SIM cards- German mobile phone cards

It is particularly important for visiting scientists who only spend short periods of time in Leipzig to have quick and uncomplicated access to a mobile phone in Germany.

Since 1 July 2017 stricter regulations have applied to the sale of new prepaid SIM cards. As with mobile phone contracts, buyers are required to identify themselves with their ID card or passport, and the mobile phone provider must register and store this data.

The most favourable tariffs are usually only available on long-term contracts, often for a minimum period of 24 months. However, it is also possible to make cheap calls with prepaid cards. Here we give you some tips for where to buy which provider, and where you can unlock your SIM cards directly in the shop by presenting your passport:

O₂ shop
Address: Grimmaische Straße 14, 04109 Leipzig
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 10 a.m. to 7 p.m, Sat 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
O₂ tariffs [here]

Tchibo
Address: Markt 17, 04109 Leipzig
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Tchibo tariffs [here]

Mobilcom Debitel
Address: Leipzig Hauptbahnhof (Central Station), Ostseite (East Entrance), Ground floor (EG), right side
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Klarmobil tariffs [here]
CallYa tariffs [here]

Yourfone Partnershop
Address: Grimmaische Straße 21, 04109 Leipzig
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sat 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Ortel tariffs [here]

Lidl (Lidl Connect), Aldi (Aldi talk) and Blau (Blau mobil) also offer inexpensive prepaid options, but there are plenty more low-cost plans. These, however, each require a postal or video identification procedure, which can take a few days. So it depends on how much time you can afford to spend receiving and activating your SIM cards.

Legal notice

This flyer containing information about SIM cards has been compiled as part of the joint project “Willkommen in Leipzig/Welcome to Leipzig”
Dr Annemone Fabricius; Martha Fromme (Welcome Centre, Leipzig University International Centre), January 2020

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