



<https://tw.s.phil-fak.uni-koeln.de/iftr-2025>

## How to Cologne

### Postal Address

University of Cologne  
Albertus Magnus Platz  
50923 Cologne



Main building of the University of Cologne, Albertus Magnus Platz: © Thomas Josek, JOSEKDESIGN

## Getting to Cologne

You have various options for your travel to IFTR 2025. You can reach **Cologne Central Station** by train via many major international airports, such as [Amsterdam](#), [Brussels](#), London, [Paris](#) and [Frankfurt am Main](#), or the nearby [Cologne-Bonn Airport](#). Cologne Central Station is situated next to Cologne Cathedral in the city centre.

## Public transport and your way to the campus

Don't forget! – IFTR 2025 provides you with a weekly ticket for tram and bus journeys within Cologne.

The University of Cologne campus is approximately a 15 minute trip from the centre of the city. The Tram (*U-Bahn / Strassenbahn*) Line 1 stop **Universitätstrasse** and Line 9 stop **Universität** are close to the campus. Line 9 is the **closest**.

Check the local transport company KVB website (*Kölner Verkehrs-Betriebe*) for more information:

<https://www.kvb.koeln/en>

Other stops / transport hubs within walking distance:

1. **Köln Süd (Cologne South) train station** is a 10 minute walk. Various DB (*Deutsche Bahn*) trains stop here. Check the DB App or this website for more information: <https://int.bahn.de/en>
2. **Zülpicher Platz** is a 10 minute walk. Lines 9, 12 and 15 stop here.
3. **Barbarossaplatz** is a 10 to 15 minute walk. Lines 12, 15, 16 and 18 stop here.
4. **Buses:** 130, 134 and 142 stop at the university, but the Tram is more reliable.

