



Commission offers 36,000 free EU travel passes to 18-year-olds

Brussels, 2 April 2025

Thousands of young people will soon have the chance to explore Europe for free with [DiscoverEU](#). The European Commission has opened applications for a new [DiscoverEU](#) round, making **nearly 36,000 travel passes** available to 18-year-olds across Europe.

Successful applicants will be able to travel across Europe by train for up to 30 days between 1 July 2025 and 30 September 2026, discovering new countries, cultures and experiences. Applicants have to be born between **1 July 2006 and 30 June 2007, be residents** from the EU and countries associated with the [Erasmus+ programme](#), including Iceland, Liechtenstein, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia and Türkiye. Applications will close on Wednesday 16 April at 12:00 CEST.

Candidates must apply via the [European Youth Portal](#), completing a short quiz about the EU. Passes will be awarded to the top-ranked applicants until all tickets are distributed.

Travellers can design their own European [journey](#) or choose from suggested routes. They may follow the New European Bauhaus [Route](#), showcasing vibrant, sustainable cities, or choose the Green [Route](#), taking them takes to some of the most sustainable cities and nature-friendly destinations across the continent. This route features award-winning Green Capitals and Green Leaf [cities](#), stunning parks, and nature reserves. Along the way, they can use a discount card packed with thousands of offers on transport, museums, food, accommodation, sports and more across 36 countries.

DiscoverEU will make this experience accessible to all. Special [support](#) is available for participants with disabilities, health conditions or fewer opportunities. Additional arrangements are also offered to those living in remote areas, islands or outermost regions.

Launched in **2018** and integrated into the **2021–2027 Erasmus+ programme**, DiscoverEU has already awarded over **355,000 travel passes**. All participants are invited to join the [#DiscoverEU official group](#), with over 106,000 members sharing experiences and tips.

For More Information

[DiscoverEU](#)

[European Youth Portal](#)

[Erasmus+](#)

IP/25/957

Quote(s):

"DiscoverEU opens the door to adventure, learning, and unforgettable experiences. I'm thrilled to launch the spring 2025 application round, giving thousands of young people the chance to explore Europe and its rich cultural heritage, expand your knowledge, and make lifelong memories. If you're 18 and ready for an incredible journey, do not miss this opportunity. Apply now!"

Glenn Micallef, Commissioner for Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport - 02/04/2025

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