

Switzerland

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Overview of Switzerland

Full Name:	Swiss Confederation	capital:	Bern
Area (square kilometers):	41,284	Population ('000):	8,211
Location	<p>Switzerland is located in central Europe, bordering Germany to the north, France to the west, Italy to the south, and Austria and Liechtenstein to the east. It is a landlocked mountainous country, with mountains occupying most of its land area. There are 437 tall and straight world-famous mountains in the country, of which 48 are over 4,000 meters above sea level. These mountains are crazy gathered in the Alps. It can be said that the Alps are the "Soul of Switzerland". There are about 1,500 crystal lakes of various sizes; there are 162 century-old cities that are either prosperous or elegant. Switzerland is known as the "World Park" for its natural scenery and climatic conditions. The central Swiss Plateau is the main population settlement and economic center, such as Zurich and Geneva.</p> <p>Schwyz originally referred to a forest area where trees were burned and cleared for construction. It gradually extended to refer to the entire canton of Schwyz and then the entire country.</p> <p>Switzerland is special because it is a permanent neutral country. It has never been involved in international wars since 1815. Its unique military neutrality has ensured that the country has been spared from the disasters of the two world wars. The second is its banks. Swiss banks are known as the safest banks in the world. Most banks in other countries will disclose information about depositors as long as investigators come to investigate and show relevant documents. But Swiss banks do not. For three centuries, Swiss banks have always adhered to the principle of permanent confidentiality for depositors.</p> <p>Switzerland has been ranked first for four consecutive years in the 2020 "Best Countries Ranking" published by U.S. News & World Report! Among the nine major indicators, Openness for Business, Citizenship, Entrepreneurship, Quality of Life, and Cultural Influence are all ranked in the top ten. It is one of the richest, most livable, and happiest countries in the world.</p>		
National flag	<p>When the Confederation was established in 1291, it was decided to use a white cross on a red background. The cross is in the middle and it is square. This particularly highlights Switzerland's own philosophy: God is important, neutrality is important, and impartiality is the only country in the world with a square flag.</p>		
history	<p>Switzerland was once controlled by the Roman Empire, the Kingdom of Burgundy, the Frankish Kingdom and the Habsburg Dynasty. The earliest alliance between states appeared in 1291, called the Old Swiss Confederation, which initially included three states and then gradually expanded to its current territory. Therefore, today's Swiss regard August 1291 as the birthday of the Swiss Confederation, and August 1st of each year is designated as the Swiss National Day. In 1499, the Holy Roman Empire Habsburg Dynasty was forced to recognize Switzerland's independence through war, and gradually became a permanent neutral country.</p> <p>Switzerland was not affected by war during the two world wars. Germany had drawn up a detailed plan to invade Switzerland, but it was not implemented in the end. Switzerland once proposed to join the European Union, but was rejected by the Swiss citizens in a referendum.</p>		

	<p>Swiss soldiers are therefore well-known in Europe for their good fighting skills. Switzerland currently implements a universal compulsory militia system, and all male citizens aged 20 to 34 must serve in the military. Except for the Swiss Guard of the Vatican, Switzerland prohibits citizens from accepting foreign military employment.</p>
Political system	<p>Federalism. The Swiss Federal Constitution adopted in 1848 is the legal basis of the federal system. This constitution is one of the oldest constitutions in the world. The Swiss Confederation is divided into 26 states, each of which enjoys a high degree of independence and autonomy and has its own constitution, parliament, government and courts.</p> <p>Due to its political neutrality, many international organizations have set up offices in Switzerland. Switzerland is the birthplace of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and the Geneva Conventions. The Palais des Nations in Geneva is the second largest hub of the United Nations after the New York headquarters.</p> <p>In addition to the United Nations European headquarters, Switzerland also has other UN agencies such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Labor Organization (ILO), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), etc., and about 200 international organizations including the World Trade Organization. The World Economic Forum held in Davos every year brings together important figures from the global business and political circles to discuss important issues including health care and the environment.</p> <p>Switzerland is also home to the headquarters of many sports organizations, such as the International Basketball Federation, UEFA, FIFA, the International Cycling Union and the International Olympic Committee.</p>
economy	<p>In 2016, the per capita GDP was \$79,577, ranking second in the world, second only to Luxembourg. Switzerland is one of the richest countries in the world, and its per capita wealth also ranks first in the world. Manufacturing is the most important industry in Switzerland, including chemicals, medical treatment, precision instruments, such as watches. The service industry is another important industry in Switzerland, including banking, tourism, insurance and international organizations. Switzerland is the headquarters of many multinational companies. Famous Swiss companies include the world's largest food company Nestlé, Novartis, Roche, ABB, UBS Group, Zurich Financial Services Group, Credit Suisse Group, and Tetra Pak. Manufacturing is the most important industry in Switzerland, and the manufacturing industry mainly produces professional chemicals, pharmaceuticals and medical products, scientific precision measuring instruments, and musical instruments. From food to precision machinery, from pharmaceuticals to clothing, from chemicals to insurance and finance, all kinds of industry giants are crowded in a small country.</p> <p>Switzerland is a country with a relatively low tax rate. Switzerland has long been ranked first in the World Economic Forum's global competitiveness rankings.</p> <p>Switzerland is internationally abbreviated as CH, which is the first letters of the Latin Swiss Confederation (Confoederatio Helvetica), also known as the Helvetician Federation.</p>
specialty	<p>The Alphorn is one of the traditional musical instruments in the Alps. It was originally used by shepherds to call livestock or convey information in the mountains. At the end of the 16th century, the image of a trombone player calling and soothing cows appeared in glass paintings.</p> <p>In the 19th century, after the Swiss cheese industry moved from the mountains to dairy factories in villages and towns, the occasions where the alphorn could be used became fewer and fewer. In the 1820s, Niklaus von Mulinen, an official in Bern, began to actively save this instrument. Through his active promotion and preservation, the alphorn, which had lost its original practical value, was transformed into a pure musical instrument and became a representative instrument in Switzerland. Currently, the International Alphorn Music Festival and Competition is held every year in Nendaz, Valais.</p>

	(located in southwest Switzerland), which is an important local cultural event.
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Swiss expansion

Swiss Franc (CHF)

Switzerland uses the Swiss franc as its national currency, 1CHF=0.95EUR.

All ATMs in Switzerland accept UnionPay cards to withdraw Swiss francs and support balance inquiries. UnionPay cards cannot be used for bank counter transfers and cash withdrawals abroad. Switzerland's payment system is very developed, and most stores and supermarkets accept credit and debit card payments. However, before using a credit card for consumption, please ask clearly whether there will be an additional fee, because more and more merchants are slowly starting to charge credit card fees from the client (probably because the annual fee for credit cards is getting lower and lower). Large shopping malls and supermarkets also accept euros for payment, and Swiss francs are returned, but there will be a slight loss in the exchange rate. US dollars are not commonly used. Credit cards are generally accepted.

Swiss Tax Refund

Switzerland is a Schengen visa country. The price of goods in Switzerland generally includes 8% VAT. You can apply for a tax refund if the purchase amount at the same store exceeds 300 Swiss francs. Since Switzerland is not a member of the European Union, the shopping tax refund procedure must be completed before leaving Switzerland. After deducting the handling fee, the actual tax refund is 5-6%.

Some large watch chains will sell goods at duty-free prices to facilitate tourists, and will ask customers to swipe their credit cards as collateral. Please ask the staff for a tax refund form, fill it out, and give it to the customs staff for stamping when leaving Switzerland. After that, the customs will send the tax refund form back to the store and return the VAT paid by the store on behalf of the customer. However, if you forget to stamp it at the customs and do not go through the tax refund procedure, the store will charge the VAT from your collateral credit card to compensate for the store's losses.

- Customs at large customs exits will be open until 20:00
- The Swiss-Italian border checks the tour guide's cash less than 10,000 euros, and you may be required to pay additional customs duties when entering Italy from Switzerland. Throw away the outer packaging of the valuable watch or mail it back to your country
- If you pass through Liechtenstein (Lucerne - Vaduz - Innsbruck), get your passport stamped at the border of Liechtenstein.
- (EU tax bill) Stamping process before entering Switzerland:
 2. There is a WC next to the customs
 3. You must go in with the driver (check the car first)
 4. The guest opens the EU tax bill (be sure to organize it the day before) and queues up, and submits the original passport and tax bill to the German customs for stamping, and it will be completed quickly.
 6. All tax bills are processed at Zurich Airport (mailed or refunded in cash)Go to the customs with the driver. After the driver is done, you give the e-ticket to the customs and ask if the tax refund items need to be brought with you? After asking, go to the car to take the guests out, handle it one by one, and ask the guests to wait for you in the car, don't get off, and go to the toilet after everything is done
- Swiss Au customs is open 24 hours a day.

- Chiasso Italian customs often checks

Swiss socket

Swiss sockets are quite different from European sockets. Swiss sockets generally have three holes, with three round pins arranged in a blunt triangle, and the third one is the ground wire. The old Swiss standard (Type J, SEV 1011) is a flat head, and the spacing between the sockets is smaller than the two sockets of the European standard. This plug is compatible with Europlug (Type C, CEE 7/16), which is a flat two-round pin plug, but it cannot be inserted into a round two-round pin plug. Unfortunately, many conversion plugs are round. Generally, there is a European standard socket in the bathroom of each Swiss hotel. Conversion sockets can be purchased at the electrical appliance store at Swiss International Airport

Education and research in Switzerland

The highly developed education system, which was gradually established and improved in the mid-nineteenth century, has provided a steady stream of human resources for Switzerland's development. The Swiss Federal Institute of Technology and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne are still among the best colleges in Europe today. In major rankings, Swiss universities are always ranked first among non-English-speaking countries, and the latest European graduate salary rankings even take the top four. This small country with a population of 8 million has won a total of 24 Nobel Prizes since 1901, with 1.111 Nobel Prize winners per 1 million people. Switzerland is the country with the highest proportion of Nobel Prize winners in the world. Compared with Switzerland, the number of Nobel Prize winners per 1 million people in the UK is 0.840, the United States is 0.712, Germany is 0.341, and France is only 0.187.

The University of Zurich in Switzerland, a university that is not well-known in China, has 21 Nobel Prize winners!

On average, only 20% of Swiss secondary school students can enter high school. The limited number of admissions places (at least in some parts of Switzerland) makes it difficult to enter high school, so many high schools have to set up a "barrier" - the entrance examination. Sometimes a whole class of children take the high school entrance examination, but only a few can pass it.

The proportion of Germans who attend high school is 39%, Austria 40%, France 50%, Italy 75%, Finland 93%; Swiss education politicians believe that 20% of high school students is a moderate proportion, although it is low compared with other neighboring countries. Thirty years ago, the proportion of Swiss high school students was only 10%.

