

# Your Arrival in Germany

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## How to take the train from the airport:

Follow the signs directing you to the long-distance trains of the German rail system, which is called the Deutsche Bahn (DB) in Germany.

**Download the Deutsche Bahn app** to easily plan your trip, book tickets online, see timetables and prices, and more. An English version of the DB app is also available.

**In Frankfurt Airport**, the long-distance train station (DB) is in Terminal 1, below level 0. All local and regional trains are in terminal 1 level 0. The trip takes approx. 4,5h.

**In Stuttgart Airport**, to get to the main train station in Stuttgart, you must take either S-Bahn 2 or 3, both of which are located on level 1 terminal 1 (departures). The S-Bahn is the local subway system within city limits. Once you are on the S-Bahn, you must exit at the stop called 'Hauptbahnhof' (which is the main train station) and follow the signs labeled 'DB' to get to the long-distance train station. There, you must take a train to either Aalen, or Ulm. In Aalen or Ulm you have to change trains to Heidenheim (Brenz). In total, the trip takes approx. 3h. The staff at the information counter in Terminal 1, Level 3 at Stuttgart Airport can help you if you have any questions.

**In Munich Airport**, you must take the S-Bahn rail link, either S1 or S8, to the Hauptbahnhof. The S-Bahn is found on the lowest level of the airport and the trip takes roughly 45 minutes. Once you have arrived at the station, follow the DB signs up the stairs to get to the Hauptbahnhof (this is roughly a 10-minute walk).

Once you have found the train station, locate the counter where you can purchase your train ticket. Most of the staff speak English, so buying a ticket should not be a problem. Make sure you get a printout of the schedule if you will have to change trains at any point. This will tell you what time and which platform you need to switch trains. The trip takes approx. 3,5h.

English timetables are available online at <http://www.bahn.com/en/view/index.shtml>

**Airport Terminal maps** can also be found at the following web addresses: (There are several different map options you can look at to get a good idea of the airport layout).

[Airport Map \(frankfurt-airport.com\)](http://www.frankfurt-airport.com)

[https://www.stuttgart-airport.com/media/185923/overview\\_terminals.png](https://www.stuttgart-airport.com/media/185923/overview_terminals.png)

<https://www.munich-airport.com/airport-map-261352>

## Tips on using the train

- The ICE and IC trains are more expensive because they are faster and more comfortable. To save money you can request the slower trains (IRE and RE; read the information on "DeutschlandTicket" below). With the BAHN App you can plan trips only using cheaper trains.
- Sometimes seats are marked reserved on trains. If you reserve your seat and purchase your ticket in advance for a small fee, it will ensure you get your desired seating arrangements.

- The trains are often very reliable but to ensure you get to your destination, try not to take the last connection and be early for your train. Also use the app "DB Navigator" to ensure your chosen connection is still scheduled.

As you cannot be sure that the trains will always be on time or not, and as the platform changes sometimes, it is important to always double check with the information on the display boards. These display the times and platforms the trains are expected to be departing and arriving at.

- If you are planning to travel a lot while in Germany, you may want to look into buying a Eurailpass, which you need to buy BEFORE coming to Germany. For more information, visit the website: <https://www.raileurope.com/?country=DE&locale=en&currency=EUR>
- A very good offer to travel within Germany is the (rather new) Deutschland Ticket. It is not sold at train stations – only online (as a subscription!) with bahn.de or a provider of local transport, so it appears on the DB Navigator app on your mobile phone. At the cost of € 49,00/month you can travel throughout all of Germany, in all "slow" trains and all sorts of public transport. This includes busses, regional trains, slow trains... in all German cities and throughout the country. Unfortunately the Website is only in German: [www.deutschlandticket.de](http://www.deutschlandticket.de) or here in English: [The Deutschland-Ticket is here: for just 49 euros per month. \(bahn.de\)](#)
- Another option is purchasing a BahnCard from the Deutsche Bahn once you get here. The BahnCard gives you a discount on each train ride. There are different types of BahnCards and students under the age of 27 receive a discount on the card fee. [https://www.bahn.com/en/view/offers/bahncard/bahncard.shtml?dbkanal\\_007=L04\\_S02\\_D002\\_KIN0060\\_NAVIGATION-LINKS-BAHNCARD\\_LZ01](https://www.bahn.com/en/view/offers/bahncard/bahncard.shtml?dbkanal_007=L04_S02_D002_KIN0060_NAVIGATION-LINKS-BAHNCARD_LZ01)
- At the end of your stay in Germany, it is important to cancel your BahnCard as it will be automatically renewed each year otherwise, also the DeutschlandTicket that renews itself every month.