

The GNOME™ Conference  
**GUADEC**

2016

Karlsruhe, Germany



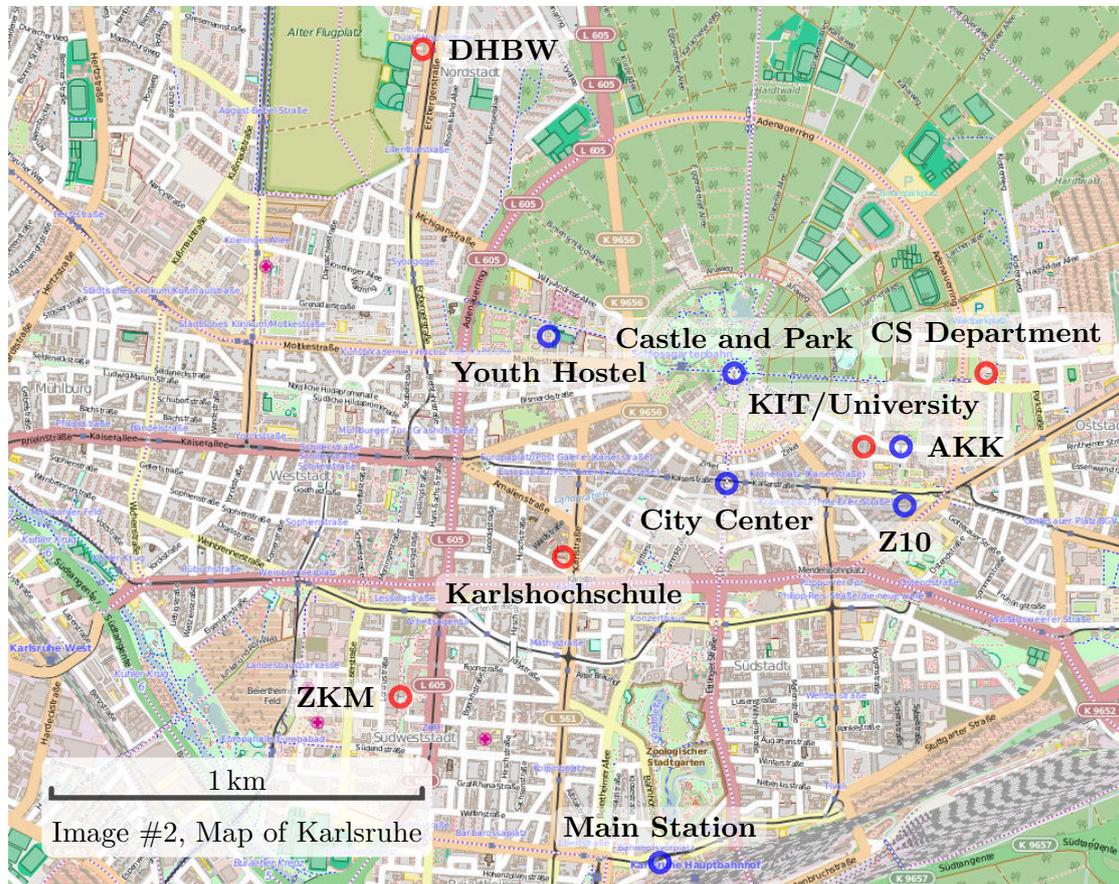
Image #1, Karlsruhe Palace

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# 1 GUADEC in Karlsruhe

Let's start out with some trivialities that might convince you all that hosting GUADEC in Karlsruhe in 2016 is a brilliant idea. Karlsruhe is Germany's sunniest city. Karlsruhe is situated in the Southern part of Germany, hence not only easily accessible from other European Countries, but also from abroad as it is close enough to Frankfurt international airport and Stuttgart airport. Karlsruhe combines a strong sense for science and technology - think KIT<sup>1</sup>, FZI<sup>2</sup> and Fraunhofer Institute—with a penchant for creativity and design—think ZKM<sup>3</sup>. Karlsruhe is a typical “student city” with affordable accommodation and cheap meals. The city hosts 4 higher education institutes offering computer science related degrees. As we plan a particular student pre-event to tap into this student pool, the potential of growing the GNOME community is guaranteed.