The reason for this growth is, on the one hand, the increase in the number of girls attending high school, and on the other hand, the influx of foreigners. For example, highly educated foreign parents, especially Germans, work in Switzerland, and of course they also want their children to receive higher education in Switzerland, because they can find a good job in Switzerland because they have attended university in their own country. Foreigners' expectations for their children to succeed are also a major factor in the higher threshold for Swiss high schools.

Federalism

After the collapse of the Roman Empire, many small kingdoms and principalities organized by Germanic people emerged in Europe, including Switzerland. During the Holy Roman Empire, many cities were established in Switzerland, which was also the basis for the future city alliance.

When the Habsburgs tried to control these cities, they formed a formal alliance to fight against the Habsburgs. On August 1, 1291, the three cantons of Schwyz, Unterwalden and Uri formed the Swiss Perpetual Alliance. In 1315, the Swiss Alliance army defeated the Habsburg army in the Battle of Morgarten. In 1499, the Swiss Alliance army defeated Austria in the

Swabian War. Switzerland was essentially independent. The Swiss Federal Constitution adopted in 1848 is the legal basis of the federal system. This constitution is one of the oldest constitutions in the world. The Swiss Confederation is divided into 26 cantons, each of which enjoys a high degree of independence and autonomy, and has its own constitution, parliament, government and courts.

Switzerland is mainly composed of four language and cultural areas, namely the German-speaking area (63%), the French-speaking area (20%), the Italian-speaking area (6.5%) and the Romansh-speaking area (2%). Although the German-speaking population is the majority among the Swiss, Switzerland has not formed a country with a single ethnicity and language. Although people from different regions belong to the same country, they often communicate in English because of language barriers. In addition, their German is different from traditional German and is called "Swiss German". The German spoken by the Swiss is a variant of German.

Verbreitung der vier Landessprachen in der Schweiz (2000)



There is no race called Swiss in the world. The word "Switzerland" is even just a variant of the name of a state in the federation. There is a joke that the Swiss are mainly composed of three parts: "Germans who don't want to be Germans, French who don't want to be French, and Italians who don't want to be Italians". They retain the characteristics of their own nations and have many unique attributes of Switzerland. The French-speaking Swiss are just a re-edition of the French, but the food in Switzerland is not as boring as that in France, and the attitude towards the authorities is not as casual as that in France; the German-speaking Swiss are better than the Germans, they are more rational and serious than the Germans. There are great cultural differences between the French-speaking Swiss and the German-speaking Swiss.

The "potato gap" (Röstigraben) is used to represent the difference in thinking between the German-speaking and French-speaking Swiss. Speaking of the potato gap, we must first talk about Rösti (golden potato pancakes), a traditional specialty dish in the German-speaking region of Switzerland. Golden potato pancakes are potatoes that are boiled, grated, and fried in oil into golden potato pancakes, served with veal mushrooms and covered with cream sauce. This is the famous Swiss dish called "Zurich beef tenderloin". The protagonist of this dish is not the meat tenderloin as the main dish, because it can be replaced with pork or beef, but the golden potato pancakes that are crispy on the outside and tender on the inside cannot be replaced.

The Potato Gap should actually be called the "Golden Potato Pancake Gap", or simply the Potato Gap here. Because golden potato pancakes are a traditional dish unique to the German-speaking region of Switzerland, the Swiss call the boundary

between the German-speaking and French-speaking regions the "Potato Gap". The German-speaking and French-speaking people in Switzerland, separated by the Potato Gap, are really "hugely" different. "In terms of personality, people in the French-speaking region are more open than those in the German-speaking region, and are more inclined to give the state more power politically, while people in the German-speaking region pay more attention to freedom, do not want the state to have too much decision-making power, and also want to be independent from the European Union and other countries," said Markus Frank, a German-speaking Swiss.

French-speaking people are more particular about food than German-speaking people. Even lunch in French-speaking areas is not so good. This can be seen from the number of cheap and good restaurants in many French-speaking areas in western Switzerland, while good restaurants in German-speaking areas are becoming fewer and fewer, and are more often replaced by pizza shops and Turkish kebab shops. French-speaking people are also more relaxed than German-speaking people. "This is also reflected in work and law, but compared with other Europeans, French-speaking people in Switzerland are still much more rigorous," Frank said. In addition, French-speaking people have no hostility towards France, while German-speaking and Italian-speaking people are more repulsive to Germany and Italy. Cultural and linguistic differences also cause certain differences. People in German-speaking and French-speaking areas also have different sense of humour.

Don't underestimate the potato gap, it divides a small country like Switzerland into two worlds. Many Swiss people have no idea what the other side of the potato gap looks like. A poll commissioned by Swisscom and conducted by sotomo, a research agency, showed that a quarter of the residents of St. Gallen and Graubünden in the German-speaking regions have never been to the French-speaking regions, while a fifth of the French-speaking Genevans have never been to the German-speaking regions. Living in the same country but never being able to visit each other, which is 200 to 300 kilometers away, is a fact in Switzerland.

In particular, those living far from the French-German border have never crossed the potato gap. The survey shows that 14% of people in the German-speaking part of Switzerland have never visited the French-speaking part, while 15% of people in the French-speaking part have never visited the German-speaking part.

The perfect combination of nationalism and liberalism brought about by the French Revolution and the free and easy tradition of mountain people made the people in the Alps advocate freedom, democracy, independence and local autonomy, and no longer want to commit to any highly centralized central government, whether it is imperial power, royal power or a republic. The modern "Swiss" and the Swiss Confederation were born.

On June 5, 2016, the Swiss held a referendum, and 80% of voters rejected a "unconditional basic income" proposal that would benefit all citizens. If this proposal is passed, it means that even if the Swiss do not work, they can enjoy an unconditional monthly income of 2,500 Swiss francs (about 15,000 yuan) for life. The implementation cost of the proposal is 208 billion Swiss francs. Even if all social welfare expenditures are cancelled, fiscal expenditures will increase by at least 22 billion Swiss francs each year, and this does not include the additional expenses caused by some Swiss people stopping work or switching to uneconomical jobs. This means that Switzerland must reduce spending or increase taxes, which will undoubtedly weaken its competitiveness.

This is not the first time that the Swiss have rejected such a proposal. In recent years, Switzerland has repeatedly rejected proposals that would increase national welfare but weaken economic competitiveness. For example, in 2012 and 2014, the Swiss rejected proposals to increase paid vacations and significantly increase the minimum wage. In March 2012, Swiss voters rejected a welfare proposal proposed by the trade unions to extend paid vacations to six weeks a year by 66.5%.

Switzerland is a unique country that practices direct democracy instead of representative government. That is to say, most bills are voted on through referendums. This means that if Switzerland loses its self-esteem and virtue, it will soon degenerate into a welfare-oriented socialist country because of this democratic system, and then poverty and chaos will

follow. Look at Venezuela, the former pearl of South America. Switzerland holds 3-4 referendums every year to decide on national affairs, big and small. It is a veritable referendum country. Its referendum topics cover a wide range, from law and diplomacy to economics and society, from training and vacation to salary and benefits, and even animal rights. Since 1848, Switzerland has held more than 570 referendums, which is more than the total number of referendums in all other countries in the world.

Therefore, the premise and decisive factor for the success of a democratic federal system depends on whether the citizens have virtue. If all the people have virtue, then all the people can have democracy. If some people have virtue, then only some people can have democracy. If all the people are immoral, then even a democratic system will eventually fall into autocracy.

permanent neutral country

The Swiss flag is a white cross on a red background. The cross is in the middle and it is square. This particularly highlights Switzerland's own philosophy: God is important, neutrality is important, and impartiality is the only country in the world with a square flag.

Switzerland's neutrality policy has deep historical roots, and Switzerland has benefited from its politically neutral status in history. Switzerland was once ruled by the Austrian dynasty and was deeply influenced by France. In 1499, the Confederation finally broke away from Austrian rule and French influence. In 1516, it signed a "perpetual peace" treaty with France, which became the prototype of Switzerland's neutrality policy. In 1618, the "Thirty Years' War" broke out in Europe, and Switzerland remained neutral. In 1648, the war ended and the countries signed the "Treaty of Westphalia", confirming Switzerland's sovereignty and independence. Switzerland declared independence, broke away from the rule of the Holy Roman Empire, and announced the implementation of a "neutral policy."

The last military conflict between Switzerland and a foreign country dates back to 1516 AD: the Battle of Marignano, in which Switzerland fought against the French army. In that battle, Switzerland was defeated by France and paid a heavy price for it. The following year, Switzerland and France reached a historic peace negotiation: all conflicts between the two countries would be resolved through arbitration, and no longer resort to force. Don't underestimate this peace negotiation. This peace negotiation not only allowed Switzerland and France to maintain peace for nearly three hundred years, but also gave Switzerland an opportunity to become a neutral country!

1789, the French Revolution broke out. The French Revolution was the prelude to France's transformation and an attempt to uproot the old social classes and systems. This revolution actually had a profound impact on the development of Switzerland and changed France's foreign policy towards Switzerland. In this year, the French army officially occupied the entire territory of Switzerland and established the Helvetic Republic (République) on this land, which was apparently independent but actually controlled by France (Helvétique). Before that, Switzerland was a very loose political alliance made up of many autonomous regions, tribes and private territories. After France occupied Switzerland and established the Helvetic Republic, it merged everything in this "patchwork", and the former autonomous regions became administrative divisions under the republic. The climax of the French Revolution gave birth to a legend - the hero of the French people, the nightmare of European countries - the emperor of the French people, Napoleon! At that time, the Helvetic Republic was in turmoil. In order to prevent variables from appearing in this country controlled by France, Napoleon promulgated the "Act of Mediation (Acte de médiation)" to turn the Helvetic Republic into a federal state composed of 19 autonomous states. This can be said to be the solid foundation of today's Swiss Confederation!

However, the Helvetic Republic was short-lived. Although Napoleon's army swept across Europe in the early 19th century,

it was finally destroyed in 1815, and the Helvetic Republic, which was originally controlled by France, also stepped off the stage of history.

After the fall of the Napoleonic Empire, the victorious European countries held a conference in Vienna from October 1, 1814 to June 9, 1815. The conference decided to designate Switzerland as a permanent neutral country to prevent France from making a comeback. As a buffer zone between France, Austria, Germany and Italy, Switzerland's neutrality has since become a principle of European public law.

Alexander I, the Russian Tsar. His most famous achievement was to defeat the French army led by Napoleon, which was called the "unbeatable lion", and laid the groundwork for Napoleon's downfall, which gave him a greater say in the formulation of the Treaty of Paris. Even though he had different opinions on the treatment of Switzerland with the Austrian politician Klemens Wenzel von Metternich who presided over the meeting, he still issued an epoch-making directive that determined the future fate of Switzerland: to maintain the autonomy of the 22 federal states in the old Helvetic Republic and to establish a Swiss Confederation that was not controlled by France.

