



HOW DO I LEASE AN ALLOTMENT IN THE „GRÜNER BREMER WESTEN“?



Ministry for Climate Protection,
Environment, Mobility, Urban
and Housing Development



Free
Hanseatic City
of Bremen

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The „Grüner Bremer Westen“ (Green Bremen West) is a project by Bremen’s Senator for Climate Protection, Environment, Mobility, Urban Development and Housing.

The project is part of the „Green Urban Labs“ pilot project by „Experimental #Housing and Urban Development“ (ExWoSt) - a federal research programme. The project aims to lay the foundations for creating a local recreation area within the allotment space between Blockland, Gröpelingen and Walle, in which allotment gardening and other leisure activities invite visitors to linger.



AN ALLOTMENT PLOT? WHAT EXACTLY IS THAT?

The allotment, or garden plot, is intended for recreation and gardening in nature. It also enables fruit and vegetables to be grown - this is even mandatory. When you become a leaseholder of an allotment, not only are you an allotment gardener, but also a part of a gardening community that helps and supports each other and belongs to a common allotment garden association.

- Allotment plots are **400 m² on average**. In Bremer Westen, however, the size often varies.
- Bremer Westen has urban leasehold gardens, leasehold gardens on farmland and private land plots.
- The **arbours** (houses) are usually **24 m² in size**, which also corresponds to the legal maximum size.
- In Bremer Westen, the gardens often have a drainage ditch to the front or back, which belongs to the plot and must be maintained.
- Even though **living in the allotment garden is not permitted**, you may occasionally spend the night there.
- According to the Bremen garden regulations (Bremer Gartenordnung), **animal husbandry is not permitted in the allotment garden**. However, this does not include keeping bees or fish in a pond.





WALLE

GRÖPELINGEN

OSLEBSHAUSEN

**WALLER
FELDMARKSEE**

WHERE AND WHAT IS THE „GRÜNER BREMER WESTEN“?

„Grüner Bremer Westen“ is a local recreation area in the west of Bremen, surrounded by the districts Findorff, Walle, Gröpelingen, Oslebshausen and the Blockland.

There are over 5,000 allotments in the area, organized into different associations. Special highlights of the area include Waller Feldmarksee, Blocklandgarten in the former prison, the Waller environmental education project and the Walle international garden. In addition, there are a variety of cosy places that invite visitors to linger.

Accessibility

„Grüner Bremer Westen“ can be easily reached by bike, especially from the surrounding districts. If you are a good walker, you can also travel close to various points in the area with the RS1, trams 2 and 10 and bus lines 20, 26, 82, 90, 91, 92, 93 and 95 and take a walk to your destination. You can also reach almost all the plots in the area by car.

Distances to Waller Feldmarksee, which is located in the middle of the area:

- 🚲from Bremen main station6,8 km (25 min.)
- 🚲from the Walle Center3.5 km (15 min.)
- 🚲from the Gröpelingen stop.....3.6 km (16 min.)



WHAT WILL IT COST ME?

Costs vary between different allotment garden associations. Nevertheless, the average costs can be roughly determined:

- The annual lease costs 16-19 cents per square meter. A 400 m² plot of land and an average lease of 18 cents, means € 72 a year.
- A transfer fee is usually due for the plot. This cost is determined by a valuer. The one-off costs for the transfer can sometimes be between € 300 and € 5,000. However, there are also some plots for which you do not have to pay a transfer fee because they have not been used for a long time. In turn, you have to invest more time and energy into getting the garden back into shape.
- Anyone who leases a garden must become a member of an allotment garden association. An annual membership fee is charged, which varies from club to club and amounts to approximately € 90. As a rule, a one-off admission fee of around € 65 must also be paid.
- There are additional costs for water and electricity.
- There are also various smaller items, such as compulsory insurance, ditch cleaning costs, etc.

