

Carefee Travelling with Swiss Travel System.

Switzerland Specialist Module 2.

MySwitzerland.com

Carefree travelling with Swiss Travel System.

Exploring Switzerland by public transport, well known for its reliable services, turns into a real treat. Regardless of where your clients wish to go, Swiss public transport takes them there comfortably and hassle-free. Also, whatever your clients' specific requirements, a wide range of tickets and passes, as well as additional services, are available to meet any need.

Public transport network.

Switzerland is home to the densest public transport network worldwide. It includes over 26,000 km of rail,

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road and waterway routes, making the remotest places of the country accessible. Public transport operates as accurately and efficiently as the finely balanced wheels of a Swiss watch – whether for fast inter-city connections, relaxed jour-

neys across Switzerland's captivating countryside or exciting excursions to Alpine altitudes of up to 3,500 mtr.

Regular-interval timetable.

One of the key attributes visitors from all over the world associate with Switzerland is punctuality – an expectation admirably met by the Swiss public transport system: Its precision is legendary, its coordination perfect. Trains operate according to a regular-interval timetable, meaning that a train always leaves at the same minute after each full hour. Main inter-city connections run at halfhour intervals. At major hubs, trains arrive every full and half hour. Post-bus and boat connections are perfectly coordinated with these regular interval timetables.

You can research the timetable of Swiss trains online on www.sbb.ch/en. All the information is available in English.

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Harmonised timetable – guaranteed connections.

The very moment they arrive in Switzerland, your clients benefit from the Swiss public transport network. At all border railway stations and airports, trains and buses are available for incoming guests to speed them on the way towards their city, rural or Alpine vacation destinations. Connections are guaranteed in all places. Where no rail service is available, the journey continues by bus, boat or even mountain railway.

Coach classes.

Almost all trains in Switzerland offer first and second class coaches. First class coaches provide additional

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amenities like wider seats, more legroom and electrical power outlets. Furthermore, first class passengers benefit from quiet zones on the train.

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Surcharge.

No surcharge applies on international, InterCity or Inter-Regio trains within Switzerland. Panorama trains like the Glacier Express or the Bernina Express, as well as some PostBus lines (Palm Express), are usually subject to surcharge and/or require seat reservations.

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Seat reservations.

- In Switzerland, the majority of trains do not require seat reservations. Trains offering seat reservations are indicated with an «R» in the timetable on www.sbb.ch.

- For trains with mandatory seat reservations, such as the Glacier Express, reservations should be made at the earliest convenience.

- Group reservations can be done via Rail Europe or GSAs

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The Swiss Travel Pass experience – Get the most out of Switzerland.

A national transport network of rail, road & waterway

- unlimited use of all major railway and PostBus routes

- unlimited use of all public waterway lines

- unlimited use of all public transport services in more than 75 cities

Value for money

- Panaramic train journeys such as Glacier Express, the GoldenPass Line and all other panoramic routes are included. However a surcharge and/or seat reservation fee might apply.

- Additionally, travellers receive a 50% discount on most mountain railway tickets (Jungfraujoch: 25 %).

- Moreover, guests benefit from free of charge travel to selected Swiss Alpinepeaks – for example: the Rigi «Queen of the Mountains» or Schynige Platte.

Freedom of choice.

- All Swiss Travel System tickets are available for first and second class.

- We offer the ideal ticket for any travel requirement and budget; for example, the Swiss Travel Pass Flex or the Swiss Travel Pass Youth, which both include all the benefits and perks of a regular Swiss Travel Pass.

- The Swiss Transfer Ticket is our most affordable option for a smooth, direct transfer by train, bus and/or boat from any Swiss border railway station or arrival airport to your clients' vacation destination in Switzerland – and back again.

Family friendly.

- Children under 6 years of age accompanied by an adult holding a valid ticket, travel free of charge.

- With the Swiss Family Card, children between 6 and 16 years of age, accompanied by at least one parent holding a valid Swiss Travel System ticket, travel free of charge.



- Children between 6 and 16 years of

age travelling alone receive a 50% discount on the entire Swiss Travel System ticket range.

But wait, there is more. You also receive free admission to more than 490 museums nationwide e.g. Chillon



Castle, Open Air Museum Ballenberg, Glacier Garden in Lucerne and the Abbey Library in St. Gallen, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, to name, but a few.

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Swiss Travel System STS tickets and passes.

Our attractive Swiss Travel System ticket range provides ideal access to Switzerland's public transport network. Thanks to Swiss Travel Pass & Co., your clients enjoy almost limitless mobility, using railways, buses and boats. Here is an overview of our product range:

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Swiss Travel Pass.

Coverage: Unlimited travel by rail, road and waterway, including premium panorama trains and public transport in more than 75 cities. Validity: 3, 4, 8



or 15 consecutive days. Additional benefits: 50 % discount on most mountain railway tickets and free admission to more than 490 museums nationwide. Reductions: Young travellers under the age of 26 receive a 15 % discount off the regular Swiss Travel Pass fare.

Swiss Travel Pass Flex.