Why did Alexander I have such a view? It turns out that he had a Swiss teacher since childhood, La Alpe. (Frédéric-César de La Harpe). La Harpe was the driving force behind it. It is undeniable that without the support of Russia, the Swiss Confederation today may no longer exist. Russia built the modern Swiss Confederation!

Another clause of the Treaty of Paris that has a profound impact on Switzerland is the principle of Swiss neutrality. European countries that once formed the anti-French alliance, such as Austria, Britain, Portugal, Prussia, Russia, etc., also unanimously agreed that Switzerland has the right not to be involved in any military conflict and agreed to keep Switzerland from being invaded by force! Why are the European powers willing to allow Switzerland to have such a neutral status? In fact, this is the political calculation of each country. If you open the map of Europe, we will find that Switzerland is located at the foot of the Alps. Because of the fear of the Napoleonic Wars, the European powers hope to control the Swiss land as a buffer zone against France. Therefore, Switzerland's neutrality policy is not actually from Switzerland's original intention, but a role given to Switzerland under the diplomatic game of European powers.

However, it is only in the past 100 years that international law has officially recognized Switzerland as a neutral country. In 1907, the world was filled with the shadow of the war. In order to temporarily ease the disputes, the European powers held the second meeting of the first international peace conference in The Hague, Netherlands. Switzerland signed the international convention on neutrality at the conference. The "Hague Convention" was the first to set down in written form the rights and obligations of neutral countries in wartime. It clearly stipulates that the territory of neutral countries shall not be violated; in international wars, a neutral policy shall be pursued, no hostile actions or assistance shall be taken against any of the belligerent countries, and the belligerent countries shall be prohibited from using their own territory. One interesting point worth noting is that although Switzerland has always strictly adhered to its foreign policy as a neutral country, this national policy of Switzerland was not mentioned in the constitution, but only stated in the parliament as a duty to be performed. In other words, Switzerland can actually change its foreign policy as a neutral country without amending the constitution.

For nearly a century, Switzerland maintained a strong military force for self-defense while strictly adhering to the principle of neutrality, thus avoiding the interference of World War I. In World War II, faced with the grim situation of being surrounded by the Axis powers on all sides, Switzerland defended its national independence with complete defense and strong will.

Switzerland is a country where every citizen is a soldier. Every adult male must receive military training, and their weapons and equipment are also issued to individuals. Although Switzerland has been at peace for 200 years, the entire country is like a large military camp. In 1962, Switzerland passed the Civil Defense Law. Every Swiss family has a "Civil Defense Manual" issued by the government. The manual stipulates what medicines and supplies should be prepared in the defense room; what to do in the event of war; and even how citizens can help the exiled government if Switzerland is occupied.

From the beginning of the 20th century to the Cold War, Switzerland built nearly 300,000 forts. In order to make these forts camouflaged perfectly, artists were specially invited to the site to assist in supervision. In recent years, the Swiss government has considered demolishing these forts, but the cost is more than 1 billion US dollars, which is far more than the annual maintenance cost. The forts were finally left because they can still be used as public nuclear protection rooms.

In 1971, Switzerland began to implement the "total defense" strategy. Switzerland can blow up all roads to prevent invasion. The Swiss use this method as a Toblerone Line (defense mechanism). The most exaggerated thing is that they set up 3,000 blasting points on bridges, tunnels, roads, and railways to block the use of them. The fuse of the bridge is built into the bridge itself, so there are hidden artillery on both sides of the bridge to prevent the enemy from repairing it. Some civil defense bunkers are built under residential buildings, and some warehouses and garages are designed and built according to the intentions of the civil defense center. They serve society and families in peacetime and are used as bunkers in wartime. According to the civil defense construction plan, all bunkers must be able to withstand shock waves of a certain intensity and be equipped with filters to defend against chemical weapons and nuclear radioactive dust.

Switzerland's compulsory military service system is stricter than that of other countries. Only a 1,500-man "instructor team" is considered a full-time soldier. All other men between the ages of 20 and 50 must serve in the military thirteen times at different ages. The first time is seventeen weeks, and the next three or two weeks, for a total of about one year. Moreover, the intensity of military training is very high. Whether it is marching in the mountains or cross-country skiing, you must grit your teeth and work hard. From the beginning of training, uniforms, weapons, ammunition and gas masks are kept by yourself. During non-training periods, equipment is stored at home; upon receiving a combat order, you must enter the combat position within 48 hours. This defense system in which all people are soldiers has a great effect on establishing the concept of national defense, strengthening organizational discipline, and cultivating the spirit of hard work and endurance. They call this the "hedgehog strategy", which means that hedgehogs do not invade people, but they become covered with thorns when they encounter invaders.

Switzerland has the highest rate of gun ownership among its military in the world. Every residential area here has a shooting range. Switzerland has 1.7 million military guns (more than 1.4 million of which are in the homes of reservists. There are also more than 600,000 hunting rifles and guns for shooting competitions. Despite such a high rate of gun ownership among the public, there are very few shootings. This is because the Swiss love shooting and respect the rule of law. Since they were young, their parents have taken them to the shooting range to practice, which has established the correct concept of using guns.

During World War II, the German High Command formulated several plans to quickly occupy Switzerland by surprise, collectively known as "Operation Fir". However, after weighing the pros and cons of the invasion, Hitler ultimately did not put it into practice. When weighing the invasion, Switzerland's mountainous terrain and the powerful combat effectiveness of its entire population were important factors in Hitler's decision not to invade Switzerland. In order to cope with the German invasion, Switzerland laid mines on roads, bridges and tunnels along its borders and made long-term alert arrangements. After the outbreak of World War II, the Swiss expanded the National Guard from 400,000 to 850,000. Compared to Switzerland, which has a population of only 4 million, 850,000 is an astonishing number. When the danger of the German invasion was the most severe, the men were able to put on their uniforms and take up their combat posts within a few hours;

Switzerland had one last trump card in the military, which was the St. Gotthard and Sinjon tunnels from Germany to Italy. The Germans had to pass through these tunnels to transport supplies to Italy. Switzerland had buried a large number of mines in the tunnels. Once the German army invaded Switzerland, the Swiss would immediately blow them up, which would cut off the only connection between Germany and Italy, with disastrous consequences. This was something Hitler did not want to see. In addition, after the start of World War II, the German army attacked from all sides, resulting in the dispersion of its forces. After the British and American troops landed in France and North Africa, Germany fell into the dilemma of fighting on two fronts, unable to take care of itself and unable to restart the war. Due to the Swiss people's determination to

fight against the same enemy and the difficulties Hitler faced in fighting on both the east and the west at that time, Switzerland was largely saved from a disaster in war-torn Europe.

Of course, Switzerland also made some compromises for security reasons, such as being forced to deliver food and strategic materials to Germany, assisting the Nazis in money laundering, refusing to help the Jews, etc. Because it is a neutral country, and Swiss banks maintain absolute confidentiality for depositors, Hitler hoped to launder money through Swiss banks and deal with the outside world. Hitler weighed the pros and cons and eventually gave up the plan to invade Switzerland. In summary, it was precisely because Switzerland declared neutrality politically, maintained a high degree of vigilance militarily, implemented a wartime economy economically, and the majority of Swiss people were Germanic, that Hitler had neither reason nor need to invade Switzerland. Therefore, Switzerland was fortunately able to avoid being invaded by Germany during World War II. But in any case, if Switzerland was a country without combat effectiveness and will to fight, it would not even be qualified to compromise.

After World War II, the Swiss federal government considered "solidarity" to be an important element of "neutrality". This move meant that Switzerland was no longer "passive neutrality" but "active neutrality". For example, when the Korean War was about to end in 1953, Switzerland sent peacekeeping troops to perform tasks there. In 1956, the Soviet Union exerted political pressure on Hungary, and nearly 10,000 Hungarians fled to Switzerland. For humanitarian reasons, Switzerland banned Russian athletes from participating in skiing competitions held in Switzerland.

A seat in the United Nations is a right that many countries would fight for at all costs, even if they have to pay a lot of money to hire people to carry them in. However, the Swiss ignored it. They opposed joining the United Nations for decades, and only joined the United Nations in 2002 with a slight support margin of 54.6%. As for the supranational European Union, Switzerland, located in the heart of Europe, has not agreed to join the EU after two referendums in 1992 and 2001.

How does Switzerland implement its neutrality policy after joining the United Nations? Do economic sanctions and airspace control conflict with Switzerland's neutrality policy? Switzerland has adopted the following policies. If the military action is not a UN resolution, Switzerland will not open its airspace for military use, nor will it participate in the corresponding military action. For example, when NATO bombed Serbia and Montenegro in 1999, Switzerland did not participate in NATO's military operations, nor did it open its airspace for NATO's military operations, but only provided non-military assistance based on humanitarian grounds. In 1991, the United Nations resolved to impose economic sanctions on Iran, and Switzerland participated in it, but still refused to open its airspace for related military operations, and only opened it to limited humanitarian purposes.

What's more interesting is that Switzerland's neutrality policy has made it a refuge for politicians. In the past, Switzerland has taken in many people who fled to Switzerland due to political persecution, reaching 300,000 during the Nazi period alone.

In 2014, an Ethiopian pilot hijacked a plane carrying 202 passengers. The plane was originally headed for Ethiopia, but because the pilot was afraid of being interrogated after returning to Ethiopia, he landed in Geneva, Switzerland instead. As soon as the plane landed, the pilot surrendered immediately. Although he could face a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison, he was granted asylum in Switzerland and refused Ethiopia's request to extradite him. In fact, after the pilot has completed his sentence, it is very likely that he will continue to reside in Switzerland. Because based on Switzerland's principle of neutrality, it will not extradite him to a country that continues to violate human rights.

Why Switzerland is rich

Switzerland is a mountainous place. Although it is rich now, in ancient times, there was no financial industry or manufacturing industry. In the era when agriculture was the main industry, such a place must have been extremely poor. After all, the Swiss are descendants of barbarians. In Europe, which is a land of war, and with many mountains and no production, the poor Swiss people have nothing to sell except their lives. Therefore, the most famous export commodity of Switzerland in ancient times was: mercenaries.

Swiss men, born and raised in harsh environments, have to undergo Spartan-style military training since their youth. They enjoy a unique reputation among the famous mercenary groups in ancient Europe: loyal, brave, and highly combative. The Swiss Halberdiers were one of the most powerful armies in the European army in the Middle Ages.

