

AMLA IN FRANKFURT

GERMANY STANDS READY



Federal Ministry
of Finance





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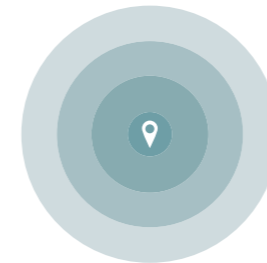
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AT A GLANCE: WHY FRANKFURT IS THE PERFECT FIT

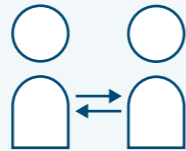


AMLA'S BUILDING: SPOILED FOR CHOICE IN FRANKFURT'S REAL ESTATE MARKET

Thanks to an attractive and vibrant real estate market with competitive pricing, AMLA is spoiled for choice in making its new home. Several buildings are available in the business district as well as in the newly constructed business complex near the airport. Of course, each building can be customised to meet specific needs.

A ONE-STOP SHOP FOR SUPERVISION

Protecting the integrity of the financial system requires not only effective money laundering supervision and strong prudential supervision, but also ad-hoc information-sharing between the supervisors of individual institutions. The necessary foundations for this can only be found in Frankfurt. AMLA's close proximity to the ECB, as the authority responsible for the prudential supervision of large banks in the EU, would create a one-stop shop for supervision, which would make a significant contribution to strengthening the European financial system.



EASILY ACCESSIBLE FROM ALL AROUND EUROPE IN 2.5 HOURS OR LESS

With one of the largest airports in continental Europe and the most important rail transport hub in Germany with over 1,100 daily connections, Frankfurt offers excellent access to all destinations in the European Union and the world. From the city centre, where attractive office spaces are available for AMLA, the airport can be reached in only 15 minutes. Well-developed public transport and rail networks offer AMLA staff an eco-friendly option for commuting to the office.



ON-SITE INSPECTIONS WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE

It is anticipated that the majority of the entities that AMLA will directly supervise is located in Western Europe or even in Frankfurt itself. The short distances to the supervised entities and national supervisors would be a considerable organisational advantage for AMLA, enabling it to dedicate its resources to its core tasks.

A VIBRANT METROPOLIS IN A GREEN SETTING

The Rhine-Main region features unparalleled variety, with idyllic natural surroundings and an international, multilingual metropolis at its heart. Frankfurt offers employees and their families attractive living and working conditions in a thriving and English-speaking labour market as well as excellent educational opportunities, from early childhood to university. The European School Frankfurt deserves special mention – it provides its students a high-quality, multilingual and intercultural education and will soon move to a centrally located, attractive and sustainable new building.



AN OUTSTANDING TALENT POOL AND HUB FOR INNOVATION

There is consensus among AML experts that money laundering prevention will need to focus on innovative technological developments in the future. Frankfurt offers perfect conditions for this: The Frankfurt region is one of the world's leading hubs for cybersecurity research, with projects like ATHENE, which is based in Darmstadt, just 20 minutes from Frankfurt. The Frankfurt Rhine-Main region offers an attractive research and knowledge hub with an international talent pool of 250,000 students, numerous IT-technicians, bankers and lawyers as well as more than 40 research institutions and universities. In Frankfurt, AMLA would have access to first-rate scientific know-how and highly qualified specialists from a wide range of disciplines.

TESTIMONIALS

FRANKFURT – IT'S SIMPLY THE BEST CHOICE. HEAR FROM THOSE WHO KNOW

CHRISTIAN LINDNER, GERMAN FEDERAL MINISTER OF FINANCE



“The EU aims to become a global leader in the field of financial integrity. To this end, it is establishing a powerful watchdog to strengthen the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing. The German government is fully committed to supporting AMLA. As the continent’s foremost financial centre, Frankfurt is the right place to ensure AMLA’s operative success from day one. In 2021, the Commission proposed a set of comprehensive measures to step up the EU’s efforts to fight money laundering and terrorist financing, particularly in the area of supervision. The European Council has concluded its negotiations, equipping AMLA with even stronger direct supervisory powers, independent and accountable governance, and an organisational structure specifically tailored to its anti-money laundering tasks.

We now must decide where AMLA’s headquarters will be located. To the German government, the answer is clear. Frankfurt offers AMLA everything it needs to fulfil its functions from day one: first-class infrastructure, state-of-the-art technology and connectivity, a highly qualified talent pool, close proximity to the

ECB and EIOPA to support AMLA’s launch, and an excellent quality of life for AMLA’s staff. Locating AMLA in the city of Frankfurt would place SSM and AMLA supervisors in direct proximity to each other. This would strengthen the much-needed cooperation between prudential and anti-money laundering supervision in Europe, delivering valuable synergies that cannot be found anywhere else on the continent.”

ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING WITH A EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE

ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AS A PRIORITY

The fight against money laundering is a top priority not only for the European Union but also for Germany. This joint fight is indispensable for global security, fair market competition, social cohesion, sustainable growth and the integrity of the financial system. Germany is a leader in promoting anti-money laundering at the European and international level, as evidenced by numerous measures taken in recent years. In the negotiations on the European AML package, Germany actively and successfully advocated for strong supervisory powers and an independent decision-making structure for AMLA. Germany has also launched a national-level initiative to step up the fight against financial crime.

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THE FIGHT AGAINST MONEY LAUNDERING AND TERRORIST FINANCING IS A TOP PRIORITY FOR THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT

Germany is establishing a new national authority to combat financial crime: the Bundesamt zur Bekämpfung von Finanzkriminalität, or BBF.

This new authority will be established in 2024 and will be responsible for fighting financial crime in Germany and for effective sanctions enforcement. To this end, financial crime analysis, investigation and supervision will be merged together under a single roof. In the area of supervision, the BBF will be equipped with strategic and operational competencies to coordinate the national supervisory authorities, especially in the non-financial sector. Thus the BBF will be a direct point of contact for AMLA as its national counterpart. BBF’s headquarters will be located in Cologne. The FIU and the Central Office for Sanctions Enforcement are already based there today, so that a quick and efficient set-up of the BBF can be ensured at this location. For an AMLA based in Frankfurt, this means: Thanks to a direct ICE connection (high-speed rail line), the central German office for combating financial crime is located in close proximity to the AMLA, just one hour away with the BBF.

TESTIMONIALS

FRANKFURT – IT'S SIMPLY THE BEST CHOICE. HEAR FROM THOSE WHO KNOW

BORIS RHEIN, MINISTER-PRESIDENT OF HESSE



“Frankfurt, as one of the top financial centres in the European Union and home to the European Central Bank, would be an ideal site for AMLA. In addition to a first-rate quality of life and optimal European transport connections, Frankfurt offers access to a dense network of supervisory expertise, proximity to a wide variety of credit institutions from regional banks to global players, and an ample supply of world-class office space. Frankfurt is Germany’s “capital of green buildings”, which means that AMLA could choose from a range of innovative, sustainable properties. AMLA employees and their families would benefit from Frankfurt’s international dynamism and vibrant cultural landscape while also enjoying a comparatively moderate cost of living. As home to the European School, the Goethe University and numerous centres for financial studies, Frankfurt also offers ideal educational and research opportunities as well as an internationally-oriented talent pool. We are therefore convinced that the financial hub of Frankfurt is uniquely qualified to serve as AMLA’s headquarters.”

MIKE JOSEF, MAYOR, CITY OF FRANKFURT AM MAIN



“Frankfurt is proud of its financial hub, its major international airport, the world-famous Frankfurt trade fair and the world’s largest internet hub. But Frankfurt also has much more to offer. Numerous theatres, including the English Theatre as the largest English-language theatre in continental Europe, a multiple award-winning opera company and a diverse range of museums form the basis of a lively arts and cultural scene. The banks of the river Main offer a magnificent view of the skyline and space for sporting activities right in the heart of the city. Here, picnickers and walkers as well as joggers, cyclists and inline skaters can truly enjoy themselves. The diverse gastronomic offerings – from traditional apple wine pubs to Michelin-starred cuisine – also contribute to the extremely high quality of life in the Frankfurt metropolitan area.

