will you find so many wonderful items and ideas to really make your house a home! With easy access and free parking, Woonboulevard Heerlen offers plenty to choose from, all on one site, and is well worth a visit.

Woonboulevard Heerlen is all about enjoyable shopping and finding inspiration. There is not only a wealth of furniture and interior design shops to explore, but also a huge garden centre and several specialized kitchen and bathroom showrooms. And that's not all: you can find great products and toys for babies and children, and even

for your pets. The huge IKEA store on site offers endless clever ideas and products for your home. Woonboulevard Heerlen is open seven days a week for optimum shopping flexibility, and if you need a break, why not relax and have a drink and a bite to eat at one of the cosy eateries.

Exploring the many shops and showrooms is sure to give you plenty of new ideas on how to make your home even cosier. You can also ask for help and advice from the professionals in each shop. Woonboulevard Heerlen regularly hosts a variety of interior design activities and other events such as workshops and interior advice sessions. Visit the website woonboulevardheerlen.nl for all the events and dates, and start getting inspired!



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Sun - Hol 12.00 - 24.00 hrs

Privately owned MOTOR vehicles

VEHICLE REGISTRATION IN GERMANY

Newcomers must register their privately owned vehicles (POV) within three months after their arrival at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen. The following registration systems are available:

- German Civil POMV Registration System
- USAREUR Registration System

The national support units or the Legal Advisor has details about eligibility for the above mentioned systems. For the de-registration of POVs and the transfer home, it is advised to collect the necessary information about the relevant laws of the home country and the above mentioned systems at least three months before leaving the Force.

Excessive amount of pollution may lead to driving limitations within entire cities or districts of Germany. A major cause of air pollution is the exhaust fumes from cars. Germany introduced a special sticker to be put onto your windshield.

PARKING

Many cities in Germany and in

The Netherlands identify parking lots with large blue “P” signs. The large blue “P” signs showing a parking disk indicate that you may park for free in the area designated for a certain length of time, but that you must display your parking disk in the front window of your car. There are several parking lots on base requiring the use of parking disks and have a time limit, such as at the NATEX stores and Commerz Bank. Parking disks are available for a small cost at most gas stations..



To use a parking disk, set the dial so that the arrival time (to the nearest half hour) lines up with the arrow on the disk, and place the parking disk on the dashboard.

IF INVOLVED IN A CAR ACCIDENT

Component members are subject to German traffic law and should keep these tips in mind if involved in a traffic accident.

- Above all, do not leave the scene of the accident! “Hit and Run” is a serious criminal offence. If you leave the scene of an accident, your insurance company may deny you coverage.
- Take necessary emergency steps. If someone is injured, call for medical assistance and make sure that traffic is warned by placing a warning triangle 100 meters in front of and behind the scene of the accident. Use your first-aid kit if needed.
- Call the police. If the accident occurs on a US or NATO installation, call the military police immediately. If the accident occurs off of a US or NATO installation, you must notify the local police, who may or may not respond to non-injury accidents. Whether or not the police respond, be sure to take all steps in the next paragraph.
- Get information from other drivers involved in the accident. Get the name, nationality, home address and phone number, work address and phone number, age, license number, vehicle registration number, type of vehicle and colour, and the name and address of the insurance company of other drivers involved. Give other drivers the same information about you. Get names and addresses of witnesses.
- Write down the facts surrounding the accident. Draw a diagram of the position of the vehicles involved, the

direction vehicles were traveling, point of impact, and any other relevant information, such as position of traffic signs and signals near the scene. Take pictures of the accident scene and of vehicle damage.

- Co-operate with the police, but be careful what you say. The police report may be important evidence in determining fault. Give yourself time to formulate answers to police questions; if you are not careful, you may say something that could be used against you later.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

As mentioned earlier, personal transportation is needed, especially when living in the countryside.

On the other hand, numerous local communities are very well connected by a widespread public bus service which includes the possibility of riding to adjacent major cities like Aachen, Mönchengladbach, Erkelenz, Düren, etc., or even across the border into the Netherlands. There are also train stations at Geilenkirchen, Übach-Palenberg and Erkelenz in Germany or Heerlen and Sittard in the Netherlands.

These provide access to the European railway system.



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Base activities

MORALE AND WELFARE ACTIVITIES

The pace of activities on base can sometimes be very hectic. To offset this, the Food & Services Branch provides high-quality on-base leisure facilities. An extensive Morale and Welfare Activities (MWA) programme is in place at the MOB, ranging from sport activities, an International Library, a Thrift Shop and a youth programme, as well as facilities for deployed personnel at the Forward Operating Bases and Location.

Additionally, the Branch is responsible for the entire food service operation, including a centralized dining facility, called the Rotodome, an all-ranks club (E-3A Club) and a Flight Kitchen supporting flight and mission crews.

ABOUT MWA...

The Morale and Welfare Activities programme offers a diverse range of activities, which hopefully meet the needs of all Component personnel. They have been established in accordance with ACE Directive 5-1 and all other relevant directives. The MWA program supports the physical and mental wellbeing of participating individuals by providing athletic/sports & recreational activities, food services, International Youth Activities (IYA), a library, MWR Store, VAT/Tax Office, Thrift Shop and various officially recognized private clubs and societies.

