

Frankfurt am Main Travel Guide

Discover Frankfurt: Where Tradition Meets Innovation

Germany · Generated July 12, 2026 · mycitytravelguide.com/germany/frankfurt-am-main/

Things to do in Frankfurt am Main

Landmarks & Monuments

Frankfurt's skyline is a captivating blend of **medieval towers** and **modern skyscrapers**. From the reconstructed Old Town to the iconic Main Tower, these landmarks tell the story of a city that honors its past while embracing the future.



Römer Must See

45 minutes No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

The **Römer** is Frankfurt's iconic medieval town hall, featuring a distinctive three-peaked facade that has served as the city's symbol for over 600 years. Located in the heart of the reconstructed Altstadt (Old Town), this *15th-century building* hosted Holy Roman Emperor coronation banquets in its magnificent Kaisersaal (Imperial Hall). The picturesque Römerberg square surrounding it showcases traditional half-timbered houses and creates one of Germany's most photographed historical ensembles.



Main Tower Must See

1-1.5 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Standing at **200 meters tall**, Main Tower offers Frankfurt's only publicly accessible observation platform, providing breathtaking 360-degree views of the city's distinctive skyline and the Main River valley. This *56-story skyscraper* features both an indoor viewing gallery and an outdoor terrace on the 54th floor. Visit at sunset for spectacular views of 'Mainhattan' transitioning from day to night, or enjoy fine dining at the tower's restaurant while overlooking Germany's financial district.



Frankfurt Cathedral (Kaiserdom St. Bartholomäus) Top Pick

1 hour No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

This magnificent **Gothic cathedral** served as the coronation church for Holy Roman Emperors from 1562 to 1792, making it one of Germany's most historically significant religious buildings. The distinctive red sandstone structure, dating back to the 13th-15th centuries, features a 95-meter tower offering panoramic city views after climbing 324 steps. Inside, admire the impressive late Gothic choir, beautiful frescoes, and the cathedral museum displaying imperial regalia and religious artifacts.





Old Opera House (Alte Oper)

Top Pick

Book Ahead

30 minutes exterior, 2-3 hours with concert Book Ahead



Map



Wiki

Built in 1880 in Italian Renaissance style, the **Alte Oper** is one of Germany's most beautiful concert halls and Frankfurt's premier cultural venue. Destroyed during WWII and meticulously reconstructed in the 1970s, it now hosts over 300 concerts annually, from classical symphonies to jazz performances. The stunning facade and elegant interior make it a architectural masterpiece, while the surrounding plaza hosts outdoor events and festivals. Even if not attending a performance, the building's exterior is worth visiting for photos.



Paulskirche (St. Paul's Church)

Notable

30-45 minutes No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

The **Paulskirche** holds profound significance as the birthplace of German democracy, where the first freely elected German parliament convened in 1848. This circular Protestant church, built 1789-1833, now serves as a memorial and venue for events promoting democracy and human rights. The simple yet powerful interior features the iconic *black-red-gold flag* and exhibitions about Germany's democratic history. Free entry makes this an essential stop for understanding Germany's political heritage.



Eschenheimer Turm

Optional

15-20 minutes No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

This imposing **47-meter medieval tower**, built in the early 15th century, is Frankfurt's oldest and best-preserved city fortification. Part of the original city walls, the Eschenheimer Tower combines late Gothic architecture with Renaissance elements. While the tower itself isn't regularly open to the public, its dramatic exterior presence in the modern cityscape creates a striking contrast. The adjacent café offers a perfect spot to admire this architectural time capsule.

Tips for Landmarks & Monuments

- **Best photo timing:** Visit Römerberg early morning (before 9 AM) for crowd-free photos
- **Main Tower tip:** Book online to skip queues; sunset visits require advance planning
- **Cathedral tower:** Tower closes earlier than the church - check times if you want to climb
- **Free attractions:** Römerberg, Paulskirche, and most exterior views are completely free



Museums & Galleries

Frankfurt's **Museumsufer (Museum Embankment)** along the Main River hosts one of Europe's most concentrated cultural districts. From Old Masters to modern art, natural history to film, the city's world-class museums offer something for every interest.



Städel Museum Must See

2-3 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

One of **Germany's most important art museums**, the Städel houses 700 years of European art from medieval to contemporary. The collection includes masterpieces by Rembrandt, Vermeer, Monet, Renoir, Picasso, and Beckmann. The modern underground extension, opened in 2012, features innovative circular skylights and houses contemporary works. With over 3,100 paintings, 660 sculptures, and 100,000 drawings and prints, plan at least 2-3 hours to explore this exceptional collection properly.



Senckenberg Natural History Museum Must See

2-3 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Germany's second-largest natural history museum features an **extraordinary dinosaur collection**, including the largest exhibition of large dinosaurs in Europe. The impressive displays include fossil skeletons, a diplodocus measuring 18 meters, and the famous Frankfurt T-Rex. Beyond dinosaurs, explore extensive collections of taxidermied animals, Egyptian mummies, minerals, and evolutionary exhibits. Perfect for families, the interactive displays and life-size reconstructions make natural history come alive for visitors of all ages.



Museum für Moderne Kunst (MMK) Top Pick

1.5-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Housed in a striking **triangular postmodern building** nicknamed 'slice of cake,' the MMK showcases international contemporary art from the 1960s to present. The collection features works by Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Joseph Beuys, and Gerhard Richter, among others. The building itself, designed by Hans Hollein, is an architectural landmark. Three locations (MMK 1, MMK 2, and MMK 3) offer diverse exhibition spaces. The museum's focus on avant-garde and experimental art makes it essential for contemporary art enthusiasts.



Goethe House and Museum Top Pick

1-1.5 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

The birthplace of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, **Germany's greatest writer**, has been meticulously reconstructed to its 18th-century appearance. Walk through the rooms where Goethe spent his youth (1749-1765) and wrote early works including 'The Sorrows of Young Werther.' The adjacent museum displays manuscripts, portraits, and artifacts related to Goethe's life and the Enlightenment era. The house provides intimate insight into bourgeois life in Frankfurt during the Baroque period and the formative environment of this literary giant.





Schirn Kunsthalle Top Pick

1.5-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

This **prestigious exhibition hall** in the heart of Frankfurt hosts rotating world-class contemporary art exhibitions. Without a permanent collection, Schirn focuses on innovative temporary shows featuring both established masters and emerging artists. Past exhibitions have covered everything from Renaissance art to digital media. The striking circular architecture integrates seamlessly with the adjacent Römerberg. Check their program before visiting, as exhibitions change every few months, offering fresh perspectives on art history and contemporary culture.