Coverage: Unlimited travel by rail, road and waterway, including premium panorama trains and public transport in more than 75 cities. Validity: 3, 4, 8

or 15 individually selectable days within one month. Additional benefits: 50% discount on most mountain railway tickets and free admission to more than 490 museums nationwide.

Reductions: Young travellers under the age of 26 receive a 15 % discount off the regular Swiss Travel Pass fare.

Swiss Transfer Ticket.

Coverage: Free transfer from any Swiss border railway station or arrival airport to the guest's vacation destination in Switzerland and back. Transfers to/from the traveller's destination must be via direct route, but not necessarily to/from the same destination. Validity: two transfers within one month. Border railway stations: Basel Bad Station / Basel SBB / EuroAirport Basel, Berne (SBB/BLS), Berne Belp, Buchs SG, Chamonix-Mont Blanc, Chiasso, Domodossola, Geneva / Geneva Airport, Koblenz (CH), Konstanz (D), Lausanne, Lugano /Lugano Airport (Agno), Romanshorn, Schaffhausen, St. Margrethen, Tirano (I), Visp / Brig, Zurich Main Station / Zurich Airport.

Swiss Half Fare Card.

Coverage: Up to 50 % discount off regular public transport fares all over Switzerland whether by train, bus, boat or mountain railway. Validity: 1 month.



Swiss Half Fare Card Combi.

Coverage: Up to 50% discount on regular public transport fares all over Switzerland whether by train, bus, boat or mountain railway. Swiss Half Fare Card Combi is only available in combination with a Swiss Transfer Ticket or a Swiss Travel Pass Flex and offers additional mobility in-between travel days.

Validity: from first to last validated travel day, with maximum validity of 1 month.

Swiss Family Card.

Coverage: The complimentary Family Card offers free travel for children under 16 years of age accompanied by at least one parent holding a Swiss Travel System ticket. Children travelling alone receive a 50 % discount on the entire Swiss Travel System ticket range.



Panoramic Train Journeys.

Switzerland's premium panorama trains are world famous, captivating passengers with their large panoramic windows with views of breathtaking sceneries. They are surely one of the most beautiful ways to experience Switzerland. Here are three journeys you must know of:

Glacier Express.

The Glacier Express is probably the words most famous panorama train. Within roughly 8 unforgettable hours, it takes you from Zermatt to St. Moritz – a delightful day's journey across pristine Alpine landscapes and deep ravines, through quaint villages and gentle valleys. You will pass through no less than 91 tunnels and cross 291 stately bridges. Comfortable panorama coaches offer passengers the most spectacular views – to be savoured at leisure in what has been dubbed «the world's slowest express train».

Route: Zermatt > Brig > Andermatt > Chur > St. Moritz Duration: app. 8h

Good to know.

- All trains equipped with passenger information system in multiple languages (D/E/F/I/J/C) via audio headphones, two music channels

- Food served at your seat. Indian food is available (reservation required)

- Three-course menu: CHF 43
- Dish of the day: CHF 30

- Panorama coaches for first and second class, openplan coaches with central isle and tables, air conditioning and information channel

- One wheelchair-accessible seat and one toilet facility for handicapped persons in the first class of each train; seat reservations: seat no 11, reservation at a ticket counter or travel agency no later than 24 hours prior to start of the journey

- Animals not permitted on the train

- Does not operate between end of October and mid December

Sales information.

- All Swiss Travel System tickets are valid.

- Valid ticket and seat reservations are required. Seat reservations are subject to a surcharge.

- Surcharges apply. Please check with your point of sale.

- Meal reservations: Rhätia Werte AG, Gürtelstrasse 14, CH-7001 Chur, Tel. +41 (0)81 300 15 15, Fax +41 (0)81 300 15 16, sales@bahngastro.ch

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Bernina Express.

The Rhaetian Railway's spectacular Albula and Bernina lines most deservedly enjoy UNESCO World Heritage status. Operating on the world's highest-altitude railroad, the Bernina Express traverses the Alps, thereby linking the north of Europe to the south. In summer, the journey can be extended on board the Bernina Express bus along beautiful Lake Como and through the picturesque villages between Lugano and Tirano (I).

Route: Chur/Davos/St. Moritz > Poschiavo > Tirano > Lugano



Duration: 2h 30 min (St. Moritz-Tirano), 3h 40 min (Davos-Tirano), 4h 13 min (Chur-Tirano,) 3h (Bus Lugano-Tirano)

Good to know.

- Passport or Identity Card required for the border crossing into Italy

- No dining cars on Bernina Express trains; snacks, beverages and souvenirs available on all trains; lunchtime in Poschiavo, Le Prese or in the small Italian town of Tirano

- Bernina Express bus: operates between Tirano and Lugano fromMarch to October

Sales information.

- All Swiss Travel System tickets are valid.

- Valid ticket and seat reservations are required. Seat reservations are subject to a surcharge.

- Surcharges apply. Please check with your point of sales.

- In winter, additional panorama coaches are integrated into regional train compositions serving the routes St. Moritz – Tirano and Chur – St. Moritz.

GoldenPass Line.

