

Mobility

By train and bus

Getting around by car or motorcycle

By bicycle / On foot / On horseback

Driving licence

By train and bus

Public transport in Switzerland is very well developed. Almost all places can be reached by public transport. There are often trains and buses. And they're on time.

Public transport

Public transport is very important in Switzerland. Many people travel by train or bus. Almost all places can be reached several times an hour. The tickets are quite expensive. But there are several ways to save money: discounted tickets or season tickets.

With the SBB Half Fare Travelcard you can travel anywhere in Switzerland for half-price.

Tickets and season tickets

To take the train, you must buy a ticket before departure. You can't buy tickets on trains.

For buses, it is possible to buy the ticket on the bus.

Ticket machines are available at all stations. There are also ticket counters in the main stations. Tickets can also be ordered online on the SBB website or using a mobile phone.

There are several apps (SBB Mobile, FAIRTIQ) that make buying your ticket on your mobile phone easy.

For adults who often take the train or bus

There are different types of season tickets:

- a season ticket for a specific journey (e.g. home – workplace)
- a season ticket for a specific area (e.g. the Vagabond network in the Jura)
- a season ticket for the whole of Switzerland (SBB GA Travelcard)

You cannot transfer your subscription to someone else.

A season ticket holder must be able to prove their identity (show their ID if requested by the controller).

For children

Children up to the age of 6 travel free of charge.

Children up to the age of 16 can travel cheaply.

For example, with the Junior Travelcard if they are accompanied by one of their parents, or the Children's Co-Travelcard if they are accompanied by another adult.

You can find more information about tickets and season tickets on the websites of the Chemins de fer fédéraux (CFF) (Federal Railways (SBB)), the Chemins de fer du Jura (CJ) (Jura Railways (CJ)) or the bus company (Mobiju), or directly at the ticket office at a railway station.

In the Canton of Jura: the Vagabond network

You can buy a season ticket to get around freely in the Canton of Jura. It's called the Vagabond network.

You can purchase the season ticket for one zone or several zones, depending on your needs.

You can buy it for a month or for a whole year.

If you travel outside of the selected areas, you will need to purchase another ticket.

Municipal day passes

To travel freely throughout Switzerland for 1 day, you can purchase a **Saver Day Pass**. You can buy these in many municipalities for a cheaper price. For more information, please contact your municipality.

As many people ask for them, they should be booked early enough.

You can also find saver tickets on the SBB website.

On this site, the earlier you buy them, the cheaper they are.

The Noctambus

In the Canton of Jura, some buses and trains run late at night at weekends. These are the Noctambus.

Normal tickets, the Half Fare Travelcard, the GA Travelcard, the GA Night and the Vagabond Travelcard are valid on the Noctambus.

No need to pay extra.

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

www.bonjour-jura.ch/en/mobility/by-train-and-bus

Getting around by car or motorcycle

The roads in Switzerland are well developed. Traffic rules are very important. If they are not respected, the fines are high.

Traffic rules

It is very important to respect traffic rules in Switzerland.

If the rules are not followed, the fines are very high and your licence may be revoked.

Some important rules:

- Everyone sitting in a car must wear a seat belt.
- Children up to 12 years old, or less than 150 cm tall, must be seated in a suitable car seat. This is mandatory.
- Driving after consuming alcohol (legal limit of 0.5‰) or drugs is punishable by law.
- It is forbidden to hold a phone in your hand while driving.

Phones can only be used with a hands-free setup.

- Headlamps (dipped beam) must be switched on, even during the day.
- In towns and villages the speed is generally limited to 50 km/h.

But some streets may be limited to 30 km/h or 20 km/h.

It is important to watch the road signs carefully.

- Outside towns and villages the speed is limited to 80 km/h.
- On motorways, the speed is limited to 120 km/h. Sometimes you have to slow down to 100 km/h or even lower.

It is important to watch the road signs carefully.

- You must overtake the left. But it is forbidden to overtake when the white line is continuous.
- Pedestrians always have priority when using a pedestrian crossing (yellow lines) to cross the road.
- In the event of an accident, if anyone is injured or a vehicle damaged the police must be called.

Motorway charges

In Switzerland, the state finances the roads. You can drive for free on the roads, except on the motorways.

To drive on the motorways you have to buy a vignette. This is valid for one year.

It can be purchased as a sticker (vignette) at customs, at petrol stations, at the post office, in some shops or from the cantonal road traffic offices. It must be affixed to the windscreen (front window) of the vehicle.

It can also be purchased electronically on the internet.

Insurance

In Switzerland, you must have insurance for a motor vehicle (car, motorcycle, etc.): motor vehicle liability insurance. This is mandatory.

This insurance covers the costs if there are injuries or damage to other people's vehicles.

Motor vehicle liability insurance is not included in private third-party liability insurance. That's another form of insurance.

For damage to your own vehicle, you can pay comprehensive insurance (partial or full). This insurance is not mandatory.

But be careful: if you are at fault, or if you have drunk alcohol or taken drugs, the insurance company may refuse to pay.

