

## Money creators. Who decides what's money?

Creating money means having power. For this reason alone, the issue of money has always been primarily a matter for the state. After all, a functioning monetary system is of fundamental importance to government, society and the economy. Symbols of state power commonly feature as motifs on banknotes and coins for this very reason. However, wherever governments have failed to maintain a functional system of cash transactions or to keep the value of money stable, people have resorted to emergency money or ersatz currencies, such as cigarettes.

But it is not only in times of crisis that individuals, businesses or municipalities have acted as money creators. For a long time, the issuance of paper currency was a matter for private banks in Europe. In other parts of the world, such as the South Seas, the concept of a state-controlled monetary system was wholly unknown.

Today, money is created and supervised by the government as a public good. This government task is usually carried out by the central bank of a country.

Life is increasingly going digital – a development to which the monetary system is by no means immune. New digital forms of money, known as crypto-tokens, have already emerged. This money is being created by individuals and businesses, and increasingly across national borders as well. The question now is not only whether money will still be physical in the future, but also, who will be deciding what's money by then?



Geldmuseum der Deutschen Bundesbank  
Wilhelm-Epstein-Straße 14  
60431 Frankfurt am Main

[www.geldmuseum.de](http://www.geldmuseum.de)

# Money creators

Who decides what's money?



**30.06.2021  
– 29.05.2022**

A special exhibition at  
the Money Museum  
of the Deutsche Bundesbank



## Getting here

The Money Museum is located at the Bundesbank's Central Office (Wilhelm-Epstein-Strasse 14, 60431 Frankfurt am Main).

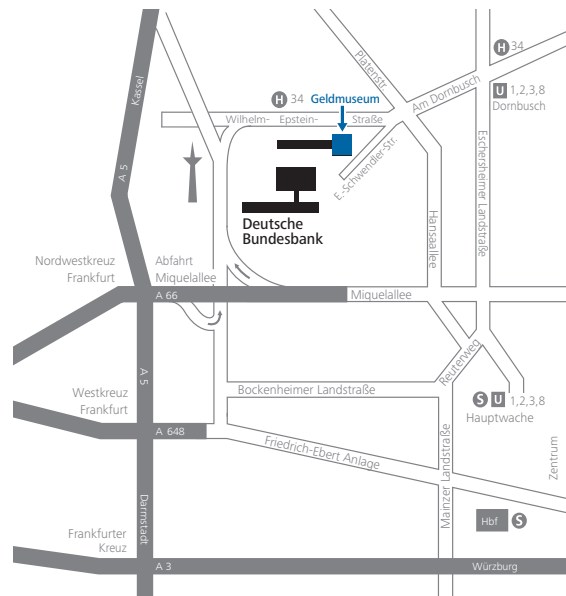
The museum's entrance is located approximately 100 metres away from the Bundesbank's main gate.

## Getting here by public transport

Take the underground lines U1, U2, U3 or U8 to »Dornbusch«. From there, you can take the 34 bus (direction: Mönchhofstraße/Gallus) to »Deutsche Bundesbank«, or alternatively walk roughly 500 metres along the street »Am Dornbusch«.

## Getting here by car

From the Nordwestkreuz Frankfurt interchange, take the A66 in the direction of Miquelallee/Stadtmitte. Take the »Miquelallee« exit and then follow the signs for »Bundesbank«. Limited visitor parking is available in front of the museum.



## Permanent exhibition

The Money Museum brings the world of money alive with interactive exhibits. How is cash produced? What is book money? How does monetary policy work and what exactly does a central bank do? What role does money play in a globalised world?

These and many more money-related questions are answered with the help of eye-catching and incisive exhibits, appealing installations and more than 60 multimedia stations loaded with games and interactive information.

## Accessibility

The Money Museum is accessible for wheelchair users. There is an audio guide for visually impaired visitors. We recommend that you bring someone along to accompany you.

## Café and Shop

The cafe serves hot and cold drinks as well as light snacks. Souvenirs and publications can be purchased from the museum shop.

## Opening hours

Daily 9:00 – 17:00 (except Saturdays)

Closed on 24, 25 and 31 December, 1 January, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, 1 May

Admission is free.

The exhibition is in German and English.

For up-to-date information on how COVID-19 will affect your visit to the Money Museum, please check [www.geldmuseum.de](http://www.geldmuseum.de)

