

AIRPORT EXIT

Thessaloniki Makedonia Airport (SKG)

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THE ANSWER

Take bus line 1X from outside arrivals - the airport fare is EUR 2.00 on its own special-route ticket, and it reaches the city centre, the New Railway Station and KTEL Makedonia in about 40 minutes.

The airport is only 13 km out, the bus runs every 25 minutes from 05:15 to 22:40 with the 1N covering the night, and at EUR 2.00 it is a fifth of the taxi fare.

Landing late? The 1N night bus runs 22:00-05:55 at the same EUR 2.00. Staying in Kalamaria or the east? The new 3X connects the airport to Mikra metro station year-round, also EUR 2.00, since 27 August 2026.

EVERY WAY OUT — REAL PRICES

Airport bus 1X (day) and 1N (night) *BEST FOR MOST* EUR 2.00

The 1X leaves outside arrivals and calls at the city centre, the New Railway Station and KTEL Makedonia, the main intercity coach terminal - about 40 minutes in the day and about 50 at night. It runs roughly 05:15 to 22:40 every 25 minutes, with the 1N night service covering 22:00 to 05:55. The fare is EUR 2.00 on a special-route ticket, or EUR 1.00 reduced. Tickets come from the kiosk or the OSETH machines in the terminal; there is no sale on board.

Bus 3X to Mikra metro station (new) EUR 2.60

Opened on 27 August 2026 alongside the Kalamaria metro extension, the 3X runs year-round between the airport and the Mikra metro interchange station at the EUR 2.00 special-route fare, where you change onto the metro for the centre at EUR 0.60. Mikra is the eastern terminus of the new Kalamaria branch and is the fastest route in if you are staying south-east or arriving from that side of the city.

Taxi from the official rank EUR 28 day / EUR 38 night

Thessaloniki taxis are dark blue with a white roof and wait at the rank outside arrivals. The fixed all-inclusive fare to the city ring is EUR 28 by day (05:00-24:00) and EUR 38 overnight (00:00-05:00) under the Ministry's September 2026 revision, up from EUR 25 and EUR 35; luggage and tolls are included. Card payment is mandatory in Greek taxis. The ride takes 25-30 minutes.

Bus 2X to Nea Elvetia metro EUR 2.60

The 2X connects the airport to the metro transfer station at Nea Elvetia on the main line, at the same EUR 2.00 airport fare, plus EUR 0.60 for the metro into town. Useful if your destination is on the metro spine rather than near the centre stops the 1X serves.

Bus 79 to the IKEA transfer station EUR 2.00

Line 79 links the airport with the Eastern Bus Transfer Station at IKEA, where the trunk bus routes into the city and out to Halkidiki connect. Same EUR 2.00 special-route airport ticket. The airport's own transport page lists it alongside the 1X/1N, 2X and 3X.

30, 90 and 180-day passes EUR 16 / EUR 45 / EUR 85

The long-period passes do include the airport lines, unlike the day pass and the 10+1 packs: EUR 16.00 for 30 days, EUR 45.00 for 90 days and EUR 85.00 for 180 days. Worth checking if you are in the city for a month or more, but no use for a normal trip.

THE TRAPS — WALK PAST THESE

The airport bus needs its own EUR 2.00 ticket - the EUR 0.60 one is invalid

Lines 1X, 1N, 2X, 3X and 79 are classed as special routes, and the ordinary products do not cover them: the EUR 0.60 urban ticket, the EUR 0.80 suburban ticket, the EUR 2.50 24-hour pass and the EUR 5.80 10+1 pack are all excluded. A EUR 2.00 ticket for one bus ride looks wrong next to a EUR 0.60 city fare, and buying the cheap one is a fine, not a fare. **Do this:** ask for the special bus routes ticket, the one for the airport and the cultural line, at the kiosk or machine in the terminal

The airport taxi fare rose to EUR 28 and EUR 38 in September 2026

The Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport raised the fixed Thessaloniki airport fare from EUR 25 to EUR 28 by day and from EUR 35 to EUR 38 overnight. Rank signs, hotel printouts and nearly every guide still say EUR 25/EUR 35, so the correct new fare can look like a tout's markup. **Do this:** expect EUR 28 daytime and EUR 38 after midnight to the city ring, with luggage and tolls already included

There is no ticket sale on board the airport buses

You buy at the ticket booth or the OSETH vending machines in the terminal, and boarding without a valid ticket is a fine, not a fare to be settled with the driver. Reduced fares load only onto a personalised ThessCard, which a visitor will not have, so the reduced EUR 1.00 does not apply to you. **Do this:** buy the EUR 2.00 special-route ticket before you leave the terminal building

The metro still does not reach the airport

Thessaloniki's metro opened in November 2024 and the Kalamaria extension added five stations on 27 August 2026, taking the network to 18 stations - but none of them is at the airport. Reaching the metro means a bus first (3X to Mikra or 2X to Nea Elvetia) and two separate tickets, because metro and bus are ticketed independently: about EUR 2.60 in total. **Do this:** budget for the bus plus the metro ticket, and do not follow anyone promising a metro link at the terminal

KNOW BEFORE YOU WALK

- The 1X runs about 05:15 to 22:40 every 25 minutes, and the 1N night bus covers 22:00 to 05:55 at the same EUR 2.00 fare.
- The 1X calls at the city centre, the New Railway Station and KTEL Makedonia, the main intercity coach terminal.
- The new 3X to Mikra metro station opened on 27 August 2026 with the Kalamaria extension and runs year-round at the EUR 2.00 airport fare.
- The Kalamaria extension added five stations - Nomarchia, Kalamaria, Aretsou, Nea Krini and Mikra - bringing the network to 18 stations.
- Metro and buses are ticketed separately, so a journey using both needs two tickets, about EUR 1.20 within the urban zone.
- The 30-day (EUR 16.00), 90-day (EUR 45.00) and 180-day (EUR 85.00) passes do include the airport lines, but the EUR 2.50 day pass does not.

Prices verified October 2026 against the Transport Authority of Thessaloniki's published fare FAQ (oseth.com.gr), the airport operator's own bus page (skg-airport.gr) and the Municipality of Thessaloniki's airport transport page. Special bus routes ticket for lines 1X, 1N, 2X, 3X and 79 and the cultural line: EUR 2.00 (EUR 1.00 reduced, loadable only onto a personalised ThessCard), valid 70 minutes; urban zone ticket EUR 0.60; suburban EUR 0.80; 24-hour pass EUR 2.50 excluding special routes; 10+1 urban pack EUR 5.80; 30-day EUR 16.00, 90-day EUR 45.00 and 180-day EUR 85.00 passes include the airport lines. Taxi flat fare EUR 28 daytime (05:00-24:00) and EUR 38 overnight (00:00-05:00) to the city ring, luggage and tolls included, under the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport revision reported on 16-17 September 2026; the previous EUR 25/EUR 35 is still widely published and may still be shown on rank signage. The 3X Mikra metro station to Makedonia airport route began operating on 27 August 2026 at the EUR 2.00 fare.

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