



Leipzig Conference Guide

English Edition

Transportation · Leipzig Guide · Practical Information

Transportation

Getting to Leipzig

The following overview covers transportation options from major airports to Leipzig:

Departure Airport	Transport Option	Time & Fare
Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER)	Regional train RE/RB	~3–3.5 hrs, €25–35
	FEX + ICE high-speed train	1 hr 45 min – 2 hrs, €18–60
Frankfurt Airport (FRA)	ICE high-speed train	~2.5–3 hrs, €80–120
Munich Airport (MUC)	ICE high-speed train	~4–4.5 hrs, €100–150

Tip: Book early via the Deutsche Bahn website (Official website: <https://int.bahn.de/en>) or the DB Navigator App for better prices. Both support English. Use official channels only — avoid third-party platforms (e.g. germanrails).

Leipzig/Halle Airport to City Centre

- Train (S-Bahn): Take S5X/S5 directly to Leipzig Hauptbahnhof (central station), 15–20 min (station is inside the airport terminal, tickets can be purchased at the station)
- Taxi: ~25–35 min depending on traffic, fare €40–60

Leipzig Central Station (Hauptbahnhof) to City Centre

- On foot: ~10–35 min to most venues
- Tram: Lines 4, 7, 8, 1–5 etc., 5–10 min to various destinations

