



**Backgrounder: March 11, 2008**

## **Profile: Fraport AG and Its Frankfurt Global Gateway**

Fraport AG is a leading player in the international airport industry. Since its initial public offering (IPO) in June 2001, Fraport has become the world's second largest listed airport company by revenues. Fraport trades on the Frankfurt stock exchange and is a member of Germany's M-DAX mid-cap index of blue chip companies: share symbol = FRA; international securities ID number = DE 000 5777 330 3; Reuters ticker code = FRAG.DE; Bloomberg ticker code = FRA GR. Fraport is covered in *The Financial Times* survey of the European Top 500.

The Frankfurt airport company is also listed on London's FTSE4Good Index and the Dow Jones STOXX Sustainability Index – the most important indices for sustainability, based on strict criteria in the areas of corporate leadership, environmental protection, and social and corporate responsibility. In February 2008, SAM Group (a leading asset manager for sustainability investments) and PricewaterhouseCoopers included Fraport AG for the first time in the Sustainability Yearbook 2008 – considered the most comprehensive reference work for rating stock-listed companies according to their economic, ecological and societal success factors (eg., dealing with climate change and resource scarcity, new energy technologies, and human capital management).

As of February 29, 2008, Fraport AG's shareholder structure included: the State of Hesse with 31.62 percent, the City of Frankfurt with 20.19 percent (via Stadtwerke Frankfurt am Main Holding GmbH), Deutsche Lufthansa AG with 9.96 percent, Julius Bär Holding AG with 5.09 percent, The Capital Group Companies, Inc. with 4.70 percent, Artisan Partners Ltd. Partnership with 3.87 percent, Morgan Stanley with 3.76 percent, Taube Hodson Stonex Partners with 3.01 percent, and a free float (including staff) with 17.80 percent. The latest details about the Fraport Share and Fraport's shareholder structure can be found on the Internet at **[www.fraport.com](http://www.fraport.com)** (under "Investor Relations" > "The Fraport Share").



**Page 2 of 15:**

The company's four-member executive board is headed by Dr. Wilhelm Bender, (chairman) and includes Dr. Stefan Schulte, vice chairman and executive director for traffic and terminal management and airport expansion; Dr. Matthias Zieschang, member and executive director for controlling and finance; and Herbert Mai, member and executive director for labor relations. The Fraport supervisory board includes positions held by the shareholder community as well as employee representatives.

For the fiscal year ending December 31, 2007, the Fraport Group achieved new air traffic records and further increases in revenue and operating results. With €2.33 billion, revenue was 8.6 percent higher than in the previous year. Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) rose to €580.5 million and net profit reached €213.7 million in 2007. Fraport's executive board is recommending an unchanged dividend of €1.15 per share. Effective March 20, Fraport's Annual Report 2007 will be available via Fraport's Web site. The next Annual General Meeting (AGM) for shareholders will be held on May 28, at the Jahrhunderthalle in Frankfurt-Höchst.

**Aviation Pioneer for More Than 80 Years:**

Fraport's expertise is based on more than 80 years of aviation at Frankfurt am Main, Germany. The company's roots go back to the founding of Südwestdeutsche Luftverkehrs AG in 1924 at Frankfurt's former Rebstock airfield. By 1936, a brand new airport was inaugurated at the present-day location, adjacent to the *Frankfurter Kreuz* autobahn intersection about 12 kilometers from downtown Frankfurt. Known then as "Flug- und Luftschiffhafen Rhein-Main", Frankfurt Airport (international three-letter code = FRA) has grown over the decades to become one of the most important hubs in the global air transportation system. Today, FRA is not only Fraport's home airport but also its showcase for the company's expertise and technology – increasingly in demand worldwide.



**Page 3 of 15:**

**Providing Integrated Services from A to Z:**

A leading-edge provider of integrated airport services, the Fraport Group offers the full range of planning, design, operations, commercial and management services for airports. Other areas of expertise include real estate development and management, airport retailing, information technology, safety and security, intermodal concepts, environmental management, hub operations, training, etc. As a neutral partner to many of the world's international airlines, Fraport is renowned for its high-quality ground handling services (aircraft, cargo, passenger, etc.) at FRA and several locations outside Germany.

