

ARRIVAL GUIDE

Arriving into Zurich airport and making your way to Bern

1. Connections at Zurich airport are VERY straightforward with a mainline railway station directly underneath the airport.
2. Checked-in baggage will be processed fairly quickly (usually with TV monitors indicating how long you have to wait for the bags to arrive).

3. As you exit the baggage claim area, you will need to look for signs for the train station (“Bahn”) which is directly across from the terminal.



4. Just walk straight out of the building and cross the slightly hectic walkway and into the next building called “Airport Center” (see right).



5. You are now in a kind of shopping mall, looking something like this:



6. The trains station is basically one or two floors below. Follow the escalators down. You may spot a large check-in area for SWISS airlines ahead of you.

7. On this level, you will find the ticket office (if you haven't purchased your ticket online already); it looks like this:



8. If and when you have your tickets (do not expect to buy them on the train), you will need to head towards either platform 4 or platform 3. You'll have to go down another little flight of escalators to get onto the platform.



9. There are two direct trains to Bern every hour, currently scheduled to leave at 18 minutes (platform 4) and 40 minutes (platform 3) past the hour. These trains are usually headed to Geneva Airport and Brig or just Bern, respectively.



10. When your train is announced on the blue platform indicator boards (see example above – actually from Bern station), it will show the distribution of first- and second-class carriages. Look for the signs above the platforms (e.g. B-2 above: that's platform 2, sector B).

11. You just need to walk along the platform and stand more or less in these sectors so that you'll get onto the appropriate second- or first-class carriage. (The trains are often double-deckers and so sitting upstairs can be nicer with a better view.)
12. The two direct trains will head first to Zurich main station before heading off again for Bern which is usually the next stop. The trains sometimes wait for 10 minutes at Zurich before heading off again to Bern.
13. These trains are scheduled to arrive in Bern at 28 and 58 minutes past the hour, respectively.
14. When you arrive into Bern station be sure to identify the correct exit; there are two possible directions off the platforms: “Länggasse/Schanzenstrasse” or “Bahnhofplatz/Grosse Schanze”



15. If you are staying in one of the main conference hotels (Ador or Arabelle), you will want the Schanzenstrasse exit – heading up escalators off the platform:



NOTE: If you are staying in a hotel ...

When you check into the hotel they will issue with a “free” travel pass for the buses and trams in the city. It's worth holding onto this. You can jump on and off any transport within the city and only need to show the pass to a ticket inspector if asked. When you first arrive into Bern, you are also entitled to a free ride to your hotel, as long as you can show an inspector your hotel reservation.