There are several private insurers that offer these types of insurance.

Importing a motor vehicle from abroad

If you want to live in Switzerland and bring your car from another country, you must notify the customs service. Your vehicle needs to be cleared from customs. This means presenting the vehicle documents and paying taxes.

The vehicle must also pass a roadworthiness inspection.

It is mandatory to have:

- motor vehicle third-party liability insurance,
- a Swiss driving licence,
- and a Swiss registration number (plate).

The Office cantonal des véhicules (Cantonal Vehicle Office) (OVJ) will provide you with all the information you need.

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

www.bonjour-jura.ch/en/mobility/getting-around-by-car-or-motorcycle

By bicycle / On foot / On horseback

The network of cycle paths in the Jura is very well developed. It's very pleasant to ride a bicycle. There are many hiking trails to do on foot. And the Jura is also known for its many paths for horseback riding.

Getting around on foot, by bicycle or on horseback

In general, it is pleasant and safe to get around on foot or by bicycle in towns and villages in the Jura. In many places there are pavements for pedestrians, streets without cars and cycle paths.

For this reason, many people choose to make short trips by bicycle or on foot.

At pedestrian crossings, pedestrians always have priority over all vehicles. But they must always be alert to oncoming vehicles.

You can walk along beautiful hiking trails in the Canton of Jura. These paths are marked with yellow signs.

There are also trails specially designed for horseback riding.

You can find more information in the tourist offices in Saignelégier, St-Ursanne, Porrentruy and Delémont. Or on the Jura Tourisme (Jura Tourism) website.

How to ride a bicycle: the rules of the road

You do not have to hold a licence or pass an exam to ride a non-electric bicycle in Switzerland.

In general, cyclists must follow the same rules of the road as motorists. Where there are cycle lanes, cyclists must use them.

The bicycle must be in good condition: it must have two working brakes, a bell, parts that shine at night (reflectors) at the front and rear and on the pedals, and a light at the front and rear.

Wearing a helmet is not mandatory, but it is highly recommended.

Pro Vélo Jura offers courses to learn how to ride a bicycle.

Private third-party liability insurance covers damage to persons and property if you have an accident with your bicycle.

Electric bicycles: slow, fast and heavy

To ride a slow electric bicycle (up to 25 km/h, without a number plate) you must be at least 14 years old. And up to the age of 16, you need to have a category M driving licence. After that, it is no longer mandatory.

It is advisable to wear a helmet, but it is not mandatory.

To ride a **fast electric bicycle** (up to 45 km/h, with a yellow number plate) or a **heavy electric bicycle** (cargo bicycle up to 450 kg and 25 km/h, with a yellow number plate), you also need an M licence (or higher). This is also allowed from the age of 14.

You need to have a speedometer on your bicycle. And helmets must be worn.

For all types of electric bicycles, the headlights should always remain on, even during the day.

Electric scooters

Riders of electric scooters must follow the same rules as cyclists. It is therefore forbidden to ride on pavements.

It is advisable to wear a helmet, but it is not mandatory.

It is forbidden to carry a passenger.

Please note: many scooters sold do not meet Swiss standards. They may not be used on public roads. You can have your scooter checked by the Office cantonal des véhicules (Cantonal Vehicle Office) (CVO).

Buying a bicycle for a low price

Used and inexpensive bicycles can be found in bicycle exchanges (held once or twice a year) or in solidarity shops.

Transporting your bicycle

To transport a bicycle by train or bus, you need to buy a special ticket.

It is not always possible to take a bicycle with you. You must check first. On some trains, you have to reserve a place for your bicycle.

<https://www.sbb.ch/fr/informations-voyages/besoins-individuels/voyager-avec-velo/transport-velo-train.html>

Transporting bicycles on the train (FR)

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

www.bonjour-jura.ch/en/mobility/by-bicycle-on-foot-on-horseback

Driving licence

To drive a car or motorcycle in Switzerland you must hold a driving licence. When you move to Switzerland, your foreign driving licence must be exchanged for a Swiss one.

Foreign driving licence

When you move to Switzerland, if you already hold a driving licence you must exchange it for a Swiss one. You have 12 months to do so. You must submit your request to the Office cantonal des véhicules (Cantonal Vehicle Office) (CVO). Depending on the country you come from, there may be conditions you have to meet to receive your Swiss driving licence. You may need to take a theory and/or practical test. The Office cantonal des véhicules (Cantonal Vehicle Office) (CVO) will provide you with all the relevant information.

Driving theory test

If you want to take your practical driving licence, you must first pass a theory test. You need to answer questions.

In the Canton of Jura the theory test can be taken in French, German, Italian and English. The Office cantonal des véhicules (Cantonal Vehicle Office) (CVO) will provide you with all the information.

Practical driving test

Once you have passed your theory test you will receive a provisional permit. It is advisable to take driving lessons with a professional instructor. The instructor will tell you when you are ready to take the practical driving test.

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

www.bonjour-jura.ch/en/mobility/driving-licence