**More Than 75 Million Passenger Served:**

Through management contracts, joint ventures and equity investments, Fraport is building a growing "family of airports". Total passenger traffic for the Fraport Group's six majority-owned airports – Frankfurt (FRA), Frankfurt-Hahn (HHN), Burgas (BOJ), Varna (VAR), Lima (LIM), and Antalya (AYT) – increased by 5.5 percent year-on-year to 75.6 million in 2007. Fraport issues monthly traffic reports for these six airports, with details available on the Fraport Web site (under "Investor Relations" and "Press Center").

**Growing Success in International Markets:**

Through joint ventures and subsidiaries, Fraport operates at more than 20 locations in Germany and worldwide. In 2005, Fraport experts commenced an eight-year management contract at Cairo Airport (CAI) to maximize its position as the hub of the MENA (Middle East, North Africa) region. A new state-of-the-art terminal is opening later this year. In 2006, Fraport and its Indian partners began a 30-year concession for operating and developing Delhi Airport in the Indian capital. A new long-term concession for managing Bourgas and Varna airports on Bulgaria's popular Black Sea coast is also in full swing.



#### **Page 4 of 15:**

Fraport is constantly on the lookout for potential airport deals worldwide. Against stiff international competition, the company acquired several important new projects in 2007. In Senegal (West Africa), Fraport and its partners won the 25-year management contract for a new airport to be completed by 2010/11 in the capital city of Dakar. Also in 2007, a Fraport-led consortium won the international bidding procedure for operating all three passenger terminals at Antalya Airport (AYT) on the Turkish Riviera. Last September, Fraport and IC Holding of Turkey took over the domestic terminal, as well as the first international terminal which Fraport has been managing for several years. In September 2009, the consortium will take over operations of AYT's second international terminal, currently run by IC. The concession for operating all three terminals runs until 2024.

#### **Fraport in China:**

Fraport is the first foreign airport operator to invest in a Chinese airport that is not listed on a stock exchange. In April 2007, Fraport signed a contract for acquiring a 24.5-percent share in Xi'an Airport. When Chinese authorities approve the deal later this year, Fraport will be responsible for operational optimization and commercial development of Xi'an Airport. Indeed, Fraport sees this as the beginning of expansion in the vast Chinese market. Strategically located in central China, Xi'an has a population of more than eight million people. The region is a major center for industry, education, research and development, and China's space exploration program. Like the Frankfurt region, the Chinese metropolis hosts a satellite monitoring and control center. Considered one of China's great ancient capitals, Xi'an was the eastern terminus of the Silk Road. With 3,000 years of history to offer the world, Xi'an has become China's second most popular tourist destination and is most famous for the Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses.

#### **Germany: Export Champion of the World:**

In 2007, Germany continued its winning streak as the world's leading export nation. The Federal Statistics Office in Wiesbaden (near Frankfurt) reported that Germany's 2007 exports reached a new record level for the fifth consecutive year.



**Page 5 of 15:**

Exports rose 8.5 percent year-on-year to €969.1 billion – greater than any other country, even China. Imports to Germany grew by five percent to €770.4 billion. As the country’s aviation gateway to the world, Frankfurt plays a vital role in international exports and imports – particularly for high value-added goods. More than sixty percent of Germany’s airfreight tonnage is shipped via FRA.

**Global Hub, Global Network:**

In passenger traffic, Frankfurt Airport’s Winter Timetable 2007/08 features a choice of 122 scheduled passenger carriers linking FRA with 281 destinations in 108 countries. In addition, 32 airlines operate freighters to 89 destinations in 45 countries. In terms of actual flight, the winter schedule offers 4,220 passenger and 255 cargo flights per week. Over the North Atlantic, there are more flights from FRA than from any other continental European airport. Six U.S. scheduled passenger airlines serve Frankfurt Airport regularly, plus various U.S. charter and cargo carriers. Frankfurt is the home base of Lufthansa ([www.lufthansa.com](http://www.lufthansa.com)) and the main European hub for the Star Alliance ([www.staralliance.com](http://www.staralliance.com)), which is also headquartered at FRA. Frankfurt serves as the “Gateway to Eastern and Central Europe” and is one of the most important global hubs for Asian traffic. When flying from Asia, FRA is actually the first major hub to be reached in Europe – which saves time for travelers, saves airlines kerosene, and is good for the environment.

