

# Max Planck Institute for Brain Research

## Visitor Guide 2018

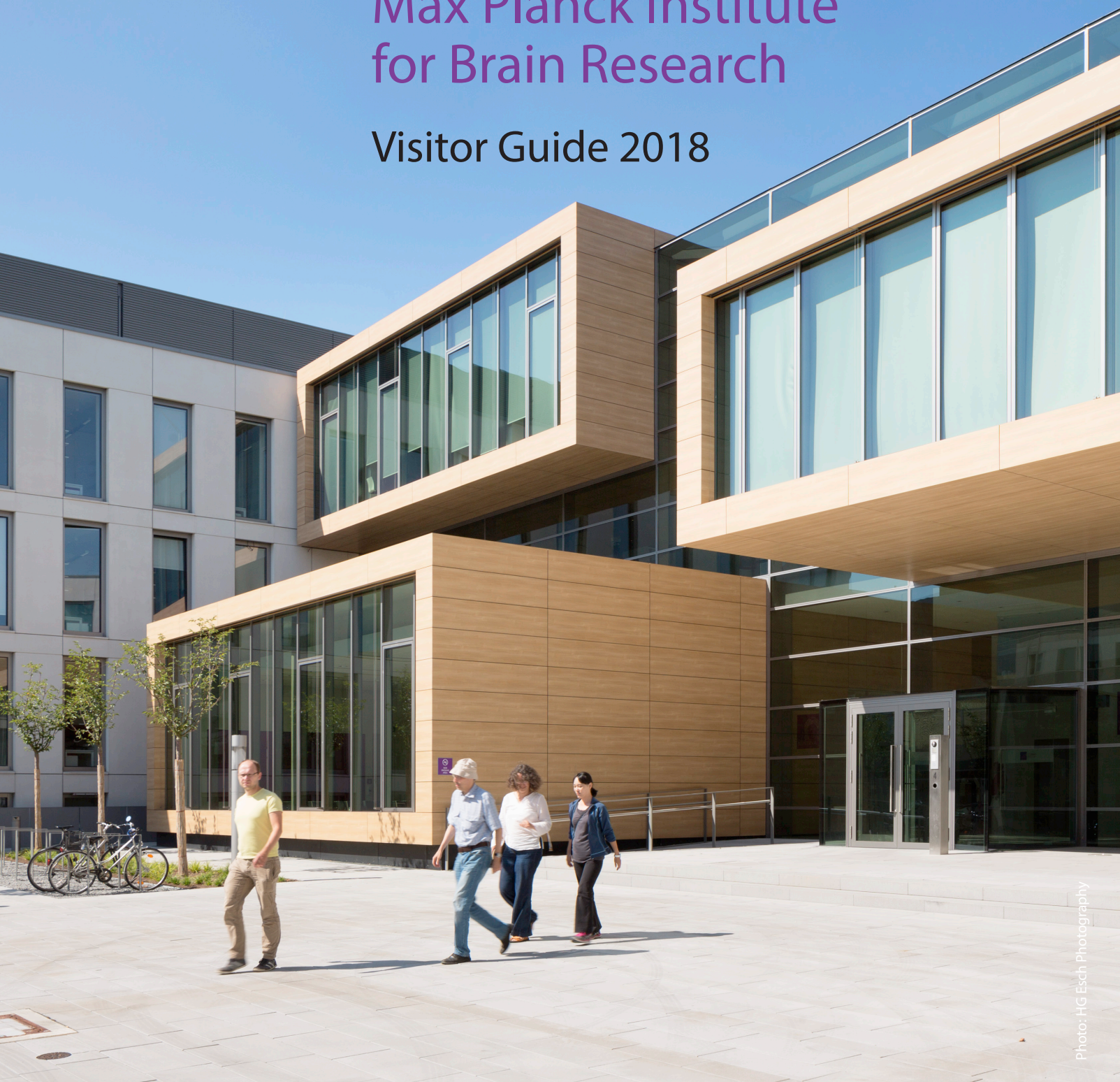


Photo: HG Esch Photography



# Welcome to Frankfurt

Dear Guest,

Welcome to the Max Planck Institute for Brain Research in Frankfurt! We very much look forward to your visit and hope that it is a very productive and enjoyable one.

