

Frankfurt I – Following Goethe's Footsteps – Letterbox

(placed on the 29th of November 2009 by „Die Frankfurter“)

www.Letterboxing-Germany.de

Background: Now that we've searched and found some letterboxes, we decided to hide our first box. Why not hide it close to our home? If you like it, we will be happy to hide more in the Frankfurt area.



City: Frankfurt / Main

Start: Parking lot at the Main waterside (Mainwasenweg, 60599 Frankfurt) on the B43 between Frankfurt and Offenbach. Coming from Frankfurt the road is called Gerbermühlstraße, it changes to Strahlenbergerstrasse in Offenbach. From the B43, there is a sign to “Restaurant Mainwasen“. At the car parking there are several rowing clubs.

Difficulty: The route is easy, but because of its length you should have good endurance. You ought to know how to solve a Sudoku puzzle.

Distance: Approximately 11 to 12 km / 4 - 5 hours without breaks.

Tools needed: Pen, compass, stamp pad, stamp, logbook; maybe calculator

Miscellaneous: On the route there are several refreshment and shopping opportunities, galleries, museums and playgrounds. If you want to stay there, please plan extra time accordingly. The observation tower at the end of the tour is closed in winter. You will miss a nice view, but you can still find all the clues. The track can generally be used with buggies. There are just a few stairs to conquer. In the beginning there are more riddles in the end more walking.

History: **Frankfurt / Main**, commonly known simply as Frankfurt, is the largest city in the German state of Hessen and the fifth-largest city in Germany, with a population of 670,000 in 2008. The urban area had an estimated population of 2.26 million in 2001. The city is in the centre of the larger Frankfurt/Rhine-Main Metropolitan Region which has a population of 5.3 million and is Germany's second largest metropolitan area. Frankfurt has been Germany's financial centre for centuries, and it is the home of a number of major banks and brokerages. The three pillars of Frankfurt's economy are finance, transport, and trade fairs. The Frankfurt Stock Exchange is by far Germany's largest, and is one of the worlds most important. Frankfurt is also the seat of the European Central Bank which sets monetary policy for the Euro zone economy, and of the German Federal Bank. Over 300 national and international banks are represented including the headquarters of the major German banks.¹

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, August 28, 1749 – March 22, 1832 was a German writer and polymath. Goethe's works span the fields of poetry, drama, literature, theology, philosophy, humanism and science. His *magnum opus*, lauded as one of the peaks of world literature, is the two-part drama *Faust*. Goethe's other well-known literary works include his numerous poems, the novel *Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship* and the epistolary novel *The Sorrows of Young Werther*. Goethe was one of the key figures of German literature and the movement of Weimar Classicism in the late 18th and early 19th centuries; this movement coincides with Enlightenment, Sentimentality, “*Sturm und Drang*“ and Romanticism. The author of the scientific text *Theory of Colours*, his influential ideas on plant and animal morphology and homology were extended and developed by 19th century naturalists including Charles Darwin. He also served at length as the Privy Councilor (“Geheimrat”) of the duchy of Weimar.²

¹ Wikipedia

² Wikipedia

Clue

The route starts at the large parking lot at the Main waterside in front of the rowing clubs on Mainwasenweg. Find the restaurant with the same surname as the football clubs from Dortmund and Gladbach. When was the corresponding rowing club founded? **A:** _ _ _ _ . (On the last page you have the opportunity to note the found details. There you will also find the calculations.)

What is the house number? **B:** _ _ .

Aim from the entrance and take the path in **R₁**: _ _ _ °. After about 100-200 meters, you can find out how tall the ash can grow. **C:** _ _ m. Follow the path towards “Gerbermühle“.



