

GLS Destination - Nürnberg



500.000 inhabitants

Why we like Nürnberg: Kaiserburg, Frauenkirche, Bratwurst, Fußballclub 1.FC Nürnberg, Christkindlesmarkt, Lebkuchen

Nuremberg is perfect for you if you like living in a big city but also appreciate coziness. In Nuremberg you can find various cultural events, flea markets, open air pools, beer gardens, parks and historical memorials. The unique mixture of tradition, history and the friendliness of the Franconian people makes this city an amazing experience.

GLS Coordinator: Mrs. Corina Bruns

Our local coordinator Corina Bruns cares for the GLS students in Nürnberg. In this interview Corina tells us about herself and her city.

Could you introduce yourself?

My name is Corina, I am married with two children, and have also been a host mother before. My family has hosted students from France, Korea, the USA and Colombia. Since I grew up abroad myself and have been an exchange student twice, I know what it feels like to stay in a foreign country and communicate in a foreign language. I am looking forward to support you in Nürnberg, so that you will feel welcome and enjoy your time. On the picture below you can see me (on the right) with students from Italy and Slovakia.



What can you tell us about the city of Nürnberg?

Nürnberg has approximately 530.000 inhabitants and is the second largest city in Bavaria. Nürnberg is a safe and green city with its river, lake and many parks. There is a good public transportation system, and you can also easily get around by bicycle.

The city offers a lot of sights, museums, cultural events and interesting architecture from the Middle Ages to modern times. Nürnberg is very well known for its classical open air concerts and the open air rock festival "Rock im Park". Also the "Blaue Nacht" (Blue Night), Germany's biggest arts- and culture festival as well as the Old Town festival are worth a visit. Finally the highlight of the year is the "Christkindlmarkt", Nürnberg's world-famous Christmas market.



How do the students arrive in Nürnberg?

All GLS high school students first take part in an orientation weekend in Berlin and then travel to Nürnberg afterwards. They arrive in Nürnberg either by train or by bus. Myself and the students' host families welcome them when they arrive at the station. This is a very happy and exciting moment for everyone, as we finally get to meet each other! Usually we all talk a lot and everybody is curious to find out more about each other.

How do you find great host families in Nürnberg?

I am a mother myself and through my children I also have contacts to many other families. For example, I always get in touch with new families through sports clubs, climbing clubs, or the local scouts team. Many families are very excited about the idea to host a student and would like to offer them a wonderful time in Nürnberg.



Can you tell us about the schools in your city and how you choose a suitable school for the students?

There are 17 public high schools (Gymnasien) in Nürnberg. The schools differ in their focus areas, for example some schools have a linguistic specialization whereas others may focus on the natural sciences, humanistic sciences, music or sports. All the schools are very open and friendly toward foreign students, and each student has a personal contact person at the school who can help them with questions and problems. In my opinion, the ideal school isn't too far away from the family home and offers the kind of subjects the particular student is interested in. When a student plays a musical instrument, for instance, then I would choose a musical Gymnasium. When the student studies Old Greek or Latin in their home country, then I would pick a humanistic Gymnasium. And if the student loves sports, then of course I choose a Gymnasium with a focus on sports.



High school students have school holidays during their time in Germany, for example on Christmas or on Easter. What do the students do during their holidays?

Often the students go on holidays together with their host families and this gives them the opportunity to get to know Germany and Europe better. If the students do not leave Nürnberg during their holidays then there is still plenty to do. The cultural and sports options for spending your free time are various in and around Nürnberg as well.



What kind of free-time activities can students take part in?

We organize a lot of free-time activities, for example bowling, ice-skating, climbing, bicycle tours, visits to the cinema or to the spa, or we simply meet in town to visit a museum, eat together and have fun. I also go on short excursions with the students in Nürnberg, where we visit various cities nearby, such

as Munich, Bayreuth, Bamberg and Regensburg. We go climbing in the Franconian Alps or go on canoe tours on the rivers, and in winter you can go skiing only about 40 minutes outside of the city. For example, as you can see on the above below, we get together with all the students and host families and visit the "Kletterwald" climbing park in Pottenstein in the Franconian Alps together.



What if students have problems during their time in Germany, for example with homesickness?

I openly communicate with the students about their problems and try to support them to find solutions. We also involve the host family in finding solutions together. Often it helps to find a new hobby or to do activities together with other students. There is a solution for every problem, I believe.



GLS wishes you a warm welcome to Nürnberg!