

AIRPORT EXIT

Bucharest Henri Coanda International Airport (OTP)

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THE ANSWER

Take the express bus 100 from the Plecari (Departures) kerb - 3 lei for a 90-minute ticket, charged to any contactless bank card at the validator on board. It runs 24 hours a day, every 15 minutes by day and every 30 at night, and stops at Piata Victoriei, Piata Romana, Universitate and Piata Unirii.

Otopeni has no metro and no rail link to the centre, and the airport express surcharge vanished when line 783 became line 100 in December 2023 - the airport bus now costs what any city bus costs.

Tight budget? 3 lei is already the floor, and the same ticket covers every STB bus, tram and trolleybus for 90 minutes; a 24-hour pass is 8 lei. In a hurry? The CFR train to Gara de Nord is 6.50 lei and takes 20-25 minutes whatever the traffic, but leaves only every 40 minutes and ends at the station, not the centre.

EVERY WAY OUT — REAL PRICES

Express bus 100 (STB) *BEST FOR MOST* 3 lei

The airport's own page prices the 100 express at 3 lei for a 90-minute metropolitan trip, valid on every STB bus, tram and trolleybus in Bucharest-Ilfov.

Pay at the validator with a contactless bank card, phone or watch, an STB card, or SMS - text "C" (90 minutes) or "AB" (24 hours) to 7458. Since 22 April 2026 it stops only at the Departures-side stop, renamed "Aeroport Henri Coanda".

Airport train to Gara de Nord (CFR) 6.50 lei

CFR Calatori runs the Bucuresti Nord - Aeroport Henri Coanda train daily, 24 hours a day, every 40 minutes, taking 20-25 minutes; some departures also call at Parc Mogosoia and Patinoar PO. The single fare is 6.50 lei, a reserved seat is a separate 4.50 lei and a monthly pass 141 lei. Reach the station via the ground floor of the Arrivals terminal.

Taxi from the airport's own kiosk 2.29-3.50 lei/km

The airport's taxi page publishes the band for cars authorised by Bucharest and Ilfov County: 2.29-3.50 lei/km, metered, no booking needed, with a rank outside the terminal. The touch-screen terminals in the Arrivals public area (1st floor, south side) print a ticket with the plate number, the carrier's rate and the dispatch phone; at the published rates a ride to the centre works out at roughly 55-70 lei. Since 7 September 2026 taxis pick up in the Plecari zone.

Uber / Bolt ~50-80 lei

Both apps work normally in Bucharest and are usually cheaper than the rank, with the price fixed in the app before you ride. Pick-up moved to the Plecari zone on 7 September 2026 with the other services, so follow the app pin rather than the old Arrivals kerb.

STB 24-hour metropolitan pass 8 lei

Unlimited STB surface travel for 24 hours from first validation, loaded on an STB card. The ladder is 8 lei for 24 hours, 20 lei for 72 hours, 30 lei for 7 days and 80 lei for a month. It does not include the metro - the integrated STB+metro ticket is 7 lei for 120 minutes.

THE TRAPS — WALK PAST THESE

The airport bus stop moved twice in 2026 - Arrivals has neither a bus nor a taxi now

STB pulled lines 100 and 442 out of the "Aeroport Henri Coanda Sosiri" stop on 22 April 2026 for the Arrivals terminal works; until they finish both stop only at the shared Departures-side stop, renamed "Aeroport Henri Coanda". On 7 September 2026 the airport closed the 588-space multi-storey car park in front of Arrivals for about six months of structural work and moved taxis, ride-hailing and both bus lines into the Plecari zone too. **Do this:** follow the painted dots from baggage reclaim to the Plecari exits and wait for the bus, taxi or app car there

Nobody who approaches you inside arrivals is a licensed taxi

The airport's own taxi page states that access by Bucharest and Ilfov taxis to the airport's public car parks is prohibited by law, that accosting passengers is sanctioned under Law 38/2003, and that the Air Transport Police applies the fines. The cars that are licensed run a metered 2.29-3.50 lei/km; a man at the baggage belt quoting a flat price is not one of them. **Do this:** order at the touch-screen terminals in the Arrivals public area and board only the car on the printed ticket

