AIRPORT EXIT

Houari Boumediene International Airport (ALG)

Verified Nov 2026 · airportexit.guide — offline one-pager

THE ANSWER

The SNTF airport train costs a flat DZD 80, runs about hourly, and reaches Agha in ~20 minutes - while the rank negotiates you at 2,500+.

The line (airport -> El Harrach -> Bab Ezzouar -> Agha) avoids the motorway crawl, and SNTF prices it far below any road option.
Tight budget? ETUSA city buses (lines 39, 100, 178) run for roughly DZD 20-50 cash. Door-to-door? Yassir in-app, or the white TaxiLux cabs with their own fixed list.

EVERY WAY OUT — REAL PRICES

SNTF airport train *BEST FOR MOST* DZD 80 adult (child DZD 40)

Departures roughly hourly, first from Agha ~04:40, last from the airport ~22:25; ~20 min to Agha calling at El Harrach and Bab Ezzouar. Schedules changed again for summer 2026 (some trains Friday-only or not-Friday - read the printed board). Buying a long-distance ticket at the airport station lets you ride the airport->Agha leg free to catch it.

ETUSA bus / shuttle DZD 20-50 (posted tariff, cash)

Urban ETUSA lines connect the airport: line 39 (Maurice Audin), line 100 (Place des Martyrs, ~every 30 min), line 178 (bus station). A city shuttle runs every 30 min 08:00-17:30 for DZD 50. The distance tariff last published online dates from 2019 - confirm on the vehicle; inflation has been real.

Official taxi rank DZD 1,200 average to the city centre

The airport's own taxi page pegs the average at DZD 1,200 airport->centre (DZD 800 the other way - you have more options in town). Queues stand in front of terminals 1 and 2, 24/7; meters exist but are frequently not started, so fix the price per car before departure.

TaxiLux / white official cabs (fixed rate) DZD 2,800-3,500 fixed

2026 fare guides describe fixed-rate white official taxis - pricier than a negotiated rank cab but the safest option after dark and for the embassy districts (El Mouradia/Hydra). Agree the figure at the window, not at the kerb.

Yassir (app) fixed fare shown in-app (DZD)

The working local ride-hail for airport runs - the in-app number is your benchmark when arguing with rank drivers, and street hails don't really exist at ALG. Card or cash in-app.

THE TRAPS — WALK PAST THESE

The 'metro to the airport' doesn't exist yet

Guides hand out metro maps showing an airport station. The 9.5 km El Harrach->airport extension with nine stations only entered its systems-integration phase in July 2025; the official completion date is June 2027, and the airport terminus is visibly the least-advanced part of the site. **Do this:** plan on train, ETUSA bus or road - treat any 'take the metro from the terminal' tip as the future

Tourist flat quotes: 2,500-4,000 DA for an 80-DA train ride

2026 Algerian fare guides put kerb negotiations at DZD 2,500-4,000 to Place des Martyrs while the airport itself publishes an average of DZD 1,200 and the train costs 80. **Do this:** open Yassir and show the app fare, or quote the airport's own 1,200 DA figure before getting in

The meter exists - it just isn't running

Drivers default to negotiating because most airport taxis won't activate the taximeter, and shared-cab culture means strangers can hop in mid-ride unless you've hired the whole car. **Do this:** say 'compteur' first; if it stays off, fix the price per car (not per seat) before loading bags

Ten minutes at the gate isn't free

Airport parking is free only for the first 30 minutes: DZD 75 to the hour, 180 beyond, 1,200/day - and a lost ticket is charged the full 1,200. Meeters waiting in the drop-off zone get caught by this. **Do this:** keep pickups to the kerbside, and if you must wait, use P1 and mind the clock

KNOW BEFORE YOU WALK

- Train frequency is hourly but the 1 July 2026 summer timetable re-cut departures across all seven suburban lines - check the SNTF boards, not a cached PDF.
- Agha station is the interchange for long-distance lines and the western suburbs (Agha-Zeralda).
- Free airport shuttles link Terminal 1 (international), T2 and T3 inside the airside - follow signs, no ticket needed.
- Withdraw small DZD notes at the terminal ATMs - buses and most drivers have no change for large bills.
- Algiers traffic is the variable: the train's 20 minutes is reliable, a road hour at rush is normal - for flights, go rail.

Train DZD 80 verified from SNTF's own announcement and July 2023/Oct 2023 press restatements; 2026 summer timetable per Algerie Zoom (1 July 2026). Taxi 800-1,200 DA from the airport's published guidance; 2,500-4,000 DA tourist quotes from 2026 fare guides - given as ranges because meters rarely run. ETUSA tariff last published 2019 (20-45 DA) - verify on board.

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