As you may know, our Institute is undergoing some major changes. In the past years [Heinz Waessle](#), [Heinrich Betz](#) and [Wolf Singer](#) became Directors Emeriti and [Erin Schuman](#) and [Gilles Laurent](#) moved from Caltech to Frankfurt in the summer of 2009 to become directors at the Institute and to the new Riedberg building in April 2013. In the same year we welcomed the Max Planck Research Groups of [Johannes Letzkus](#) and [Tatjana Tchumatchenko](#). In July 2014 [Amparo Acker-Palmer](#) (professor at the Goethe University) became associated with the institute as a Max Planck Fellow. One month later, [Moritz Helmstaedter](#) was appointed as the Institute's third director moving his research on connectomics to Frankfurt. Around the same time the Max Planck Research Unit of Neurogenetics of [Peter Mombaerts](#) moved to our building in the same year. Max Planck Research Groups of [Julijana Gjorgjieva](#) and [Hiroshi Ito](#) joined the Institute in 2016.

Besides the departments of Synaptic Plasticity ([Erin Schuman](#)), Neural Systems and Coding ([Gilles Laurent](#)), Connectomics ([Moritz Helmstaedter](#)), the Max Planck Research Groups and the Max Planck Fellow Group, our new building features state-of-the-art core facilities for imaging, proteomics and scientific computing as well as the Institute's Teaching Lab. The beautiful building was officially opened on May 28, 2014, when we also celebrated the Institute's 100-year anniversary.

Also in our building is the Minerva Bistro, which serves fresh gourmet food and a collection of hot and cold beverages on week days (8.00-18.00 hours).

Our new Institute is located at the heart of Riedberg's Natural Sciences Campus of the Goethe University, across the street from the Max Planck Institute of Biophysics ([Hartmut Michel](#), [Werner Kühlbrandt](#), [Gerhard Hummer](#) and [Ernst Bamberg](#)) and next-door to the Frankfurt Institute of Advanced Studies ([Christoph von der Malsburg](#), [Jochen Triesch](#), [Matthias Kaschube](#) among others) and the University's Biology, Chemistry and Physics Departments.

Our old home (where the Institute was located since 1962) still houses the emeritus department of [Wolf Singer](#). The 2008 founded Ernst Strüngmann Institute for Neuroscience (ESI) is also located in the Niederrad building. This Institute (director: [Pascal Fries](#)) is funded by the Ernst Strüngmann Foundation, in association with the Max Planck Society and focuses on Systems and Cognitive Neuroscience.

Maps and directions are provided in this document or can be found on our website at [www.brain.mpg.de/contact/how-to-find-us/campus-riedberg.html](http://www.brain.mpg.de/contact/how-to-find-us/campus-riedberg.html)

We wish you a wonderful visit!

[Erin Schuman](#), [Gilles Laurent](#) and [Moritz Helmstaedter](#)  
*Directors Max Planck Institute for Brain Research*



## An interactive building complex for brain research



Photo: HG Esch Photography

Location	Frankfurt am Main	Total floor area	19.800 m <sup>2</sup>
New Building	Max Planck Institute for Brain Research	Site	9.730 m <sup>2</sup>
Architects & Construction Management	Henn Architekten, München	Personnel	up to 240
		Start of construction	2009
		Completion	2013

The Max Planck Institute for Brain Research is located on the Riedberg Campus in Frankfurt am Main. The design for this state of the art research complex consists of two elongated and compact buildings, with long axes running approximately north to south, and short axes at an angle, aligned with the slant of the plot. A central open „foyer“ links up the two buildings. Bridges, galleries and floating boxes serve as communal space for meetings, exchanges and impromptu discussions among

scientists and staff. The research building with four floors is separated into an office area and a highly equipped laboratory zone with flexible and divisible space for research. The scientific departments are located at the two upper floors. The ground floor houses the administrative offices, the central scientific facilities and the laboratories of the independent research groups.