German Film Museum (Deutsches Filmmuseum) Notable

1.5-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

This **interactive cinema museum** on the Museumsufer explores film history from early cinema to digital filmmaking. Visitors can experiment with pre-cinema optical devices, understand film production techniques, and explore behind-the-scenes movie magic. The permanent exhibition covers international film history with artifacts, costumes, and props. The museum also houses a cinematheque showing classic and contemporary films. Hand-on exhibits make this especially engaging for families and film enthusiasts wanting to understand the art and technology of cinema.



Museum of Communication Notable

1.5 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Trace the evolution of human communication from **ancient postal systems to the digital age** in this fascinating museum. Interactive exhibits let visitors experience historical communication methods, from writing letters with quill pens to operating telegraph machines. The extensive stamp collection is one of the world's finest. Modern exhibits explore internet culture, social media, and digital communication's impact on society. The hands-on approach and multimedia installations make complex topics accessible and entertaining for all ages.



Jewish Museum Frankfurt Notable

2 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Two historic buildings - the Rothschild Palais and the Museum Judengasse - tell the story of **Frankfurt's Jewish community** from medieval times to present. The Museum Judengasse stands on the site of the original Jewish ghetto, displaying archaeological remains of homes and ritual baths. Exhibitions explore Jewish life, culture, persecution, and contributions to Frankfurt's development. The Rothschild family's former residence houses contemporary exhibitions on Jewish identity. Together, these sites provide profound insight into Jewish history and Frankfurt's multicultural heritage.

Tips for Museums & Galleries

- **Museumsufer ticket:** Consider the Frankfurt Card or Museumsufer ticket for multiple museum visits



- **Tuesday savings:** Some museums offer reduced admission on specific weekdays
- **Museumser Festival:** Visit during the annual August festival for special programming and outdoor events
- **Free Saturdays:** The last Saturday of each month offers free admission to several museums
- **English tours:** Städel and Senckenberg offer audio guides and guided tours in English



Religious Sites

Frankfurt's churches reflect centuries of religious heritage, from medieval Catholic cathedrals to Protestant churches that shaped German history. These sacred spaces offer both **spiritual reflection** and **architectural splendor**.



St. Leonhard's Church Notable
30-45 minutes No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

This beautiful **late Gothic church** near the Main River is considered one of Frankfurt's finest medieval buildings. Built in the 15th century, St. Leonhard's features two distinctive towers and stunning stained glass windows, including some original 15th-century panels. The church miraculously survived WWII bombing relatively intact, preserving its authentic medieval atmosphere. Notable features include the intricately carved entrance portal, the Marienaltar (Mary's Altar), and the atmospheric vaulted ceiling. Regular organ concerts showcase the church's exceptional acoustics.



St. Catherine's Church (Katharinenkirche) Optional
30 minutes No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Frankfurt's largest Protestant church, **St. Catherine's** was rebuilt after WWII and features a distinctive 54-meter baroque tower that survived the war. The church, originally built in the 14th century, played an important role in Frankfurt's Protestant history. Inside, the modern interior design contrasts beautifully with traditional elements. The church is known for its outstanding musical program, particularly organ concerts and choral performances. Its location near the Hauptwache makes it easily accessible during city exploration.



Liebfrauenkirche (Church of Our Lady) Optional
20-30 minutes No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Dating back to the **14th century**, this Catholic church stands prominently at the Liebfrauenberg in Frankfurt's shopping district. The late Gothic structure features a beautiful carved portal and houses important religious artworks. After WWII damage, the church was reconstructed maintaining its historical character. The peaceful interior provides a tranquil escape from the busy shopping streets. The adjacent Liebfrauenberg square hosts the popular Christmas market, making the church particularly atmospheric during the holiday season.

Tips for Religious Sites

- **Respectful visiting:** Remember these are active places of worship - dress modestly and remain quiet during services
- **Concert schedules:** Check church websites for organ concerts and choral performances, often free or low-cost
- **Combined tours:** Many churches are clustered near the Altstadt - visit several in one walking tour
- **Photography:** Most churches allow photos, but flash photography may be prohibited during services



Squares & Streets

Frankfurt's **public squares and pedestrian streets** form the heart of city life, from the historic Römerberg to the elegant shopping boulevard of Zeil. These spaces blend history, culture, and modern urban vitality.



Römerberg Must See

30-45 minutes No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Frankfurt's most iconic square, **Römerberg** is the historic heart of the city and site of medieval markets and festivals for centuries. Surrounded by meticulously reconstructed half-timbered houses (Ostzeile), the medieval Römer town hall, and the Gothic Old St. Nicholas Church, the square embodies Frankfurt's medieval heritage. The Fountain of Justice (Justitiabrunnen) stands at its center. Today, Römerberg hosts Christmas markets, cultural festivals, and outdoor events. The square's photogenic charm makes it Frankfurt's most recognizable landmark and essential first stop.



Zeil Top Pick

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

One of **Germany's most famous shopping streets**, the Zeil stretches for a kilometer through Frankfurt's city center as a mostly pedestrianized zone. This bustling boulevard combines department stores, international brands, and the striking MyZeil shopping center with its futuristic spiral architecture. Street performers, cafés, and public art installations create vibrant urban energy. The central Hauptwache square marks the western end, while eastward the street leads to the Konstablerwache. Beyond shopping, Zeil showcases Frankfurt's modern commercial vitality and contemporary urban design.



Kleinmarkthalle Top Pick

45 minutes - 1 hour No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

While technically an indoor market, this **1950s market hall** functions as Frankfurt's culinary town square. Under one roof, over 60 vendors sell fresh produce, meats, cheeses, fish, baked goods, flowers, and international specialties. The bustling atmosphere, with vendors calling out offers and locals shopping, provides authentic Frankfurt flavor. Several stands serve prepared foods - perfect for lunch. The Kleinmarkthalle represents Frankfurt's multicultural character through its diverse food offerings and remains a beloved local institution where tradition meets contemporary foodie culture.





Hauptwache

Notable

20-30 minutes No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

This central square takes its name from the **baroque guardhouse** (built 1730) that still stands at its center, now housing a café. The Hauptwache serves as Frankfurt's primary meeting point and transportation hub, with one of the city's busiest U-Bahn and S-Bahn stations below. The surrounding area features the striking St. Catherine's Church tower, modern office buildings, and the beginning of the Zeil shopping street. The square's mix of historic and contemporary architecture, combined with constant pedestrian flow, captures Frankfurt's dynamic character.



Opernplatz

Notable

20-30 minutes No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

This elegant square fronts the **magnificent Alte Oper** (Old Opera House) and serves as a cultural gathering space. The spacious plaza hosts outdoor concerts, festivals, and events, particularly during summer months. Fountains and seating areas make it perfect for relaxing while admiring the Renaissance Revival architecture of the opera house. The square connects to the banking district and Bockenheimer Anlage park. In evenings, the illuminated opera house creates a romantic atmosphere, making Opernplatz popular for evening strolls before performances or dinner.