ROLE OF THE MORALE & WELFARE ACTIVITIES COUNCIL (MWAC)

The MWAC is an official advisory body responsible to the ACO Commander with regard to all aspects of E-3A Component Morale and Welfare Activities in accordance with E 3A Component Order 1.3-3. The MWAC is composed of the Senior National Representatives (SNRs) or their designated representatives; the NATO Civilian Staff Association (CSA) and the LWR Works Council also each have a primary and an alternate representative (a list of names and telephone numbers can be found on the Intranet Food & Services Branch WSS page). You are highly encouraged to forward any suggestions/concerns in regard to MWA activities to your respective national representative for further consideration by the MWAC. Any input received is taken seriously and evaluated by the MWAC. For more information, please contact Food & Services Branch, Ext. 6020 or refer to the Food & Services Branch/Morale and Welfare Activities WSS page.

FOOD SERVICES SYSTEM

Keep the section of “role of the morale & welfare activities council (MWAC)”

Change the content under the header “food services system”

The current content can entirely be replaced for the following content:

The Food Services System is comprised of the following facilities and services:

- Rotodome
- Flight Kitchen
- E-3A Club
- Frisbee Club
- Bavarian Cellar
- Red Lion



The Rotodome operates as a self-service restaurant providing breakfast and lunch meal periods with a variety of options. Patrons choose their meals and drinks and pay for the items at the cash register.

Take away meals are able to be purchased Monday through Thursday from 1000-2100 and on Fridays from 1000-1400 from the flight kitchen for those who reside in billeting.

Opening Hours:

Breakfast (dine in & take away): 0600-1000

Lunch (dine in & take away): 1100-1330



The Flight Kitchen is operated out of the same facility as the Rotodome and it is where all flight meals are prepared for AWACS flying missions. Flying members assigned to Geilenkirchen and the NATO AWACS will be instructed on how the flight meal program and ordering process works during their inprocessing.



The E-3A Club, Frisbee Club, Bavarian Cellar and Red Lion are all leisure facilities and are open to all base personnel and dependents. The E-3A Club facility also serves as the base's main conference center and is available to schedule for conferences, official and private functions, and base social events. The facility can hold functions up to 350 personnel.

Opening Hours:

E-3A Club: Monday, 1100-2100 and Tuesday – Friday, 1100-1600

Frisbee Club: Tuesday, 1600-2200 and Friday, 1400-2000

Bavarian Cellar: Thursday, 1600-2200 or per request for special occasions

Red Lion: Wednesday, 1600-2200

All Food Services questions or feedback can be sent to the email org box ofc-e-3aclub@naew.nato.int or to the activity manager at extension 6023.

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INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY

The International Library is located at Bldg 71, ext. 6034/6035. Opening hours: Monday & Friday 1100-1500, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 1100-1600.

The International Library offers a large variety of books, periodicals and audio-visual material. The regular book collection contains over 12,000 books and is divided into 9 language categories: Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Norwegian and Turkish.

In addition to the regular collection, there is a small Bestseller collection with new books provided on a monthly basis, assorted university text books, a large juvenile section with over 2500 children's books and a "Swap Box" for paperback book exchange. 8 periodicals in the English language and 15 periodicals in the German language can

be read in the relaxed atmosphere at our Library.

The audio resources include over 1,500 CDs featuring various kinds of music, as well as 50 language courses and audio books. The Library has about 1,200 DVDs and also receive 10 new titles every month from the Air Force Library Division in San Antonio, Texas.

The Library has six public computers with Internet access, a printer and a copier available for use by Library patrons. All is free of charge for all NATO ID Card holders (a small charge is applied for usage of copy machine and printing from internet).

A coffee machine is also available at the Library so that patrons can enjoy a warm drink while browsing through a newspaper or magazine in a cozy atmosphere.



INTERNATIONAL YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The International Youth Activities take place in Building 95, ext. 4954/4955.

POC: Mrs Ingrid Neuhalfen, IYA Director

IYA Programmes include the following:

- Recreational Care Programmes for children aged 5+, Mon-Fri: Afternoon Club, 1545-1745 during school terms, including homework service, and Break Programmes, 0745-1745, with field trips.
- Instructional Classes for children and adults: Dance, Mixed Martial Arts, Swimming for Beginners, Music Lessons, Yoga, Massage, Fitness.
- Field Trips for families, individuals or groups of friends to various places of interest and tourist locations (e.g. Amsterdam, Bruges, Delft, Brussels and Rhine/Mosel cruises).
- Special Events include Easter Egg Hunt, Moonlight Family Christmas Steam Train Ride with Santa Claus, Christmas Colouring Contest, Christmas Party for Children with Santa Claus.
- Volkshochschule Language Learning Programme: various levels of German and English are constantly offered; Italian, Spanish, French, Turkish and Dutch are occasionally added, depending on the demand.
- Rent the IYA Centre for your family celebration, party or special event.

MWR STORE

The MWR Store, located in Building 81, provides the following services:



A German postal service (incl. postage of parcels/letters, sale of postage stamps, etc.)

- Telephone cards
- Newspapers & Magazines
- A variety of German greeting cards
- A very efficient dry-cleaning service
- Tailoring Service (unfortunately, no fitting room or measuring possibilities available.)

