

## Tolls / road use charge, goods transport Switzerland

### **Heavy vehicle fee (HVF)**

On 1.1.2001, the flat-rate tax on heavy vehicle traffic was replaced by a heavy vehicle fee related to services. This is based on the principle of 'the polluter pays'. It must be paid for the use of the entire road network and is levied on all Swiss and foreign vehicles of 3.5t MPW or more.

The amount due is based on the following three factors:

- the maximum weight of the vehicle or the combination vehicle;
- the environmental category of the vehicle;
- the distance travelled in Switzerland.

On arrival in Switzerland, the driver must provide the customs authorities with the following information regarding his vehicle: registration number, country of registration, MPW, Euro category, address of the owner. The driver will receive an ID card which concerns his vehicle and is therefore not transferable. On each entry into Switzerland, this card must be inserted in the terminal at the customs post and the following information given: mileage as indicated on the counter, maximum weight of the trailer, choice of route (either "free" or "pre-defined"), mode of payment (cash, petrol card, professional card, HVF account). The driver receives a voucher as proof of the transaction. On leaving the country, the mileage must be entered on this voucher in order to calculate the amount due.

In order to avoid delays, it is possible to equip vehicles with automatic registration equipment. The data recorded will be billed on a monthly basis.

All persons who try to avoid payment, who do not respect the procedure or who communicate false information will be subject to a fine of up to 5 times the sum due. In cases of negligence, the maximum fine is limited to 3 times the sum due. In all cases, the minimum fine is CHF 100.

Since 2001, transit authorisations were available at a flat rate of CHF 80 for empty vehicles and vehicles not exceeding 28t, with no extra costs (i.e. the HVF was not levied). As of 1 January 2005, these transit authorisations ceased to exist. Consequently, all vehicles of over 3.5t are subject to the heavy vehicle fee.

### *Rates as of 4 May 2010*

Euro 0 / 1 / 2 vehicles	CHF 0.0307 / tonne / km
Euro 3 vehicles	CHF 0.0266 / tonne / km
Euro 4 / 5 / 6 vehicles	CHF 0.0226 / tonne / km

These rates result in a charge of CHF 369, CHF 320 and CHF 272 respectively for a 40t vehicle travelling between Basel and Chiasso.

If the Euro class of the vehicle cannot be proven, the calculation will be based on the Euro 0 category.

### *Special regulations:*

- unaccompanied combined transport - reimbursements should be requested from the General Directorate of Customs, Gutenbergstrasse 50, 3003 Bern;
- transport of wood - reimbursement of CHF 1.30 per cubic metre transported to be requested from the General Directorate of Customs;
- transport of milk in bulk (tankers) and transport of livestock (except horses) - the amount due is 75% of the normal rates.

**Grand St Bernard tunnel (tariffs at 15.04.2010)**

	<b>single</b>	<b>return (valid 1 month)</b>	<b>10 crossings (valid 1 year)</b>	<b>20 crossings (valid 1 year)</b>
<i>Class B1:</i> vehicle with 2 axles or more and height at the first axle of between >2m and ≤3m	CHF 46.20 € 30.50	CHF 74.00 € 48.70	CHF 277.50 € 183.00	CHF 370.00 € 244.00
<i>Class B2/B3:</i> vehicle with 2 axles and height of >3m	CHF 81.50 € 53.50	CHF 132.50 € 87.50	CHF 607.00 € 400.00	CHF 1'059.00 € 698.00
<i>Class 3A/3B:</i> vehicle with 3 axles and height of >3m	CHF 118.50 € 78.00	CHF 190.00 € 125.50	CHF 889.00 € 586.00	CHF 1'537.00 € 1'012.00
<i>Class 4:</i> vehicle with 4 axles or more and height of >3m	CHF 180.00 € 118.50	CHF 288.00 € 189.50	CHF 1'357.00 € 894.00	CHF 2'324.00 € 1'531.00

*Note:*

The card for 10 or 20 crossings, which is valid for one year, may be used by different vehicles, provided the user vehicle belongs to the same category as that for which the card was issued.

*Transport of dangerous goods*

The request for authorisation (compulsory declaration) duly completed, together with a copy of the ADR transport document, must be sent to SISEX during working hours (08h00 - 12h00 and 14h00 - 18h00) Monday to Friday, at least 24 hours before the planned crossing. On arrival at the tunnel, drivers must present the following two documents:

- the compulsory declaration SDR/ADR annexe 2 (Marginal 280 250) (= *Swiss national rules for tunnels*) duly signed by the tunnel management;
- the ADR transport document [Marginals 2002 (3) (4) and (9); Marginal 10 381].

This procedure is applicable to all dangerous goods (flammable, toxic or corrosive) regardless of the quantity. The declaration is also intended for goods not in the ADR, but which may be considered to have flammable, toxic or corrosive properties.

For further information, please contact

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**Sources:** ASTAG, May 2010  
SISEX, April 2010  
SITRASB, November 2007  
Federal Office of Transport, September 2007