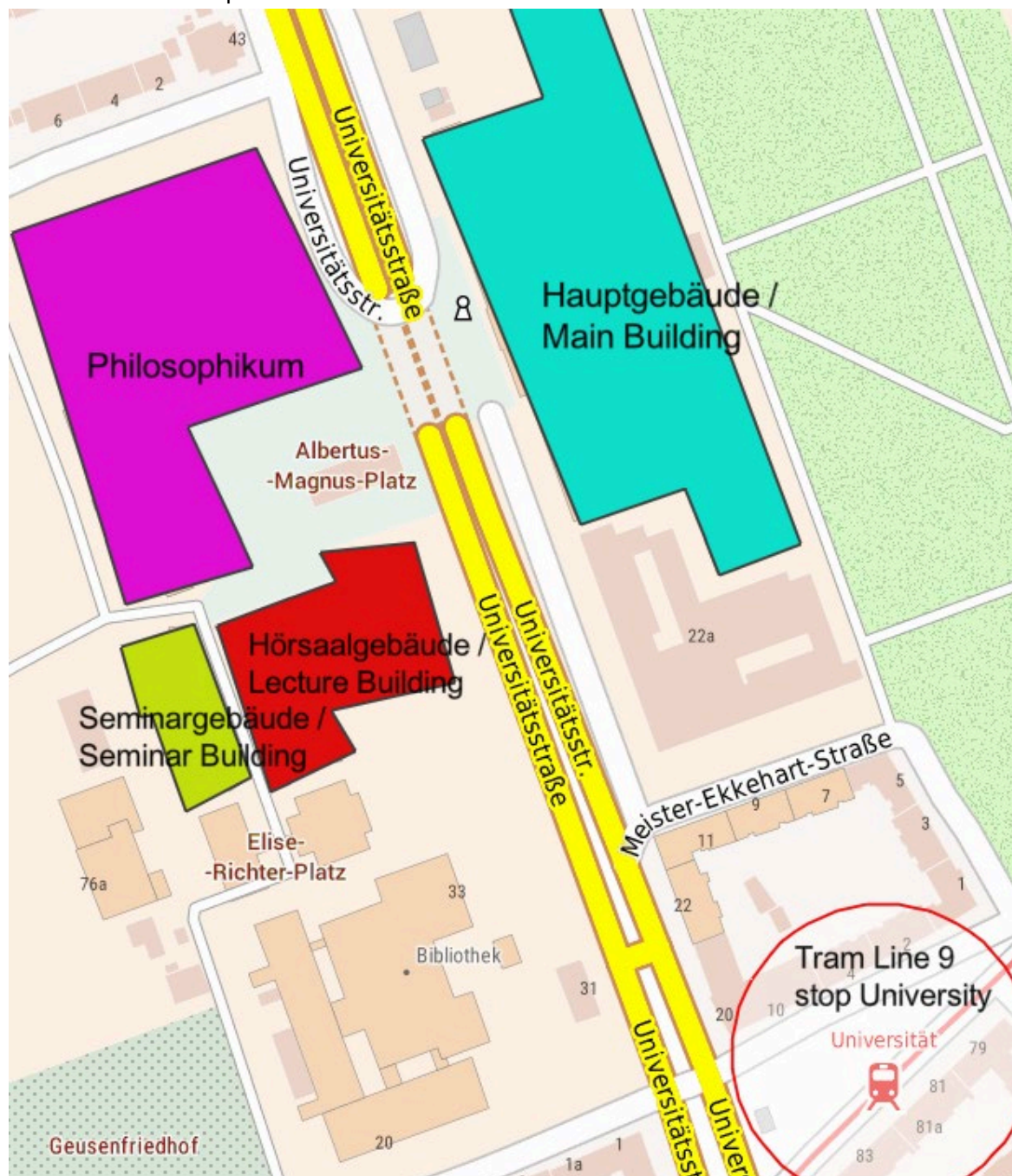


## Maps

This link below is for an interactive map of the buildings at the University of Cologne. Click on a building to find out the address:

[Campus Map University of Cologne](#)

This map below provides an overview of the campus buildings used for the IFTR 2025 and the Line 9 Universität tram stop:





## Other modes of transport

1. **KVB-Bikes:** Using the App “nextbike” you can find and rent KVB-Bikes in Cologne as well as in many other German cities. In Cologne you pay 1€ for every 15 minutes and no more than 15€ per rental. Make sure to check if your destination allows for a free return or if you have to pay a 1€ or even 20€ service fee (most places in the city centre are free).
2. **E-Scooters:** E-Scooters have taken Cologne by storm and various companies, such as Bolt, Dott, Voi or Tier, offer rentals across the city. Download the App of the provider you plan to use. The fares are usually 1€ to rent the scooter and then 0,15€ for every minute of use.
3. **Taxis / Uber:** While pricey, there is always the option to call for a taxi or Uber to take you to your location – just hail a yellow cab or use the Uber App.

## Food over the Pentecost holiday and during the week

General advice: **Keep some cash on you.** In Germany you can pay with a card in most places, but some smaller businesses might need you to pay cash.

**The first Sunday and Monday of IFTR 2025 are public holidays.** All shops and supermarkets will be closed – except for the REWE supermarket and Rossmann drugstore at Cologne Central station:

- REWE Trankgasse 11, 50667 Köln, 24/7  
[click for google maps](#)
- Rossmann Trankgasse 11, 50667 Köln, 6:00-22:00  
[click for google maps](#)

If you arrive via Cologne-Bonn Airport, you can also shop at the REWE market there:

- REWE Kennedystraße 1 / Terminal 1 / C Abflug, 41147 Köln, 24/7  
[click for google maps](#)

In addition, there are kiosks, (locally called “Büddchen”) where you can get cold drinks, sweets, crisps, and more. These are all over the city and have varying opening hours.

From Tuesday, everything in the city will be open again. Cologne has many different supermarkets and lots of places offering international cuisine. Close to the campus between Köln Süd and Zülpicher Platz there are various food stands offering falafel, kebab, gyros, burgers, Asian cuisine and more. We recommend you check this area out for lunch.