In 2007, Frankfurt Airport welcomed more than 54 million passengers and handled about 2.1 million metric tons of airfreight – making it Germany’s busiest passenger airport; FRA ranks number three in Europe for passengers (after London-Heathrow and Paris-CDG) and number one for airfreight. Among the top 10 airports in the world, FRA holds eighth place for passenger traffic and seventh place for cargo tonnage (ACI 2006 figures). FRA reported a good start to the 2008 year, with traffic surging ahead by 3.7 percent to 3,957,951 passengers in January. Reaching 156,020 metric tons, airfreight throughput grew by 4.6 percent.



**Page 6 of 15:**

Owned and managed by Fraport, Frankfurt Airport – including the runway system (three runways), technical aviation facilities, two passenger terminals, CargoCity South and CargoCity North, and the Mönchhof lands – covers about 21 kilometers. On peak days in the year, well over 180,000 air travelers pass through FRA’s terminals. In July 2007, Frankfurt Airport celebrated the one-billionth passenger to use Terminal 1 – a business traveler who was on her way from Los Angeles via FRA to Mumbai. Not surprising, since the bustling country of India is well connected to FRA by a growing range of flights and destinations offered by Lufthansa, Air India and other carriers.

**Economic and Job Engine:**

Frankfurt Airport has become “Germany’s largest employment complex at a single location”, with more than 500 companies and organizations now providing jobs for approximately 70,000 people – with Fraport (including its subsidiaries and affiliated companies) contributing nearly 19,000 jobs alone. The planned Airport Expansion Program is expected to boost FRA’s employment from 70,000 to 95,000 in the coming years. Indeed, Frankfurt Airport is the driving force and economic magnet of the dynamic Frankfurt/Rhine-Main-Neckar region – one of the European Union’s leading economic performers. Located in the heart of Europe, Frankfurt has been a major trading center and crossroads for over twelve centuries. Today, Frankfurt Airport plays a vital role in continuing this tradition on a global scale. FRA has an expanded catchment area of more than 38 million inhabitants – almost half of Germany’s total population – located within a 200-kilometer radius of the airport, far greater than for any other European airport.

**Quick Change Artist FRA:**

According to the Association of European Airlines (AEA), FRA consistently ranks as the most punctual major hub in Europe. FRA has become a high performance, quick-change airport where about 53 percent of all passengers transfer to connecting flights. Fraport’s hub expertise ensures this enviable performance, not



**Page 7 of 15:**

only for passengers but also for cargo. The Fraport ground handling teams often make up for “imported” in-bound flight delays by shortening the turnaround time for aircraft on the ground. FRA’s automated baggage handling system – a “subterranean rollercoaster” with about 70 kilometers of guideways – ensures reliable and fast conveyance of baggage items at Europe’s busiest transfer hub. Inaugurated in 1974, this amazing system achieved a new milestone in October 2007, when the 500 millionth baggage item was transported.

**The Frankfurt Intermodal Travel Port:**

Fraport is an internationally recognized pioneer of intermodal transport, particularly air/rail links at FRA since 1972. August 2002 marked the inauguration of Deutsche Bahn’s high-speed rail corridor between the Frankfurt/Rhine-Main and Cologne/Bonn (Rhine-Ruhr) regions in the – enabling more rail services and faster connections. For example, travel times between FRA and downtown Cologne were sliced in half to under one hour. FRA’s Long-distance Train Station serves as a mainline junction in the trans-European high-speed rail network and has about 170 intercity trains daily – substantially more than any of other European airports. Many airlines offer “rail & fly” tickets for their FRA passengers. The Regional Train Station, beneath Terminal 1, offers a large number of commuter train connections to towns and cities in the region. It’s only a 10-minute ride to the central station in downtown Frankfurt. FRA also has its own bus station for local, regional, national and international buses. Germany’s most important autobahns, the A3 and the A5, conveniently intersect at FRA’s northeastern boundary, very close to the passenger terminals.

