



InterRail Media Kit 2012

InterRail Background Information

InterRail Passes were first created in 1972 and before long the concept of “InterRailing” became synonymous with fun, freedom and adventure. It was a unique experience not to be missed by young adults, many of whom took a long summer break or even a GAP year to embark upon a truly unforgettable adventure through Europe before committing themselves to university life. With one rail pass, travellers could jump on any train within the participating European rail network; a truly inimitable product. The original intention of InterRail was to offer backpacking youths, under the age of 26, the opportunity to use the train to discover new countries and cultures in an affordable and safe way.



In the years which followed, the pass was developed to include adult passengers and the original coverage of 21 countries was expanded to the 30 countries that we have today. The Eurail Group G.I.E. has a pass to suit every customer and to date, over 8 million people have travelled with an InterRail Pass.

What is InterRail?

Many people have the preconception that InterRail is a train; however, InterRail is simply a rail pass which offers a unique way to travel through Europe by rail. InterRail is the result of a long-standing cooperation between a wide range of railway companies, all of which have their own unique characteristics, rules and policies.

The Eurail Group acts as the central link between all the member railway networks in order to streamline the product offer as much as possible. Nevertheless, the railways ultimately are responsible for their own rail services. As a result, in some cases, luxury services, such as high-speed trains and night trains, fall outside the scope of the InterRail Pass and compulsory seat/bed reservations may need to be purchased separately.

Eurail Group G.I.E.

InterRail Passes are managed by the Eurail Group G.I.E. based in Utrecht, the Netherlands. The Group was established in 2001 as a registered non-profit organisation in order to effectively manage European rail passes on behalf of the participating European railways. At that point in time, the Eurail Group was responsible only for Eurail Passes; which were founded in 1959 and aimed at overseas visitors.



Following many successful years of Eurail Pass sales, the European railways decided to also hand over the running of InterRail Passes (then managed

by the French railways, SNCF) to the Eurail Group. With declining sales and a lack of commercial focus, the time was right for a new impetus with product management and marketing at its heart, in order to generate the much needed brand awareness. The Management takeover by Eurail Group was consequently announced in April 2007.

The Eurail Group is wholly owned by all the participating railways and shipping companies, with revenues being calculated and shared according to the number of kilometres travelled on each network. Key decisions are taken by the board, consisting of eight appointed member railways.

April 2007 – A New Beginning

In April 2007, InterRail underwent a complete make-over as a fundamental part of the management takeover by the Eurail Group.

A clearer product was introduced, eliminating the previous scheme, in which Europe was divided into zones. The InterRail Global Pass was created, accepted in all 30¹ of the participating countries. This eliminated the need for customers to choose upfront in which countries they wished to travel, offering the ultimate in freedom and flexibility. In addition, The Eurail Group launched a range of InterRail One Country Passes in 2007.

InterRail's Logo



To coincide with this improved product range and the new InterRail Management, the logo was revamped and a new look and feel was

created. The green and blue logo was designed to express the adventure and excitement of travelling with InterRail, symbolised by the green, expressive line, which also reflects the landscape and scenery enjoyed by InterRail travellers, whilst also conveying quality, comfort and ease, reflected in the blue line below. Together, the lines of the logo express the dynamism, speed and enjoyment of travelling with InterRail.

¹ Excluding the traveller's own country of residence

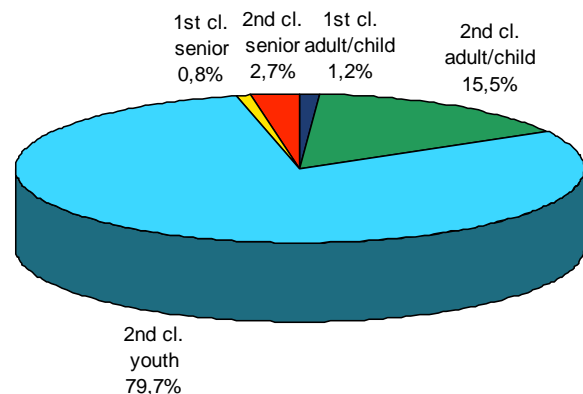
InterRail's Customers

InterRail targets its rail passes to European residents² of all ages and budgets. The highest sales originate in the UK, Germany, Switzerland, Spain and Sweden.

