



BIMM
INSTITUTE

Berlin

Berlin City Pack

2021/22

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Welcome

At BIMM Institute Berlin, we understand that choosing the right place to study and nurture your talent is one of the most important decisions you'll ever make. And we are delighted to welcome you to study at one of our colleges at BIMM Institute Germany.

I have been with BIMM Institute since we opened our doors in Bristol in 2008 and I am proud to have been involved in the setting up of both the Berlin and Hamburg colleges. My background in music and education is patchwork, having worked as in-house technical crew doing everything from building stages and rigging lights, to stage management and performing in bands in the UK and Berlin.

At BIMM Institute, I have held roles in Student Services, in various Course Leader positions, been Head of Education, and am now College Principal for BIMM Institute Germany. I hope that this gives me a broad perspective of what it requires to be a diverse practitioner in my field. However, more importantly, it means that I have seen the student experience from many angles, and I seek to bring a holistic and student-centred approach to the colleges.

I believe that BIMM Institute's greatest asset is the people it attracts and nurtures. In both cities, our teams are current practitioners in the music industry who are focused on ensuring that your learning experience is of the highest quality. But also, it is the students who, each year, bring new skills, interests, and experiences to enrich our wonderful creative communities at both sites.

BIMM Institute Berlin students will attend lessons taught in English-language at a range of state-of-the-art professional facilities. As a student – whether you are a German national who has chosen to study a degree in English or if you have moved to Germany for your studies – your decision to study at BIMM Institute in Germany is already bold. It's a great starting point for a creative education and career.

Having been an international student myself, I recognise the challenges that different learning environments present, and value the benefits of learning outside of the curriculum that comes with this. Our diverse student cohorts at BIMM Institute Germany are one of our greatest resources. As a member of our colleges, you will establish yourself in our network that will provide inspiration, mentorship, and connectivity to the industry.

It is a privilege to be part of the community that is BIMM Institute and to support the development of the next generation of music industry professionals. The whole team here at BIMM Institute Germany look forward to getting to know you as individuals, as you, our students, adapt to the changing industry. You'll also change the industry by inventing new ways of creating and experiencing music – and carving new pathways to explore a life in music.

