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Holiday Observer

KUONI has been appointed official agent for the sale in Switzerland of tickets for this year's summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

The Swiss tour operator has started to sell the 10,000 tickets – 25 per cent of them for the athletics event – allocated for Swiss sports fans, at prices between Sfr 12 and Sfr 178.

Kuoni is also the official travel agency for the Swiss athletes and officials who will go to Los Angeles.

It is offering basic nine-day programmes, priced between Sfr 2,990 and Sfr 3,590, on three different dates, covering flight by Swissair and TWA, admission to the games and a brief stay in New York.

These programmes can be combined with each other and with additional arrangements.



SWISS Federal Railways and Swissair are set to complete expansion of their joint "Fly-Baggage" system this month.

The system links more than 100 railway and post coach stations to Geneva and Zurich airports.

Passengers departing from the airports can check baggage directly through to their destination from any of the points on the network. Cost of the service is Sfr. 9.

Passengers arriving at Zurich can have baggage transported to any rail station.



RAILWAYS in Switzerland, Britain and 17 other European countries have introduced a new railcard for the elderly, enabling cut-price continental travel.

The Rail Europe Senior card costs £5 in Britain and is available at principal British Rail stations, from where further details may also be obtained.

With the card, senior citizens can purchase reduced-rate first or second class tickets for journeys to

and from the Continent and within the Continent.

Savings are up to 50 per cent in France, Belgium, Holland, Luxemburg, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Ireland and the UK.

The maximum discount is 30 per cent in Germany, Austria, Italy, Yugoslavia, Hungary and Denmark.

Sea crossings by Sealink ships, jetfoil and hovercraft qualify for discounts of up to 30 per cent when they are part of a through sea/rail journey.

Reductions do not apply to sleeping cars or to supplements and there are restrictions on times of travel.



THE Cypriot seaport of Lamaca this April becomes the one-hundredth destination on Swissair's route network, the airline has announced.

This will not be the first time that Cyprus has been served by Swissair. Scheduled services to Nicosia were inaugurated back in 1971, but were abandoned three years later on the outbreak of hostilities on the island.

"Since then", says a Swissair statement, "Cyprus has made a good recovery, and has regained its undoubted tourist and trade potential".

Immediate plans are for two

Swissair flights a week to Larnaca, stopping over en route to Jordan.

With Cyprus Airways' two weekly flights to Zurich, on Saturdays and Sundays, there will be four connections a week between Cyprus and Switzerland from April 1.



GREEK hoteliers are to freeze this year's rates at the 1983 level for strong currencies such as the Swiss franc.

Nikos Skoulas, general secretary of the National Tourist Organisation of Greece, said in Switzerland: "This means that prices for Swiss visitors will not be higher than they have been in the past year".



A THREE-DAY rail trip between Milan and Paris, taking in Europe's highest, slowest and fastest express services is being promoted by the Swiss resort of St. Moritz and the Rhaetian Railways.

As well as using the normal railway services, the trip takes in travel on the Bernina Express from Tirano to St. Moritz, the Glacier Express to Brig and the French TGV high-speed train

from Geneva to Paris.

The trip can be made either way and includes overnight stays in Geneva and St. Moritz. Passengers can make longer stays at places along the route if they wish.



ST. MORITZ has joined with its American twinned town of Vail, Colorado, to offer what it calls the first intercontinental ski-pass in the world for this winter.

The two winter sports resorts will offer a joint season pass that is valid in either place.

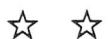
It is planned to extend the scheme to the other "twins" of St. Moritz – Kutchan (Japan) Bariloche (Argentina) and Guthega (Australia).

"That will mean that with a single season pass, skiers will be able to use the finest pistes in four continents", said tourism director Hans Danuser.



ZURICH-based Charles Carr has retired after 27 years with British Rail.

Mr Carr was appointed to BR's Zurich office in 1973 and at the time of his retirement was passenger sales manager and deputy manager for Switzerland. He is returning to Britain to live.



BERNE-based Ambassador Swiss Hotels, Switzerland's biggest voluntary chain, has published a special booklet with group tour offers.

It features 34 ASH hotels in 29 Swiss cities, towns and holiday resorts.

"Special emphasis has been laid on ideas for interesting excursions, entertainment, good food and all-inclusive arrangements", said an ASH spokesman.

For groups and clubs planning Swiss tours, the booklet contains suggestions for programmes of five to eight days, priced from Sfr. 283 half board.

Special deals for businessmen

SWISSAIR has launched a range of special hotel amenities for business travellers using its computerised hotel reservation system.

Earlier check-in and room availability, late check-out, higher room category without surcharge and a welcome

drink are offered.

Additional services at some hotels include complimentary bus transport, secretarial facilities, free entry to sports and gym centres.

Details of the new benefits are available at Swissair reservations offices.