**Capacity Expansion at FRA:**

Fraport will soon be implementing the biggest expansion in the history of FRA – the massive €4 billion Airport Expansion Program (AEP). In December 2007, the Hesse government gave the green light for Germany’s largest private enterprise



**Page 8 of 15:**

investment project. At the signing of the zoning decision on airport expansion by the Hesse minister of economics, transport and state development, Fraport AG's executive board chairman Dr. Wilhelm Bender called it a "historic day for Frankfurt Airport and for aviation in Germany". Thanks to the AEP, FRA will be able to handle more than 88 million passengers, three million metric tons of cargo, and 700,000 aircraft movements (takeoffs and landings) per year by 2020.

The AEP comprises two key elements: a fourth runway and a new passenger terminal. The new Runway Northwest will increase FRA's overall runway capacity by 50 percent and raise the number of coordinated movements from approximately 80 to 120 per hour. Inauguration of the new runway is expected no later than the 2011 winter timetable. The 2,800-meter-long Runway Northwest will be used for bidirectional landings and will permit all-weather operations and so-called ILS Category IIIb approaches. Two taxiway bridges over the A3 autobahn will connect Runway Northwest to FRA's existing core airside operations area.

With a capacity of more than 25 million passengers yearly, the new Terminal 3 will be built in phases depending on demand. Its modular design allows for great flexibility, even after construction is completed. Terminal 3 will be located on the site of the former U.S. Rhein-Main Air Base, which is now being cleared. FRA's integrated terminal philosophy, the Sky Line people-mover and the central baggage handling system will be extended from the north side of the airport to Terminal 3 in the south. A direct link to the A5 autobahn will also be available. The AEP also includes many other ancillary infrastructure enhancements, plus expansion of CargoCity South by about 27 hectares.

**Strategic Superhub for Superjumbos:**

Fraport has strategically positioned FRA as a global gateway for the new age of superjumbo travel. On October 29, 2005, FRA became the first airport in the world to welcome the new Airbus A380 ([www.airbus.com](http://www.airbus.com)) superjumbo for airport



**Page 9 of 15:**

compatibility testing. In March 2007, FRA also served as the hub for the first A380 route proving flights with passengers. Frankfurt's terminals will offer a total of 18 docking positions for the A380 or other superjumbos: 12 at Terminals 1 and 2, and another six at the future Terminal 3. Several A380 docking positions with large-capacity gates are already available at both Terminals 1 and 2 – well before the first superjumbos start serving FRA – and three more will be opened this spring at Pier C/D.

In January 2008, Lufthansa Technik ([www.lufthansa-technik.com](http://www.lufthansa-technik.com)) inaugurated the first phase of its new A380 maintenance base at the south side of the airport. When fully completed, it will be Europe's largest maintenance hangar and will service Lufthansa's future fleet of 15 superjumbos that will all be based at FRA. Other A380 carriers are expected to make Frankfurt a regular port of call, too. Furthermore, with its central geographic location, excellent intermodal links, and the highest passenger transfer rate in Europe, FRA is ideally suited to serve as a superhub for the superjumbos.

**Evolution of Frankfurt Airport City:**

The evolutionary development of FRA ([www.airportcity-frankfurt.de](http://www.airportcity-frankfurt.de)) into the dynamic Frankfurt Airport City – a global junction based on mobility – is progressing at a rapid pace. Fraport's own Stefan Muschalski has captured the spirit and excitement of this development with his Frankfurt Airport City pop song – which you can download from the Fraport Web site. FRA is probably the only airport city in the world having its own song written and performed by employees. Fraport's vision calls for redeveloping Terminals 1 and 2, doubling retail space in the terminals, and constructing a brand new Pier A-West at Terminal 1 beginning in late 2008. In January 2008, Fraport opened the first phase (Area C) of the redesigned Level 0 at Terminal 1, dubbed the Airport City Mall – one of many recent shopping enhancements at FRA, including the Shopping Boulevard and Shopping Avenue in Departures Hall B of Terminal 1. FRA already boasts a



**Page 10 of 15:**

tantalizing choice of about 200 shops and restaurants. This spring, Fraport will be inaugurating the Hall C expansion project at Terminal 1, which will increase passenger capacity by four million per year – while providing more baggage claim belts, check-in counters, shopping and other amenities, and increase overall passenger comfort. Simultaneously, the new Pier CD will go into service and will feature three new A380-compatible docking positions and a fourth smaller aircraft stand.

