

Ebbelwei-Express

Sights along the route

 **VGF** Alle fahren mit.

Welcome to Ebbelwei-Express!

We invite you to get to know our vibrant city on a unique tour in the historical tram.

The old trams that now make up the Ebbelwei-Express were manufactured by the company Duewag/Crede between 1949 and 1954, offering regular service for years. Each railcar measures 11.44 metres in length and 2.16 metres in width, offering space for more than 22 people to sit and eight to stand. Weighing in at 13 tonnes, it delivers a power output of 2x 60 kW.

Designed by the artistic couple CM and Estine Estenfelder, the railcars began operating as the Ebbelwei-Express in 1977 and have been part of the Frankfurt cityscape ever since, renowned the world over.

Enjoy!

VGF – Verkehrsgesellschaft Frankfurt am Main



Tickets
purchased on
board.

Adults

€ 8,00²

Reduction¹

€ 3,50²

¹The reduction is available on presentation of appropriate valid identification for children up to 14 years of age, pupils, trainees, students, severely disabled persons and senior citizens aged 65+, participants in the German voluntary service / voluntary social year and voluntary helpers.

²Including roundtrip to the stop you boarded, salted pastries and 1 drink. There is no tour guide on board.

All ears

Listen to the Ebbelwei-Express audio guide to ensure you don't miss a single highlight along the way.

vgf-ffm.de/audioguide



Ebbelwei-Express timetable

The Ebbelwei-Express offers service on Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays.
No service on Good Friday, Corpus Christi, Volkstrauertag or Totensonntag.

No reservations or unscheduled stops
permitted for regular services.

Host your celebrations on the
Ebbelwei-Express.



Stop	Tours											
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10	#11	#12
Zoo (departure)	13:30	14:05	14:40	15:15	15:50	16:25	17:00	17:35	18:10	18:45	19:10	19:45
S-Bahn-Station Ostendstr.	13:32	14:07	14:42	15:17	15:52	16:27	17:02	17:37	18:12	18:47	19:12	19:47
Allerheiligentor	13:34	14:09	14:44	15:19	15:54	16:29	17:04	17:39	18:14	18:49	19:14	19:49
Börneplatz/Stoltzestr.	13:35	14:10	14:45	15:20	15:55	16:30	17:05	17:40	18:15	18:50	19:15	19:50
Börneplatz	13:37	14:12	14:47	15:22	15:57	16:32	17:07	17:42	18:17	18:52	19:17	19:52
Römer/Paulskirche	13:39	14:14	14:49	15:24	15:59	16:34	17:09	17:44	18:19	18:54	19:19	19:54
Karmeliterkloster	13:40	14:15	14:50	15:25	16:00	16:35	17:10	17:45	18:20	18:55	19:20	19:55
Willy-Brandt-Platz	13:42	14:17	14:52	15:27	16:02	16:37	17:12	17:47	18:22	18:57	19:22	19:57
Weser-/Münchener Straße	13:44	14:19	14:54	15:29	16:04	16:39	17:14	17:49	18:24	18:59	19:24	19:59
Hauptbhf./Münchener Str.	13:45	14:20	14:55	15:30	16:05	16:40	17:15	17:50	18:25	19:00	19:25	20:00
Hauptbahnhof Südseite	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19:26	20:01
Hauptbahnhof	13:46	14:21	14:56	15:31	16:06	16:41	17:16	17:51	18:26	19:01		
Platz der Republik	13:48	14:23	14:58	15:33	16:08	16:43	17:18	17:53	18:28*	19:03*		
Hohenstaufenstraße	13:49	14:24	14:59	15:34	16:09	16:44	17:19	17:54	18:29	19:04		
Festhalle/Messe	13:50	14:25	15:00	15:35	16:10	16:45	17:20	17:55	18:30	19:05		
Festhalle/Messe Schleife	13:51	14:26	15:01	15:36	16:11	16:46	17:21	17:56	18:31	19:06		
Festhalle/Messe	13:52	14:27	15:02	15:37	16:12	16:47	17:22	17:57	18:32	19:07		
Hohenstaufenstraße	13:53	14:28	15:03	15:38	16:13	16:48	17:23	17:58	18:33	19:08		
Platz der Republik	13:55	14:30	15:05	15:40	16:15	16:50	17:25	18:00	18:35	19:10		
Hauptbahnhof	13:57	14:32	15:07	15:42	16:17	16:52	17:27	18:02	18:37	19:12		
Baseler Platz	13:59	14:34	15:09	15:44	16:19	16:54	17:29	18:04	18:39	19:14		
Stresemannallee/Gartenstr.	14:01	14:36	15:11	15:46	16:21	16:56	17:31	18:06	18:41	19:16		
Otto-Hahn-Platz	14:03	14:38	15:13	15:48	16:23	16:58	17:33	18:08	18:43	19:18		
Schweizer-/Gartenstraße	14:04	14:39	15:14	15:49	16:24	16:59	17:34	18:09	18:44	19:19		
Schwanthalerstraße	14:06	14:41	15:16	15:51	16:26	17:01	17:36	18:11	18:46	19:21		
Südbahnhof	14:08	14:43	15:18	15:53	16:28	17:03	17:38	18:13	18:48	19:23		
Brücken-/Textorstraße	14:09	14:44	15:19	15:54	16:29	17:04	17:39	18:14	18:49	19:24		
Lokalbahnhof/Textorstraße	14:10	14:45	15:20	15:55	16:30	17:05	17:40	18:15	18:50	19:25		
Lokalbahnhof	14:11	14:46	15:21	15:56	16:31	17:06	17:41	18:16	18:51	19:26		
Frankensteiner Platz	14:12	14:47	15:22	15:57	16:32	17:07	17:42	18:17	18:52	19:27		
Hospital zum Heiligen Geist	14:14	14:49	15:24	15:59	16:34	17:09	17:44	18:19	18:54	19:29		
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Zoo (arrival)	14:20	14:55	15:30	16:05	16:40	17:15	17:50	18:25	19:00	19:35		
Zoo (departure)	14:40	15:15	15:50	16:25	17:00	17:35	18:10	18:45	19:10	19:45		