Opening hours:

Monday-Friday 0900-1500

Point of Contact: Mrs Benzkirch, Ext. 4089

Private Parcels

As an additional service, private parcels may be shipped to the MWR Store (Post Office) on base.

Please ship to:

Deutsche Post, Geb. 81

First Name, Last Name

PO Box (your work extension telephone number)

Lilienthalallee 100, 52511 Geilenkirchen

The MWR Store will call you as soon as your parcel has arrived.



Mobit Plus Shop

The Mobit Plus Shop is located in Building 81 (next to the MWR Store). The shop provides home telecommunications services from Germany's premium supplier T-Home (Telekom) and offers a wide range of mobile communications services from various network providers, including a large choice of smartphones. Special conditions and tariffs for military and civilian NATO personnel are also available.

Opening Hours: Mon- Fri: 1000 - 1500



BARBER SHOP

The Barber/Beauty Shop is located in Building 81 (next to the Commerzbank and MWR Store).

Opening Hours: Mon-Thurs: 0800-1600

closed on Wednesday

Fri: 0800-1500.

Tel.:ext. 4087

COMMERZBANK

The Commerzbank provides a banking service for base personnel In Bldg 81. Its staff is happy to personally assist and advise you in all money matters.

They offer you the know-how and experience of a large and efficient bank and specialize in:

Foreign transfers up to 50.000€ with IBAN + BIC free of charge standing orders, Exchange of foreign currencies (only for account holders) ,Saving accounts/time deposits Investment, Loans for the purchase of cars, furniture, etc. with convenient repayment installments. Mortgages, Life insurance/health insurance, property insurance, such as for cars, private liability, etc. All their services are available to Force members at particularly favorable terms. They are looking forward to seeing you as a new customer.

Opening hours: Monday & Thursday: 0900 – 1300.

Ext. 6080; Comm.: 02451-984-7142

DER TRAVEL AGENCY

DER Travel Agency is located in Building 81 (next to Commerzbank and MWR Store). They offer a world-wide travel service including flight tickets, tour packages, cruises, rental cars, travel insurances, ferry tickets, train tickets, hotel reservations and gift vouchers. Make it easy on yourselves and let us do the work for you so you can sit back and enjoy your holiday.

Opening Hours: Mon-Thurs: 0900-1500

Fri: 0900-1400.

Call ext. 6082 or commercial 02451-1256.

T & T SERVICES

International Removal Company

The International Removal Company provides a specialized international door-to-door removal service for private diplomats and staff members of international organizations. Choose your destination and leave the rest to us... We will find an easy solution for your needs. Office is located in Building 81, next to the DER Travel Agency.

**Opening Hours: Monday – Thursday: 0830 – 1730,
Friday: 0830 – 1430.**

Call ext. 6085 or commercial 02451-9155931.

GRANT AND GREEN

Jaguar/Land Rover Car Sales Agency

Official agent for Jaguar/Land Rover TDMS (Tourist, Diplomatic and Military Sales), selling direct factory RHD and LHD vehicles to all European NATO Forces, and contact for US military in Germany and the Benelux. Office is located in Building 81, Room 25.

Opening Hours: Monday – Friday 0930 – 1700.

Ext. 6084

Tel. commercial +49 2451 9154232 or

mobile +31652303151

Email: pete.thomas@grantandgreen.de

NATEX

NATEX is a diversified retailer operating as the official concessionaire to the NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany since 1985.

NATEX's commitment to and knowledge of members of the NATO community, their families and their lifestyles allow them to deliver personalized service, and a wide selection of products specially chosen for you.

They understand better than anyone the lifestyle needs of the NATO Family, putting them first above all else.

NATEX provides extensive community support through sponsorship, as well as special events designed to enhance their customer's social experience.

Experience the difference when shopping at NATEX:

- NATEX gives back to the Geilenkirchen Community
- Tax free, duty free shopping
- For your convenience NATEX stores are open 7 days a week
- NATEX is committed to providing employment opportunities to NATO members. 85% of NATEX employees are dependants of the military
- Specialized services include;
 - Car inspections and vehicle maintenance
 - Bike servicing and maintenance
 - Special Order program
 - Preparation of food platters and gift baskets upon request
 - Their trusted butcher will prepare specialty cuts of meat upon your request
- See the specially chosen product assortment from your favourite brands we know you'll love
- NATEX's staff specializes in customer care. They are multi-lingual and are ready to serve you
- Pay in your own currency
- Feel confident when shopping at NATEX. They have a "hassle free" return policy (see in store or www.natex.de for details)
- When you have a concern, NATEX is there to help! Contact them any way you wish: through www.natex.de, you can e-mail them at contactus@natex.de, or why not get in touch through Facebook: www.facebook.com/NATEXNATO.



SPORTS DEPARTMENT

The Sports Department and Recreation Activities aim to motivate Component Personnel and their families to take part in varied programmes to stimulate their physical and mental wellbeing.

The Sports Department offers sports, fitness and wellness programmes. There are various check-out services for sports and party equipment as well as free individual use of the sports facilities for all Component members. The following activities are available through the Sports Department:

ADULT PROGRAMME

Team Sports: Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball,

Individual Sports: Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis, Lap Swimming, German Sports Award

Group Fitness: Muscle Power, HIIT, Spinning, Medical Back Training, Total Body Fitness.

