SCIC-NRT Switzerland

Special Conditions of International Carriage (SCIC) for Non-Integrated Reservation Tickets (NRT)

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Swiss Federal Railways (SBB) AG
Passenger Services Markets Division, International Pricing
Trüsselstrasse 2, CH-3000 Bern 65

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Part 1: General Provisions

1. Areas of application

Areas of application (PDF, Link) for Alliance SwissPass

2. Industry organisation

Alliance SwissPass (Link) is the industry organisation for public transport and brings together 250 transport companies and 18 fare networks. Alliance SwissPass is committed to harmonised, comprehensible and economical fare regulations, modern and attractive sales solutions and customer-focused product ranges and information systems throughout Switzerland.

Unless otherwise specified, the provisions of Tariff 600, Tariff 601 shall apply (Link).

3. Managing railway data transmission

SBB represents all the private Swiss transport enterprises included in the SCIC – NRT and is thus the legal point of contact. Tickets are issued with the carrier code <1185>.

4. Data transmission

All data can be downloaded via the UIC DRTF platform. Tickets can only be issued for the published routes. The use of other documents to determine routes or distances is not permitted.

SBB publishes a price table with route-specific prices in accordance with the SCIC – NRT 108.1 provisions. No distance-dependent price table is published. Each series comes with a price which corresponds to this route.

The fares are published in **EUROS**. The price for a return journey is the same as the price for two one-way journeys.

On certain routes or sections of routes specially designated in the timetable, 1st class travel is not offered. The correct fares are already calculated within the route price table.

The data is divided into:
- Transit routes
- Border – domestic connections
- Swiss national traffic connections

5. Point-to-point tickets

Point-to-point tickets are issued for:
- One-way journeys
- Return journeys

6. Billing

Billing is carried out in accordance with UIC leaflet 301.

7. Luggage handling

Points of sale proceed in accordance with their company provisions.

8. Children

Children aged between 6 and 15.99 years old (1 day before their 16th birthday) pay half the adult fare.

9. Seat reservation

➔ For trains marked with “R” (reservation possible) in the timetable, seats can only be booked using electronic seat reservation.

- Trains and buses with compulsory seat reservations are marked accordingly in the timetable.
- If no electronic seat reservation is possible, seats can only be reserved for groups. Departments proceed in accordance with their company provisions.
- No surcharges are levied on Switzerland’s national long-distance services.
- The electronic reservation system transmits seat reservations which include the surcharges for tourist offers.

10. Group travel

- In the international context, the provisions specified in SCIC-NRT, section 12.4 apply.
  ➔ In the national context, the provisions specified in T600, section 9 and T601, section 5 apply (Link)

10.1. Registration of groups

Seats on **national long-distance services** are booked as follows:

- Up to 9 people (in conjunction with an international journey, the minimum number for groups is specified in SCIC-NRT, section 12.4): in one step, via electronic seat reservation.
  ➔ For 10 people or more: bookings should be made here:
  Swiss Federal Railways SBB
  Tel.: SBB Contact Center 0848 44 66 88 (CHF 0.08/Min.)

For **cross-border traffic**, seats for up to 36 people can be booked in a single step via electronic seat reservation.

11. Swiss discount cards

11.1. Area of validity

Area of validity (interactive map, Link) for Alliance SwissPass

11.2. Half Fare Travelcard

11.2.1. General

The Half Fare Travelcards of the Swiss transport companies entitle the holder to purchase 1st and 2nd class tickets for one-way and return journeys with a 50% reduction on the standard tariff on the routes within the Half-Fare validity area. The provisions for individual passengers apply to the issue of tickets with the 50% reduction.

All travelcards are issued to a specific person. If the card is used by another person or the details are modified, this is considered forgery and is subject to prosecution.

11.2.2. Type of travelcard

11.2.2.1. Card

Half Fare Travelcards on the SwissPass carrier medium are issued in credit card format and bear the following information:

- Front: ‘SwissPass’, photograph, date of birth, first and last name of holder
  - ➔ Back: RFID logo, QR code, barcode, card number

Provisions according to T600.4 (Link)

11.2.2.2. Temporary travelcards

Until the holder receives their newly ordered travelcard, they will be issued with a temporary travelcard on SBB security paper. This is valid for 14 days (and must be presented together with a passport or identity card).

11.2.3. Example

Example travelcards are listed in the appendix section 166.

11.2.4. Inspection

On all routes which entitle passengers to reduced fares, the passenger must present the travelcard together with the ticket during on-board ticket inspection.

11.3. GA Travelcard

11.3.1. General

The GA Travelcards of the Swiss transport companies is valid for 1st and 2nd class. Holders of GA Travelcards require a ticket to the Swiss border point (they receive a reduction of 100/50% on the standard fare from the Swiss transport enterprises).

All travelcards are issued to a specific person. If the card is used by another person or the details are modified, this is considered forgery and is subject to prosecution.