The backbone of the city is a dynamic economy with more than 170 international banks, a strong industrial sector and an excellent research environment.

Outstanding career opportunities in brand-new office towers or in the manufacturing sector characterise our city just as much as its well-known and lesser-known sights. The well-developed public transport system means that residents can get from the city centre to the airport or desirable residential areas in the city and its surroundings in often less than 15 minutes. Attractive day-trip destinations such as the Taunus mountain range are right on the doorstep. All of this makes Frankfurt more than just an insider tip: only here do the advantages of an international metropolis come together with a compact city, breathtakingly beautiful scenery and the convenience of great transport connections.”

DABIN WANG, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ELECTRONIC TRADING, ANALYTICS & MODEL RISK, J. P. MORGAN S. E.



“Frankfurt is the city of GoGreen, multicultural, welcoming and affordable. It is a thriving city and offers ample opportunities for work and career growth. Frankfurt is a great city for expats and makes it very easy for expats to settle in – I can confirm this being an expat myself who came to Frankfurt and settled here. Frankfurt is also a young city, with a pool of young talent for finance and banking, whilst on the other hand also being family-friendly. And last but not least, Frankfurt airport and main train station are internationally connected and convenient for hosting meetings, which we frequently do at JPMorgan in Frankfurt.”

CAROLINE HASLOP, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HEAD OF GERMANY GLOBAL MARKET OPERATIONS, GOLDMAN SACHS



“My relocation from London to Frankfurt in 2019 opened up a world of opportunities both professionally and personally. As a senior leader at the forefront of growing our banking entity in Germany, Frankfurt’s position at the cutting edge of the EU banking industry provided a fantastic platform for networking with clients and stakeholders across the financial industry. On a personal note, as a mother to a 4-year-old son, working in Frankfurt has allowed me to find a healthy balance between work and home life with strong international schools, shorter commutes and beautiful surrounding countryside in close proximity to the city.”

TOBIAS VOGEL, CEO UBS EUROPE SE



“After more than ten years of living in London, Brexit brought me back to Frankfurt – and I did not regret it for a minute. The city has changed and keeps evolving, meeting the requirements of an international banking centre more and more. Frankfurt has an excellent infrastructure, a very cosmopolitan mindset and is located at the centre of Europe. At the same time, the city surprises with many recreational offers and a high quality of life that is certainly unique among all other banking cities. Altogether, Frankfurt offers a unique work-life balance to our very diverse employees, and we’re glad to have our UBS Europe SE headquarters right in the centre of ‘Mainhattan’”

GABRIEL BERNARDINO, EIOPA CHAIRMAN FROM 2011 TO 2021



“Frankfurt is a welcoming city and a perfect location for international organisations. It is a multicultural city with vibrant, diversified and respected business and regulatory communities in the financial sector. Furthermore, it offers a safe environment, excellent transport and many cultural spots. I strongly recommend it.”

AMLA WILL BLOSSOM AND THRIVE FROM DAY ONE IN FRANKFURT

AMLA is expected to start operations as quickly as possible. Frankfurt will ensure that expectations are met right from the start – the swift set-up of the European system of banking supervision (SSM) is just one example of Frankfurt’s and Germany’s experience and reliability in hosting international authorities and institutions.

AMLA WILL BE OPERATIONAL IN FRANKFURT FROM DAY ONE

To perform its duties effectively, efficiently and in a timely manner, it is essential that AMLA is based in a location that enables it to develop its full potential and quickly take EU-wide action where necessary.

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INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FROM THE ECB DURING SET-UP AND STRONG SYNERGIES WITH THE SSM IN ONGOING SUPERVISION: ONLY IN FRANKFURT

Here are just a few reasons why Frankfurt is the right choice:

- ▶ With its proximity to the ECB, a wide talent pool, sustainable office spaces and outstanding public transport links, Frankfurt offers a strong foundation for AMLA’s success.
- ▶ Close cooperation with, and proximity to, experienced EU supervisory authorities will enable synergies in prudential and AML supervision that only Frankfurt can offer.

▶ The successful set-up of the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM) has proven that locating in Frankfurt allows a European supervisor to act effectively from day one. Frankfurt stands ready to facilitate the best possible start for AMLA, too.

▶ Germany’s application is jointly supported by the German federal government, the state of Hesse and the city of Frankfurt. Setting up AMLA in Frankfurt is a declared goal of all the parties in Germany’s coalition government and is included as an objective in the coalition agreement. This extensive support will ensure AMLA’s operational capability in Frankfurt as of day one.

AVAILABILITY OF PROPERTIES WELL SUITED TO AMLA’S REQUIREMENTS

Frankfurt has a dynamic office real estate market with 125,000 m² of new office space completed in 2022, amounting to a total of 11.8 million m² of office space in the city. Most of the office space is located centrally between the city centre and the headquarters of the European Central Bank (ECB). The modern offices meet all the latest sustainability, security and comfort standards. Frankfurt is Germany’s “green building capital”, with at least 260 buildings that are certified as sustainable or are registered for certification. However, prices remain competitive: the top rent for office space is €46.50 per m², while the average rent is €25.50 per m². Office space in Frankfurt is therefore more affordable than in other EU metropolitan regions. AMLA will therefore find an abundant supply of sustainable, modern and affordable commercial real estate in Frankfurt. AMLA will have the option of starting with a smaller set of offices for the first employees and reserving more space for further expansion.



THE FRANKFURT REAL ESTATE MARKET'S FINEST PROPERTIES: ONLY FOR AMLA



MESETURM

The 63-floor Messeturm is a prominent landmark in Frankfurt's skyline. Completely refurbished in 2022, it offers the highest standards that meet today's requirements for a modern working environment.

FLOW

Flow's airy architecture conveys spaciousness and vitality and allows for any space configurations. The self-contained building sections are suitable for both single-tenant and multi-tenant solutions.



TOWER185

Its state-of-the-art office configuration plans and a first-rate digital connectivity place Tower185 in the trailblazing generation of modern office buildings. It is one of Frankfurt's leading office properties.

	CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT		GATEWAY GARDENS
	MESSETURM	TOWER185	FLOW
Office space available	Immediately	Immediately	As of Sept. 2024
Estimated number of months needed for outfitting/set-up	12	7	6-9
Year of construction	1990 (completely refurbished in 2022)	2011	2023
Leasable space in m ²	from 6,000 min. up to approx. 12,800 max.	from 6,000 min. up to approx. 10,000 max.	from 6,000 min. up to approx. 22,600 max.
Leased space can be expanded incrementally	Yes	Yes	Yes
Monthly rent (€/m ²)	33	36.50	23-26
Service charges (mthly./m ²)	8.50	6.50	4.90
Total costs for outfitting/set-up	Included in rent price	Included in rent price	Included in rent price
Flexible workspace approach	✓	✓	✓
Sustainability certification	BREEAM EXCELLENT certification in progress; LEED Silver	LEED Gold	DGNB Gold Pre-Certificate
30 FIU offices + 3 operative analysis facilities	✓	✓	✓
Conference/meeting rooms of various sizes	✓	✓	✓
1 large meeting room	✓	✓	✓
Lounge area for catered lunch/dinner	✓	✓	✓
Number of available parking spaces in building (with over 1,000 additional parking spaces in walking distance)	> 150	48	> 175-180
Parking fees (per month)	€250-299/m ²	€230/m ²	€160/m ²
Website	https://messeturm.com/en/	https://tower185.de/en	https://www.flow-ec.de/en/home

FINANCIAL SUPPORT



The German federal government, the state of Hesse and the city of Frankfurt will provide financial support to AMLA during its start-up period, when AMLA will not yet be collecting fees from direct supervisory activities.

In order to provide AMLA with maximum flexibility in this respect, the federal, state and city governments offer to provide AMLA with fast-start financing in the form of a lump-sum grant. Based on the European Commission's original proposal (including 250 AMLA staff) – a lump-sum

grant totalling an estimated €10 million would be provided that would be paid out over a five-year period. AMLA could use this fast-start financing to help cover, for example, rent costs and incidental expenses. The federal, state and city governments declare their

willingness to review the possibility of providing additional funding, if the legislation that ultimately establishes the legal basis for AMLA gives rise to additional financial needs.