For example, lunch is close to the campus and good at (vegan options are marked with a V):

- *Habibi* for falafel and other Arabian cuisine (V)  
[click for google maps](#)
- *Oruc Kebap*  
[click for google maps](#)
- *Ferkulum* for gyros and other Greek dishes  
[click for google maps](#)
- *Bhasin* for your Indian cuisine cravings (V)  
[click for google maps](#)





- *Kaffeehaus Treibgut* for a cozy café next to Köln Süd train station  
[click for google maps](#)
- *Tsukiji* next to Zülpicher Platz for Japanese food  
[click for google maps](#)
- *Com Pho* next to Köln Süd train station for Vietnamese cuisine  
[click for google maps](#)
- *Zarathrustra* also next to Köln Süd train station for Persian food (V)  
[click for google maps](#)
- *Nosh Deli* for coffee and salad directly on the campus (V)  
<https://www.instagram.com/noshdelicafe/>
- *Ni'Hao Nudelbar* for Chinese noodles  
[click for google maps](#)
- *Lu Vietnamese Cuisine* (V)  
[click for google maps](#)

Local Rheinland cuisine with never-ending glasses of Kölsch beer and a menu including pork knuckle and blood sausage awaits you in the Kölsch breweries. These are in the city centre and old town, a longer way from campus and are a great dinner experience:

- Brauerei Pfaffen, 11:00-00:00, Heumarkt 62,  
[click for google maps](#)
- Brauerei zur Malzmühle, 12:00-23:00, Heumarkt 6,  
[click for google maps](#)
- Tünnes und Schäl, 11-22:30, Alter Markt 62  
[click for google maps](#)



## Other useful tips

### Drinking Water / Tap Water:

Tap water in Germany is safe to drink and is regularly and closely monitored.

### Local time:

Cologne is in Central European Time (CET) during standard time and Central European Summer Time (CEST) during daylight saving time. During IFTR 2025 it is daylight saving time (summer) which is GMT+2.

### Lockers on Campus

In the buildings of the University of Cologne you may find lockers to store your unused utensils. Please bear in mind that we cannot guarantee an empty locker for every attendee and that you may need to bring your own lock. **No liability is taken for lockers.**



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### VGA to HDMI adapter:

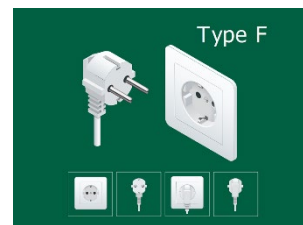
At the University of Cologne, the **standard technical port is VGA**. We **recommend you bring your own adapter for your laptop / MacBook with you**. The few the university provides will be in high demand.

### Currency:

The currency in Germany is the Euro (EUR/€). Credit cards are widely accepted but often cash is preferred – therefore you should keep some cash on you.

### Electricity:

Type F power plugs and sockets (outlets) are used.  
The standard voltage is 230 V at 50 Hz frequency.



### Emergency numbers:

- 112: Fire Brigade and Ambulance
- 110: Police

The University Hospital is part of the larger campus and is in walking distance.

### Waste separation and bottle deposit:

Waste is separated into organic, paper and residual waste. However, the trash cans in most public places are for everything.

Bottles and cans have deposits between 15 and 25 cents. You can return them to nearly every supermarket. In public spaces, it is common to place them next to the trash cans so someone can claim the deposit.

## Activities

Cologne offers many things to do and places to see. This list is an initial collection of ideas. You can visit <https://www.cologne-tourism.com/> for more recommendations.

## Highlights

### Hänneschen Theatre

If you want to immerse yourself in the Cologne theatre and carnival tradition, a visit to this theatre is a must. The puppet theatre was established in 1802 and is one of the oldest and largest of its kind in Europe. The plays are all in *Kölsch* – the local dialect – but you do not need to understand every word to enjoy the stories set in everyday Cologne. To make it easy for you to experience this unique theatre, we have reserved tickets for Wednesday 11 June. [For more information on tickets click here.](#)





### Concert by the Japanese and Korean ensembles

We invite you to an evening with traditional Japanese and Korean music in the *Musiksaal* (music hall) of the University of Cologne. It will be free of charge and will take place on June 10 starting at 6 p.m. For more information about the event visit [here](#), you can reserve your ticket via following [link](#).

### Freies Werkstatt Theater

*Everyone's Joy, No One's Sorrow*, an interactive performance by Simone Gisela Weber, is about Central European Carnival traditions. For more information visit their [website](#).

### Theatermuseum Düsseldorf

The *Theatermuseum Düsseldorf* has been a place to research and experience theatre and its history since 1938. Focused on the local theatre scene, the museum also hosts special exhibitions on many different aspects of theatre. During the IFTR 2025, the museum is exhibiting historical artifacts from the *Düsseldorfer Schauspielhaus*, as well as a cabinet exhibition on the dance choreographies of Kauan Soares. [Click here for more information](#).

