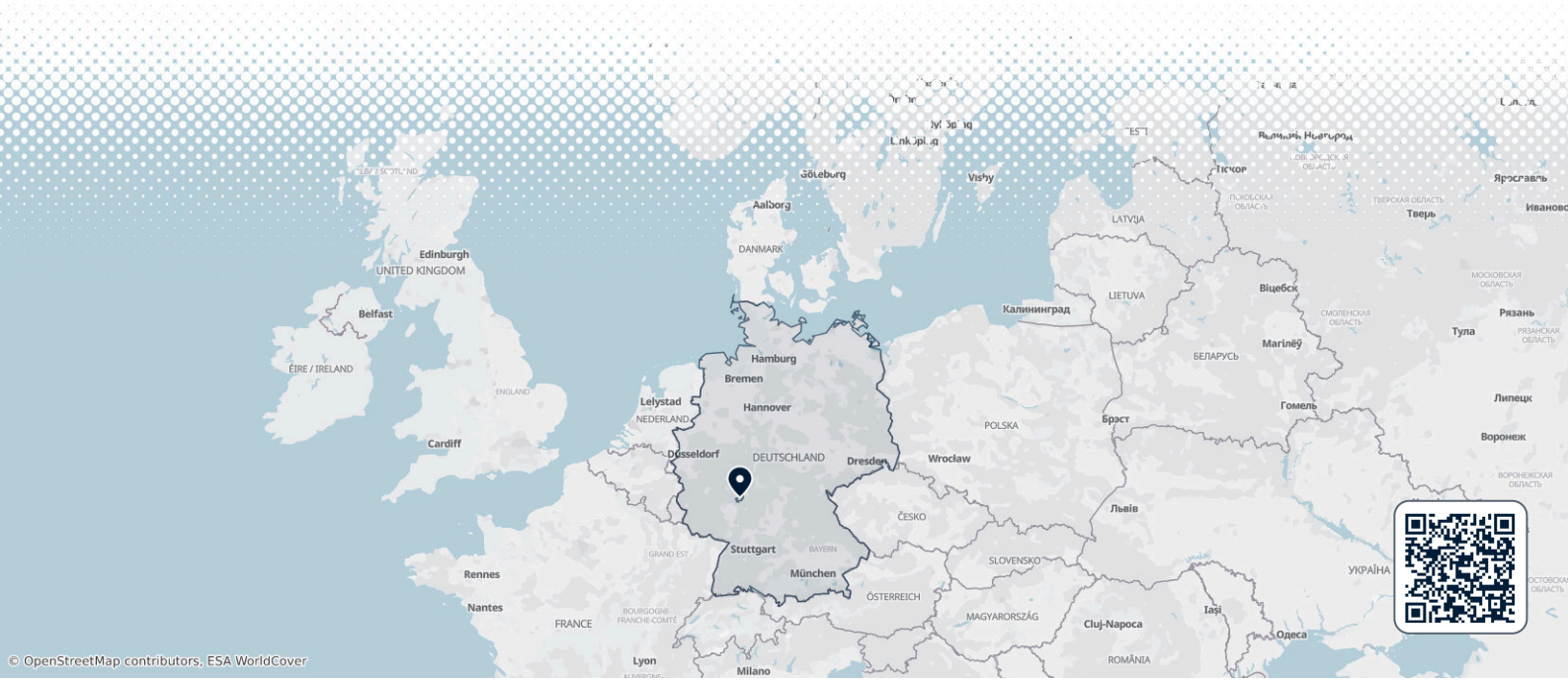


Frankfurt

Hesse · Germany

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Frankfurt is the financial centre of Germany. It has a rare skyline of glass towers on the Main river, and a rebuilt old town at its core. The European Central Bank and the stock exchange are based here.

The city is compact and easy to visit. It suits short stays of two to three nights. Museums, riverside parks and apple wine taverns give it a relaxed side. Goethe was born here in 1749.

When to visit

Late spring and early autumn are the best times. Days are mild and sunny. Summer is warm and good for the river banks and beer gardens. Winters are cold and grey, but the Christmas market is a good reason to come.