<sup>1</sup>Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

<sup>2</sup>Forschungszentrum Informatik

<sup>3</sup>Zentrum für Kunst und Medien

## 2 Venue

At this point the most promising option that we have is the Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg (DHBW). We are however still in investigating other options at this point.

### 2.1 DHBW



**Location** off

**Price** gratis or cheap

**Rooms** audimax with 300 seats, many smaller ones

**Dates** end of July or later

The DHBW (Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg) offers exactly what we are looking for. They have a large room for keynotes and some smaller rooms for talks and also for BoFs in a single building. In addition to this the venue has plenty of space in the lobby that we intend to transform into a lounge for casual gatherings.

The venue is located further to the north west of the city, meaning that it is unlikely to be within comfortable walking distance to the accommodation. However, there is a tram station right next to the building and we are planning to provide all attendees with tram tickets for the duration of the conference. Furthermore if this location is chosen we are going to organize lunch on-site as there are only limited options for lunch in the vicinity.

The venue is available from the end of July on.



## 2.2 ZKM

**Location** very good

**Price** ~ 8500 € for two days

**Rooms** one room with up to 300 seats, smaller auditorium with 100 seats

**Dates** 12.08.-14.08. 2016

The Center for Art and Media (ZKM<sup>4</sup>) is not just a museum but a cultural institution that is unique throughout the world. In the ZKM's own words, it is “a house for all media and genre, a house for both spatially-based arts, such as painting, photography and sculpture as well as time-based arts, such as film, video, media art, music, dance, theater, and performance.”

The venue has two auditoriums, the large “Medientheater” and a smaller “Vortragsraum”. In addition to this there is a large lobby with a Café which we would be sharing with the museum for the duration of the conference.

We would likely use this venue only for the core days, moving over to one of the universities for the BoF sessions. As of now we have a reservation from the 12th to 14th of August.

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<sup>4</sup>Zentrum für Kunst und Medien



Image #5, KIT and Building 10.50

### 2.3 KIT South Campus (University)

**Location** excellent

**Price** cheap or medium price

**Rooms** multiple possible locations

**Dates** earliest end of July, likely later

A third option is to hold the conference on the KIT South Campus which is located right next to the city center. Hosting the conference on the university campus means that all social events and the city center would be within walking distance from the venue.

Even though the computer science department is supporting the idea of holding GUADEC at the KIT in Karlsruhe, we were not yet able to get a confirmation from the KIT administration. We are in contact with the administration and the information will be forwarded as soon as possible.

### 2.4 Karlshochschule

**Location** very good

**Price** unknown

**Rooms** unknown

Another venue option we are currently in contact with is the centrally located Karlshochschule. There is to be interested to host GUADEC which might even happen in cooperation with the ZKM. However we were not yet able to acquire more information as there were delays due to holidays and other reasons.



Image #6, Schlossteich and Schlossturm

### 3 Concept and dates

Our plan is to have the conference with two days on a weekend at the start to mid August followed by three days for BoFs (Birds of a Feather). By having the core days of the conference on the weekend we allow many people living close enough to visit the conference without having to schedule their vacation around it. We are also planning for the registration to be free and to finance the conference solely using donations and corporate sponsorship.

In addition to the usual conference events we are planning to run an event on Friday that is especially designed for students from the various universities in Karlsruhe. We will give students a chance to learn more about free software, the tools used, and how to contribute. For this event we are planning to collaborate with OpenHatch<sup>5</sup> as they have a lot of experience with running these kind of events. With GUADEC right after these workshops we give the students a unique chance to meet the community, learn more about GNOME, and to start contributing.