Swiss mercenaries have a phalanx similar to that of Macedonia, and their main weapon is the spear (which is also very similar to the Macedonian army). This halberd is about 6 to 10 feet long, with a heavy axe on the head, a sharp iron or hook on the back, and the tip of a spear or a javelin. Such a weapon can penetrate a helmet, cut off a sword or knock down a horse at once. It can also be used as a short spear, and its hook can also drag cavalry off their horses. Generally speaking, they use a company of about 300 people as the basic combat unit, of which about 250 spearmen are arranged in a 16-by-16 square formation, and the rest are halberd soldiers or crossbow soldiers. Soldiers holding swords and halberds are good at hand-to-hand combat. Swiss soldiers are highly specialized. The biggest advantage of the Swiss pike phalanx is its strong frontal attack power, but it does not focus on the combat capability of a single soldier, but emphasizes maintaining formation in battle and staying calm in the face of danger. Therefore, discipline is very important. In battle, Swiss soldiers only need to put their lances on the shoulders of the person in front. In the long-term war practice, the Swiss soldiers formed a strict discipline. Later, they used a small number of muskets and pistols to protect their flanks, but basically did not change the original tactics.

From the first half of the 14th century, as Switzerland fought for its independence against the rule of the Duke of Austria, it turned the spear into a weapon with national characteristics, just like the British developed the longbow. In the hands of skilled British soldiers, the longbow had a much higher hit rate than the crossbow. It was lighter and easier to master, suitable for skirmishing or volleys. At that time, it was the most effective and widely used individual weapon on the battlefield. Of course, there is a big difference between the longbow and the spear. The longbow is basically a weapon used by a single soldier, and the archer's technique is also a single-soldier technique.

The Swiss pikemen were different. They held long and clumsy spears. Once they left their ranks, they would be useless and helpless. Like the English archers, the Swiss pikemen began technical training from an early age in order to make them skilled and competent soldiers in the phalanx. It is very significant that the creation of such an army was not the work of some extraordinary genius.

In 1315, the League of Schwyz joined the war against the Habsburgs' seizure of the throne of the Holy Roman Empire. Habsburg Prince Frederick the Handsome believed that the four forest states were just rebellious peasants, so he sent his brother to lead 3,000 (another said 5,000) knights and mercenaries into the mountains to fight against them. As a result, they were ambushed in the forest swamp between Lake Aegeri and the Morgarten trail. In this battle, the primitive halberds of the Swiss militia played a huge role. This halberd is a logging axe with a long handle and a nail nailed on the top.

During the battle, the mounts of the Austrian cavalry were cut down and the riders were hooked off. The Austrian army lost nearly 1,500 people in the Battle of Morgarten. The main reason for Austria's defeat was that it was caught by surprise and did not deploy its formation at all. This battle greatly boosted the prestige of the Schwyz Alliance, and surrounding tribes such as Lucerne joined the alliance, and the Swiss Confederation began to take shape. In 1339, in the war to support Bern, the Swiss fought against the Austrian army again. In this war, the Swiss wore uniform clothing with the Swiss cross printed on it for the first time and used professional weapons - spears.

of Laupen, 6,000 Swiss soldiers used the mountains as cover to attack the 12,000 Austrian soldiers besieging Laupen, quickly defeated the enemy infantry, and then raised their spears to resist the Austrian cavalry coming from three sides. The heavy

cavalry had no way to deal with the spears and were quickly defeated by the troops that broke out of Laupen. The Battle of Laupen was the first appearance of Swiss spearmen, and it was also the first time that Swiss mountain people defeated cavalry on flat ground. The spears, as the main weapon, the courageous offensive spirit and high discipline became the basic characteristics of the Swiss spearmen.

What brought great reputation to the Swiss Guards was a battle in 1527, which was called the Sack of Rome. On May 6, 1527, the army of Charles V of the Holy Roman Empire slaughtered Rome. All the people from other countries in the Vatican Guard fled, but the Swiss held on tenaciously. 147 Swiss soldiers shed their last drop of blood to protect the Pope. The Swiss won the trust and appreciation of the Vatican with their loyalty and bravery to their masters. From then on, the Vatican Guards only used Swiss people. The name of the guard was changed from "Vatican Guard" to "Swiss Guard". After the restoration of the Pope, the Swiss Guards once again became the protector of the Vatican until today. So monarchs of various countries rushed to hire Swiss Guards and gave them great trust, and the Swiss Guards did not live up to this trust. They always died for their masters with their bodies and blood. Since the 15th century, the governments of various states in Switzerland have raised troops on a large scale for employment by European countries, thus creating the "Swiss Mercenaries" with a great reputation. These soldiers, who were said to bring good luck, were highly regarded for their bravery, loyalty, and strategy.

In addition, Swiss mercenaries became famous for several protection operations.

Swiss mercenaries defending the Tuileries Palace during the French Revolution. In 1792, during the French Revolution, the insurgents attacked the Tuileries Palace in France. In order to protect Louis XVI and Queen Marie, 786 Swiss mercenaries fought to the end against an army with a combat power dozens of times greater than theirs, but all of them died in battle (there seems to have never been such a group of mercenaries in history). Afterwards, in order to commemorate these Swiss who died in a foreign land, a dying stone lion was carved in Lucerne.

The assassination of Pope John Paul II. In May 1981, the late Pope John Paul II was assassinated during a routine Mass in St. Peter's Square. He was shot in the abdomen and was in critical condition. The Swiss Guards rushed him to the hospital for emergency treatment as quickly as possible and saved his life in time.

Swiss mercenaries and their battles against expansion in the 14th and 15th centuries frightened neighboring countries, so few dared to provoke them. Especially after the Declaration of the Congress of Vienna finally declared Switzerland a permanent neutral country in Europe. After the Battle of Gaeta in 1860, Swiss mercenaries bid farewell to the battlefield completely.

The motto of Swiss mercenaries: I will work for whoever pays the most. I will never fight with my own people. The sadness of Swiss mercenaries is that they did not die for this country, but they had to break through the obstacles of high mountains and steep hills. They had no land and no natural resources, so they had to pay the price of cutting through the mountains to get out of the mountains. A few years ago, European archaeologists discovered in a cave in Switzerland the world's earliest mine used for blasting rocks 40,000 years ago. The Swiss have never given up the desire to communicate with the outside world from ancient times to modern times. The Swiss are the real version of Yugong moving the mountains.

Switzerland is located in the Alps, and the Swiss people live in the mountains. They are full of the enthusiasm, honesty, loyalty and sincerity of the people in the mountains. It is precisely because of these innate good qualities that the Swiss banking industry can be developed. The Germans only trusted the Swiss to manage their money during World War II. Some people say that Switzerland declared itself a neutral country, so the Germans did not attack them, but that is not true. Luxembourg also declared independence, but it was still taken down by Hitler. The Swiss are born with a tradition of being loyal to something, which has been proven countless times since the day when the Swiss were hired by the Germans to fight for the Germans.

The Germans, who are simple-minded and honest, certainly know this. Hitler was certain that the Swiss could help them.

And the Swiss' indestructibility was also the result of countless wars. Europeans once believed that the Swiss were an invincible myth. In the era of cold weapons, the Swiss maintained this traditional symbol of heavenly soldiers and generals. It was also this symbol that killed countless Swiss people. Fight for honor, even if you die in battle. According to historical records, Swiss mercenaries never deserted in battle. Because they generally came from a tribe, and they didn't want to have the face to go home and see their hometown people if they ran away. So, they would rather die on the battlefield for honor.

At that time, the unique mountain warfare tactics and spear weapons invented by the Swiss also made them invincible. The most heroic example of the Swiss came from the famous Spanish-French war between the French and the Spanish in 1503 - the Battle of Tsarinola. This was a battle that laid the foundation for the history of the Spanish. In this battle, the Swiss showed their fighting skills to the fullest.

At that time, the French were not well prepared because they underestimated the strength of the Spanish army. The French made the Italian mercenaries, who were romantic by nature and did not like war, the vanguard this time, which doomed them to defeat. Later, the French commander had ordered a retreat, but the Swiss, led by the Swiss commander, ignored the order and launched round after round of attacks on the Spanish army under intensive firepower while the French army retreated. In the end, the Spaniards who did not have time to escape were strung on their traditional weapons, spears. But in the end, the incompetent French commander chose to surrender to the Spanish army, and the French army was defeated. 2,000 French people were killed, most of whom were Swiss mercenaries, and those captured were French and Italian mercenaries hired by the French.

The Swiss spears once dominated Europe for hundreds of years. Constant victory means constant wars, including wars with foreign enemies and internal tribes, and wars for territory. Today's Switzerland has not had a war for a long time, because they have paid a huge price for it. They have experienced too much blood and too much cruelty of war. They don't want to fight again. Declaring eternal neutrality is not because they are smart, but because they have no choice but to do it.

Second, Switzerland is located in a wealthy Europe. It has always maintained close ties with its economically powerful neighbors. Germany is Switzerland's most important trading partner. This country to the north of Switzerland has a monetary policy similar to Switzerland's. And it is this flexible currency exchange system that brings economic stability.

Switzerland's only natural resource is water. Because all raw materials must be imported from abroad, in order to gain a foothold in the world market, Switzerland's industrial orientation focuses on value creation and must pay attention to economic diversification.

In addition, the Swiss political system is very stable and does not allow too many changes. Switzerland implements federalism and direct democracy. It is not easy to formulate and implement economic plans. This state has been maintained throughout the 20th century. In the past 100 years, Switzerland has not achieved any thrilling feats. But the economy has been growing steadily.

Switzerland's institutional advantages are reflected in its economic policies, which, although somewhat monotonous, are very effective, as reflected in Switzerland's balance of payments during the crisis.

Switzerland's specialty is the mechanical manufacturing and financial industries. Switzerland has strong industrial capacity. The same piece of iron, in the hands of the Swiss, can be turned into a knife or watch with great artistic and technological content. When it comes to knives, many people will think of the Swiss Army Knife. In fact, as a doctor's son, I know that hospitals all over the world like to use Swiss scalpels the most. Its hardness and feel (this is more important) are not available in other countries. It is precise and labor-saving during surgery. Of course, good things are naturally expensive because others don't have them.

When it comes to watches, there is no need to elaborate, there is an absolute monopoly, Vacheron Constantin, Patek Philippe, Rolex, Omega, IWC, Tissot, Longines, Rado, and even Swatch... different prices, different styles, different market positioning, it can be said that there is everything, not to mention that each one is a well-known brand. To be able to achieve

such a monopoly and extreme in a category of goods, Switzerland is really good.

As for the financial industry, let alone Zurich being the world's second largest gold trading market, or Basel being the seat of the Bank for International Settlements, we have to give the Swiss 32 thumbs up for their credibility in doing business. The Swiss banking industry is world-renowned for protecting customer privacy, and has been the industry leader and benchmark for centuries. Celebrities, wealthy businessmen, drug dealers, and corrupt officials around the world all choose Swiss banks as their own piggy banks. Swiss banks don't ask you where your money comes from, they are only responsible for locking up your money and your personal information.