# Departments and Groups / Campus Map

Connectomics  
(Helmstaedter Department)

+49 (0) 69 850033-3001 (Sylvia Kraus-Fernando)  
mhoffice@brain.mpg.de  
[www.brain.mpg.de/research/helmstaedter-department.html](http://www.brain.mpg.de/research/helmstaedter-department.html)

Neural Systems and Coding  
(Laurent Department)

+49 (0) 69 850033-2001 (Anita Wagner)  
anita.wagner@brain.mpg.de  
[www.brain.mpg.de/research/laurent-department.html](http://www.brain.mpg.de/research/laurent-department.html)

Synaptic Plasticity  
(Schuman Department)

+49 (0) 69 850033-1001 (Nicole Thomsen)  
nicole.thomsen@brain.mpg.de  
[www.brain.mpg.de/research/schuman-department.html](http://www.brain.mpg.de/research/schuman-department.html)

Theory of neural dynamics  
(Tchumatchenko Group)

tatjana.tchumatchenko@brain.mpg.de  
[www.brain.mpg.de/research/theory-of-neural-dynamics-group.html](http://www.brain.mpg.de/research/theory-of-neural-dynamics-group.html)

Neocortical Circuits  
(Letzkus Group)

johannes.letzkus@brain.mpg.de  
[www.brain.mpg.de/research/neocortical-circuits-group.html](http://www.brain.mpg.de/research/neocortical-circuits-group.html)

Memory and Navigation Circuits  
(Ito Group)

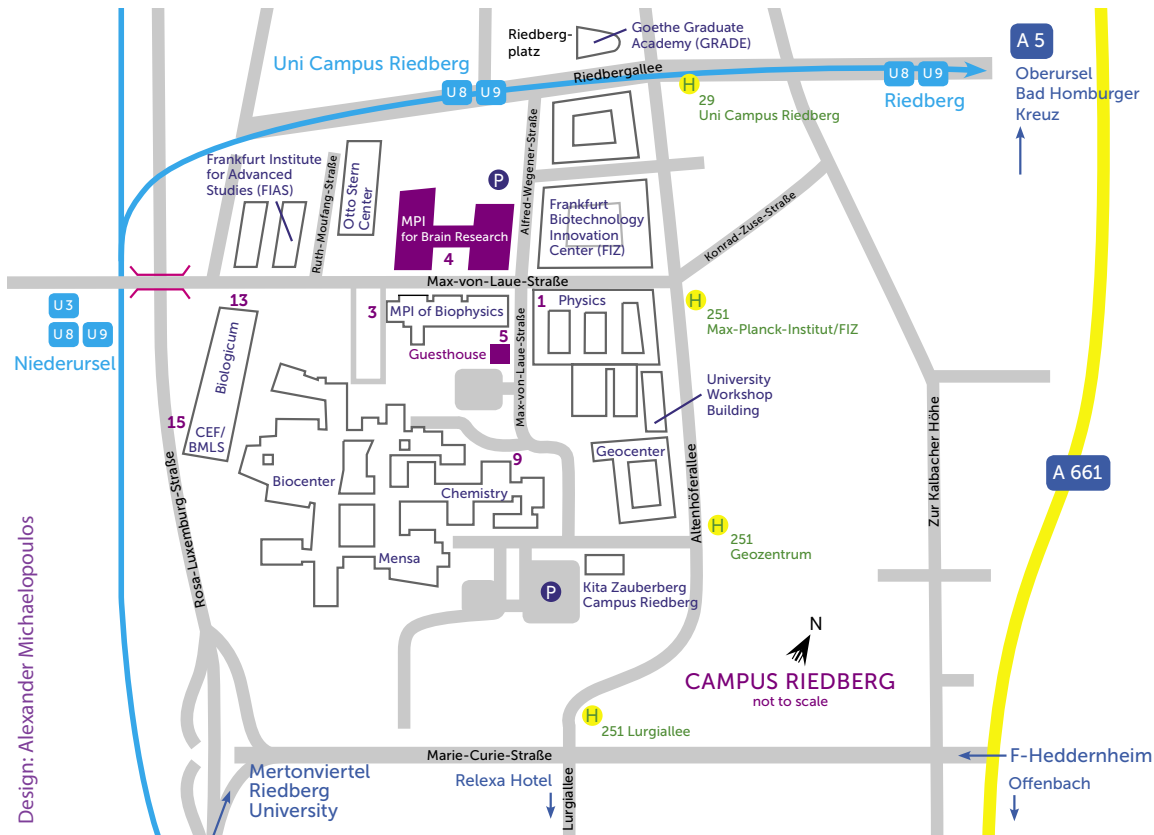
hiroshi.ito@brain.mpg.de  
[www.brain.mpg.de/research/memory-and-navigation-circuits-group.html](http://www.brain.mpg.de/research/memory-and-navigation-circuits-group.html)