<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
pre-event Registration Social Event	Core Day I Social Event	Core Day II Social Event	BoF I ZKM tour Social Event	BoF II	BoF III

<sup>5</sup><http://openhatch.org>

## 4 Social Events

An important aspect of a conference like GUADEC is to meet in a less formal environment and make new friends in the community. We plan to host multiple social events for everyone to attend, if at all possible we will try to provide free drinks or even free food at some of the events.

### 4.1 AKK/Z10 Beer Event

With the AKK and Z10 we have two non-profits run by the student community that maintain bars close to the University (KIT South Campus). Both of these locations are ideal as they are kept by volunteers and with just a couple of volunteers of our own and relatively little money we can serve drinks to all conference attendees free of charge all night long.



### 4.2 Football and Games

It is customary for GUADEC to host a football game on one of the evenings. We will rent a football field. By working together with a student organization at the KIT we will be able to rent one on the university campus free of charge.

### 4.3 Picnic

Karlsruhe has a nice park to the north of the castle which provides a beautiful place to play games and enjoy the day. On one evening we would like to do a picnic in this park.

### 4.4 Barbecue

On the first evening we are planning to barbecue. This way we can provide attendees with food and drinks throughout the evening as they are arriving in Karlsruhe.

### 4.5 Center for Art and Media (ZKM)

The ZKM<sup>6</sup> the Center for Art and Media is a world renowned museum in Karlsruhe and even one of our possible venues (see also section 2.2). We can recommend anyone visiting to Karlsruhe to spend a couple of hours in this museum, so we plan to book a tour of this museum for everyone interested.

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<sup>6</sup>Zentrum für Kunst und Medien



Image #8, Karl-Friedrich Memorial and Palace

## 5 Travel

### 5.1 International

Karlsruhe is a generally well connected city. While it does not have a major international airport of its own, there are numerous airports well within reach to allow both overseas and European visitors a cost effective journey. The city is well connected to the Deutsche Bahn ICE/IC train network and also offers direct TGV connections to Paris and Marseille (via Lyon). In addition to this there are numerous far distant bus routes connecting Karlsruhe with destinations all over Europe.

#### 5.1.1 Frankfurt Airport (FRA)

Frankfurt International Airport (FRA) is Germany's busiest airport and an important hub for international air travel.

**Distance** 130 km

**By Train** 1 h, 40 €

**By Bus** 1.5 h–4 h,  $\geq 10$  €

#### 5.1.2 Stuttgart Airport (STX)

About 55 airlines are flying to over a 100 destinations from Stuttgart airport. It is reachable both by S-Bahn and train or using far distance buses.

**Distance** 80 km

**By Train** 1.5 h, 28 €

**By Bus** 1 h,  $\geq 5$  €

#### 5.1.3 Karlsruhe Baden (FKB)

Karlsruhe Baden Airpark is a small airport located to the south of the city. It mostly hosts cheaper airline companies flying to holiday destinations throughout Europe.

**Distance** 45 km

**By Bus** 1 h, 7.10 €

#### 5.1.4 Strasbourg/Entzheim (SXB)

This airport located just south of Strasbourg can easily be reached from Karlsruhe using local trains.

**Distance** 105 km

**By Train** 2 h, 20 to 30 €



Image #9, Botanic Garden

## **5.2 Local**

### **5.2.1 Walking**

Karlsruhe is a fairly walkable city. The centre is compact and most things tourists would ever want to visit are within a 30 minutes stroll.

From the main railway station in the south of the city, the city's centre is about 25 minute walk away. The university is located right in the centre. The most promising venue, the DHBW, is a bit off, though. From the centre, it's another 30 minute walk to the north. The city is pretty pedestrianised and offers lots of green, so walking is a pleasure.