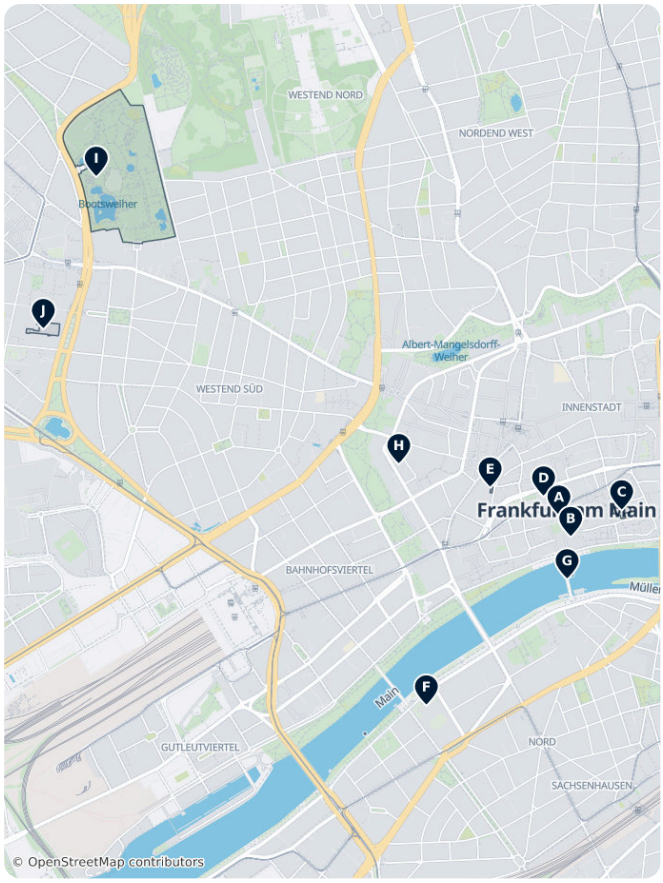
The biggest annual event is the Museumsuferfest on the last weekend of August. Museums stay open late, and stages and food stalls line the river. Book early in October, when the Frankfurt Book Fair fills hotels and raises prices.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	4° / 11° Feels like -1°	-2° / -10°	12 rainy days · Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	6° / 13° Feels like 1°	-1° / -9°	Dry air
March	Fair Fair for cycling	11° / 18° Feels like 7°	1° / -4°	Dry air
April	Great Great for cycling	16° / 23° Feels like 12°	4° / -2°	Dry air
May	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 27°	9° / 4°	12 rainy days · Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 32°	13° / 8°	12 rainy days · Dry air
July	Good Good for sightseeing	27° / 35°	15° / 10°	14 rainy days
August	Great Great for sightseeing	27° / 35°	15° / 10°	12 rainy days · Calm winds
September	Great Great for sightseeing	22° / 30°	11° / 5°	Dry air
October	Good Good for cycling	16° / 23° Feels like 13°	7° / 0°	12 rainy days · Dry air
November	Poor Poor for cycling	9° / 15° Feels like 5°	2° / -3°	12 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	5° / 11° Feels like 0°	-1° / -8°	13 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: May, June, August, September

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights



- A Römer has been the city hall since 1405. Its stepped gable faces the main square and is the symbol of the city.
- B Old Town is the compact historic centre between the Römer and the cathedral. Rebuilt half-timbered houses line its small lanes.
- C Imperial Cathedral of Saint Bartholomew is where emperors were crowned from 1562 to 1792. Its red sandstone tower is 95 m high.
- D Paulskirche hosted the first freely elected German parliament in 1848. Today it is a place for exhibitions and events.
- E Goethe-Museum is the birthplace of Goethe, with rooms furnished in the style of the 1700s.
- F Städel Museum is a major art museum. Its collection covers about 700 years of European painting.
- G Eiserner Steg is a pedestrian iron bridge from 1869. It is the best way to cross the Main on foot, with views of the skyline.
- H Main Tower has a public viewing platform. It is the best place to see the whole skyline and the river.
- I Palmengarten is a large botanical garden from 1871. Its greenhouses are a good choice on a rainy day.
- J Senckenberg Naturmuseum is a large natural history museum. It is known for its dinosaur skeletons and is good for families.