Major real estate developments in and around the airport are rapidly taking shape. These include the Mönchhof logistics park along the Main River and adjacent to the site of the planned fourth runway, the Airrail Center Frankfurt ([www.airrail.de](http://www.airrail.de)) office/hotel complex being built on the rooftop of FRA's Long-distance Train Station, and Gateway Gardens ([www.gateway-gardens.de](http://www.gateway-gardens.de)) – the brand new “downtown” or urban core of Frankfurt Airport City. The existing CargoCity South and CargoCity North areas will be reconfigured in the coming years, too. At CargoCity North, for example, a new Animal Station is under construction and the Perishables Center Frankfurt (PCF) – an EU designated border entry post for all types of perishables goods – will undergo a major expansion shortly. The PCF is already renowned as Germany's largest “fish port”.

**Home of the Euro and More:**

Frankfurt is headquarters of the European Central Bank ([www.ecb.europa.eu](http://www.ecb.europa.eu)) and home of the euro – today, a major global currency. The Frankfurt Stock Exchange, operated by Deutsche Börse AG ([www.deutsche-börse.de](http://www.deutsche-börse.de)), is the third largest in the world. Furthermore, Germany's financial capital is a leading center for law, accounting, advertising, public relations, trade, transport and logistics, and other business services. International business communities have made the cosmopolitan Frankfurt region their home: leading players from Europe, North America, and Asian countries such as Japan, Korea and, more recently, China and India.



**Page 11 of 15:**

Not only is it Germany's aviation gateway to the world, Frankfurt has also become the nation's Internet and telecommunications hub – where central network nodes converge. Many knowledge industries are flourishing in Frankfurt: education, research and development, biotechnology, the arts and culture, and media and communications. Featuring eleven languages, the **www.frankfurt.de** Web site is your electronic gateway for information about business, culture, city hall, tourism and living in Frankfurt.

For regional economic development and investment services, Wirtschaftsförderung Region Frankfurt RheinMain is available on the Internet at **www.region-frankfurt-rheinmain.de**. The Frankfurt Chamber of Commerce and Industry (**www.ihk-frankfurt.de**) also provides valuable information and help. At the state level, there is the Wiesbaden-based Hessen Agency (**www.hessen.agentur.de**) with its **www.invest-in-hessen.de** business portal, location counseling, foreign trade support for Hessian companies, and tourism marketing. Hessen Agentur's Euro Info Center nurtures relationships between Hesse and its European partner regions of Aquitaine (France), Emilia-Romagna (Italy) and Wielkopolska (Poznan), Poland.

**The Fair City of Frankfurt:**

Some of the most important international exhibitions are held at Frankfurt's huge trade fair grounds – the third largest exhibition complex in the world – easily reached via FRA. The Frankfurt fair grounds are managed by Messe Frankfurt, the world's largest organizer with its own exhibition grounds. In 2007, Messe Frankfurt's (**www.messefrankfurt.com**) 113 trade fairs held in Germany and around the world served as a vibrant meeting place for more than 64,000 exhibitors and 3.6 million visitors. Messe Frankfurt's success is based on its strong portfolio of showcase events, an extensive network of subsidiaries, offices and sales partners – and, of course, quick access to the FRA global hub.



### **Page 12 of 15:**

Major events include the *Frankfurt Book Fair* ([www.buchmesse.de](http://www.buchmesse.de)), the *IAA* (international car show), the *Musikmesse* (musical instruments), *Light and Building* (architecture and technology), *Airtec* (aerospace supply chain), and *ACHEMA* (chemicals and biotech). Leading consumer goods fairs include *Design Annual* (high-end design), *Ambiente*, *Tendence*, *Hair & Beauty*, *Christmasworld*, *Beautyworld*, and *Paperworld*, and others.