Anna Marks
College Principal
BIMM Institute Berlin and BIMM Institute Hamburg

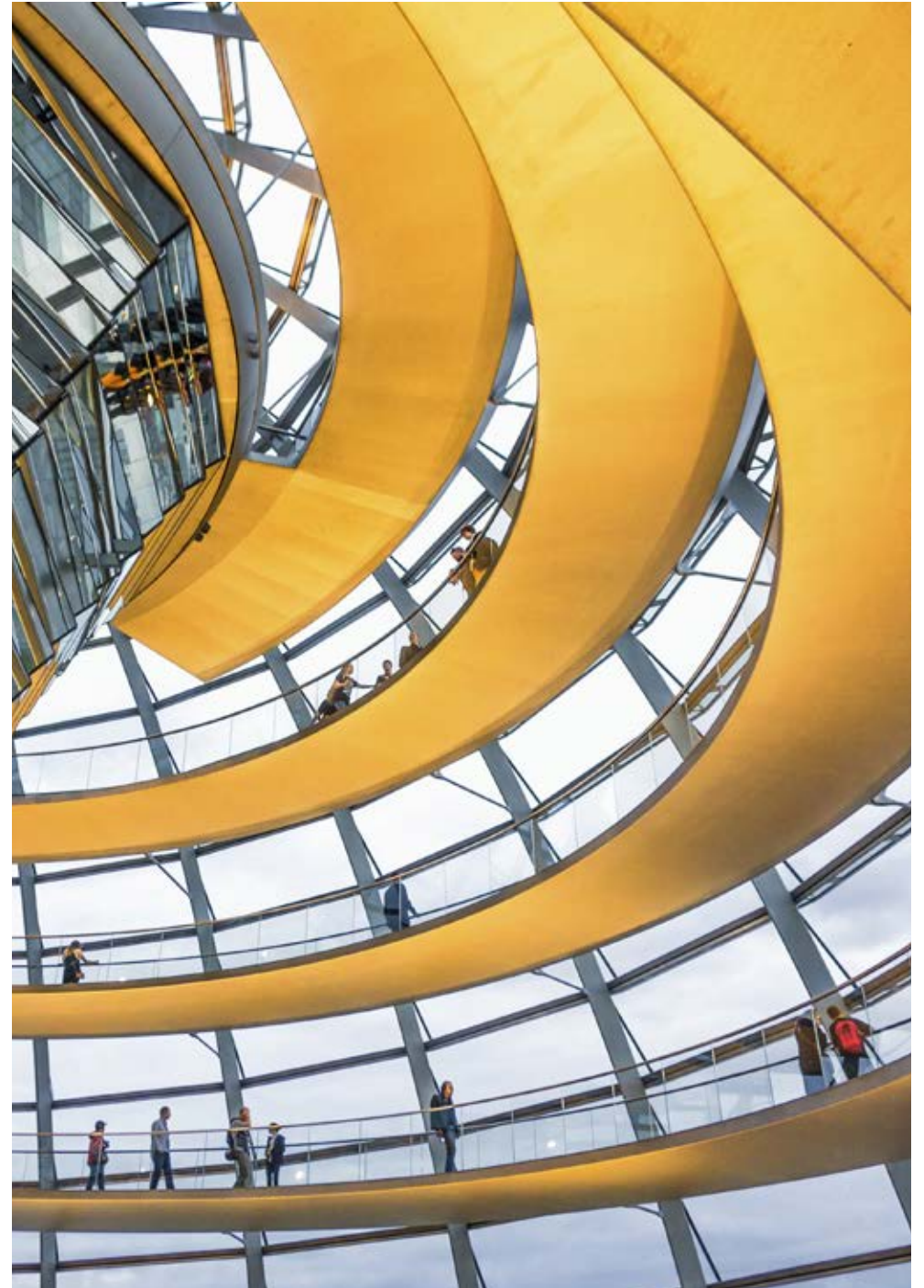
About Berlin

Welcome to Berlin. This is where one of the most diverse and welcoming music scenes in the world unites with endless creativity and possibilities for collaboration. Techno music and every other genre imaginable pulses, lives and breathes here.

Ask a local what Berlin is like and they'll say it's experimental, creative and always accepting. It may be where the techno scene seeped from the underground scene to the mainstream, but every music genre imaginable pulses, lives and breathes here today. Berlin is a city that's constantly awake and has no curfew – and where your creative imagination can run free. And Modeselektor, Planningtorock, Rammstein and Dillon all call this experimental city home. Now, it's your turn.

Living in Berlin is the perfect way to see history and the present coexisting alongside one another. Old and new buildings stand side-by-side, and abandoned shells (such as the Old Spy Station) are visible only metres away from the city's bustling hubs.

Wander around Berlin and you won't be able to take five paces without seeing some world-famous street art. Arguably the street art capital of Europe, Berlin presents countless opportunities to see works by some of the finest graffiti artists of our time.





BIMM student Louise Vangilbergen takes us on her personal tour of one of the greatest cities in the world.

My Berlin

First Things First

First get yourself a public transport ticket, Berlin is 9 times bigger than, for example, Paris. You'll find yourself using the subway a lot, and Berlin has one of the best underground networks in Europe. Or get yourself a bike, it's a perfect city for cyclists and you'll be able to see way more of the city.

For a bit of history, book a free tour at the Reichstag Building and enjoy the view from the dome.

The Different Sides of Berlin

Berlin is full of history and, as you will remember from your history lessons, it was divided in two until 1989. Apart from the visual differences in architecture, there's no real sense of division any more for our generation. Berlin has 12 districts, known as Kieze, and each of them has its own strong identity.

