



Visa requirements for entering Switzerland

Information on visa requirements for entering Switzerland can be found on the website of the Swiss Federal Office for Migration (www.bfm.admin.ch). As the time needed for a visa request varies from case to case, visitors are strongly recommended to take the necessary steps well in advance (at least 15 days before the intended visit), so that the visa can be issued in the time required. Applications are generally processed within 10–15 days. If you need a visa support letter from the BIS as part of your visa application, please let us know as soon as possible.

For visa information, please contact BIS Meeting Services (meeting.services@bis.org).



Meeting participants are expected to take care of their own transportation from and to Basel main railway station (Basel SBB) and regional airports (Zurich Airport and EuroAirport Basel Mulhouse Freiburg), unless transportation services have been offered in the registration form and the participant has provided the necessary arrival and departure information.



Transportation

Arriving/leaving by train

Trains from major European cities arrive at Basel SBB, which is situated on Centralbahnplatz, about two minutes' walk from the BIS.

Eurocity trains from Germany arrive first at Basel Badischer Bahnhof (Basel Bad Bf) before continuing to Basel SBB. Stay on the train until Basel SBB.



From and to Zurich Airport

The best public transport option from Zurich Airport to Basel is the train. A Swiss Federal Railways (SBB) station is located beneath the airport. There is one direct train to Basel SBB every hour. The journey takes about 75 minutes.

All other connections to Basel SBB are via Zurich main railway station (Zurich HB). In the airport, ticket machines are located in arrival halls 1 and 2, just above the station, and they accept most credit cards. Tickets can also be purchased on your mobile phone through the SBB app. The cost of a second class ticket is approximately CHF 40. Train schedules can be checked at www.sbb.ch/en.



From and to EuroAirport Basel Mulhouse Freiburg

As its name suggests, EuroAirport Basel Mulhouse Freiburg is shared between cities in Switzerland, France and Germany. After claiming your luggage, please make sure to leave the arrival area through the exit marked "Switzerland" (right-hand side) not "France" (left-hand side).



Hotel accommodation

There are several hotels located within 5-10 minutes' walk of the BIS (see Location map). Unless otherwise agreed, you are responsible for settling your hotel bill. All hotels accept major credit cards.



Public transport in and around Basel

Guests in local hotels receive a Mobility Ticket upon check-in, allowing them free use of the Basel public transport network for the duration of their stay. Tram lines 1, 2, 8, 10 and 11 all pass through Centralbahnplatz. Please note that pedestrians must give way to trams in all cases.



Taxis

Taxi ranks are located in front of Basel SBB on Centralbahnplatz and in front of the Coop supermarket next to McDonald's, directly opposite the station. Fares are subject to change, but a five-minute ride is likely to cost at least CHF 20, and a 15-minute ride to the airport costs about CHF 50. Taxis accept CHF, EUR and major credit cards.