

Frankfurt Airport (FRA)

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THE ANSWER

Follow the "S-Bahn" signs down to the station under Terminal 1 and take the S8 or S9 - EUR 6.90, 11-15 minutes to Hauptbahnhof, then straight on to Hauptwache and Konstablerwache. Buy the ticket from a green RMV machine or in the RMVgo app before you board.

One ticket covers the S-Bahn and every U-Bahn, tram and bus you touch until 05:00 the next morning. There are no barriers - but inspectors ride this line constantly and the fine is EUR 60, so buy first.

Two of you, or moving around town? The Airport-to-City day ticket is EUR 13.50 - two singles already cost EUR 13.80. Heavy bags, or landing at 3am? Frankfurt's meter has no night surcharge and luggage is free: EUR 35-45 to the centre, the same at midnight as at noon.

EVERY WAY OUT — REAL PRICES

S-Bahn S8 / S9 *BEST FOR MOST* EUR 6.90

11-15 min to Frankfurt Hauptbahnhof, then on to Hauptwache and Konstablerwache. Roughly every 7-8 min with both lines. Departs the Regionalbahnhof, in the basement of Terminal 1. One ticket per person, adult EUR 6.90 / child 6-14 EUR 4.10.

Regional train (RE) EUR 6.90

Same station, same ticket, fewer stops: 10-12 min to Hauptbahnhof. The departure board at the Regionalbahnhof shows S-Bahn and RE together - take whichever leaves first. Some RE services continue to other cities, so check the destination.

ICE from the Fernbahnhof long-distance fare

The long-distance station sits above Terminal 1 and is for ICE/IC trains only. You can ride it one stop to Hauptbahnhof in 10-15 min - but you are paying a long-distance fare for a 12 km hop. Only worth it if you are travelling straight on to Cologne, Stuttgart or Munich.

Taxi (official rank) EUR 35-45

20-30 min door-to-door for the 12 km. Meter: EUR 4.00 base + EUR 2.40/km, with waiting time billed at EUR 38/hour when the A5 is stuck. No airport surcharge, no night tariff, luggage free. Ranks outside Hall B at Terminal 1 and at the Terminal 3 entrance.

Uber / Bolt / FreeNow EUR 30-50

20-30 min. All three operate in Frankfurt and track the metered taxi price plus demand. Pickup is not the arrivals kerb: it is short-term car park P31 at Terminal 1 and the P62 bus lane at Terminal 3.

Pre-booked fixed-price transfer from EUR 45

Frankfurt's taxi ordinance now permits fixed fares for pre-ordered rides (EUR 2.40-4.00/km, no base fare), which lands a sedan at roughly EUR 40-45 to the centre whatever the traffic does. Driver meets you inside arrivals with a name sign.

THE TRAPS — WALK PAST THESE

The EUR 3.80 city ticket that won't get you out

Frankfurt Airport is its own fare zone (5090) and it is not covered by the EUR 3.80 single that locals buy inside the city (zone 5000). The airport fare is EUR 6.90. There are no ticket barriers anywhere in the RMV, so nothing stops you boarding with the wrong ticket - you find out when an inspector boards, and the penalty fare is EUR 60. **Do this:** buy the EUR 6.90 airport single (or the EUR 13.50 day ticket) and never the EUR 3.80 city single

The red machines that sell you an ICE ticket

Two different machines stand in the same station hall. The red Deutsche Bahn machines default to long-distance fares and will cheerfully sell you an ICE ticket for a 12-minute ride into town. The green RMV machines sell the EUR 6.90 local fare. Same ride, several times the price. **Do this:** use the green RMV machine, the RMVgo app or DB Navigator, and pick Frankfurt Flughafen -> Frankfurt Hbf

Drivers quoting a "fixed airport price" inside arrivals

Frankfurt has no airport surcharge, no night surcharge and free luggage, and the city's taxi ordinance forbids charging for the approach. So a driver who meets you inside the terminal offering a flat EUR 70-90 for a trip that meters at EUR 35-45 has invented a fee that does not exist. **Do this:** walk past anyone who approaches you and take the rank outside Hall B (T1) or at the T3 entrance

Your booking still says Terminal 2 - it closed

Terminal 2 shut on 9 June 2026 for a rebuild that runs into the mid-2030s, and all 57 of its airlines moved to the new Terminal 3, which opened 23 April 2026. If your confirmation still says T2, you are actually flying from T1 or T3 - and T3 sits 8 minutes away on the SkyLine with its own taxi rank and its own motorway exit. **Do this:** check the real terminal before booking a transfer, and add 20 minutes if you are landing at T3 and catching a train from the T1 station

KNOW BEFORE YOU WALK

- Two airport singles cost EUR 13.80. The Airport-to-City day ticket is EUR 13.50 and covers unlimited S-Bahn, U-Bahn, tram and bus in both zones until 05:00 the next morning - buy it if you will move again that day.
- Travelling as a group? The group day ticket is EUR 22.50 for up to 5 people - cheaper than four adult singles before you have even left the airport.
- A Deutschlandticket (EUR 63/month) already covers the whole S-Bahn ride plus every regional train, tram and bus in Germany. Do not buy a single on top of it.
- Both stations are under Terminal 1: the Regionalbahnhof for the city, the Fernbahnhof for other cities. From Terminal 3 take the free SkyLine people mover to T1 first - about 8 minutes, every 2-3 min, and it has been swapped for shuttle buses during construction at times.
- Frankfurt taxis run the same tariff 24 hours a day - no night rate - so a 3am arrival costs about what a 3pm one does. Any quote that doubles after midnight is invented.
- Children 6-14 pay EUR 4.10; under 6 travel free. Fines for travelling without a valid ticket are charged per person, children included.

Prices verified October 2026 against RMV published fares (valid 1 January 2026) and the City of Frankfurt taxi ordinance. S-Bahn / RE airport single EUR 6.90 adult, EUR 4.10 child - Airport-to-City day ticket EUR 13.50, group EUR 22.50 - taxi EUR 4.00 base + EUR 2.40/km, waiting EUR 38/hour, no airport or night surcharge.

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