



# SHERATON

Frankfurt Airport  
Hotel & Conference Center

Press Release

## Sheraton Frankfurt Airport Hotel & Conference Center: Europe's largest airport hotel celebrates 50 years of hospitality



Außenansicht



The Eatory kitchen and bar  
© Sheraton Frankfurt Airport Hotel



Luftaufnahme 1984

**Frankfurt am Main, September 22, 2025** - The world meets in Frankfurt: 50 years ago, the Sheraton Frankfurt Airport Hotel & Conference Center opened its doors as the largest airport hotel in Europe. Today, half a century later, it remains not only the continent's largest airport hotel but also one of the most important event locations in Germany.

With 58 event rooms and a congress center for up to 1,200 people, the hotel is a central meeting point for international conferences, industry events, and private celebrations. Its location between the check-in counters of Terminal 1 and today's AIRail ICE long-distance train station has always made it a place of connection. Over the decades, as infrastructure expanded, it has evolved into a key hub in the heart of Europe.

*"When I arrived here two years ago, I knew I was taking over a hotel with history," says Rick Enders, who has been General Manager since 2023. "What I didn't expect was the incredible energy, loyalty, and passion you can feel in this place. This hotel is not just a building—it is a living community."*

### It all began with the number 5 and the letter S

When the hotel opened on February 18, 1975, with 555 rooms, it was an architectural statement: the curved S-shape symbolized the Sheraton logo. Its location was unique—connected directly to Terminal 1 via a covered pedestrian bridge from day one, offering both convenient airport access and a clear view of the runway.

At the time, features such as controls for lighting, color television, radio, and alarm clock were considered state-of-the-art. A single room started at 80 Deutsche Mark,



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a double room at 110 Deutsche Mark, while the Presidential Suite was available for 360 Deutsche Mark per night. The Sheraton Frankfurt Airport Hotel quickly became a meeting place for travelers from around the world—and a social hotspot for the region. The hotel's nightclub, the Red Baron Club, rapidly evolved into a popular scene venue for Frankfurt's residents. Named after the legendary aviator Manfred von Richthofen—the "Red Baron"—the club stood for glamour, speed, and a cosmopolitan lifestyle. It was a place to dance, celebrate, and network—where jet setters, artists, and locals came together and redefined nightlife at Frankfurt Airport.

In July 1984, the first extension followed, adding 260 rooms and 23 conference rooms, along with the opening of the restaurant Papillon. This expansion officially made the Sheraton Frankfurt Airport Hotel the "largest hotel in the Federal Republic of Germany." Four years later, a second expansion increased capacity to a total of 1,020 rooms and 28 suites.

As part of a multi-phase modernization plan beginning in 2019, all rooms and suites, the corresponding corridors, and the lobby were renovated. A new color and lighting concept, high-quality materials, and contemporary design created a fresh guest experience aligned with Sheraton's new brand standards.

This transformation was complemented by the addition of 36 newly created apartments designed specifically for longer stays. Equipped with a modern, fully fitted kitchenette, a comfortable living area, and functional workspaces, they offer guests a stylish home directly at Frankfurt Airport—ideal for extended stays.

At the same time, the property was transformed into a forward-looking dual-brand concept: one section of the building, also fully renovated, reopened as the Frankfurt Airport Marriott Hotel. Since then, both hotels together form the world's first and only dual-brand hotel within Marriott International's premium portfolio. Today, the Sheraton features 784 rooms, while the Marriott offers 233 rooms—bringing the total to 1,017 rooms and suites under one roof.

As one of the largest event locations in the entire Rhine-Main region, with 58 meeting rooms spanning 4,100 square meters—including a Congress Center for up to 1,200 guests—the hotel serves as a central hub for travelers and business guests in the heart of Europe. In 2024 alone, more than 900 events were hosted, with peak periods exceeding 100 events per month.

*"Many international conferences, gala evenings, and even entire trade fairs have taken place here. But we also create spaces for small, personal moments—from private Christmas parties to anniversaries. This hotel thrives on its diversity,"* emphasizes Rick Enders.



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## Moments that last

The events that have taken place at the Sheraton Frankfurt Airport Hotel over the past 50 years are as diverse as life itself. After dining at Maxwell's Bistro, the Dalai Lama once left the restaurant with his entourage—but paused at the exit, returned alone, and personally thanked his waiter. A small gesture with a lasting impact that is still remembered today.

The attacks of September 11, 2001 brought the world to a standstill—including Frankfurt, where the International Motor Show (IAA) was taking place at the time. The hotel was fully booked. When global air traffic was suspended, the hotel responded within hours: a crisis team set up two large meeting rooms with around 200 camp beds for stranded guests—complete with bedding and bedtime treats. One particularly memorable outcome of this extraordinary situation: two employees met while setting up the emergency accommodations, fell in love—and are now happily married.

Just as extraordinary moments have shaped the hotel, it is also the small, personal routines that make it a place of connection: a couple from Cologne regularly travels to Frankfurt by ICE train solely to dine at the steakhouse restaurant Flavors. After dinner, they return home—a testament to the special quality and atmosphere that continues to draw guests back.

## Careers, cultures, stories

"What has defined the Sheraton Frankfurt Airport Hotel for five decades is its people," says Rick Enders. Around 350 employees from over 60 nations ensure that guests from all over the world feel welcome through their experience, warmth, and professionalism. Many have been part of the hotel for decades—some for more than 40 years. Their loyalty reflects an exceptional corporate culture built on trust, appreciation, and team spirit.

As one of the largest training employers in the hotel industry in the Rhine-Main region, the Sheraton offers young people a wide range of entry opportunities across all areas of hospitality—from traditional hotel operations to kitchen and service, as well as event management and technical roles. From September, 48 apprentices and dual-study students will be working across both hotels.