The Swiss bank's confidentiality system originated in 1713 and has been used for nearly three centuries. In 1934, Switzerland enacted the first bank confidentiality law in the West, making it the foundation of Swiss banks. The law requires that Swiss bank employees cannot inquire about customer privacy, cannot disclose customer deposit amounts to anyone, large deposits can be anonymous, and only a few senior bank executives know about customer information. Bank employees who violate the principle of confidentiality will be severely punished. Once a bank employee is found to have violated the bank confidentiality law, he will face six months in prison and a fine of up to \$33,000. Only when foreign prosecutors have solid evidence can they obtain judicial cooperation from Switzerland. It is this law that strictly protects customer privacy that has enabled Swiss banks to absorb huge assets from all over the world, and Switzerland has become the country that absorbs the most offshore wealth in the world.

In the 1990s, anti-corruption campaigns swept across Europe and the United States, targeting illegal politicians and corrupt officials. Switzerland became the target of public criticism because many shrewd and calculating government officials, law enforcement officers, and executives of large companies had transferred their assets to Switzerland before being arrested. After the September 11th incident, some wealthy people's deposits in Switzerland were accused of being related to terrorist organizations, and Switzerland faced increasing international pressure. Since the beginning of the 21st century, the voice of "the era of banking secrecy has ended" has become louder and louder. The United States, Germany, France, the United Kingdom, and other countries have severely criticized the Swiss Bank Secrecy Law for absorbing their own tax evasion clients, and even called for Switzerland to be included in the blacklist of "uncooperative tax havens."

On October 15, 2013, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development announced that the Swiss government signed the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters in Paris, France, becoming the 58th signatory to the convention. Stefan Flugiger, Switzerland's permanent representative to the OECD, said at the signing ceremony that signing the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters confirmed Switzerland's commitment to participate in the global fight against tax evasion. Pascal Saint-Amand, director of the OECD Tax Policy Center, pointed out that Switzerland's signing of the convention means the end of the Swiss banking secrecy system.

In the 2009 financial crisis, the United States forced Switzerland to abolish the 300-year-old banking secrecy law in order to tax the rich who deposited their money in Swiss banks. The only advantage of the Swiss private banking industry is its experience and reputation. The Swiss National Bank continues to strive to maintain the Swiss franc's position as the "world's most stable currency", but the gold reserve law has somewhat weakened this ability. In the overall sluggish European economy and the lack of improvement, it is still unknown where Swiss finance will go next.

Global tax havens

Tax havens refer to those countries and regions that, in order to attract foreign capital inflows and prosper the economy of the country or region, define a certain scope within the country or region and allow foreign persons to invest and engage in various economic, trade and service activities, obtain income or own property without levying direct taxes on them, or implementing low direct tax rates, or implementing special tax incentives.

Compared to the rest of Europe, Switzerland offers attractive corporate and personal tax rates. Corporate tax rates range

from 12% to 24%, while middle-class personal income is usually taxed at 1/3 or 1/2 of the European rate, with the highest tax rate applicable to incomes of CHF 300,000 to 400,000 per year, which ranges from 23% to 35% in the Zurich area. The BAK tax index shows that the median personal tax in the Greater Zurich Area is 29.4%, well below the European average of 42.9%. In comparison, the highest personal tax in the Netherlands is 49.5 % .

2013 , many German tycoons took advantage of the confidentiality of Swiss banks to open bank accounts in Switzerland to evade taxes. The German government has repeatedly used informants to purchase information about Swiss bank accounts of domestic tax evaders, and the tax collected from the investigation far exceeded the fees paid to the informants. For example, Freddy Quinn, a well-known German pop singer, paid about 900,000 euros in back taxes, Klaus Zumwinkel , former chairman of the board of directors of Deutsche Post, paid nearly one million euros in back taxes, and tennis star Boris Becker also paid 1.7 million euros in back taxes. Bayern Football Club Chairman Uli Hoeness Hoeness was also charged with tax evasion of 3 million euros. Switzerland and Germany have been engaged in a "war of words" over the German government's purchase of information stolen by bank employees. After the Swiss government joined the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters in 2013 , Germany and Switzerland revised their double taxation agreement. From then on, all capital gains of Germans in Swiss banks will be taxed at 26.375%. The conflict between the two countries over tax issues that had lasted for many years has been eased.

In addition to Switzerland, the British Virgin Islands is another global tax haven. Among all the tax havens in the world where companies can be registered freely, the British Virgin Islands has the lowest registration requirements and the least stringent supervision. There, the minimum registration fee for setting up a company with a registered capital of less than US\$50,000 is only US\$300. Together with the license fee and handling fee, the local government charges a total of US\$980. After that, you only need to pay US\$600 in annual business license renewal fees.

Nauru, Nauru implements a banking secrecy system, exchange activities are unregulated, and management is loose. It only takes \$25,000 to open a bank there.

Panama is a place where you can quickly register a company. It has many favorable legal measures, which can relieve business owners from worrying about their behavior not complying with international regulations. There are hundreds of banks and thousands of registered companies.

Credit Suisse executive scandal

In the center of Zurich, Switzerland, the buildings of Credit Suisse and UBS face each other across the Bahnhofstrasse. In this country that produces luxury watches and bankers, the two banks have always been the pride of the Swiss and the distribution center of the wealth of the world's wealthy. They are synonymous with the Swiss financial industry because of their safety, reliability and confidentiality, until the Credit Suisse scandal lifted the veil.

In March 2023 , Credit Suisse fell into a solvency crisis. With the intervention of the Swiss government, UBS acquired Credit Suisse for 40 % of its market value, or 3 billion Swiss francs. Credit Suisse 's 167- year history came to an end with a discount sale.

The famous top bank was reduced to a toxic asset that no one was willing to take over. Behind the exodus of customers and the increasing losses, there was also a dramatic internal struggle among the top management, which was also the starting point of Credit Suisse's decline.

In 2015 , Credit Suisse welcomed a new CEO, Tidjane Thiam . This 190cm tall black CEO comes from a prominent family. He was born in Côte d'Ivoire in Africa. His mother is the niece of the first president of Côte d'Ivoire, his father was the

Minister of Interior of Côte d'Ivoire, and his uncle is the Prime Minister of Senegal, an African country. He received education at the top business school INSEAD (European Institute of Business Administration), and his resume includes McKinsey, the World Bank, the Ivorian government and other institutions. Before joining Credit Suisse, Tidjane Thiam had been the CEO of the British insurance company Prudential for 6 years. He led the restructuring plan of Prudential, and the market value of Prudential tripled during his tenure. On the day when Credit Suisse announced that Tidjane Thiam would soon serve as CEO, Credit Suisse's stock price soared by more than 8%. After taking office, he began a restructuring plan, including large-scale layoffs, reducing bad debts and leveraged investments, increasing the proportion of investment in the Asian market, and shifting the focus of the business to wealth management.

From 2016 to 2019, Credit Suisse's wealth management business received a net inflow of 12.1 billion Swiss francs (nearly 400 billion Taiwan dollars), with net profit growing by double digits for four consecutive years, contributing up to 40% of Credit Suisse's revenue. In 2018, Credit Suisse successfully turned losses into profits, and Tien-Chung Thiam was named "Banker of the Year" by Euromoney magazine. Swiss media Blick called him "the Obama of Credit Suisse."

Although Thiam Tien-chung delivered a brilliant report card, he felt unwelcome at Credit Suisse because of his skin color. Media reports said that in November 2019, Urs Rono, chairman of the Credit Suisse board of directors, Rohner held a 60th birthday party, and the performance at the party was to let a black dancer play the role of a cleaner dancing on the stage. Tan Tianzhong was the only black guest, so he left in anger.

At that time, the second person in Credit Suisse was Iqbal Khan, who was in charge of wealth management. Khan was born in Pakistan and came from Deloitte. From 2016 to 2018, Khan increased the profit of his management department by 80% and increased assets by 46 billion US dollars. He is also a business expert.

Tan Tianzhong lives in the wealthy area of Lake Zurich, known as the "Golden Coast of Switzerland". He and Kahn are neighbors. Kahn's original house was a bit shabby. In 2016, he decided to demolish the original house and start over. So for two consecutive years, he renovated a new mansion day and night, and even built it on weekends. The final result is that Kahn's house is taller and newer than his boss's house, and it is right next to Tan Tianzhong's house. Tan Tianzhong has been enduring the endless construction noise for nearly two years. Maybe he doesn't want to see the villa next door when he opens the window every day, or it may be for retaliation, so he planted a row of tree walls between the two houses overnight, just blocking the lake view of Kahn's new home. Kahn was still enjoying the sunset of Lake Zurich the night before, and the next day he saw a tree wall, a typical Chinese speed. It is estimated that Tan Tianzhong hired a Chinese greening installation team.

In January 2019, Thiam hosted a cocktail party at his home and invited Credit Suisse executives to attend. During the party, Thiam and his wife complained to Rono about the noise from the renovations at Kahn's home. Thiam and Kahn had an argument and almost came to blows. The next day, the incident was reported in the Swiss media, making their conflicting relationship public.

After the conflict, Kann thought that as long as Tien-Chung Thiam was at Credit Suisse, there would be no chance for him to get ahead. So in July of the same year, Kann jumped to the wealth management department of Credit Suisse's biggest competitor, UBS, as a PRESIDENT. Because he had been on the front line of business for a long time, he talked to the heads of various departments under him one by one: I want to leave, will you follow me? As a result, many people said, "Boss, we will go wherever you go, and we will conquer the world with you."

UBS and Credit Suisse are the only two financial chaebols in Switzerland, with UBS being the largest and Credit Suisse being the second largest. As a result, the second largest chaebol's second largest chaebol, dissatisfied with the second largest chaebol's first largest chaebol, turned around and ran to the first largest chaebol to do the same business line,

which deeply stimulated the second largest chaebol. Kann is still doing wealth management in his new company. He pulled away a large number of the company's business backbones and had dinner with his former colleagues and subordinates at Credit Suisse every week. Then people kept resigning from Credit Suisse.

On September 17 , 2019 , while having lunch at a restaurant with his wife, Kahn discovered someone was following them. He and his wife deliberately drove around Zurich, but still could not shake off the stalker. So Kahn stopped the car in front of the Parade Square in the center of Zurich, took a picture of the stalker's face and license plate number with his mobile phone, and shouted for the police to come. The police then arrived and arrested three stalkers, who were detectives from Swiss private security company Investigo , hired by Credit Suisse to monitor Kahn's itinerary and look for evidence that he had lured former Credit Suisse employees to switch jobs.

After the news was exposed, " Mr. T ", who acted as the middleman between Credit Suisse and Investigo , died at home. As the investigation continued, the police found that it was not only Kane who was under surveillance, but also more than 10 people including the former head of human resources. According to the internal investigation of Credit Suisse, the person who ordered the surveillance was the third person, Chief Operating Officer Pierre-Olivier Bouée . In order to protect the interests of the company, he hired a private detective through a middleman alone, and did not report to the CEO or anyone else on the board of directors. Tien -chung Tan was "completely unaware" of this.

