

WO KANN MAN SPEISEN UND TRINKEN?

(Where can you eat and drink?)

essen / speisen / trinken

restaurant:

die Gaststätte, die Gaststätten

(similar to American cafes and frequently a source of authentic cooking and specialize in serving local food; found especially in smaller villages)

die Speisewirtschaft, die Speisewirtschaften

die Gastwirtschaft, die Gastwirtschaften

die Gaststube, die Gaststuben

das Speiserestaurant / das Restaurant, die Restaurants

(has a varied menu of hot foods, including a Spezialität)

15 MUST-KNOW GERMAN PHRASES TO DINE AT RESTAURANTS**1. Einen Tisch für zwei, bitte. (A table for two, please.)**

In most German restaurants you must wait to be seated. Mostly likely the first thing you'll be asked is how many people are in your party. This sentence can be adapted to whatever size your group is by substituting *zwei* (two) for the appropriate number.

2. Ist dieser Platz frei? (Is this seat taken?)

If other people join you later or if you're eating at a less formal establishment, you might find yourself needing an extra chair or two. This sentence is handy for charming a place to sit away from other tables.

3. Darf ich bitte die Karte sehen? (May I see the menu, please?)

Maybe you're at the bar, having a few beers, when you suddenly notice that you're getting hungry. You won't have to worry about starving if you know how to ask for the menu, nor being limited to just *Bratwurst* or *Sauerkraut*.

4. Was können Sie empfehlen? (What do you recommend?)

A little insider insight never hurts. This can be asked of the waiter or waitress, a stranger at the next table or a native German that you're dining with. (Although keep in mind that if you're friends with this person, you need the informal "you," making the sentence read: *Was kannst du empfehlen?*)

5. Ich möchte jetzt bestellen. (I would like to order now.)

Just in case you need to get the waiter's attention, this phrase will be handy.

Once you've decided what you want to order, it would go something like this: *Ich möchte den Fisch bitte* (I would like the fish, please). Not a seafood person? Substitute *Fisch* for whatever looks good to you, remembering to add the appropriate article with it.