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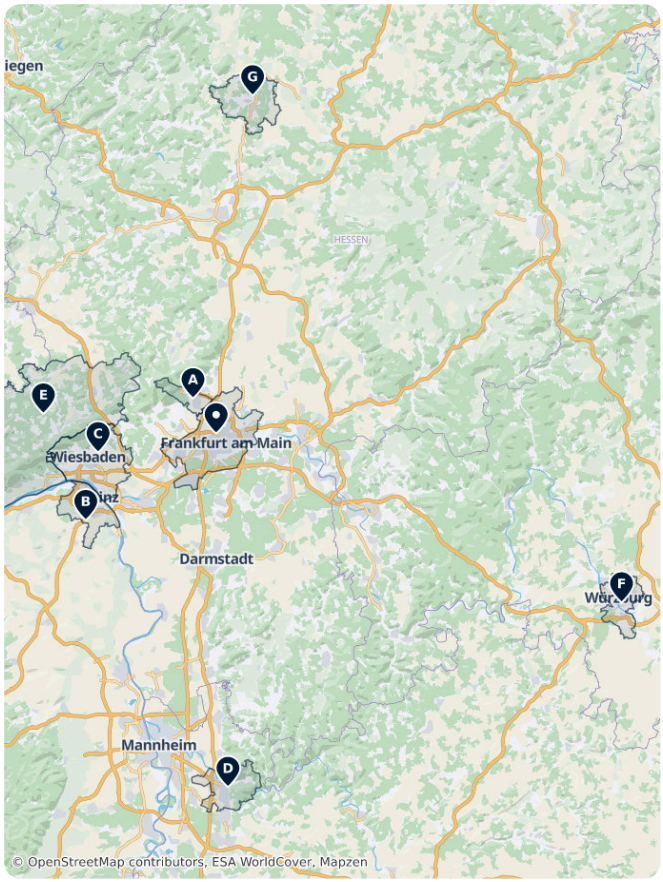
What to experience

- Drink apple wine in a traditional tavern in Sachsenhausen. Many have long shared tables and a garden.
- Visit the Christmas market from late November to just before Christmas. It centres on Römerberg and Roßmarkt and extends to the Mainkai.
- Join the Museumsuferfest on the last weekend of August. Museums open late and the river banks fill with music and food.
- Walk or cycle the Main river path on a summer evening. Lawns on both banks fill with locals.

Day trips

Frankfurt is a good base for day trips. Rail links are fast and frequent.

- A Oberursel: about 30 minutes by U-Bahn. It is the gateway to hiking in the Taunus hills.
- B Mainz: about 30 to 40 minutes by train. It has a pleasant old town and the Gutenberg Museum.
- C Wiesbaden: about 40 minutes by train. It is a spa city with grand 19th-century buildings.
- D Heidelberg: about 1 hour by fast train. A castle ruin stands above the old town and the Neckar river.
- E Rheingau-Taunus: about 1 to 1.5 hours by train to Rüdesheim. Wine villages and castles line the Rhine.
- F Würzburg: about 1 hour 15 minutes by fast train. It has a baroque palace and Franconian wine.
- G Marburg: about 1 hour 15 minutes by train. It is a hilly university town with a castle.



Where to explore

These nearby destinations work for day trips and longer stays.

- For city trips by train, see Wiesbaden and Marburg.
- For hiking and wine villages, see Rheingau-Taunus.
- For a start in the Taunus hills, see Oberursel.
- For the wider region, see Hesse.

Getting there

- **By air**: Frankfurt Airport (FRA) is one of the largest hubs in Europe. It is about 10 km southwest of the centre. The S8 and S9 S-Bahn trains reach the main station in about 10 to 15 minutes.
- **By train**: Frankfurt Hauptbahnhof is a major ICE hub. Fast trains reach Cologne, Stuttgart, Munich and Berlin directly. Mainz, Wiesbaden and Heidelberg are within about one hour. Book on Deutsche Bahn.
- **By bus**: Long-distance coaches stop at the central bus station near the main station. They are a cheap option for neighbouring cities.

