



General Information for Delegates

Welcome to Geneva!

Visa Information

At the time of publication of this information sheet, the following information regarding visa requirements was accurate. However, we urge you to check with your travel agent regarding possible changes and/or consult Switzerland's official website regarding entry information, visa applications and embassy locations to ensure that you have the required travel documents. See:

- English:
www.bfm.admin.ch/bfm/en/home/themen/einreise/merkblatt_einreise.html
- Français:
www.bfm.admin.ch/bfm/fr/home/themen/rechtsgrundlagen/weisungen_und_kreis_schreiben/visa_und_grenze.html

Visas are not required by passport holders of the following countries, whose passports have at least three month validity.

Andorra, Antigua & Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Brunei, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Rep, Denmark, Dominica, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hong Kong (S.A.R. passport holders), Hungary, Iceland, Ireland Rep, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kiribati, Korea (South), Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macao (S.A.R. passports), Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Sweden, Trinidad & Tobago, Tuvalu, Uruguay, United States, Vatican City, Venezuela.

Note that Switzerland **does not** form part of the European Union. However, as of 12 December 2008, Switzerland is an associated member state of the Schengen agreement and hence part of the Schengen area. Those holding Schengen visas may therefore enter Switzerland.

Arrival information:

Access to and from the airport

The airport is located approximately 4 km from Geneva city centre.

Geneva International Airport offers a free ticket valid on the public transport system (train, bus, tram) valid for 80 minutes to all arriving passengers. Tickets are available



from the automatic distributor (*pictured*) located in the baggage claim area, just before going through customs.



Transport options include:

Train (public transport): It takes only 6 minutes from/to Geneva city centre by train (running every 12 minutes during rush hours). The airport railway station has direct access to the airport check-in and arrival levels. All trains stop at Geneva-Cornavin station (city centre and main railway station). *Ticket is free of charge from the ticket machine in the baggage claim area.*

City Bus: The buses “5” and “10” stop every 8-15 minutes at rush hours at the airport (bus stops at the check-in level, in front of or beside the train station) and go to the city centre where connecting buses and trams can be taken to arrive at the hotels proposed to delegates. *Ticket is free of charge from the ticket machine in the baggage claim area.*

Taxi: Metered taxis are available outside the arrival terminal. Most accept credit cards, however, check with the driver. Taxi fare to the city centre can vary depending on traffic and routing, however should not exceed CHF 40-50.

Travel free on public transport during your stay in Geneva

Visitors staying in hotels in Geneva will receive the "Geneva Transport Card" that allows you to use public transport in Geneva free of charge during your stay. More information www.unireso.ch



Other useful information

Official languages: Although Switzerland has four official languages (French, German, Italian and Romansch), French is the official language of Geneva. Being an international city, many people also speak English as well as other languages.

Banks and Currency Exchange: The local currency is the Swiss Franc (CHF). Major banks and exchange offices are located throughout Geneva. Banks normally are open non-stop between 08:30-16:30, Monday to Friday. Some exchange offices have longer hours including those at the Geneva train station – Cornavin.

Store hours: Most shops in the city centre are open non-stop from 09:00-19:00 from Monday to Wednesday, 09:00-21:00 on Thursday, 09:00-19:30 on Friday, and 09:00-18:00 on Saturday. Shops are closed on Sundays with the exception of shops in railway station and airport.

Geneva Tourism Office www.geneve-tourisme.ch

Geneva public transport (routing information and timetables) www.tpg.ch