Green travel made easy: Special Interrail Pass for Erasmus+ & European Solidarity Corps participants

The Interrail Pass for Erasmus+ is a six-month travel pass available to participants of the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps programmes, enabling them to travel throughout Europe by train to their activity, as well as during or after. Initially introduced as the "Interrail Pass for Erasmus+" and originally designed for students, the name remains unchanged despite its **availability to European Solidarity Corps volunteers and those taking part in Erasmus+ youth actions**, such as Youth exchanges, Mobility of youth workers and Youth participation activities that involve travel. The Interrail Global Pass for Erasmus+ has been developed by Eurail in collaboration with Erasmus Student Network (ESN), one of the biggest student associations in Europe.

Concerning the eligibility for the Pass purchase, it applies only to **European participants** and **non-European participants** that are **residents** of a European country. Apart from EU member states, the Pass eligibility extends to following European countries and territories: *Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Gibraltar, Iceland, Kosovo, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Vatican City. For a complete and up-to-date list, participants can refer to the Eurail website.*

Aligned with the European Union's sustainability goals, this initiative reflects the **commitment to green priorities embedded in both programmes**. By encouraging environmentally friendly travel, the Interrail Pass for Erasmus+ serves as a valuable opportunity to promote greener practices while enhancing participants' cultural and educational experiences.

There are **two types of travel Passes** to choose from: one allows **four travel days within six months from the start date**, while the other provides **six travel days within six months from the start date**. Passes are available in two categories: **Youth Passes**, for travellers under 28 years old, and **Adult Passes**, for those aged 28 and above. Adult Passes are priced 25% higher than Youth Passes. Both categories of this Pass are available for purchase in the 2nd and 1st class.

This Pass allows the participants not only to use it to travel to and from the activity country, but also to explore their activity country and neighbouring countries during or after their activity. The participants can also decide to use multiple travel days to reach their activity country and/or travel back home at the end of their experience.

The Interrail Pass for Erasmus+ can be purchased directly from the Eurail official website, where relevant information and price packages are displayed. The four-day pass is priced between EUR 212 and EUR 321, while the six-day pass ranges from EUR 301 to EUR 455, depending on the pass category (Youth or Adult) and travel class (2nd or 1st). What makes this Pass stand out is its six-month validity – unlike regular Interrail Passes, which usually last only one or two months for a similar price. This added flexibility is a significant advantage, giving participants greater freedom to plan and enjoy their project experience.

This means that the price will fit within the travel support provided by the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity programmes grant scheme, therefore fulfilling the precondition for participants to be reimbursed accordingly. **The travel support for green means of transport**, such as train and train reservations, ranges from EUR 56 to EUR 1735, depending on the travel distance. On top of that, participants receive organisational support for two travel days, and in the case of green travel (train, bus, car-pooling and similar), up to four additional days — **up to six days in total**. This means that

when the journey involves long hours, organisational support helps to cover expenses such as meals during trip or accommodation during layovers, making the travel experience more comfortable.

However, the participants should contact organisation carrying out the project to obtain more information, including purchase procedures and reimbursement eligibility. It is essential to obtain this information before purchase and before departure, as each organization may have its own specific processes for providing travel and organisational support. Being informed in advance ensures a smoother experience and avoids potential misunderstandings.

This Pass is available to Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps participants who need to travel to their activity venue. It is not intended for those who do not engage in mobility, such as participants in local Solidarity Projects or Youth Participation activities that do not involve travel.

The **confirmation mechanism** to check if the participants are under Erasmus+ is a check box, and Eurail does not require any additional proof of eligibility. **Erasmus+ participants** select the first checkbox, confirming their participation and eligibility (*I confirm that I'm an Erasmus+ participant and will use the Interrail Pass for Erasmus+ during the exchange*). **European Solidarity Corps participants**, on the other hand, select the second box (*I am a participant of another mobility exchange program, and I am aware that Green Travel Support does not apply to me*). Although this statement does not fully reflect the European Solidarity Corps, as the programme does provide Green Travel Support, selecting this option is currently the best and preferred course of action. This initiative may evolve in the future to better meet the needs of Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps participants, but it is already available for them to benefit from, promoting green and sustainable travel across Europe.