Some practical information ....

Arriving in Zürich ....

Transportation from Zürich Airport to Zürich HB Main Railway Station (city centre) and to your hotel

Don't take an airport taxi except if your hotel is located outside the city limits.

- You will arrive either at terminal A or B.
- Take a luggage trolley in the luggage distribution area (no money needed), go through the customs control and look for signs "Railway". You can use the luggage trolleys on the escalators without taking your luggage of the trolley.
- **Tickets** are available in the main hall of the railway station at the ticket counter.
  - Purchase a **one-way ticket** to Zürich HB (HB = Hauptbahnhof = main station). It costs CHF (Swiss Francs) 5.40 in 2nd class (Taxi CHF 50.– for maximum 3 persons). The ticket is valid for 2 hours on all public transportation possibilities within Zürich (railways, S-Bahn = rapid transit, tram, bus, boats, cable cars etc.)
  - Next to the ticket counter there is a **currency exchange service** which is operated by the railway company.
  - Take a **train** from Zürich Airport in the direction Zürich HB.
  - Trains leave Zürich Airport approximately every 10 minutes.
  - Get off the train after 10 to 15 minutes at Zürich HB.
  - If you want to take a taxi to your hotel it's cheaper to take it at Zürich HB. The taxi stand is at the main entrance of the station.

If you arrive early and plan to use public transportation in Zürich: Buy a return ticket at the airport. It costs CHF 10.80 and is valid for 24 hours within the city limits and to the airport.

Accommodation

**Hotels:** Most of you will stay at the Hotel Ibis Technoparkin Zürich. Coming from Zürich main station take the regional train (e.g., lines No. S5/S6/S7/59/S12) direction Airport, Winterthur or Dietikon until Hardbrücke. 5 minutes walk direction to Technopark. You can also take Tram No 4 or 13 to the Escher-Wyss-Platz (5 minutes walk as well) (they stop in front of the Main train station Zürich HB (between the main station and the river Limmat).

You can reach downtown Zürich with public transport within 20 minutes.

**Restaurants:** There are plenty of restaurants in all price categories. Ask at your hotel if you have special wishes.

Money

You will probably need some Swiss Francs. Credit cards are accepted in stores and most of the restaurants, also at train stations. However, there are businesses and restaurants which do not accept credit cards. You can change money at the banks at the airport or at the **currency exchange services at the railway stations** at the airport or at Zürich main station. Changing money at the railway station is cheaper than in a bank due to the lower commissions charged. You may pay with foreign currencies but the exchange rates are bad.
Shopping
Shops are usually open Monday–Friday from 08:00/09:00 until 18:30. On Saturday they close at 16:00 and Sunday they are closed. At Zürich HB (main station) and in Zürich Stadelhofen some shops are open until 20:00 and on Sundays.

Cinemas and theatres
Cinemas usually show movies in the original language with subtitles, at least in the evening. Zürich has several theatres - usually German spoken - and quite a famous opera house where tickets are not very cheap and sometimes not easily available.

Tourism - some suggestions
- The old town: between the lake and the main station on both sides of the Limmat river
- The Bahnhofstrasse: it's said that it is the most beautiful shopping mall of the world (also the famous banks are there).
- Boat trips on the Limmat river from the Landesmuseum (National Museum, which is also worthwhile visiting) behind the main station to the lake and vice versa.
- The Zoo. You can reach it using tram line number 6 or 5.
- The Uetliberg: the highest mountain in the Zürich area. You can see it from almost everywhere from the city. You can walk up from the end of the tram lines 13 (Albisgütli) and 14 (Triemli) or - if you don't have enough energy - you can travel up to the mountain with the Uetliberg railway (Rapid Transit (S-Bahn) Line S10, starting from track number 1 or 2 at Zürich HB (main station). For this you'll need an additional ticket. If you already have a valid 1-day-ticket, buy an "Anschlussbillet" for 2 zones. If you want to walk down choose a one-way-ticket, otherwise you need a return ticket. On the top there is - besides a good view - a good restaurant. It may be foggy in September. Often the top of the Uetliberg is above the fog line. Then it is mentioned on special signs on the front of the trams of Line 13.
- A trip on the lake: Steam and motor boats travel as far as Rapperswil and Schmerikon.
- A trip on the Rigi (1800 m in central Switzerland) which was also visited by Mark Twain or other mountains in Switzerland.
- Of course you can visit other cities in Switzerland: To Basel it takes 50 minutes to one hour, to Bern - the capital of Switzerland - 1 hour and 9 minutes and to Luzern about 50 Minutes. To all these cities you have a train every half an hour. To Geneva it takes about 3 hours (every half an hour), to St. Gallen 1 hour and 3 to 13 minutes, to Interlaken 2 hours and 16 minutes and to Lugano in southern Switzerland about 3 hours.

And finally ...
... we are looking forward to meeting you here in Switzerland

Norbert Kräuchi, Marcus Schaub