



MUSEUMS
OFFER
MCM

Family Tour — Frankfurt Once?



Junges
Museum
Frankfurt

Junges Museum Frankfurt

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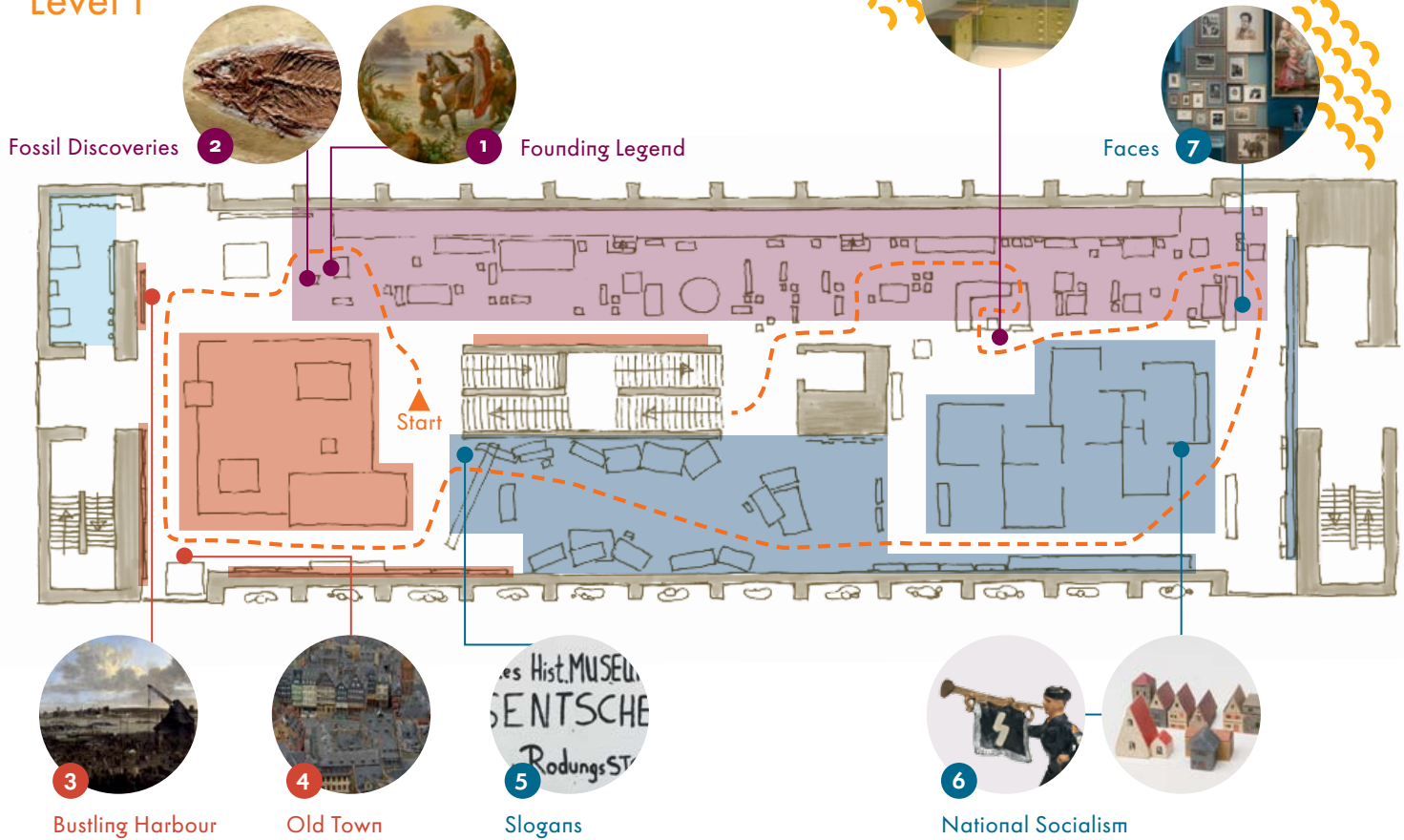
This exhibition lets you explore the history of the city of Frankfurt in five different galleries, each with their own distinctive colour: On level 1 you will find “Townscapes”, “100 x Frankfurt” and “Citizens’ Town”; the galleries “Money Town” and “Global City” are on level 2. There are orange activity stations everywhere, where you can take a closer look at things and try them out. Or you can dig deeper into a topic in one of our study zones.