11.3.2. Type of travelcard

11.3.2.1. Card

GA Travelcards on the SwissPass carrier medium are issued in credit card format and bear the following information:

- Front: ‘SwissPass’, photograph, date of birth, first and last name of holder
  - ➔ Back: RFID logo, QR code, barcode, card number

Provisions according to T600.4 (Link)

11.3.2.2. Temporary travelcards

Until the holder receives their newly ordered travelcard, they will be issued with a temporary travelcard on SBB security paper. This is valid for 14 days (and must be presented together with a passport or identity card).

11.3.3. Example

Example travelcards are listed in the appendix section 166.

11.3.4. Inspection

On all routes which entitle passengers to reduced fares, the passenger must present the travelcard together with the ticket during on-board ticket inspection (bilateral agreement).

12. Various

Smoking is prohibited in all transport companies and at all buildings belonging to public transport.

Part 2: Issuance Provisions

13. Issuance regulation

The issuance of point-to-point tickets is governed by UIC Code 106 “Special Conditions of International Carriage for Non-Integrated Reservation Tickets 108.1 (SCIC – NRT)”.

13.1. Series from/to border stations:

The issuance of tickets from border points/stations for entirely national journeys (e.g. Geneva–Bern) is **not** permitted. VAT is not charged on tickets for published routes from/to Swiss border stations, and such tickets may only be issued if:

- the passenger already holds one or more NRT tickets or IRT tickets to or from this Swiss border station which, considered as a whole, represent an international journey.
- a second series has been published for the same route, incl. VAT.

Example:

Multiple tickets	Ticket 1: IRT - TGV Lyria ticket Paris–Geneva Ticket 2: Geneva–Bern → Tickets constitute an international journey, series may be issued.
Multiple series	Domodossola (I)–Brig: • Series 2543: with no VAT → may not be issued as a purely national journey • Series 2544: with VAT → may be issued as a purely national journey

This affects published routes from/to the following Swiss border stations:

- Annemasse
- Basel Bad Bf
- Basel SBB
- Buchs SG
- Chiasso
- Domodossola (I)
- Friedrichshafen Fähre
- Genève
- Konstanz
- Landeck-Zams, Busbahnhof
- Le Châtelard-Frontière
- Le Locle-Frontière
- Schaffhausen
- St. Margrethen SG
- Tirano
- Waldshut

Swiss airports and the French harbour towns of Thonon-les-Bains (Lac), Evian-les-Bains (Lac) and Yvoire (Lac) are **not** considered to be border points.

14. Validity

14.1. Validity period

- 4 days, in the international context the provisions specified in SCIC-NRT, section 7 apply.
- 1 day, in the national context the provisions specified in T601, section 2.8 apply (Link).

14.2. Route instructions

The route instructions include important intermediate stations. Transfer points to private railways, boats and Postbuses are indicated wherever possible.

14.2.1. Simplified route instructions on SCIC – NRT tickets

In order to shorten or simplify the route instructions, the intermediate stations or the means of transport are sometimes not printed on the tickets.

14.3. Selectable routes

On certain routes, the passenger has the choice between two different routes of travel, even if the route instructions do not mention this (= selectable route). Nevertheless, the travel route chosen must be maintained once it has been begun.

Due to simplified route information, optional routes are not always listed on the ticket. The validity of the tickets is as follows:

Route	Route of travel
Basel Bad Bf / Basel SBB–Biel/Bienne	Delémont or Olten
Basel Bad Bf / Basel SBB–Lausanne	Bern or Biel/Bienne
Basel Bad Bf / Basel SBB–Zurich	Frick or Olten
Bern–Lucerne	Zofingen or Olten
Geneva–Zurich	Bern or Biel/Bienne
Interlaken Ost–Jungfraujoch	Grindelwald or Lauterbrunnen
Olten–Lausanne / Geneva	Bern or Biel/Bienne
Romanshorn–Lausanne / Geneva	Bern or Biel/Bienne
Schaffhausen–Zurich	Eglisau or Winterthur
Zurich–Lausanne / Geneva	Bern or Biel/Bienne
Lötschberg	See section 14.5
Gotthard	See section 14.6

14.4. Validity of tickets on trains, boats or buses

The validity of tickets for **individual travellers** and **groups** is specific to either trains or boats. Only series with the appropriate routing (boat) may be used, for example:

- Series 63685: Flüelen–Lucerne **<1185>Boat**
- Series 30783: Flüelen–Lucerne **<1185>(not specified = train)**

Tickets which include a bus route are marked “bus” in the route instructions, for example:

