

## **BASIC-INFORMATION ABOUT GETTING MARRIED IN WÜRZBURG FOR FOREIGNERS LIVING OUTSIDE GERMANY**

If you want to marry in Germany and you have no domicile inside Germany at all, you are able to apply for your marriage at the registrar office in Germany, where you like to celebrate your marriage, directly. So you may apply here, if you like to marry in Würzburg.

You should get into contact with us early enough to manage the formal procedures, which are necessary before your marriage can take place. At least this should be best a few month before your marriage. The documents, which will be required for an application depend e.g. on your personal family status and nationality. As soon as you have filled in all needed personal information in our "Statement of Personal Data" (You will receive it on request) and have sent back the form, we are able to map a check list, that lists all the documents you need. Information for divorced applicants: Foreign divorces, e.g. done outside Europe; often have to be validated by a Germany court. This additional procedure will be tied together to your application for marriage.

After obtaining the required documents for both future spouses, you apply for your marriage at the Standesamt (Registrar Office) by bringing in or sending in the needed original-documents as listed in your check list. You have to sign the application forms face-to-face at the registrar office, too. If this is not possible but you have a relation or friend in or near Würzburg, you may give a power of attorney in order to manage the whole procedure before the marriage on your behalf. Your attorney is able to sign all needed applications, then. If there is no possibility to appoint an attorney, a part of the procedure only can be done at a German embassy or consulate near your foreign domicile. Your signatures will be attested there. All foreign documents that content no German language have to be translated into German language by a licensed translator inside Germany. You will receive further information if needed. Please notice that all foreign documents that give evidence to your current family status, only can be used when they are issued within the last six month before your application at the registrar office.

**All foreigners need a „marriage licence“**, to be able to marry inside Germany.

If you are a national of a following listed country, you normally will get the needed marriage-licence (issued in your country of origin, valid mostly six month from issue-date):

*Albania, Bulgaria, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Great Britain, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Cape Verde, Kenya, Croatia, Cuba, Liechtenstein, Luxemburg, Moldova, Mozambique, New Zealand, Netherlands, Norway, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Spain, Tanzania, Czech Republic, Turkey and Hungary.*

If your country is not listed here, you probably won't get the needed licence for your marriage in Germany. Then you alternatively will need a „Befreiung von der Beibringung eines „Ehefähigkeitszeugnisses“ ("Alternative-marriage-licence, limited validity: six month") issued by a German court. Application for that purpose will be done at the registrar office in Würzburg, too. The registrar has to submit all original documents, translations and the signed application to the Oberlandesgericht Bamberg (Higher Regional Court) in order to get the needed „Alternative-marriage-licence“ for your marriage. The documents and the licence normally will be back within one month.

As soon as the Marriage-licence or "Alternative-marriage-licence" (you have to reach an agreement for your marriage within the limited period of validity), and all further needed documents, are at the registrar office we may reach an agreement for your marriage appointment.

There is a charge of 100 € up to 150 € at the registrar office, which has to be paid at the time of application in cash or in non-cash by bank transfer. The charge for the "Alternative-marriage licence" and for validating a foreign divorce rises from 10 up to 300 €, depending on your income after taxes for each applicant and case.

Please get into contact for further information.