

# Ukraine

## Information for applicants

### Ukraine

Ukraine's population of 42 million share the second largest territorial state in Europe. The official language is Ukrainian, though some speak Russian. Ukraine gained independence in 1991. Geographically it is largely made up of flatlands and high plateaus. The Kyiv region is the largest urban centre, with a population of roughly 3 million. Besides the Kyiv office, some GIZ staff members work in Dnipro, Kharkiv and Kramatorsk.

### Medical care

Medical services are not always up to Western European standards but are relatively good. Not all doctors speak Central European foreign languages. As a result, you should take sufficient quantities of any medication you require regularly with you from Germany. There is, however, a comprehensive network of pharmacies. No mandatory vaccinations are required for Ukraine. The German Federal Foreign Office recommends the standard vaccinations in accordance with the Robert Koch Institute's latest immunisation schedule. You and your family will receive a comprehensive health check when you sign the contract. Kyiv has several hospitals, including a children's hospital. There are health centres nationwide, some of which are supported by international aid organisations.

### Living locally, finding accommodation

Ukraine offers a wide range of leisure activities (e.g. water sports activities on the Black Sea coast or climbing and winter sports in the Carpathian Mountains). The cuisine is varied, and the people set great store by hospitality.

In recent years, rents in the major cities have increased considerably. Nevertheless, good quality accommodation is readily available, especially since the COVID-19 pandemic broke out. Shortages in the supply of electricity, water and gas only have to be expected in isolated cases.

DSL broadband is available in major cities, and the mobile network via various providers works well throughout the country.

There are good opportunities in Kyiv for renting bicycles or scooters; many employees do not require the use of an own car.

Due to the poor road conditions, you should avoid cross-country drives at night. If possible, always park your vehicles in car parks with attendants.

### Shops and services

Everyday items are readily available. You can shop at central department stores or markets, for example.

The exchange rate fluctuates and is approx. EUR 1 = 34 hryvnia (UAH) (as of 01/2021). Euros and dollars can be exchanged without any problems, Visa or Master Card are mostly accepted for payments with credit cards.

## Climate

The climatic conditions in the Ukraine are similar to those in Germany, but slightly more continental. The average winter temperatures fluctuate between -10°C and +4°C, and the outlook is often quite “gloomy”. Summers are warm to hot with temperatures between +17 °C in the western part and +23 °C in the east.

## Accompanying partners

We support a healthy work-life balance as a matter of principle and encourage family members to accompany GIZ staff. Currently, unmarried accompanying partners cannot secure long-term visas.

## Schools

In Ukraine, all major cities have international primary and secondary schools, e.g. the German School (DSK) in Kyiv.

Kyiv in particular offers many leisure facilities for children, e.g. the X-Park sports complex, cinema and several climbing halls.

## Childcare

All major cities have international childcare centres (e.g. the German School in Kyiv).

Ukraine has many parks, playgrounds and swimming pools for leisure activities.

## Good to know

The largest international airport is Kyiv Boryspil (KBP, approx. 30 km from Kyiv). It takes between 1 and 2 hours to get there, depending on the time of the day. However, there are InterCity express trains between Kyiv, Kharkiv, Dnipro and Lviv in various price categories.

## Find out more

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/ukraine-node>

<https://www.munzinger.de/search/go/land.jsp?id=ukr&name=Ukraine>

<http://www.pasch-net.de/de/par/spo/eur/ukr.html>

<https://ec.europa.eu/budget/graphs/inforeuro.html>

<https://www.marcopolo.de/reisefuehrer-tipps/ukraine/sehenswert/index-5744.html>

<https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/302.html>

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