Info and rental
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With the kind support of

POSSMANN

*No service back to the departure stop from Platz der Republik.

If the scheduled route of travel cannot be maintained due to exceptional circumstances, no legal recourse may be taken against VGF.

Timetable valid from 9 December 2019.



The Ebbelwei-Express

Sights along the route

1 Zoo

Frankfurt Zoo is the second-oldest zoo in Germany, established in 1858 through a local initiative. The zoo was almost entirely destroyed during World War II and subsequently rebuilt thanks to the key support of animal researcher Bernhard Grzimek, who was able to raise the required funds.

Its key attractions are the Exotarium, Cat Jungle, Borgori Forest and the Nocturnal House, which artificially turns day into night, enabling visitors to observe the activities of nocturnal animals during the day. www.zoo-frankfurt.de

2 Jewish cemetery

You will see the Old Jewish Cemetery on the left-hand side between the two upcoming stops, Allerheiligen- and Börneplatz. As Germany's second-oldest Jewish cemetery, it was still in use up to 1828.

Around 5,500 headstones have been counted above and below the ground, dating back to the year 1272. 11,134 small plaques along the cemetery wall commemorate the Jewish residents of Frankfurt who were killed during the holocaust.

3 Judengasse museum

Construction of the Stadtwerke Frankfurt administrative building in the late 80s uncovered the foundations of five houses in Judengasse as well as the Börneplatz Synagogue. Parts of these foundation walls and archaeological finds were secured and incorporated into Museum Judengasse, which opened its doors in 1992, in the basement of the

administrative building. Museum Judengasse is a branch of Jewish Museum Frankfurt and showcases the history of the Jewish community in Judengasse since the 15th century and around Börneplatz since the 19th century. www.museumjudengasse.de

4 Börneplatz

Börneplatz square was once the location of the Börneplatz Synagogue, which was inaugurated in 1882. The synagogue was built between 1881 and 1882 at the site of Fremdenhospital, which had been erected in 1780 at the southern end of the former Judengasse. The Börneplatz Synagogue was one of the four large Frankfurt synagogues which served as a spiritual centre for the Orthodox denomination of the community. The Nazis set fire to the building during Kristallnacht in 1938, destroying everything but the exterior walls. The remaining synagogues were torn down soon after.