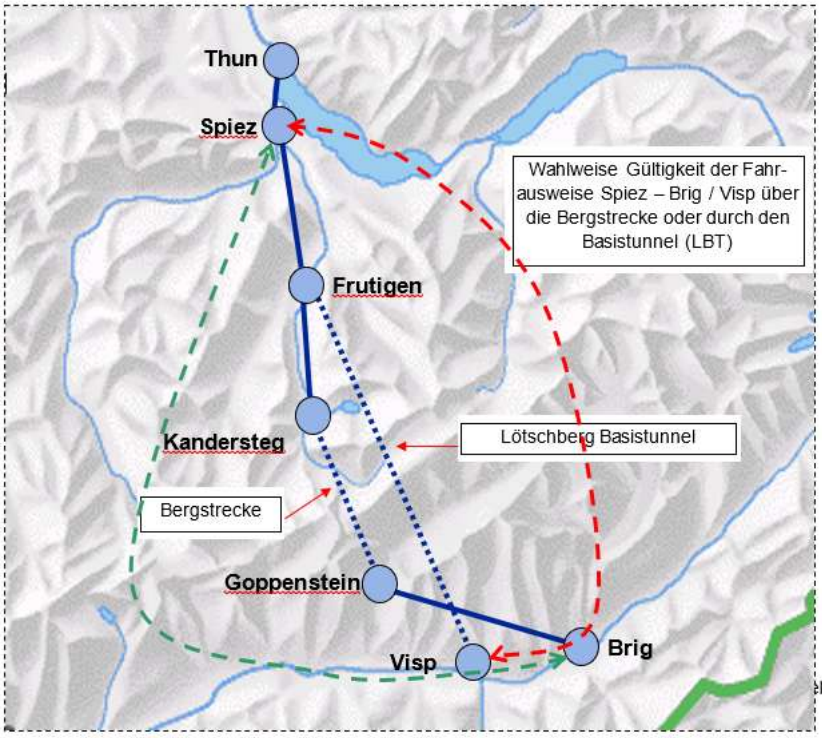
- Series 17: Chiasso–Chur **<1185> Lugano – Bellinzona – Bus – S.Bernardino – Bus**

Certain connections may be subject to a surcharge and/or require a reservation. These connections are marked as such in the timetable. Customers unable to pay for the surcharge or reservation from another country must do so at the station before departure.

14.5. Lötschberg tariffs

14.5.1. Geographical representation

Spiez–Brig / Visp via the mountain route or through the base tunnel (LBT)

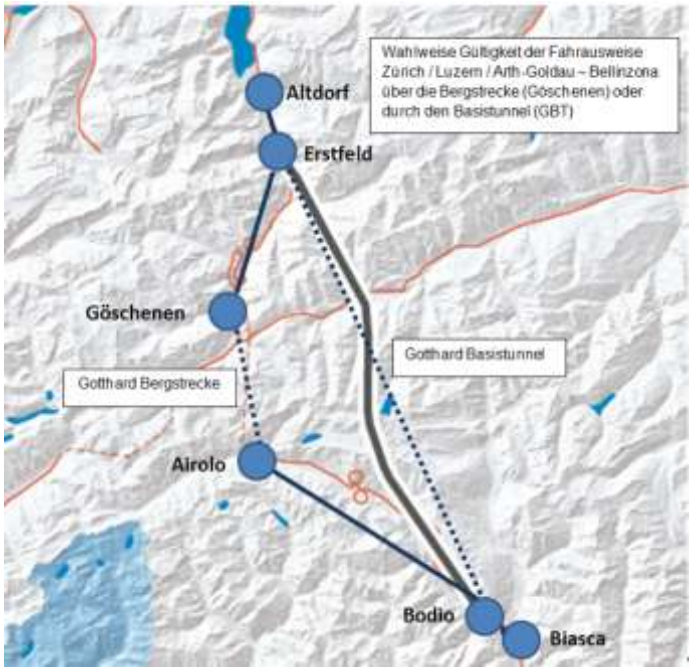


All SCIC – NRT – tickets offer a free choice between travelling through the base tunnel or via the mountain route (Kandersteg). Distances and prices are identical.
The choice regarding validity also applies to transit traffic (e.g. Basel Bad Bf–Zermatt).

14.6. Gotthard tariffs

14.6.1. Geographical representation

Zurich / Lucerne / Arth-Goldau–Bellinzona via the mountain route (Göschenen) or through the base tunnel (GBT).



All SCIC – NRT – tickets offer a free choice between travelling through the base tunnel or via the mountain route (Göschenen). Distances and prices are identical.
The choice regarding validity also applies to transit traffic (e.g. Basel Bad Bf–Chiasso).

Part 3: Tourist Traffic

15. Tourist traffic overview

Tourist traffic	Route	Website
Gotthard Panorama Express	Lucerne–(Boat)–Flüelen–Göschenen–Bellinzona/ Lugano	www.sbb.ch/en/gotthard-panorama-express
Glacier Express	Zermatt–St. Moritz	www.glacierexpress.ch/en
Bernina Express (train)	• Chur–Tirano • St. Moritz–Tirano	http://www.berninaexpress.ch/en
Bernina Express (bus)	Lugano–Tirano	
Golden Pass Line	• Montreux–Zweisimmen (– Lenk i/S) • Zweisimmen–Interlaken Ost • Interlaken Ost–Lucerne	/www.goldenpass.ch/en
Palm Express	St. Moritz–Lugano	Palm Express

15.1. Range of tourist tickets

Swiss Travel System / (regional passes) → www.swisstravelsystem.com

16. Example SwissPass

Front	
Back	
Front of previous SwissPass. Issued until mid-December 2021 in circulation until the end of 2026	