



# Housing Fact Sheet – How can I find accommodation?

(Valid August 2013; all information subject to change)

**This document contains information, tips and advice about finding housing and shall help all future incoming students of the ZHAW in their search for a place to stay.**

## 1. General Advice

- **SWOWI** (Studentischer Wohnraum in Winterthur), a non-profit association with the assignment to provide low priced accommodation for students, holds a limited allocation of rooms and flats for ZHAW students. Please consult [SWOWI](#)'s website where you find information on locations, standards, and costs. As soon as you have received your nomination for your studies at the ZHAW, you can apply for your preferred accommodation online. Please note that such application is binding and that you will have to pay for expenses if you withdraw your application. The rooms are assigned on a "first come – first serve" basis.
- **WOKO** (Studentische Wohngenossenschaft Zürich) operates in Winterthur at Bürglistrasse 21/23 residential buildings with 77 accommodation units. An amount of furnished rooms are especially reserved for ZHAW incoming students. For further information the [International Relations Office](#) of your department and the [registrar's office](#) can be contacted.

If you want to look for housing by yourself, please consider the following:

- The housing options on the market are limited and the competition is substantial, so you should start searching early, check listings daily, and respond immediately to suitable advertisements.
- Do not limit your housing hunt to the urban centres of Winterthur und Zürich. There are also nearby villages with easy access to regular transportation within a half-hour's distance of the city centres. If you expand the geographical area of your search, you may find cheaper flats for rent. Check the distance from a potential residence to the ZHAW either in person or on the Internet. Links: <http://www.sbb.ch>, <http://www.zvv.ch>, <http://www.map.search.ch>.

## 2. Marketplaces for Flats and WGs (shared flats) on the Internet

Student Housing	WG-Rooms	Real Estate Portals
<a href="http://www.woko.ch">http://www.woko.ch</a>	<a href="http://www.wohnen.ethz.ch">http://www.wohnen.ethz.ch</a>	<a href="http://www.dachlade.ch">http://www.dachlade.ch</a>
<a href="http://www.clicklodge.com">http://www.clicklodge.com</a>	<a href="http://www.marktplatz.uzh.ch">http://www.marktplatz.uzh.ch</a>	<a href="http://www.juwo.ch">http://www.juwo.ch</a>
<a href="http://www.students.ch/wohnen">http://www.students.ch/wohnen</a>	<a href="http://www.wohnen.ethz.ch/wohnbulletin">http://www.wohnen.ethz.ch/wohnbulletin</a>	



## Z-MB-Housing en

## Rektorat

Ressort Internationales

Prozess: 6.01.03 Mobilität

Version: 1.2.1

Zielgruppe: Public

Dok.-Verantw.:

LeiterIn Stab Ressort Internationales

alt SFS: 2.4.3.3-17MB Housing engl

### WG-Rooms

<http://www.wgzimmer.ch>

<http://www.easywg.ch>

<http://www.wg24.ch>

### Real Estate Portals

<http://www.homegate.ch>

<http://www.immoscout24.ch>

<http://www.alle-immobilien.ch>

### Additional Offers

For short stays:

[www.belodge.com](http://www.belodge.com)

Wheelchair-accessible  
flats, disability housing:

[www.procap-wohnen.ch](http://www.procap-wohnen.ch)

## 3. Newspapers and Bulletin Boards

Upon your arrival in Switzerland start searching through the housing advertisements on the notice boards of local universities (ETH, Zurich University, ZHAW).

The housing advertisements in newspapers are also good sources for finding an accommodation. Nearly all local newspapers publish a page of current listings: *Der Landbote*, *Winterthurer Zeitung*, *Stadtanzeiger*, *WOZ Die Wochenzeitung*, *Zürcher Unterländer*, *Tagblatt der Stadt Zürich*, *Tages-Anzeiger* and the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* are the best-known newspapers for the Winterthur and Zürich areas.

Newspapers are particularly suitable resources for students who prefer to stay independent and rent a single-occupant flat. WG-rooms offered by and for students are seldomly listed in the newspaper. One has to consider that it is not always easy for foreign students to rent an apartment independently. Some property owners maintain certain inhibiting requirements such as rent deposit, contract duration, etc. Similar problems may arise if you wish to establish a WG with other foreign students.

## 4. Networking

Don't forget to use personal connections with colleagues and other students. Even if you have not arrived in Switzerland yet, you can get in touch with other students. For example, you might contact students in your home country who already completed a stay in Switzerland and ask them for suggestions or help in finding accommodation. Perhaps you'll find contacts in Switzerland through platforms such as [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com). Student Organizations such as [ESN](https://www.esn.ch) or [VSZHAW](https://www.vszhaw.ch) are another opportunity to make contacts. You may find, for instance, ZHAW students who wish to rent out their own flat while they are abroad.

## 5. Host Families

If you are interested in experiencing the Swiss culture, language and way of life, you're in good hands with a host family. Numerous platforms on the internet offer help to find host families:

<a href="http://www.homestayweb.com">http://www.homestayweb.com</a>	<a href="http://www.workaway.info">http://www.workaway.info</a>	<a href="http://www.couchsurfing.com">http://www.couchsurfing.com</a>
<a href="http://www.worldhomestay.com">http://www.worldhomestay.com</a>	<a href="http://hospitalityclub.org">http://hospitalityclub.org</a>	<a href="http://homestaybooking.com">http://homestaybooking.com</a>