

Organisation and information

Furka Mountain Railway Foundation

The purpose of the foundation is to promote the Furka steam railway with Gear drive system in the interest of safeguarding this historic cultural asset of national importance and as a contribution to the sustainable development of the Goms and Ursern regions.

It sets up and manages an endowment fund for donations and sponsors to finance the restoration and maintenance of the buildings, facilities and means of transport necessary for the operation of the steam railway. It also owns some of the buildings and vehicles. The SFB auditors and the foundation supervisory authority of the Canton of Valais supervise the proper use of the donations.

www.dfb.ch/stiftung

Furka Mountain Railway Friends

The Furka Mountain Railway Friends use membership fees and donations to help finance the overhaul of steam locomotives and to cover the infrastructure costs of the steam locomotive workshop in Uzwil.

www.dfb.ch/dampflokfreunde and Passenger and freight wagons in Aarau.

<https://www.dfb.ch/de/stories/vfbag-wagenwerkstatt>



Photo: Urs Jossi

Information

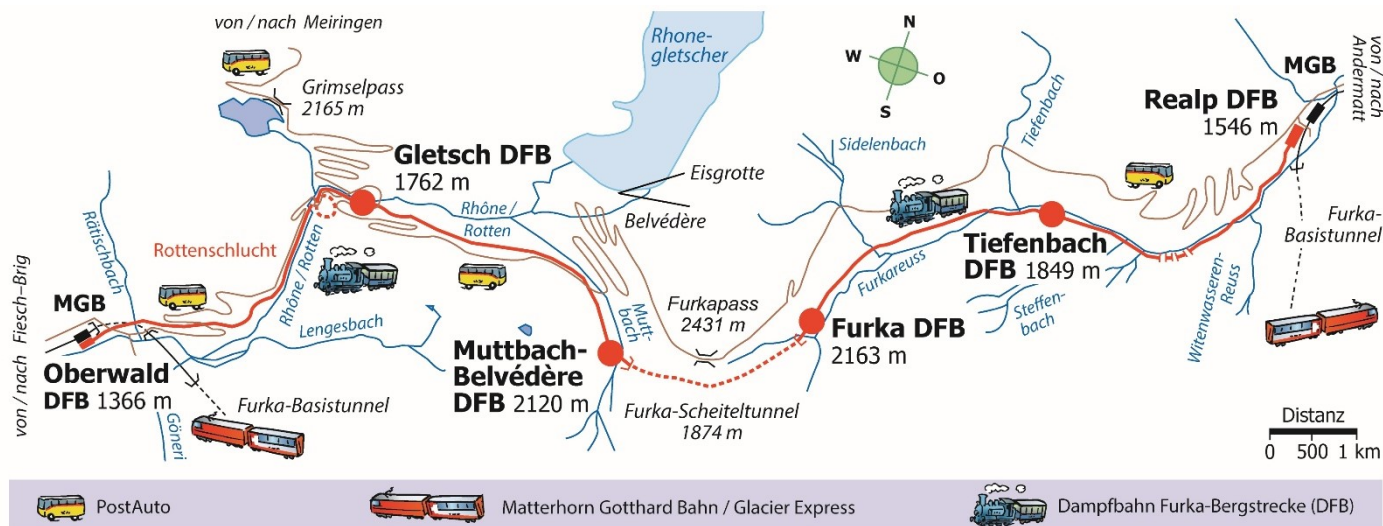
Dampfbahn Furka-Bergstrecke AG

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About us

English



www.dfb.ch



Photo: Georg Trüb

Traveling like a hundred years ago

Enjoy a journey like a hundred years ago in the historic steam train from Oberwald in the Goms region of Canton Valais to Realp in Canton Uri's Urseren Valley or vice versa. Cross the watershed between the Mediterranean and the North Sea. Experience nature, the magnificent mountain panorama along the railroad line. Especially the nostalgic technology such as the unique bascule narrow gauge railway bridge in Europe. Discover the variety of alpine gastronomy, the hospitality of the local people and the varied sports and hiking offers in this alpine region.



Pure nostalgic

Interesting facts

Our challenges

- Long winters, lots of precipitation, avalanches and landslides.
- Bridges, tunnels and road crossings require a lot of maintenance.
- The refurbishment, maintenance and periodic revision of the historic steam locomotives and carriages are time-consuming and expensive.
- The ticket revenue does not **fully** cover the operating and investment costs. Membership fees, donations, sponsorship money and tens of thousands of hours of volunteer work each year are essential for the continued existence of the railway.

Our rolling stock

Some of the rolling stock is close to 130 years old and includes original vehicles from the former Brig-Furka-Disentis Railway (BFD). It is maintained and overhauled in our workshops in Realp, Aarau and Uzwil. This work is carried out almost entirely by volunteers.



Photo: DFB-Archives

Furka mountain route once

1914: The Brig-Furka-Disentis railway (BFD) starts operating between Brig, Oberwald and Gletsch.

1926: The Furka-Oberalp railway (FO) runs from Brig to Disentis, connecting with the Rhaetian railway (RhB). The Furka mountain route Oberwald – Realp is only operated in summer.

1981: The last FO train runs on the Furka mountain route.

1982: The opening of the Furka base tunnel enables year-round operation. The mountain route is to be demolished.

Furka mountain route today

1983: Establishment of the Furka Mountain Line Association (VFB) and in

1985 of the Furka Steam Mountain Line Company (DFB AG) for the restoration and operation of the historic railway.

Line renovation and rolling stock procurement.

1990: Return of steam locomotives from Vietnam.

1992: Reopening of the line from Realp to Tiefenbach, **1993** to Furka, **2000** to Gletsch and **2010** to Oberwald.

Organisation

People at the centre

Around a thousand volunteers generously provide their knowledge and skills for the maintenance and operation of the railway. The staff receive professional training and are tested to ensure that the safety of the railway is professionally guaranteed at all times.

The Organisations

Dampfbahn Furka-Bergstrecke AG

The Dampfbahn Furka-Bergstrecke AG is the licensee of the federal government and the operator of the railway. It ensures that the railway is managed according to professional standards and that the necessary safety requirements are met. It is therefore primarily responsible for the operation of the railway and the associated maintenance. Its aim is to reconcile the income generated and the costs incurred.

www.dfb.ch

Furka Mountain Railway Association

This umbrella organisation has 6000 members, with eleven sections in Switzerland, nine in Germany and one in the Netherlands. Among other things, the association recruits the volunteers who support the DFB AG in the maintenance of the facilities and rolling stock. The Aargau section ensures the overhaul of the 130-year-old passenger coaches in its workshop. In addition, the association makes annual contributions to the maintenance of the railway. Through their attachment to the railway and their strong presence at home and abroad, the members make a significant contribution to the perception of this unique cultural asset among the population.

www.dfb.ch/verein

www.dfb.ch/stories/vfbag-wagenwerkstatt

Association

rolling stock repair shop