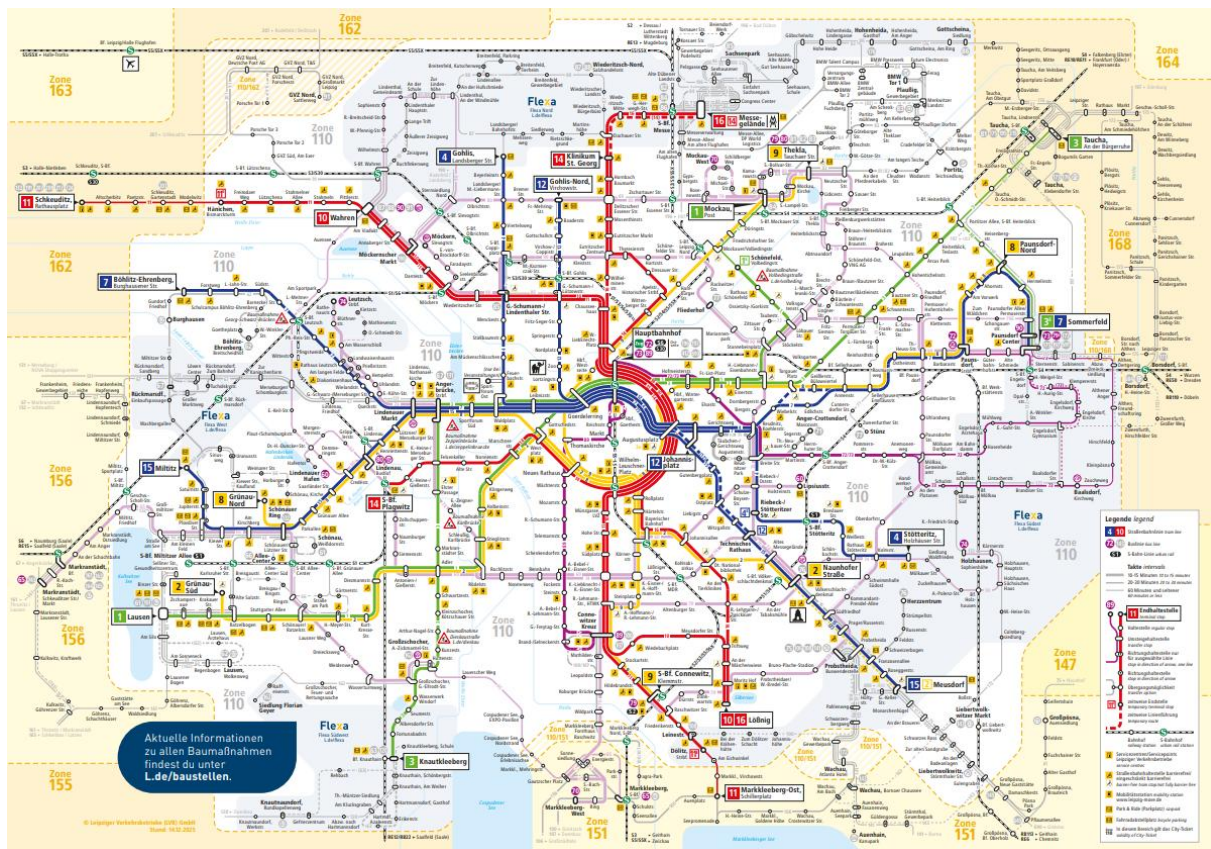
Important Tram Stops

- Jahnallee Campus: Marschnerstraße stop (Lines 1, 2, 39); Sportforum Süd stop (Lines 3, 7, 8, 15)
- Augustusplatz Campus (Paulinum): Augustusplatz stop (Lines 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16)
- Grassi Museum: Johannisplatz stop (Lines 4, 7, 12, 15)

Route planning: We recommend Google Maps or the Leipzig Move App to plan your route from accommodation to venues.

Local Public Transport in Leipzig

- Conference pass includes Leipzig local public transport (bus, tram, S-Bahn) in Zone 110



- Tickets: Available from ticket machines at major stations, onboard ticket machines (trams only, card payment required), and in the Leipzig Move app.
- Please note:
 - All paper tickets must be validated after purchase. This can be done by stamping the ticket in the separate validator machine located on the S-Bahn platform or inside trams/buses. Failing to validate a ticket can result in a fine.

- A valid, internationally accepted ID (e.g, passport) must be carried along with your ticket. Failing to show an accepted form of ID during a ticket check can result in a fine. (Mandatory for the conference ticket)
- There is no need to scan your ticket to enter vehicles, but ticket checks are conducted randomly on all routes (be prepared to present your ticket and ID)

Travel reference:

- City centre → Jahnallee Campus: tram ~15–20 min
- City centre → Museum district: tram ~10 min
- City centre → Music venues: 5–15 min

Suggestions for Places to Visit

Leipzig as a City of Art

Grassi Museum of Applied Arts

Grassi Museum is one of Europe's outstanding houses of design and applied arts. The dynamic exhibitions range from **photography, arts and crafts, to design and architecture**. Currently, the wide collection consists of approximately 230,000 pieces representing European and international artisanship, within a time frame starting from antiquity to the present day.

Permanent Exhibitions:

- From Antiquity to Historism
- Asian Art
- From Art Nouveau to the Present

Special Exhibitions:

- The Soul of Objects (Applied Arts from Latin America)
- Vessel Sculpture 4th (German and International Ceramics Since 1946)

Price:

- **Free** admission to the **permanent exhibitions** for all
- Groups starting from 8 people: 8 €, Regular: 10 €

Link to the Website of the Museum: <https://www.grassimak.de/en/>

Leipzig as a Music City

Leipzig boasts an extraordinary classical music heritage, celebrated as the long-time home of Johann Sebastian Bach, who served as Thomaskantor at St. Thomas Church, and Felix Mendelssohn, who revitalized the city's musical landscape and founded Germany's first music conservatory here; it also profoundly shaped the lives of Robert and Clara Schumann, Richard Wagner (who was born in the city), and Gustav Mahler. Today, this rich history comes alive through world-class events like the annual Bachfest Leipzig, which gathers international talent to celebrate Bach's legacy across historical venues, the Mendelssohn Music Festival, the prestigious Mahler Festival, and Wave-Gotik-Treffen (WGT), one of the world's largest festivals for gothic and darkwave music.



Photo by Parisa Zhang

Gewandhaus zu Leipzig

This concert hall, which is one of the world's oldest civic symphony orchestras in the heart of the city, is a historical symbol for the music history of Leipzig. Now, the Gewandhaus hosts a wide range of concerts and events, approximately 800 each year.

The first Gewandhaus was both the guildhall and the trading hall and of Leipzig's cloth merchants (where the name comes from, *das Gewand* means clothing/ garment) and an arsenal. In 1781, the civic authorities accepted the construction of Leipzig's first devoted concert hall in this building.

