

Computer Travel Outside the USA

Q: Will my laptop work when I visit Germany?

A: You will need a special adapter to plug in your power cord, because the European outlets are different. In fact, they vary from country to country. If you have an adapter for your hair dryer that you know will work in Germany, see if you can plug in your laptop with it. If the power cable fits the adapter, you MIGHT be OK but I wouldn't use it for my Laptop. Contact your laptop's manufacturer.

X-ray machines at airports are not a problem for computers. Customs officials may ask you to turn on the unit to prove it's a computer, not an explosive device. As frequent travelers have discovered, this is sometimes an issue in smaller airports in the United States too. To speed up this process, leave the laptop in sleep mode, so it avoids the lengthy boot-up routine.

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