The “**Gerbermühle**” in Frankfurt is a building at the eastside of the city, directly at the left Main riverside, near the district Offenbach-Kaiserlei and the barrage of Offenbach vis-à-vis the Frankfurt “Osthafen”. Probably built around 1520 on the banks of “Weschbach”, it was originally used to grind the grain. Since the beginning of the 20th Century it is a popular restaurant and excursion destination. The “Gerbermühle” is a listed building because of its literary importance as a result of visits by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe in the years 1814 and 1815.³

Shortly before the wall of the “Gerbermühle” you follow the sign “R3” towards the water. From the gate you aim in **R₂**: _ _ _ ° and walk in that direction, past the “Ginkgo Biloba” to the monument of a “unique” personality. Take one or two souvenir photos here – the person is worth it! Write down the inscription on the pedestal _ _ _ . Convert the letters into numbers individually. (e.g., A=1, B=2). The 1st letter = **D**: _; the 2nd = **E**: _; and the 3rd = **F**: _ . Keep following the path.

On the wayside you will come across a white cube next to a yellow one. Write down the number on it. **G:** _ . Now always walk straight towards the skyline.

Record the number on the cube directly behind the parking lot before the two benches. **H:** _ .

Soon you reach a playground. When you reach the same level on the path as the first pole of the swing after the basketball hoop aim in the direction of 330°. Note the number that you see there. **I:** _ _ .

At the end of the playground on the right side of the path you see a “damaged” rock, from which cables are coming out. Go 4 meters back from here and aim to **R₄**: _ _ _ °. Walk the trail in this direction and cross the dirt path. Continue straight uphill and under the red and white markings. Directly after the bridge, stand at the staircase aim south and go parallel to the bridge. After a few meters you will find a glass building at the corner. Leave this building on your left and walk towards the big brick building with golden peaks.

On the left side you can see the “Henninger-Turm” after a while.



The “**Henninger-Turm**” is a grain storage silo located in the Frankfurt district of Sachsenhausen. It was built by the Henninger Brewery (now part of the Binding Brewery/Radeberger Group) and has a storage capacity of 16,000 tons of barley. The 120 metres (394 ft), 33-story high tower was designed by Karl Lieser and was built from 1959 to 1961. It was inaugurated on May 18, 1961. Since October 31, 2002, the tower has been closed to the public but plans to destroy the tower and replace it with a new one were abandoned. Since 1961, the annual professional cycling race “Rund um den Henninger-Turm” was held on May 1st for many years, the course circles the tower multiple times.⁴

Cross the street of “Wetten-dass-Thomas”. At the next corner you will find a dental practice. Here go in **R₆**: _ _ _ °. At the end of the street, look around for a neon palm tree. Since when does the real estate broker always offer best deals for the “Deutschherrenviertel”? **K:** _ _ _ _ .

Go west to the red brick pillars and count them up to the restaurant: **L:** _ _ . Keep going until the end of the glass building and look into it. What do you see there? Remember it for later!

³ Wikipedia

⁴ Wikipedia

Follow your current path until you reach the road. From here go in the direction of **R₈**: _ _ °. At the second sign “B3” directing to “Friedberg, Osthafen and Zoo” look around and find out when the bridge was built. **M**: _ _ _ . From the sign mentioned above go to **R₉**: _ _ °. Stay on the red path, then go across the tracks and under the bridge. Immediately after the second bridge, follow the sign in the direction of “Alte Stadtbibliothek, Wallanlage and Zoo”. How many steps lead up? **N**: _ . When you reach the top aim and walk south. Before you continue in this direction, you see the old city library to your left.



The “**Alte Stadtbibliothek**” is a neoclassical building. The two-story building was built from 1820 to 1825 by city architect Johann Friedrich Christian Hess at the beautiful prospect of the Main Hochkai the east of the Old Bridge. The pediment supported by six Corinthian columns bear the inscription, designed by Arthur Schopenhauer *Litteris Recuperata Libertate Civitas* (“The city of [dedicated this building] to regain the freedom of the sciences). In 1816, the Free City of Frankfurt had regained their independence.⁵

Once you followed the targeted direction, you come to a city entrance sign “Sachsenhausen”. Behind it, you go down the stairs on the right and continue your way towards the city skyline. Now you walk some minutes along the river, passing the modernized youth hostel and the painted horses, up to a bridge entirely of steel, the “Eiserner Steg”.