Around 1860, ideas regarding the construction of a new concert hall began to be visible. The *Gewandhaus* authorities hoped to find a convenient area directly in the city center, unlike the City Council, which preferred locating it towards the decentralised regions of Leipzig to stimulate the opening of a completely new neighbourhood. In February 1944, the *Neues Gewandhaus* got a direct hit during bombing. The destruction led to the Orchestra's considerably nomadic existence around the city until, in 1947, a place of at least temporary permanence was found in the Congress Hall of the zoo.

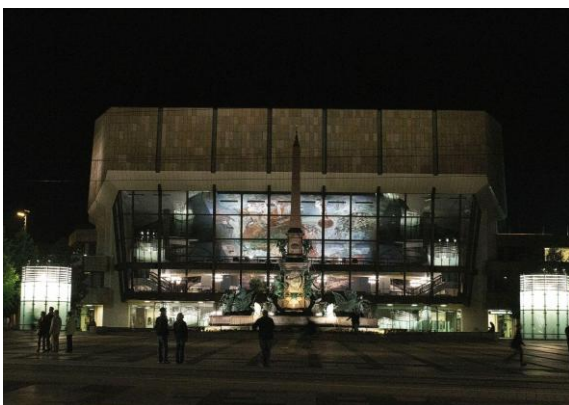


Photo by Antonio Friedemann

After over thirty years, Leipzig proudly called a new concert hall its own: The (second) New Gewandhaus on the south side of Karl-Marx-Platz, the present-day Augustusplatz.

The third Gewandhaus was the only concert hall that was built in the GDR (former communist East Germany). *Gewandhaus* conductor **Kurt Masur** started the campaign for its construction and worked together with the architects and acousticians during the 57 month construction period.

Leipzig as a Sport City

Leipzig has a deep and prominent history in Sports, blending historical milestones, elite academic sports science, and modern professional competition.

Historically, SC DHfK Leipzig is one of the single most successful individual sports clubs in the world. Its athletes — particularly in rowing, canoeing, track and field, swimming, cycling, and handball — have accumulated over 90 Olympic gold medals and dozens of world championships.



Photo by Parisa Zhang

On January 28, 1900, representatives from 86 football clubs met at the Zum Mariengarten restaurant in Leipzig to found the Deutscher Fußball-Bund (DFB). Additionally, VfB Leipzig won the very first official German football championship in 1903. Today, football culture remains massive in the city, centered around RB Leipzig in the Bundesliga, which plays at the Red Bull Arena (formerly the Zentralstadion), and local traditional clubs like 1. FC Lokomotive Leipzig and BSG Chemie Leipzig. Also, the HC Leipzig club, once one of the absolute dominant forces in the Women's Handball Bundesliga, having won the German national championship 20 times (including the East German era) and secured two titles in the predecessor tournament of the EHF Champions League, just made it back to the No.1 Handball Bundesliga after 9 years. Watching a match to support RB Leipzig or HC Leipzig might leave you with a beautiful memory of Leipzig.

Besides, due to its extensive canal networks, the Elster Reservoir, and the surrounding lake district (*Neuseenland*), Leipzig is a major hub for rowing, sprint canoeing, and white-water slalom. The *Kanupark Markkleeberg*, located just south of the city, is one of the most modern artificial white-water courses in Europe, frequently used for international competitions. Close to Clara Park, you can also find canoeing, kayaking, or paddling options to spend the summer in Leipzig.

Leipzig as a Cycling City

Leipzig had 70 kilometres of cycle paths in 1990; in 2003, this had increased up to 200 kilometres, and now it exceeds 400 kilometres. Cycling is mainly permitted on all paths in the green spaces, Auenwald floodplain forest, and in the parks. This is a considerable extension of the existing network of paths available for cycling.

Moreover, a recent study shows that 79% of all trips to Leipzig's city centre are made on foot, by bike or by public transport. In 2018, the city initiated the Mobility Strategy 2030, presenting a roadmap to increase the combined modal share of cycling, walking and public transport to 70%.

If you want to rent a bike, you can use the Next Bike App.