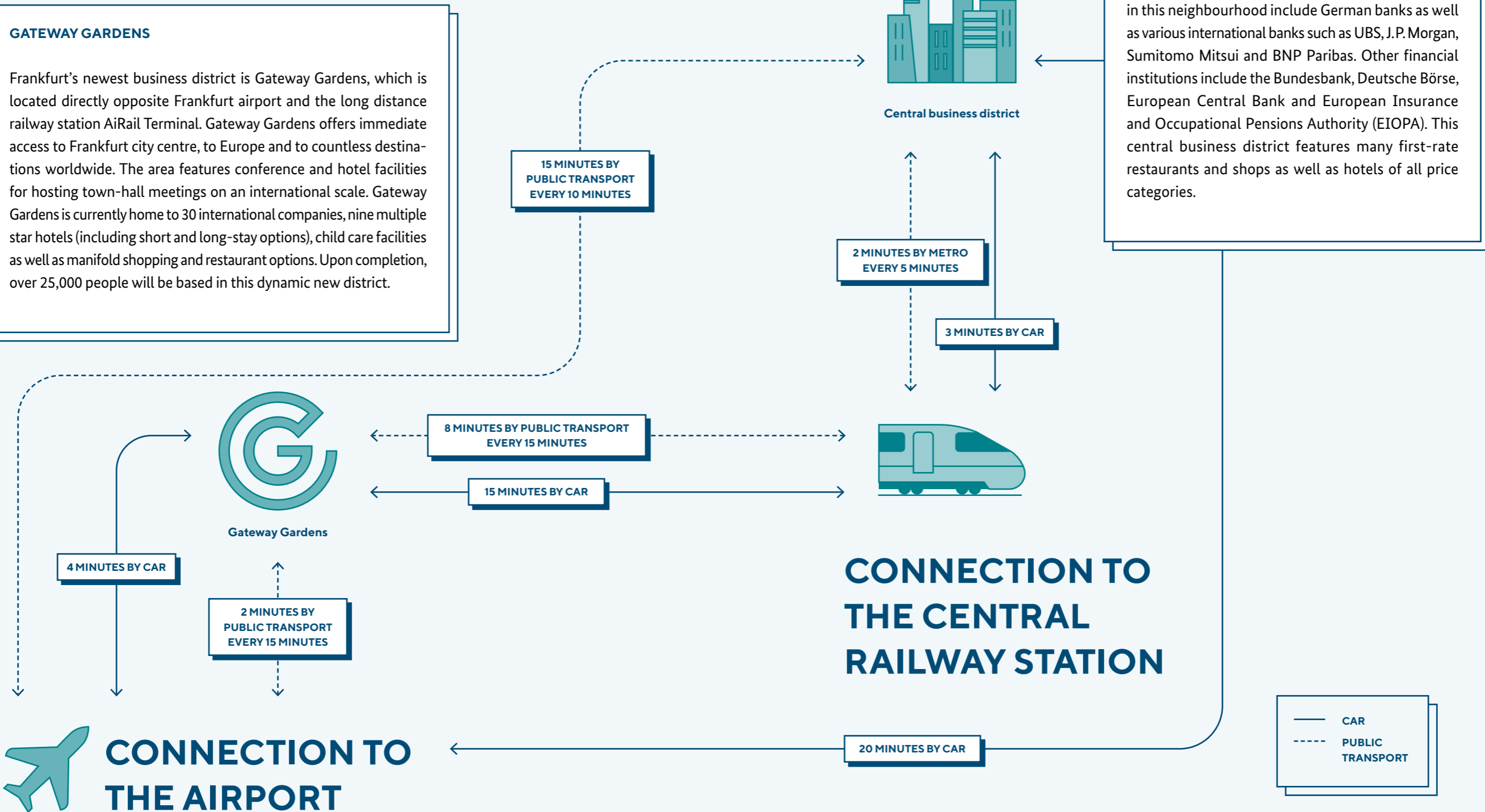
OPTIMAL LOCATIONS: JUST MINUTES AWAY FROM TRAIN AND PLANE

GATEWAY GARDENS

Frankfurt's newest business district is Gateway Gardens, which is located directly opposite Frankfurt airport and the long distance railway station AiRail Terminal. Gateway Gardens offers immediate access to Frankfurt city centre, to Europe and to countless destinations worldwide. The area features conference and hotel facilities for hosting town-hall meetings on an international scale. Gateway Gardens is currently home to 30 international companies, nine multiple star hotels (including short and long-stay options), child care facilities as well as manifold shopping and restaurant options. Upon completion, over 25,000 people will be based in this dynamic new district.

CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

Frankfurt's unique and famous high-rise quarter in the financial district is located close to the historical city centre and the Main river. Financial institutions in this neighbourhood include German banks as well as various international banks such as UBS, J.P. Morgan, Sumitomo Mitsui and BNP Paribas. Other financial institutions include the Bundesbank, Deutsche Börse, European Central Bank and European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA). This central business district features many first-rate restaurants and shops as well as hotels of all price categories.



CONNECTION TO THE AIRPORT

CONNECTION TO THE CENTRAL RAILWAY STATION

FRANKFURT HAS OUTSTANDING ACCOMMODATION INFRASTRUCTURE TO HOST AMLA'S GUESTS

Frankfurt and its surroundings meet all the requirements for professional conferencing and pleasant short-term work stays for AMLA's guests:

► The hotel landscape in the metropolitan region of Frankfurt is ideally suited for conferences, business trips and all other occasions. In the city alone there are 252 hotels with 58,545 beds. Frankfurt has 12 hotels with 5,974 beds in the 5* segment, 73 hotels with 24,742 beds in the 4* segment, and 167 hotels with 27,829 beds in the other categories. In a general price comparison based on pre-pandemic data from 2019, Frankfurt was in the lower midfield with an average price of €103 per night. This is significantly less than Paris (€154), Amsterdam (€149), Milan (€123) and Madrid (€119), for example.

ACCOMMODATION INFRASTRUCTURE

252

Hotels

★★★★★

12 hotels with 5,974 beds
in the 5* segment

★★★★☆

73 hotels with 24,742 beds
in the 4* segment

★★★☆☆

167 hotels with 27,829 beds
in the other categories

► Frankfurt also has a large supply of furnished apartments for short-term rent. Tenants can make use of a wide range of services provided (e.g. cleaning and laundry services).

The existing accommodation capacity in Frankfurt can already satisfy AMLA's future annual demand for hotel bookings and other short-term rentals – and at very competitive prices compared to other European destinations.

SUPPORT FOR AMLA PERSONNEL MOVING TO FRANKFURT

When future AMLA employees relocate to Frankfurt, they can rely on comprehensive advice and support from the Frankfurt Economic Development agency. With the ECB, SSM and EIOPA, similar relocation processes have already been carried out successfully in the city – Frankfurt clearly has the required experience. Moreover, Frankfurt Economic Development offers support with visa and residence permit procedures for third-country family members, for example. Assistance connecting with international communities can also be provided.

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A WELCOME TOUR OF FRANKFURT COMBINING TOURIST ATTRACTIONS WITH PRACTICAL TIPS WAS WELL RECEIVED BY ECB STAFF IN THE PAST AND WILL ALSO BE OFFERED TO FUTURE AMLA STAFF

Multilingual relocation services in Frankfurt offer a wide range of support covering housing searches, moving, various types of registration with authorities, insurance, childcare, schools and sports. Relocation services can also provide assistance in negotiating with service providers, completing necessary forms, and even arranging for pet relocation and veterinary support.

HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT

By submitting this application for the city of Frankfurt to be the seat of AMLA, the German federal government commits to concluding a headquarters agreement with AMLA, incorporating the offers outlined in this dossier. The agreement between the German federal government and the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) in Cologne can serve as a basis for the agreement to be concluded with AMLA. It will grant the Executive Director of AMLA full diplomatic immunity, as enjoyed by the directors of diplomatic representations in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations

signed on 18 April 1961. Further privileges, like those provided in the EASA Agreement, will include appropriate measures to remit or refund the amount of certain indirect taxes or sales taxes. In sum, all provisions contained in the EASA Agreement can be applied to the headquarters agreement with AMLA.

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THE GERMAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OFFERS ITS FULL SUPPORT



FRANKFURT OFFERS ... A UNIQUE LEVEL OF FINANCIAL AND SUPERVISORY EXPERTISE

Frankfurt provides unmatched access to a unique ecosystem of financial and supervisory expertise. Numerous international and European institutions, fintechs, consulting companies and research institutions as well as the ECB's prudential supervision offer a knowledge pool that cannot be found anywhere else.

€130 billion, and Eurex's average monthly capital volume for derivatives amounted to €11.3 trillion.

“

A LARGE PROPORTION OF THE ENTITIES TO BE DIRECTLY SUPERVISED BY AMLA WILL BE LOCATED IN FRANKFURT

Approximately 280 domestic and foreign banks are located in Frankfurt. Together with over 1,000 financial services firms and a large selection of international consulting companies, this creates an unparalleled ecosystem. It is anticipated that a large proportion of the entities to be directly supervised by AMLA will be located in Frankfurt – a considerable advantage for AMLA in organisational terms. Approximately 155,000 people are employed in Frankfurt's financial sector today, thereby offering a deep talent pool for the region.

WHERE AN INNOVATIVE TOMORROW IS MADE

Frankfurt is an innovative financial hub integrated into a broad fintech network in Germany. The investment volume in the fintech sector in Germany in 2021 was higher than ever before. In addition to newcomers, established financial institutions such as the Deutsche Börse are also driving the digitalisation of the financial sector from the Rhine-Main region.

With over 100 fintech firms located in the region, many of them with a focus on aspects of AML, the Frankfurt area can pride itself on a young, fast-growing ecosystem



Top financial centre
in the EU

280

Domestic and
foreign banks
in Frankfurt

155,000

People employed
in the financial sector

PRIME FINANCIAL CENTRE – PRIME TALENT

As the EU's number 1 financial centre according to the FATF's Mutual Evaluation Report on Germany, Frankfurt can offer AMLA a location that ranks among the world's leading financial hubs. Following Brexit, Frankfurt has recorded by far the largest number of new license applications for banks and other financial services firms.

The Frankfurt area is also home to Deutsche Börse Group including Eurex, Europe's leading derivatives exchange. In 2022, the average monthly trading volume on Deutsche Börse amounted to approximately



and great potential for business-to-business commerce. Firms in the Frankfurt Rhine-Main area have built an extraordinary network with other finance and fintech hubs worldwide – 75% of the start-ups in the

“

GERMANY IS A PIONEER IN FINTECH – AMONG THE TOP 3 IN THE EU AND AMONG THE TOP 10 WORLDWIDE

region are cooperating with established firms. These partnerships will be an immense advantage in AML efforts. Frankfurt's incubator for fintech initiatives, the TechQuartier, is driving innovation in the areas of artificial intelligence, blockchain, insuretech, proptech, greentech and regtech. In addition, the Innovation Hub of the Bank for International Settlements (Eurosysteem Centre) was opened in Frankfurt in March 2023.

The International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB), a flagship institution that will set tomorrow's global sustainability standards, has also chosen to locate in Frankfurt.

SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCE AND SYNERGIES

Frankfurt has a unique ecosystem of supervisory knowledge and infrastructure: it is home to the European Central Bank (ECB) and its supervisory arm (SSM), the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA), the European Systemic Risk Board (ESRB), the Deutsche Bundesbank and the Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (BaFin).

Establishing AMLA within this outstanding environment of supervisory expertise will create synergies and a unique head start. Information-sharing between authorities is key for effective supervision.

During its set-up phase, AMLA will benefit from the ECB's experience in direct and indirect supervision. Frankfurt's short distances allow for enhanced interaction between authorities and can thus contribute to strengthening the European financial system. Ongoing cooperation between the ECB's prudential supervision and AMLA's AML supervision

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**HOME TO THE ECB AND THE SSM:
INFORMATION-SHARING BETWEEN
AUTHORITIES IS KEY FOR EFFECTIVE
SUPERVISION**

with regard to directly supervised entities as well as on emerging issues – especially the development of a possible “digital euro” – would further strengthen both authorities and increase the efficacy of banking and AML supervision over time.

NUMEROUS COOPERATION OPPORTUNITIES IN FRANKFURT AND THE RHINE-MAIN REGION

Located in Frankfurt, AMLA would also benefit from the close proximity to other authorities and institutions with links to AMLA's tasks. For example:

- ▶ Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (BaFin) with its role in the prevention of money laundering in the financial sector
- ▶ Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) and the Hessian State Criminal Police Office as security authorities with overriding strategic and planning tasks

- ▶ Anti Financial Crime Alliance (AFCA), a flagship project where public authorities and private companies (in particular, banks located in Frankfurt) cooperate strategically in combating money laundering

- ▶ The Frankfurt office of the Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation (GLEIF), which is responsible for GLEIF's main operating activities, which provide open, standardised and high-quality reference data on legal entities.

EQUIPPED FOR DATA: INTERNET HUB, DE-CIX, DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Frankfurt is the centre of Europe's leading region for digitalisation, information and communication technology. The Rhine-Main area offers exceptional expertise in the field of crypto and blockchain, hosting the Frankfurt School Blockchain Center, for example.

High performance broadband networks and fast internet connections provide key infrastructure for citizens and businesses: Frankfurt's internet hub DE-CIX is the largest data exchange point in the world, managing data throughput of over 15 Tb/s. The Frankfurt region has the largest data and server capacity in the EU, with companies including Google, Dropbox and Microsoft hosting from here. With Hesse's high broadband coverage, the region and its financial hub fulfil all the conditions needed to make digitalisation a success.



FRANKFURT OFFERS ... AN OUTSTANDING INNOVATIVE AND DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Big Data hubs, financial technology firms and data projects, outstanding research facilities and state-of-the-art communication infrastructure: Frankfurt provides an outstanding innovative and digital infrastructure.

> 260 Sustainable office buildings
Certified or registered for certification

250,000 Students at research institutions
and universities

= 50% Nature conservation areas
Classified share of the city

STRONG DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Since 2018, the Hessian Government, key players in the industry, and regulators have successfully initiated a Financial Big Data Cluster (FBDC). It consists of two projects funded by the German federal government, safeFBDC and EuroDaT, which aim to build an infrastructure for the secure exchange of data for the financial sector. This project, which is part of the Gaia-X initiative, is unmatched in Europe. The platform will integrate the previously unconnected and fragmented financial data of companies, authorities and research institutions in a decentralised data trustee. It will be optimised for the development of AI applications and systems.

Money laundering prevention and detection is one potential application of the project, which is currently being developed in cooperation with German supervisory authorities and various German banks. There is consensus among AML experts that money laundering prevention will need to focus on innovative technological developments in the future.

EXTENSIVE EXPERTISE IN AI AND CYBER-SECURITY

The state of Hesse offers an excellent ecosystem for AI developments with initiatives like the Hessian Centre for Artificial Intelligence driving research excellence, education and practice in AI. The Centre Responsible Digitality (ZEVEDI), which is a research and competence network, is another example.

The Frankfurt region is also one of the world's leading locations for cybersecurity research, which plays an important role in AML. Projects like ATHENE, the largest research centre for cybersecurity in Europe, are based in the region. The activities of the Digital Hub Cybersecurity in Darmstadt, just 20 minutes from Frankfurt, build on these local strengths and bring together know-how from the Fraunhofer Society, the Technical University of Darmstadt, Goethe University Frankfurt and Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences. Furthermore, the Data Protection Research Institute at Goethe University Frankfurt is engaged in leading research and consulting in the fields of data privacy and IT security. Initiatives like the CyberSec4Europe project are coordinated from here.

RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE HUB

The Frankfurt Rhine-Main region offers an attractive research and knowledge hub with a talent pool of 250,000 students and more than 40 research institutions and universities. The strategic alliance of the Rhine-Main universities alone, consisting of Goethe University Frankfurt, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz and the Technical University of Darmstadt, have 1,460 professors and offer 630 study programmes. They are also home to 25 non-university research institutions, including independent institutes of renowned scientific societies (including the Max Planck Society, the Helmholtz Association, the Fraunhofer Society and the Leibniz Association). The Goethe University Frankfurt is home to a number of outstanding research institutions that focus on interdisciplinary research into European financial markets, such as the House of Finance or the Centre for Financial Studies. The Leibniz Institute for Financial Research SAFE (Sustainable Architecture for Finance in Europe), another internationally renowned and well-connected research centre, is also part of the research and knowledge hub. Other research

institutions include the Frankfurt School of Finance & Management, with its Frankfurt School Blockchain Center (FSBC), and the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences.

AVAILABILITY OF SUSTAINABLE OFFICE SPACE

With over 260 buildings that are certified as green buildings or registered for certification, Frankfurt is by far the German capital of green buildings. Green buildings use resources such as energy, water, and materials in a sustainable way and also reduce

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SINCE FRANKFURT IS THE GERMAN CAPITAL OF GREEN BUILDINGS, AMLA WILL FIND A PLENTIFUL SUPPLY OF SUSTAINABLE REAL ESTATE

harmful effects on health and the environment. The buildings are mainly located in the city centre, in the central banking district and in the conveniently located airport area. AMLA will find a plentiful supply of sustainable real estate in Frankfurt.

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RHINE-MAIN REGION: HOME TO 250,000 STUDENTS AND MORE THAN 40 RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS AND UNIVERSITIES

FRANKFURT OFFERS ... UNRIVALLED ACCESSIBILITY AND A SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

Frankfurt is located on the Main river, with the world at its doorstep. Unrivalled access to air and rail travel as well as a sustainable environment make Frankfurt the ideal hub for AMLA to set up operations.

BY AIR: FRANKFURT'S SUSTAINABLE AIRPORT

Frankfurt is easily accessible via its international airport, with daily non-stop flights to all major cities in Europe and around the globe. Almost all European capitals can be reached by direct flights in 2.5 hours or less. Frankfurt's airport is one of the main passenger airports in Europe and has the largest freight volume of any European airport. It can be reached from the city centre in a mere 15 minutes by train. Thanks to the AiRail terminal, air and rail connections (including high-speed trains) are optimally interlinked at the airport, allowing seamless transfers between transport modes. The airport is also addressing the challenges of the environmental



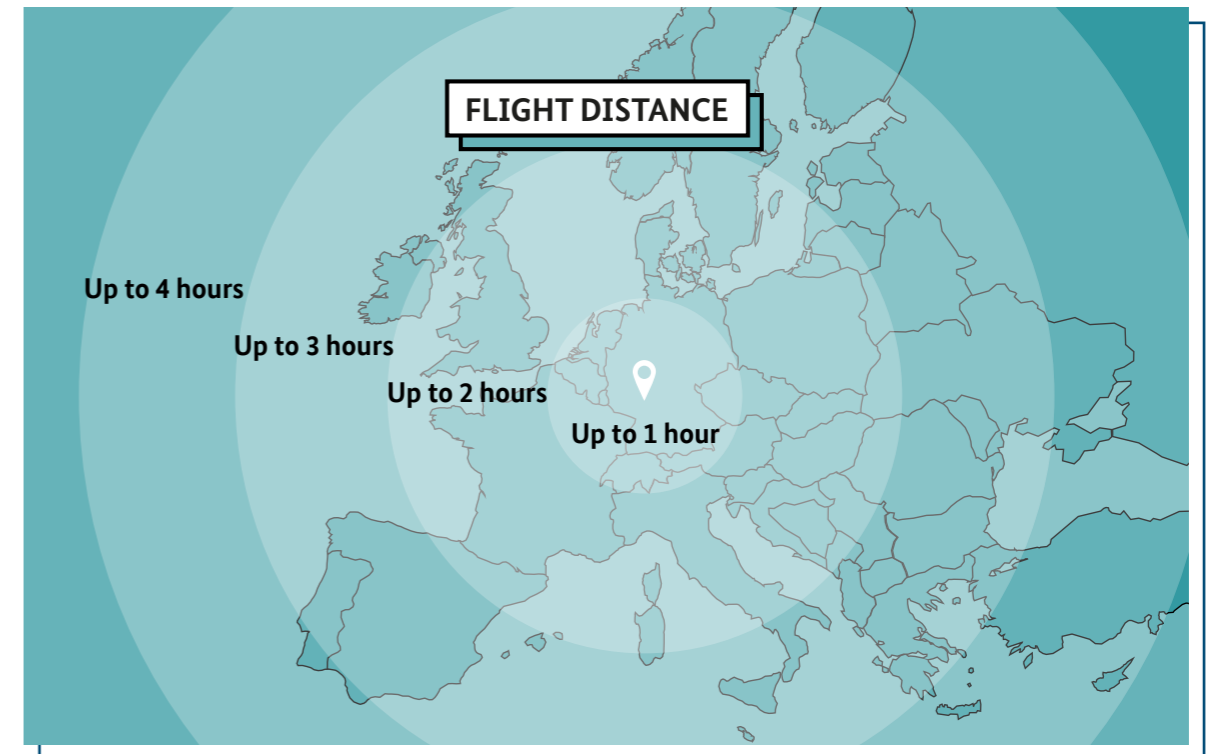
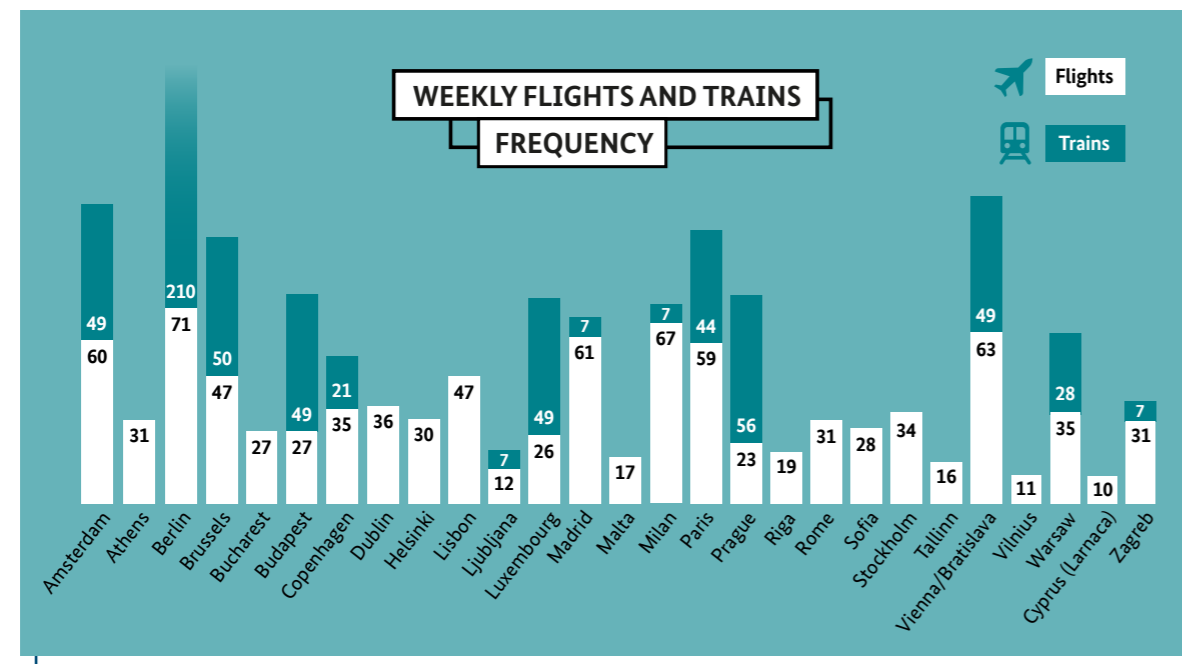
Leading data hub in the world

2.5h

Average flight time to EU capitals

1,100

Daily train connections from Frankfurt



transformation: it is pursuing the goal of ensuring climate-neutral operations by 2045. To achieve this, it will obtain a large proportion of its electricity requirements from a dedicated offshore wind farm as of summer 2026. An innovation hub for alternative CO²-neutral aviation fuels is also being developed close to the airport at Industriepark Höchst.

