

Basel

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[See full map](#)

Information

Country:  [Switzerland](#)

State:

Population: 170,000

Licence Plate: BS

Motorways: [E 25](#), [E 35](#), [E 60](#), [A2](#), [A3](#)

More Info:

Basel is a city in [Switzerland](#).

The city is located near the [German](#) and [French](#) border.

Hitchhiking out

East, South towards [Bern](#), [Zürich](#), [Luzern](#)

Take the S1 or S3 in the direction of Olten or Laufenburg (both'll do..) at Basel's main train station ("Basel SBB"). Get off at *Pratteln* and follow the *Zehntenstrasse* (parallel to the railway tracks) in the direction of the train you took, for quite a short time. Go left at the little steps, which lead to a road underneath the tracks, then straight. Turn right at the main road, then continues on the road *Hohenrainstrasse*. Follow this road for 5 minutes, keep on the left footpath, and you will then see a small commercial area. Turn left onto this street, *Zurlindenstrasse*, walk down until you reach a little forest with a path going down. Follow the path. Then you will be at the motorway service station **Pratteln-Süd**. It is open 24 hours a day.

NOTICE: It might be useful to use a sign here or to ask people where they're going.. A few kilometres down the road there's a big crossing. You can choose between the direction [Zürich](#) and [St. Gallen](#) or [Bern](#) and [Luzern](#).

North towards [Mulhouse](#), [Strasbourg](#), [Luxembourg](#), etc

Go to the Basel Hauptbahnhof (main train station) and take the number 50 bus, direction Euroairport?. The second last stop ("Frachthalle") arrives at the St.Louis area which is beside the Swiss-French border. You will see that there is a police check point for cars. If you make your way to this area and stand at the side you should be able to interact with vehicles? at a very slow speed. Look out for the police as they can be a nuisance but I had no problems.

Alternatively, you can walk straight down through St. Louis, or take the bus, down to the other end of town. Eventually, you will be at a small petrol station. Not exactly the best place, but there is a round-about that leads straight to the A35. There is only a small parking space for vehicles to stop, so not so ideal for trucks, however when I was hitchhiking there, there was heavy traffic coming from all directions and vehicles had to slow down as they turned. I only stood there for about 20-30mins. I found the atmosphere a lot nicer than around the border patrol. (On googlemaps: 47.59372,7.555225)

You can also take the bus number 50 to "Friedrich-Miescher-Strasse" and walk down the hill. There you'll find the [slip road](#) for the motorway to France. In the morning and especially in the evening there is a lot of traffic. And just next to it, you find a colorful squat, where you can probably find a sleeping place for a night, if hitchhiking just doesn't work.

North towards Germany, Freiburg

You should follow the directions in the first paragraph. Also, one has to go to the other side of this petrol station to go to Germany. There is a crossing at the restaurant at the **Pratteln-Nord** service station.

You may also consider going to the big service station straight at the border at Weil am Rhein. Even though you may find some folks heading to Germany from "Pratteln" as well, petrol is cheaper in Germany so most people would refill there. Plus in Weil am Rhein all people will head into Germany. Take the German "Regionalexpress" from "Badischer Bahnhof" and get off after one station in Weil am Rhein. Follow the signs for "Burger King" and you will find the service station (~20 min walk from the train station)

- A helpful cutout of a map

Cities in Switzerland with more than 30.000 inhabitants

> **100.000**: Zürich · Geneve · **Basel** · Bern · Lausanne

30.000?100.000: Biel/Bienne · Chur · Fribourg · Köniz · La Chaux-de-Fonds · Lugano · Luzern · Neuchâtel · Schaffhausen · St. Gallen · Thun · Uster · Vernier · Winterthur