Photo by Zeynep Kumbaroglu

Leipzig as a Green City



Photo by James Jeremy Beckers (Unsplash)

As well as being a cycling city, Leipzig offers many green areas to visit and the parks are an important part of the social life. Here are the most popular ones if you want to enjoy your day in nature:

Clara Zetkin Park

Named after an important figure of politics and women's rights in the period before, during, and after World War I, the park also hosts a statue of her as well as the canal and many picnic areas.

Friedenspark

Like Clara Zetkin Park, Friedenspark offers a good atmosphere for picnics and walks. Besides, you can visit the Russian Memorial Church of Saint Alexius next to the park, which was built in the memory of the Russian soldiers who lost their lives fighting against Napoleon allying with Austria and Prussia during the Battle of Nations (1813).

Leipzig from Industrial City to Recreation City

Leipzig sits in the Central German Lignite Mining District, where lignite (brown coal) has been mined for some 150 years. Prior to the second World War, the Central German Lignite Mining District supplied 40% of Germany's lignite.

Demand for lignite from the Leipzig region grew rapidly following the establishment of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) in 1949. With most hard coal deposits located in the Ruhr Area, then part of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), the GDR was reliant on lignite for 70% of its energy supplies. In the 1960s and 1970s, numerous open-cast coal mines were constructed or expanded in the Leipzig region. The Zwenkau and Cospuden mines were some of the largest and employed thousands of workers.



Lignite mining largely ceased after reunification in 1990, as citizen social movements advocated for environmental protections and attention shifted to more sustainable energy sources. Through the cooperation of local communities, regional planners, environmental analysts, and other experts, a plan was developed to transform the former open-cast mines into a recreation destination: the Leipziger Neuseenland. Under this plan, 20 of the former mines have been transformed into artificial lakes and connected to the region's natural river system. They are now popular destinations for swimming, cycling, boating, diving, and more.

Photo by James Jeremy Beckers (Unsplash)

Dining Guide

Conference Catering

Three receptions will be held during the conference, all with catering — admission with your conference badge. Coffee and tea breaks (with drinks and snacks) are also provided. Alternatively, you may choose to have lunch at the local university canteen.

Local Cuisine

Leipzig offers a rich and diverse dining scene:

- Traditional German: hearty meat dishes, potatoes, and sauerkraut
- Saxon specialities: Quarkkäulchen (potato-quark dumplings), Leipziger Allerlei (mixed vegetables), Leipziger Lerche (local pastry)
- International: Italian, Asian, Middle Eastern, and more

Recommended Restaurants

- Kartoffelhaus N°1 - Traditional German restaurant with a cosy atmosphere
- Auerbachs Keller - Historic restaurant featured in Goethe's Faust
- Lerchennest Leipzig - local Saxon cuisine with rotating seasonal specialties
- Augustiner am Markt - Bavarian-style beer hall offering hearty traditional meals

Cafés & Bakeries

- Zum (Arabischen) Coffe Baum - Historic café dating back to 1711
- Kaffeehaus Riquet - Landmark coffee shop and café in a historic art nouveau building
- LUKAS Bäcker - Local café and bakery chain (try the Leipziger Lerche!)
- Café Bigoti - Cozy café with outdoor seating overlooking St. Thomas Church & Bach Statue
- Starbucks & chain cafés - Located throughout the city centre

Practical Information

Conference-Related

- On-site assistance: Staff will be present at all venues for inquiries
- **Contact: Coordinator Lea Middell, email cish2025@uni-leipzig.de, phone:: +49 178 3568045**

Tips for International Participants

Category	Details
Payment	Credit cards, Apple Pay, and Google Pay are widely accepted, but we recommend carrying some cash for small purchases
Wi-Fi	eduroam available on university campuses; Leipzig City Wifi in the city centre; hotels typically provide WiFi. For additional mobile data, please check with your carrier. EU, EEA, UK, and Ukrainian/Moldovan mobile users can use their data in Germany without roaming fees.
Language	English is widely spoken in tourist areas and at the conference; conference working languages are English and French
Opening Hours	Restaurants: typically 11:30–23:00 Shops: Mon–Sat 9:00–20:00

Important: All large shops (including supermarkets) are closed on Sundays! The only exception is the supermarket inside the main train station, open 12:00-18:00.

Emergency Numbers

Police	Ambulance / Fire
110	112