### **Media Region Frankfurt:**

The mobility-oriented Frankfurt Airport City is a cosmopolitan place where people and ideas come together – hence the ideal platform for the region's burgeoning media industry. Last October, Fraport organized the first FRA Media Treff "On-air-port 2007" event to highlight the significance of the communications and media industry to the Frankfurt/Rhine-Main region – estimated to employ more than 90,000 and generate about €20 billion in annual revenues. Frankfurt's digital post-production industry for film and TV is considered the second largest in Europe and the third largest worldwide; the city hosts the annual eDIT ([www.edit-frankfurt.de](http://www.edit-frankfurt.de)) international festival for post-production and visual effects.

The Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (FAZ) is considered Germany's national newspaper. Not only does Frankfurt present the biggest book show on Earth every October, it is the home of one of Germany's two main repositories of published books, the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek Frankfurt ([www.dnb.de](http://www.dnb.de)). In Mainz west of Frankfurt, Johannes Gutenberg invented the printing press and moveable type, unleashing a communications revolution that the Frankfurt region continues to lead in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Museum of World Printing ([www.gutenberg-museum.de](http://www.gutenberg-museum.de)) in Mainz presents Gutenberg and the entire history of printing and written communication. The Frankfurt/Rhine-Main Neckar region is the home of the most significant concentration of printing machinery technology in the world, such as Heidelberg and MAN Roland. Numerous book, periodical and newspaper publishers; radio and TV broadcasters (eg., HR and

**Page 13 of 15:**

ZDF); Internet and new media developers; and other media wizards are part of this innovative communications mosaic.

**Frankfurt Region – More to Discover:**

Frankfurt is located in the German state of Hesse ([www.hessen-tourismus.de/en](http://www.hessen-tourismus.de/en)). With its stunning “Mainhattan” skyline, Frankfurt am Main ([www.frankfurt-tourismus.de](http://www.frankfurt-tourismus.de)) is a compact international city with a wide choice of world-class concerts and entertainment, cultural gems, sports and leisure, and culinary surprises waiting to be discovered. Celebrating its 150 anniversary in 2008, the Frankfurt Zoological Society ([www.zoo-frankfurt.de](http://www.zoo-frankfurt.de)) supports the city’s zoo and administers nature preservation projects worldwide. The Palmengarten ([www-palmengarten-frankfurt.de](http://www-palmengarten-frankfurt.de)) botanical oasis in the middle of the city was founded in 1868 and is renowned for its extensive collections of tropical plants. Music and exhibitions are staged here regularly, too.

Fascinating museums – many clustered in Frankfurt’s riverside museum district – rank among the best anywhere. These include the Senckenberg Natural History Museum and Research Institute ([www.senckenberg.de](http://www.senckenberg.de)), Städel Art Institute and Museum ([www.staedelmuseum.de](http://www.staedelmuseum.de)), Goethe House and Museum ([www.goethehaus-frankfurt.de](http://www.goethehaus-frankfurt.de)), German Architecture Museum ([www.dam-online.de](http://www.dam-online.de)), Museum for Communications Frankfurt ([www.museumsstiftung.de/frankfurt](http://www.museumsstiftung.de/frankfurt)), German Film Museum ([www.deutschesfilmmuseum.de](http://www.deutschesfilmmuseum.de)), MMK Museum of Modern Art ([www.mmk-frankfurt.de](http://www.mmk-frankfurt.de)), Portikus ([www.portikus.de](http://www.portikus.de)), Museum of Applied Art ([www.museumfuerangewandtekunst.frankfurt.de](http://www.museumfuerangewandtekunst.frankfurt.de)), Schirn Kunsthalle ([www.schirn-kunsthalle.de](http://www.schirn-kunsthalle.de)), Liebieghaus Museum of Ancient Sculpture ([www.liebieghaus.de](http://www.liebieghaus.de)), Jewish Museum ([www.jewishmuseum.de](http://www.jewishmuseum.de)), Museum of World Cultures ([www.mdw-frankfurt.de](http://www.mdw-frankfurt.de)), Frankfurt Historical Museum and Kinder Museum ([www.historisches-museum.frankfurt.de](http://www.historisches-museum.frankfurt.de)), Bibelhaus Experience Museum ([www.bibelhaus-frankfurt.de](http://www.bibelhaus-frankfurt.de)), Dommuseum ([.../14](http://www.dommuseum-</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)



**Page 14 of 15:**

**frankfurt.de**), Heinrich-Hoffmann Museum devoted to the Struwwelpeter children's literary figure (**www.struwwelpeter-museum.de**), and Money Museum of the Deutsche Bundesbank (**www.geldmuseum.de**).

