

## Frankfurt

Known in Germany as Frankfurt Am Main, since it lies either side of the River Main, Frankfurt is a huge city and the biggest within the whole Hesse region. The true financial heart of Germany, Frankfurt has many flattering nicknames, which often refer to its rather Manhattan-like skyline. Much more than simply a popular tourist city, Frankfurt hosts many world-class trade fairs, including the largest book fair on the planet.

Frankfurt is also home to Germany's premier stock exchange and the important Bundesbank, both of which give the city true credibility in the world of finance. For tourists visiting the city, pleasure boats along the Main are a great way to begin your sightseeing. Available at the city's tourist information centre and the Hauptbahnhof (main train station), the Frankfurt Card provides many saving discounts relating to both public transport and tourism, and the small outlay is easily recouped.



### Top sights:

- Frankfurt Zoo
- St. Paul's Church
- Apple Wine Express (Apfelwein Express) - a traditional streetcar tour
- St. Bartholomew's Cathedral - a magnificent example of historic German architecture
- Frankfurt Botanical Gardens (Botanischer Garten)
- Palm Gardens (Palmengarten) - home to over 2,000 different palm tree species
- Commerzbank - the tallest building in Europe
- Frankfurt Post Office Tower
- German Film Museum
- Museum of Modern Art (MMK) - a triangle-shaped facility with a large collection of contemporary paintings and sculptures
- Old Opera House



### Travel information:

Frankfurt has an excellent transport network (RMV) with bus, tram, S-Bahn and U-Bahn lines. Single or day tickets can be purchased from the machines at most stops. *Kurzstrecken* cost up to €1.60, single tickets €2.10 and a *Tageskarte* (24-hour ticket) €4.90. Weekly passes cost €19.

Taxis are quite expensive. There's a €2 hire charge, plus a minimum of €1.53 per kilometre. There are taxi ranks throughout the city, or you can call 250 001, 792 020, 634 800 or 230 01.