

Hospitality and Catering Apprenticeships in Germany

Vocational Education and Training Program in Hotels

Most of our professionals have done a three year apprenticeship in a hotel or restaurant, or as a chef. The vocational hospitality training system in Germany is world famous. The apprentices go through three years of intensive, hands-on training in all departments of the hotel, and therefore obtain a good sense of the complex relationships between the different departments. The typical curriculum for a hotel apprenticeship includes restaurant & bar service, breakfast service, conference & banqueting, kitchen duties, reception, reservation & back office, and finally housekeeping. Some hotels also offer sales & marketing as part of the training.

An apprenticeship as a chef also takes three years to finish, and covers all areas of the kitchen, and a chef apprentice will go through several stations during the course of his or her training.

German Dual System of Vocational Training

Students who have finished their secondary school education and students from colleges of further education may start a vocational training course in the Hospitality Industry. The age of the students at entry is between 16 and 19.

The vocational education training takes 3 years for each of the professions

- On-the-job training (3 – 4 days/ week)
- Classroom instruction (1 – 2 days/ week)
 - Classroom instruction split between general education and applied education
- Apprenticeships conclude with Journeyman-level examinations

Hotel Management Schools of Continuing Education

Students of a Hotel Management School in Germany have completed a training within the German dual system of vocational training taking two to three years, and they have passed the final exam in their respective profession in front of the Chamber of Commerce in one of the states of Germany. Furthermore they have gained at least one year of professional experience, either abroad or in Germany.

The progression to an institution of further education, i.e. “School for Operational Management in the Hospitality Industry” is possible after successfully completing the initial training course and after having two years experience in the Hospitality Industry. After a successful study period of two years the graduates of the Hotel Management School