Getting around

- **Public transit**: The RMV network runs U-Bahn, trams, buses and S-Bahn. Buy tickets at machines or in the RMVgo app. Check routes and fares on the RMV site.
- **On foot and by bike**: The centre and the river banks are flat and compact. Most sights are within a 20-minute walk of each other.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The centre and river banks are compact and flat. Most sights are within a short walk.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

High

Bike lanes and river paths make cycling easy and pleasant.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: No, for a city stay. Public transit is faster and parking is costly. A car is useful for the Taunus hills and Rhine valley villages.
- **Parking**: Use a multi-storey car park in or near the centre. Park-and-ride lots on the edge of the city are cheaper and link to the S-Bahn and U-Bahn.
- **Restrictions**: Check the current low emission rules before you drive in.

Food & drink

Try the local apple wine, called Ebbelwoi, and green sauce with eggs and potatoes. Frankfurter sausages and the sweet Bethmännchen marzipan are also typical. Most taverns serve simple hearty food.

For eating, go to the stalls inside Kleinmarkthalle, a covered market with snacks and lunch counters. The taverns of Sachsenhausen are the classic area for an evening out. The streets around the Bahnhofsviertel have many international restaurants.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Doner Kebab · Döner Kebab
A sandwich of roasted meat, salad, and sauce in flatbread, invented by Turkish immigrants in Berlin and now a national staple.

DINNER

Schnitzel
A thin, breaded and fried cutlet, usually pork, served with potatoes or fries and a lemon wedge.

Sauerbraten
A pot roast marinated for days in vinegar and spices before slow cooking, served with red cabbage and dumplings.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Bratwurst
A grilled or fried pork sausage, often served in a bread roll with mustard, sold at stands nationwide.

Currywurst
Sliced sausage topped with curry-spiced ketchup, a Berlin invention now popular across the country.

Pretzel · Brezel
A large, chewy salted bread pretzel, especially common in Bavaria, often eaten with butter or cheese.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Black Forest Cake · Schwarzwälder Kirschtorte
A layered chocolate sponge cake with cherries, cherry liqueur, and whipped cream.

DRINKS

Beer · Bier
Germany brews hundreds of regional styles, from Bavarian Weissbier to Cologne's Kölsch, each tied to its home city.

Gluhwein · Glühwein
Mulled, spiced red wine served hot, a staple of winter and Christmas markets.

Apfelschorle
Apple juice mixed with sparkling water, the everyday non-alcoholic drink of choice.

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Safety & health

Frankfurt is safe for visitors. Violent crime against tourists is rare.

- Pickpockets work in crowds at the main station, on Zeil and at the Christmas market. Keep bags closed.
- The area around the main station has a visible drug scene. Avoid side streets there late at night.
- Trade fairs fill hotels and raise prices. Book early.

History

Frankfurt was a free imperial city for centuries. German emperors were elected and crowned at Imperial Cathedral of Saint Bartholomew. The city council worked from the Römer.

In 1848 the first German national parliament met in Paulskirche. The church is now a symbol of German democracy.

Bombs destroyed most of the old town in March 1944. Many buildings were rebuilt in a simple style after the war. In 2018 the new old town opened, with reconstructed houses between the cathedral and the Römer.

