

The Basel Expatriate Guide

Everything you need to know before and after you arrive

NEIGHBOURHOODS

Grossbasel (Old Town)	Historic centre, walkable, expensive. Best for couples or single professionals.
Kleinbasel	More affordable, multicultural, up-and-coming. Growing expat community.
Gundeldingen	Trendy, independent shops, good transport links. Popular with younger expats.
Riehen	Quiet, green, excellent schools. Ideal for families. Higher rents.
St. Alban	Upscale, peaceful, near the Rhine. Popular with senior professionals.
Binningen / Bottmingen	Just outside Basel, more space, lower costs, still excellent trams.

SCHOOLS

Public schools	Free, high quality. Assigned by address. Language of instruction: German.
Basel International School (BIS)	IB curriculum, English. Ages 3–18. Lange Gasse 22, Basel.
Swiss International School (SIS)	Bilingual DE/EN. Multiple campuses. Ages 3–18.
Stiftung Schule	Private, German-medium, very strong academically.
École Française de Bale	French curriculum. For French-speaking families.

COST OF LIVING (monthly estimates)

	Single	Couple	Family (2+2)
Rent (unfurnished)	CHF 1'400–1'900	CHF 2'000–2'800	CHF 2'800–4'000
Health insurance	CHF 380–500	CHF 760–1'000	CHF 1'200–1'600
Groceries	CHF 400–600	CHF 700–1'000	CHF 1'200–1'600
Transport (Halbtax)	CHF 100–150	CHF 200–300	CHF 300–450
Kita / School fees	—	—	CHF 800–2'500
Total estimate	CHF 3'000–4'200	CHF 5'000–7'000	CHF 7'500–12'000

USEFUL CONTACTS & WEBSITES

Einwohnerdienste Basel-Stadt	einwohnerdienste.bs.ch	Anmeldung & permits
Health insurer comparison	priminfo.admin.ch	Compare Krankenkassen
SBB travel passes	sbb.ch	Halbtax, GA, Tageskarten
Basel public transport	bvb.ch	Trams, buses, routes

Internations Basel

internations.org/basel

Expatriate community events

Centerpoint Basel

centerpoint-basel.ch

International community hub

Canton Basel-Stadt

bs.ch

All official canton information

Want someone to handle all of this for you?

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