By bus & train

Swiss punctuality and public transport

Public transport is of great importance in Switzerland. Almost every village is accessible, and services are punctual and run at regular intervals. Passengers who travel regularly by bus and train should buy a travelcard, as individual journeys on Switzerland's public transport network are comparatively expensive. The relatively cheap Half Fare Travelcard (CHF 165/year) allows you to travel on public transport (and some cable cars and boats) throughout Switzerland at half price.

Tickets and travelcards

If you want to travel by train, you must buy a ticket before boarding the train. Tickets can only be purchased directly on the train if there is no ticket machine at the departure station. Buses are subject to a different system. Ticket machines can be found at every station and at most bus stops, and there are staffed ticket counters in the larger stations. Tickets can also be purchased online or via mobile phone. There are various travelcards available for people who travel frequently. These are available for individual routes, individual areas (tariff associations) or the entire Swiss transport network (GA travelcard). Children under six travel for free. Children up to the age of 16 can travel with their parents or grandparents almost free of charge if they have a Junior travelcard or Cildren's Co-travelcard. Information on tickets and travelcards can be obtained from Swiss Federal Railways (SBB) or bus companies.

Swiss Federal Railways (Schweizerische Bundesbahnen SBB) / www.sbb.ch

Day Passes from your municipality

If you are planning a longer trip within Switzerland, many municipalities offer Day Passes at reduced prices (Gemeindetageskarte). However, be sure to book early, as only a limited number of Day Passes are available. Further information can be obtained from the municipal administration.

The ABC of municipalities

For night owls

If you want to party longer at the weekend, you can take advantage of the PostBus's night bus service on certain routes. The service is geared towards the routes along the valley floor between Brig/Naters and Salgesch. A separate night bus ticket must be purchased from the driver.

Bettmobil / www.bettmobil.ch

Reference: www.hallo-aargau.ch