Since 1998 the European Central Bank has been based in the city, which confirms its role as a centre of finance.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Germany at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY

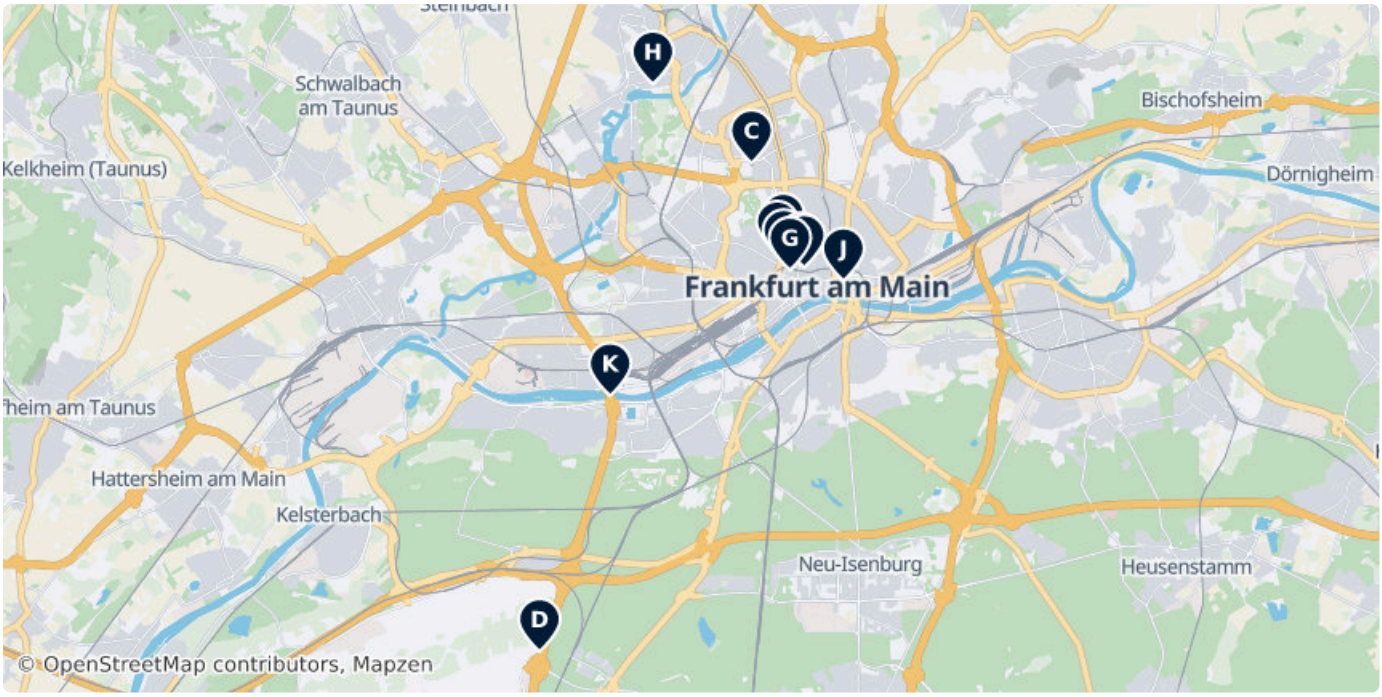
Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
German

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Frankfurt Essentials

Frankfurt's identity is shaped by its role as a global financial powerhouse and its deep historical roots. This selection spans from the 19th-century Renaissance-style Alte Oper to the modern symbols of the Stock Exchange—the Bull and Bear sculptures. It includes the Berlin Airlift Memorial at the former Rhein-Main Air Base, the oldest Jewish cemetery in the city dating back to 1180, and the Jazzkeller, a cellar club central to Germany's post-war music scene. Architectural highlights range from Ernst May's functionalist housing to the 1960s concrete brutalism of Sankt Ignatius.





A Old Opera

Alte Oper is a concert hall in Frankfurt am Main, Hesse, Germany. It is located in the inner city, Innenstadt, within the banking district...

Opernplatz 1, 60313 Frankfurt am Main, DE
(50.11588, 8.67189)

alteoper.de, +49 69 13400



B Sankt Ignatius

A prominent Catholic church consecrated in 1964, designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Gottfried Böhm. It is noted for its sculptural concrete architecture and modernist interior.