Tips for Squares & Streets

- **Market timing:** Visit Kleinmarkthalle Tuesday-Friday mornings for the best selection and authentic market atmosphere
- **Photography:** Römerberg is most photogenic in early morning light with fewer tourists
- **Events:** Check Frankfurt's event calendar - squares host regular festivals, concerts, and markets
- **Rest stops:** All major squares have nearby cafés perfect for people-watching breaks



Neighborhoods & Districts

Beyond the city center, Frankfurt's diverse **neighborhoods each possess distinct character** - from the apple wine taverns of Sachsenhausen to the multicultural energy of Bahnhofsviertel and the trendy cafés of Bornheim.



Sachsenhausen Must See

2-3 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Located south of the Main River, **Sachsenhausen** is Frankfurt's most characterful neighborhood, famous for traditional apple wine taverns (Apfelweinlokale). The Alt-Sachsenhausen district features cobblestone streets, half-timbered houses, and authentic taverns serving Ebbelwoi (apple wine) with regional specialties like Handkäs mit Musik. The riverfront promenade offers stunning views of Frankfurt's skyline. The neighborhood combines traditional German gemütlichkeit (coziness) with vibrant nightlife. Don't miss the atmospheric taverns along Klappergasse and Textorstraße, where locals gather in traditional blue-grey pottery cups.



Nordend Notable

2-3 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Nordend is Frankfurt's creative and residential heart, characterized by beautiful Gründerzeit (late 19th-century) architecture, tree-lined streets, and neighborhood feel. This gentrified district attracts artists, young professionals, and families with its independent boutiques, cozy cafés, organic shops, and weekly farmers' markets. The Oeder Weg area pulses with bars and restaurants, while quieter residential streets showcase elegant apartment buildings. Bethmann Park and the Chinese Garden provide green retreats. Nordend embodies Frankfurt's livable, cultural side away from skyscrapers and finance.



Bahnhofsviertel Notable

2 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Frankfurt's most **multicultural and rapidly gentrifying neighborhood** surrounds the Hauptbahnhof (main train station). Once notorious for its red-light district, Bahnhofsviertel now buzzes with hip cocktail bars, ethnic restaurants (particularly Korean, Vietnamese, and Turkish), art galleries, and creative spaces. The area's gritty urban character coexists with emerging cultural venues like English Theatre and trendy nightlife. Diversity defines Bahnhofsviertel - expect authentic international cuisine, street art, and urban energy. Exercise normal city caution, especially at night, though the area has significantly improved.



Bornheim Optional

2 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Charming **Bornheim** offers village-like atmosphere within Frankfurt, featuring the lengthy Berger Straße - one of Germany's longest shopping streets. This historic neighborhood combines Gründerzeit architecture with independent shops, traditional bakeries, cozy wine bars, and international restaurants. The weekly market at Bornheim Mitte brings locals together, while numerous cafés provide perfect spots for afternoon coffee and people-watching. Less touristy than other districts, Bornheim reveals authentic Frankfurt neighborhood life. The area's relaxed pace and community feeling make it ideal for leisure exploration.





Westend

Optional

2 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Frankfurt's most **elegant and affluent neighborhood**, Westend showcases grand villas, diplomatic residences, and Art Nouveau architecture alongside modern banking towers. The district divides into residential Westend-Nord and commercial Westend-Süd (banking district). Palmengarten botanical garden and Grüneburgpark provide green spaces, while the university district adds youthful energy. Leafy boulevards like Bockenheimer Landstraße feature boutiques and cafés. Westend demonstrates Frankfurt's sophisticated side - where historic wealth meets contemporary finance, creating an atmosphere of refined urban living.

Tips for Neighborhoods & Districts

- **Apple wine experience:** Visit Sachsenhausen on weekend evenings for authentic atmosphere, but weekday lunches are quieter
- **Market days:** Explore Nordend's Saturday Konstablerwache market or Bornheim's Wednesday market for local life
- **Safety:** Bahnhofsviertel is generally safe during day; exercise standard city caution at night
- **Local transport:** Each neighborhood is well-connected by U-Bahn and tram - get a day pass for easy exploring



Parks & Gardens

Frankfurt surprises visitors with its **extensive green spaces**. From the riverside paths along the Main to the exotic Palmengarten, these parks offer peaceful retreats and recreational opportunities in Germany's financial capital.



Palmengarten Must See
2-3 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

One of **Europe's most beautiful botanical gardens**, the Palmengarten spans 22 hectares with greenhouse complexes and outdoor gardens displaying plants from around the world. Established in 1868, highlights include the tropical Tropicarium, desert house, subantarctic house, and seasonal flower displays. The historic palm house showcases towering palms, while themed gardens range from rose gardens to rhododendron groves. Children enjoy the small train and playgrounds. Regular concerts, exhibitions, and special events (particularly during summer) enhance visits. The Palmengarten offers educational beauty and peaceful escape year-round.



Main River Banks (Mainufer) Must See
1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

The **Main River promenades** on both banks provide Frankfurt's most popular recreational space. The northern bank (Nizza) features manicured lawns, cafés, and spectacular skyline views, while the southern Sachsenhausen bank (Schweizer Straße area) offers a more relaxed atmosphere with beach bars in summer. Locals picnic, jog, cycle, and socialize along these waterfront paths. The Museumsufer stretch passes major museums with riverside cafés. Summer brings beach clubs, open-air movies, and festivals. The pedestrian Eiserner Steg footbridge connects both sides, perfect for sunset skyline photos.



Grüneburgpark Notable
1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

This expansive **English-style landscape park** in the Westend district covers 29 hectares with rolling lawns, mature trees, and meandering paths. Originally part of the Rothschild family estate, the park features a Korean garden, children's playgrounds, and wide open spaces perfect for picnics and sports. The park's topography creates varied landscapes - from hilltop views to secluded groves. Popular with students from nearby Goethe University and local families, Grüneburgpark offers authentic Frankfurt park culture. Especially beautiful during spring blossoms and autumn colors.





Bethmann Park with Chinese Garden

Notable

1 hour No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

This hidden gem in Nordend features a **authentic Chinese Garden** (Garten des Himmlischen Friedens) within a larger European-style park. The Chinese garden, created in partnership with Frankfurt's sister city Guangzhou, includes traditional pavilions, moon gates, rock formations, and carefully arranged plants following feng shui principles. The surrounding Bethmann Park offers rose gardens, tree-lined paths, and quiet corners. The combination of German romantic landscape and classical Chinese garden design creates a unique tranquil oasis. Entry to Chinese Garden requires small fee; outer park is free.



