#TRAVELHACK HOW CAN I AVOID PAYING RESERVATION FEES?

Are you a DiscoverEU traveller with a flexible pass? Then listen up! Flexible passes offer freedom, choice and exploration, but they require travellers to pay for seat reservations on some trains. Here are some handy tips to keep the bill as low as possible. Many trains in Europe are in high demand, so railway companies ask you to pay a fee to guarantee a seat (or – if it's a sleeper train – a bed). A normal train ticket covers the cost of travel and the reservation. Your DiscoverEU flexible pass covers the cost of travel, but you'll need to pay for the reservation yourself.

RESERVATION FEES DEPEND ON...

...HOW YOU TRAVEL

Compulsory reservation fees generally apply to:

- Sleeper trains
- High-speed trains
- Regional trains (although you can still reserve a seat on a regional train)

...WHERE YOU TRAVEL

Reservation fees are set by railway companies, which means that they differ from country to country and vary based upon the type of train, the time of the journey and the route taken. For the most accurate information, **make sure you download the Rail Planner app**, which has full listings of which trains require reservations. It's available on both iOS and Android – and what's more, it's free!

...WHEN YOU TRAVEL

- Reserving a seat during peak hours will be more expensive than off-peak. Avoid rush hour!
- Booking a bed on a sleeper train will require a reservation. It's possible to travel overnight without a reservation, but you won't get a bed.

Not all reservations fees are compulsory – some are optional. However, if you want a seat so you can snooze while travelling, it's best to reserve one (unless you can sleep standing up!)

Top tips: Regional trains are a great way to travel. With a dense network of routes, regional trains are regular, flexible and rarely require reservations.

#DiscoverEU There's more than you know HELP!

Having trouble? We can help you book your seats on the trains you're taking. Just visit https://www.interrail.eu/en/support for more information. Don't forget, **the Rail Planner app has lots of useful information** – download it before you travel!



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