60 Gärtnerweg, Bockenheim 60322, Germany
(50.11914, 8.67176)

ignatius.de



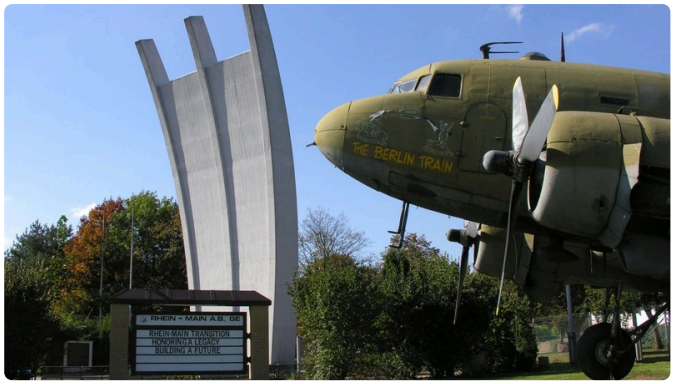
C Money Museum of the Deutsche Bundesbank

Find out everything you have ever wanted to know about money, its history, system and impact in this great museum.

Wilhelm-Epstein-Straße 14, 60431 Frankfurt am Main, DE (50.13582, 8.66177)

Mo–Su 09:00–17:00

bundesbank.de, +49 69 95663512



D Berlin Airlift Memorial

Designed by Eduard Ludwig, this sculpture commemorates the 1948–1949 Berlin Airlift. It stands near the former Rhein-Main Air Base, which served as a primary hub for the humanitarian mission.

Ellis Road, 60549, Germany (50.03791, 8.59554)



E Frankfurt Stock Exchange

This building is a seat of the world's 10th largest stock exchange. Notice the sculpture of the bear and the bull in front of it.

Börsenplatz 4 (50.11527, 8.67731)

boerse-frankfurt.de, +49 69 2 11 1 15 15

F Bulle und Bär

Located directly in front of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange, these iconic bronze sculptures by Reinhard Dachlauer represent the stock market's optimism (the bull) and pessimism (the bear).

3 Börsenplatz, Frankfurt am Main 60313, Germany (50.11486, 8.67822)



G Jazzkeller

Established in 1952, this historic basement venue is one of Europe's oldest jazz clubs. It has hosted legendary musicians including Louis Armstrong, Chet Baker, and Miles Davis.

Horst-Lippmann-Platz, 60313 Frankfurt, Germany
(50.11436, 8.67377)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

jazzkeller.de



H Ernst May House & Museum

Work of the architect and urban planner Ernst May is displayed in this small museum, seated in the house from the period between wars.

Im Burgfeld 136, 60439 Frankfurt am Main, DE
(50.15158, 8.63097)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

ernst-may-gesellschaft.de/mayhaus.h..., +49 69 15 34 38 83



I Rothschildpark

Rothschild Park may refer to:

18 Oberlindau, Bockenheim 60323, Germany
(50.11760, 8.66982)



J Jüdischer Friedhof Battonnstraße

First mentioned in 1180, this is the second oldest Jewish cemetery in Germany. It served the city's Jewish community until 1828 and contains approximately 11,000 graves.

