



7-day Window on German Hotel Accommodations & Vehicle Rentals German Tax Savings using the VAT Form

Here on TDY? Save money on your Lodging and Vehicle Rental.

If you are just arriving in country and intend to stay in a German hotel or to rent a vehicle, you can take advantage of tax savings by signing up for the VAT program. You can save the 7% taxes assessed for lodging accommodations in German hotels—IF the hotel accepts the VAT forms. The same applies for Vehicle Rental, you can save the 19% assessed for vehicle rental-IF the Rental agency accepts the VAT forms.

Lodging: Individuals in TDY or TLA travel status who obtain a priced or unpriced tax-relief order form after they acquire hotel accommodations (**but within 7 days of initial occupancy**) must present a copy of their travel documentation to the Tax Relief Office (TRO) as evidence that they have just arrived in the command and were unable to obtain tax-relief documents before occupancy. TROs will keep copies of individual travel documents in order to document and justify after-the-fact, tax-exempt lodging rental services.

Vehicle Rental: Individuals in TDY or TLA status who acquire tax-exempt vehicle-rental services immediately upon arrival at the command (for example, at the airport) may obtain an unpriced or priced purchase order for such service if:

- The application is processed “**within 7 days of the date on the rental contract**”.
- The individual provides a copy of travel documentation (travel orders) to the TRO when submitting the application for tax relief.

IMPORTANT: The “7-day Window” to sign-up for the VAT program and purchase of your VAT forms to be eligible for Tax relief “retroactively” applies from first day of arrival in country. After the 7-day Window”, VAT forms can only be used with future dates.

AFTER-THE-FACT PURCHASES—VAT REFUNDS

Processing a request for tax relief (submitting an unpriced or priced purchase order) after an individual has ordered, received, or paid (including partial down payment) for an item or service is considered an “improper corrective action” and **is not** authorized. There are no provisions for vendor refunds of VAT after a purchase has been ordered, invoiced, or billed by the vendor or paid for by the customer (including partial down payment). The Tax-relief process may be used only in direct conjunction with a purchase. The only exceptions are as follows: Occupying hotel accommodations or obtaining a rental vehicle immediately upon arrival in Germany. Travel orders must be presented to the TRO to document and justify the “retroactive” request for tax relief.

Please contact the Panzer Tax Relief Office for any questions or visit us at www.stuttgart.armymwr.com regarding Tax Relief.

Stuttgart Tax Relief Office:
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