5 Zeil

Just before the Börneplatz stop, the street on the right leads towards Konstablerwache and Zeil. Built around 1330, Zeil is Frankfurt's most famous shopping street and one of the most profitable in Germany. Zeil, which is German for 'row', owes its name to the construction of the houses, which were built so closely together that they resemble a row of books.

6 Museum für Moderne Kunst

Located on the right-hand side, the Museum für Moderne Kunst (museum of modern art) is called Tortenstück by the locals, which means 'slice of cake'. With its unconventional interior, the eye-catching triangular building features alternating exhibitions of modern art. Due to the construction, the individual paintings are illuminated by natural light when the weather cooperates. Designed by Viennese architect Hans Hollein, the building opened its doors in 1991. The Museum für Moderne Kunst in Frankfurt showcases works of art by a range of artists, including Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Rauschenberg, Andy Warhol, Joseph Beuys and James Turrell. www.mmk-frankfurt.de

7 Frankfurt Cathedral

The next street on the left-hand side leads to the cathedral. The Imperial Cathedral of Saint Bartholomew was built on cathedral hill, which has been the centre of the settlement that is now Frankfurt since the Bronze Age. Strictly speaking, the former collegiate and parish church is not a cathedral, as Frankfurt has never served as an episcopal see. But the church was named a cathedral in the Middle Ages to allow for imperial coronation, thus serving as a location for electing German kings from 1356 and a coronation church for German emperors between 1562 and 1792.

8 Römerberg

Located on the left-hand side, Römerberg square has been an important, prestigious location in Frankfurt for centuries. The Fountain of Justice in

the centre of the square was erected in 1543 as a symbol of market rights and has often been renovated. The bronze Justitia has adorned the fountain with her sword and scales since 1887. With its reconstructed half-timbered houses, Römerberg is also the site of the famous Christmas market.

9 The Römer

The Römer is a group of eleven town houses on the western side of Römerberg, home to city hall and the current location of the municipal council. The heart and iconic landmark of Frankfurt are the three Gothic houses with stepped gables – Zum Römer, Alt-Limpurg and Löwenstein – which were converted into city hall from 1405.

10 St. Paul's Church

Located on the right-hand side, St Paul's Church is an elliptical classical building. In 1848 and 1849, the Vorparlament and Frankfurt National Assembly met in St Paul's Church. The National Assembly was Germany's first freely elected representatives.

Considered to be a symbol of freedom and democracy, St Paul's Church is no longer used as a church, but rather as an event venue for special occasions and award ceremonies, including for presenting the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade as part of the Frankfurter Buchmesse book fair.

11 Karmeliterkloster

Originally a monastery of the Carmelite Order from 1246 to 1803, the Karmeliterkloster is now home to the Institute of Urban History and the Archaeological Museum. www.stadtgeschichte-ffm.de

12 Willy-Brandt-Platz

Willy-Brandt-Platz is located in the banking district alongside Frankfurt's Wallanlagen park, which is a ring-shaped green space surrounding the Frankfurt am Main city centre and was developed in the early 19th century on the grounds of Frankfurt's former city walls.