28 Battonnstraße, Frankfurt am Main 60311, Germany
(50.11221, 8.69052)



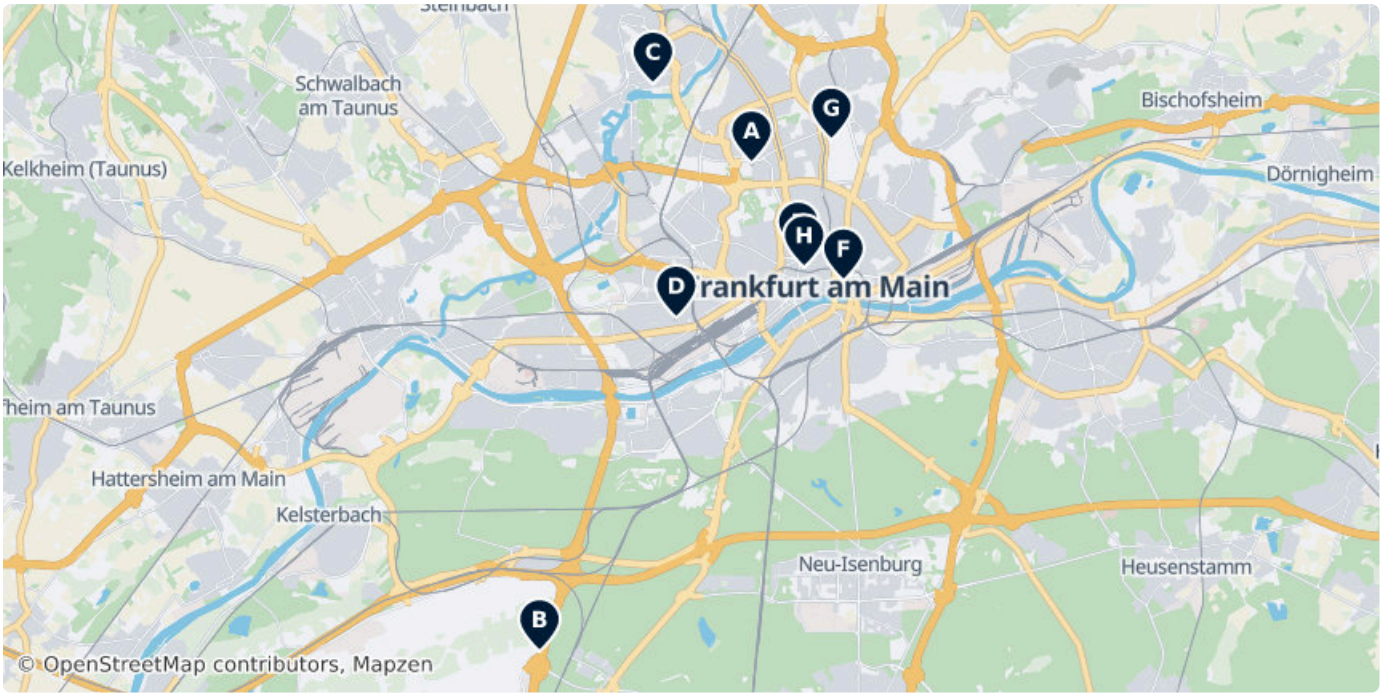
Europabrücke

A significant motorway bridge carrying the A5 Autobahn over the River Main, connecting the Griesheim and Schwanheim districts.

A5, Schwanheim 60529, Germany (50.08917, 8.61760)

Museums and Culture

Frankfurt's cultural heritage includes specialized museums, significant memorials, and historical architecture. This collection features one of Europe's oldest Jewish cemeteries, dating to 1180, alongside the neoclassical Nebbiensches Gartenhaus pavilion. Visitors can explore 1920s urban planning at the Ernst May House, view historic engines at the Hochhut collection, or see the iconic Bull and Bear bronze sculptures outside the stock exchange. The Berlin Airlift Memorial further commemorates the city's role in post-war history.





A Money Museum of the Deutsche Bundesbank

Find out everything you have ever wanted to know about money, its history, system and impact in this great museum.

Wilhelm-Epstein-Straße 14, 60431 Frankfurt am Main, DE (50.13582, 8.66177)

Mo–Su 09:00–17:00

bundesbank.de, +49 69 95663512



B Berlin Airlift Memorial

One of three sculptures designed by Eduard Ludwig commemorating the 1948–1949 airlift. It honors the mission to supply West Berlin during the Soviet blockade.

Ellis Road, 60549, Germany (50.03791, 8.59554)



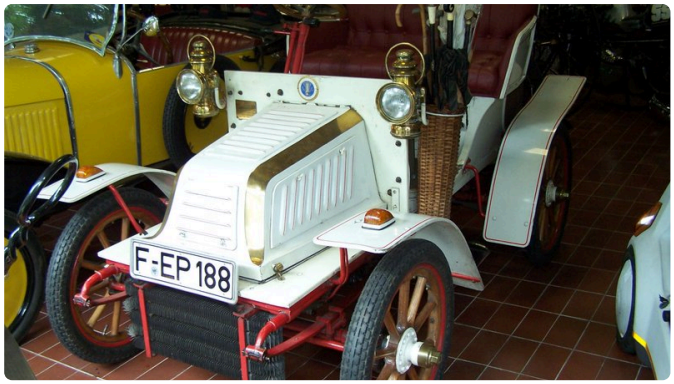
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Work of the architect and urban planner Ernst May is displayed in this small museum, seated in the house from the period between wars.