### Festivals

Interesting festivals are taking place in Cologne during and around IFTR 2025. These could be worthwhile visiting, particularly if you plan to extend your trip and experience more of the rich Cologne cultural landscape.

*AfriCologne* (11 to 22 June) is a festival presenting dance, music, film and theatre productions and so much more from Africa and beyond. It provides a platform for a wide range of artistic creation in different social contexts. You can find the full program [here](#).

*CircusDanceFestival* takes place just before the IFTR (6 to 8 June) and showcases political and experimental performances. On June 8 at 4 p.m. the New Scholars Meet and Greet will take place here. It will be outside and free of charge. Additionally, there will be an Artist Talk at 10 p.m. with MéliSSa Guex and a member of the IFTR team.

For the full program see: [click for full program](#). For better readability they also have a PDF version: [click for PDF](#).

## Recommendations from the Team



### Aachener Weiher / Aachen pond

For a lazy stroll on a sunny afternoon or for a little relaxation in the evenings, the Aachen pond near the campus is an oasis of peace in the middle of hectic university life.

[Click for the Website of the city of Cologne](#)

### Cafe Banou

Newly opened, Cafe Banou is the perfect place for a lunch break close to the campus. For



reasonable prices you can have all variations of coffee as well as fresh cakes.

Address: Uni Centre, Luxemburger Str. 124-136, 50939 Cologne [click for google maps](#)

### **Café Fleur**

The famous 'Café Fleur' is only a 15 minute walk from the campus and is where you can enjoy coffee, snacks and an after-work drink.

Address: Lindenstr. 10, 50674 Cologne [click for google maps](#)

### **Flora and Botanical Garden**

From 1920, the Flora and Botanical Garden located in north Cologne next to the Zoo, has invited visitors to stroll leisurely around manicured gardens that house a huge diversity of plants.

[Click for the Website of the city of Cologne](#)



### **Kölschbar**

Fancy savouring the typical Cologne beer 'Kölsch' in an authentic Cologne pub? The Kölschbar is the perfect place to wind down after work in a relaxed, rustic atmosphere.

Address: Lindenstr. 56, 50674 Cologne [click for google maps](#)

### **Scheinbar**

The 'Scheinbar' is particularly popular among students. With a luscious red velvet interior, it is also a journey back to the 1970s. In addition to beer, the 'Scheinbar' also offers various cocktails. Important: only cash payment is possible.

Address: Brüsseler Str. 10, 50674 Cologne [click for google maps](#)

### **Hallmackenreuther**

Of all Cologne's cult pubs, the 'Hallmackenreuther' on Brüsselerplatz is not to be missed. The pub is a mixture of café, pub, bar and restaurant and is a meeting place for Cologne's art and music scene.

Address: Brüsseler Pl. 9, 50674 Cologne [click for google maps](#)

### **Knobelbecher**

The 'Knobelbecher' is one of Cologne's best-known pubs, especially in student circles. Here you can get a real look into Cologne's pub culture.

Address: Brüsseler Str., 50674 Cologne [click for google maps](#)

### **Rosebud Bar**

If you're not a fan of beer and a pub atmosphere but still want to round off the evening with conference colleagues and friends, you'll feel right at home in the 'Rosebud Bar', where you can enjoy a variety of cocktails in a relaxed atmosphere.

Address: Heinsbergstr. 20, 50674 Cologne [click for google maps](#)

### **Ramen Bar Takezo**

There are many good places in Cologne for Japanese style ramen. Recommended is Takezo close to the Heumarkt station and near the Rhine.