### **5.2.2 Cycling**

Most locals go by bike, though. Riding the bicycle is very efficient in Karlsruhe and rental schemes exist. The most bikes can be had with Fächerrad, which is the localised brand of Nextbike, which is available in many European cities. So people who are already customers can use those bike right away. Renting such a bike costs 1 € per 30 minutes although, depending on the plan, the first half an hour might be free of charge.

From the main railway station, the city centre is a mere ten minutes away. From the centre to the prospected venue is another ten minutes.

### **5.2.3 Public Transport**

Karlsruhe has an efficient public transport system. It is integrated in the sense that one ticket is valid for all modes of transport. So you can go with one ticket by either tram, train, or bus. The tram from the main railway station takes about 10 minutes. During rush hours, trams go every five minutes.

The DHBW is connected with a tram which takes 15 minutes to/from the main railway station or 10 minutes to/from the centre. The tram goes every 10 minutes.

The prices are as follows: A single ride costs 2.40 €, but you can get four rides for 9.50 €. A day pass costs 6.20 € for one person and 10.10 € for five persons.

## 6 Accommodation

### 6.1 A&O Hostel



**Location** Main Station

**Price** single: ~ 61.30 /pP, 2-3: ~ 35.30 /pP; 4: ~ 30.50 /pP

**Breakfast** included, mandatory

**Availability** available

This hostel is located right at the main station, which is a little bit off from the city center. Breakfast is mandatory for group reservations and the prices vary quite a lot between the different dates (the estimation is averaged for a five night stay).

### 6.2 Jugendherberge Karlsruhe



**Location** North West of City Center

**Price** ~ 25 €/pP

**Breakfast** included, mandatory

**Availability** after 21st August

The youth hostel is located to the south west of the city center in the middle of one of the universities, the Hochschule Karlsruhe. The walk to the next tram station is about 10 min. While this location would be pretty affordable, it is heavily used by groups during the summer, and will not be available to us from the start of Juli till the 21st of August.

Note that it is mandatory to get half-board or a lunch pack for at least some of the days. The price mentioned here is an estimation that already includes the extra costs this incurs.

### 6.3 Gästehaus Kaiserpassage



**Location** West of City Center

**Price** 20 to 22 €/pP in 4 bed room

**Breakfast** not available

**Availability** available

This small hostel is located in the western part of the city center. The hostel does not offer breakfast or en-suite bathrooms. The hostel offers a shared kitchen.

### 6.4 B&B Hotels

**Location** Main Station

**Price** 33 €/pP in 2 bed room, 28.70 €/pP in 3 bed room

**Breakfast** 7.50 €/pP

**Availability** available

This is a relatively cheap hotel just behind the main station.



Image #13, Karlsruhe between ca. 1890 and ca. 1900

## 7 Dining

### 7.1 Breakfast

There are little German bakeries all over the city where you can get breakfast (savoury or sweet pastries and coffee or tea) for about 4 €. However, breakfast is included in room fares at the Ibis hotel and A&O, as well B&B have common dining rooms and kitchen where everyone can prepare their usual breakfast.

### 7.2 Lunch

The university canteen offers meals for about 3 € for students and 6 € for guests. Otherwise, all type of restaurants (Kebabs, Thai, Chinese, Italian, ...) are available all over the inner city. If one knows where to go it is possible to get a simple meal including drink for 6 €.

### 7.3 Dinner

We intend to organize a picnic in the “Schlosspark” as well as a BBQ. We are not currently planning on providing dinner for the other days, but there are a lot of restaurants in the city with reasonably priced food. Expect meals to cost around 10 € without a drink, but there are also cheaper options for as low as 6 € including a drink available.



Image #14, Botanic Garden and Art Gallery

## 8 Sponsors

This section describes how we envision to raise the money needed for running the event.