In the surrounding region (**www.frankfurt-rhein.de**), you can enjoy lively festivals and Christmas markets; scenic drives such as the German Fairy Tale Route (**www.deutsche-maerchenstrasse.com**) which is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and begins just east of Frankfurt at Hanau (**www.hanau.de**) and at Steinau an der Strasse (**www.steinau.de**); extensive hiking and cycling paths; spa towns with mineral hot springs; the Rhine-Main Regional Park (supported by Fraport's eco fund); soccer and other sporting events like Formula 1 racing, the Frankfurt Dragonboat Festival, Ironman Germany; wine regions like the Rheingau, Bergstrasse, Mosel and Rheinhessen; cathedrals and monasteries; museums and galleries; literary greats from Goethe to the Brothers Grimm; ancient ruins of the Celts and Romans; UNESCO world heritage sites like the Romantic Middle Rhine valley (**www.welterbe-mittelrheintal.de**); UNESCO natural sites such as the Global Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald (**www.geo-naturpark.net**) and the Rhön Biosphere Reserve (**www.biosphaerenreservat-rhoen.de**); idyllic valleys along the Fulda, Lahn, Main, Neckar and Nidda rivers; the forested mountain regions of the Taunus, Odenwald, Rhön, Spessart and Vogelsberg – featuring Europe's largest volcano (long extinct) in terms of mass and surface area.

From FRA, you can visit the nearby state capitals of Mainz (**www.mainz.de**) and Wiesbaden (**www.wiesbaden.de**), Frankfurt's neighbor Offenbach am Main (**www.offenbach.de**), the city of industrial culture Rüsselsheim (**www.route-der-industriekultur-rhein-main.de**; **www.ruesselsheim.de**), the "wine and bubbly" town" of Hochheim am Main (**www.hochheim.de**), the city of science and art nouveau Darmstadt (**www.darmstadt.de**), or other historic places like baroque Fulda (**www.fulda.de**), Limburg an der Lahn (**www.limburg.de**), Marburg (**www.marburg.de**), Bad Homburg (**www.bad-homburg.de**), Rüdeshheim



**Page 15 of 15:**

am Rhein ([www.ruedesheim.de](http://www.ruedesheim.de)), Bingen am Rhein ([www.bingen.de](http://www.bingen.de)), Ingelheim am Rhein ([www.ingelheim.de](http://www.ingelheim.de)), Oppenheim am Rhein ([www.oppenheim-tourismus.de](http://www.oppenheim-tourismus.de)), Speyer ([www.speyer.de](http://www.speyer.de)), Michelstadt ([www.michelstadt.de](http://www.michelstadt.de)), and Heidelberg ([www.heidelberg-marketing.de](http://www.heidelberg-marketing.de)) – Germany’s oldest university town just an hour’s drive south of FRA.

Farther away from FRA in northern Hesse, you can visit Kassel ([www.kassel-tourist.de](http://www.kassel-tourist.de)), the “Capital City of the Brothers Grimm”. The world’s largest exhibition for contemporary art, the Documenta, is held every five years here. South of Kassel lies Germany’s newest national park, the Kellerwald-Edersee – which protects one of the largest remaining unbroken stretches of deciduous forests in central Europe ([www.nationalpark-kellerwald-edersee.de](http://www.nationalpark-kellerwald-edersee.de)). North of Kassel is the primeval Reinhardswald park ([www.reinhardswald.de](http://www.reinhardswald.de)), one of the most photographed forests in Germany, with its amazing millennium-old oak trees and ferns stretching several meters high.

**Exploring Germany via Frankfurt:**

Because of its central location and excellent transportation networks, Frankfurt is your ideal base for touring the rest of Germany – the Black Forest, Lake Constance, the Romantic Road, the Bavarian Alps, the Rhineland, the North Sea coast, the new federal states of eastern Germany, and much more. Headquartered in Frankfurt, the German National Tourist Office (DZT) provides extensive information and ideas for discovering the country’s unforgettable sights and sounds ([www.dzt.de](http://www.dzt.de)).

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