

MSc/PhD Molecular Biology Program

Notes on German Trains operated by Deutsche Bahn

Comprehensive information about travelling with Deutsche Bahn and train schedules is available at http://reiseauskunft.bahn.de/bin/query.exe/en. Train tickets and seat reservations can be purchased online (credit card required!), or at the service center ("Reisezentrum") inside any major German train station. Intercity Express (ICE) trains are most convenient for travelling long distances. Intercity (IC) and Regional Express (RE) trains are also available. Regular Intercity Express (ICE) tickets are valid on any ICE, IC, or RE train at the date stated on the ticket, independent of the time of departure. Note that discount tickets may be restricted to certain trains! If you haven't made a seat reservation for the train you are taking, find yourself a seat for which no reservation is indicated. At rush hour, all seats may be occupied. You would still be allowed to take the train but might have to stand, sit on the floor or find a seat in the bistro or restaurant. Try to avoid local trains (Regional Express) for travelling long distances. Göttingen has only one train station (Göttingen Hauptbahnhof, Hbf).

Notes on train travels from Frankfurt Airport to Göttingen

Frankfurt airport accommodates two train stations, one for long-distance trains (Fernbahnhof), the other for regional trains (Regionalbahnhof). Some long-distance trains, departing from FERNbahnhof, are directly connected with Göttingen train station (approx. 2 hours). Other train connections (either from FERNbahnhof or from REGIONALbahnhof) involve a change of trains at Frankfurt Main Central Station (Hauptbahnhof – Hbf, located downtown Frankfurt, i.e. approx. 15 min away from the airport) or at other train stations indicated in your itinerary. If you purchase your train tickets online, take a ticket from "FRA Airport" and NOT from Frankfurt Hbf!

We recommend taking one of the DIRECT trains to Göttingen, departing from FERNbahnhof, even if it involves a longer stay at the airport. It is much more convenient to travel this way. Should you miss a direct train and decide to continue with the next possible connection, take any train or S-Bahn to Frankfurt Hbf and continue from there with the next possible ICE train to Göttingen.