BY RAIL: SUPERIOR TRAIN NETWORK

Frankfurt Central Station provides outstanding inter-connections for long-distance, regional and local railway destinations. The station's operations handle 1,100 trains and about half a million passengers per day. There are daily high-speed train connections to other European capitals, including Brussels (three hours), Amsterdam (four hours) and Paris (less than four hours).

An excellent public transport network within the Rhine-Main region and the city allows for good and sustainable local mobility. Any spot in the city centre can be reached within a few minutes. Within the city



EXCELLENT ACCESSIBILITY: NON-STOP FLIGHTS TO ALL MAJOR CITIES IN EUROPE AND OVER 1,100 RAIL CONNECTIONS EVERY DAY

centre, public transport operates every 5 minutes, even at night and on weekends. Almost 400,000 commuters per day take advantage of the excellent public transport system (underground, tram, commuter trains and buses). Since September 2022, climate-friendly hydrogen buses have been in use. In December 2022, hydrogen trains also began operat-

ing from Frankfurt towards the Taunus mountains. People who do not have a car also have the option of using one of the 961 carsharing vehicles in the city.

Frankfurt also has outstanding connections to Germany's extensive autobahn network. For example, Strasbourg or Luxembourg can be reached in approximately three hours. Forests and rural areas such as the Odenwald, Rheingau or Spessart are ideal for day trips and can be reached comfortably by car in 30 to 45 minutes.

EMISSION-FREE: BY BIKE OR ON FOOT

Within the city of Frankfurt, it is easy to get around via public transport, by bike or on foot, giving employees an easy way to make their own contribution to greater sustainability.

One of the city's initiatives in this area is the project "Bicycle City Frankfurt". Since 2019, this mobility strategy has massively expanded activities to promote cycling: for example, 29 km of cycle paths have been marked in red, 8,100 metres of new cycle paths have been created on main roads and 8,000 new bicycle parking spaces have been built. In addition, there is a large network of bikesharing services. The surrounding area will also be linked

up to the city with six new cycling express routes, which will enable AMLA employees to commute from their homes to Frankfurt by bike – along the Main river from the suburbs in the west, coming from the city forest in the south or from the Taunus and Odenwald mountain ranges. The project has helped to increase the share of cycling to 23% of all transportation.

FRANKFURT'S GREEN CITY PROCESS

Frankfurt is a truly green city. Its green belt covers around 8,000 hectares of urban area and stretches for 70 km around the city. Green spaces can be found within a radius of just 300 metres in 80% of the city's area, 15.5% of the city is forested

and almost half of the city's area is classified as a nature conservation area.

AMLA and its staff will also discover that Frankfurt is on a path towards becoming a consistently sustainable city. As part of a holistic Green City process, Frankfurt has committed itself to sustainable urban development. This includes the ongoing expansion of the public transport network, the re-naturalisation of the Nidda river and the use of former office buildings to create living space. The city promotes a balance between economic, ecological, social and cultural needs that cannot be achieved at the expense of third parties or future generations.



FRANKFURT OFFERS ... FIRST-CLASS EDUCATION IN ALL OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Frankfurt offers a wide variety of first-rate public and private educational institutions, for every age from infancy to high school graduation, and in every official language of the EU. The two European Schools in the Frankfurt area are very well received by children of ECB and EIOPA staff.

Frankfurt and the Rhine-Main region offer great international educational facilities for the children of AMLA employees.

Almost all children in Germany (over 90%) attend state schools, as the quality of teaching, facilities and teachers is of a high standard. All state schools in Germany are free of charge. Frankfurt and the metropolitan area also offer a wide range of private schools with different strengths and approaches. If parents choose a private school, it is usually because they are attracted to special care options or pedagogical models, or because the lessons are offered in different languages. It is usually no problem to enter a school during an ongoing school year after consulting with the school concerned. Most public and private schools offer an open day for interested families.

The European School Frankfurt has a contingent of places for children of EU officials and offers an

excellent education from nursery right up to the European Baccalaureate. To show its appreciation and support for the growing European School, Frankfurt has offered a new and very attractive site for the construction of a bigger facility with its "Ratsweg" property. The site is located very close to the ECB and can be easily reached from the city centre (and thus from the potential AMLA headquarters) in 7 minutes by public transport or 17 minutes by car. The site is also directly connected to the cycle path network. In addition, the students will benefit from the new public swimming facility "Familienbad Bornheim", which is directly adjacent to the school and set for completion in 2024, as well as the East Park in the new neighbourhood. The neighbouring ice rink, the PSD Bank Arena (a venue for both football and American football), the nearby Frankfurt Zoo and rowing opportunities on the Main river also add to the attractiveness of the school's new location. In addition, Frankfurt has more than 50 state and private schools offering an international education and, in some cases, dual qualifications – such as the German Abitur combined with the French baccalauréat or the Italian maturità – or the International Baccalaureate (IB). Most schools offer after-school care. A large number of international and bilingual kindergartens complement the educational facilities available to younger children.

EXAMPLES OF SCHOOLS IN THE FRANKFURT METROPOLITAN AREA:

SCHOOL	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	AGE	LANGUAGES
Europäische Schule Frankfurt am Main (European Baccalaureate) Frankfurt	1,600	4-17	All official EU-languages
Europäische Schule RheinMain (European Baccalaureate) Bad Vilbel	1,700	4-17	All official EU-languages
State International School (IB Diploma IGCSE) state school Seeheim-Jugenheim	360	6-17	DE, EN, ES, FR, IT
Lycée Français Victor Hugo (French Baccalauréat, AbiBac) private school Frankfurt	970	6-18	DE, EN, ES, FR
Goethe-Gymnasium (Abitur, IB certificates) state school Frankfurt	1,218	10-18	DE, EN, FR
Holzhausenschule private primary school Frankfurt	467	6-10	DE, GR, IT

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TO SHOW ITS APPRECIATION AND SUPPORT FOR THE GROWING INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, FRANKFURT IS PROVIDING A NEW AND VERY ATTRACTIVE SITE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BIGGER FACILITY FOR THE EUROPEAN SCHOOL WITH ITS "RATSWEG" PROPERTY.

FRANKFURT OFFERS ... A THRIVING ENGLISH-SPEAKING LABOUR MARKET AND EXCELLENT MEDICAL CARE

Germany offers one of the best social security systems in the world, with extensive choice of freedom between public and private health insurance for AMLA staff. Medical practices and hospitals are known for their excellent and internationally oriented medical care. The job market in Frankfurt is rich with opportunity and strongly international in structure.

The German social insurance system was introduced as early as the 19th century and later served as an international role model. Today, Germany still has one of the world's best social security systems by many standards. No other EU state allocates more resources (in relation to GDP) to health care than Germany. The pension system has also proven its worth for decades and has been able to withstand various social and structural changes thanks to its design.

The AMLA headquarters agreement would provide that both EU employees and their family members would be exempt from compulsory social security and pension insurance. This means that employees and their families would be free to choose whether or not to pay into the German insurance system, depending on their lifestyle and needs. For family members, the exemption from compulsory social insurance would apply only to the extent that they do not perform any activity subject to compulsory social insurance. If contributions have been paid to the German pension insurance scheme, a pension is paid from this if the respective requirements are

met. The amount of the pension is generally dependent on the number of years of insurance and the amount of insured remuneration. The more years of contributions and the higher the insured remuneration and income, the higher the pension calculated on the basis of the individual insurance history. In principle, the pension is also paid in the event of a move abroad. If the conditions for payment of a pension are not met, contributions may be refunded on application.