December of the same year , the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority (Finma) began investigating Credit Suisse's corporate culture issues. The board of directors hoped to put an end to this mess as soon as possible. After Luo Nuo won the support of other directors, Tan Tianzhong resigned on February 7 , 2020 .

After Thiam Tien-chung left, Credit Suisse returned to Swiss leadership. Credit Suisse has been hit by Greensill Capital and Archegos Two major capital management liquidations resulted in billions of dollars in losses. In February 2022 , information on more than 18,000 Credit Suisse accounts was leaked to the Süddeutsche Zeitung and spread to 46 Western mainstream media, making the Swiss banking industry's confidentiality creed a laughing stock.

the three years from 2020 to 2022 , Credit Suisse spent \$ 4 billion on case settlements and compensation . In the latest financial report, there are 12 pages of litigation, mediation and government investigations it is facing, totaling more than 10,000 words. In order to save Credit Suisse, the Swiss government forced UBS to acquire Credit Suisse. And Cann became the next CEO of Credit Suisse because he was "the person who knew Credit Suisse best in UBS." After twists and turns, I believe he would never have thought that such a day would come when he was at Credit Suisse.

The collapse of a century-old bank may have started with a wall of trees planted between luxury houses? No matter how dramatic it sounds, it is true to some extent - Credit Suisse's poor internal culture eventually turned the rift between senior executives into the seeds of its downfall.

Switzerland and World War II

Why didn't Hitler decide to attack Switzerland during World War II? Was it just because Switzerland was a so-called permanent neutral country at the time? Then why did neutral countries such as Belgium and Denmark fall in the first wave of Nazi attacks? Or was it that Switzerland was insignificant in Hitler's eyes and he never considered occupying Switzerland?

But in reality, Hitler sent a large number of spies to conduct reconnaissance and sabotage activities in Switzerland, and formulated an offensive plan called Operation Fir, and assembled heavy troops on the Swiss border with the intention of attacking.

In the years before the war, the Swiss Confederation took several steps to strengthen the country's military, economic and political defense in case of war. The first step to avoid war is to continue to adhere to and affirm Switzerland's policy and status of a neutral country.

Switzerland remained neutral during World War I. After World War I, Switzerland's status as a neutral country was internationally recognized. Switzerland tasted the sweetness of neutrality, so it declared neutrality again during World War II. Before the war, the Swiss government made it clear that once a war broke out, they would continue to pursue the country's traditional armed neutrality policy, and this neutrality policy was recognized by the Axis powers including Germany and Italy before the war. On June 9, 1938, the new Swiss ambassador to Berlin, Frölicher, said that Germany had decided to respect Switzerland's neutrality; two weeks later, the Swiss government received official statements from the German and Italian governments regarding this decision.

In 1939, Swiss diplomats responded to a resolution proposed by Britain and France to protect Switzerland's security and prevent war, showing their determination to seek security through absolute neutrality. A British and French resolution adopted in early 1939 declared that a German invasion of the Netherlands, Belgium or Switzerland would be grounds for Britain and France to declare war. Walter Starkey, the Swiss ambassador in Paris, received a notice from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs on March 21: the French and British governments would guarantee that his country would not be invaded. But the diplomat immediately replied: "Switzerland does not require such a guarantee. It will decide when it needs foreign assistance."

Of course, we should also see that although Switzerland's neutrality is "absolute neutrality" in form, in fact, in order to maintain this neutrality, Switzerland has made great compromises with other countries, including the Allies and even the Axis powers such as Germany.

After the fall of France, the Axis powers actually controlled all of Switzerland's import and export channels, so Switzerland's economy was completely at the mercy of the Axis powers. In a trade agreement reached on August 9, 1940, Germany agreed to supply Switzerland with a certain amount of raw materials, the most important of which were coal and iron. In exchange, Swiss industry had to supply Germany with the goods it needed in its war and provide transportation facilities for it to exchange goods with Italy. In addition, the Swiss government was forced to conclude a remittance settlement agreement, allowing Germany to loan 150 million Swiss francs and control its export materials by Germany. Only goods on a strictly restricted list could be exported without a German pass.

It was Switzerland's permanent neutrality policy that forced Hitler to consider the interests involved, which was an important reason why Switzerland was able to avoid being invaded by the German army. However, it is unconvincing to explain it simply as a neutral country. Hitler never paid any attention to international law, so there are deeper reasons why Switzerland was able to maintain its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

That is to strive for it by developing national defense. As mentioned above, Switzerland strives to play a neutral role, which is one aspect. The more important aspect is to strictly implement armed defense of neutrality. The Swiss have been foreign mercenaries for nearly 300 years in history, and their bravery and good fighting skills have always been famous throughout Europe. Now they are united as a democratic, independent and neutral federation. In addition, they strictly implement the military service system and rely on the strategic position of the mountainous area that can attack and defend, so no one dares to easily bite this "hedgohog".

Between 1933 and 1939, Switzerland went all out to build up its military defense. This was something that Switzerland and other peace-loving nations had neglected in the quiet years before World War I. In 1933, when Hitler came to power in

Germany, Switzerland voted to approve the first round of funding to increase its military supplies and to arm and equip its army. Rudolf Minger, the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, personally traveled around the country giving political speeches to arouse people's awareness of the need to prepare the country for war. Initially, this was strongly opposed by the Socialists and other left-wing groups.

In 1936, Switzerland passed a decree to reorganize the army. New fortifications were built on the northeastern and northern borders and at strategic points in the Alps, and old facilities were reinforced. In order to raise the additional funds needed for this huge defense plan, the government issued the first national defense bonds in 1936. The public responded by subscribing to the bonds, which amounted to 332 million francs, far exceeding the amount requested by the government. On April 30, 1939, Obrecht said that a special budget had been prepared for national defense and that 1 billion francs (50 million pounds) had been spent in recent years. The compulsory service age of auxiliary troops was raised from 48 to 60. In early 1939, Parliament passed a resolution by 96 votes to 2 to extend the time for initial training and authorize the government to continue to retain the service period of trained troops. In 1939, the government was further authorized to call up troops in emergency situations without waiting for parliamentary approval.

During the Munich crisis, mines were laid on the roads, bridges and tunnels along the Swiss border and a permanent alert was set up. In March 1939, shortly after Germany invaded Czechoslovakia, it attempted to annex Liechtenstein, and a French news agency in Geneva published a report that Germany had assembled 700,000 troops in Rallberg. On March 24, the Swiss Federal Council approved the government's proposal to recruit troops to strengthen border guards; fortifications on the Rhine border were stepped up and mines laid in September 1938 were reinstalled. When Otto Kocher, the German ambassador to Bern, asked Motta for an explanation on April 11, Motta denied that it was instigated by a major power and said that they had removed some of the facilities. The Swiss defense system was designed to maintain maximum flexibility. As the invading army broke through the border fortifications and the second line of defense and advanced through the rugged mountains, it was bound to be blocked by the brave Swiss militia guarding the mountain passes. Except for the so-called Swiss plateau between Lake Constance and Lake Geneva, which was most vulnerable to attack, the Swiss terrain was not suitable for large mechanized troops or heavy tanks and artillery.

After that, in the most dangerous year of 1941, 50 divisions were deployed on the eastern border of Switzerland. After overcoming the pessimism and fear, the Swiss people, through the Federal Assembly, elected Guisan as the commander-in-chief of the entire army and issued a national mobilization order. Henri Guisan, who had outstanding military talents, won 204 votes out of 223 votes in the election of the commander of the armed forces of the Federal Assembly and was elected as the commander-in-chief of the national armed forces. Guisan was upright, far-sighted and courageous. He was loved and respected by all walks of life in Switzerland and had a strong appeal. The Swiss people believed that with such a military leader, Switzerland would be invincible. In actual combat, Guisan was prepared to adopt the inner fortress tactic. The so-called inner fortress is an architectural concept, that is, a fortress is built inside another fortress so that the defense of the main fortress can last long enough to drive out the enemy. Looking at the situation at the time, it was difficult for small Switzerland to compete with the German army armed to the teeth. Once a war broke out, fighting hard would be tantamount to hitting a stone with an egg.

At that time, General Guisan adopted a pragmatic approach, temporarily abandoning the border and central fortifications, and concentrating the main force of the army in the interior of the country to defend Switzerland's independence in the Alps. At the outbreak of World War II, there were 400,000 Swiss serving in the military. With the expansion of military auxiliary personnel and national guard forces, the number of soldiers reached 850,000. Compared with the population of Switzerland, which is only 4 million, 850,000 is an astonishing number.

When the danger of the German invasion was the most serious, men were able to put on their uniforms and take up their posts within a few hours; women took over the men's work; and a strict food rationing system was implemented throughout the country, including in restaurants and hotels. In order to prevent the sudden attack of the Nazi army, the country carried out three major mobilizations. The largest of them was in 1939, when 500,000 people were mobilized in a country with a

population of only four million. The Swiss people's determination to unite against the enemy and the difficulties Hitler faced at the time in both the east and the west saved Switzerland from a disaster in war-torn Europe.

This tradition of being prepared for danger in times of peace has continued to this day. The caves and tunnels dug during World War II are so crisscrossed that some people compare Switzerland to a cheese full of holes. Residents store food and weapons and ammunition in the tunnels. The disguised huts beside the road are actually the gates of the military base, which is the inner fort tactics of General Guisan at the time.

Their compulsory military service system is stricter than that of other countries. Some European countries allow people to do certain jobs that many people are unwilling to do instead of military service, but Switzerland does not have such an accommodation. All men between the ages of 20 and 50 must serve in the military 13 times at different ages. The first time is 17 weeks, and the next three or two weeks, for a total of about one year. Moreover, the intensity of military training is very high. Whether it is marching in the mountains or cross-country skiing, you have to grit your teeth and work hard. This defense system in which all citizens are soldiers has a great effect on establishing the concept of national defense, strengthening organizational discipline, and cultivating the spirit of hard work and endurance. They call this the "hedgehog strategy", which means that hedgehogs do not invade people, but they become covered with thorns when they encounter invaders.

Secondly, in order to cope with and avoid war, the Swiss government planned to establish a comprehensive wartime economy before the war that could be implemented once the German army invaded. Switzerland is a highly industrialized country that relies mainly on imports for food and other daily necessities. Since it is surrounded by the German sphere of influence, imported food is becoming less and less, and a large number of refugees are pouring in, which has aggravated the food shortage. On April 1, 1938, a decree was passed to authorize the government to make preliminary necessary preparations with the aim of ensuring the country's supply of necessities of life. In the following 18 months, measures taken in accordance with this decree included: agricultural survey statistics with a detailed analysis of the soil conditions of arable land, and steps to further reduce livestock production to increase farming; according to a comprehensive reserve plan, an inventory of existing necessary materials was conducted, and storage was established to respond to emergencies.