Nidda Valley (Niddatal)

Optional

2-4 hours No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

The **Nidda River valley** creates a green corridor through northwestern Frankfurt, offering extensive cycling and walking paths through natural landscapes. This regional park stretches for kilometers, featuring wetlands, meadows, and recreational areas. Popular for cycling, the flat paths connect various neighborhoods and extend to surrounding communities. The Nidda flows into the Main, and the valley provides important ecological habitat. Perfect for longer walks, bike rides, or picnics away from urban density. Local sections like Brentanobad area offer swimming and sports facilities during summer.

Tips for Parks & Gardens

- **Best seasons:** Palmengarten shines year-round; Main banks are magical May-September; parks peak during spring bloom and autumn foliage
- **Sunset spots:** Northern Main bank (Nizza) and Eiserner Steg offer best skyline sunset views
- **Picnic supplies:** Pick up food at Kleinmarkthalle or neighborhood markets before heading to parks
- **Cycling:** Rent bikes to explore Nidda valley trails or Main riverbanks - mostly flat and well-maintained paths



Tours & Activities

Experience Frankfurt through **guided tours and unique activities** - from river cruises and bike tours to food experiences and cultural walks that reveal the city's layers beyond guidebook highlights.



Main River Cruise

[Top Pick](#)[Book Ahead](#)

1-2.5 hours [Book Ahead](#)

See Frankfurt from the water on a **scenic Main River cruise**, offering unique perspectives of the skyline, bridges, and riverfront museums. Various operators offer cruises ranging from 50-minute city tours to longer trips including lunch or dinner. The boats pass under historic bridges like the Eiserner Steg, along the Museumsufer, and past both modern skyscrapers and traditional Sachsenhausen. Commentary (usually multilingual) explains landmarks and city history. Sunset cruises are particularly atmospheric. Some tours extend to nearby destinations like Höchst or Offenbach. Book online for guaranteed seats during peak season.



Apple Wine (Ebbelwoi) Tour

[Top Pick](#)[Book Ahead](#)

2.5-3 hours [Book Ahead](#)

Discover Frankfurt's traditional drink through **guided apple wine tours** in Sachsenhausen. These cultural experiences combine history, tavern visits, and tastings of various Ebbelwoi styles paired with regional specialties like Handkäs and Grüne Soße. Guides explain apple wine production, Frankfurt drinking traditions, and tavern culture while visiting 2-3 authentic establishments. Some tours include the Express train ride through Sachsenhausen. Perfect introduction to this Frankfurt institution, especially for those uncertain about navigating taverns independently. Tours typically run Friday-Sunday evenings and must be booked in advance.



Old Town Walking Tour

[Top Pick](#)

1.5-2 hours [No Booking Needed](#)

Professional **guided walking tours** bring Frankfurt's history alive through the reconstructed Altstadt, Römerberg, Cathedral, and medieval lanes. Knowledgeable guides share stories of Holy Roman emperors, WWII destruction and reconstruction, Goethe, and Frankfurt's evolution from medieval trading center to modern metropolis. Tours typically last 1.5-2 hours and cover major Old Town highlights with insider details you'd miss independently. Free walking tours (tip-based) and paid private tours available. English-language tours run daily from Römerberg. Some themed tours focus on specific aspects like Jewish heritage, architecture, or WWII history.





Bike Tour Notable

2.5-3.5 hours Book Ahead

Explore Frankfurt efficiently by bicycle on **guided bike tours** covering major sights and neighborhoods impossible to see on foot. Tours typically include the Old Town, Sachsenhausen, Main River banks, financial district, and parks, with stops for photos and commentary. Frankfurt's flat terrain and extensive bike paths make cycling ideal. Tours last 2.5-3.5 hours with comfortable bikes provided. Some operators offer themed tours (night rides, food tours, urban culture). Great way to cover distance while getting local insights and exercise. Book through tour operators or hotels; tours run daily in good weather.



Food Tour Notable

3-4 hours Book Ahead

Taste your way through Frankfurt on **culinary walking tours** visiting markets, traditional taverns, specialty shops, and restaurants. Experience local favorites like Frankfurter Grüne Soße (green sauce), Handkäs cheese, apple wine, and Bethmännchen cookies while learning about regional food culture. Tours include Kleinmarkthalle market visits, Sachsenhausen tavern stops, and international food scenes in neighborhoods like Bahnhofsviertel. Guides share history, recommend restaurants, and provide insider food tips. Tours run 3-4 hours with sufficient food for lunch. Book through specialized food tour companies or tourist office.



Hop-On Hop-Off Bus Optional

Full loop: 1.5 hours No Booking Needed

Double-decker **hop-on hop-off buses** provide convenient overview tours with flexibility to explore at your own pace. Routes cover major attractions including Römerberg, Goethe House, Museumsufer, Hauptbahnhof, Palmengarten, and financial district. Multilingual audio commentary explains sights. Tickets valid 24-48 hours allow unlimited boarding. Useful for orientation on first day or when time is limited. Buses run every 20-30 minutes. While less intimate than walking tours, hop-on hop-off buses efficiently connect distant attractions and work well for families or those with mobility limitations.

Tips for Tours & Activities

- **Book ahead:** Popular tours (river cruises, food tours, bike tours) sell out during peak season - reserve 2-3 days advance
- **Free options:** Free walking tours operate on tips - budget €10-15 per person for good guide
- **Weather dependent:** Bike tours and some walking tours cancel in heavy rain - check cancellation policies
- **Combination tickets:** Some tour operators offer package deals combining multiple activities at discounts



Day Trips & Excursions

Frankfurt's central location makes it perfect base for **exploring surrounding regions** - from Rhine Valley castles to medieval Heidelberg, wine regions, and charming small towns, all within 1-2 hours by train.



Heidelberg

Must See

Full day (8-10 hours) No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Heidelberg, Germany's most romantic city, sits just one hour south by train. The magnificent castle ruins overlooking the Neckar River, charming Altstadt with baroque architecture, and Germany's oldest university create an enchanting atmosphere. Walk the Philosophers' Way for castle views, explore the cobblestone streets, and visit the impressive castle with its world's largest wine barrel. The Old Bridge (Karl Theodor Bridge) offers postcard views. Heidelberg embodies German romanticism and makes an ideal full-day excursion. Trains run frequently from Frankfurt Hauptbahnhof; consider buying regional train passes.



Rhine Valley & Castles (Rüdesheim)

Must See

Full day (8-10 hours) No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

The **UNESCO-listed Middle Rhine Valley** between Rüdesheim and Koblenz features dramatic castles, vineyards, and the legendary Lorelei rock. Rüdesheim, accessible in one hour by train, makes an excellent day trip base. Explore the charming wine village, ride the cable car to Niederwald Monument for panoramic views, and take a Rhine cruise past castle-topped cliffs. The region's Riesling wines are world-famous - visit wine taverns and cellar tastings. Some tours from Frankfurt combine river cruises with castle visits. Late summer and autumn (wine harvest) are particularly beautiful seasons.