Computation in Neural Circuits  
(Gjorgjieva Group)

julijana.gjorgjieva@brain.mpg.de  
[www.brain.mpg.de/research/computation-in-neural-circuits-group.html](http://www.brain.mpg.de/research/computation-in-neural-circuits-group.html)

Neurovascular Interface  
(Acker-Palmer Group)

+49 (0) 69 69 79842565 (Nathalie Bataille)  
bataille@bio.uni-frankfurt.de  
[www.brain.mpg.de/research/neurovascular-interface-group.html](http://www.brain.mpg.de/research/neurovascular-interface-group.html)



Design: Alexander Michaelopoulos

## Places to Stay in Frankfurt

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### Guesthouse

The guesthouse of the Max Planck Institute for Brain Research is located only a few steps away from our building on the campus in Riedberg. Here, we offer comfortable rooms to the guests of our Institute. All our rooms are non-smoking. Our guesthouse is shared with the Max Planck Institute of Biophysics.

### Guesthouse

Max-von-Laue-Str. 5  
60438 Frankfurt am Main  
T: +49 (0) 69 6303-4444  
guesthouse@biophys.mpg.de  
www.brain.mpg.de/services/  
guesthouse.html

### B&B Hotel Frankfurt-Nord

This comfortable hotel is located in Kalbach up in the north of Frankfurt and can be easily reached by public transport (U3/9 and bus) from airport or train station, but also from the institute.

### B&B Hotel Frankfurt-Nord

Heinrich-Lanz-Allee 3  
60437 Frankfurt am Main  
T: +49 (0) 69 950904-0  
frankfurt-nord@hotelbb.com  
www.hotelbb.de/en/frankfurt-nord

### Hotel Alexander am Zoo

This four star hotel is located in a 5-minutes walking distance to the vibrant "Bornheim" neighborhood. The walk to the subway station for U7 is approx. 200 meters. The rooms are equipped with cable tv, radio, internet, WLAN and other amenities, and there are a sauna and steam bath.

### Hotel Alexander am Zoo

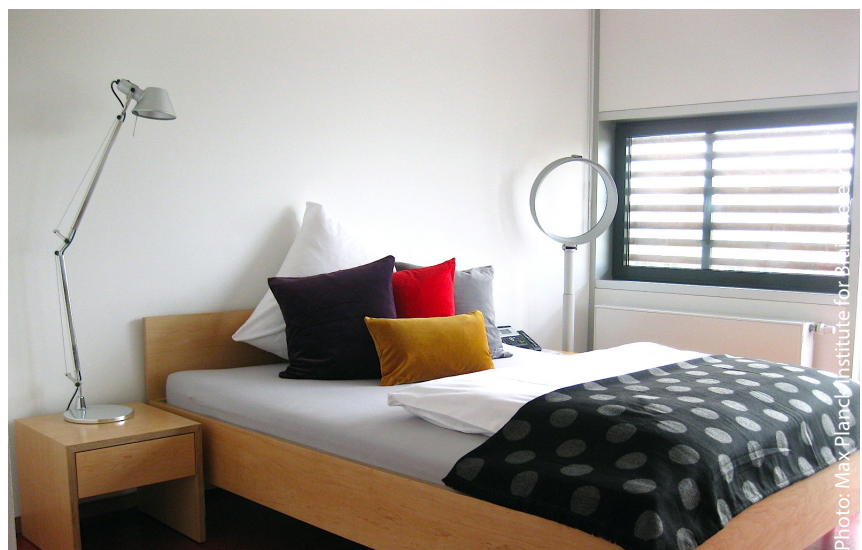
Waldschmidtstr. 59-61  
60316 Frankfurt am Main  
T: +49 (0) 69 9496-00  
E: info@alexanderamzoo.de  
www.alexanderamzoo.de/en/home/