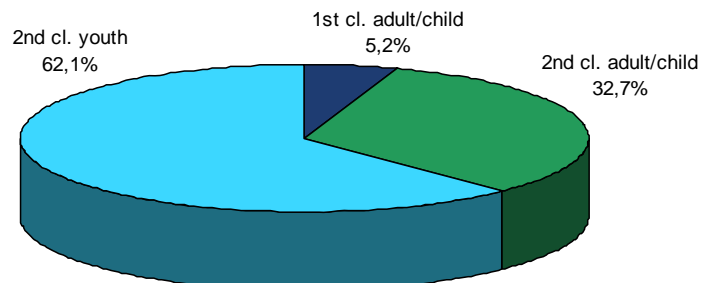
Whilst InterRail has long been associated with young people and students exploring Europe, it is clearly a product for everyone. Travel by rail is romantic, offering a sense of freedom and independence not associated with any other form of transport, and it is this aspect which appeals to a broad target group. The notion of travelling with a single pass throughout Europe has a certain charm and fascination for all age groups, and whilst the product is the same, the experience is unique and individual for each traveller.

At present, around 74% of InterRail's customers are youth, under the age of 26. The proportion of young travellers is higher for the InterRail Global Pass; 79,7% of customers are youth. For the One Country Pass, this proportion is 62,1%.

InterRail Global Pass Passenger Breakdown:



InterRail One Country Pass Passenger Breakdown:



² Note that a similar rail pass scheme (Eurail) is available for overseas residents.



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InterRail: Free to Explore Europe

Many Europeans enjoy holidaying overseas yet travelling closer to home remains very popular. With its multicultural diversity, Europe offers something for everybody and taking the train is the perfect way to discover this continent.

In Europe, where petrol prices continue to rise, highly developed national rail systems have long been a vital means of cost-efficient and comfortable transportation.

With over 252,000 kilometres of track in today's European railway system covered by InterRail, rail travel offers a safe, fast and reliable alternative to aeroplanes and cars.

Speeding between cities, towns and villages, across and between borders, carrying its passengers in comfort and style, rail travel in Europe is often considered a better alternative to car or air travel. Today, with growing concern about climate change, energy-efficient trains are also seen as the "greener", virtuous alternative to fuel-guzzling, carbon dioxide emitting cars and aeroplanes.

European trains are marvels of high tech engineering; which is why they can compete with other forms of transportation. The Trans Europe Express (TEE) was the first high-speed train, travelling at 160 km/h. Today, high-speed trains can exceed 300 km/h and connect major cities more efficiently than ever before. London to Paris (a distance of 495 km) now takes just under two hours, twenty minutes, as does Paris to



Strasbourg. Madrid to Barcelona in only two hours, thirty eight minutes and Frankfurt to Salzburg, in less than six hours. Comfort, services and amenities have kept pace with the times and far surpass low cost airlines and, eliminate the stress of travelling by car.

European trains whisk passengers from city centre to city centre. Passengers arrive at their destination refreshed and within walking distance of hotels, restaurants and attractions. With no need to be at the station hours before departure, or navigate unfamiliar roads by car, fill up with expensive petrol or seek out parking spaces, there is more time and money for experiencing the destination.

Travelling with InterRail is all about the experience; meeting new people, jumping on the next train on a whim and discovering the real Europe.

InterRail Passes are accepted in 30 countries across Europe. With over 40,000 railway stations in the InterRail network, the opportunities for discovery are endless. Taking you from quaint villages to bustling cities all over Europe, via stunning scenery and breathtaking landmarks, InterRail offers a unique experience to all its customers.



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InterRail's Product Range

The InterRail Product Range is straightforward: The InterRail Global Pass offers the maximum coverage, valid in 30 participating countries, whilst the InterRail One Country Pass is available for single-country travel in one of the 28 participating countries. Around two thirds of InterRail's customers choose the InterRail Global Pass.

First and Second Class Travel

InterRail Passes are available for 1st and 2nd class travel, giving a wide choice to the traveller. Both options provide comfortable train travel.



Travellers can expect seating in 1st class compartments to be more spacious with more legroom than in 2nd class. Some trains offer additional perks to 1st class travellers, such

as a complimentary drink or newspaper. In addition, there is often more room for luggage and 1st class compartments will generally be less crowded. Note that some train systems only offer 2nd class and youth discounts are not applicable for 1st class travel. Travelling in 2nd class saves approximately 30% on the price of a 1st class pass. Please note that some trains do require advance reservations.

Senior Discount

Seniors can take advantage of the special InterRail Global Pass tariff. A discount of 10% applies to travellers aged 60 and above on the first day of validity.