After the fall of France, Switzerland strengthened its control over food and fuel, preserved reserves as much as possible, and significantly increased the amount of domestically produced food. On November 15, 1940, agronomist Warren gave a speech at the Swiss Farmers' Association, proposing wartime agricultural policies. Warren calculated the energy people needed to consume and how to use the country's land resources to meet these needs. Warren believed that livestock breeding must be strictly restricted and the production of grains, sugar and vegetable oils must be greatly increased. In October 1941, another decree was promulgated, requiring all non-agricultural residents to grow potatoes and vegetables. By 1942, almost all foods, except potatoes, vegetables and fruits, were rationed. These measures enabled Switzerland to survive the difficult period of World War II and also forced the German army to seriously consider Switzerland's own strength and determination before the invasion. In addition, Switzerland maintained a minimum standard of living, tried to avoid entanglement with the blockade and counter-blockade of the belligerent countries, and tried its best to get rid of their economic constraints. In order to avoid being strangled by Germany, Switzerland was forced to deliver food and strategic materials to them, but they always dealt with the belligerent countries with dignity and strictly adhered to the principle of neutrality. Under the premise of increasing shortage of transportation tools, Switzerland still transported important military goods to the Allies through the German occupation zone. It was precisely because of these contributions to both sides that Switzerland was able to obtain the necessary raw materials to maintain the operation of the national industry. Because it was a neutral country and Swiss banks maintained absolute confidentiality for depositors, Hitler hoped to launder money through Swiss banks and deal with the outside world.

Finally, Switzerland has a trump card in military affairs, which is the St. Gotthard and Sinjon tunnels from Germany to Italy. The Germans must pass through these tunnels to transport supplies to Italy. Switzerland has buried a large number of mines in the tunnels. Once the German army invades Switzerland, the Swiss will immediately blow it up, which will cut off the only

connection between Germany and Italy, and the consequences will be disastrous. This is what Hitler did not want to see. In addition, after the start of World War II, the German army attacked from all sides, resulting in the dispersion of its forces. After the British and American troops landed in France and North Africa, Germany fell into the dilemma of fighting on two fronts, unable to take care of itself and unable to restart the war. Hitler weighed the pros and cons and finally gave up the plan to invade Switzerland. In summary, it was precisely because Switzerland declared neutrality politically, maintained a high degree of vigilance in the military, implemented a wartime economy in the economy, and the majority of the Swiss were Germanic people, that Hitler had neither reason nor need to invade Switzerland. Therefore, Switzerland was fortunately able to avoid being invaded by Germany during World War II.

More and more evidence shows that Switzerland was not a completely peaceful and beautiful neutral region as people imagined during World War II. In fact, Switzerland was not completely neutral during World War II. Although there is information that Switzerland organized an army to resist Germany, more information shows that Switzerland was actually "helping the evil" during World War II. Not only did it help Germany economically, but its indirect persecution of Jewish refugees was even more despised by later generations. After Hitler came to power in 1933, Switzerland's neutrality and independence faced severe tests. Nazi German publications claimed that all people whose ancestors were Germans were Germans, even outside the borders of the "Third Reich". Therefore, they called the Swiss "Germans in Switzerland" (64% of the Swiss population belonged to the German nation). The map drawn by Nazi Germany even openly included it in the territory of "Greater Germany". In response to this reactionary racist clamor, pro-Nazi groups emerged in the German-speaking area of Switzerland, among which the two extreme right organizations "National Front" and "Swiss National Socialists" were relatively strong. The Swiss fascist forces supported by Hitler's regime were rampant, which put great pressure on the Swiss authorities and threatened the independence and integrity of Switzerland's national sovereignty. In addition, Germany also threatened to cut off coal exports to Switzerland.

When World War II was imminent, the Swiss Parliament passed a resolution on August 30, 1939, reaffirming its neutrality. In 1940, the German High Command formulated several plans to quickly occupy Switzerland by surprise, collectively known as "Operation Fir". However, after weighing the pros and cons of the invasion, Hitler did not implement it in the end.

In June 1940, half of France fell, and small Switzerland was surrounded by its powerful neighbors Germany and Italy and their annexed or occupied areas. Faced with the annexation ambitions of German fascism, the Swiss authorities finally chose the path of submission and appeasement, performing the most disgraceful scene in its history. What were the tricks behind Switzerland's neutrality during World War II?

1. Economically, they provided blood transfusions to fascist countries. Germany has always been Switzerland's largest trading partner. During World War II, Switzerland maintained economic, trade and financial relations with Germany. Shortly after the outbreak of the war, Switzerland provided Germany with a loan of 150 million Swiss francs, and Germany allowed Swiss goods to be re-exported through Germany. Italy also benefited from its economic and trade relations with Switzerland. Switzerland also sold electricity to Germany, allowing German factories to maintain production until March 1945, when Germany's defeat was certain. Major Swiss watch factories also supplied precision parts to Germany. The 40mm caliber anti-aircraft guns provided by the military factory in Zurich were important defensive weapons for Germany to deal with Allied air raids.

2. During World War II, Switzerland kept the strategically important 15-kilometer-long St. Gotthard Tunnel (the longest road tunnel in the world at the time) through the Alps open to Germany and Italy. Trains loaded with strategic materials continued to pass through Switzerland between the two countries.

3. Refusing to help persecuted Jews. Before the outbreak of World War II, the Nazi regime generally did not prevent Jews from emigrating abroad. It usually deprived them of their property and forced them to move to other countries. Therefore, Switzerland became the first choice for many German Jews to flee. However, the Swiss authorities took countermeasures to prevent their influx. It clearly stipulated that "Jews should not be regarded as political refugees." To this end, the authorities

took measures to block first and then drive them away: implement pre-visas to prevent refugees from entering; if they are allowed to enter, they will be expelled as soon as possible; for refugees who enter illegally, the Swiss side will take them to the border post and hand them over to the German side. During the war, the number of Jews who were unable to enter or were expelled from Switzerland was incalculable. In 1938, the Swiss immigration department asked Germany to stamp a big "J" (Jewish mark) on the passports of German Jews. By the time the war officially broke out, Switzerland had intercepted more than 100,000 Jews from entering the country at the border. Switzerland sometimes even handed these people directly to the notorious SS. For this reason, German newspapers also criticized Switzerland's so-called "neutrality" after the war. Germany's "Weekly" pointed out that Switzerland's "neutrality" was only a shortfall from formal cooperation with the Third Reich.

4. Swiss banks: embezzled Jewish property and served as Nazi gold safes. Swiss banks also had many "tricks" in World War II. According to reports, during World War II, German Jews who were persecuted to death by the Nazis opened more than 50,000 accounts in Swiss banks, with funds worth \$6 billion. So far, only \$6 million has been returned to Jewish organizations or donated to some international humanitarian organizations by the Swiss government. Some Swiss banks even refused to compensate on the grounds that the Nazi concentration camps did not issue death certificates. All these funds were embezzled by Swiss banks.

Switzerland was also the main place for Nazi Germany to trade gold in exchange for hard currency Swiss francs. Swiss banks did not ask where the gold came from, and simply made huge profits from the price difference. It is said that 90% of the gold transactions of the Reichsbank of Nazi Germany at that time were conducted through Swiss banks. A considerable part of the huge amount of property plundered by the Nazis through the war was also stored in Swiss banks. With the "help" of Swiss banks, Hitler obtained valuable foreign exchange and purchased important materials to maintain the war on the world market. The deputy president of the Reichsbank of Nazi Germany simply said bluntly: "Switzerland's permission for free foreign exchange transactions has important political significance. This is a basic principle that we still allow it to remain independent."

The above historical facts show that Switzerland's actions during World War II violated the principle of permanent neutrality.

After the end of World War II, the Swiss federal government reflected on this period of history. On April 3, 1995, Swiss Foreign Minister Coty apologized for Switzerland's performance in World War II on behalf of the government for the first time. He said: "We cannot and will never deny that Switzerland was involved in the barbaric acts that are difficult to express in words during the war." "Although it is very difficult for a small country surrounded by the Nazi and fascist world to survive, this should not make us forgive our serious loss of position and weakness at that time - I think we can't forgive our policy towards the persecuted Jews at that time." At that time, he also issued a statement approved by the Federal Council (i.e. the Swiss government), saying that Switzerland failed the victims of the Nazis in World War II. Swiss politicians have the courage to face up to and admit the serious mistakes made by their government more than half a century ago and apologize for it. This position has won widespread praise from the international community.

Swiss cuisine

Cheese fondue

The method is to melt the cheese in a hot pot warmed by an alcohol stove, add the original juice of the cheese into the warm white wine, and add different ingredients according to different tastes. When tasting, use a long fork to insert diced bread, oatmeal bread or fennel and onion bread, and dip it in the fragrant cheese. Eat it with bread. Switzerland is rich in cheese. The local cheese hot pot can be made with up to five to six kinds of cheese, and there are many kinds. The winter in

Switzerland is long and cold. Of course, it is very warm and atmospheric for a group of people to eat hot cheese hot pot.

Swiss Chocolate

In addition to watches and sabers, Switzerland is also famous for chocolate. Swiss chocolate is rich in variety and reasonably priced, making it the perfect gift. Milk chocolate was invented in Switzerland. Because it is very difficult to adjust the temperature of milk, a lot of research has been done in various parts of Europe, but it has never been successful. Later, Swiss Daniel Peter invented the production method in 1875. According to statistics, Switzerland is the country with the highest chocolate consumption in the world, with the highest record of 12.3 kilograms of chocolate consumed per capita in 2001. In 2002, more than half of the chocolate products produced in Switzerland were exported abroad.

The raw material of chocolate is cocoa, which originated in America and was first invented by Indians. Although chocolate was introduced to Europe, cocoa, which originated from tropical rainforests, can only grow in the area 18° north and south of the equator. Neither Switzerland nor Belgium has the conditions for planting it. Switzerland has never had a colony and has no direct connection with cocoa producing areas such as Africa and South America. However, why is Switzerland the world's largest chocolate producer and is famous all over the world?

Switzerland is known as the chocolate kingdom due to its great contribution to modern chocolate-making technology.

Before the Industrial Revolution, chocolate was just a drink made from natural cocoa powder. Although it was popular in European courts due to its exotic taste, it contained a high content of cocoa butter and was too greasy. In addition, the production of natural cocoa was scarce and the price was high, so it was not popular outside the aristocratic circle.

The new process started in 1828, when the Dutch father and son Van Houten invented the cocoa press, which could squeeze out more than half of the 53% cocoa butter in cocoa beans to produce cocoa powder with low fat content. They also invented the "Dutch" process that used alkaline salts to neutralize the acidity of cocoa powder, effectively reducing the bitterness of cocoa powder. These two inventions made it easier to mix cocoa powder with various food ingredients to discover new ingredients and new recipes, thus laying the foundation for modern industrial large-scale chocolate manufacturing.

