

2.4.3.3-16MB Housing

Respons.: naro/stit

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Housing information sheet – How to find somewhere to live

(Situation in February 2017. Information subject to change!)

This document contains information and tips for incoming students at the ZHAW who are looking for somewhere to live.

1. Student Housing Cooperative

WOKO (Studentische Wohngenossenschaft Zürich) offers inexpensive accommodation for students. [Link to WOKO](#)

If you are interested in WOKO accommodation, please notify the ZHAW [Registrar's Office](#) as soon as you are accepted as a visiting student. There are a limited number of housing possibilities and the "first come, first served" principle applies. Registration is binding; in the case of withdrawal, costs will be incurred.

2. Searching independently

There are a limited number of rooms and flats on the market and there is a lot of competition, so you should start searching well in advance, check for new additions on a daily basis, and apply immediately.

Don't limit your search to the centres of Winterthur and Zurich. Many smaller towns and villages are only half an hour away on public transport, and it often costs less to rent places outside the city centres. You can check the distance to the ZHAW by going to <http://www.sbb.ch/en/>, <http://www.zvv.ch/zvv/en/home.html> or map.search.ch

2.1. Websites where you can search for accommodation

Student accommodation		
http://www.clicklodge.com	http://www.wohnen.ethz.ch/en.html	http://www.dachlade.ch
http://www.students.ch/wohnen	http://www.marktplatz.uzh.ch	http://www.juwo.ch
Rooms in shared flats	Property portals	Others
http://www.wg-zimmer.ch	https://www.homegate.ch/en	For short stays:
http://www.easywg.ch	http://www.immoscout24.ch	www.belodge.com
http://www.wg24.ch	http://www.alle-immobilien.ch	Barrier-free accommodation:
http://www.studentenwohnen.ch		www.procap-wohnen.ch



2.2. Newspapers and notice boards

Once you are in Switzerland, it is worth checking the notice boards of local universities (ETH, University of Zürich, ZHAW).

Advertisements in newspapers are also a good source. Almost all local papers publish accommodation advertisements on a regular basis. The most well-known newspapers in the Winterthur and Zurich area are: “Der Landbote”, “Winterthurer Zeitung”, “Winterthurer Stadtanzeiger”, “WOZ Die Wochenzeitung”, “Zürcher Unterländer”, “Tagblatt der Stadt Zürich”, “Tages-Anzeiger” and the “Neue Zürcher Zeitung”.

Rooms in shared student flats rarely appear in newspapers and can usually be found on notice boards at the universities.

It is not always easy for foreign visiting students to rent a flat of their own. Sometimes residency permits, deposits, contractually agreed renting periods, etc. are demanded.

2.3. Networking

Use your own personal contacts with colleagues or other students, even before you arrive in Switzerland. Ask students in your home country who have been in Switzerland for help before you come, for example.

Student organisations such as [ESN](#) or [VSZHAW](#) might be useful too. And there are also ZHAW students who want to rent out their own accommodation while they are studying abroad.

2.4. Homestays

Students who wish to experience Swiss lifestyle, culture and language by living in a family should consider homestays. The following platforms offer assistance in finding a suitable host family:

<http://www.homestayweb.com>

<http://www.workaway.info>

<http://www.couchsurfing.com>

<http://www.worldhomestay.com>

<http://hospitalityclub.org>

<http://homestaybooking.de>

3. ZHAW emergency number

If you find yourself in a threatening situation during your stay, or if you witness such a situation, please call the ZHAW emergency number: +41(0)58 934 70 70 (round the clock). Detailed information can be found at: <https://www.zhaw.ch/en/about-us/emergencies/>