

Public Transport in Hamburg

25. - 27. SEPTEMBER 2019 / Hamburg

General Information

In Hamburg public transport is provided by the HVV (Hamburger Verkehrsverbund, Hamburg Transport Association).

What kind of public transport is available?

Trains U-Bahn (underground) and S-Bahn (rapid transit)

Buses **Caution:** Express buses (Schnellbusse) with numbers between 31 and 37 are more expensive than regular buses.

Ferries They run in the port of Hamburg and along the River Elbe.
Tip: You probably won't have to use them to get around but they are a cheap way to explore the port.
Just make sure the ferry you take is run by the HVV.

For how long is public transport available?

The last trains during the week depart between midnight and 1 am. The first trains in the morning will depart between 4am and 5am. There are a night buses that provide service at night, but they usually depart only once every hour or less. So if you want to get back to your hotel after midnight make sure that there is a connection for you - or that you are willing to walk.

Do I have to validate my ticket?

No, you do not need to validate your ticket. But if you're using a bus, get into the vehicle at the front and show your ticket to the driver (he will not validate your ticket either but he is obligated to check that every passenger shows him a ticket). Exceptions to this can be made if the bus is overly crowded. To enable all passengers to enter the bus at the front please use one of the back doors to exit if possible.

On the art of buying a ticket

The HVV divides Hamburg into different areas and fare zones. The details of this are quite complicated but as a rule of thumb you can remember the following:

For single tickets: Use a planner provided by the HVV to figure out the route and the price of a ticket. (<https://www.hvv.de/en>)

For tickets for more than one trip: „Hamburg AB“ (rings A and B) is usually sufficient to get around. If in doubt use a planner.

How can I buy a ticket?

Option 1: Buy tickets via the HVV App (3% discount)

Android:

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=de.eos.uptrade.android.fahrinfo.hamburg&feature=nav_result

iOS:

<https://apps.apple.com/de/app/fahrinfo-hamburg/id501995569>

Option 2: Buy tickets at the online shop (3% discount)

<https://www.hvv.de/en/tickets/online-shop/single-day-weekly-tickets>

Option 3: Buy tickets at a train station – Use a ticket machine.

Every train station has one or several ticket machines that allow you to choose an English interface.

Certain bus stops (but not all of them) have a ticket machine as well.

Option 4: Buy tickets in the bus – Tickets can be bought from every bus driver.

To buy a ticket in the bus you get into the vehicle at the front and tell the driver the type of ticket you want. If you want to buy a single ticket, you can tell the driver your final destination, even if you have to change from the bus to another bus or the train and he will give you a ticket that is valid until your destination.

What kind of ticket should I buy?

Option 1: „Single Ticket“ („Einzelkarte“)
1,70€ (short journey) – 3,30€ (Hamburg AB)

The price of a single ticket depends on the distance from start to destination. It is valid for all means of transportation even if you have to change lines as long as you use the most direct route to your destination. Round trips or return journeys are not permitted.

The type of Single Ticket you need can be found out

- by using a connection planner provided by the HVV and entering start and destination
Planners are available in the app, the online shop or the ticket machines.
- by telling your bus driver your destination

Option 2: „All Day Ticket“ („Ganztageskarte“)
7,80€ (Hamburg AB)

All Day Tickets are valid for Hamburg AB and for the entire day. You can travel as often as you like on the day of issue till 6 am the following morning. This is often the cheaper option if you travel multiple times a day.

Caution: There is a cheaper alternative called the „9 am Day Ticket“ which is valid from 9 am till 6 am the following morning. Unfortunately, this will not be sufficient to get to the RDKit UGM in time.

Option 3: „Weekly 24/7 Season Ticket“ („Vollzeit-Wochenkarte“)
28,70€ (Hamburg AB)

The weekly ticket is valid for 7 consecutive days and you can choose the first day it is to be valid. This is a cheaper option if you stay for 4 days or more.