Average annual costs*:

Lease (400 m ²)	€ 72,00
Membership fee	€ 90,00
Tap water	€ 18,00
Water (8 m ³)	€ 20,00
Ditch cleaning.....	€ 10,00
Electricity costs.....	€ 70,00
Insurance.....	€ 10,00

annually € 290,00

Average one-off costs when taking over an **overgrown garden:**

Admission fee	65,00 €
Transfer fee for the garden	0,00 €
Tap key	45,00 €

one-time payment € 110,00

In addition, you should allow enough money for waste disposal and new purchases to restore the overgrown garden.

* Costs vary between different allotment garden associations. The stated costs are therefore only average values.

A wooden fence with a horizontal top rail and vertical slats. On top of the rail, there are two green pears, a red and yellow apple, and a bunch of green grapes. The sign "Kleine Freiheit 87" is painted in white cursive on the rail. The background is a lush garden with green leaves and some fruit hanging from vines.

Kleine Freiheit 87

CAN I DESIGN MY GARDEN HOWEVER I LIKE?

Absolutely! When designing the arbour and leased garden, you can let your imagination run wild as long as you pay attention to a few small aspects.

This includes, for example, that not all tree species may be planted due to the small plot area. But don't worry! All relevant information is described in the regional association's garden regulations, which can be found online, among other things, in the service area of the association's homepage:

<https://gartenfreundebremen.de/service/formulare/>

WHAT ARE MY OBLIGATIONS?

- In general, all leaseholders must adhere to the garden rules and quiet times.
- Vegetable and fruit cultivation: At least a third of the area is for the cultivation of fruit, vegetables and herbs for personal use. Growing vegetables and fruits is therefore mandatory.
- If the plot has a drainage ditch, it must be cut free at least once a year and cleaned if necessary.
- Every association has a binding community garden service, in which everyone must participate two to three times a year.





ALLOTMENT AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE:

Allotments have a social character according to federal law. Since the allotment garden area is only leased, it does not constitute a usable asset.

The arbour is considered movable property; an asset only arises when the lease ends, when a transfer fee is paid by the successor.

In the rarest of cases, this can be for an amount that exceeds the eligible assets. **Therefore, welfare recipients can also lease an allotment garden.**

HOW DO I END THE LEASE?

- The leasehold garden can also be cancelled. A one-time valuation fee of € 120 applies.
- Since the association concludes the contract with the new leaseholder, the garden cannot be passed on directly.
- However, you can suggest a successor to the association if you know someone in your circle of friends who would like to take on the garden.



ALLOTMENT GARDEN - VOCABULARY LIST

DEUTSCH - ENGLISH

Moin	Hello
Willkommen	Welcome
Entwässerungsgraben	drainage ditch
Ernte	harvest
Gartenordnung	garden rules
Gartenzwerg	garden gnome
Gemeinschaftsarbeit	community garden service
Kleingarten	allotment
Laube	arbour
Pacht	lease
Parzelle	plot
Ruhezeit	quiet time
Vereinsheim	club house
Vorstand	board
Was für ein schöner Garten!	What a beautiful garden!



HOW DO I FIND A SUITABLE PLOT?

The easiest thing to do is visit the allotment garden club in question during its office hours where they will advise you and help you find the right garden.

Office hour appointments are usually announced on the respective websites. The associations where you can lease an urban garden in „Grüner Bremer Westen“ are listed on the last page of this brochure with the most important contact details.

When choosing an allotment garden, your gut feeling is important. Possible criteria for the selection also include:

- the location (can I get to the garden easily?)
- the neighbours (can I imagine a harmonious coexistence with the neighbours?)
- the orientation of the garden (do I need a little shade, or do I prefer full sun for my tomatoes?)
- the infrastructure (is there water/electricity available? Can I manage without water/electricity?)

CHECKLISTE

If you can answer yes to the following sentences, then you are ready for an allotment garden:

- 👍 I want to garden.
- 👍 I usually have time to garden several times a week.
- 👍 I have read the garden regulations of the state association (Landesverband der Gartenfreunde) and am confident that I can design and use the allotment garden accordingly.



CONTACTS



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Allotment garden associations

KGV Am Mittelwischweg

KGV Blockland

KGV Blüh Auf

KGV Gute Gemeinschaft

KGV Morgenland

Türkisch sozialer KGV

KGV Union

KGV Walle

KGV Waller Marsch

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