

Train and Bus

Public transportation in Switzerland is very well organized. Almost all locations are accessible by train and bus. Public transportation is punctual and operates on a regular schedule.

Public Transportation

Public transportation (ÖV) is very important in Switzerland. Almost all locations are accessible several times per hour. This encourages many travellers to use the train and bus. Fares are relatively expensive, but there are various ways to save money. It may be worthwhile purchasing a season pass or reduced fare pass. The relatively inexpensive half-fare pass (Halbtaxabo) allows the holder to purchase tickets at half price anywhere in Switzerland.

Tickets and Passes

Before boarding a train one must buy a ticket (Billett). Tickets cannot be purchased on board. Buses manage this differently. Every train station and most bus stops have ticket automats. There are staffed ticket counters in the bigger train stations. Tickets can also be purchased online or via mobile phone. Frequent travellers can benefit from various special passes. These are available for specific routes, regions, or the entire Swiss public transportation system (Generalabonnement). Children under the age of 6 ride without charge. Under the age of 16 travelling with parents or grandparents is almost free of charge with a junior or grandchild's pass (Junior- oder Enkelkarte). Information on tickets and passes is available through the Swiss Federal Railways (SBB) or bus companies.

Saver Day Pass

Anyone planning a longer trip within Switzerland can obtain a Saver Day Pass at a reduced price. The offer is limited, so the ticket must be reserved in advance, up to one day before travel. The tickets are personalized and can be obtained from the local municipality or via SBB.

Community Day Pass

Persons planning a longer trip within Switzerland can purchase a day pass which is offered by many communities at a reduced price (Gemeindetageskarte). The offer is limited and the pass must be reserved in advance. Additional information is provided by the community administration.

Nighttime Network

In Canton Appenzell Ausserrhoden week-end busses and trains run until late at night. Please note that a special additional fee must be paid for the nighttime network.

Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets, brochures)

www.hallo-ar.ch/en/mobility/train-and-bus