Individual Fitness: Cardio and weightlifting workouts.

YOUTH PROGRAMME

Soccer Leagues and Camps.

The Sports Department has two gymnasiums (including a weight and cardio room), a sauna, tanning beds, a swimming pool, two squash courts, several sports fields (softball, soccer, volleyball), cross trails, a running track, a high and long jump as well as a shot put facility and a golf driving range.



Outdoor Swimming Pool (Bldg 101):

Open during the summer season (May-Sep), depending on weather conditions. See Sports WSS Page for details on entrance fees.

A beach area is available at the back of the pool for those who like to enjoy the sun in a holiday atmosphere.

Sauna/Tanning Beds (Bldg 214):

Money cards for tanning beds can be purchased at Bldg. 8 (Disbursing Office). For price details, please refer to the Food & Services Branch Fee Structure which can be found on the Food & Services Branch WSS page.

For more information please call ext. 4946 or email to NAEW OFC – E3AGK SWCSS or ofcgk-swcss@naew.nato.int. Current programme available on the Sports and Fitness WSS page.

Call ext. 4987 or ext. 4902 for details.

THRIFT SHOP

You are sure to find a bargain at our Thrift Shop, located in building 60 (Frisbee Club). We sell items such as household appliances, new clothes, or children's toys, small items of furniture, entertainment electronics, decorations, gifts, seasonal items, or simply something uniquely special. We will also sell your goods! You may bring up to 10 Items for sale per visit or 20 items per visit six weeks before you move.

Opening hours:

Tues & Thurs, 1000-1400 (for purchasing)

1000-1330 (for submitting items for sale)

In accordance with German Customs requirements, **only** Force personnel in possession of a **green** or **yellow** Shopping Card are authorized to purchase items at the Thrift Shop. However, everyone is still allowed to bring items for sale. For further information please call ext.4919.

VAT/Tax/MWA Card Offices

The VAT/Tax Office, Building 222, provides a tax-free programme in accordance with the provisions of E-3A Component Order 8.1-11 (Tax Exemption and Customs Clearance). It processes the required paperwork for entitled Component personnel to purchase tax-free items and submits an "Abwicklungsscheine" directly to the supplier. This office also provides Border Crossing Forms to customers wishing to purchase tax-free items outside of Germany. In addition, applications are processed for the resale of tax-free purchased cars and other tax papers (Form 388), etc. Expert advice and registration is also available for tax-free utilities (i.e. electricity, gas, telephone) for personnel of those nations that have an internal contract with the E-3A Component on these matters.

Opening hours for all services:

Monday-Friday: 0900-1130

Monday-Thursday:1300-1500

PRIVATE CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

INTERNATIONAL GOLF ASSOCIATION (IGA)

The IGA is the official E-3A Component Golf Club.

The aim of the club is to promote the game of golf by conducting activities for all those who either want to play or learn to play the game.

The IGA home course is the “Openbare Golf Brunssummerheide B.V.” in the Netherlands, just a few minutes away from the base’s West Gate. The course has 36 beautiful but demanding holes, a 9 hole PAR 3, a driving range, putting/chipping greens and a restaurant with terrace that invites one to stay after the game.

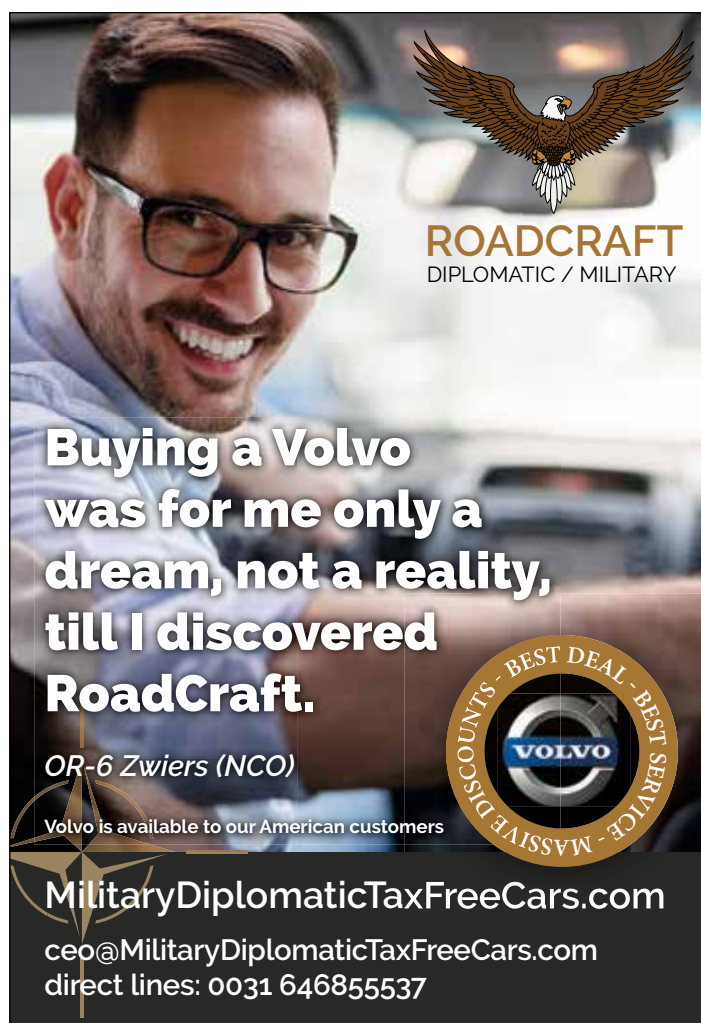
Throughout the golf season, the IGA offers numerous tournaments plus a weekly “Club Night” with different fun themes. Using your IGA playing rights you can also join the Brunssummerheide Golf Club, play in their events and obtain an official National Handicap card. All that at unbeatable membership fees.

