

AIRPORT EXIT

Düsseldorf Airport (DUS)

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

THE ANSWER

Take the S11 from the station in the terminal basement - EUR 3.80 for a VRR Preisstufe A single, about 12 minutes to Düsseldorf Hauptbahnhof, every 20 minutes.

Düsseldorf became a single VRR fare zone on 1 June 2026, so the airport and the Hauptbahnhof are both Preisstufe A and every train, tram and bus between them costs the same EUR 3.80 - there is no cheaper option to shop for, only a faster one.

Tight budget? Nothing beats EUR 3.80 unless you already hold a Deutschlandticket (EUR 63/month), which covers the whole trip. In a hurry? Ride the SkyTrain out to the long-distance station and take a Regional Express - about 7 minutes to Hauptbahnhof - but the SkyTrain is a separate EUR 2.60 unless you are holding a VRR ticket.

EVERY WAY OUT — REAL PRICES

S11 S-Bahn *BEST FOR MOST* EUR 3.80

About 12-13 min to Düsseldorf Hauptbahnhof, every 20 min on weekdays and every 30 min in the evenings and at weekends, roughly 04:30 to 01:00. The station is in the terminal basement, so you never go outside. Only the S11 uses it.

U80 Stadtbahn EUR 3.80

18 min from Hauptbahnhof to the Flughafen Terminal stop at Terminal C, every 20 min (every 30 min off-peak and on Sundays), first arrival just after 04:00 and last departure about 01:00. U81 also runs between the airport, the Messe and the arena on event days.

SkyTrain (from the long-distance station) EUR 2.60

Automated monorail, 7 min, every 3.5-7 min, 03:45 to 00:45, linking Bahnhof Düsseldorf Flughafen with car parks P4/P5, Terminal A/B and Terminal C.

Since 14 July 2026 you pay by tapping a bank card or phone on the CALO reader at both ends: EUR 2.60 adult, EUR 1.30 child. It is included if you already hold a VRR or VRS ticket, the Deutschlandticket, a P4/P5 parking ticket or the DüsseldorfCard. No service 00:45-03:45; until 1 November 2026 a shuttle bus covers 02:15-03:30.

Regional / ICE trains to Düsseldorf Flughafen EUR 3.80

RE, RB and some ICE and IC services use the long-distance station at the eastern edge of the airport. It is the fastest way to Hauptbahnhof - about 7 minutes by Regional Express - but you must ride the SkyTrain first. One VRR Preisstufe A ticket covers train and SkyTrain together; a long-distance ICE ticket does not.

Taxi (official rank) EUR 32-34

Metered on the Düsseldorf city tariff: EUR 5.00 base plus EUR 2.70 per km, waiting about EUR 43 per hour, and EUR 9.00 extra for a large vehicle. About 15-20 min and about EUR 32 to the city centre, about 20 min and about EUR 34 to Hauptbahnhof. There is no airport surcharge and no night or weekend rate - the airport publishes these estimates itself.

THE TRAPS — WALK PAST THESE

Two stations, and only one is under the terminal

DUS has two railway stations. Düsseldorf Flughafen Terminal is the S-Bahn station in the basement of the terminal building and is served by exactly one line, the S11. Every other train - Regional Express, RB, ICE and IC - uses Bahnhof Düsseldorf Flughafen on the eastern edge of the airport, which is a 7-minute SkyTrain ride from the terminal. Buy an ICE to "Düsseldorf Flughafen" and you still have a monorail and a ticket to sort out. **Do this:** check which station your ticket names, and take the S11 if you want to arrive under the terminal

The SkyTrain is not a free airport shuttle

The SkyTrain looks like an airport courtesy train and is not: it has needed a ticket for years, and since 14 July 2026 the airport, the VRR and the Rheinbahn replaced the machines with the CALO tap-in/tap-out system. Without a VRR or VRS ticket, the Deutschlandticket, a P4/P5 parking ticket or the DüsseldorfCard, you pay EUR 2.60 (EUR 1.30 for children) for the 2.5 km - and you must tap out again at the far end or the system cannot price the trip. It also stops between 00:45 and 03:45. **Do this:** tap out at the destination, and take the S11 instead if you are arriving in the small hours

Every guide still quotes the pre-reform fare

Until 1 June 2026 Düsseldorf was split into two VRR fare cells, and short cross-town trips ran on the cheap two-cell rule. That tariff was abolished: the city is now one Tarifgebiet and Preisstufe A is EUR 3.80 (EUR 2.10 for children, EUR 7.60 for a 24-hour ticket). Pages written before the reform still show EUR 3.20 or EUR 3.50 for the airport run. The Kurzstrecke short-trip ticket was scrapped in the reform as well, so the cheapest fare to the airport is the full Preisstufe A single. **Do this:** expect EUR 3.80 and ignore anything quoting EUR 3.20 or EUR 3.50

Ride-app cars cannot collect at the kerb

The taxi rank's monopoly at DUS ended in February 2024, and Uber and Bolt now pick up from a marked "Ride-App-Pickup" hub at Terminal B on the arrivals level, near exit door D. Bolt only opened its bay on 1 July 2026. A driver who tells you to meet him at the kerb outside arrivals, or who approaches you inside the hall offering a ride, is not working the airport's arrangement - the app navigates you to the hub for a reason. **Do this:** walk to the marked Ride-App-Pickup hub at Terminal B and ignore anyone who approaches you in arrivals

KNOW BEFORE YOU WALK

- One Preisstufe A ticket is valid for 90 minutes, so the SkyTrain, the S11 and an onward U-Bahn or tram leg in the city all come out of the same EUR 3.80 - do not buy a second ticket at Hauptbahnhof.
- The 24-hour ticket for Preisstufe A is EUR 7.60 and a child ticket EUR 2.10; children under six travel free. A Deutschlandticket at EUR 63/month covers the airport run with no supplement.
- The S11 leaves Düsseldorf Hauptbahnhof every 20 minutes by day and every 30 minutes in the evening and at weekends - check the return time before you leave, because the U80 is a slower 18 minutes.
- The U80 Stadtbahn from Hauptbahnhof is the alternative when the S11 timing does not suit: 18 minutes, every 20 minutes, and it stops at Terminal C rather than at Terminal A/B.
- There is no airport surcharge, no night rate and no weekend rate in the Düsseldorf taxi tariff - the meter is the fare, and the only extras are EUR 9.00 for a vehicle carrying more than four passengers and the waiting charge.

Prices verified October 2026 against VRR and Rheinbahn published fares, the Düsseldorf taxi tariff and Flughafen Düsseldorf GmbH. VRR Preisstufe A single EUR 3.80 (child EUR 2.10), 24-hour ticket EUR 7.60, Deutschlandticket EUR 63 - S11 about 12 min to Hauptbahnhof, every 20 min by day, 30 min evenings and weekends - U80 18 min, every 20 min - SkyTrain EUR 2.60 (child EUR 1.30), 03:45-00:45, CALO tap-in/tap-out since 14 July 2026 - taxi EUR 5.00 base + EUR 2.70/km, waiting about EUR 43/hour, +EUR 9.00 large vehicle, about EUR 32 to the centre and EUR 34 to Hauptbahnhof.

No ads. No affiliate rankings. Wrong price? Report it on the guide page — reviewed and merged before it appears.