

# STUDENT DISCOUNTS ON RAILWAYS

## Information Compiled by Bartek Banaszak August 2006

*This is a non-exhaustive survey of student discounts on railway services around Europe. We will continue to add to this list as more information becomes available.*

### **Austria:**

In Austria there's a card called "Advantage card", when a student is under the age of 26 he/she pays 20 EUR a year for the card and receives a 50% reduction in Austria and also some reduction (30%) in other European countries. If you are older than 26 you have to pay 100 EUR per year.

### **Belarus:**

There is a 50% discount for trains and buses between cities only on weekends and also during January because of the exam session.

### **Czech Republic:**

There is a student discount on railway travels from 50% to 57% depending on the distance of travel. A student railway card is valid just from your permanent residence to your place of study.

### **Estonia:**

The student discount on railways and buses: 25-30 %.

### **Finland:**

50% discount on railways with a student card purchased by certain Finnish Student Organizations (SYL and SAMOK; the card is called "the blue card")

### **France:**

There is a "12-25" card (for 30 EUR) which allows a 25 or 50% discount on national transportation. It depends on time of week and of year. In the 'blue period' (Fri. afternoon, Sun. afternoon, holidays) there is 50% of discount with a card (and 25 without), in the 'white period' the discount is 25% . This discount concerns not only students but all the people aged between 12-25. But many regions and cities pay a proportion of the price: If somebody studies in another region some regions pay even 80% of the price of the ticket between the place of study and the place of residence. In the case of regional transportation, it's up to region. In Paris and South Eastern regions there's a 50% discount. it could be higher, ex.75%). In some regions if somebody studies in the same region he/she lives, 100% of the ticket price is paid by the region.

### **Germany:**

Students under 27 can buy a discount cards for 100 euros. This card allows them a 50% discount on all rail travel. Students may also receive public transportation tickets for a set price by their universities, which gives them access to regional trains as well. But it depends on what sort of deals the local unions can strike with the transport services. For example, for 90 Euro or so the students in university of Potsdam have free travel in the whole of Berlin plus Brandenburg.

### **Hungary:**

67.5% discount for all full-time students in Hungary on the railway, with no further restrictions - only a valid student ID card is needed. Correspondence students only benefit from this discount only when traveling between their home and study place.

### **Lithuania:**

There is a 50% on all rail travel for students.

**Malta:**

On the one hand there is no discount, on the other hand there is no Railway!!

**Netherlands:**

Every student in the Netherlands, aged between 18 and 30, receives an 'OV-jaarkaart'. With this card a student has access to unlimited travel on either the weekend or from Monday till Friday. If you choose to get the weekend card, you get a 40% discount on train tickets from Monday till Friday, and vice versa.

**Norway:**

There is a 25% discount for students on rail travel.

**Poland:**

There is a legal student discount for railway travels: 37%. It concerns the students of all types of studies, the only limitation is age, below 26.

**Serbia:**

There is no discount just for being student but with cards (EURO26, EASY travel card, ISIC) there is 50% off ticket price for travels within the country.

**Switzerland:**

There is no special discount attached to students, but:

- 1) Young people (under 25) can get a free travel card (one year) to travel much cheaper (1300 instead of 2000 EUR)
- 2) Young people (under 25) can get a card for free travel after 19:00 until next morning (one year) for around (65 EUR) and:
- 3) There is a 50% discount card in Switzerland is for everyone (100 EUR a year).