Anybody interested in starting to play golf there is offered a PAR3+ membership which provides all the facilities to develop your golfing skills. Your partner is very welcome and we have a particularly attractive offer for under 19 year old dependants. For information visit the IGA website: www.igagolf.net or the IGA Bulletin Board In the International Library building. On the Base Portal you can also find information about the IGA under “Component Links”, “MWA”, “Private Clubs and Societies”, “International Golf Association”.

President: Col. Pellemans Treasurer: Mr. Norman Northcutt

Email: Treasurer@igagolf.net

Treasure: Mr Lothar Boeven



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INTERNATIONAL TENNIS CLUB (ITC)

The International Tennis Club (ITC) provides a friendly and relaxed atmosphere, where members of the international community of the NATO Air Base can improve their physical fitness and tennis skills, meet with men and women of other nations and the local community, learn about different cultures and backgrounds and increase mutual understanding. The Club supports the integration of the NATO personnel into the local community by accepting associated members from outside the base and by organizing friendly tournaments where all members can meet and exchange thoughts and ideas as well as test their tennis-playing abilities.

For information on contacts, prices and accommodation go to the E-3A Component Portal/Clubs and Societies/Tennis Club.

Club Officials: President: Mr Hiller, ext. 3591.

Treasurer: Mr Van Velthoven, ext. 3591.

INTERNATIONAL SPOUSES CLUB

The International Spouses Club of Geilenkirchen NATO Air Base was constituted in 1994. The Club operates as a recognized Morale and Welfare activity with the approval of the Component Commander. The purpose of the International Spouses Club is to sponsor activities which promote friendship and exchange of ideas among its members. The club is open to all spouses of the E-3A Component including officer, enlisted and civilian spouses. ISC members may invite guests to one monthly function a year. All other activities and special monthly events are reserved exclusively for dues paying ISC members only. Yearly dues will be 45 Euro. We are pleased to host functions that are presented in turn by each participating

country with the Force. The functions are held every month from September to May in the evenings. They include hors d'oeuvres, light dinner and dessert from the participating country. These functions are a perfect way to get to know other spouses of the Component and to learn something of their heritage.

Other activities promoted are an annual trip to a Christmas market, Arts & Crafts, charity events, and enjoying shopping and sights in the local area.

For further information, please contact your representative or find us on Facebook: International Spouses Club (ISC) of Geilenkirchen

GK FLYERS ICE HOCKEY CLUB

The GK Flyers is an international ice hockey club based out of NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen and open to all NATO members and skill levels. We have players from all skill levels starting with those who are just learning to skate all the way to former Junior A players. The main goals of our club are to have fun, teamwork, camaraderie, cultural exchange, community, and fitness. We practice twice a week in Geleen, the Netherlands, and Maaseik, Belgium. For current practice times and locations please visit us at <http://gkflyers.teamsnap.com>. If you want to come out and watch the exciting action, game times and tournament dates are also posted here. If you are interested in joining our great organization please contact us at gkflyers@gmail.com or find us on Facebook (GK Flyers Hockey).

ORCAS SWIM TEAM

The Orcas Swim Team is a competitive swim club which holds two swim seasons: a spring technical season from March to June and a fall competitive season from August to February. We train on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays from 1845 to 1945 hrs for 10 years & under, and from 1945 to 2100 hrs for those 11 years & older at the JFC HQ Brunssum Pool in The Netherlands. Improve your swimming, make new friends, learn more sportsmanship, and just have a splash! For more information please see our website at <http://gkorcas.org> or contact the Orcas president at: president@gkorcas.org

ROD AND GUN CLUB

The Rod and Gun Club provides facilities, equipment and services for the following activities:

Archery: Wednesdays and Fridays, 1200 –1300

Point of contact: Gerd Friedrichs, BTR, ext. 4699, Bldg. 37

The archery range on Base is located in the Northern area, across the runway.

Fishing: The Fishing Commissioner announces fishing events approximately 6 times per year. We mainly use the trout pond in Hausset, Belgium.

Pistol Shooting: Wednesdays and Fridays, 1145–1300 and every first and third Saturday of the month 1100–1300, POC – Eugen Toelle, 0157- 72157156. The pistol shooting range on Base is located in the Northern area, across the runway.

Rifle Shooting: Every 1st Friday of the month, 0800–1100
Check our Club Home Page “www.nato-rod-gun-club.de” to apply for membership and for updated information.

We use the local Garrison Shooting Range in Niederheid.

Qualified instructors are available for all disciplines.

