travel swi^Dzerland

Winter News 2024/2025

Your guide to a successful season

Get ready for a remarkable winter season 2024/25 with the latest news and updates. This edition covers it all: price information, expanded national and international connections, and new project updates from mountain railways. But there's more: The long-awaited return of full service to the Gotthard Base Tunnel is expected for September. Last but not least, we'll spotlight a leader in sustainability that's setting industry standards.

Constant prices and timetable news



© Swiss Travel System AG

In 2025, Swiss public transport prices remain unchanged. That means the Swiss Travel Pass and the Swiss Half Fare Card, beloved by tourists, will remain at their current price point. Tourists will continue to enjoy numerous benefits at the best price. And in line with the timetable change on 15 December 2024, there will be even more to look forward to. Increased frequencies between Munich and Zurich, restored direct services to Bologna, Genoa and Milan, and enhanced connectivity within Switzerland mean more options and convenience. In more good news, the service between Zurich and Brig will run year-round and be extended to Domodossola.

Tickets and Prices

Gotthard Base Tunnel: Full steam ahead from September 2024



© Alp Transit Gotthard AG

Great news! SBB expects the Gotthard Base Tunnel to be fully operational for passenger traffic as early as September 2024. The half-hourly service between German-speaking Switzerland and Ticino will finally be introduced, giving travellers even more connections to choose from. Moreover, travel times will be greatly reduced. Direct trains from Switzerland to Bologna and Genoa, as well as the Eurocity Basel-Lucerne-Milan and the train Frankfurt-Zurich-Milan, will also resume regular operations. The restricted rail traffic through the Gotthard Base Tunnel was due to a derailed freight train in August 2023. The damage to the world's longest railway tunnel was so severe that extensive repairs were necessary, lasting until September 2024. Until the work is completed, most passenger trains will continue to be diverted via the historic Gotthard Panorama Route.

Current information

Schilthornbahn 20XX: To the top in less than 30 minutes



© Schilthornbahn AG

The Schilthornbahn 20XX project brings significant improvements for travellers. The new cableway between Stechelberg and Mürren can transport up to 800 people per hour, doubling the previous capacity. The modern cabins offer even more space and maximum comfort. In the future, freight and luggage logistics on this route will be fully automated. The new railway also sets a record: with a maximum incline of 159.4% in the first section, it will be the steepest aerial cableway in the world. From Mürren, innovative Funifor cableways will connect the stations Birg and Schilthorn. Thanks to optimised connection times, the journey time will always be under 30 minutes. Another advantage is that the Schilthorn will be accessible 365 days a year from spring 2025 onwards. The opening of the first section and the first cableway of the second section is scheduled for 14 December 2024. Just remember: Travel to the Schilthorn will not be possible between mid-October 2024 until mid-March 2025.

<u>Sneak peek</u>

Sustainability



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Public transport not only offers guests a relaxing way to travel, but it's also climate friendly. It's designed to transport large numbers of people at the same time while having minimum impact on the environment. In Switzerland, more and more transport companies have made sustainability a core part of their business strategy. Switzerland Tourism is driving the strategic and sustainable development of Switzerland as a tourism destination with its "Swisstainable" programme. This industry-wide label makes it easy for guests from both within Switzerland and abroad to find and book sustainable travel options. To date, over 100 Swiss mobility partners have joined the initiative. They are making a valuable contribution to the environment and ensuring that our guests can continue to look forward to an exceptional travel experience through our beautiful country.

More about Swisstainable

Zermatt Bergbahnen: Sustainability champions



© Zermatt Bergbahnen AG

Zermatt Bergbahnen AG is the perfect example of a company that takes a holistic approach to sustainability. As a pioneer in social, environmental, and ecological matters, they have been awarded the "Leading" label by Swisstainable. And for good reason: They are committed to solar power, conserve precious water resources, and made barrier-free access to the highest Alpine crossing by cableway a priority. For several years, Zermatt Bergbahnen has been developing a concept for a sustainable ski and hiking area. Additionally, they contribute CHF 1 million annually to environmental projects. Their energy concept, which includes a restaurant on the Matterhorn Glacier Paradise built to Minergie-P standards, has earned them the Swiss and European Solar Prize. But they also act to improve the lives for people abroad through their international aid projects.

Sustainability champions

Pictures are ready for download here.

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