8 lakes – 6 cantons – 3 mountain passes – 2 language regions: The GoldenPass line spans Switzerland from Lake Lucerne in Central Switzerland to the gentle vineyards on the shores of Lake Geneva. Travelling in style, either in the VIP front seats of the GoldenPass Panoramic train with open view of the route in front, or in the sumptuous seats of the GoldenPass Classic, your clients truly feel like they're on top of the world.

Route: Luzern > Interlaken > Zweisimmen > Montreux Duration: app. 5h

Good to know.

- Change of train necessary in Interlaken East and Zweisimmen due to track gauge differences



- GoldenPass Classic trains: «Belle É p o q u e » coaches in the first and second class, special wine cellar coaches in the second class. Optional: seat reservations including «dining at the seat»

- Zweisimmen-Montreux, optional: you can reserve an appetizer platter with regional produce

- Bistro coach available on the route Lucerne-Interlaken East

Sales information.

- All Swiss Travel System tickets are valid.
- A valid ticket is required and seat reservations are recommended for individual passengers. For groups, seat reservations are required.
- Reservation fees apply. Please check with your point of sales.
- The various route stages have to be booked separately

For more information about panoramic train journeys click here.

For a relaxed arrival in Switzerland.

Arriving by air.

Switzerland's main airports link perfectly to the country's outstanding public transport network. In Geneva and Zurich, a railway station is located right inside the airport. Trains leave for the city centre every few minutes, taking passengers there within roughly 10 minutes. Additionally, comfortable InterCity trains operate to most other Swiss cities at half-hour intervals. Basel and Bern airports offer a regular and excellently functioning bus service between their airports and city centres. Basel, Zurich and Geneva all provide a rail ticket counter right at the airport to facilitate ticket purchases for the clients.

Travelling by train from Germany.

The highly comfortable ICE trains of the Deutsche Bahn (DB) take travellers quickly straight to all major Swiss cities. Berne, Thun, Interlaken, Zurich and now Chur as well are served on the Rhein axis via Basel. The high standard InterCity and EuroCity trains operate direct services between Munich, Stuttgart and Hamburg to Zurich. In addition, a new direct EuroCity connection has now been

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established from Hamburg to Interlaken via the Ruhr area. More than 35 times a day, the DB fleet sets direct course for its neighbouring Alpine nation.

Travelling by train from France.

The briefer the journey the better – or is that always so? Speed, precision, competence, a warm welcome, excellent catering and first-class service: The high-speed train service TGV Lyria combines the very best of French and Swiss cultures. Beware, however: The journey is such a great experience that passengers might uncharacteristically wish it to last longer.

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Travelling by train from Austria.

The fleet of the Austrian Federal Railways (ÖBB) transports passengers to Switzerland in a swift and most comfortable manner. Night trains link the old imperial city of Vienna, as well as Graz and Villach, to Zurich, which allows passengers to arrive the next morning in a completely rested state. Also, ÖBB's premium rail service «Railjet» takes travellers from Vienna, Salzburg or Innsbruck to Zurich in 2-hour-intervals on a daily basis. As usual, perfect connections from Zurich hub to the rest of Switzerland are guaranteed.

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Travelling by train from Italy.

Wanderlust or just taking a break from everyday routine? From neighbouring Italy, many of the most scenic Swiss cities are only a comfortable train ride away. Enjoying the amenities of state-of-the-art, technically refined tilting trains, passengers travel through curvy Alpine sections not only more smoothly, but also at high speed. This significantly reduces travel time while increasing passenger comfort.

The recently opened Gotthard Base Tunnel is with a length of 57.09 km the world's longest and deepest traffic tunnel. Train services will begin in December 2016 and once fully functional, the tunnel will slice 45 minutes off the travel time between Milano and Zurich.

Purchasing Swiss Travel System tickets.

Rail Europe is the distributor of Swiss Travel System tickets in India. You can purchase passes and find additional information on their B2B website:

http://agents.raileurope.co.in

In case you need you wish to contact them you can reach Executive Director, Kunal Kothari on e-mail: kkothari@ raileuropeindia.com

In addition, you can purchase through the following 10 appointed GSAs in India:

Amigo Travels www.amigotravels.com Cox & Kings www.coxandkings.com Kesari Tours www.kesari.in Make My Trip www.makemytrip.com Ottila International www.ottila.net SOTC www.sotc.in Swisstours www.swisstours.com Thomas Cook www.thomascook.in Travel Tours www.traveltours.in TUI www.tui.in

In order to become a certified Switzerland Specialist, you must complete all four modules. To get started, **<u>REGISTER HERE</u>** and download the study material to get acquainted with Switzerland.

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If you have already registered yourself and would like to test your Knowledge about Switzerland as elaborated in this study material, please **LOGIN** your details here to take test.

To successfully complete the test, please note below:

- You must answer all the questions in each module.
- There is only one correct answer per question.
- Click the submit button to move on to the next module.
- You must qualify for each Module in chronological order with min. 80% (Module-1 >> Module-2 >> Module-3 >> Module-4) before you can proceed to the next module.

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