ZMB Zürcher Museums-Bahn



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The Zurich Museum Railway (ZMB) is the open-air industrial museum of the Sihltal (Sihl Valley) Railway. On behalf of the people of Zurich and visitors from far and wide the ZMB maintains historical rolling stock of the Sihltal Railway which was established in 1892. The Sihltal Railway has been an ongoing part of the history of the southern suburbs of Zurich since then. In the beginning it was goods traffic in Zurich, and from there world-wide, that was central to the business of the Sihltal Railway. In order to connect the Sihltal to the Limmattal (Limmat Valley) a one-kilometre long connecting line with a tunnel to Wiedikon was built. The Sihltal Railway was steam operated until 1924. The electrical age was ushered into the Sihltal Railway on 1st June 1924 with the self-propelled carriage FCe 2/4 No. 84 which has been preserved by the ZMB. Shunting operations at the Sihltal Railway were steam operated until 1962.

Today the ZMB operates almost without exception rolling stock from the Sihltal Railway: two steam locomotives, two self-propelled electric carriages, some passenger carriages, a restaurant car, a fully equipped kitchen car and a luggage waggon. Two diesel locomotives/ tractors are also available for shunting duties.

The ZMB played a major role in the regional industrialisation, and the consequent blossoming of the Sihl Valley, as part of Zurich's economic hinterland.

The ZMB trains use the regular railway track of the S4 suburban service and our historical engines have therefore to take their place outside the ten-minute service. So when we travel, we travel exactly to the minute!