Live Music

From outdoor music to club nights, Berlin has you covered. It might be famous for techno and minimal, but it caters for many different genres besides.

Culture

The Museum Island in the centre of town is home to five museums, each of them offering amazing permanent exhibitions where you can immerse yourself for hours in art and history. The district of Friedrichshain offers a number of cultural spaces, including the famous graffiti-laden RAW.

Shopping

Not to break with tradition, THE shopping street is the Kurfürstendamm, the top end offering the more traditional high street shops and the bottom end all the exclusive luxury brands. For more of an outdoor shopping experience, the area around Weinmeisterstrasse is the place to be, but every district has its own little independent shops.

For rainy days, there are plenty of shopping emporia to choose from, such as the Mall of Berlin, KDW and Bikini House for a more arty vibe.

Must-Sees in the City

Be sure to visit one of the city's bunkers, they offer tours in lots of different languages and it's a great way to soak up some history. Take a stroll along the Landwehr Canal, which is lined with bakeries, bars, restaurants and shops.

The high spot is grabbing a beer at a Späti and heading for one of the many bridges to watch the sun go down.

Fun Fact

As Berlin was divided into two for such a long time, you'll find there are two zoos, two opera houses and two of every street name, so always make sure you include the right post code with your address!



About BIMM Institute Berlin

In 2019, we opened our doors in the refurbished House of Music building. The three-storey House of Music is one of R.A.W.'s oldest and largest remaining industrial buildings. It was originally built in the mid-19th century as a railway premises. Being creative and connecting you to the heart of the industry is what we're all about. So there was nowhere better to set up our brand new home than Berlin's renowned music hub and hotspot for the city's creatives.

Our campus is situated in the R.A.W. area at the intersection of Berlin's two most creative districts: Friedrichshain and Kreuzberg. With over 2,000m² of space spread across two floors, House of Music is Berlin's only dedicated music complex. We host a range of incredible events. These include international industry networking events, live performances, student showcases and intimate workshops with students and industry professionals.

BIMM Institute Berlin Facilities: House of Music

House of Music features only the best equipment and facilities for you to enjoy throughout your time at BIMM Institute. These include:

- State-of-the-art recording and production studios
 - Two live performance spaces
 - Three Mac labs
 - Tutorial rooms
 - A variety of teaching rooms
 - A community networking space
 - House of Music Café
 - Multi-purpose rehearsal rooms accessible for students outside of teaching hours
 - A public stage and venue space on the ground floor
 - High-tech equipment, including instruments and backline
- PA from some of the most prestigious brands in music, as well as industry-standard production software and hardware

Our home at the House of Music has a unique, electric and inspiring atmosphere. This is partly down to the fact that we share the space with other prominent music industry companies. These include Music Pool Berlin (Berlin's leading consultation office for freelance musicians) and a range of music management, consulting, media and events agencies, as well as developers and producers of music equipment such as Shure, iZotope and Yamaha.



BIMM Institute Berlin Lecturers



Joe Sparrow **Music Business**

Joe writes for music industry analysis and news service Music Ally, analysing music-tech startups. He hosts their weekly online video panel discussion.

He also runs the influential new music blog A New Band A Day and works in a developmental role with new artists. This led to him being nominated for the Indie Champion Award by the UK's Association of Independent Music. Joe has helped to organise and operate major live events at SXSW, The Great Escape and Tech Open Air; and has worked in music marketing, PR, and plugging. He also occasionally pops up on UK national music radio as a guest and commentator, including half hour takeovers of BBC Radio 6 Music.



Sky Deep **Live Sound and Performance**

From launching a label and curating a festival to running a successful club night, and producing award-winning films, Sky Deep is an artist to aspire to in our generation. She has been a touring DJ, performer and guitarist through Europe and USA for the last several years. She is also a member of the female:pressure collective and a proud activist in the LGBTQ+ community.