Rothenburg ob der Tauber

Top Pick

Full day (10-12 hours) No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Rothenburg ob der Tauber, Germany's best-preserved medieval town, transports visitors to the Middle Ages with its complete town walls, towers, and half-timbered houses. Located on the Romantic Road, Rothenburg sits 2-2.5 hours from Frankfurt by train (transfer required). Walk the complete town wall, visit the Medieval Crime Museum, explore the Market Square with Gothic town hall, and see the famous Plönlein corner. The Christmas Museum opens year-round. While crowds peak in summer, the fairytale atmosphere remains magical. Consider spending the night to experience the town after day-trippers leave.



Wiesbaden

Notable

Half to full day (4-8 hours) No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Wiesbaden, the elegant spa town and Hesse state capital, lies just 40 minutes from Frankfurt. Known for thermal springs since Roman times, the city features belle époque architecture, the neoclassical Kurhaus (casino and concert hall), and beautiful parks. Visit the impressive Russian Orthodox Church, relax in thermal baths, stroll through elegant shopping arcades, or enjoy wine in nearby Rheingau vineyards. The Neroberg mountain offers hilltop views accessible by historic water-powered railway. Wiesbaden makes an easy half-day or full-day trip, perfect for leisure exploration and spa relaxation.





Mainz

Notable

Half to full day (4-8 hours) No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Mainz, just 40 minutes away, combines 2,000 years of history as a Roman settlement, medieval archbishopric seat, and Gutenberg's printing revolution birthplace. The stunning St. Martin's Cathedral dominates the old town with its six towers, while the Gutenberg Museum displays original 15th-century Bibles. The charming Altstadt features baroque churches, market squares, and wine taverns serving regional Rheinhessen wines. As a university city, Mainz has youthful energy alongside historical depth. The riverside promenade along the Rhine provides pleasant walks. Excellent half-day trip or combine with Wiesbaden for full-day exploration.



Aschaffenburg

Optional

Half day (4-6 hours) No Booking Needed



Map



Wiki

Aschaffenburg, nicknamed 'Bavarian Nice' for its mild climate, sits 40 minutes east along the Main River. The impressive Renaissance Johannisburg Palace with its art collections overlooks the river, while Pompejanum - a replica Roman villa - showcases classical architecture. The medieval old town, parks, and riverside location create pleasant atmosphere. Less touristy than other destinations, Aschaffenburg offers authentic small-town German experience. The Schönbusch Park, an English landscape garden with neoclassical buildings, provides peaceful walking. Easy relaxed day trip for those seeking alternatives to crowded tourist destinations.

Tips for Day Trips & Excursions

- **Train passes:** Consider RMV regional day pass or Hessen ticket for unlimited regional train travel - significant savings for groups
- **Early starts:** Leave Frankfurt by 9 AM to maximize time at destination, especially for distant trips like Rothenburg
- **Guided tours:** Many tour operators offer day trip packages from Frankfurt with transportation and guides included
- **Combination trips:** Rhine Valley and Heidelberg are often combined in organized full-day tours

Practical Information

Best Time to Visit Frankfurt

Peak Season (May-September): Warmest weather with temperatures 20-28°C (68-82°F). Ideal for outdoor activities, river cruises, and park visits. Museums and attractions are busiest. Book accommodations well in advance, especially during *major trade fairs* when hotel prices spike dramatically.

Shoulder Season (April, October): Pleasant temperatures (10-18°C/50-64°F), fewer crowds, and lower prices make this the *best value period*. Spring blossoms and autumn colors enhance parks and gardens. October brings wine harvest festivals in nearby regions.

Winter (November-March): Cold (0-8°C/32-46°F) but atmospheric, especially during **Christmas market season** (late November-December). January-February are quietest with best hotel deals. Indoor attractions like museums are never crowded. Pack warm layers.

Special Events to Consider: Avoid major trade fair dates (Frankfurt Messe hosts frequent international fairs) unless attending - hotel prices quintuple and availability plummets. Popular fairs include IAA Mobility (September), Frankfurt Book Fair (October), and Ambiente (February).

Month	Avg Temp	Rainfall	Highlights
Jan-Feb	0-5°C	Low	Lowest prices, winter atmosphere
Mar-Apr	8-15°C	Moderate	Spring blossoms, Easter markets
May-Jun	15-23°C	Moderate	Perfect weather, Wäldchestag festival
Jul-Aug	20-28°C	Moderate	Peak season, Museumsufer Festival (Aug)



Sep-Oct 13-18°C Moderate Autumn colors, wine harvest, Book Fair
Nov-Dec 2-8°C Moderate Christmas markets, festive atmosphere

Getting Around Frankfurt

Public Transportation

Frankfurt has an **excellent integrated public transport system** (RMV) including U-Bahn (subway), S-Bahn (regional rail), trams, and buses. Single tickets cost €3.50 for city center zones; day passes (€5.90) and group day passes (€11.30 for up to 5 people) offer better value. Purchase tickets from machines at stations - they must be validated before boarding.

Frankfurt Card: Excellent value at €11.50 (1-day) or €16.50 (2-day), includes unlimited public transport plus 25-50% discounts on museums, tours, and attractions. Available at tourist offices, hotels, and online.

➔ Airport Transfer

- **S-Bahn:** Lines S8/S9 run every 15 minutes to Hauptbahnhof (15 min, €5.30) and city center
- **Regional trains:** Faster connections to Hauptbahnhof (11 min)
- **Taxi/Uber:** €30-40 to city center, 20-30 minutes depending on traffic
- **Airport shuttle:** Various services available for pre-booking

Taxis & Ride-sharing

Taxis are metered and reliable. Base fare €3.90 plus €2-2.60/km. Find taxi stands at major squares and stations. **Uber, Bolt, and FreeNow** apps work well in Frankfurt. Expect €10-15 for cross-city trips.

Cycling

Frankfurt is bike-friendly with extensive dedicated paths. **Call a Bike** (Deutsche Bahn) and **nextbike** offer bike-sharing. Stations throughout city; rent via app. €1-3 per 30 minutes. Many hotels provide free bikes. Cycling along Main River and through parks is delightful.

Walking

Central Frankfurt is compact and walkable. Römerberg to Hauptwache: 10 minutes; Hauptwache to Hauptbahnhof: 15 minutes. The riverfront promenade and Altstadt are best explored on foot. Download offline maps or use Google Maps.

Driving

Not recommended in city center due to limited parking, one-way streets, and **environmental zones** requiring green stickers. If renting for day trips, pick up car from airport or outer locations.