SCUBA CLUB

The Scuba Club offers a large variety of Scuba Courses for beginners and advanced divers. The training standards are according to CMAS Germany training rules. We provide you with the necessary skills to enjoy the discovery of three-dimensional underwater paradises that most people have never visited. Pool training for beginners and upgrade training to all levels for certified divers is offered at the GK NATO base pool during the summertime season. In addition, dive trips to local dive locations will be offered frequently to train and improve diving skills. We also arrange other dive trips upon request.

The club has scuba equipment available for rent to its members.

President: Mr Heinz Smeet, ext. 1932.



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Fax: 0049-2451-71129
Email: gk@culpeck.com

Opening times
Mo-Thurs 09:00 – 16:00
Fridays 09:00 – 15:00

www.culpeck.com

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

Welcome to Geilenkirchen Chapel

Building 3

The Geilenkirchen Chapel Staff welcomes you to this community. We have an exciting, diverse, loving, and growing chapel community. Our weekend services are designed for spiritual growth, service, and development. In addition to the weekend worship services, there are multiple weekday opportunities to enrich your spiritual life.



Your Chapel staff provides a wide variety of services to include:

- Confidential counseling
- Weddings
- Baptisms
- Pre-Marital Counseling
- Unit Visitation
- Marriage Counseling
- Community Outreach
- Marriage Enrichment Programs
- Vacation Bible School
- Crisis Intervention
- Grief Counseling
- Worship Services
- Religious Education

Protestant Schedule

Worship Service on Sunday's

1115 hrs

Catholic Schedule

Mass Mo-Thu

1130 hrs

Mass Sunday

0930 hrs

For more Information please call 02451-637229/DSN 458-6003

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OPENING HOURS

Monday	13.00 – 18.00
Tuesday to Friday	09.30 – 18.00
Saturday	09.30 – 17.00
Sunday	12.00 – 17.00

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+49 2451 9154232
Mobile +31652303151
E-Mail pete.thomas@grantandgreen.de
Web www.grantandgreen.de



Official fuel consumption figures for the Range Rover Evoque in l/100km (mpg): Combined 8,2-5,4, CO₂ emissions g/km: 188-143.

Children

Chapter
6

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

The Child Development Centre (CDC), Building 82, is sponsored by the US National Support Unit. The US CDC is only open to US families. Full-time childcare is open to children 12 months to 5 years of age. Drop-in care is available on a space-available basis; call for details. There is no CDC-licensed family-day-care programme off base.

The part-day pre-school program and is open to children 3 to 5 years of age. The program is offered 3 to 5 days per week. Sponsors can enroll a newcomer's child with a copy of the military orders. Before- and after-school care is offered for school age children. Priority is given as follows: single military, dual military, military with working spouse, civilian with working spouse, military with non-working spouse.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The International Youth Activities take place in Building 95, ext. 4954/4955.

POC: Mrs Ingrid Neuhaufen, IYA Director

IYA Programmes include the following:

- Recreational Care Programmes for children aged 5+
- Instructional Classes for children and adults
- Field Trips for families, individuals or groups of friends
- Special Events
- Volkshochschule Language Learning Programme
- Rent the IYA Centre for your family celebration, party or special event.

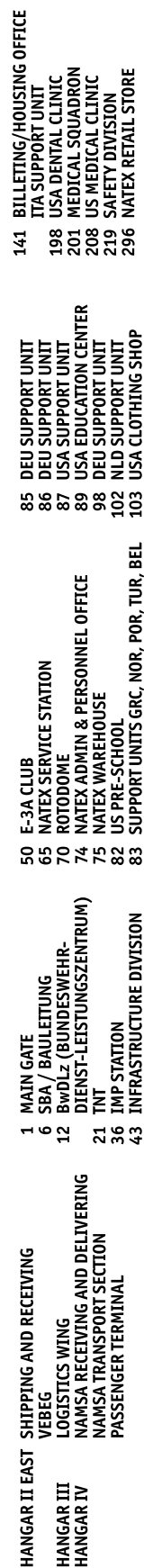
Please refer tot page 41 for more details.



SCHOOLS

For children of school age, there is an international high school at Joint Force Command Brunssum, NL. This school, known as AFNORTH High School, offers secondary school programs for American, Canadian, German and British students.

E-3A COMPONENT DIAGRAM OF MAIN ROADS AND (RECEIVING & DELIVERING) BUILDINGS



Out and About

CURRENCY

The Euro is the official currency in Germany as well as in Austria, Belgium, France, Finland, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxemburg, The Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. Paper notes and metal coins are used. The common denominations are:

EURO COINS AND BILLS

500 Euro note	2 Euro silver / brass coin
200 Euro note	1 Euro silver / brass coin
100 Euro note	50 Euro Cent brass coin
50 Euro note	20 Euro Cent brass coin
20 Euro note	10 Euro Cent brass coin
10 Euro note	5 Euro Cent copper coin
5 Euro note	2 Euro Cent copper coin
	1 Euro Cent copper coin



OUTDOOR FARMER'S MARKETS

Throughout this area of Germany and the Netherlands, there are food markets virtually every day in one town or another. Because this is an agricultural area, much of the product is exceptionally good and fresh. Outdoor food markets are the common method of buying food. Most markets throughout the area sell produce, meat, cheese, fish and flowers. Everything is sold in individual stalls, and in weekend markets there are often other items for sale, such as hardware, clothes, and costume jewelry. Below are the times for some of the markets in the area.