Sky's performances and tracks have been featured on VH1, NBC and UPN in the U.S. As founder of Reveller Records (an electronic label), she has released music from such artists as Paula Temple, The Knife, Fever Ray and LIGHT ASYLUM.



Martin Stumpf **Songwriting, Bass and Performance**

Martin has worked as a musician with numerous German and international acts, such as Söhne Mannheims, Laith Al-Deen, Flo Mega, Max Mutzke, Andrew Roachford, Diane Birch, Emma Lanford, Kate Ryan, and Yvonne Catterfeld. He's also a member of Berlin-based The Polyversal Souls and has played bass and guitar on several tracks for the German multi-platinum selling artist, Xavier Naidoo.

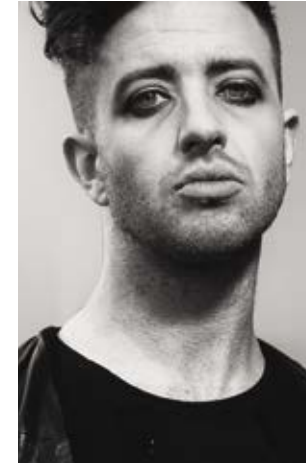
As a songwriter, producer and arranger, Martin has worked for artists including Alina, Celina Bostic, Mats Heilig, and Weeland and The Urban Soul Collective, and has produced commercial music for Intersport, Daimler AG, BASF and Caterpillar.



Jane Arnison **Music Production**

Originally from Australia, Jane now calls Berlin home. Her main project is her band Evvol, whose debut album has just been released by !K7 Records.

She also works as a house/techno producer and DJ under the moniker Jon Dark, co-runs local label Mad Dog & Love and is part of the My Haus collective. In addition to her own creative projects, Jane works with many local and international artists as producer, recording and mixing engineer, composer and arranger, and mastering engineer.



Cian Walsh **Songwriting**

Cian's formal training came in the form of a bachelor's degree in Music at Ireland's acclaimed Cork School of Music. There, he honed his craft as a composer, guitarist and producer.

Cian has enjoyed chart success with his band Toy Soldier and has toured Europe and the US with them. The band negotiated deals with various major labels and are represented by London-based entertainment law firm, Lee & Thompson (Depeche Mode, FKA Twigs, Ministry of Sound).



Gitanjali Ram-Clarke **Music Theory**

Gitanjali studied piano at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. A versatile performer, she's toured extensively, playing at a variety of music festivals in the UK, as well as working with ensembles, opera companies and as a soloist.

She has performed on BBC television and has made numerous solo piano recordings for broadcast in the Far East. After 20 years as a professional performer and teacher, very little phases her. Gitanjali believes that all forms of music should be accessible to everyone.

BIMM Institute Berlin Courses

Undergraduate Courses:

Undergraduate Courses:

- BMus (Hons) Popular Music Performance (Vocals, Guitar, Bass, Drums)
- BMus (Hons) Songwriting
- BA (Hons) Music Production*
- BA (Hons) Music Business

Postgraduate Courses:

- MA Popular Music Practice **

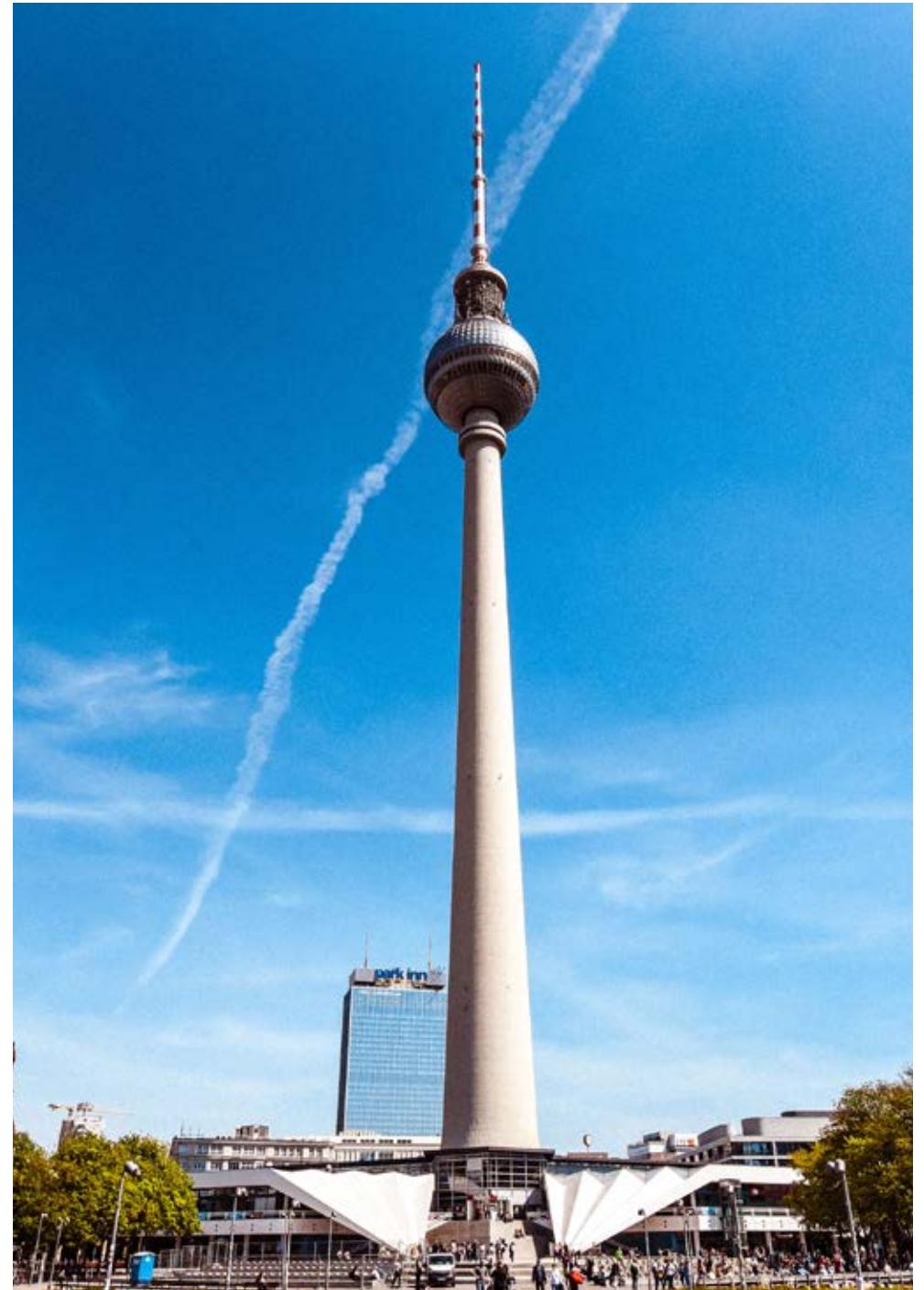
All of our courses are validated by BIMM Institute. Each one starts in late September and is taught over two semesters, each 15-weeks long.***

* Subject to validation.

**MA Popular Music Practice is taught over three semesters, each 15-weeks long.

For full course information, fees and entry requirements visit: bimm-institute.de

Please note that all courses are subject to change and availability.



Your City

Berlin is a musician's paradise. The rents are low, the living's cheap and the Friday nights regularly stretch through to Monday. Berlin is alive with everything from hidden backrooms and cavernous warehouses to boats moored on the River Spree bouncing to minimal techno. The city is famed as a hub of electronic music production and performance, but you'll also find experimental indie, DIY punk and many other genres wherever you turn. History might have left its scars, but the German capital has a restless energy that makes it unique.