Im Burgfeld 136, 60439 Frankfurt am Main, DE (50.15158, 8.63097)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

ernst-may-gesellschaft.de/mayhaus.h..., +49 69 15 34 38 83



D Technische Sammlung Hochhut

A foundation dedicated to the preservation of historic motor vehicles, motorcycles, and engines.

4 Hattersheimer Straße, Frankfurt am Main 60326, Germany (50.10475, 8.63829)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

technische-sammlung-hochhut.de, +49 69 7392796



E Nebbiensches Gartenhaus

A neoclassical pavilion and cultural monument located in the Bockenheimer Anlage. It frequently hosts art exhibitions and small concerts.

13 Bockenheimer Anlage, Bockenheim 60322, Germany (50.11754, 8.67641)

We–Su 12:00–18:00



F Jüdischer Friedhof Battonnstraße

First documented in 1180, this is one of Europe's oldest Jewish cemeteries. It served as the community's main burial ground until 1828.

28 Battonnstraße, Frankfurt am Main 60311, Germany (50.11221, 8.69052)



G Neuer Jüdischer Friedhof

A Jewish burial site established in the early 20th century, located adjacent to the main Frankfurt Cemetery.

Frankfurt am Main 60320, Germany (50.14039, 8.68675)

H Bulle und Bär

Bronze sculptures located outside the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. They represent the bull and bear market cycles of rising and falling prices.

3 Börsenplatz, Frankfurt am Main 60313, Germany (50.11486, 8.67822)

Notable Christian Churches

This collection highlights the diverse architectural and religious landscape of Frankfurt am Main, featuring significant Catholic and Protestant landmarks across the city's districts. The selection ranges from the modernist 1960s concrete design of Sankt Ignatius to the late 19th-century neo-Gothic Sankt Antonius. It also includes the expressionist Heilig-Kreuz-Kirche, now a center for meditation, and local parish churches that reflect the spiritual heritage of neighborhoods like Zeilsheim and Bornheim.





A Sankt Ignatius

A modernist Catholic church consecrated in 1964. Designed by the renowned architect Gottfried Böhm, the building is a significant example of mid-century concrete liturgical architecture.

60 Gärtnerweg, Bockenheim 60322, Germany (50.11914, 8.67176)

ignatius.de

B Kleine Kirche

A small Protestant church located in the Sindlingen district of Frankfurt.

43 Kelsterbacher Straße, Frankfurt am Main 60528, Germany (50.08868, 8.64409)

C Ev. Gemeinde Zeilsheim

Protestant parish church serving the community in the Zeilsheim district.

33 Erfurter Weg, Zeilsheim 65931, Germany (50.09478, 8.49812)

D Lydiagemeinde (ehem. Wicherngemeinde)

Protestant church in the Praunheim district, formerly known as the Wicherngemeinde.

96A Pützer Straße, Praunheim 60488, Germany (50.14406, 8.60889)

E Sankt Antonius

Catholic church in the Westend district, featuring late 19th-century neo-Gothic architecture.

(50.11152, 8.66076)

F Sankt Stephanus

Catholic place of worship located in the Nieder-Eschbach district.

13 Deuil-La-Barre-Straße, Nieder-Eschbach 60437, Germany (50.19733, 8.66802)

G Heilig-Kreuz-Kirche

An expressionist Catholic church designed by Martin Weber and completed in 1929. It now serves as a center for Christian meditation and spirituality.

61 Barbarossastraße, Frankfurt am Main 60388, Germany (50.14723, 8.76254)

H St. Josef

Catholic parish church in the Bornheim district, originally built in 1877 to accommodate the area's rapid industrial-era growth.

(50.09335, 8.76381)

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