The entire tour with this booklet takes about two hours. If you don’t have that much time, just omit those activity stations you are less interested in.

Take the stairs to level 1 and look for the beginning of the gallery “100 x Frankfurt” (purple).

Frankfurt Once?

Level 1



—¹ Founding Legend

The founding legend of Frankfurt takes place at the end of the 8th century, during the war of the Franks against the Saxons:

Led by King Charlemagne, the army of the Franks had been forced to flee following a battle with the Saxons. Their retreat was halted at the banks of the river Main, because no bridge crossed the river at that time. Charlemagne prayed to God for help, promising that if he reached the other side he would found a city there. At that very moment a white doe appeared and sprang with her calf across a ford in the river, which is a shallow spot you can walk over. (A ford actually existed in the Main back then; the river was later dredged and is now much deeper.)

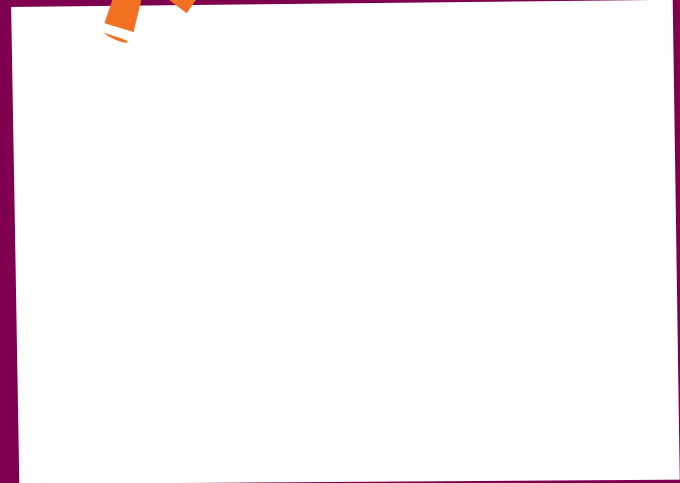
The Franks followed the doe and fled to the other side of the river. When the Saxons arrived, fog had arisen and they could not find the ford. The Franks were saved! They settled on this spot and named it “Ford of the Franks” – Frankfurt!



Recreate a scene from Frankfurt’s founding legend as an animation film, with the help of the available backgrounds and characters.



Draw your favourite character.




Christian Leopold Bode painted the founding legend in 1888.

Turn around toward the fossil in the display case behind you.

—²Fossil Discoveries

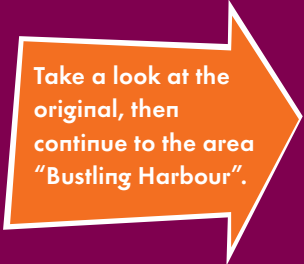
Construction workers in Frankfurt frequently encounter fossils during the building of subways, streets and high-rises. Fossils are the remains of dead animals, along with other traces such as footprints, and are at least 10,000 years old. Fossils are locked in deep layers of the earth and can be explored there by researchers. The fish fossil in the display case is an over 17 million year-old bass. With the help of this and other fossils we know what Frankfurt looked like in the past: there was a lagoon here with sandy bays, palm trees and a warm climate!



Make a frottage of the bass by taking a sheet of paper, placing it on top of the fossil and rubbing over it with the wax crayon.



Fossilized bass



Take a look at the original, then continue to the area "Bustling Harbour".

3 Bustling Harbour



Detail from "Main Riverbank at Fahrtror"
by Friedrich Wilhelm Hirt

The most important connection to the world for Frankfurt's trade and commerce was the river Main. Goods of all kinds were traded at the river port between the Toll Tower (now a part of the museum) and the Church of St. Leonhard. Fish, dishes, spices and even books were transported in barrels; today containers are used instead. Wine and wood were especially important commercial goods.

The painting "Main Riverbank at Fahrtror" by Friedrich Wilhelm Hirt depicts how lively the harbour was: Fishermen and crane workers can be seen here right along with noble citizens and aristocrats.

The market boat travelled regularly between Mainz and Frankfurt. Can you see it? At the activity station, listen and learn more about the market boat. What is the woman at the table drinking?



.....
Solution on page 42

Later you can find out with the trip planner what other routes people used when travelling to Mainz.

Continue along to the maps to the scale model of the Old Town.