13 Städtische Bühnen

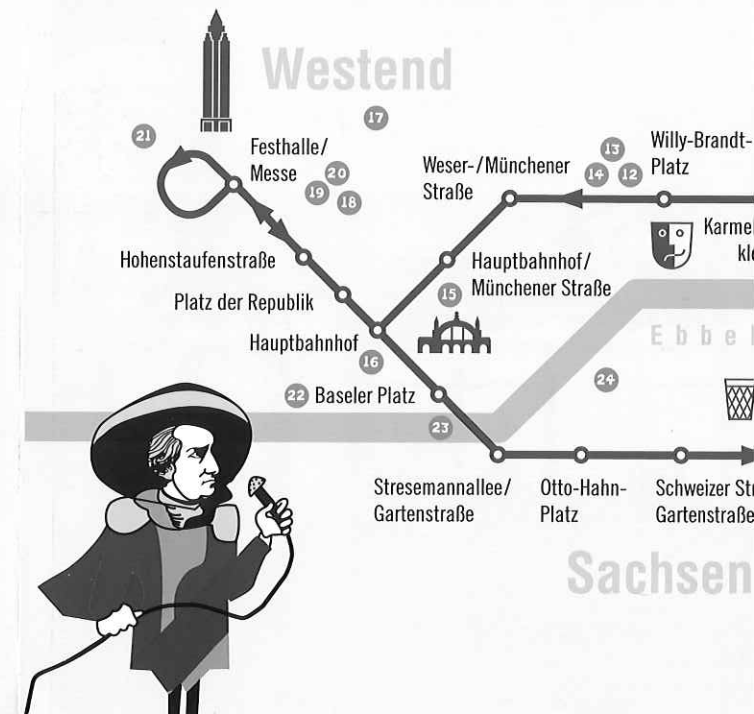
Built between 1951 and 1963, the Städtische Bühnen building is located on the left-hand side in Willy-Brandt-Platz, the former theatre square, and houses the world-renowned Oper Frankfurt opera house and the Schauspiel and Kammer-spiel theatres. www.buehnen-frankfurt.de

14 Frankfurt's fairy-tale fountain

Located in the park next to Städtische Bühnen, the art nouveau Fairy Tale Fountain was designed by Ernst Friedrich Hausmann and completed in 1910. The bronze figures at the foot of the eight-metre-tall fountain were melted down during World War II and reconstructed again using photographs from the 20th century.

15 Bahnhofsviertel

On the right-hand side, Kaiserstrasse runs parallel to Münchener Strasse and, with its Gründerzeit buildings and their magnificent facades, is the impressive link between the city centre and central station. Kaiserstrasse made a name for itself after World War II as Frankfurt's red-light district. The multicultural Bahnhofsviertel (railway station district) is now home to a great many bars, clubs, agencies, businesses and restaurants.





16 Frankfurt central station

Central station was opened in 1888, with the two external halls added in 1924. Today it's one of the largest railway stations in Germany, featuring more than 25 platforms in five train sheds. An additional four S-Bahn platforms and four U-Bahn platforms are located 17 metres above the earth. The railway station facade is made of sandstone. Day and night are artistically represented to the left and right-hand side of the clock at the main entrance. A statue of Atlas stands at the centre of the roof, carrying the world on his shoulders, with the symbolic figures of Steam and Electricity beside him.

17 Frankfurt Westend district

Westend stretches along the route on the right-hand side. Along with the Bahnhofsviertel, Nordend and Ostend, Westend is one of Frankfurt's highly dense city centre districts built during the Gründerzeit, as well as one of the most expensive residential areas in the city.

18 Messe Frankfurt trade fair centre

Trade fairs have been shaping economic and cultural life in Frankfurt since the 12th century. In particular, the International Motor Show (IAA) and the Buchmesse book fair played an important role in establishing the leading international role of the trade fair location. The exhibition grounds house the dome-shaped Festhalle, built in 1909, and the Messe Frankfurt Congress Centre.

19 Frankfurt Festhalle

The Festhalle serves as a venue for many important events, including the concerts of renowned artists and bands, sports events and large horse shows. The first events in 1909 were the German Gymnastics Festival and the International Aviation Exhibition. The Festhalle was built between 1907 and 1909.

20 MesseTurm

The architecture of the 256-metre-tall Trade Fair Tower is a postmodern tribute to the American skyscrapers of the 1920s. When it was completed in 1991, the high-rise building, which was nicknamed Bleistift (pencil), was the tallest building in Europe. The illuminated pyramid on the roof alone is 36.6 metres tall, and easy to see at twilight in the flight path of Frankfurt Airport.