MARKETS IN GERMANY

GEILENKIRCHEN	Tuesday	0700-1200
	Friday	0700-1200
HEINSBERG	Tuesday	0800-1200
	Friday	0800-1200
ÜBACH-PALENBERG	Thursday	1300-1830

MARKETS IN THE NETHERLANDS

BRUNSSUM	Saturday	0900-1400
KERKRADE	Saturday	0800-1500
GELEEN	Thursday	1430-1800
SCHINVELD	Thursday	1330-1700
SITTARD	Thursday	0800-1300
	Saturday	1000-1700
EYGELSHOVEN	Saturday	0900-1600
HOENSBROEK	Friday	0800-1230
NIEUWENHAGEN	Thursday	1530-1900
UB. OVER WORMS	Friday	1400-1800
MAASTRICHT	Wednesday	0830-1400
	Friday	0830-1400
HEERLEN	Tuesday	0900-1300
	Thursday/Saturday	0900-1300



AACHEN

Aachen, a border city with around 245,000 inhabitants, is about a half hour's drive from the Component. Life here is a rich kaleidoscope ranging from the traditional to the futuristic and "as colourful as a painter's palette". The city is considered a spa resort, industrial city, university town, equestrian centre, congress city, and interface for international contact. The framework is green - Aachen well deserves its reputation as the city in a rural setting - with more than 2,500 benches for hikers and strollers to rest. The setting is cosmopolitan with Belgium and the Netherlands just next door. The hills of the Eifel and Ardennes ranges are visible.



2000 Years

Two millennia of lively history have left their traces here, as antiquity, Middle Ages and modern life jostle in the narrow confines. The Imperial cathedral with Charlemagne/Karl der

Grosse's Palatine Chapel is but a step away from the

variety of shops in the Roman colonnades. The lovingly restored alleys of the old city present a vivid picture of past cultures. And what could be more pleasant than to while away the time in the beautiful cafes and bars?



Many Markets

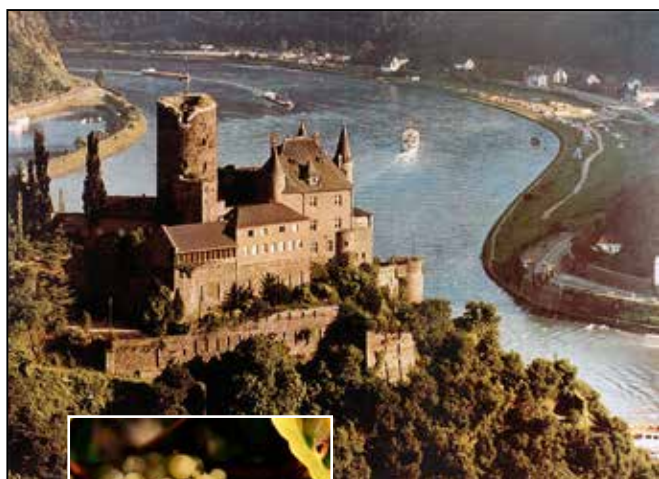
Another feature of Aachen is its colourful variety of markets: flea markets, art markets, the handicraft markets and the historic annual fair in the Kornelimünster quarter

lure visitors from near and far. The 40,000 students at the Technical University and Polytechnic add a special character to the city's business life.

Show Jumping

The most popular of Aachen's major events is the annual show jumping, riding and driving tournament in the world's largest equestrian stadium. Aachen has earned its title as "the Mecca of equestrianism", bestowed on it by newspapers and specialist magazines throughout the world. For all its inhabitants, there is no sense in the city of nature being driven out by concrete and steel. If anything, the reverse is true; the extensive city forests, the Burtscheid spa park and its counterpart on the Monheimsallee all offer a perfect setting for walking or simply loitering. Aachen's joie-de-vivre is reflected in the variety of springs that await the visitor at so many points throughout the city. Aachen, at the heart of Europe, the westernmost city of Germany, is a rich world of discovery.

RHEINLAND



This is perhaps some of the most notable country of Germany. People all

over the world are familiar with “Rheinwein”. The noble vintages of the Rhine region are found in vineyards located between Assmannshausen and Hochheim.

Hochheim gave its name to “hock” the English term for the German white wines. Erbach and Geisenheim are famous for the wine schools; Hattenheim, Keidrich and Rüdesheim are the main towns of the late-ripening Riesling wines. These wines not only require a southern location and protection of the forests to thrive but also need the reflection of the sun on the Rhine and the inconsistencies of the autumn mists to develop its rich bouquet. Growing beside almonds, figs and Spanish chestnuts, the Riesling wines ripen to a heady, spicy sweetness, similar to the Traminer, Gewürztraminer, Ruländer and Sylvaner varieties.

CATHEDRALS AND CASTLES ALONG THE RHINE

Between the old imperial towns of Speyer and Cologne on the middle reaches of the Rhine, one finds not only

some of the most beautiful German landscapes but also the heartland of German history.

Here the course of the Rhine and the fashioning of its banks and man’s architecture have created a unique variation out of the wooded hills and imperial towns, vineyards and cathedrals, cliffs, river islands and knights’ castles.

KOBLENZ

Germany began in Koblenz. In its Carolingian cathedral of St. Kastor, the treaty dividing Charlemagne’s empire was negotiated in 842 and ratified a year later in Verdun.

