

# PART 1 OR RAIL TRAVEL FOR The Travel Guys

## TIPS for purchasing Rail Tickets

Both INTERNATIONAL and DOMESTIC [European and Britrail]

This is a general discussion about European rail tickets however many of the other continents offer PASSES and of course there are caveats as well. These are the most popular however.

### When, Where and How to purchase:

- 1) INTERNATIONAL Prior to departure from the states for the most reasonable rates.
- 2) Cannot be purchased earlier than 11 mos. Prior and are activate upon initial use.
- 3) If reservations are required cannot reserve earlier than 60 days prior but can be done on date of travel

**Seat Reservations are ADDITIONAL to the cost of the ticket or pass** [Can run from \$20+ per segment]

- a. Fast trains: i.e TGV AND IC'S **REQUIRE** a reservation
- b. Long distance and holiday dates: **MAY require a reservation HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**
- c. Regionals: Seldom require – more hop on hop off as you go.

### Types of tickets available:

- a. Eurail Global Pass – consecutive days 15, 22, 1 mo., 2 mo., 3 mo.,  
*Best for those undecided where they want to go, ultimate flexibility COMES AT A PRICE but worth it –*
- b. Select Pass – 2, 3 or 4 countries – **CONTIGUOUS** countries
- c. Certain # of days PER PERIOD 1 mo 2 mo. Ex. 5 days in 2 monts.
- d. Youth Passes and Senior Passes and 2 or more persons traveling together.
- e. Eurail Global – 5 or more days

**OPTIONS:** Britrail Passes: England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland OR individual countries.

**LOTS OF Freebies, discounts etc on ferries, certain boats, local transportation, shopping, restaurants and 2 for one on attractions.....**

**Order through an experienced travel agent you can get assistance and not OVERSPENDDD – purchasing what you NEED rather than going overboard.**

**Samples of COST See attached**

## CONCLUSION

### TIP #1

**SUMMER PROMO** Extra Free Days if ordered before Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> or **KEEP YOUR EYES OUT FOR FUTURE PROMOS AND PURCHASE THEN.** You have tons of time to actually **ACTIVATE** your pass so plan your trip prior to purchasing the passes

### TIP #2

**Saving travel days TIP:** useful to know about the 7 p.m. rule if you have a flexi pass (e.g. Global Pass - 15 days within 2 months) as it can save you precious travel days! The rule means that you only need to use 1 travel day when you travel on a direct night train that departs after 7 p.m. (19:00) and arrives at its final stop after 4 a.m. (04:00), even if you leave the train before 4 a.m..



## Ferries

The 7 p.m. rule applies to all free night ferry crossings, regardless of the departure and arrival times. You choose whether you fill in the departure date or the arrival date in the travel calendar. You don't need to use any travel days for discounted ferry trips, just show your pass to get the discount.

### TIP #3

**Purchase 1<sup>st</sup> Class – Why? When needing to reserve a seat, especially during High periods, if you are in 2<sup>nd</sup> class I can guarantee you there will be less availability and if there is none in 2<sup>nd</sup> class – your seat reservation will have to be in First Class and you'll have to pay for the difference in class of seat. Also, more inclusions**