Shopping in Frankfurt

What to Buy

- **Apple Wine (Ebbelwoi):** Frankfurt's signature drink in decorative bottles - available at Kleinmarkthalle or Sachsenhausen taverns
- **Bethmännchen:** Traditional marzipan cookies, especially during holidays
- **Grüne Soße Mix:** Herb blend for Frankfurt's famous green sauce
- **Handkäs:** Regional cheese (check customs regulations for transport)
- **German Christmas ornaments:** Year-round at Käthe Wohlfahrt stores
- **Designer goods:** Goethestraße luxury shopping district
- **Books:** Frankfurt is Germany's publishing capital - excellent bookstores



Shopping Areas

Zeil: Main shopping street with department stores (Galeria, MyZeil mall) and international chains. Open Mon-Sat 10am-8pm.

Goethestraße: Luxury boutiques including Chanel, Gucci, Louis Vuitton. Frankfurt's most exclusive shopping.

Kleinmarkthalle: Indoor market for food, flowers, specialties. Mon-Fri 8am-6pm, Sat 8am-4pm. Best for authentic local products and lunch.

Berger Straße (Bornheim): Independent boutiques, specialty shops, neighborhood feel. Great for unique finds.

Schweizer Straße (Sachsenhausen): Antiques, galleries, independent stores.

Shopping Tips

- **Sunday closures:** Nearly all shops closed Sundays except train station stores and airport
- **Tax refunds:** Non-EU visitors can claim VAT refunds (19%) on purchases over €25 - ask for Tax Free forms
- **Markets:** Saturday farmers' market at Konstablerwache for local products
- **Opening hours:** Typically Mon-Sat 10am-8pm, smaller shops may close 6pm
- **Payment:** Cash still widely used; carry euros as some small shops don't accept cards

Annual Events & Festivals

Major Festivals

Christmas Markets (late Nov-Dec 22): Frankfurt hosts multiple atmospheric Christmas markets. The main market at Römerberg is one of Germany's oldest and most beautiful. Other markets include Paulsplatz, Mainkai, and smaller neighborhood markets. Perfect for Glühwein, gifts, and festive atmosphere.

Museumsufer Festival (last weekend of August): Massive cultural festival along both Main riverbanks. Museums offer special exhibitions, live music fills stages, food stalls serve international cuisine, and hundreds of thousands attend. Many museums free entry. Frankfurt's biggest annual celebration.

Dippemess (Spring & Autumn): Traditional folk festival dating to 14th century. Amusement rides, food stalls, and pottery (Dippe) sales. Held at Festplatz am Ratsweg. Spring: Easter period; Autumn: late September.

Frankfurt Book Fair (October): World's largest book fair, primarily trade-focused but weekend open to public. Literary readings, author appearances, international focus. Not typical tourist event but fascinating for book lovers.

Wäldchestag (Tuesday after Pentecost, May/June): Traditional forest festival in Oberwald forest. Folk music, rides, food, and celebrations. Local holiday with authentic German festival atmosphere.

Opernplatzfest (May/June): Free open-air opera and classical music festival on Opernplatz. Week-long event with concerts, food, and cultural programming.

Public Holidays (shops/attractions closed)

- New Year's Day (Jan 1)
- Good Friday, Easter Monday (March/April)
- Labor Day (May 1)
- Ascension Day (May, 40 days after Easter)
- Whit Monday (May/June, 50 days after Easter)
- Corpus Christi (June, Hesse only)
- German Unity Day (Oct 3)
- Christmas (Dec 25-26)

Note: Many attractions close on public holidays or have reduced hours. Restaurants and cafés remain open.



Sample Day Itineraries

Day 1: Frankfurt Highlights

Morning (9am-12pm): Start at *Römerberg square* - explore the Römer town hall, photograph half-timbered houses, visit Frankfurt Cathedral and climb the tower for city views. Walk through the reconstructed Altstadt to Paulskirche (birthplace of German democracy).

Lunch (12-1:30pm): Lunch at *Kleinmarkthalle* - sample local specialties from market stands, try Frankfurter sausages or diverse international offerings.

Afternoon (1:30-5pm): Visit *Goethe House* (birthplace of Germany's greatest writer), then walk along Zeil shopping street to *Hauptwache*. Continue to *Main Tower* - ride to observation deck for spectacular 360° skyline views. Descend and walk to the Main River.

Evening (5-8pm): Stroll along *Main River northern bank* (Nizza) enjoying skyline views. Cross *Eiserner Steg* footbridge to Sachsenhausen. Dinner and apple wine at traditional tavern like *Adolf Wagner* or *Atschel*. Try Grüne Soße and local specialties.

Day 2: Museums & Culture

Morning (9:30am-12:30pm): *Städel Museum* - explore 700 years of European art. Focus on your preferred periods (Old Masters, Impressionism, or contemporary underground galleries). Allow minimum 2.5 hours.

Lunch (12:30-2pm): Riverside café along *Museumsufer* or cross to Sachsenhausen for casual lunch.

Afternoon (2-6pm): Choose based on interests: *Senckenberg Natural History Museum* (dinosaurs, great for families), *Museum für Moderne Kunst* (contemporary art), or *German Film Museum* (interactive cinema history). Alternatively, visit *Schirn Kunsthalle* for current exhibitions.

Evening (6-9pm): Explore *Nordend neighborhood* - walk Oeder Weg for trendy bars and restaurants. Dinner at local restaurant or international cuisine. Alternatively, attend performance at *Alte Oper* if booked in advance.

Day 3: Parks & Neighborhoods

Morning (9am-12pm): *Palmengarten botanical gardens* - explore tropical greenhouses, themed gardens, and seasonal displays. Beautiful photo opportunities.

Lunch (12-1:30pm): Lunch in *Westend* café or restaurant near Palmengarten.

Afternoon (1:30-5pm): *Grüneburgpark* walk, then explore *Bornheim neighborhood* along Berger Straße - independent shops, cafés, authentic local atmosphere. Stop at *Bethmann Park* to visit the Chinese Garden.

Evening (5-8pm): *Main River cruise* (50-90 minutes) for unique skyline perspectives. Alternatively, visit *Bahnhofsviertel* for international restaurants and emerging nightlife scene.

Day 4: Day Trip

Full Day: Take train to *Heidelberg* (depart by 9am, return by 7-8pm). Explore castle ruins, walk through charming Altstadt, cross Old Bridge, optional Philosophers' Way hike for views. Lunch at traditional restaurant.

Alternative: *Rhine Valley* - train to Rüdesheim, cable car to Niederwald Monument, Rhine river cruise through castle-studded gorge, wine tasting in village taverns.

Day 5: Hidden Gems & Relaxation

Morning (9am-12pm): *Höchst Altstadt* (western Frankfurt district) - explore medieval old town, Bolongaro Palace, Justinuskirche church, charming market square. Less touristy authentic atmosphere.

Lunch (12-1:30pm): Return to city center, lunch at *Café Hauptwache* or nearby restaurant.



