

## Eating

As we are students in Cologne, to experience student life and have a meal with low cost, I strongly recommend Mensa, especially Uni Mensa! It is located just close to Uni-Hauptgebäude on the station "universitat" on Line NO.9.

The cafeterias offer fresh coffee, bread rolls, sandwiches, cakes, pastries, salads and snacks from early morning on. The Mensas offer a range of warm meals over lunchtime all year round and also in the evenings and on Saturday during the semester. Most Mensa have a salad bar and all offer at least one vegetarian dish each day. Meals cost between 1.80 and 4.50 for students. Moreover, there are many different Mensa in the city, if you are not at Uni Koeln, you still have many other choices

Here. [http://www.kstw.de/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=180&Itemid=120&lang=en](http://www.kstw.de/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=180&Itemid=120&lang=en) are some more information about every Mensa in Koeln. You can find the opening hours or the meals, address and some more details in the homepage.

Besides the meal in Mensa, there are a lot of Kebab stand and Currywurst stand. Those are popular in Germany. My German friends strongly recommend the Duener in Zuepicherplatz. He told me that is the best one in Cologne even maybe in the world. I don't have many experiences about eating doener. However, that one is good. About the currywurst, I really like the one I tried when I took a trip to Berlin.

## Traveling

It is a long way from Asia to Europe. I use my free time to travel as much as in Germany, Europe, because it is much cheaper than if I travel from Asia. Even though, it is already cheaper, I still try to save more money.

There are few ways that I used to travel with a low cost. If I need to book a hotel, I always book it from "booking.com" website, because it does not charge any fee of booking. Moreover, it is quite flexible you can even cancel it one day before your checking date without any fees. I can also take a look of the value of every hotel to make sure and get some details about the hotel. I also have a Bahn Card 50. Buy one, it is available for one year. You can save 50% on every regular price trip with Deutschbahn. It is really a good deal, if you come here for one year.

Sometimes, it is cheaper and faster to take a flight than the train. For example, I took a 27 Euro flight to Berlin with only about one hour. I always use SKYSCANNER to find a cheap flight ticket online. In Cologne, we can take flight easily in Cologne or Dueseldorf airport. However, there are two airports in Dueseldorf, and the one called weeze actually is not in Dueseldorf. It is quite inconvenient to get there. It

took me almost 2 hours. Moreover, there is not available with public transportaiton during 1200 to 500. So when you book the tickets, think about is it still worth.

There is still other way to save transportation cost. That is mitfahren. You can find information here <http://www.mitfahrgelegenheit.de/>. This is a way to travel with low cost and maybe by the way make some friends. Actually I never try, even if I really want to have this experience. But still worried about the language and safety problem. One of my german friends used to travel via mitfahren, so I think that is really possible and worth to try.