### Relexa Hotel

With its convenient quiet location in the commercial district Mertonviertel, the Relexa Hotel Frankfurt is both an ideal meeting place and starting point for activities in and around Frankfurt.

### Relexa Hotel Frankfurt/Main

Lurgiallee 2  
60439 Frankfurt am Main  
T: +49 (0) 69 95778 0  
www.relexa-hotel-frankfurt.de/en/



# Transport Information

## Taxi

+49 (0) 69 230001

## Travel times

Airport to city center: 15 minutes

City center to Institute: 15-25 minutes

## From Frankfurt International Airport

Travel time from Frankfurt Airport to Turm Hotel/Hotel Alexander am Zoo:

15-20 minutes, to Relixa Hotel/Guesthouse: 15-25 minutes.

Cabs are available in front of the terminals.

## From your hotel

We aim at pre-arranging your pick-up; for impromptu ordering, please call Frankfurt Taxi-Ruf (069 230001). The travel by taxi to our institute takes approx. 15-20 minutes from Turm Hotel/Hotel Alexander am Zoo. Relixa Hotel and our Guesthouse are within walking distance of the Institute.

## Public Transport – RMV

[www.rmv.de/en/](http://www.rmv.de/en/)

+49 (0) 1805 768 46 36

## From the Airport to the hotels

First take S-8 or S-9 to “Offenbach Ost/Hanau” and exit at “Hauptwache”.

To **B&B Hotel Frankfurt-Nord**: take U2 (Bad Homburg/Gonzenheim) and exit at the station “Kalbach”. From there you can take either Bus 24 to “Frischezentrum” or Bus 29 to “Hohe Brück”. Exit at the Bus Stop “Heinrich-Lanz-Allee”. or walk to the hotel (ca. 1300 meters).

To **Hotel Alexander am Zoo**: in the station “Hauptwache” take U7 to Enkheim, exit at “Habsburgerallee”, turn into Rhönstraße, then right into Waldschmidtstraße and walk ca. 200 meters to reach Hotel Alexander am Zoo on the right.

To **Relixa Hotel**: in the station “Hauptwache” take U2 (Bad Homburg/Gonzenheim), exit at “Riedwiese/Mertonviertel” walk ca. 500 meters (please follow the sign “Merton`s”).

To the **Guesthouse**: in the station “Hauptwache” take U8 (Riedberg), exit at “Uni Campus Riedberg”. Take the first street to your right (Alfred-Wegener-Straße) and walk until you cross the Max-von-Laue-Straße. The Guesthouse is behind the MPI of Biophysics (see also map on page 4).

## From the hotels to MPI for Brain Research

From **B&B Hotel Frankfurt-Nord**: take Bus 24 or 29 in the direction of Kalbach. At the station “Kalbach”, take U9 to Ginnheim and get off at station “Uni Campus Riedberg” (5 minutes from “Kalbach”). Take the first street to your right (Alfred-Wegener-Straße) and walk until you cross the Max-von-Laue-Straße. The Max Planck Institute for Brain Research is situated at the corner of the street (see also map on page 4).

From **Hotel Alexander am Zoo**: at station “Habsburgerallee”, take U7 to Hausen and change at “Hauptwache” into U8 to Riedberg. Get off at station “Uni Campus Riedberg” (20 minutes from “Hauptwache”).