4 Old Town

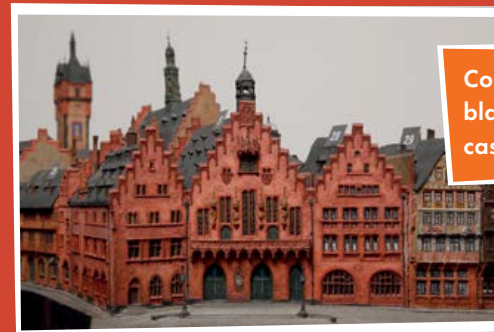
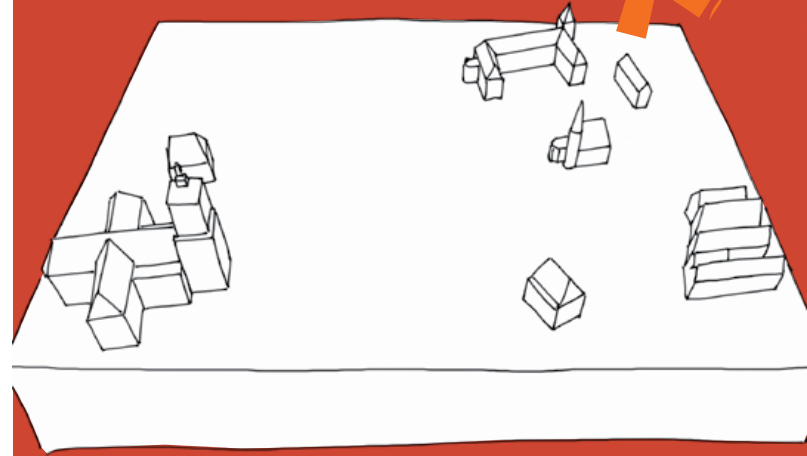
The Old Town is the historic centre of Frankfurt. Over 150 years ago many of its houses were in disrepair and most of the people living there were poor. It was debated what should be done with the historic district: some wanted to preserve the old houses, while others preferred tearing them down and building new ones. The Old Town burned to the ground after air bombing during the Second World War. Only a few buildings from then have been preserved, and almost everything you see today was newly built. The large scale model of the city depicts the historic centre in the year 1927. The model of the Old Town was built for the museum between 1925 and 1961 by the brothers Hermann and Robert Treuner.



Can you find the City Hall, called the Römer?

Now plan your own Old Town at the orange podium, near the window. Give it a marketplace, houses and roads, or something totally different! Be aware that the orange buildings are protected as historic monuments and can not be altered.

Sketch in what you've built.



Continue to the black display cases.

ÖTV-Mitglieder des Hist.MUSEUMs f.m
für VOLKSENTSCHEID
und Sofortigen Bau-u.RodungsSTOP!

Banner used to demonstrate against construction
of the airport runway Startbahn 18 West



What would your logo look like?

A large white rectangular area intended for drawing a logo.

5 Slogans

Roman soldiers used flags to show which legion they belonged to. These flags were also called banners. Later, sports clubs and political groups began to create short and easily understood slogans for banners, and displayed them in public for everyone to see.

Today you'll find banners mostly in advertising and at demonstrations. Invent a slogan of your own and create a banner!



Write down your slogan:

.....
.....

Continue to the activity
station "National Socialism".

6 National Socialism

Margot Frank and Walter Schreiber were both raised in Frankfurt during the National Socialist era (1933–1945). When the “Nazis” were in power they decided which people in Germany belonged to the “German community”. Excluded were Jews, people who thought differently or had disabilities, Roma and Sinti and many others. These people had no rights; they were persecuted, locked into camps and even killed.



Toys belonging to Margot Frank und Walter Schreiber



Get familiar with the biography of Margot and Walter, and then fill in the spaces in the text:

Walter Schreiber and Margot Frank are both born in the year They grow up very differently. Walter is the son of a committed, and his toys are designed to prepare him for life as a soldier. Margot comes from a family. She has playing with her little sister Anne. In 1934 she flees with her family to As a teenager she has to stay at home, since the city is occupied by the and going out for Jews is Walter secretly goes to parties and listens to forbidden Margot is with her family and murdered in the Bergen-Belsen Walter becomes a and goes to war. He and Margot both die in

Solution on page 42

Continue to the wall with the many faces.

