

# Frankfurt

Germany

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People 9  
 Planet 1  
 Profit 1

Frankfurt is widely recognized as a major international financial and trade center as well as transportation hub. Frankfurt's high ranking in the Sustainable Cities Index may come as a surprise, however, the self-proclaimed "Green City Frankfurt" has a long track record of proactively taking action to improve its sustainability. 25 years ago the city created its own energy agency and is a founding member of the Climate Alliance of European Cities in 1990, pledging to continuously reduce its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 10% every five years, resulting in a 50% cut by 2030. Since 1990 Frankfurt has already decreased its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita by 15% while increasing its economic power by 50% and office space by 80%.

Frankfurt's new master plan "100% Climate Protection" goes even further. By 2050, 100% of Frankfurt's energy will originate from renewable (and mainly local) sources causing a 95% decrease in greenhouse gas emissions. Frankfurt plans

to achieve this by increasing energy efficiency and decreasing the demand side by half in residential and office buildings, the transportation sector, and in communications.

Frankfurt was one of three finalists to be awarded European Green Capital 2014. Furthermore, the city has been recognized as the European City of Trees 2014 – not only is every tree registered and monitored; the information is also publicly available online. Frankfurters can also enjoy Germany's largest city forest with more than 8,000 hectares or one third of the city. The adjacent green belt that spans around the city from the Main river bank, is not only a close recreational area but also the reason why Frankfurt is such a compact city of short distances. The pleasant and compactness of the city explains why 15% of all commutes are already done by bicycle.