The “**Eiserner Steg**” is a pedestrian bridge built in 1868 in Frankfurt, which connects the “Römerberg” with the district of “Sachsenhausen” and crosses the Main river. It is 170 meters long, consists of riveted steel truss bridge with two pillars and is attributed to the Gothic Revival style. The term “iron” was common for the material when the bridge was built, that is why the bridge was named “Iron Bridge”.⁶

Here you cross the Main in the direction of “City, Zeil and Römer”. On the other side, at the bottom of the staircase you find a documentation of the highest water level. When was it? **O**: _ _ _ . Now cross the road over the pedestrian crossing looking for the sign of the pedestrian area. Aim in **R₁₁**: _ _ ° and walk in this direction.

At the level of the Historical Museum before the “Teddy-Paradies” turn left and pass through the house passage. At the “Alte Mainzer Gasse” No. 4 you will find a mosaic. If you look closely you notice a big animal. Memorize it. At the next intersection, where three pilgrims are waiting for you, proceed in the direction of **R₁₂**: _ _ °. When you reach the next intersection think of the animal again and continue in the corresponding direction:

Elefant: left

Pig: right

Eagle: straight

Turkey: back

At the next intersection look for a sign with information about Martin Luther. Cross the street to the house with the black wall. Follow the track through the great archway. Behind it take a good look around. Up to what year did the German National Assembly (Deutsche Nationalversammlung) meet here? **P**: _ _ _ .



The “**Paulskirche**” in Frankfurt was built from 1789 to 1833 to replace demolished medieval “Barfuesserkirche” in 1786 and served until 1944 as the main protestant church of Frankfurt. In the classical rotunda of the architect Johann Friedrich Christian Hess the delegates of the Frankfurt National Assembly, the first freely elected parliament in Germany, met from 1848 to On the 18th of March 1944 St. Paul's Church burned down after a bombing raid and was rebuilt after the war as the first historic building in Frankfurt. For the hundredth anniversary of the National Assembly, it was reopened on the 18th of May 1948 as the house of all Germans. It has since become a national monument and is mainly used for public events.⁷

Then follow the track until you can turn right at the “Römerberg”. Look around at this place, even if the football team of Germany is not standing on the balcony. After big events they are welcomed here.



The “**Römer**” is more than 600 years old and with its distinctive stepped gable facade one of Frankfurt's most prominent sites. It is the city hall of Frankfurt/Main. The entire city hall complex is called “Römer”.⁸

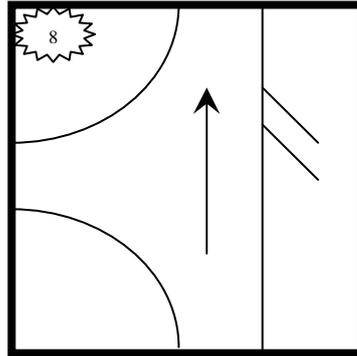
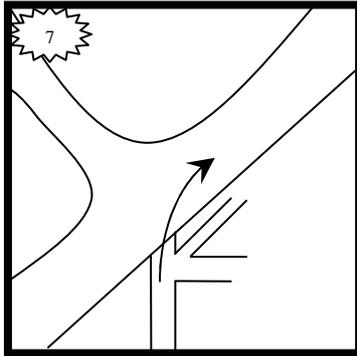
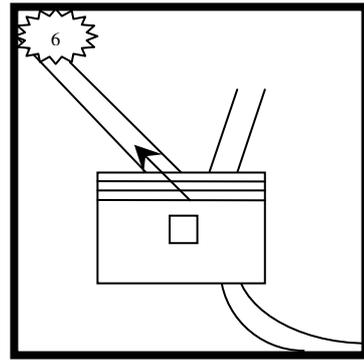
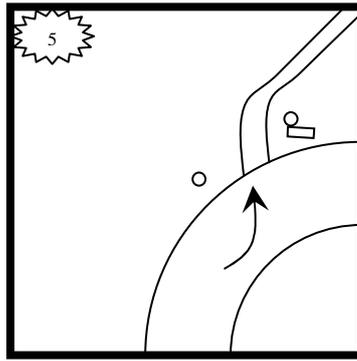
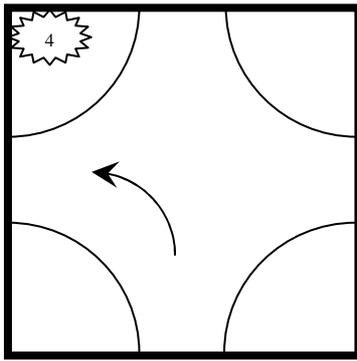
Through which animal does the sandstone pillar spew water? Remember this animal for later! Aim from the pillar in **R₁₃**: _ _ ° and follow this path. Just before you reach the cathedral you can find interesting excavation from the Roman period. Go left past the cathedral, stick to the fence of the

