

Information Sheet on “Green” Travel

“Green” travel is being rewarded financially in the latest generation of the Erasmus Programme (2021–2027).

What counts as “green” travel?

If you eschew planes in favor of lower-emission options such as trains, buses or carsharing for your journey to Bonn and/or back to your home country, this will be regarded as “green” travel. This qualifies you for a one-off, lump-sum advance on travel expenses (“green travel top-up”) of €80. **Taking the ferry or traveling solo by car are not considered “green.”**

The distance between your home and your destination is irrelevant as far as obtaining the top-up is concerned. You will receive the one-off payment of €80 regardless of whether you choose lower-emission means of transport for both legs or just one leg of your journey. However, all of your outward or return leg must be made using “sustainable” means of transport, even if you take a lengthy break halfway through your journey, for instance.

Update your Mobility-Online account no later than one month before you travel

We will need details of your “green” travel in order to issue your Erasmus Grant Agreement.

You should therefore provide this information as soon as possible.

1. Green Travel yes/no

If you are planning a “green” outward and/or return journey, please check the “Ja” (“Yes”) box by “Grünes Reisen” (“Green Travel”) in your Mobility-Online account, else check “Nein” (“No”).

You should check “Ja” (“Yes”) even if you are not yet 100% sure that you will be able to go through with your plans. You will be able to amend your details one last time after your stay if you ended up not undertaking any “green” travel. Your lump sum will be paid out together with the third installment of your Erasmus grant at the end of your stay.

If you state at this point that you will not be undertaking any “green” travel, you will not be able to change this answer—including after the end of your stay—even if you end up doing so after all.

2. Selection of means of transport

From the dropdown menu in your Mobility-Online account, please select the means of transport that you will be using to travel the longest distance (on your outward and/or return journey). Unfortunately, you cannot make multiple selections.

Green Travel “yes”:

You can choose bus, carsharing (two or more people in the car), bicycle, train or “other sustainable means of transport.”

Green Travel “no”:

You can choose car/motorcycle, plane or ferry.

3. Claiming for additional days’ travel

If you have a particularly long journey to your destination, we can also fund up to four additional days’ travel for you at the standard Erasmus daily rate for your destination country. The days required for your outward and return journeys can be added together but not the duration of your journey.

The following criteria apply:

Journey under 8 hours = Additional days' travel: 0

Journey over 8 hours = Additional days' travel: 1

Journey spanning 2 calendar days (not just on a night train) = Additional days' travel: 2, etc.

Example 1: you are taking the train to Bonn. The journey takes six hours each way and so is below the threshold for funding an extra day's travel. You therefore put a cross against "0" in the "Reisetage" ("Days' travel") box.

Example 2: you are traveling from Tiflis to Bonn and board the first train of the day in Tiflis before arriving in Bonn the next morning. So you can put a cross against "2" in the "Reisetage" ("Days' travel") box. If you are also planning to return the same way, you can mark "4" for your number of days' travel.

Please put a cross against "4" even if you will be on the road for longer.

Once you have entered your information, it cannot be changed! You should therefore be as accurate as possible. Ideally, you will not enter any information until after you have booked your tickets or at least after you have done some detailed research into potential routes so that you can determine how many extra days' travel you will need as precisely as possible.

Your extra days' travel will be added on to the length of your funding and likewise paid out together with the third installment of your Erasmus grant.

4. Proof of "green" travel

You will receive a sworn statement to download together with the Grant Agreement. You will need to sign this in order to confirm that you are planning "green" travel for at least your outward or return journey and how many additional days' travel you will need for this purpose. Please submit the sworn statement in hardcopy form and bearing your original ("wet") signature to us together with your Grant Agreement.

You will not need to show us proof of your journey(s) immediately (tickets or, if you are carsharing, gas station receipts, with photos if required) or upload it to your account.

However, you must retain these records of your journey for five years. The provider of our funding will be asking us to request individual pieces of evidence from you by way of spot checks.

If you are then unable to supply any proof, you will be denied your Green Travel top-up.

5. Did your "green" travel fall through?

Travel plans can change at short notice, of course, so you will be required to reconfirm your "green" travel statements after your stay has come to an end.

This means that, if you ultimately did not undertake any "green" travel, you should check "Nein" ("No") here. The €80 lump sum and the funding for any additional days' travel you claimed will then be deducted from your total funding amount and offset against the second payment of your Erasmus grant.

As mentioned above, you will not be able to make any retrospective changes to the information you provide on additional days' travel.

6. Tips for your journey and more:

Useful websites for international travel include [The Trainline Trenhotel](#) and [The Trainline Night Trains](#). The [erasmusbytrain](#) initiative provides tips for actually planning your journey and also campaigns for a free Erasmus+ ticket. An [Interrail ticket](#) is a good choice if you are also keen to explore other places en route.

However, sustainable travel is just one of the many ways you can reduce your environmental footprint. The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) runs the [studieren weltweit – ERLEBE ES!](#) ("study worldwide – LIVE IT!") portal, where you can get inspiration from other students' experiences. The [Green Erasmus](#) project provides tips on achieving great things with modest means.

Want to get involved in climate action together with other young people in Europe? Then take a look at [Generation Climate Europe](#).