

Mobility

Note: Prices are to the best of our knowledge correct as of January 1st, 2011. Please refer to the websites to check the latest prices.

Note: Please also check our Excursions and other activities chapter for specific trip recommendations.

1. Public transport

The comprehensive and well organized Swiss public transport system covers the whole country and is very efficient. Most places can be reached by a well integrated network of trains, buses, and post buses (**PostAutos**) as well as cable cars and boats. This is also the case for the area around Lake Zürich, governed by Zürich's integrated public-transport system ZVV (**Zürcher Verkehrsverbund**). We recommend having a look at the comprehensive website of the ZVV on:

www.zvv.ch/en/about-us/zvv-portrait.html

There are useful illustrative maps of the geographical area covered by the ZVV (reaching into the neighboring cantons of Schwyz, St. Gallen, Aargau, Schaffhausen, Thurgau and Zug).

In Switzerland, public transport departures are frequent and adapted to local needs. You can rely on punctual departures and arrivals. Always check for possible ticket discounts (e.g. **Generalabonnement GA**, Half-Fare Travel card) and package deals (package of transport ticket and museum entry/transport ticket and skiing tickets etc.).

For friends who are visiting, you can check out the different tourist offers such as:

The **ZürichCARD** or the **ZürichCARD PLUS** (zone* upgrade for 4 zones) which entitles you to unlimited travel in 2nd class on all public transport (tram, bus, rail, boat, cable car and funicular railway). The **ZürichCARD** can be purchased for 24 or 72 h and includes, amongst others, special offers for museums and restaurants. The ticket is also valid between the airport and the city.

ZürichCARD:

24 h: adults 20 CHF; children 6–16 years 14 CHF

72 h: adults 40 CHF; children 6–16 years 28 CHF

Check for more details: www.zvv.ch under *Tickets*.

*Zones: Zürich is subdivided into zones. The city center zone is zone 10. The fee for public transport depends on how many zones you have to travel through. For more detailed information check on:

www.zvv.ch/en/routes-and-zones

With the **Swiss Pass**, your guests can travel on 4, 8, 15 or 22 consecutive days or one month throughout the whole Swiss public rail, bus and boat system. This pass also covers scenic routes, local trams and buses in 37 towns. It also offers 50 % reduction on most mountain top trains and cable cars. The pass includes free entrance to over 400 museums and exhibitions. The Swiss Pass is only available to non-residents of Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein.

For more options of Swiss Passes and Cards for your guests from abroad check:

www.swiss-pass.ch

Daily Cards from the communities (Gemeindetageskarte)

Many communities offer their residents Daily Cards for unlimited travel on public transport in the whole country for 1 day. These cards cost around 30 CHF and can be reserved by calling your community office or over the internet on:

www.tageskarte-gemeinde.ch

However, not all communities have registered themselves on this website. If your community is not registered here, you need to check its website or call them. The earlier you reserve, the better chance you have of actually getting a card. Some communities however, have limitations on how often the same household may reserve this card per year.

1a. Plane

Zürich Airport – Switzerland's nationally and internationally renowned traffic hub – is located very close to the city centre (approximately 15 minutes by car) and easily reached by public transport. Buses leave the airport regularly; trains and trams run between Zürich main station (**Hauptbahnhof**) and Zürich Airport every 10 minutes during peak periods (10 minutes ride to Zürich main sta-

tion). Furthermore, there are train connections from and to Zürich Airport from all the main cities in Switzerland.

Zürich Airport is served by over 120 different airlines and connected with more than 120 destinations worldwide.

Note: For comprehensive information, we recommend the very useful Zürich Airport Guide which can be found on:

www.zurich-airport.com.

Useful links

Zürich International Airport

Tel 043 816 22 11 (Central Desk Zürich Airport)

W www.zurich-airport.com

Flight information

Tel 0900 300 313 (1.99 CHF/min)

Txt Teletext page 460

W www.zurich-airport.com/flight

Medical Center

Tel 043 816 60 00 (Opening hours: Daily 08:00–20:00)

Wheelchair assistance

Tel 043 812 62 35

@ info@careport.ch

W www.careport.ch

Lost & Found

Tel 0900 57 10 15 (for calls from Switzerland charged at 1.19 CHF/min from a Swiss fixed network, free if loss is reported via the internet)

Tel +41 43 812 22 22 (for calls from outside Switzerland)

@ contact@swissport.com

W www.swissport.com

Lost & Found SBB (Railway)

Tel 0900 30 03 00 (for calls from Switzerland charged at 1.19 CHF/min from a Swiss fixed network, free if loss is reported via the internet)

W <http://mct.sbb.ch/mct/en/reisemarkt/services/finden/verlustanzeige.htm>

Swiss International Air Lines

Tel 0848 700 700 (24 hours)

W www.swiss.com

For contact details of all airlines serving Zürich Airport, see:

W www.zurich-airport.com (click on: *Your flight, Airlines* and then *Overview*).

Public Transport to the Airport

The following tram and trains will get you to the airport:

- Tram Nr. 10
- S-Bahn (Rapid-Transit-Railways) S2, S7, S16

1b. Train

The Swiss National Railroad System (**Schweizerische Bundesbahnen SBB**) is punctual, clean and comfortable. The SBB has a very comprehensive website providing all the information also in English:

W <http://mct.sbb.ch/mct/en/index.htm>

You can check timetables, tickets and prices, and also purchase tickets online for national and international travel routes. If you need advice and further information, please check at your local railway station or contact Rail Service Helpdesk:

Tel 0900 30 03 00 (calls charged at 1.19 CHF/min from a Swiss fixed network)

Zürich main railway station is an important junction within Switzerland, where there are train connections to neighboring countries such as the high speed trains to France (TGV), Germany (ICE) and Italy (Pendolino).

*Note: A very Swiss specialty is the rest compartment (**Ruheabteil**), in which you need to be very quiet and neither talk nor make phone calls. Another specialty (on Intercity trains) is the Family Wagon (**Familienabteil**) where children can find slides and games to entertain themselves during the ride.*

Note: Children from 0–6 years old travel for free on all Swiss public transport.

Note: Always check if your ticket must be validated before the trip (all short distance tickets in general). Validating machines can be found in the stations and on the platforms.

Generalabonnement GA

This card will allow you unlimited travel on the Swiss National Railroad System network, as well as on most privately operated railways, trams, buses, post buses and boats. In addition, numerous mountain railways and cable cars grant special discounts for GA holders. 1st or 2nd class cards are available for 1 year.

	1 st class	2 nd class
Adult (25-64/65)	5 460 CHF	3 660 CHF
Junior (16-25)	4 200 CHF	2 700 CHF
Child (6-16)	2 760 CHF	1 740 CHF

You can also purchase your GA monthly for families, couples, retired people, and handicapped people. Check on:

W www.sbb.ch

Halbtaxabonnement

Half-Fare Travel card

With this card you can travel for half price on all public transport. 1st or 2nd class cards are available. You can buy this card for a 1-, 2- or 3-year period.

1 year	165 CHF
2 years	300 CHF
3 years	400 CHF