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Public Transport (ÖPNV) — Deutschlandticket, Monthly Passes & Rules

Deutschlandticket for €49/month, regional monthly passes, fare evasion and important public transport rules in Germany.

Deutsche Begriffe: Deutschlandticket | ÖPNV | Monatskarte | Schwarzfahren | Erhöhtes Beförderungsentgelt | Verkehrsverbund

Deutschlandticket

Since May 2023, the **Deutschlandticket** has been available — a monthly subscription for all public transport in Germany:

- **Price:** €63 per month (as of 2026)
- **Valid on:** all buses, trams, U-Bahns, S-Bahns and regional trains (2nd class)
- **Not valid on:** ICE, IC, EC and other long-distance trains
- **Subscription model:** Cancellable monthly, available **digitally** as app or chip card
- **Order:** Via your local transport association app (HVV, MVV, BVG, VRS, etc.) or the Deutsche Bahn app

Is Deutschlandticket Worth It?

Comparison with regional monthly passes:

City	Regular Monthly Pass	Deutschlandticket
Hamburg (HVV entire area)	approx. €120	€49
Munich (MVV entire network)	approx. €100	€49
Berlin (BVG AB)	approx. €99	€49

City	Regular Monthly Pass	Deutschlandticket
Cologne (VRS entire network)	approx. €105	€49

Conclusion: Deutschlandticket almost always pays for itself — and you can use it in other cities too.

Other Tickets and Fares

If you use public transport only occasionally:

- **Single ticket** — from approx. €2.50–3.50 depending on city and zone
- **Day ticket** — from approx. €7–9, unlimited rides in one day
- **Weekly ticket** — cheaper than 7 single tickets in some transport associations
- **Group ticket** — for up to 5 people, often cheaper on weekends

Discounts

- **Children under 6 years** — travel free
- **Children 6-14 years** — discounted tickets
- **Students** — semester ticket (often included in semester fees, €100–200/semester)
- **Seniors and people with disabilities** — special rates depending on transport association

Schwarzfahren — Not a Minor Offense!

Traveling without a valid ticket on public transport in Germany is a **crime** (obtaining services by deception, § 265a StGB):

- **Increased fare charge:** €60 — due immediately upon inspection
- **Repeated offences:** criminal charges possible → fine or imprisonment up to 1 year
- **Immigration consequences:** charges can jeopardize residence status

Tip: Always keep your ticket ready. For digital tickets: keep your phone charged and load the QR code in advance (offline mode).

ÖPNV Rules

- **Validate or activate** — paper tickets must be stamped at the machine before traveling

- **Food and drinks** — not allowed on trains in many cities
- **Bicycles** — transport often only outside peak hours, additional ticket required
- **Dogs** — small dogs in carriers travel free, large dogs need a child ticket
- **Accessibility** — keep front doors clear, respect spaces for wheelchairs and strollers