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Address: Mathiasstraße 24-26, 50676 [click for google maps](#)

## Sights and attractions

### Cologne Cathedral

Cologne Cathedral is a UNESCO world heritage site and undoubtedly one of the most famous attractions in Cologne. It was built between 1248 and 1880 and is considered the manifestation of Christianity in Europe and a testament of gothic architecture. Despite its extraordinarily long construction time, it was still the largest building in the world at its completion. It is possible to explore the cathedral individually or as part of a guided tour: [Click for more information.](#)



### Cable car from the Zoo to the River Park – Kölner Seilbahn

The historic cable car is a curious attraction a little north of Cologne Cathedral. It has been transporting guests across the Rhine River since 1957. The trip takes about 7 minutes one way and offers panoramic views of the city. [Click for more information.](#)

### KölnTriangle

A more stationary but no less breathtaking view can be taken in at KölnTriangle. The viewing platform on top of the 28-floor office building near the train station Köln/Messe Deutz offers stunning views that include the cathedral and the Old Town. Even the far city of Düsseldorf or the mountain range Siebengebirge may be visible if weather permits. The 27<sup>th</sup> floor has a panoramic restaurant and bar which is especially popular during sunset. You will need to buy a ticket at the sight or online to access the viewing platform. [Click for more information.](#)

### The Brühl Palaces

Brühl, a small town that offers a break from the hectic city centre, is only a short train journey out of Cologne. Two palaces surrounded by a stunning garden and park in French style are located just next to the local train station. Augustusburg Palace and Hunting Lodge Falkenburg were both built in the Rococo era and can be explored every day except Mondays. [Click for more information.](#)



### Melaten Cemetery

The Melatenfriedhof (Melaten Cemetery) is Cologne's largest graveyard. It offers opportunity to take a breath of fresh air in the busy city, but it also gives visitors an idea of some of Cologne's famous past citizens. [Click for more information.](#)

### Stadtwald Forest

This large park is not far from the city centre. The 200 hectares offer meadows for picnics, ponds for boating, a free petting zoo, and walks through groves and along scenic pathways of a small forest. [Click for more information.](#)





## Guided tours

### Carnival in Cologne

Unfortunately, the city tour is not offered as a public tour during the summer. However, according to Cologne Tourism, individual group tours in English can be booked.

[Click for more information.](#)

### Alternative City Tour Cologne

[Click for more information.](#)

### Cologne's Old Town

[Click for more information.](#)

### Boat tours in Cologne

[Click for more information.](#)

### Büdchen Tour

[Click for more information](#) (only in German).

## Museums

### Chocolate Museum

Visit this museum to learn about the 5,000-year long history of chocolate and cocoa.

[Click for more information.](#)

### Wallraf-Richartz Museum

The Wallraf-Richartz Museum exhibits numerous paintings from the medieval period to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

[Click for more information.](#)

### Museum Schnütgen

The Schnütgen Museum is located in a historic church. Here you can find medieval art in all forms with an emphasis on Christian motifs.

[Click for more information.](#)

### Museum Ludwig

Prominently situated next to the cathedral and the main station, Museum Ludwig exhibits modern and contemporary art from the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century.

[Click for more information.](#)

### MAKK (Museum für angewandte Kunst Köln / Museum of Applied Arts Cologne)

The museum is one of the largest institutions for applied art in Germany and holds around 250,000 objects from the Middle Ages to the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

[Click for more information.](#)

### Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum

The Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum is a museum of ethnography.

[Click for more information.](#)

### Kölnisches Stadtmuseum (Cologne's History Museum)





Cologne's History Museum holds objects relating to the history of Cologne from the Middle Ages to the present day, to preserve and present the city's rich historical heritage for present and future generations.

[Click for more information.](#)

## Theatres

### Schauspiel Köln

This is Cologne's main theatre. Its roots can be traced back to the Middle Ages and it has changed its location multiple times during the years. Currently, performances are at the *Carlswerk* while construction is underway at its main location.

<https://www.schauspiel.koeln/>

### Oper Köln

The opera in Cologne is a good place if you are interested in non-German performances. During IFTR 2025 they have a production of "María de Buenos Aires" which will be in Spanish with German subtitles.

<https://www.oper.koeln/en>

### Theater am Dom

<https://theateramdom.de/spielplan>

### Theater der Keller

<https://theater-der-keller.de/programm/>

### Comedia Köln

<https://www.comedia-koeln.de/buehne/termine/>

### Theater / Oper Bonn

<https://www.theater-bonn.de/en>

### Düsseldorfer Schauspielhaus

<https://www.dhaus.de>

### Deutsche Oper am Rhein (Düsseldorf)

<https://www.operamrhein.de/en/>