Afternoon (1:30-5pm): *Jewish Museum Frankfurt* (both locations - Museum Judengasse and Rothschild Palais) for insight into Frankfurt's Jewish heritage. Alternatively, bike along *Nidda Valley* paths.

Evening (5-9pm): Sunset drinks at rooftop bar (try *Roomers Bar* or similar). Final dinner choosing your favorite discovered restaurant or cuisine. Evening walk along *Museumsufer* to see illuminated skyline reflections in Main River.

Flexibility Tips: Adjust based on weather (move outdoor activities to nice days), interests (add more museums or neighborhoods as preferred), and energy levels. Frankfurt is compact - you can always change plans spontaneously.

Best Photography & Instagram Spots

Iconic Skyline Views

Eiserner Steg (Iron Footbridge): THE classic Frankfurt photo - capture the skyline from mid-bridge with Main River in foreground. *Best timing:* Blue hour (30 minutes after sunset) when building lights illuminate and sky glows. Love locks add romantic element. Can be crowded at sunset.

Main River North Bank (Mainkai/Nizza): Multiple angles along the promenade between Eiserner Steg and Friedensbrücke. *Best timing:* Golden hour (hour before sunset) for warm light on buildings. Trees provide natural framing. Early mornings (7-8am) nearly deserted.

Deutshherrnufer (South Bank): Less crowded alternative with excellent skyline views across water. *Best timing:* Morning light (8-10am) illuminates building facades. Perfect for reflection shots when water is calm.

Main Tower Observation Deck: Only public observation platform in Frankfurt - 360° aerial views. *Best timing:* Clear days for maximum visibility. Sunset creates dramatic sky colors but expect crowds. Night shots capture illuminated cityscape.

Historic & Architectural

Römerberg Square: Medieval town hall with three-peaked facade and colorful half-timbered houses. *Best timing:* Early morning (before 9am) for empty square, or evening with building illumination. Christmas market season adds festive atmosphere. Shoot from various angles including through archways.

Neue Altstadt (New Old Town): Reconstructed medieval buildings with modern interpretation. Distinctive architecture includes Hühnermarkt, Goldene Waage, and narrow lanes. *Best timing:* Late afternoon side-lighting enhances architectural details. Less crowded than Römerberg.

Frankfurt Cathedral: Gothic red sandstone exterior photographs well from multiple angles. Interior shots possible (no flash). *Best timing:* Morning east-side lighting, evening west-side golden light. Climb tower for aerial perspectives.

Alte Oper (Old Opera House): Magnificent Renaissance Revival building, especially photogenic from Opernplatz. *Best timing:* Evening illumination creates dramatic facade. Summer fountain shows add dynamic element.

Modern Architecture

MyZeil Shopping Center: Futuristic glass spiral architecture. Interior offers unique perspectives. *Best timing:* Afternoon when sunlight fills spiral. Shoot upward from ground level for dramatic lines.

Banking District: Clustered skyscrapers including Deutsche Bank Twin Towers, Commerzbank Tower, and distinctive triangular shape of Westhafen Tower. *Best location:* View from Taunusanlage park. *Best timing:* Clear days, evening blue hour.

Nature & Parks

Palmengarten: Tropical greenhouses, seasonal gardens, and botanical diversity. Orchid house particularly photogenic. *Best timing:* Spring tulips (April), summer roses, autumn colors. Overcast days work well for greenhouse interiors.

Bethmann Park Chinese Garden: Authentic Chinese pavilions, moon gates, and traditional landscaping. *Best timing:* Spring cherry blossoms, autumn foliage. Golden hour enhances red pavilion colors.



Street Photography

Kleinmarkthalle: Colorful market stalls, food displays, locals shopping. Authentic Frankfurt atmosphere. *Best timing:* Saturday mornings for busiest authentic activity. Ask vendors before photographing people.

Sachsenhausen Taverns: Traditional apple wine taverns with blue-grey Bembel pitchers and cozy interiors. *Best timing:* Evening atmosphere when taverns fill with locals. Respect privacy - avoid photographing patrons without permission.

Berger Straße (Bornheim): Long neighborhood street with independent shops, cafés, and local life. *Best timing:* Late afternoon for golden street light and active street life.

Photography Tips

- **Weather:** Overcast works well for architectural details; clear days essential for skyline views
- **Drone photography:** Heavily restricted in city center - check regulations before flying
- **Crowds:** Major tourist spots crowded 10am-5pm; shoot early morning or evening
- **Permissions:** Museums generally prohibit flash; some prohibit photography entirely - always check
- **Seasonal:** Christmas markets (December) add atmospheric elements; spring blossoms and autumn colors enhance park shots

Instagram Hashtags: #Frankfurt #MainHattan #VisitFrankfurt #FrankfurtAmMain #IGFrankfurt #FrankfurtSkyline #RhineMain

Electricity & Technical Information

Voltage: 230V AC, 50Hz (standard throughout European Union)

Plug Type: Type C (two round pins) and Type F (two round pins with grounding clips on sides) - the standard European Schuko plug

For International Visitors

- **From USA/Canada (110V, Type A/B):** You need both a voltage converter AND plug adapter. Most modern electronics (laptops, phone chargers, cameras) have built-in converters (check if device says 110-240V) - these only need plug adapter. Hair dryers, curling irons typically require voltage converter unless specifically dual-voltage.
- **From UK (230V, Type G):** Voltage compatible, only need plug adapter from UK three-pin to European two-pin
- **From Australia/New Zealand (230V, Type I):** Voltage compatible, only need plug adapter
- **From Asia:** Most Asian countries use 220-240V - check your specific country. Plug adapters needed for Types A/B (Japan, Taiwan) and Type G (Singapore, Hong Kong)

Where to Buy Adapters

Available at Frankfurt Airport shops, electronics stores (Saturn, Media Markt), drugstores (dm, Rossmann), and major hotels. Prices €5-15. Recommendation: purchase before arrival for better prices and immediate availability.

Charging Facilities

- Hotels provide standard European outlets; many modern hotels have USB charging ports
- Cafés and restaurants increasingly offer charging sockets, especially in central areas
- Frankfurt Airport has numerous charging stations throughout terminals
- Public libraries and coworking spaces provide charging facilities

Internet & Mobile

WiFi: Widely available free in hotels, cafés, restaurants, museums, and public buildings. Many public squares offer free city WiFi (FrankfurtFree).

Mobile Data: EU visitors can use home data plans without roaming charges. Non-EU visitors should consider purchasing local SIM card (Telekom, Vodafone, O2) from €10-20 for tourist packages with data. SIM cards available at airport, mobile



shops, and electronics stores. Germany uses GSM network; ensure your phone is unlocked.