Numerous personal stories highlight these strong connections: marriages that began here, children of employees now working at the hotel themselves, and former colleagues who now hold leadership positions worldwide—from General Manager to CEO. The Sheraton has long been regarded as a talent hub for the industry—a place where careers begin and people come together.

## A commitment to responsibility

Sustainability is not just a focus at the Sheraton Frankfurt Airport Hotel—it is firmly embedded in its corporate philosophy. As a Green Key-certified hotel, it relies on energy-efficient technologies, the reduction of water and plastic consumption, and responsible supply chains.



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Regional products, food waste reduction, and carbon-neutral event concepts are part of its core approach, alongside digital solutions such as a real-time reservation system for smaller meeting rooms—demonstrating how comfort and sustainability go hand in hand.

As part of Marriott International's global SERVE 360 initiative, the hotel is also actively engaged in supporting the local community—through partnerships with regional producers, social initiatives, and training opportunities for disadvantaged youth. This holistic approach combines environmental responsibility with social engagement, offering guests the opportunity to travel consciously and ethically.

## **Lifestyle with cultural depth and local character**

The Sheraton Frankfurt Airport Hotel & Conference Center combines international lifestyle with cultural depth and regional authenticity. In addition to a diverse culinary offering, the hotel focuses on creating inspiring experiences.

Guests can enjoy a wide variety of cuisine—from international dishes and American classics to regional specialties. The restaurant Flavors features an open show kitchen and premium dry-aged meats, while the Taverne serves traditional apple wine and Hessian delicacies in a rustic setting. The Eatery kitchen and bar invites guests on a culinary journey through the United States, including a "We proudly serve Starbucks®" barista experience. The Bar and the exclusive Davidoff Lounge—the only smoking lounge at Frankfurt Airport—complete the offering.

Culture is also expressed visually: to mark the 50th anniversary, Frankfurt-based photographer Aron Nagersheth presents his personal perspective on the city through 30 large-format works. Under the title "#SoCloseFFM," he brings the spirit of Frankfurt into the hotel, creating a connection between urban energy and individual perspective.

## **Next stop: the future**

From 2026, the direct connection to the newly built Terminal 3 via the Sky Line train will further strengthen the hotel's role as a gateway to the world. Guests will be able to reach the terminal in just nine minutes from the new station at the hotel, located directly next to The Eatery kitchen and bar.

This will make the Sheraton Frankfurt Airport Hotel the only hotel directly connected to the ICE long-distance train station as well as Terminals 1, 2, and 3—offering a unique combination of comfort and global mobility.

*"We have achieved a lot—but the best is yet to come. We are celebrating this anniversary not only by looking back, but with a clear goal of continuing to expand our role as an international hub over the next 50 years,"* says General Manager Rick Enders.



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50. Geburtstagsfeier des Sheraton Frankfurt Airport Hotel am 19. September 2025

v.l.n.r. **Michel Miserez** (Chief Financial Officer, EMEA, Marriott International), **Rick Enders** (General Manager Sheraton Frankfurt Airport Hotel & Frankfurt Airport Marriott Hotel), **Satya Anand** (President EMEA, Marriott International), **Neal Jones** (Chief Operating Officer Europe and Africa for Premium & Select properties, and Owner Partner Relations for EMEA, Marriott International)  
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## About the hotel

The Sheraton Frankfurt Airport Hotel & Conference Center and the Frankfurt Airport Marriott Hotel together form the world's first combination of two premium Marriott International brands under one roof and are among the largest airport hotels in Europe.

Thanks to their prime location between the check-in counters of Frankfurt Airport Terminal 1 and the AIRail ICE long-distance train station in "The Square" building complex with its "New Work City," they are a sought-after destination for business meetings, conferences, and events in the economic center of the Rhine-Main region.

The Sheraton spans two of the three building sections and offers 784 soundproofed and air-conditioned guest rooms, as well as a modern 275 m<sup>2</sup> Sheraton Club. The culinary offering—including two restaurants, two bars, and an atrium bar—is available to guests of both hotels.

At the heart of the complex, in a light-filled atrium, The Eatery kitchen and bar serves a wide variety of dishes from early morning until evening. The restaurant Flavors is known for its modern, internationally inspired cuisine and premium dry-aged meats. The Bar and the adjacent Davidoff Lounge offer high-quality spirits and cigars in a lively atmosphere.

The three-level conference area, spanning more than 4,100 m<sup>2</sup>, includes 58 modern meeting rooms with natural daylight, as well as spacious breakout lounges for breaks and group discussions. The spaces are suitable for both small and large groups, including a Congress Center for up to 1,200 participants.



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## Sheraton Hotels & Resorts

Sheraton Hotels & Resorts makes it easy for guests to feel welcome in more than 425 hotels across 70 countries and territories worldwide. As the most global brand within the Marriott Bonvoy portfolio, Sheraton has a rich legacy of fostering a sense of community for guests around the world.

The brand is currently undergoing a comprehensive transformation across its global portfolio, bringing its signature community experience into the next generation through intuitive design, advanced technology, and enhanced offerings—from dining to flexible meeting spaces.

For more information, visit [www.sheraton.com](http://www.sheraton.com)

or follow Sheraton on Facebook, Instagram (@sheratonhotels), and X. Sheraton Hotels & Resorts participates in Marriott International's loyalty program, Marriott Bonvoy, offering members access to an exceptional portfolio of brands, unique experiences through Marriott Bonvoy Moments, and benefits such as free nights and elite status. Free enrollment and more information at [www.marriottbonvoy.com](http://www.marriottbonvoy.com)

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