Youth Discounts

InterRail Passes are offered to young people at a reduced rate. Travel is always in 2nd class and people under the age of 26 can expect to pay around 35% less than the 2nd class full fare.

Flexible Travel Days

All InterRail Passes are available for a certain number of a travel days within an overall travel period, giving the customer the choice of when to travel. The InterRail Global Pass also has three variants valid continuously, recommended for customers who plan to spend a lot of days travelling.

Pass Benefits

InterRail offers a wide variety of benefits to its customers, in addition to the rail travel element, which enhances the value of the pass. In most participating countries, there are companies such as museums, sightseeing tours and hotels offering discounts or even free access, upon presentation of the pass.

There are several partner shipping lines, which offer significant discounts, such as 50% reductions on various Color Line

routes between Norway and Denmark, crossings between Sweden and Finland operated by Tallink Silja. Superfast Ferries passage from Patras and Igoumenitsa in Greece to Ancona or Bari in Italy, is also heavily discounted for InterRail Pass holders.



Further information on InterRail Pass benefits is available on the corporate website:

Eurailgroup.org → [InterRail Passes](#) → [Pass benefits for InterRail Pass holders](#)

InterRail Travel Documents

InterRail Global Passes are provided with useful and detailed travel documentation.



Customers purchasing this Pass receive, together with their travel documents, the InterRail Pass Guide, which explains in detail how the InterRail Pass works and where it is accepted, provides information on InterRail's Benefits and gives further useful information for the traveller. In addition, a fold out map of Europe is issued showing the main rail lines and participating shipping routes.



Free Souvenir

InterRail issues a travel report with each Global Pass in order to find out which routes customers are travelling. This is the basis for calculating the number of kilometres travelled on each rail network. As a thank you for completing and returning the survey, InterRail sends a free gift to each respondent.



Adult Passes

InterRail Adult Passes are available in 1st and 2nd class. Adult Passes are for travellers who are 26 or older on their first day of travel.

Senior Discount

Since the beginning of 2010, a special tariff applies to the InterRail Global Pass for travellers aged 60 and above on their first day of travel.

Child Discounts



The child fare applies to children aged 4 up to and including 11 years of age on the first day of validity of the pass. Children are entitled to a reduction of 50% on

the adult price in 1st or 2nd class. Children under the age of 4 on their first day of travel, are entitled to free transportation.

Youth Passes

InterRail Youth Passes are available in 2nd class only. Youth Passes are for travellers who are under the age of 26 on their first day of travel.



Travel within country of residence

Travellers are not permitted to use an InterRail Pass in their country of residence.

However, in most countries, customers may buy a return ticket at a reduced rate for travel from their departure station to the border station where they leave their country of residence. Residents of any non-participating European country (for example Albania) are entitled to travel in any of the participating InterRail countries.



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InterRail Global Pass

The InterRail Global Pass is valid in the following 30 countries.

Participating Countries

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- The Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Great Britain
- Greece
- Hungary
- Italy
- Luxembourg
- Montenegro
- The Netherlands
- Norway
- Irish Republic & Northern Ireland
- Poland
- Portugal
- (FYR) Macedonia
- Romania
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Switzerland
- Sweden
- Turkey



InterRail Global Pass Validities

The InterRail Global Pass is available as a continuous pass for 22 days, 15 days or 1 month, or as a “flexi” pass for either 5 days within 10 days or 10 days within 22 days.

InterRail Global Pass Prices

The 2012 InterRail Global Pass Prices are listed below in euros. Note that these prices are subject to change without prior notice. Please see Eurailgroup.org → InterRail Passes → InterRail Prices for the most up-to-date prices.

InterRail Global Pass Flexi					
	Youth 2nd Class	Adult 2nd Class	Adult 1st class	Senior 2nd Class	Senior 1st class
5 days within 10 days	175	267	409	241	369
10 days within 22 days	257	381	583	343	525

InterRail Global Pass Continuous					
	Youth 2nd Class	Adult 2nd Class	Adult 1st class	Senior 2nd Class	Senior 1st class
15 days continuous	298	422	646	380	582
22 days continuous	329	494	756	445	681
1 month continuous	422	638	977	575	880

¹⁾ Children are priced at 50% of the equivalent Adult fare





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InterRail One Country Passes

The InterRail One Country Pass is valid in any one of the countries participating in the InterRail Global Pass scheme, with the exception of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Montenegro. For the purpose of this pass, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg are grouped as one, known as “Benelux”.

