

**Prostitution in Bochum**

**Prostituția în Bochum**

**La prostitution à Bochum**

**Prostitución en Bochum**

**ПРОСТИТУЦИЯ В ГОРОДЕ БОХУМ**

**Проституцията в Бохум**

**Prostitution in Bochum**

## **A Preliminary Remark:**

**For some years now (01.01.2002) there is a law in Germany that governs the prostitutes' legal position (Law on Prostitution). Since that time, as a principle, in Germany it no longer considered to be conflicting with national policy and public morals if one works on the field of sexual services. Under the Law on Prostitution, it is also possible to create an appropriate work environment and employments that are subject to compulsory insurance without being liable to punishment. Nevertheless, you have to know and observe some legal provisions when working in the prostitution.**

**In this brochure, we want to give you a short summary of these provisions. At the same time we want to mention contacts that could give you advice and assistance in case you have any questions or problems!**

**If you are between 18 and 21 years of age, special rules apply. Please seek advice with an advice centre or the police!**



## Places Where You Can Find Advice And Assistance:

**Madonna e. V.**  
**Verein zur beruflichen und kulturellen Bildung von Prostituierten**  
**Gußstahlstraße 33**  
**44793 Bochum**  
**Telephone: 0234-685750**  
**info@madonna-ev.de**

Madonna e.V. is a self-help institution for prostitutes.

It will inform and advise you at no charge and, if requested, anonymously, for instance,

\_\_\_\_\_ if you want to begin with prostitution or are working there  
\_\_\_\_\_ in case of any questions about prostitution  
\_\_\_\_\_ about taxes, health insurance, safety at work and health  
\_\_\_\_\_ if you do no longer want to work as a prostitute  
\_\_\_\_\_ in your planning professional changes or new prospects of life  
\_\_\_\_\_ in order to secure the future livelihood  
\_\_\_\_\_ when dealing with agencies and authorities  
\_\_\_\_\_ for the settlement of debts  
\_\_\_\_\_ in case of problems with the residence or work permit  
\_\_\_\_\_ in order to solve private conflicts, e.g. in partnership, marriage, and family

The Madonna advice centre is also used as a meeting point for prostitutes.

Additional information can be found under:

**[www.madonna-ev.de](http://www.madonna-ev.de)**  
**[www.koopkoma.de](http://www.koopkoma.de)**

**Eine Welt Zentrum Herne**  
**Beratungsstelle für Migrantinnen [Advice Centre for Female Migrants]**  
**Overwegstr. 31, 44625 Herne**  
**Telephone: 02323 - 9949719/20**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Did you come to Germany in order to start a legal employment, in order to marry, or for any other reasons?
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Were promises made to you that were not kept?
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Were you forced to work as a prostitute, or were you hindered from stopping this work?
  - \_\_\_\_\_ You did not get any money for your work?
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Your documentation was taken away?
  - \_\_\_\_\_ You were put under pressure with the threat of violence against your relatives in your home country?
  - \_\_\_\_\_ You were beaten, raped, threatened or locked up?
  - \_\_\_\_\_ You have no or little knowledge of the German language, are afraid of the police, the authorities?
- Even if you did experience only one of these or similar situations, you may address us.

**The advice is free of charge, anonymous and confidential!**

- We shall help you to find a protected accommodation. \_\_\_\_\_
- We shall help you with personal, partnership and legal problems. \_\_\_\_\_
- We shall accompany and assist you during court procedures. \_\_\_\_\_
- We shall help you if you wish to return to your home country. \_\_\_\_\_
- If necessary, we shall arrange a (female) interpreter. \_\_\_\_\_

## **Police**

The drop-in centre in connection with crimes and lodging complaints in connection with prostitution (for instance, procuring, trade in human beings or exploitation of prostitutes) with the Police of Bochum is the

**Kriminalkommissariat [Superintendents' Office]**  
**KK 12, Tel: 0234 909 4120.**

This superintendents' office is located in the Polizeipräsidium [Police Headquarters] Bochum, Umlandstr. 35, 44791 Bochum, and has the jurisdiction for the cities of Bochum, Herne and Witten. Outside office hours and on weekends/holidays you may address the Kriminalwache

**[Criminal Police Station], Tel. 0234 909 4441.**

# Legal Provisions

## Urban Planning and Building Law:

The City of Bochum – just as most of the other towns and communities – designated the zones of its city for certain purposes (types of utilization). There are pure residential areas, mixed-use zones, commercial zones and industrial areas. From the Town Planning Regulations, one may learn in detail which **commercial** utilization is allowed in each area.

**As a matter of principle, the following rule applies:**

**Prostitution may only be exercised in premises for which a corresponding building permit has been granted, and that are situated outside of residential areas.**

## There are different types of prostitution businesses:

### Brothels

A brothel means the organized offer of prostitution in a building.

### Brothel-like businesses

In brothel-like businesses, various services are combined with prostitution, e.g. in massage clubs, relevant sauna businesses or in apartments in which more than two prostitutes perform their work.

### Prostitution in an apartment

Prostitution in an apartment is the prostitution by one or two prostitutes in an apartment. In this connection, at least one of the prostitutes must also live there (main residence).