The 3 lei ticket does not cover the metro, and nothing on the bus covers the train

The 3 lei title is a 90-minute metropolitan journey - STB buses, trams and trolleybuses only. Metrorex is a separate operator, so continuing by metro means the integrated STB+metro ticket at 7 lei for 120 minutes (10 rides 59 lei). The train is separate again: since 17 February 2025 STB no longer issues integrated tickets including the metropolitan train, so the 6.50 lei CFR fare is bought from CFR. **Do this:** buy the 7 lei STB+metro ticket if you are continuing underground, and a separate CFR ticket for the train

Buying the train ticket from the conductor costs double

CFR's own page for the airport route warns that a ticket bought on board from the conductor is 13 lei against 6.50 lei, and tells passengers to buy before boarding. The 6.50 lei fare is sold at the ticket office up to 3-5 minutes before departure, at Kiosk machines up to 5 minutes before, online and in the CFR app up to departure, and by SMS to 7458. **Do this:** buy at the ticket office or Kiosk machine before you walk to the platform

There is no metro at Otopeni, and the airport is not walkable

Otopeni sits about 16-17 km north of central Bucharest with no metro station. Line M6 (Gara de Nord - Otopeni, 14.2 km, 12 new stations) has been under construction since December 2023 and is not expected to open before 2028; Metrorex put the North Section structure at about 31% in August 2026. **Do this:** plan on the bus, the train or a metered taxi, and ignore "airport metro" advice

KNOW BEFORE YOU WALK

- Line 100 runs 24 hours a day - every 15 minutes by day and every 30 at night - and the airport's own page prices it at 3 lei for a 90-minute metropolitan trip.
- The STB fare ladder is 3 lei for one 90-minute journey, 6 lei for two and 25 lei for ten; passes run 8 lei for 24 hours, 20 lei for 72 hours, 30 lei for 7 days and 80 lei for a month.
- The CFR airport train runs every 40 minutes, 24 hours a day, and takes 20-25 minutes to Gara de Nord for 6.50 lei; a reserved seat is a separate 4.50 lei.
- Taxis are metered at 2.29-3.50 lei/km; the touch-screen ticket carries the plate number and the operator's rate, and complaints go to the Local Police on 021 9752 or the Air Transport Police on 021 201 3242.
- Bucharest has two airports: Otopeni is OTP and Baneasa - Aurel Vlaicu is BBU, a separate field closer in, and the two together handled over 17 million passengers in 2025 - check the 3 letters on your booking before you plan the ride.

Prices verified 18 October 2026 against the airport operator's own transport pages (Compania Nationala Aeroporturi Bucuresti), STB's published tariff list at stb.ro, CFR Calatori's fare page for the airport route, STB's communique of 21 April 2026 and TPBI's ticketing notice. Bus 100: 3 lei for a 90-minute metropolitan journey, 2 for 6 lei, 10 for 25 lei; passes 24 hours 8 lei, 72 hours 20 lei, 7 days 30 lei, 1 month 80 lei; integrated STB+metro 120 minutes 7 lei. CFR airport train: single 6.50 lei, seat reservation 4.50 lei, monthly pass 141 lei, 13 lei from the conductor. Airport-authorised taxis: 2.29-3.50 lei/km. The taxi fare to the centre (about 55-70 lei over roughly 16-18 km) and the Uber/Bolt figure of about 50-80 lei are our estimates from those rates, not published airport fares. No metro fare is quoted: Metrorex's 2026 revision was reported as both approved and cancelled. STB still lists 3 lei though a rise to 5 lei has been before the city council; STB SA is in insolvency proceedings (Tribunalul Bucuresti 35186/3/2026) but still running. Access changes from STB's 22 April 2026 stop change and the airport's 7 September 2026 move of taxis, ride-hailing and buses to Plecari; M6 is under construction with a 2028 estimate and no date.

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