

NEW SWISS PASSPORT 31.10.2022

Question	Answer
Theme and Design	
What is the theme of the passport?	The new Swiss passport is a reflection of Switzerland: traditional but cosmopolitan at the same time. Water shapes and forms the Swiss landscape, symbolising life and motion. The new passport invites you on a virtual journey through the country's 26 cantons, from the Alpine peaks down to the valleys.
Why this theme?	The new Swiss passport is a reflection of Switzerland: traditional but cosmopolitan at the same time. Water shapes and forms the Swiss landscape, symbolising life and motion. Cantonal flags and architectural landmarks highlight Switzerland's rich cultural and historical heritage. The Pizzo Rotondo, in the heart of the country, is a symbol of Switzerland's multilingualism. Beyond the country's borders, the Swiss community abroad is represented on its own page. The virtual landscapes depicted in the passport reflect Switzerland's rich geographical diversity and showcase its cartographic tradition.
What's different about the new passport?	The entire passport has been redesigned. However, the red cover, the concept of one visa page per canton depicting its flag and a specific cantonal motif, as well as the number of pages have all been retained. The application procedure is also the same.
What mountain is depicted on page 1 and where is it situated?	It's the Pizzo Rotondo, the highest peak in the Gotthard massif.
Why was Pizzo Rotondo chosen? Why the Gotthard massif?	Pizzo Rotondo was chosen because it is the highest point in the Gotthard massif. The Gotthard massif was chosen because it is the source of Switzerland's largest rivers and therefore combines both main design themes; mountains and water.
Why are the cantons in the sequence they are?	The sequence is based on the concept that the passport is a journey through Switzerland, from its highest to lowest point.
Where do the cantonal motifs come from?	The cantonal motifs are based on those used in the previous passport. They were adapted to the document's new design and approved by each cantonal administration.
Why are the cantonal motifs no longer pictured?	They are still there, but now they are only visible under ultraviolet light.
What do the different coloured passport covers mean?	Red: Standard passport, diplomatic passport and service passport Blue: Travel document Green: Passport for foreigners
Security	
Who issues the passport?	The Swiss passport is issued by the Federal Department of Justice and Police.
Where is it manufactured / printed?	The companies Orell Füssli and Thales DIS Switzerland print the individual components for the passport and deliver them to the Federal Office for Buildings and Logistics (FOBL), which assembles the passport booklet. The booklet is then personalised and sent out.

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Personalisation	
Where is the passport number located ?	The passport number is located in the upper right-hand part of the personal data page and in the first eight characters of the second line of text in the machine-readable zone. It is also perforated through all the pages of the passport and present on the back of the personal data page.
What is the significance of the number on the first page (front inside cover)?	The number on the inside cover is a booklet number, which allows the passport to be clearly identified.
Where must I sign the passport?	On the line provided on page 1.
What data is stored on the chip? Has anything changed compared with the old passport?	The chip contains the following data: official surname, first name(s), gender, date of birth, nationality, date of expiry, passport number, type of passport, facial image and two fingerprints. In terms of content, nothing has changed from the old passport.
Who personalises the document?	The Federal Office for Buildings and Logistics (FOBL) personalises the document and sends it to the applicant.
Issuance procedure	
I have just received a new passport. Do I have to renew it already or is it still valid?	You do not need to renew it. All passports issued remain valid until their expiry date.
How much does the new passport cost?	The new Swiss passport costs CHF 140, plus CHF 5 for postage.
Does my old passport allow for unrestricted travel?	Yes, the passport is valid until the expiry data and can be used for unrestricted travel, providing the country you visit does not impose any further conditions regarding its validity. Some countries, for example, require a passport to be valid for six months after your travel date.
Is there still a combined offer for passports and identity ca	Yes, the combined offer will consist of the new Swiss passport and the identity card 03.
Has anything changed regarding the application procedure? How and where do I order a new passport in future?	The application procedure is the same: you must still apply for the passport at the cantonal passport office.
How do Swiss people living abroad apply for the new passport and identity card?	Swiss people living abroad can still apply to their local Swiss representation for the new passport (and identity card), as before.
Does the temporary passport still exist?	Yes, the current temporary passport is still in use, but it will be replaced by the new emergency passport at a later date.
General questions	
What documents belong to the new family of passports?	The new family of documents comprises the standard passport, the diplomatic passport, the service passport, the travel document (for refugees), the passport for foreigners and the temporary passport. A new emergency passport will be introduced at a later date to replace the current temporary passport.
What does 'The Fifth Switzerland' mean?	Swiss nationals living abroad are often referred to as 'The Fifth Switzerland'. The expression is based on the four language regions of Switzerland in addition to the 750,000 or so Swiss living abroad, who make up an important part of the Swiss population and who therefore represent an additional region.
When will the new identity card be introduced?	The rollout is scheduled for the first half of 2023.