When it comes to the number of hospital beds or physician density, the German system sets high standards. During the Covid-19 pandemic, Germany's large reserve of intensive care beds enabled it to provide support to numerous emergency patients from other EU countries. In the Frankfurt Rhine-Main region, residents and visitors have access to approximately 25 clinics, many of them with highly specialised departments in all medical disciplines. The city of Frankfurt will offer excellent medical care for AMLA employees and their families. In the city of Frankfurt alone, a total of 13 hospitals provide comprehensive medical care. This includes an efficient university hospital and 12 other hospitals that offer a high level of expertise and specialisation and are among the leading hospitals in Germany in many specialist areas. The Universitätsklinikum at Goethe University Frankfurt has special arrangements for patients from other countries: in addition to an International Office that provides foreign-language support for patients (in English, for example), the hospital has recent started

HOSPITAL BEDS (sample selection)

828

Varisano Klinikum Frankfurt
Höchst

1,112

Universitätsklinikum
Frankfurt

583

Agaplesion Markus
Krankenhaus

423

Krankenhaus Nordwest

367

BG Unfallklinik Frankfurt
am Main

213

Frankfurter
Diakoniekliniken

NUMBER OF SPECIALIST DOCTORS WHO SPEAK A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

(Sample selection of languages within a radius of 5 kilometres of Frankfurt's Old Town)

965

English

285

French

87

Spanish

32

Romanian

22

Croatian

using the Translatly app. This app can be used to request ad hoc video-based translation assistance from a pool of students who speak foreign languages. The medical staff at BG Unfallklinik can provide full services in English, and the staff at Klinikum Frankfurt Höchst provides assistance in over 50 languages. Moreover, there is a large number of practices in Frankfurt where doctors of all specialities offer

their services not only in German but also in English or another EU language. AMLA employees and their families thus have access to excellent medical care in Frankfurt and the entire region, which is both easily accessible and available in a wide range of languages.

STATUTORY HEALTH INSURANCE:

In the event that Frankfurt is selected to host AMLA, the headquarters agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and AMLA will specify that EU employees (together with spouses and children) can join Germany's statutory health insurance scheme if they wish to – regardless of age, medical history and current health status. They will not have to answer any health-related questions or pay any risk premiums in connection with pre-existing conditions. From the first day of insurance onwards, statutory health insurance providers must provide full coverage of costs for insured persons, including costs related to pre-existing conditions. Most medical benefits provided by the statutory health insurance scheme are standardised and therefore identical under all statutory providers. Everyone who has statutory health insurance in Germany is also automatically enrolled in the long-term care insurance scheme. Furthermore, persons with statutory health insurance can, under certain conditions, arrange for their spouses, registered partners/or children until the age of 25 to be co-insured at no cost.

An overview of statutory health insurance providers in Germany is available here:
<https://www.gkv-spitzenverband.de/service/krankenkassenliste/krankenkassen.jsp>

Under the statutory health insurance system, each insured person receives a chip card that they bring to doctor's appointments. The billing and payment process with doctors and hospitals is carried out by health insurance providers, which means that insured persons do not have to pay in advance or deal with paperwork. Insured persons are also free to choose their own doctors.

PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE:

In Germany, AMLA staff has the option to enroll in private health insurance rather than statutory health insurance. In contrast to the statutory system, contributions to private health insurance providers are based not only on income but also age, health status and the selected insurance plan. Cost-free co-insurance for family members is also not provided under the private system – rather, spouses, partners and children must conclude separate insurance contracts and pay separate contributions.

Another major difference between the statutory and private systems is the way costs are paid and reimbursed: people with private health insurance must pay doctors' and other medical providers' invoices themselves and then submit the invoices to their insurance providers for reimbursement. People with private health insurance must also arrange for their own private long-term care insurance.

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FRANKFURT OFFERS EXCELLENT MEDICAL CARE, NOT ONLY IN GERMAN – MANY DOCTORS ALSO PROVIDE THEIR SERVICES IN ENGLISH AND OTHER LANGUAGES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

AMLA staff spouses, partners and children above a certain age have an unrestricted right to work, regardless of their nationality. This right will also be included in the headquarters agreement. The Rhine-Main region is one of the most dynamic economic regions in Europe. Its well-functioning labour market provides ample opportunities for the family members of AMLA employees, too. In August 2023, unemployment in Germany stood at a mere 3.0%. At banks, consulting firms, IT companies, start-ups and large international companies, people work in English, so German skills are not a prerequisite.



FRANKFURT OFFERS ... AN INTERNATIONAL AND COSMOPOLITAN LIFESTYLE

In Frankfurt, everyone is welcome. All transactions can be conducted in English. This includes ordering in a restaurant, buying a bus ticket, visiting the cinema, and obtaining legal and tax advice. The helpful staff at Frankfurt's WELCOMECENTER are available to make arriving and settling in even easier.

Frankfurt is an international city through and through, not only because of its long tradition as an international trade fair location. For decades, people from all over the world have been welcomed here with open arms. The entire Rhine-Main region is a melting pot: a region whose prosperity derives from its cultural diversity. Some 30% of Frankfurt's inhabitants hold a foreign passport, and people from 170 countries call the city their home. People from all over the world quickly gain a foothold here, in no small part thanks to the high level of English lan-

guage competency in the region. Assistance in nearly every official EU language is available as well, such as consultation services with lawyers and tax advisors. Existing international networks, including international schools and kindergartens, sports clubs, and cultural institutions, not to mention international lawyers and tax advisors, all make it easy to get started. The region also offers exceptionally trained, English-speaking young people with international backgrounds for all types of positions. Many of the region's 250,000 students study in English-medium programmes.

NUMBER OF LAWYERS IN FRANKFURT WITH FOREIGN LANGUAGE SKILLS (SAMPLE SELECTION OF LANGUAGES)

English	2,313
French	555
Spanish	209
Polish	39
Swedish	13

NUMBER OF TAX ADVISORS IN FRANKFURT WITH FOREIGN LANGUAGE SKILLS (SAMPLE SELECTION OF LANGUAGES)

English	266
French	53
Spanish	17
Italian	12
Hungarian	3

ASSISTANCE IN MOVING TO AND GETTING SETTLED IN FRANKFURT

The state of Hesse places a high priority on welcoming AMLA staff and their families to Hesse and providing them with practical support. For example, the state's "WELCOMECENTER", which is based in Frankfurt, is a central point of contact for multilingual services and advice. The centre serves the entire state of Hesse and provides individual assistance in all matters relating to arriving, staying and working in Hesse. The centre's services are free of charge. The WELCOMECENTER can be contacted in person or by video, email or telephone, even before a relocation to Frankfurt.

The WELCOMECENTER also hosts a monthly get-together in one of Frankfurt's many restaurants. These events give people the opportunity to make new acquaintances, exchange ideas and forge networks.

People from all over the world quickly gain a foothold in Frankfurt, in no small part thanks to the high level of English language skills throughout the region. And those who want to learn the German language will find numerous opportunities to do so in Frankfurt: one of the best addresses for learning German is certainly the Goethe-Institut, which is represented worldwide with 135 institutes in 91 countries. In Hesse, the Goethe-Institut, based in Frankfurt, offers a large number of varied courses for every language level. Relatively inexpensive language courses are also offered by the Volkshochschulen (VHS) – public educational institutions for adults.

Contact: WELCOMECENTER Hessen

Telephone: +49 (0) 69 971 72 122

Telephone: 0800 666 57 88

(calls free of charge within Germany)

email: info@welcomecenterhessen.com

Website: www.work-in-hessen.de

FRANKFURT OFFERS ... A HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE IN A VIBRANT INTERNATIONAL CITY

A welcoming atmosphere with a diverse cultural and social life. Housing choices ranging from skyline apartments to family homes 15 minutes from the centre. The airport just around the corner and nature just a bike ride away. Frankfurt is a perfect example of an international and liveable city.

