



## **RAIL EUROPE INC. BACKGROUNDER**

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. – [Rail Europe, Inc.](#) is the largest distributor of European rail products in North America. The company combines the maps, schedules and fares of over 50 different train companies across Europe, creating a one stop shop for the North American traveler and travel agents to plan and book European rail travel.

Established in North America in 1990 as Rail Europe Inc., the roots of the company actually have a much longer history in the U.S., dating back to the 1930s. Rail Europe began as a small office in New York City, growing steadily through the introduction of the Eurail Pass in 1959 and the subsequent appointment of Rail Europe as the first North American distributor of the pass. Rail Europe is a North American company owned by the French National Railroads and the Swiss Federal Railways.

The company has been and continues to have a strong presence in North America with the distribution European rail travel, offering a wide range of rail passes including the entire Eurail Pass product line and high-speed train tickets including Eurostar, TGV, Italo, Le Frecce, Thalys, and AVE. Tickets for local and regional trains in Europe are also available. Convenient e-ticketing on a variety of train lines is also available within the countries of France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Britain, Germany, Italy and Spain. Rail Europe's extensive product line includes more than rail passes and tickets. We're proud to offer a wide range of European travel products for the traveler's convenience including:

- Reservations
- Airport transfers
- Sleepers and couchettes
- Luggage services
- Swiss mountaintop excursions & hotel packages
- Walking tours
- Hop-on and off sightseeing tours
- Museum passes for Europe's most popular destinations
- Public transport cards
- And so much more!

In addition to individual tickets, groups of 10 or more traveling together receive discounted pricing and personalized service. A dedicated Rail Europe Group Consultant will work with travelers to secure space months in advance and provide helpful information to ensure that the rail journey is a success. The Consultant can also help organize:

- Train charters or exclusive carriages
- Meal service and luggage handling
- City transportation cards and museum passes
- Transfers and private excursions

Rail Europe also has a trade website for travel agents to make client bookings. Travel agents can also book through the company's contact center. The company has created a series of travel agent training modules called TRAC<sup>®</sup>, The Rail Agent Course. Agents can become European Rail Experts by completing a comprehensive, self-study courses and exams that agents can study at their own pace.

Rail Europe sells directly to consumers through our centrally located contact center and through websites that are available in English, French and Spanish: [www.raileurope.com](http://www.raileurope.com), [www.raileurope.ca](http://www.raileurope.ca) or [www.raileurope.com.mx](http://www.raileurope.com.mx).

For more information or to book Rail Europe's rail passes and train tickets for train travel throughout Europe, consult a travel agent or log on to the websites. Travelers and agents may also call 1-888-382-7245 (U.S.A.), 1-800-361-7245 (Canada) or 1-800-726-1936 (Mexico). Travel agents should visit the company's trade sites: [www.agent.raileurope.com](http://www.agent.raileurope.com), [www.agent.raileurope.ca](http://www.agent.raileurope.ca).

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