



Trains from the Zurich Airport (Kloten)

The simplest and quickest means of traveling to Lugano from the Zurich airport is by train. Altogether, the trip takes between 2.5 and 3.5 hours, depending on whether or not a passenger needs to change trains between the main Zurich train station (the Hauptbahnhof or HB) and Lugano.

The Swiss Federal Railways system is commonly referred to as SBB, but depending on the language of the region of Switzerland, it may be labelled in another language:

- Schweizerische Bundesbahnen (SBB)
- Chemins de fer fédéraux suisses (CFF)
- Ferrovie federali svizzere (FFS)

Passengers should exit the arrivals area of the airport and cross the passenger pickup “street” into the airport train station. There are many places to eat and shop inside the airport train station, and there are ticket counters and automated ticket machines. Passengers can also purchase tickets [online](#) and on the [Swiss train app](#). Note that there are different kinds of tickets and that some discounted tickets require membership in a program through the Swiss train system.

It is also possible for non-residents to purchase a multi-day travel pass and other products on the [federal train site](#) (click the Visitors from Abroad tab to view the available options).

Trains from the airport train station to the Zurich Hauptbahnhof are down the escalator from the ground floor of the area into which passengers enter from the airport. The trains from the airport train station go in multiple directions, but those that go in the direction of downtown Zurich or beyond all stop at the main station. There are at least a dozen trains each hour going to the main train station.

There are many signs in the Zurich airport, airport train station, and Hauptbahnhof, and the schedules are posted in numerous places. Additionally, many people speak English at the Zurich transportation hubs, and many people are prepared to give travelers directions in English.

From Zurich Hauptbahnhof, passengers can take the following trains:

- IC 2 (this is a regional train that goes directly)
- IR 46 or IR 75 (which includes a stop and train change in Arth-Goldau, Luzern, or another city)
- EuroCity (EC) trains in the direction of Milan

The EuroCity (EC) train costs a bit more money than the IC or IR (regional) options. Note that there is another Lugano train stop, Lugano-Paradiso, but not all of the trains going through Lugano stop at Lugano-Paradiso. The closest station to the Franklin University Switzerland campus is Lugano Centrale. Not all of the trains going south through Lugano will say Lugano on them – some go to Milan, Chiasso, or other places, so type Lugano on the automated ticket machine or specify Lugano if you purchase your ticket at a counter. Trains passing through Ticino to Milan stop at Lugano Centrale (the main train station), and there are several options each hour.