7 Faces

This portrait wall shows images of over 100 Frankfurt women and men from the last 500 years, with very different lives and stories.



Go to the activity station, left of the portrait wall, and tap the orange-framed pictures.

Look for Bernhard Grzimek. What was his occupation?

.....

Look for Franz Maria Schweitzer.
Imagine you belong to his large family.
How many brothers and sisters would you have?

.....

What animals would be in your family coat of arms?

.....

Solution on page 42

Turn around: here the exhibition is again purple-coloured.
Look for the Frankfurt kitchen.



The Schweitzer-Allesina family

8 Frankfurt Kitchen

Beginning in 1924, modern new housing developments were built in Frankfurt. For the more than 10,000 apartments, architect Margarete Schütte-Lihotzky designed an incredibly practical kitchen: a small, compact space, with short work routes. Almost all of the furniture was colourful, custom built and practically arranged. This so-called Frankfurt kitchen was the very first modern fitted kitchen and is the prototype of today's built-in kitchens. It made the architect famous.

Try out the kitchen using the task sheet at the side of the activity station.



The housing development Römerstadt in the year 1937

Take the stairs up to level 2 and look for the activity station "Stock Exchange".

9 Stock Exchange

Many different currencies were traded and used for payment at the Frankfurt trade fair. The conversion often took time and was very difficult. Despite the presence of a master mathematician there were often cases of fraud. In 1585 the trade fair merchants therefore drew up rules for the exchange of money, and set the value of each currency. This is regarded as the birth of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange.

Get familiar with stock exchange trading, and earn as much money as possible!



How much have you earned?

.....

What will you do with it?

- I'll spend it on candy.
- I'll give it to my parents.
- I'll buy myself a pet.
- I'm putting it into my savings account.
-



View of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange trading floor in the 1990s

Turn right and go to the yellow gallery. There, at the grey wall, you will find the next activity station.

10 Trip Planner

Today travelling is taken for granted, and even long distances can be covered quickly. But this was not always the case. It is only through technical advances that travel has become possible for everybody.



Model of the Taunus Rail Line, 1880



Mainz is close to Frankfurt and can be reached today in about half an hour. How long did it take in the past?

In the year 1200 it took on foot.

In the year 1500 it took by ship.

In the year 1750 it took with the horse-drawn carriage.

Solution on page 42

Go to the right into the red gallery. There you will see a large red box standing in the corner.

11 Emperor Makers

German emperors were chosen in Frankfurt by prince electors from the Middle Ages until 1806. Starting in the 16th century, the coronation ceremony also took place in Frankfurt. The coronation celebration was the biggest sensation in the entire German empire. Following his coronation in the Cathedral, a procession led the new Emperor to the Römerberg where he was greeted and celebrated. There an oxen grill kitchen was erected, in which an entire stuffed ox was prepared for the coronation feast in the Kaisersaal.

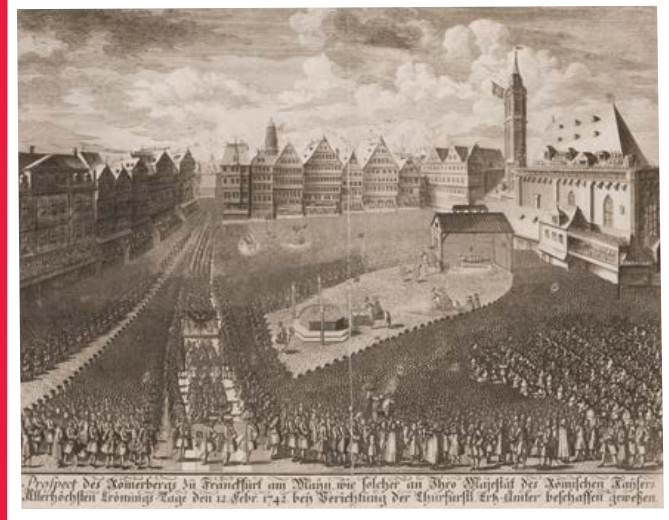
Listen to the report of the coronation celebrations.

What is the title of the man of who brings the oxen beef to the Emperor?



Right next to you is the head of the ox grilled for the 1792 coronation of Franz II. Look at the red display cases turning slowly in circles. The ox-head will be passing by soon!

Go to the middle of the display case and take a look at the election room. Count the chairs: how many seats are there for the prince electors choosing the Emperor?