Phone: Germany country code +49, Frankfurt area code 069

Frankfurt Cuisine & Dining

Must-Try Local Dishes

Frankfurter Grüne Soße (Green Sauce): Frankfurt's most famous dish - *cold herb sauce* made from seven specific herbs (parsley, chervil, chives, borage, sorrel, burnet, cress) mixed with sour cream, yogurt, and hard-boiled eggs. Traditionally served with boiled potatoes and eggs. Best season: spring when fresh herbs available. Try at: Adolf Wagner, Zum Gemalten Haus.

Apfelwein (Ebbelwoi/Apple Wine): Frankfurt's signature alcoholic drink - *dry, tart fermented apple cider* served in traditional blue-grey Bembel pitchers and diamond-patterned glasses (Gerippte). Alcohol content ~5-6%. Often mixed with water (Gespritzter) or lemonade (Süßgespritzter). Taverns serve it at cellar temperature. Essential Frankfurt experience in Sachsenhausen taverns.

Handkäs mit Musik (Hand Cheese with Music): Small sour milk cheese marinated in oil, vinegar, onions, and caraway seeds. 'Music' refers to digestive effects. Acquired taste - strong smell and flavor but authentic local specialty. Pairs perfectly with apple wine and dark bread.

Frankfurter Rippchen: Cured and smoked pork chop served with sauerkraut and mashed potatoes. Hearty traditional German comfort food. Also called 'Rippchen mit Kraut.'

Frankfurter Würstchen: The original Frankfurt sausage - thin smoked pork sausage, different from American hot dogs. Served hot with mustard and bread or potato salad. Authentic versions only found in Frankfurt region.

Bethmännchen: Traditional marzipan cookies topped with three almond halves (representing three sons of Bethmann family). Slightly sweet, delicate flavor. Originally Christmas treat, now available year-round in bakeries.

Dining Tips

- **Reservations:** Recommended for popular restaurants, especially weekends. Apple wine taverns generally don't take reservations except for large groups
- **Meal times:** Lunch 12-2pm, dinner 6-10pm. Many restaurants close between lunch and dinner. Taverns serve continuously
- **Service:** German service can seem brusque - it's normal, not rude. Waiters give space; wave when ready to order
- **Tipping:** Round up or add 5-10% - tell server total amount including tip. Say 'Stimmt so' (keep the change) for exact rounding
- **Water:** Tap water safe but rarely free in restaurants. Order 'Leitungswasser' specifically for tap, or expect bottled (still/Stilles Wasser or sparkling/Sprudelwasser)
- **Payment:** Many restaurants cash-only or have card minimums - always carry euros. Server brings portable card machine to table

Where to Eat

Traditional Apple Wine Taverns (Sachsenhausen): Adolf Wagner, Atschel, Zum Gemalten Haus, Dauth-Schneider - authentic atmosphere, communal tables (shared seating normal), hearty portions, reasonable prices

Fine Dining: Frankfurt has multiple Michelin-starred restaurants including Lafleur (2 stars), Seven Swans (1 star, vegetarian), and Gustav (modern German)

International Cuisine: Bahnhofsviertel neighborhood offers outstanding Korean, Vietnamese, Turkish, and Indian restaurants. Frankfurt's multiculturalism reflected in diverse food scene

Markets & Quick Eats: Kleinmarkthalle - market stalls serve fresh prepared foods, perfect for lunch. Try different vendors for authentic variety



Cafés: German café culture strong - excellent coffee and cakes. Try Frankfurter Kranz (Frankfurt Crown Cake) - buttercream layer cake with crunchy praline coating

Vegetarian & Dietary Restrictions

Frankfurt increasingly accommodates dietary needs. Many restaurants offer vegetarian options; vegan options growing. Use phrases: 'vegetarisch' (vegetarian), 'vegan' (vegan), 'glutenfrei' (gluten-free), 'allergisch gegen...' (allergic to...). Traditional taverns have limited vegetarian options beyond cheese and salads, but modern restaurants very accommodating.

Supermarkets

Major chains: REWE, Edeka (larger selection, open later), Aldi, Lidl (discount), dm and Rossmann (drugstores with snacks). Generally open Mon-Sat ~8am-8pm or later. Closed Sundays except train station locations. Self-checkout requires inserting coins/bills before scanning items.

Tourist Passes

Frankfurt Card

The **Frankfurt Card** offers excellent value combining unlimited public transportation with museum and attraction discounts. *1-day card: €11.50* includes RMV public transport (all zones within Frankfurt) plus 25-50% discounts at over 30 museums, city tours, Main Tower observation deck, Palmengarten, zoo, and river cruises. *2-day card: €16.50* extends benefits. **Group variant** available for up to 5 people. Purchase at tourist information offices, many hotels, online, or at airport. The card typically pays for itself with 2-3 museum visits plus transport. Best for visitors planning multiple museum visits and extensive public transport use. Not valid for regional trains to day trip destinations outside Frankfurt city limits.



www.frankfurt-tourismus.de

Museumsufer Ticket

Special **annual museum festival pass** available during the Museumsufer Festival (last weekend in August). For approximately €10, gain 2-day access to all participating Museumsufer museums along the Main River - normally costing €50+ individually. Includes Städel Museum, German Film Museum, Museum of Communication, Applied Arts Museum, and 20+ others. Also covers special festival programming, concerts, and events. This exceptional value ticket only available during the specific festival weekend. Perfect for culture enthusiasts visiting during late August. Purchase at any participating museum or festival information points. Note: Some temporary exhibitions may require small supplements.



www.museumsuferfest.de

RMV Day Ticket

Regional public transport day passes offer flexibility for Frankfurt exploration and day trips. *Group day ticket (Gruppenkarte):* €11.30 for up to 5 people traveling together within Frankfurt city zones - extraordinary value for families or groups. *Hessenticket:* €39 for unlimited regional train travel throughout entire Hesse state, valid for up to 5 people on weekends/holidays or 1 person on weekdays - perfect for day trips to Heidelberg, Wiesbaden, Mainz. Purchase from ticket machines at any station. Tickets valid from time of purchase (or specified time) until 3am next day. Must validate before boarding. These passes provide significant savings versus individual journey tickets when making multiple trips or traveling in groups.



www.rmv.de



StädteLinie Hop-On Hop-Off

The **hop-on hop-off bus ticket** covers Frankfurt's major attractions via double-decker bus with multilingual audio commentary. *24-hour ticket: €21, 48-hour ticket: €25, children €12.* Route includes Römerberg, Goethe House, Museumsufer, Hauptbahnhof, Palmengarten, and financial district with stops at all major sights. Buses depart every 20-30 minutes from Hauptbahnhof and other stops. Audio guides available in 8+ languages. Useful for first-time visitors wanting orientation overview or those with limited mobility. However, Frankfurt's compact center and excellent public transport often makes this unnecessary - public transport day passes offer better value and flexibility. Consider if preferring narrated tours or visiting during limited time with many dispersed attractions.



www.citysightseeing-frankfurt.de