⁵ Wikipedia

⁶ Wikipedia

⁷ Wikipedia

⁸ Wikipedia



On the right side you see a memorial to Goethe now.

In 1902 a memorial to Goethe was set up here, because he visited in 1814. Since 1986, it is a listed building.⁹

When was the house built? T: _ _ _ _ .

At the next crossing your way will depend on the just noted year.

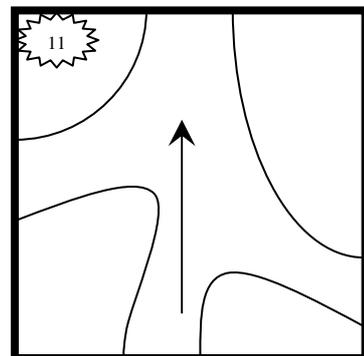
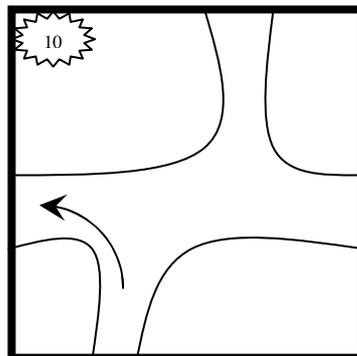
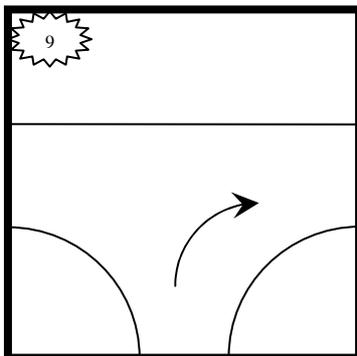
1711 = left

