



OVERNIGHT ENGLISH CAMPS

FREIBURG PARENT HANDBOOK





JOIN THE TEAM!

At Kids Camp America we believe that when kids are supported, encouraged and cared for, not only by their teachers but their peers as well, their confidence grows, their curiosity returns, their enthusiasm shows no bounds, and neither does their potential.

We have built our summer camps on the basis of this belief and are confident that our campers will have the experience of a lifetime and return home not only with improved linguistic skills, but also unforgettable memories.

When your child joins KCA they join a team of open-minded people from a diverse range of nations and cultures and they will be sure to have forged lifelong friendships when they leave.

Are you ready to join the team?

We are looking forward to welcoming you!

Your KCA Team



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"WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT CAMP?" WE KEPT ASKING. "EVERYTHING!" WAS ALWAYS THE ANSWER. I DON'T REMEMBER HOW WE FOUND KCA, BUT I AM TELLING ALL OUR FRIENDS ABOUT IT NOW!

- A MOM

TYPICAL DAILY SCHEDULE



OVERNIGHT CAMP









Freiburg

Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AM 08:00 - 09:00		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
AM 09:00 - 10:00		English Session I	English Session I	English Session I	English Session I	English Session I	Check-Out/ Departure
AM 10:00 - 11:00		English Session II	English Session II	English Session II	English Session II	English Session II	Closing Ceremony
AM 11:00 - 12:00		English Session III	English Session III	English Session III	English Session III	English Session III	Laundry Pick Up
PM 12:00 - 01:00		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
PM 01:00 - 02:00		Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time
PM 02:00 - 03:00	Arrival/ Check In	Team Building/ Ropes Course	Pool	Hike in the woods	Mini-golf	City Tour	Hold Over Activities for kids staying for WII
PM 03:00 - 04:00	Welcome Ceremony						
PM 04:00 - 05:00	Getting to know each other						
PM 05:00 - 06:00		Activity Stations	Activity Stations	Activity Stations	Activity Stations	Activity Stations	
PM 06:00 - 07:00	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner
PM 07:00 - 08:00	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Laundry Drop Off	
PM 08:00 - 09:00	Camp Fire Night	Games/Wii Night	Movie Night	Night Walk	Bingo Night	Disco Night	
PM 09:00	Bed Time	Bed Time	Bed Time	Bed Time	Bed Time	Bed Time	

KEY INFORMATION

LOCATION:

DJH Jugendherberge Freiburg International
Kartäuserstrasse 151
79104 Freiburg



TIME & DATES

Arrival Sunday, between 3:00 and 3:30pm
Departure Saturday, between 9am and 10am

Campers who sign up for more than one week can either partake in our holdover program or they can go home for the day.

Please note that no pets are allowed in the Youth Hostel. Please do not bring pets when picking up or dropping off your camper!

ACCOMMODATION

KidsCampAmerica is a proud member of the DJH – the German Youth Hostel Association. The Jugendherberge Freiburg International is rated top of its class and is located right against the Black Forest with easy access to hiking, swimming and the City Center. Our campers sleep in comfortable 4 bed rooms.

All meals and snacks are included and provided by the Youth Hostel. Bed covers and towels are provided as well.

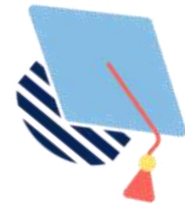
CONTACT

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**"ES WAR EINE TOLLE WOCHE, MIT VIEL
ABWECHSLUNG. ICH HABE VIELE NETTE
LEUTE KENNENGELERNT UND FÜR MICH
AUCH VIEL GELERNT. ICH FREUE MICH
SCHON AUF NÄCHSTES JAHR."**

TV



BEFORE ARRIVAL

WHAT TO PACK

Please refer to page 9 of this document for a packing list.

WHAT TO CONSIDER

YOUTH HOSTEL HOUSE RULES

The DJH depends on a helping hand from their visitors. They need your assistance keeping common and private areas clean and tidy.