From **Relixa Hotel**: please walk in the direction of the Riedberg campus. The MPI for Brain Research is at ca. 800 meters distance (see also map on page 4).



## Instructions for ticket machine

For single rides within Frankfurt press “Einzelfahrt Frankfurt” indicated on left photograph as “A” (fare 2.75€).

For a day pass within Frankfurt press “Tageskarte Frankfurt” indicated on left photograph as “B” (fare 5.35€).

For single rides from and to the airport press “Einzelfahrt Frankfurt “plane sign” indicated on the left photograph as “C” (fare 4.90€).

# Getting Around in Frankfurt

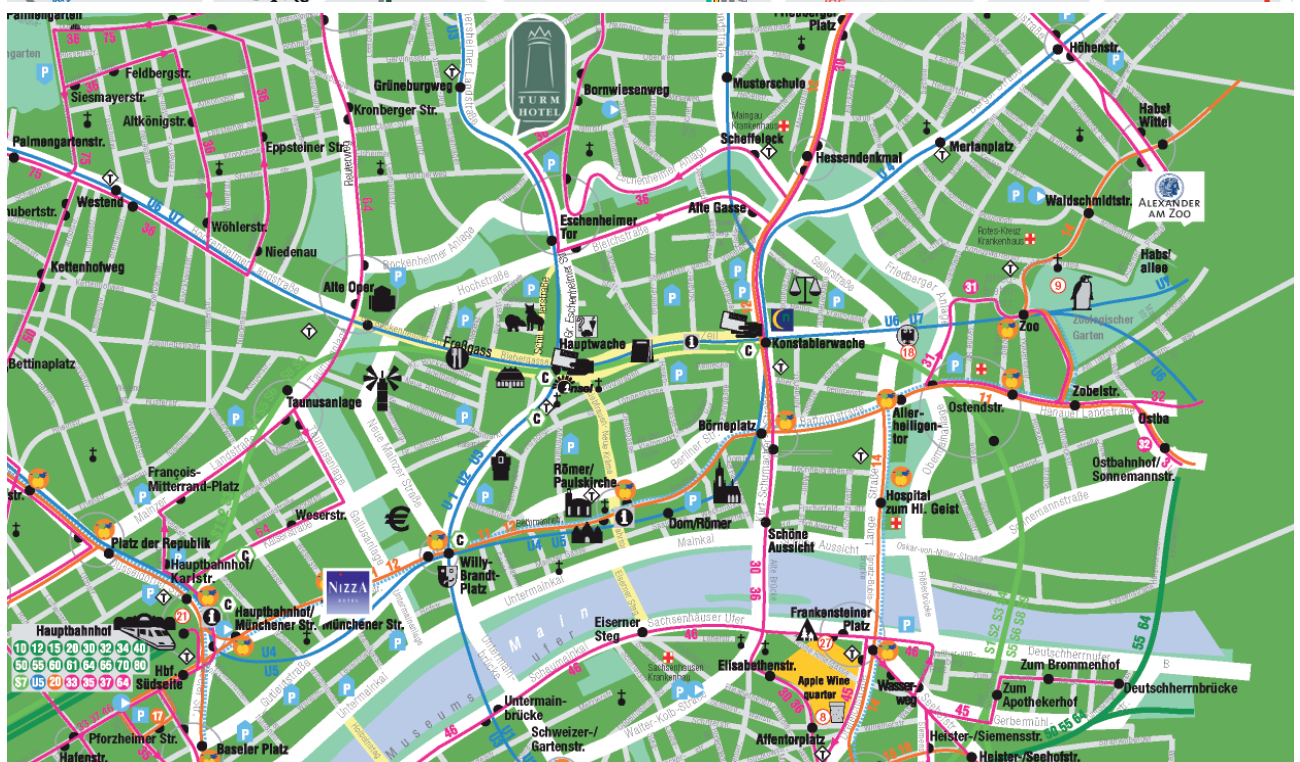




Photo: HG Esch Photography

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