1802 = right

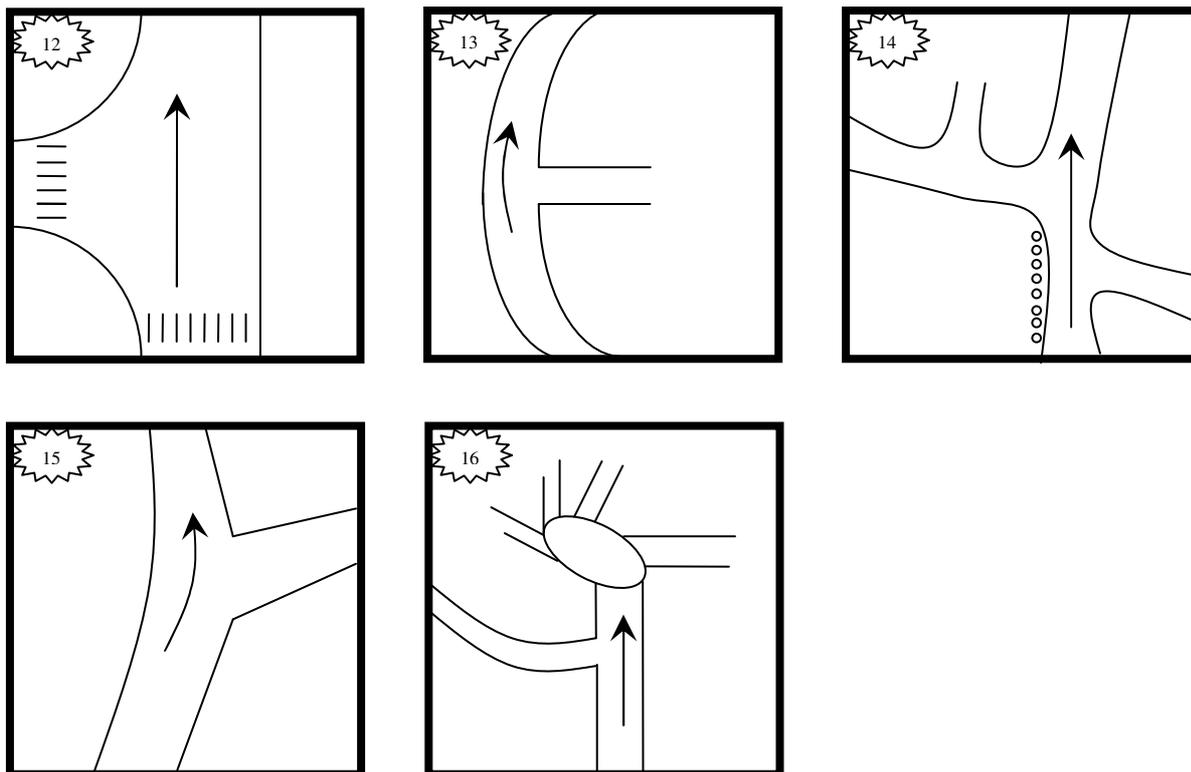
1810 = straight

2009 = back

From here the “Chineserally” continues.



⁹ Map: „Rundwanderweg Frankfurter Grüngürtel – Auf Goethes Spuren“



After this long walk uphill you come to a turning area with a large parking lot. Go to the big manhole next to the bench at the one-way street sign and go to **R₁₉**: __ __ °. Now you stand in front of the “Goetheturm”.

 The “Goetheturm” is a 43 meters high observation tower on the northern outskirts of Frankfurt city forest in “Sachsenhausen” completely built of wood. He has ... steps, and was the tallest publicly accessible wooden building in Europe until 1999.¹⁰

If you still have enough breath, you should go up and enjoy the wonderful view over Frankfurt. Attention! The tower is closed in winter. How many wooden steps lead up to the top? **U**: __ __ __. Behind the “Goetheturm” is a great forest playground, worth making a detour for children.

Now the box is not far off!

Go to the wooden sculpture with the little green dragon at the bicycle stands in front of the tower and aim towards **R₂₀**: __ __ ° and go **R₂₁**: __ __ steps in that direction.

From here you continue to **R₂₂**: __ __ ° and go **R₂₃**: __ __ steps up to the “1”.

Now go in **R₂₄**: __ __ ° up the steps. Here you will find the last trace of Goethe for this round.

 It is said that Goethe had a special fondness for this highest point of the city forest. In his honor, this place was renamed in 1860 in **Goetheruh**.¹¹

Go down the stairs again and follow the main path to the left. At the next intersection, you find a tree on the right side with a pathname and a number on it. Aim in **R₂₅**: __ __ ° and go **R₂₆**: __ __ steps in this direction. Then walk on in **R₂₇**: __ __ °. At the next intersection you continue in the same direction.

You reach a bench between three large trees. In one tree the year 1961 is engraved among other things. Sit on the bench and solve the last puzzle before you go to the box.

¹⁰ Wikipedia

¹¹ Map: „Rundwanderweg Frankfurter Grüngürtel – Auf Goethes Spuren“

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Sudoku rules:

a		A ₃		L ₁		K ₄			I ₂
b	S ₃	L ₁		N ₂			H ₁		
c				D ₁	U ₃			S ₃	O ₃
d	E ₁	T ₃	P ₄			A ₄			
e			L ₁			B ₁	M ₂	I ₂	
f				S ₃	O ₄		E ₁		
g	L ₁	M ₄			F ₁	C ₁		K ₂	I ₁
h			B ₂		K ₄		P ₃	O ₄	U ₃
i	R ₁		L ₂			O ₄	G ₁	M ₁	

In each row, column and highlighted 3x3 square the numbers 1 to 9 must be placed once.

Write down the numbers of the variables you found during the route in the appropriate spots.

Example: The number Z₂ corresponds to the second digit of the variable Z.