The youth hostels are committed to environmental protection and nature conservation. Visitors are requested to collect waste separately or avoid waste and to be economical in their use of electricity, heating and water.

Food may not be prepared or eaten in bedrooms. Because of fire protection, insurance and health reasons the use of electrical devices for the preparation of food and hot drinks is not allowed.

Smoking is not allowed in the youth hostel.

Visitors are not allowed to bring in or consume alcoholic drinks in the hostel or the hostel ground.

Animals may not be brought into youth hostels. An exception can be made for guide and service dogs by arrangement with the hostel management.

The quiet time for sleeping is from 10 pm to 7 am. All campers must remain in their rooms during that time period.

HOMESICKNESS

Occasionally, children do feel homesick particularly if it is their first time away from home. You can be helpful in preventing homesickness in the following ways:

Talk about the forthcoming stay at camp with enthusiasm. Do not encourage problems by talking about how he/she will be missed! Let your child know your confidence in him/her. Camp is a happy experience – a part of growing up – for which he/she is ready.

Do not promise to come for him/her if they experience homesickness. If your child is experiencing problems with homesickness, we will call you. Please trust our judgement in this matter.

PLACEMENT TEST

Please make sure your child takes our placement test so he/ she can be placed in the appropriate level and receive the appropriate workbook.

The test can be found [here](#).



ARRIVAL DAY

CHECK-IN 3:00 – 3:30PM SUNDAY

Check in is between 3:00 and 3:30pm on Sunday and takes place in the entrance hall of the hostel. The check-in table will be clearly marked by a sign and our KCA staff will be available to assist you.

1. Free parking is available at the hostel
2. Check-in with the camp counsellor at the table in the entrance hall
3. Talk to the camp counsellor to tell them anything you think they need to know. Ask any questions you may have.
4. Proceed to your room to set down your luggage

WELCOME CEREMONY 3:30 – 4:00PM

At KCA we want all our campers and their families to feel welcome! That's why we invite you to our welcome ceremony after check-in. From 3:30 – 4:00pm parents are invited to our camp overview and question forum held in our seminar room while the campers play group bonding games outside. Afterwards there will be snacks and games for both parents and campers. At 4:00pm parents leave knowing their campers are in good hands at KCA.



TYPICAL ACTIVITIES

Each afternoon following our English lessons we go on excursions or have whole camp activities on site. We change our schedule weekly to accommodate our returning campers. These activities may include

- Downhill biking
- Hiking
- Swimming
- Tree top ropes courses
- Miniature golf
- Escape room challenges
- Table tennis tournaments
- Scavenger hunts
- Archery

In the evenings we have theme nights such as

- Movie night
- Games night
- Wii night
- Disco party night
- Bonfire night
- Midnight hike night

Of course we maintain our conversational English during all our excursions and events.

WE DON'T JUST LEARN ENGLISH, WE LIVE IT!





WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP

Bedcovers and towels will be provided by the hostel. Please mark all belongings clearly with the child's name! Name tags and more can be ordered through:

<https://www.sterlingnametape.com> (international)

<https://www.gutmarkiert.de> (Germany)

PACKING LIST

Toothbrush, Toothpaste
Soap, Shower gel, Shampoo
Sunblock
2 Pairs of shoes (one that can get wet)
Sandals/ Flip Flops
7-8 pairs of socks
7-8 underwear
3 Pants
3 Shorts/ Skirts
7-8 shirts (2 long sleeved)
2 Sweatshirts
Light jacket
Raincoat
Pajamas
Warm hat/ Sun hat
Swimsuit
Swim towel
Water bottle
Small bag for field trips
Medications
Paper and pen
Book to read
Flashlight
Laundry bag for dirty clothes
Board games/ Cards



Board games to play during the quiet hour before bed will be provided by KCA. Campers will also have the opportunity to check-out board games to be played on their room.

KCA will hold a "laundry day" once a week for campers staying two or more weeks. Campers can drop off laundry that needs washing with the counsellors on Friday evening after dinner and collect the clean clothes on Saturday morning after breakfast.



