

THE ANSWER

The train station is underneath the terminal - EUR 5.20-6.20, 17 min to Amsterdam Centraal. Tap your contactless bank card or phone at the yellow OVpay posts. No ticket to buy, nothing to queue for.

Staying near Museumplein or Leidseplein? Bus 397 (Airport Express) EUR 6.50, card only, direct to the museum district.

EVERY WAY OUT - REAL PRICES

NS train -> Centraal *BEST FOR MOST* **EUR 5.20-6.20**
17 min, direct, every few minutes. Tap contactless at the yellow OVpay posts in AND out. Paper tickets carry a surcharge - skip them.

Bus 397 (Airport Express) **EUR 6.50**
~30 min to Museumplein, Leidseplein, Elandsgracht. Card only on board. From Schiphol Plaza bus station.

Official taxi **EUR 50-60**
25-35 min door-to-door, metered. Official rank outside Schiphol Plaza only - never anyone approaching you inside.

Uber **EUR 35-55**
Often cheaper than a metered taxi; designated pickup zone. Climbs at rush hour and Sunday-night flight banks.

Night bus N97 **~EUR 5**
Hourly 01:00-05:00 to Centraal. Kids 4-11: Railrunner day ticket EUR 2.50 on NS trains.

THE TRAPS - WALK PAST THESE

The inside-the-terminal taxi touts

Men in arrivals offering 'taxi, cheap price' routinely charge EUR 100-150 with intimidation at the destination. Official rank outside Schiphol Plaza, or Uber to the app zone. Nobody legitimate asks you first.

The I amsterdam card gap

The I amsterdam City Card does NOT cover the airport train or bus 397. Tap your bank card for the airport leg; buy city passes later if you actually want one.

The paper-ticket surcharge

Machine-bought paper tickets add a surcharge over the contactless tap price, and post-widebody queues are grim. Walk past, tap your card, board.

Forgetting to tap out

OVpay charges an incomplete-journey fee without a tap-out. Tap in AND out with the SAME card or phone - switching mid-journey double-charges you.

KNOW BEFORE YOU WALK

- Station is downstairs from Schiphol Plaza - Centraal trains from the lower-numbered platforms.
- Every adult taps separately - one bank card per person on OVpay.
- Kids 4-11 ride NS for EUR 2.50/day with a Railrunner (buy in the NS app).
- Trains run hourly through the night to Centraal; N97 bus fills 01:00-05:00.