Average rent in Frankfurt: **€16/m²**

Quality of life in the EU: **Rank 5**

Cost of living in the EU: **Rank 62**

HOUSING AND REAL ESTATE MARKET, COST OF LIVING

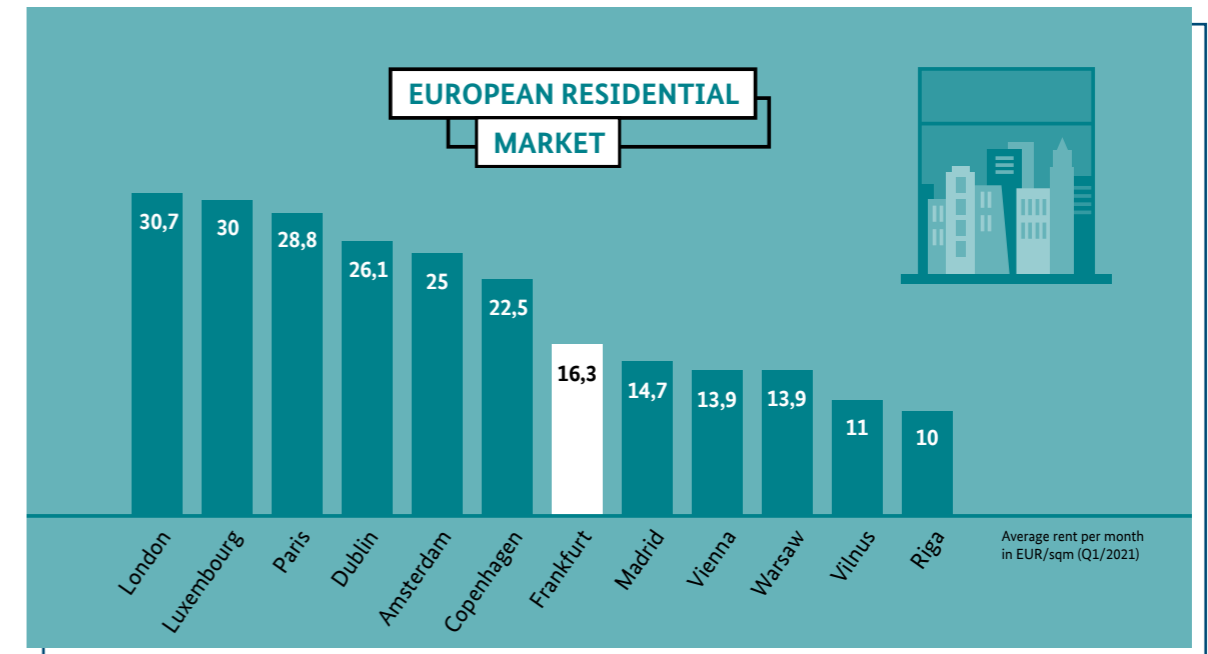
Frankfurt is a city with an outstanding quality of life, but a very reasonable cost of living. According to studies, the city ranks 17th worldwide, and 5th in the EU, in terms of quality of life, while ranking only 62nd when it comes to cost of living, indicating the comparative affordability its residents enjoy.

For example, cinema ticket prices for adults start at €9, international theatre tickets at €22 and opera tickets at €16. Discounts are available for children and subscribers. Public transport is highly accessible thanks to monthly €49 tickets that are valid on local and regional public transport throughout the whole

of Germany. A single trip ticket within Frankfurt costs €2.10. Sports clubs are also reasonably priced, starting at €5 per month for children. Gyms for adults start at €22 per month, with higher-priced venues offering additional services such as spas and saunas.

In Frankfurt, AMLA employees can benefit from rents and real estate prices that are quite reasonable compared to other European centres of trade and finance. The Frankfurt Rhine-Main region too offers a good range of high-quality yet comparatively affordable housing. Housing options range from refurbished 19th-century Gründerzeit villas, to flats in skyscrapers, to detached family houses. Refurbished flats in older buildings in inner-city locations are at the upper end of the price range, while new buildings on the outskirts of the city are less expensive. Housing is also generally more affordable in smaller towns outside the major cities in the region. Most of these smaller towns in the Rhine-Main region have excellent connections to Frankfurt by public transport and have a well-developed road infrastructure, keeping commuting times very short.

In the summer, numerous street festivals in different districts of Frankfurt and in the surrounding region attract visitors with local dishes, wines, live music and theatre performances. The “Dippemess”, the largest folk festival in the region, lasts three weeks and attracts around 750,000 visitors twice a year with its fairground rides. International festivals such as the Thailand Festival in Bad Homburg reflect the region’s diversity.



Residents and visitors can look forward to outings to one of the roughly 50 parks. The city also has two zoos and a botanical garden. Around 4,500 hectares of city forest form Frankfurt’s extensive green lungs. The Taunus and Odenwald mountain ranges can be seen on the horizon to the north and south, respectively. The weekends provide time for exploring the many forests, castles, lakes and vineyards in the environs of Frankfurt, which can be conveniently reached by public transport. Many destinations are located in the Rheingau, a popular nearby tourist region, which also offers the Rheingau Music Festival, one of Europe’s largest music festivals.

In addition, the Frankfurt Rhine-Main region hosts numerous international sporting events every year – in 2024, for example, Frankfurt will be one of the ten locations in Germany for the European Men’s Football Championship. Eintracht Frankfurt, an internationally successful women’s and men’s football club, is just as much a part of the city’s sporting life as, for example, the Fraport Skyliners, which play in the Basketball Bundesliga. From the balcony of the Römer, Frankfurt’s town hall, the German national

teams are traditionally welcomed by the city and celebrated by fans when they return from European or world championships. Other sporting facilities include 426 sports clubs and fitness centres, 11 swimming pools that are open to the public, tennis courts and golf courses.

CULTURE

With a large international community and a vibrant cultural scene, Frankfurt boasts many leisure activities and a high quality of life, with a rich array of renowned museums, theatres and entertainment options. The city has 35 theatres in total, including seven foreign-language theatres, two opera houses and 60 museums and art galleries. Both opera houses offer special events for young people, and the Papageno music theatre is dedicated solely to children. In 2023, Oper Frankfurt was designated “Opera of the Year” for the sixth time, an award given to opera houses in German-speaking countries. There is also a variety of cultural events in Frankfurt all year around, like the Museum Embankment Festival with its 2.5 million visitors, the World Club Dome, where 180,000 guests

celebrate in what has been called the “biggest club in the world”, the open air music and cabaret festival in the Günthersburgpark, the Night of the Museums and the Europa Open Air, a cooperation between the ECB and the Frankfurt Radio Symphony. Internationally, Frankfurt’s tradition as a trade fair city is closely connected with the world’s largest book fair. It was recently announced that Frankfurt and the Rhine-Main region will hold the prestigious designation of World Design Capital in 2026.

Not only Frankfurt, but the entire Rhine-Main region offers cultural facilities and events of the highest standard. Just half an hour away, for example, is the capital of the state of Hesse, Wiesbaden. The “City of Historicism” is not only an architectural experience. Wiesbaden also captivates visitors with its renowned cultural offerings, from the Hessian State Theatre to the globally significant Art Nouveau collection in the Wiesbaden Museum.

LEISURE, SPORTS AND NATURE

Frankfurt and its surrounding area are known for a diverse range of high-quality restaurants and clubs. In 2022 alone, two more restaurants were awarded the coveted Michelin star. This means that the number of Michelin-starred restaurants has risen to 9. And according to a worldwide ranking by Forbes magazine, Frankfurt is home to one of the 10 “Coolest Restaurants To Eat At In 2023”. In addition, the Rhine-Main area is also known for its rich local cuisine in the traditional cider restaurants.

The world-famous Robert Johnson techno club in Offenbach, located directly on the Main river, offers a place to relax after work. Techno culture is also celebrated at the new Museum of Modern Electronic Music, which looks more like a club than a museum. In general, Frankfurt is more attractive to Generation Z than many other major European cities. According to a recent study, this applies in particular to the criteria of digital services, climate change action, safety, remote working and affordability.

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