

FULL STEAM AHEAD: WHY RAIL IS THE BEST WAY TO SEE EUROPE

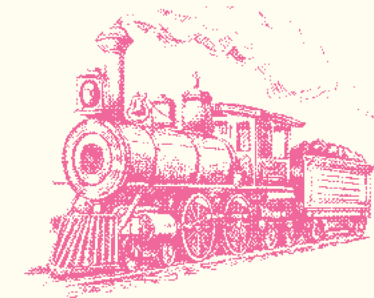
More than ever, 2021 is the year to hop on a train and discover Europe with **DiscoverEU**! Why? First, because it's the **European Year of Rail**, which celebrates Europe's world-leading, innovative rail industry. And secondly, because trains are one of the best ways to travel in Europe. Not convinced? Here are 5 reasons why!

1. RAIL IS GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE

Rail is one of the cleanest ways to travel on the ground. In 2018, trains represented just 0.4% of the EU27's transport emissions. Trains' emissions are so low because 75% of the distance they travel is powered by electricity. With more and more electricity coming from green sources, rail is a key contributor to the EU's 2050 climate neutrality goal. And think about it, travelling by train as a collective means of transport also reduces your own personal carbon footprint!

2. RAIL IS SAFE, COMFORTABLE AND ACCESSIBLE

European railways are among the safest in the world! You can board, relax, and enjoy the landscape. Furthermore, railway's accessibility is improving for people with disabilities or reduced mobility. If you prefer spending your journey dreaming of the next destination, take a night train and travel from Sweden to Germany or from Belgium to Austria for example!



3. TRAINS ARE PART OF OUR EUROPEAN CULTURE

The European railway network allows you to discover lesser-known destinations and access a huge range of cultural sites. Not only that, but some railway lines themselves are culturally important. Take the Semmering Railway in Austria, for example – this **UNESCO world heritage** site was built in the 1850s over 41km of mountains using highly complex techniques. Rail is also part of popular culture, too. Did you know that the French rail jingle inspired the song Rattle that Lock, by Pink Floyd's David Gilmour? You could also download the **DiscoverEU playlist** on Spotify!

4. RAIL IS SMART AND INNOVATIVE

Trains use increasingly innovative solutions such as digital ticketing, on-board Wi-Fi, and modern signalling and control systems. But rail innovation has no limit! Hyperloops, for example are low-friction, super-fast trains that are expected to hit speeds of over 1 000 km/h one day! Can you imagine?

5. RAIL OFFERS THOUSANDS OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES

In 2018, over 916 000 people were employed in Europe's railway sector. Demand for new talent is never-ending, with thrilling job opportunities including train drivers, engineers, computer technicians, station managers and more. You could travel all over Europe and contribute to designing a greener future through the development of new and innovative solutions. Interested in a career in rail? Find out more [here](#).

DON'T STOP HERE!

Visit the **European Year of Rail website** to discover more and, while on your next train journey, listen to the **European Year of Rail Spotify playlist**

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