WHAT NOT TO BRING TO CAMP

KCA Camps are cell phone free!

Please do not send your child to camp with a cell phone. Campers can request to call home on the camp phone any time if necessary.

In case you wonder why KCA might have put these rules in place. Here are some of our motivations:

- Cell phones are an easy distraction and therefore make it harder for the child to make new friends and integrate into the group.
- “Unplugging” leaves more room for real life experiences and often brings a sense of relieve.
- Camp is a place where children can develop confidence and independence. Where they can learn to rely on themselves and become resilient. Bringing a phone to camp means still relying on their parents.
- When parents send their child to camp with a phone, they essentially send the message that they don’t trust them to be independent and able to deal with problems on their own.
- Because of this reliance, cellphones tend to intensify home sickness.
- Cell phones are expensive and can get lost or broken since the physical camp environment is not kind to such items.

Please note: We take our camper’s safety very seriously and want to make sure that they know this and can feel safe at camp. There is always someone they can reach out to if they need to. Whether it is their counsellor, a trusted activity leader or even the director. We will of course contact you in case your child is experiencing difficulties with homesickness.

OTHER ITEMS NOT TO BRING

TVs, Radios, Handhelds

Video Games

DVD Players

Food (this includes gum)

Pocket knives

Drugs or alcohol

Fireworks

Any tobacco products

If you have any questions about whether you can or cannot bring an item to camp, please contact us prior to your arrival.



DEPARTURE DAY

CLOSING CEREMONY 9:30 – 10:30AM SATURDAY

Our closing ceremony begins at 9:30am on Saturday. All parents are encouraged to attend. Certificates for all campers will be handed out and a video recap of the week will be presented. This is a great way to end a fantastic camp session!

Please note: Due to Covid we will not be able to hold our closing ceremony this year

LOST & FOUND

Each summer, we end up with a significant amount of lost items. Putting your camper's name on their belongings and letting them know what has been packed for them is the best way of minimizing loss of items. Prior to your campers departure from camp, please check lost and found out by the office.

POST CAMP COMMUNICATION

Please note that all communication with campers and their families will occur through our office. It is our policy that staff do not communicate with campers directly or visit them outside of camp. Thank you for respecting and understanding this policy.





COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR CAMPER

KCA Camps are cell phone free!

PHONE CALLS

Please do not send your child to camp with a cell phone. Campers can request to call home on the camp phone any time if necessary.

If you wish to learn how your child is doing, you can always contact the office in Frankfurt (24 hours) or the director at camp (7-8pm unless in emergencies).

SOCIAL MEDIA

KCA maintains a Facebook page and Instagram account, which are used to share impressions of camp. We will also be posting pictures daily on a closed Facebook group for each individual camp. Further information about how to join the group will be sent via email. Through this source, parents can get a glimpse of what is happening at camp.

BIRTHDAYS AT CAMP

If your child's birthday takes place while at camp, we celebrate with singing and some treats for all campers to share.



BEHAVIOR AT CAMP

At KidsCampAmerica, we encourage all members of our community to develop and adhere to the following attributes: principled, open-minded, caring, appreciative, cooperative, empathetic, enthusiastic, respectful, and tolerant.

CAMPERS AT KCA ARE EXPECTED TO

- Respect all members of our camp community: other campers, teachers, parents, and facility staff
- Respect our facilities and property
- Walk while indoors (school rules apply)
- Follow the essential agreements for the classroom and around camp
- Be ready to learn and work while in English lessons
- Take responsibility for his/her actions
- Listen to adults and follow their directions
- Be respectful and helpful (e.g. hold the door for the next person, assist those who need help)



ESSENTIAL AGREEMENTS

Each KCA group will draw up essential agreements under the guidance of the class teacher on the first day of each session. These will be signed by the students and the teacher and displayed prominently in the classroom. When drawing up the agreements, the expectations and unacceptable behaviors in this policy will be considered and discussed with the children. In addition all campers agree to adhere to our discipline policy upon registration.



KIDS CAMP AMERICA GMBH

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