

Visitor information

Language

Switzerland has four official languages: German, French, Italian and Romansh. Moreover Alemannic dialects, known as Schwiizertütsch (Swiss German), are spoken in public and private life in Switzerland. Zurich is located in the German speaking part. English is widely spoken in hotels, restaurants and shops.

Currency

The Swiss Franc is the currency of Switzerland. It is denoted with the abbreviation CHF or, alternately, SFr. or Fr. Switzerland is not a member of the European Union (EU). Shops may accept Euros but are not obliged to do so. [Currency Converter](#)

Visa Information

A visa is required for entry into Switzerland for nationals of many countries. [For a complete list, please see visa requirements.](#)

The time required to issue a visa might take 6-8 weeks, sometimes more depending on the season. Please check with the Swiss Embassy of your country. Also, [please visit the official website for further information.](#)

Emergency Numbers

Police: 117

Fire: 118

Ambulance: 144

[Important Telephone Numbers](#)

Public Holidays

Please click [here](#) to check the local public holidays and check the [event calendar](#) for other events taking place in Zurich.

Shop Opening Hours

- City of Zurich: Monday-Friday 09h00-18h30/20h00, Saturday 09h00-16h00/18h00

- Zurich Main Railway Station, Railway Station Zurich Stadelhofen and Zurich Airport: Monday-Friday 08h00-21h00, Saturday-Sunday 08h00-20h00

[Shopping](#)

Banking

Regular banking hours are from Monday to Friday from 08h30 to 16h30.

Automatic Teller Machines

There are many international ATMs (with 24 hours access), also known as automated banking machines or cash machines, located in the city, at the airport, the main railway station and banks.

Tip

Service is included (taxi, restaurants, hairdresser, etc.). Nevertheless, a small (5%) extra tip may be given for good and friendly service.

Climate

Zurich has four distinct seasons: Spring from March to May, Summer from June to August, Fall from September to November and Winter from December to February. The average summer daytime temperature lies around 22 °C (72 °F). The humidity level is pleasant. In winter, the temperatures generally fluctuate between -2 and 3.5 °C (28 – 38 °F). The sun shines in Zurich for around 1'482 hours a year. It rains throughout the year, with an average rainfall of around 90 mm (0.35 inch) per month. [Weather in Zurich today.](#)
[Zurich Webcam](#)

Electricity

The current used throughout Switzerland is 230 Volts (AC), 50 cycles. Most power sockets are designed for three-pin round plugs. The standard continental type plug with two round pins, applied for many electrical travel products, may be used without problem. Many hotels provide adaptors for laptops and battery chargers. But it is recommended to bring your own adaptors to avoid inconveniences of any kind.

Cell phone / Mobile phone

Switzerland operates on a GSM network. For Europeans and many other countries, this means that your current phone will probably work in Switzerland. If you are coming from North America or parts of Asia, you may have a CDMA phone, which will not work.

Internet

Wi-Fi internet connections are available at the airport, in restaurants, coffee stores and hotels in Zurich. More and more hotels, restaurants and bars provide free access to Wi-Fi.

Public Telephone Booths

As a rule, all hotels add a surcharge for phone calls. You can make cashless domestic and international calls from public phone boxes in Switzerland. The following payment options are available: Taxcard; Swiss and Euro coins (depending on equipment); Credit cards (only possible with new devices). The Taxcard can be purchased from Swisscom Shops, post offices, kiosks and petrol stations for CHF 5, CHF 10 and CHF 20.

Location and Arrival

Location: Zurich is located in the heart of Europe, at the center of Switzerland, 409 m (1,342 ft) above sea level.

Zurich International Airport has direct connections to over 150 destinations, is just a 10-minute train ride from the city center, and received awards as "Europe's Leading Airport" in 2004–2009. You can find a map of the airport at [Zurich Airport Site Plans](#)

The Zurich Main Railway Station has Intercity trains departing to popular Swiss destinations and European cities as frequently as every 30 minutes. For the map of the station see [Plan Zurich Main Railway Station](#).

Further information is available at [Location and arrival](#).

Public Transport

Zurich has excellent public transport. In the city, buses and tramways run every few minutes. In addition, S-Bahn trains run every 15 to 30 minutes. The same ticket can be used on tramways, buses, S-Bahn trains and ships within the city of Zurich (Fare Zone 10). A single ticket costs 4 CHF and is valid for 2 hours. A 'day pass' costs only 8 CHF, but lasts 24 hours and can be used multiple times within the city. Tickets can be purchased from machines at stops. Tickets cannot be purchased on board.

Closest stop to the venue: **Museum für Gestaltung**, tramway numbers 4 and 13.



[City of Zurich Public Transportation Network](#)

ZurichCARD

The city pass [ZurichCARD](#), (19 CHF for 1 day, 38 for 3 days) includes travel around Zurich, including the airport, and a variety of offers and reductions in Zurich.

Taxi

There are taxi stops at the airport and railway station. You can call a taxi at **+41 44 444 44 44** at no extra charge. There is no uniform colour for taxis, but they have "Taxi" on the roof. Fully illuminated means they are free and can be flagged down.

[Taxi Zurich](#)

Quality of Living

Named by Mercer Human Resource Consulting as a city with a first-class [quality of living](#).

General Information

The Zurich [Tourist Service](#) at Zurich Main Railway Station is open 365 days a year: Monday-Saturday 08h00-20h30, Sunday 8h30-18h30