It's a 21st century metropolis teeming with grit and opportunity. It's no wonder so many artists have flocked this way in recent decades – from David Bowie, Brian Eno and Iggy Pop, to Nick Cave, Depeche Mode, U2 and Bloc Party. The city is a magnet for talent, fuelling inspiration and rewarding hard work with even harder play.

At the centre of Europe, Berlin looks out to the world – and dances while it does so. New scenes and sounds are created within its tower blocks and underpasses, forest glades and backstreet galleries.

The tourist guides might not be there to catalogue it, but something interesting is always happening in a city that's forever changing. As a place to launch your career in music, there's genuinely nowhere more exciting than Berlin – it's one of the world's most exciting locations.

Location

Our main BIMM Berlin building is located at:

House of Music, RAW Gelände
Revaler Str. 99
10245 Berlin

The college's nearest U-Bahn station is Warschauer Str. on the U1 and U3, closest stop 5 min walk.

The S-Bahn lines S3, S5, S7, S9 and S75 from Alexander Platz.

The M10 and M13 trams stop very close to the college, which is also served by the 240 and N40 bus routes.

Parking is very limited within the area. We expect many of our new students to live within a short distance of the college. You may wish to consider living slightly further away and commuting into Friedrichshain, especially if you're already settled in Berlin. Remember that you'll need to take into consideration the cost of travelling, and the time it will take to get into BIMM Berlin, when making any accommodation decisions. We recommend the following areas, some of which are within walking distance of BIMM Berlin or a short commute:

- Friedrichshain
- Kreuzberg
- Fennpfuhl
- Lichtenberg
- Mitte
- Prenzlauer Berg
- Neukölln
- Treptow

Living Costs

It goes without saying that you should be realistic about budgeting for your time at BIMM. It's essential that you have enough money for the duration of your course.

International students may not be able to work under the conditions of their Student Visa. If you hold a Student Visa, then you should refer to the Visa page of your passport for further information about any working restrictions that may apply. If you're able to work, don't assume any part-time earnings will fully cover your living costs and accommodation. Remember: your student experience is as much about your social life as it is about learning.

Plan how much spare cash you have for socialising and try not to spend too much in the first few weeks. Consider what you want to do in advance and how you can keep costs manageable. Have a look at top tips online for how to keep your costs down and within budget. This website budgettraveller.org/?s=berlin is useful for seeing what you can do for free in your spare time, along with cheap places to eat and other helpful tips to save money.

Transport

Public transport throughout Berlin is both inexpensive and reliable, with a combination of buses, trams, underground and suburban trains serving the metropolitan area. The city is also extremely bicycle-friendly, with dedicated cycle paths and plenty of secure storage.

You can download the BVG app or look on the BVG website [here \(www.bvg.de\)](http://www.bvg.de) to plan your journeys around Berlin and for details on ticket prices. If you are going to use public transport very regularly, then you can also purchase monthly or annual passes to help save you money. On the below map you can find where the BIMM Institute is situated in Berlin.

Music Resources

With its thriving music scene and club culture it is no surprise that some of the world's biggest music companies have their home in Berlin! Check out some of the businesses that you could be rubbing shoulders with every day.

- Music Pool Berlin
- Shure
- iZotope
- Yamaha
- MOD Devices
- Noisy Musicworld
- BMC Berlin Music Commission
- Ableton
- Native Instruments
- SoundCloud
- Sony/ATV Publishing Germany
- Universal Music



Accommodation Guide

Where Should I Be Looking?

BIMM Institute Berlin College Address:
House of Music - RAW-Gelände
Revaler Straße 99
10245 Berlin
Germany

Remember that you'll need to take into consideration the cost of travelling, and the time it will take to get into BIMM Berlin, when making any accommodation decisions.

We recommend the following areas, some of which are within walking distance of BIMM Berlin or a short commute:

- Friedrichshain
- Kreuzberg
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- Lichtenberg
- Mitte
- Prenzlauer Berg
- Neukölln
- Treptow

How much can I expect to spend?