**However, there is no standard approval depending on the type of the prostitution business and of the zoned area of utilization. Each case requires an individual decision!**

Therefore, in any case please directly address

**Stadtplanungs- und Bauordnungsamt [Urban Planning and Building Regulatory Office] Bochum,  
Telephone 0234 910 - 3442.**

## Trade and Regulative Laws:

### Barred area – prostitution not allowed

In the area of the City of Bochum, there is a barred area (see plan and enclosure) created by a legal regulation, in which the execution of prostitution is forbidden. In the barred area you are not allowed to work on the field of prostitution, otherwise, you will have to face the consequences provided by the law. These vary between regulatory offences and constituent elements of a criminal act (§184 d Criminal Code).

Have you any questions? Please address

**Ordnungsamt [Public Order Office] Bochum**

**Telephone: 0234 910-3682**

### Trade Laws

In Bochum, self-employed prostitution is not classified as a business (within the meaning of the Trade Laws). Therefore you need not and cannot register a business, if you work as a self-employed prostitute.

Please always contact the Tax Office, in order to obtain your personal tax identification number there.

In Bochum, the management of a brothel or a brothel-like business must be registered under the Trade Laws. In case alcoholic beverages are served as well, you additionally need a liquor licence.

Have you any questions? Please address:

**Ordnungsamt Bochum,**

**Telephone: 0234 910- 1217,3662,3323.**

## **Tax Laws:**

### **Taxation of Prostitutes**

In case you work as a self-employed prostitute, you are, as matter of principle, liable to income, turnover, and trade tax. In any case you need a tax identification number, which you will get with the Tax Office. Before starting your activity, please contact the Tax Office in any case.

Please address

**Finanzamt [Tax Office] Bochum-Süd**  
**Königsallee 21,**  
**44789 Bochum**  
**Telephone: 3337-0**

or

**Finanzamt Bochum-Mitte**  
**Castroper Str., 40 - 42,**  
**44791 Bochum**  
**Telephone: 514 -0**

There you will also get additional information material on the subject "Steuern für Prostituierte" [Taxes for Prostitutes].

## **Health**

If you offer sexual services, the frequent sexual contacts may cause irritations of the skin and lesions. This increases the risk of germs penetrating the skin. Among these, one must mention, in particular, AIDS/HIV, chlamydia, hepatitis B and C, gonorrhoea (clap) and syphilis (lues). The best protection is provided by condoms, lubricant and soft hygiene of the intimate parts. Nevertheless, infections may occur. If the protection did not work or if you notice suspicious signs (smell, increased discharge or pain), it is recommended that you seek for an examination as quickly as possible. Please keep in mind that the symptoms of sexually contagious infections sometimes are hard to notice! Therefore, check-ups may be useful even if there are no complaints.

**Gesundheitsamt [Public Health Office] Bochum**  
**Westring 28/30, Room 13**  
**Telephone: 0234/910-3238**  
**Opening hours: Thursday between 3 and 5 p.m.**

## Legislation on Foreigners

If you are a foreign national and want to work as a prostitute, your work is considered a gainful activity within the meaning of the Legislation on Foreigners. Whether, and in which form you will be allowed to work in Germany, depends, e.g., on your nationality. However, in case of any open points or doubts, please directly address the Aliens Authority.

### 1. You have the nationality of a EU Member State and wish to work as a self-employed prostitute?

Then **in any case** you must register your residence in the Bürgerbüro [Community Centre] and prove your health insurance coverage, your tax identification number (from the Tax Office) and your passport or identity card towards the Aliens Authority

### 2. You have another nationality, however, dispose of a limited right of residence that was issued to you in a EU Member State?

You may stay in Germany up to three months, but you are not allowed to work here – neither as a self-employed nor as an employed prostitute.

### 3. You have another nationality, however, you dispose of a “Permanent right of residence EC”, which was issued by a EU Member State (an unlimited residence permit is not sufficient) ?

Please address the Aliens Authority. The staff there will be able to check whether you might possibly be allowed to work as a self-employed prostitute.

### 4. You are already staying in Germany with a valid residence permit or settlement permit issued by a German Aliens Authority?

If you are in possession of a **settlement permit**, you are allowed to work in Germany, whether self-employed or employed.

If you are in possession of a **residence permit**, please address the Aliens Authority. Sometimes your residence permit is conditioned, and you are not allowed to perform any kind of gainful activity without further measures. It might be necessary that you have to apply for a change of the conditions by which you will be allowed to work as a self-employed prostitute.

**Please note that an offence against an applicable legal provision in connection with an activity as prostitute –**

**e.g. against the regulation on the barred areas – is a cause for eviction that could possibly entail the termination**

**of your stay!**

**Aliens Office Bochum,  
Telephone 0234- 910 2400**

Other contact addresses and information:

**Gute Geschäfte:**

**Rechtliches ABC der Prostitution**

**[Good Business: Legal ABC of Prostitution],**

**a brochure by the Bundesverband Sexuelle**

**Dienstleistungen [German Federation for Sexual Services]**

**Medizinische Flüchtlingshilfe**

**[Medical Aid for Refugees],**

**Engelsburger Str. 168, 44789 Bochum,**

**Phone: 0234 904 1380,**

**email: mfh-bochum@gmx.de**

**Runder Tisch Prostitution Bochum**

Gleichstellungsstelle \_ Stadt Bochum

Polizei

Finanzamt

Bauordnungsamt

Ordnungsamt

Gesundheitsamt

Ausländeramt

Madonna e.V.

Frauenbeirat

weitere Beratungsstellen ...



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