

German Internet Research:

A Launching Place for Your Research

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In addition to “Big Kahunas” FamilySearch.org and Ancestry.com, there is a 3rd player when it comes to German genealogy on the Internet:

“Genealogy.net: The number one source in German genealogy”

(includes **DigiBib**, which makes digital images of important genealogical literature, including family histories, gazetteers, and other reference works, available online)
(also includes **familienkundliche Datenbank** (family history database)
www.genealogienetz.de/genealogy.html

FamilySearch.org

(home of the FamilySearch **wiki**, an increasing number of digitized German church records, the **Family History Library Catalog** and the old **International Genealogical Index**)
www.familysearch.org

Ancestry.com

(has **Meyers Gazetteer** as a free item; included in subscriptions are the **Hamburg Embarkation Lists**, **Wuerttemberg Emigration Lists** and many other items)
www.ancestry.com

MeyersGaz.org

(free **Meyers Gazetteer** translator and village locator)

Internet Websites with information relevant to German research can help us answer some of the most common questions we ask as genealogists. Some examples of the questions and Websites that will help:

- 1) What was the village of origin for my German-speaking immigrant ancestor?

Baden-Wuerttemberg

<http://www.auswanderer-bw.de>

Brandenburg: Frankfurt an der Oder

<http://www.genealogienetz.de/reg/BRG/neumark/auswande.htm>

Bremen Passenger Lists, 1920-39

<http://www.passagierlisten.de/>

Brunswick, 1846-1871

<http://www.thomas-erbe.de/ahnen/buch/001.htm>

Mecklenburg (Institute for Migration and Ancestral Research)

<http://www.immigrantgensoc.org/searches/imed/igs-imed.html>

Niedersachsen

<http://www.aidaonline.niedersachsen.de/>

Northern Friesland

<http://www.nordfriiskinstituut.de/datenbank.html>

Rhein emigrants

<http://www.rheineahnen.de/listdoc/auswand.htm>

Schleswig-Holstein 1800s

<http://www.rootdigger.de/Emi.htm>

Westphalia emigration lists

http://www.amerikanetz.de/beitraege/?&no_cache=1&L=0

- 2) If my ancestor was from a city, how can try to track down him or her?

Berlin City Directories, 1799-1943

<http://adressbuch.zlb.de>

- 3) How can I help untangle the garbled name of a village of origin?

Atlas des Deutschen Reichs by Ludwig Ravenstein 1883

<http://www.library.wisc.edu/etext/ravenstein/>

GOV Genealogical Gazetteer (part of Genealogy.net supersite)

<http://gov.genealogy.net/index.jsp>

German gazetteers incl. Bavaria, Hesse, Mecklenburg, Schleswig, East/West Prussia

<http://www.progenealogists.com/germany/gazetteersmain.html>

Comprehensive gazetteer of German places east of the Oder and Neisse rivers

<http://www.kartenmeister.com/>

- 4) How can I get in contact with possible relatives from my ancestor's village of origin?

Das Telefonbuch (German telephone directory)

www.dastelefonbuch.de

German National Tourist Board

<http://www.germany.travel/en/germany/about-us/the-gntb/the-gntb.html>

(Also – Google names of villages and find out which local tourist board the village is a part of – e-mail directly to them)

- 5) How can I find out about German archives?

FamilySearch wiki – for guides to Germany and its component states

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Main_Page

Archivschule Marburg Portal D (list of archives)

<http://www.archivschule.de/DE/forschung/archivportal-d/>

- 6) How can I find German church records, especially those not on FamilySearch?

Archion (originally known as Kirchenbuchportal digitized Protestant records)

<https://www.archion.de/>

Matricula church registers online

<http://www.matricula-online.eu/>

- 7) How can I find a researcher in Germany?

Verband deutschsprachiger Berufsgenealogen (“Association of German-speaking Professional Genealogists”)

<http://www.berufsgenealogie.net/english/start.html>