Procession of Emperor Charles VII across the Römerberg, 1742

Go to the unlit display case. There you will find the "Globe" activity station.

12 Globe

This unspectacular globe of the Earth is the most valuable piece of the museum! It is the world's oldest globe with the representation and name 'America' on it. Compared to today's images however the continent looks quite different. Johannes Schöner made the globe from papier-mâché in 1515 and drew sea monsters in the oceans. You can also see some sirens, whose upper bodies are portrayed as human, the lower with fish tails.

A Frankfurt merchant probably purchased the globe to get a picture of the newly discovered countries in the world – and to plan his future transportation and ship routes.



Siren



Turn on the light and look at the real globe. See if you can find a siren.

Go to the station "Participation" – there you will see a model of St. Paul's Church hanging from the ceiling.

13 Participation

Fundamental rights apply to all people living in a country. These rights protect the individual as well as society, because everyone must respect the rights of other individuals.

In the year 1848 many people in Germany were demanding more rights. For example, they wanted to express their opinions openly without being punished, and be treated equally before the law. The people started a revolution, deposing the ruling powers, and then began to consider how they would be governed. This happened at the National Assembly, the first German parliament, which met in the Frankfurt St. Paul's Church. There it was decided to create a list of fundamental rights and make them valid for all.

These rights were displayed on two stone tablets, which you can see here in the room. Tear off a sheet from the notepad and study the fundamental rights on the back.

However, the king and other nobles soon regained their power; it took another 71 years for the fundamental rights to become law.



National Assembly in St. Paul's Church



Now you too can vote on fundamental rights. Decide on a right and throw your ballot into one of four ballot boxes.

For which right did you vote?

.....

And for which one did the majority of museum visitors vote?

.....

.....

Continue to the area Empire of Coins (green), to the activity station Master Mathematician.

14 Master Mathematician

The abacus was used for calculating all around the world for about two thousand years. In Frankfurt it was used particularly often during trade fairs, when merchants came here from all over to sell or buy goods using foreign currencies with different values. These had to be converted into coins valid in Frankfurt and then exchanged. There was also much calculating to be done when paying for goods, which is why it was good to work with the abacus. If merchants had not learned this skill, they had to go to a master mathematician.



Now you can become a master mathematician. Take a look at the info sheet showing how to calculate:

You have bought two stacks of unbound books. One stack cost 113 guilders and 10 pennies, the other stack 284 guilders and 10 pennies. How much must you pay all together?

.....
Solution on page 42



Frankfurt trade fair
at the Römerberg, 1696

Continue to the
next activity station.



Jacob Heller and his wife Catharine von Melem



15 Salvation

This altar was crafted between 1508 and 1509 by the renowned artist Albrecht Dürer, and his workshop apprentices. His clients were Catherine von Melem and her husband Jacob Heller, whom you can see at the bottom on the left and right panels. The couple donated the altar to the Dominican Church in Frankfurt, hoping to improve their chances of salvation. According to Christian beliefs, people are judged by God after death. A gift (also called an endowment) sought to improve this judgement and pave the way to paradise.

Place an evil deed on the scale and try to outweigh it with a good one. Write down your result:



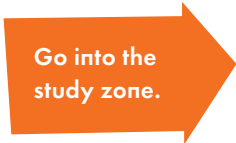
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Should bad deeds really be weighed against good ones?
What is your opinion?

.....

.....



16 Study Zone

Who actually elected the Emperor? Where did people live during the trade fair? And what was that again about 1848?

In the study zone you'll find lots of information about these topics and the objects in the exhibition. At the research stations you can also look up individual terms or display different topics.



Test your knowledge with a quiz at the PC!
What new things did you learn?

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Study zone



Impressum

Photo credits

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Gardeners.de



— Task solutions

3 — Bustling Harbour

Mocca

6 — National Socialism

1 1926 | 2 Nazi | 3 Jewish | 4 fun | 5 Amsterdam |
6 Nazis | 7 dangerous | 8 jazz music | 9 arrested |
10 concentration camp | 11 soldier | 12 1945

7 — Faces

1 Zoo director | 2 13 | 3 Eagle and bear

10 — Trip Planner

1 8 hours | 2 5 hours | 3 7 hours

11 — Emperor Makers

Arch Steward

14 — Master Mathematician

398 guilders