Karlsruhe is not only a student city; it is also a hub for IT companies. Every year, events such as LEARNTEC and initiatives such as KAIT-SI or MEKA are hosted in Karlsruhe, bringing together professionals from the area of security, mobile computing and design. We believe that hosting GUADEC 2016 in Karlsruhe can contribute to anchoring GNOME in a sustainable way in the wider network of a fast-growing IT-cluster in Germany which has its central point in Baden-Württemberg. We further commit to closely interact with the local government, administration and tourism board to ensure that as many entities as possible are aware of the unique opportunity that an event such as GUADEC is providing to members of the GNOME community and to the wider public.

We will work together with the foundation to update the existing sponsorship brochure and will adapt it to be used by ourselves to present GUADEC and GNOME and the different sponsorship options to potential local companies.

We intend to contact various IT companies in the region, for example SAP, Web.de, securvo, CAS, Gameforge, B2M, Sophos, Wibu, and others.

As per the budget shown below, we might rely on money we will not acquire ourselves.



Image #15, State Museum of Natural History

## 9 Team

The team is currently composed of four people: Benjamin Berg, Markus Mohrhard, Moira Schuler, and Tobias Mueller.

We have commitments from more people both local and remote. We will need more help, though, and we have already discussed what the roles and responsibilities are that need to be distributed.

Local GNOME communities are hard to find in Germany, these days, so there is no local GNOME user group in Karlsruhe. But there are several IT and IT friendly institutions such as the the local CCC branch called Entropia, a FabLab, and several LUGs. Some of those have already organized an event like GUADEC and we hope to make use of their knowledge.

As for the legal structure supporting the event, we are considering working together with a student association at the university as this would simplify access to the university's resources and also help us to tap into the student's pool more easily. In the case that we cannot secure support from an existing non-profit for the event we are planning to found a new non-profit that would not only be handling GUADEC 2016 but will also support GNOME or free software trough other means in the future.



Image #16, Karlsruhe Palace

## 10 Budget

As we do not know the cost for the different venues at this point, we are unable to correctly plan the whole budget at this point. This budget should still provide some insights into the cost and spending structure for GUADEC in Karlsruhe. The “Best Case” and “Worst Case” options show how we might react to higher costs for the venue or lower income. Some of the “Best Case” entries show lower spending as we may be able to get/provide the service at a better price.

Currency: €	Best Case	Expected	Worst Case
<b>Income</b>			
Donations	9000.00	5250.00	3750.00
Sponsorship (via foundation)	35 000.00	32 000.00	30 000.00
Sponsorship (local)	10 000.00	5000.00	2000.00
Merchandise	1600.00	1300.00	1000.00
<b>Expenses</b>			
Liability Insurance	-200.00	-200.00	-200.00
Lanyards	0.00	0.00	0.00
Merchandise	-800.00	-800.00	-800.00
Video and Live Streaming <sup>7</sup>			
Travel and Accomodation	-175.00	-300.00	-
Equipment Insurance	-100.00	-100.00	-
Shipping	-	-150.00	-
Travel Sponsorship	-35 000.00	-30 000.00	-30 000.00
Keynote Speaker Travel	-3500.00	-3000.00	-2500.00
Venue	-1000.00	-4500.00	-8000.00
<b>Social Events</b>			
AKK/Z10 Evening with drinks	-1000.00	-500.00	-
Picnic	-500.00	-300.00	-
Barbecue	-1000.00	-1000.00	-
Football Field Rental	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Misc</b>			
Speaker Gifts	-500.00	-300.00	-200.00
KVV tickets for everyone	-800.00	-800.00	-
Car Rentals	-800.00	-800.00	-300.00
Coffee Breaks	-400.00	-700.00	-
Admin and Bank	-750.00	-750.00	-750.00
Speaker/Volunteer Water	-50.00	-50.00	-50.00
<b>Sum</b>	<b>9025.00</b>	<b>-700.00</b>	<b>-6050.00</b>

<sup>7</sup>This assumes the CCC Video Operation Center provides the video and streaming infrastructure.

## 11 Images

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