21 Europa quarter

On the right-hand side, behind the horseshoe-shaped Tower 185, a new district with offices, flats and plenty of shops and leisure activities has been developing on the grounds of the former main freight depot in recent years.

22 Westhafen

Located on the right, in front of the bridge, the former Westhafen port has undergone a transition through the construction of attractive, modern residential complexes. Westhafen was originally a river port, separated from the Main by a mole. Westhafen Tower has stood at the entrance to Westhafen since 2003 and, due to its rhombus-shaped windows, is also referred to as the world's largest apple wine glass by the locals.

23 Friedensbrücke

Our journey takes us over Friedensbrücke (freedom bridge) and across the Main. Rebuilt between 1950 and 1951, the bridge measures 300 metres in length and is supported by four piers. It was the only bridge over the Main in Frankfurt not completely blown up in 1945, allowing the US army to enter the city on 26 March 1945. To the left, Meunier's 1893 bronze statue, the Dock Worker, stands at the southern end in memory of Frankfurt Westhafen.

24 Museumsufer

Located on the southern bank of the Main, the Museumsufer (Museum Embankment) is one of the most important museum locations in both Germany and Europe. The idea of bringing various museums together was implemented between 1977 and 1990, with existing buildings expanded and new ones built. The Städel Museum is located on the left, alongside the next bridge. The Städel building was constructed in the historicism style between 1874 and 1878 and houses one of the most beautiful and richest art galleries in Europe.

25 Sachsenhausen

Sachsenhausen owes its name to the settlement of families from Saxony ('Sachsen' in German) through Charlemagne. Originally a fishing village just outside Frankfurt, this district is now a popular residential area with lots of old buildings. Built in the year 1291, Frankfurt's oldest, maintained house is located here at Schellgasse 8.

In the Frankfurt dialect, Sachsenhausen is also called Dribb de Bach, which means 'on the other side of the stream', the stream being the Main. Hibb de Bach refers to the northern side of the Main.

26 Cider tradition

Ebbelwei, as the people of Frankfurt refer to their apple wine, is of course the inspiration behind the name Ebbelwei-Expreß. World-famous Frankfurt apple wine is served in traditional bars in Sachsenhausen. Made from local apples, the wine is acidic and exceptionally easy to digest. Referred to as Stöffche by the locals, it's served in a Gerippe, a glass with a textured diamond pattern. At a time when people ate without knives and forks, especially when they were at work in the fields, the textured surface prevented the glass from slipping out of greasy fingers like a smooth glass might have done.

The beverage was poured from a classic stone jug, referred to as a Bembel, and traditionally enjoyed with Handkäse mit Musik (cheese topped with chopped onions) or Rippche mit Kraut (hot cured cutlet with sauerkraut).

27 Old Sachsenhausen

To the left you will find Old Sachsenhausen along with its famous Klappergasse. Frau Rauscher, the life-size stone sculpture, greets her guests as they enjoy a glass of apple wine. The party and bar neighbourhood is primarily the weekend destination of choice for stag nights and tourists.

28 Ignatz-Bubis-Brücke

The journey continues past Old Sachsenhausen and over Ignatz Bubis Bridge, which was built between 1876 and 1878 and used to be called Obermainbrücke. On the left-hand side, the bridge provides an extraordinary view of the Frankfurt skyline with its high-rise buildings and, even closer, the city's historic towers, including that of Frankfurt Cathedral. To the right you'll see Osthafen and the European Central Bank building on the former Wholesale Market Hall grounds, with its imposing double towers which stand nearly 200 metres tall.

29 Portikus

The white portal of the city library, which was completely destroyed in 1944, stands at the entrance to Ignatz Bubis Bridge. The building was constructed between 1820 and 1825 and is now used for art exhibitions.

30 Hospital zum Heiligen Geist

Hospital zum Heiligen Geist is a public foundation and the oldest of its kind in Frankfurt. Documented for the first time in 1267, it originally only served the needy and destitute.