Participating Countries

The following 27 One Country Passes are available:

- Austria
- Benelux (Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg)
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- The Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Great Britain
- Greece*
- Hungary
- Italy
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Irish Republic & Northern Ireland
- (FYR) Macedonia
- Romania
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Switzerland
- Sweden
- Turkey

InterRail One Country Pass Validities

The InterRail One Country Pass is available for 3, 4, 6 or 8 days within a 1 month period.



* There are two passes available for Greece, a standard rail pass as well as the Greece Plus Pass, which also includes ferry crossings to and from Italy operated by Attica Group



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InterRail One Country Pass Prices

The 2012 InterRail One Country Pass Prices are listed below in euros. Note that 27 One Country Passes are available, however, the participating countries have been split into five different price levels. Please see the following link for current prices: Eurailgroup.org → [InterRail Passes](#) → [InterRail Prices](#)

InterRail One Country Pass ¹⁾				
Price level 1	Youth 2nd Class	Adult 2nd Class	Adult 1st class	Applicable for the countries:
3 travel days	139	205	314	France, Germany, Great Britain
4 travel days	149	226	346	
6 travel days	190	288	441	
8 travel days	211	319	489	
NEW Price level 2	Youth 2nd Class	Adult 2nd Class	Adult 1st class	Applicable for the countries:
3 travel days	123	181	277	Austria, Italy, Norway ²⁾ , Spain, Sweden
4 travel days	144	205	314	
6 travel days	175	267	409	
8 travel days	205	311	476	
Price level 3	Youth 2nd Class	Adult 2nd Class	Adult 1st class	Applicable for the countries:
3 travel days	78	119	183	Benelux, Denmark, Finland, "Greece Plus" (incl. ferry Greece - Italy), Ireland (NIR & IE), Switzerland
4 travel days	98	150	230	
6 travel days	129	201	308	
8 travel days	160	243	372	
Price level 4	Youth 2nd Class	Adult 2nd Class	Adult 1st class	Applicable for the countries:
3 travel days	51	77	118	Croatia, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia
4 travel days	62	95	146	
6 travel days	83	127	195	
8 travel days	97	149	228	
Price level 5	Youth 2nd Class	Adult 2nd Class	Adult 1st class	Applicable for the countries:
3 travel days	36	56	86	Bulgaria, FYR Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey
4 travel days	51	77	118	
6 travel days	72	106	163	
8 travel days	82	128	196	

¹⁾ Children are priced at 50% of the equivalent Adult fare

²⁾ In Norway InterRail Passes are available in 2nd class only



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Train Types in Europe

The trains in Europe are all individual in style and technology and, the onboard experience can change from country to country. They come in all different models, comfort levels and the speed is dependant on the train type and timetable.



Local Trains

Easy, relaxed and intimate – this sums up the atmosphere of the countless local trains that you will find throughout Europe. Some of them offer 2nd class carriages only. Nowhere else will you get a better feel for the local people and European life than on these trains that weave their way from town to town, taking the locals to work, market or play.

InterCity trains, Express trains

These trains are commonly called InterCity (IC) or EuroCity (EC) trains and they cover long distances at speeds up to 200 km/h between major towns. These trains sometimes require a seat reservation.

High-speed trains

They cover long distances really fast and offer a certain level of luxury. There are many high-speed services that criss-cross Europe – all of them with comfortable 1st and 2nd class cars and catering services. Seat reservations are usually required, and additional costs must be paid. The well know trains are the Eurostar, Thalys, TGV, ICE etc.

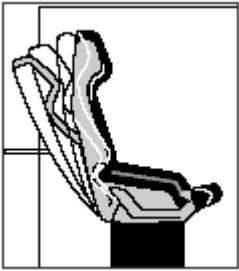
Legendary scenic rail routes

Europe is bursting with picturesque scenery that can be enjoyed from any type of train. But there are numerous train routes that are legendary for the magnificent vistas they pass through. InterRail Passes are valid on many of these routes, or entitle the pass holder to a discount. Reservations are often required or recommended. The InterRail Pass Map offers a sample of Europe's most scenic routes.