E.g. Z = 1965 Z₁ = 1; Z₂ = 9 ...

After you've solved the Sudoku, you can copy the numbers below and complete the clue that way. Consider the Sudoku as a coordinate system. Each column has a number, every line a letter. The following letter/number combinations, always describe a field in the Sudoku and thus a digit.

From the tree with the engraved year go d9 a7 steps in h4 c3 0°. Now you stand on a path. Aim at e5 0° to an “embraced” tree and go g4 f1 steps in that direction. From this tree go i4 steps toward a8 e1 0° to the deepest point. *Caution! Slippery!*

Now think of the glass house at the very beginning, in which you looked! What you saw, decides about your further course.

Conference room = 260°

Pool = 80°

Casino = 360°

Go d7 steps in this direction.

Look around! The box is now within reach!

Write something nice inside the book and stamp. Hide it well. But be careful that nobody sees you. The forest is crowded at times.

Walk back: (approx. 20 minutes)

Go back to the forest trail and follows it to the left. At the next intersection (again, there is a nice big playground) follow the small bicycle sign “Grüngürtel” to the left over a small wooden bridge. Now go straight downhill to “Goldbergweg”. Here you turn right and immediately left again into the tiny “Wildgäßchen”. Keep going straight across the tram tracks until you come to an underpass. Go through and cross the main road at the pedestrian crossing. Here, it should seem familiar to you. Only a few meters and you are standing on the main parking lot.

Have fun and success

Die Frankfurter

Solutions:

A	= _____	H	= _____	O	= _____
B	= _____	I	= _____	P	= _____
C	= _____	J	= <u>deleted</u>	Q	= <u>deleted</u>
D	= _____	K	= _____	R	= _____
E	= _____	L	= _____	S	= _____
F	= _____	M	= _____	T	= _____
G	= _____	N	= _____	U	= _____

$$R_1: ([\text{Checksum of A}] + B) * 2 - 10 = ___\circ$$

$$R_2: C * 6 + B - 1 = ___\circ$$

R₃: *deleted*

$$R_4: C * D - C * E = ___\circ$$

R₅: *deleted*

$$R_6: (I + J) * 2 + D * E + E = ___\circ$$

R₇: *deleted*

$$R_8: (K - A) * E + I + H = ___\circ$$

$$R_9: [\text{Checksum of M}] + C - G + I + L = ___\circ$$

R₁₀: *deleted*

$$R_{11}: [\text{Checksum of O}] * C - [\text{Checksum of O}] - C = ___\circ$$

$$R_{12}: (J + L) * 2 + C = ___\circ$$

$$R_{13}: [\text{Checksum of P}] + F + [\text{Checksum of A}] - [\text{Checksum of K}] = __\circ$$

R₁₄: *deleted*

$$R_{15}: I - G + C + L + [\text{Checksum of M}] - [\text{Checksum of O}] = ___\circ$$

$$R_{16}: [\text{Checksum of Q}] * [\text{Checksum of O}] = ___\circ$$

R₁₇: *deleted*

R₁₈: *deleted*

$$R_{19}: 2 * ([\text{Checksum of T}] + C) + 4 * [\text{Checksum of T}] = ___\circ$$

$$R_{20}: [\text{Checksum of O}] * [\text{Checksum of O}] + [\text{Checksum of K}] + U = ___\circ$$

$$R_{21}: [\text{Checksum of A}] + [\text{Checksum of K}] + [\text{Checksum of M}] + E = __\circ$$

$$R_{22}: [\text{Checksum of T}] * 2 + R = __\circ$$

$$R_{23}: U - R - [\text{Checksum of T}] * [\text{Checksum of O}] + 4 = __\circ$$

$$R_{24}: F - H + B - E = __\circ$$

$$R_{25}: U - F - G = ___\circ$$

$$R_{26}: D - E + [\text{Checksum of T}] = __\circ$$

$$R_{27}: [\text{Checksum of A}] + B + G + I = ___\circ$$

Explanations:

+ = add - = subtract

* = multiply / = divide

Of course, it's point calculations before slash calculations

The solutions are always whole numbers; the degrees are always multiples of ten.