The Balduin bridge, built in the 14th century, crosses the Mosel just before it flows into the Rhine; on the other side of the Rhine is the Ehrenbreitstein, the fortress of the archbishops of Trier.

At Koblenz two of Germany’s most famous rivers merge, the Rhine and the Mosel, home to some of the greatest wines and picturesque landscape in all of Germany. From Koblenz to Trier the Mosel winds through steep and rugged valleys, covered with vineyards. Each village has its special wine festivals, and year-round wine tasting is a delight.

COLONIA AGRIPPINA (COLOGNE/ KÖLN)

North from Bonn, the Rhine valley quickly broadens, and from far away it is possible to see the two gigantic towers of Cologne cathedral, the last great cathedral on the middle Rhine. Colonia Agrippina was the name of the Roman settlement and age-old metropolis of the Rheinland which today is the fourth largest city in Germany. In the Middle Ages the town owed its power and influence to the



church. Until the 13th century, the Cologne archbishops were not only spiritual but also temporal princes who built more than 150 churches, monasteries and seminaries in their town and turned it into a magnificent centre of religious, intellectual and artistic life in western Germany. Ninety percent of the old town of Cologne was destroyed in the Second World War. The cathedral, although damaged, was preserved.

FURTHER AWAY

Further away, Berlin, the Alps, the Black Forest, the shores of the North Sea and many other areas offer wonderful opportunities to enjoy and learn about Germany. There are 357,050 square kilometres to discover and almost 80 million people to meet. And, since Germany once again lies in the very heart of Europe, many streets lead to the neighbouring countries to the north, south, west and east.

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www.frauenarzt-heinsberg.de

USEFUL GERMAN AND DUTCH PHRASES

ENGLISH	GERMAN	DUTCH
General		
Yes	Ja	Ja
No	Nein	Nee
Please	Bitte	Alstublieft
Thank you	Danke	Dank u
Excuse me	Entschuldigen Sie	Pardon
Good day	Guten Tag	Goedemorgen/middag
Good bye	Auf Wiedersehen/Tschuß	Dag
Do you speak English?	Sprechen Sie Englisch?	Spreekt u Engels?
I do not understand German or Dutch	Ich verstehe kein Deutsch	Ik versta geen Nederlands
Restaurant		
I would like a menu	Ich möchte die Speisekarte	Ik wil graag een menukaart hebben
I would like a Coke, please	Ich möchte eine cola, bitte	Ik wil graag een cola, alstublieft
...a beer	...ein Bier	...een bier
...a coffee	...ein Kaffee	...een koffie
...a mineral water	...ein Mineralwasser	...een spa
The bill, please	Die Rechnung, bitte	De rekening, alstublieft
Where is the restroom, please	Wo ist die Toilette, bitte?	Waar is de WC?
Numbers		
1	eins	een
2	zwei	twee
3	drei	drie
4	vier	vier
5	fünf	vijf
6	sechs	zes
7	sieben	zeven
8	acht	acht
9	neun	negen
10	zehn	tien

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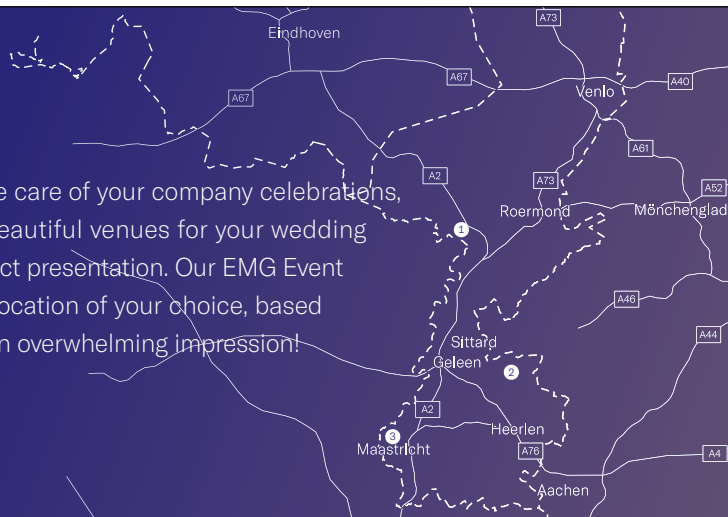
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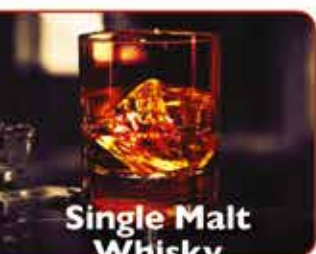
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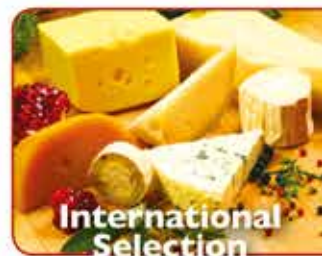


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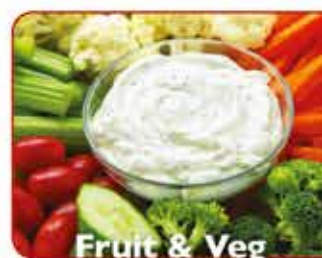
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