Hotel/night-trains

Night trains run between many of Europe's major cities, and offer a variety of sleeping accommodations for different budgets. Typically they cover long distances and travel through the night. International connections are often called EuroNight (EN), although some networks have other names: CityNightLine (CNL). Night trains can also work out more economical then booking a hotel, depending on the level of accommodation that the pass holder chooses. The supplement for reclining seats, couchettes and deluxe compartments are not included in the price of the InterRail Pass. Services range from reclining seats (generally 2nd class only) and couchettes to deluxe "sleeper" compartments with en suite facilities (on select trains only).

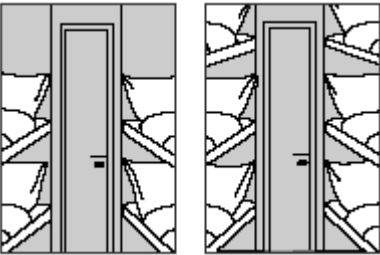
Reclining seats on night-trains



Note that most night-trains carry “sleeper” compartments and couchettes only. Those carrying cars/carriages with reclining seats, will generally be classified as second class accommodation.

Couchettes on night-trains

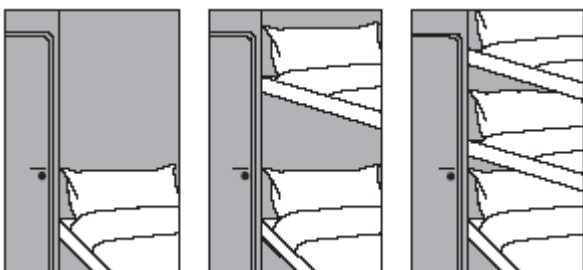
Couchettes are generally mixed sex compartments, with four open bunks in 1st class and four or six open bunks in 2nd class. A sheet, blanket and pillow will be provided, however, the traveler should be prepared to sleep in his/her day clothes.



Sleeper compartments on night-trains

Sleeper compartments offer the ideal way to travel on European night-trains. There are several types of accommodation available:

- For comfort and privacy, it’s possible to reserve a 1st class sleeper for one or two passengers. This style of compartment has a wash basin inside the cabin, but toilet and shower facilities are located down the corridor.
- Select night-trains offer deluxe sleeper compartments with toilet and shower facilities inside the cabin
- With a 2nd class InterRail Pass, sleepers are available for two, three or four passengers. These compartments are single-sex with the exception of couples or families who occupy all berths/beds inside the cabin.



Examples of night-trains in Europe

- Allegro (Italy, Austria, Czech Republic)
- Berlin Night Express (Germany, Sweden)
- CityNightLine (various countries)
- SJ Night Trains (Sweden)
- Elipsos (France, Spain, Switzerland, Italy)
- Lusitania

Special 7pm rule for night-trains

Depending on the hour that the train departs, there is a special InterRail Pass offer which can save the pass holder a travel day!

- When traveling on a direct night train (with no connections or layovers) that departs after 19.00h (7pm) and arrives after 04.00h (4am), it’s only necessary to use one travel day – the day of arrival
- When the train departs before 19.00h (7pm), it’s necessary to use two travel days (by filling out the day of departure and the day of arrival in the travel calendar)
- When traveling by night ferry, it’s only necessary to use one travel day by filling out either the day of departure or the day of arrival in the travel calendar

Seat and/or Bed Reservations

Although the InterRail Pass gives the holder access to the national railways listed on the actual pass, certain trains – such as high-speed, international and night-trains – usually require an additional supplement and/or reservation fee. A list of many of these trains can be found on the reverse of the InterRail Map which is given to each pass holder at the time of purchase. It’s also available as a PDF file from www.eurailgroup.org.

Seats on such trains can be in high demand, especially during the European high season of July and August. There are certain trains which offer a limited amount of pass holder seats only, so advance booking is highly recommended. Most trains can be booked up to three months in advance and we advise pass holders to make reservations for special trains before their departure to Europe. When pass holder seats have been sold out, it may be necessary to purchase a full fare ticket or to travel on a different date, time or route.

Making reservations

The Eurail Group recommends that pass holders purchase reservations for high-speed trains and/or night-trains in advance. This may be possible from European railway call-centres. Alternatively, reservations can be made in Europe from most major railway stations across Europe. Please note that most of the local trains do not require additional reservations.

The easiest ways to make a reservation are:

- At the ticket office of a European train station or by using a self-service machine
- Online with a few rail companies (this currently applies to travel within and to/from Germany, Sweden and Italy only).
- Through the Deutsche Bahn's UK Call Centre: they can help book a seat, sleeper or couchette, as well as high-speed and international day trains. The Booking Centre can be contacted by phone on +44 (0)8718 80 80 66 (Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. CET).