The amount you'll pay very much depends upon the type of accommodation you choose – for example, the privacy of a one-bedroom apartment will cost considerably more than a three-bedroom flatshare. As with all cities, where you live will affect the price: opting for lodgings right next to a U-Bahn line in the centre of a key nightlife district will take more from your wallet each month than somewhere a little further out. The following sections give some indication of the rough prices you should expect to pay across the different options.

House Hunting

There is plenty of good quality, affordable accommodation of all sizes to go around. Housing can be found in the following ways:

Private Lettings

Please familiarise yourself with the three different kinds of rental: mieten means to rent or to let, and refers to a direct contract between you and a landlord, while untermieten means to sub-let – renting a room from someone who themselves has a contract with the landlord.

A WG, or Wohngemeinschaft, is a flat share, in which a group of people will come together to rent a property on equal terms. The European accommodation portal [WGGesucht.de](https://www.wg-gesucht.de) is a great free place to look for these, and local newspapers and community freesheets regularly advertise apartments and rooms.

Alternatively, you could sign up with one of the Mitwohonzentralen – accommodation agencies that specialise in filling rooms across the city, or even join and message the BIMM Berlin Student [Facebook group](#) to find others heading to the city who are looking for people to share with.

You can also search for other public groups to ask about flatshares etc, such as Toytown Berlin.

Student Accommodation Providers

We have a number of partnerships with select accommodation providers, all within a short distance of our campus. This may offer a simple solution to quickly secure accommodation when you first arrive in Berlin, and give you time to source a rental or flat share at a later point.

You will find further detailed information in our [Berlin Accommodation Guide](#), where you'll have everything you need to get settled and get your BIMM Institute journey started. We've covered everything from house-hunting tips, how to get to our college from different areas, information around letting agencies and loads more.





Visa Information & Health Insurance

The UK may have left the EU, but here at BIMM Institute, we are determined to keep our community of creative students as diverse and vibrant post-Brexit as always. We are committed to being a friendly international community.

And we want to make sure you have all the information you need about Brexit and how it affects you. Whether you're looking to study at BIMM Institute or are a current student, our Brexit Information page should help answer any questions you may have.

BIMM Institute is a British organisation, but our colleges in Germany are fully registered as a provider of academic degrees to our students, and also as an employer to our lecturers and support staff. We have worked hard to establish state-of-the-art facilities in the heart of Berlin and Hamburg and deliver industry-leading education to our students. In short, we are here to stay.

EU, Swiss or EEA students

If you are an EU, Swiss or EEA student, you can move to Germany and begin your studies at BIMM Institute without the need for a visa. All you need to do is register with the local authorities within 2-weeks of your arrival to let them know you're here.

Non-EU or UK students

If you are a non-EU or UK student, you may need to apply for a visa to study at BIMM Institute. You can get immigration and visa support throughout your time with us – from when you apply to when you graduate. Germany offers very positive terms for international students, including the right to work a certain number of hours per week during your studies, which could greatly help you engage with the music industry during the semester or holiday periods as well as have part-time employment to support your living costs.

The process of applying and being awarded a visa can be completed directly with the local German embassy in your country of origin and takes approximately 25-days to complete.

Further information on applying for a student visa, and a list of overseas German embassies, can be found here:

www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aamt/zugastimaa/buergerservice

Health Insurance

All students at BIMM Institute (including non-EU students since last year) are eligible for cover under TK insurance. Health insurance is a legal requirement for all residents in Germany.

TK (Techniker Krankenkasse) is a German public healthcare provider which offers, in addition to comprehensive medical services, a Welcome to Germany Service, which supports foreign students with an English-speaking team during their arrival in Germany.

Please find current information for students including monthly fees over [here](#).

Join Us in Berlin

To apply to BIMM Institute Berlin, please contact our Admissions Team or use the online application form at bimm-institute.de/how-to-apply.

We can't wait for you to join us in this incredible city – and start your career (and life) in music.

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