

Everything  
about  
Eurail Pass

What, When, Where, Who, How of Eurail  
Pass

<http://www.eurail.com/>



**Eurail Pass is rail pass that any non-European Union resident can buy that can be used in 21 countries in Europe that the Eurail includes**

*The Global Pass*

- o This is the Pass you will most likely get since you would probably want to travel as many countries in Europe as possible
- o There are unlimited 15 days to 3 months or 10 or 15 days within 2 months for 21 countries

### The countries Include:

Austria	Belgium	Croatia
Czech Republic	Denmark	Finland
France	Germany	Greece
Hungary	Ireland	Italy
Luxembourg	Netherlands	Norway
Portugal	Romania	Slovenia
Spain	Sweden	Switzerland



### Getting Your Eurail Pass

- It takes about a month to receive the pass (unless you buy with express mail)
- Eurail pass comes with map and time tables which can be helpful.
- Eurail passes are very flimsy (literally a paper ticket) and will have to be stored with care to last for 3 months

### How the Pass Works

- You MUST Verify the Eurail Pass before you start using them or you will have to pay a fine
- If you have the Unlimited Pass, all you have to show is your pass and your reservation if needed (see later under "booking reservations")
- If you have the 10 or 15 day passes, you must write the date you got on the train before the train ticketing officer comes to check your ticket. If you do not write the date, you will have to pay penalty.
- Read the rules on the date policy online carefully. For example, after 7pm the ticket usage can carry over to next day

### Once You Have It

- If travelling far, might have to change stations several times
- It helps to figure out which stations and trains ahead
- Not every travelling routes are online - sometimes you have to ask the ticketing worker to help you figure the route out
- [www.bahn.de/International/view/en/Index.shtml](http://www.bahn.de/International/view/en/Index.shtml) - this German train website is best



Inside the French TGV



German ICE train

### Booking Reservations

- Many train rides crossing the country borders need reservations
- Book your reservations ASAP because they get fully booked quickly, especially the French trains
- Price generally ranges from 3 Euros to 20 Euros
- For overnight rides, booking for "beds" costs mostly 20 Euros per person.
- You might not be able to book the reservation ahead from Metz for non-French trains. Don't panic and just book the reservations in that country
- Sometimes it is cheaper for domestic tickets to just buy tickets if travelling within same country

### While Travelling, Expect...

- Do bring: Eurail pass, passport, reservation
- Train ticketing person will walk around and check everyone's ticket once you are on the train
- Police control/police dogs
- Random checks
  - This is usually done by police and happens when you cross the country border into next
  - They only do extensive check randomly on few people so if you get picked, don't feel like they're picking on you
- Passport collection
  - They might ask to collect your passports to check. Just make sure you get yours back!
- Meet some very interesting people
  - You will meet variety of people from loud group of European teenagers to very smelly athletes
  - Just be nice to people, they'll generally be nice back to you
- Hopping on trains without reservations
  - You might forget to book reservation or the train might be fully booked. Although not recommended you can still hop of the train and pay the fine (will vary and will depend on the train ticketing person)

- Most trains have electrical outlets that will work when the trains are running but in some trains it is tricky to find where it is. Most times, they are on the far end in the middle around the tables for the "room" trains and either above the seats or under the seats for trains with rows of seats. For the bed night trains, the outlets are on the walls.



#### Other Options

One might opt for cheap airlines to travel instead of the planes, such as Easyjet or Ryanair if planning to travel afar. One thing to note is that trains usually take you to the center of the city while the planes will land hour or two from the city, especially Ryanair.

## Experiences by the Students



Night Trains with Beds

### oSplitting Trains

- *Some trains especially those that are long and travel long distances may split during the journey and different parts will go to different cities. DO NOT change into other carts for you might wake up the next day in the wrong city like some people did...*

### oTalk the Talk

- *If you do not have reservations or gotten on the wrong train, etc, try to find the ticking agent in the train before he/she find you. Sometime for fines they seem to call random numbers to charge and if you are nice to them you'll see the fine they charge will go down...*

Overall, the trains in Europe are very good means of transportation from within and between countries.

Take advantage of them and enjoy your train rides!