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InterRail Pass: Practical Information

Timetables and train connections

Travellers can find most local train timetables, as well as details about connections in European train stations.

We recommend the following websites which offer online timetables at the following links:

- Austrian railway (ÖBB): www.oebb.at
- German railway (Deutsche Bahn): <http://www.bahn.de/i/view/GBR/en/index.shtml>

These websites are a useful resource for checking train schedules, platform information, buffet cars, and more.

Note that the 24 hour clock is used in Europe: after 12.00 noon comes 13.00 (1pm), 14.00 (2pm), until 24.00 (midnight).

Platforms and departures



Departure schedules and platform information can be found in all stations, ranging from posters to electronic boards with the latest information. Larger stations generally have information counters with helpful railway staff. Platforms usually display the next trains departure time and destination.

Safety

European train stations are busy and exciting. They are generally quite safe, however, larger stations may attract pickpockets. Therefore, we advise travelers to keep a close eye on their belongings in the stations and on the trains.

Luggage

Pass holders are advised to travel light because they are responsible for their own luggage. Depending on the type of train, luggage racks can be located above the seats and/or at the end of the car. Railways cannot be held responsible for lost or stolen bags, so pass holders are advised to keep an eye on their luggage. Note that most major stations offer storage facilities or coin operated lockers for storing luggage.

Onboard catering facilities



Many long-distance trains have full-service restaurant cars that offer breakfast, lunch and dinner. There are some that also offer an in-seat meal service.

Generally, buffet cars sell light meals and beverages throughout the trip, and it's likely that a food trolley will pass through the carriages. It's always advisable to enquire at the station or to check online timetables to find out whether there will be onboard catering facilities. In the event that onboard catering facilities are not available, it's also worth considering taking a packed lunch for the journey.



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Further Sources of Information

The Eurail Group has a photo database available to the media with free downloadable images for promoting InterRail. This photo library contains over 1000 high quality images of trains, stations, passengers, scenery and more. All photos are categorised and linked to keywords to enable easy searching.

You can register for access to Eurail Group's media library, by visiting:
<http://eurail.informationstore.net/register/>



Eurail Group's Corporate Website

For further information about the Eurail Group and its products, please visit Eurail's corporate website at:
www.EurailGroup.org

Press Room

The Eurail Group's corporate site hosts a press room which contains an archive of all press releases, media information, press clippings and testimonials:
www.EurailGroup.org → [Press Room](#)

Press Contacts

For media enquiries, please contact Eurail Group's Marketing Department:

Email: pressinfo@eurail.nl
Tel: +31 (0)30 7516 500
Utrecht, The Netherlands

Distribution Network and Participating Companies

InterRail Passes are available through, www.InterRailNet.com, as well as from most participating rail networks and rail travel agents. For more information about the sales network of a specific railway company please find a list of participating railways on the page below, including a link to their website.

This list of participating railways is also available under the *where to buy* link on the corporate site.
eurailgroup.org → [InterRail Passes](#) → [where to buy](#)

Distribution Network and Participating Companies

Austria: 

www.oebb.at

Belgium: 

www.b-rail.be

Bosnia-Herzegovina: 

www.zrs-rs.com

Bulgaria: 

www.bdz.bg

Croatia:  HŽ PUTNIČKI PRIJEVOZ

www.hznet.hr

Czech Republic: 

www.cd.cz

Denmark: 

www.dsb.dk

Finland: 

www.vr.fi

France: 

www.sncf.fr

Germany:  **BAHN**

www.bahn.de

Greece: 

www.ose.gr

Hungary: 

www.mav.hu

Republic of Ireland: 

www.irishrail.com

Italy: 

www.trenitalia.it

Luxemburg: 

www.cfl.lu

Montenegro: 

www.zeljeznica.cg.yu

Macedonia (FYROM): 

www.mz.com.mk

Netherlands: 

www.ns.nl

Norway: 

www.nsb.no

Poland: 

www.pkp.pl

Portugal: 

www.cp.pt

Romania: 

www.cfr.ro

Serbia: 

www.serbianrailways.com

Slovakia: 

www.slovakrail.sk

Slovenia: 

www.slo-zeleznice.si

Spain: 

www.renfe.es

Sweden: 

www.sj.se

Switzerland: 

www.sbb.ch

Turkey: 

www.tcdd.gov.tr

InterRailnet.com 

www.interrailnet.com