However, the chocolate at that time was still very different from the solid chocolate blocks in the shape of rectangular strips that we are familiar with. It was not until 1847 that the British manufacturer JS Fry & Sons mixed cocoa powder, sugar and cocoa butter to produce chocolate that met modern standards for the first time. However, this earliest modern chocolate did not have a "silky feeling" in taste, but was full of rough and hard grains.

It is at this point that the Swiss made a significant improvement to chocolate. In 1879, Swiss Lindt invented the chocolate grinding process (Conche), which greatly improved the quality and taste of chocolate. The secret of the Lindt process is that through continuous stirring, the chocolate paste, which is a raw material mixed with cocoa powder and cocoa butter, is heated by friction and melted and liquefied. When the heated and liquefied chocolate is fully in contact with the air, the moisture and acidic substances that affect the taste are volatilized, and the chocolate itself undergoes the Maillard reaction at high temperature, exuding an attractive aroma. In this process, cocoa butter and cocoa powder particles are evenly integrated, and the chocolate becomes smooth and silky.

In order to fully mix the ingredients of the chocolate and fully release the aroma, the grinding process is often very long, taking at least four hours and at most several days. After a long period of uninterrupted stirring, the liquid chocolate is molded at the right temperature, and the originally bitter chocolate is transformed into a sweet, smooth, and melt-in-the-mouth delicacy. It is said that Lindt's first successful chocolate grinding took a full 78 hours.

In addition, long before the birth of the grinding technology, Swiss chocolate already had its own iconic product - milk chocolate. As early as 1819, the country's first chocolate factory appeared on the shores of Lake Geneva in Switzerland. In 1875, Daniel Peter, the son-in-law of the founder of this factory, Caille, made the world's first milk chocolate. It is worth mentioning that Daniel Peter was able to invent this new product precisely because he was inspired by his friend and

neighbor, the famous founder of Nestlé, Henri Nestlé. When Peter first tried to make milk chocolate, he had always had difficulty solving the problem of fully mixing milk and cocoa butter, and the water in the milk would make the mixture of the two moldy and sour. After many failed attempts, he thought of the milk concentration process invented by Nestlé for making infant formula. So he dried the milk, removed the water until only powder was left, and then mixed and stirred it with cocoa powder, cocoa butter and sugar, and finally succeeded. From then on, chocolate no longer only had the bitter taste of cocoa, but had many possibilities.

The three major categories of chocolate have different ingredients: milk chocolate contains solid cocoa, cocoa butter, sugar, milk powder, vanilla and other additives, dark chocolate does not contain milk powder, and white chocolate does not contain solid cocoa.

Since then, the Swiss chocolate making process has been further developed. Jean Tobler invented the "tempering" process used after chocolate is ground and mixed, which can destroy the cocoa butter crystal structure, avoid uneven crystals on the chocolate surface, and make the chocolate smoother and more solid. His son founded the "Toblerone" brand, which is the world-famous "Swiss Triangle Chocolate" today.

Based on new technologies and new products, Switzerland has established an export-oriented economy that exports chocolate, and even provides chocolate machine manufacturing and technology transfer to chocolate manufacturers in Europe and the United States. Switzerland has a tariff rate close to the lowest in the world for the import and export of chocolate raw materials and finished products, which has made it quickly become a major chocolate producer. Swiss chocolate companies have expanded internationally with their technological and product advantages, and their production scale is also expanding. After Peter's chocolate factory was acquired by Nestlé, the milk chocolate it produced became Switzerland's business card. Before that, the price of 500 grams of chocolate was as high as 6 Swiss francs, which was equivalent to 3 days' salary for an ordinary worker at the time.

In order to maintain the brand image of Swiss chocolate, in 1901, the 18 largest chocolate manufacturers in Switzerland formed the Swiss Chocolate Association (Chocosuis) and established common industry standards and brand certification systems. Starting in 1905, the Swiss government also formulated detailed regulations on chocolate production in the country, especially chocolate ingredients. Today, Nestlé and Lindt & Sprüngli have long been among the world's top ten candy manufacturers, and the per capita chocolate consumption of Swiss people has remained the world's first for many years.

Driven by the Swiss, the production and consumption of chocolate around the world has skyrocketed since the end of the 19th century, with new products such as white chocolate, dark chocolate, and nut chocolate appearing one after another. Chocolate manufacturers have spared no effort in advertising and marketing, making it an indispensable gift for traditional European festivals.

Military leaders in Europe and the United States also contributed to the promotion of chocolate. They generally believed that chocolate could provide high calories quickly like strong liquor without causing alcoholism, and was a qualified battlefield ration. Before World War I, chocolate was already a common item in military rations in various countries.

Unlike Switzerland, which uses new technology to mass produce chocolate, Belgium, another chocolate country, has always established its brand throughout Europe with various fine chocolates produced by hand-made workshops. In 1857, a Swiss named Neuhaus opened the first chocolate shop in Brussels on a commercial street in the center of the city. More than 50 years later, his grandson invented the most famous chocolate in Belgium today - Praline.

The production process of filled chocolate is complicated. It is made of tempered chocolate as the outer wall, and there are hundreds of choices for the filling, such as liquid syrup, nuts such as almonds and hazelnuts, or mixtures such as cream. This type of chocolate has a low melting point and is easy to deform, so it needs to be packaged in a unique way. This is also the origin of the chocolate gift box (Ballotin) with small compartments for fine chocolate.

In addition, Belgians, who borrowed from French dessert-making techniques, also created specialty chocolate products such

as ganache and truffle chocolate. In the early 20th century, many shops in Belgium produced fine chocolate using modern new techniques, among which Godiva and Leonidas were the representatives. These shops had few employees, with an average of only more than 30 people in each shop, and the manual production process made it difficult to increase chocolate production. It was precisely because of the production restrictions that Belgium was a chocolate importer before the 1960s, except for a brief decade after World War I.

The real change began with the 1958 Brussels World Expo. As the first World Expo held in Europe after World War II, countries competed to showcase their latest achievements in post-war reconstruction at the Expo. Not wanting to be outdone, host Belgium took the opportunity to turn it into a stage to promote its most proud specialty - chocolate. Belgian chocolate became famous overnight and gained world-class recognition.

With the establishment of the European Community in 1967, Belgium, as the headquarters of the European Community, has become the center of the intersection of human and logistics in Europe. In order to compete with American chocolate giants such as Hershey and Mars, which came across the ocean, Belgian chocolate with high recognition and excellent quality immediately attracted the attention of the European Community. In order to maintain the product quality standards of Belgian chocolate, the European Community set up trade barriers. The European Community passed a bill prohibiting products with cocoa content lower than European standards, especially products that replace cocoa butter with other ingredients, from being sold in the name of "chocolate" within the European Community. In order to maintain this bill, old European Community member states such as France, Germany, and Belgium did not hesitate to launch a "chocolate war" with new member states such as the United Kingdom, which was deadlocked in the European Parliament for 30 years. Under the policy of the European Community's foreign trade protection and free movement within the country, Belgian chocolate, which has a brand advantage, quickly took control of the European market and became the most important chocolate exporter in the European Community and later the European Union.

At the same time, free trade within the European Community has promoted the development of a new group of Belgian chocolate companies, including Guylian. In addition to traditional high-end chocolate, Belgian companies have also entered the production of other chocolate products, including a chocolate coating called Couverture for pastries, which accounts for 70% of Belgium's total chocolate production.

However, nowadays, quite a few Belgian chocolate companies have been acquired by multinational corporations that are eyeing the golden signboard of "Belgian chocolate". Non-Belgian companies that produce products under the name of "Belgian chocolate" are even more mixed. The most well-known Belgian chocolate companies acquired by multinational corporations include Golden Elephant Chocolate acquired by Mondelez International of the United States, Godiva acquired by Yildiz of Turkey, and Gililian acquired by Lotte Confectionery of South Korea.

Based on the EU law on marking the origin of goods, the major Belgian chocolate manufacturers, in order to maintain the brand image of Belgian chocolate, jointly formulated the "Belgian Chocolate Code", which established the principles that Belgian chocolate should follow in product production origin labeling and advertising marketing in the form of industry consensus. This misunderstanding of correlation as causation is harmless. As another deviation in chocolate report: the more chocolate a country consumes per capita, the higher the proportion of Nobel Prize winners in that country.

wine

It is indeed not easy for people who have never been to Switzerland to think that Switzerland is a country that produces wine. Snow-capped mountains, clocks, sabers, and chocolate have always been recognized as symbols of Switzerland in the minds of the world, but wine is rarely thought of. If you go to Switzerland, whether you are interested in exploring wine or not, what you see and hear can make you deeply realize that grapes and wine are an important part of the local people's traditions and lives. It can also help you understand how grapes are grown and wine is made in this country with many mountains and lakes.

Switzerland, with an area of more than 41,000 square kilometers, can be called a pocket country. It is located in the center of Europe, surrounded by France, Italy, Germany and Austria. In terms of geographical latitude, Switzerland is located in a belt in the northern hemisphere that is suitable for grape cultivation. However, Switzerland is also a country with many mountains and lakes. It has many famous snow-capped mountains and glaciers. The Alps and the majestic Jura Mountains account for about 70% of the total area; Lake Geneva, the largest freshwater lake in Western Europe, the beautiful Lake Maggiore and other large and small lakes are dotted in between. Even those who have heard of Swiss wine will be curious about growing grapes and making wine on such a landscape.

The history of cultivating wine gardens, planting grapes and making wine in Switzerland can be traced back to the ancient Roman era. Many of the local grape varieties have Latin names, which gives people reason to imagine that the history of grape planting is even longer. Similar to other traditional European wine countries, after the decline of the Roman Empire, the rise of Christianity and the need for religious rituals allowed grape planting and winemaking to be preserved throughout the Middle Ages. As time goes by, wine has been deeply rooted and integrated into the society and life of the Swiss. The fact that per capita wine consumption has always been among the highest in the world is the best proof of this.

After centuries of ups and downs, Swiss wine almost faded out of the sight of the international wine world. On the one hand, not only is Switzerland surrounded by three major wine-producing countries in terms of geographical location, but its wine reputation is also overshadowed by the three neighboring kings. On the other hand, Swiss wine has been rarely exported. Switzerland's current annual wine production is about 110 million liters, which seems a lot for this pocket-sized country, but it only meets about 40% of the domestic market. Therefore, Swiss wine, especially good wine, basically has no chance to go out, and is snapped up and consumed in the country; there is no need for any publicity and packaging. It is really "good wine needs no bush", at least the local Swiss know their country's good wine well and can smell the fragrance. However, for foreigners, it is very difficult to find the trace of Swiss wine in the list of world famous wine halls. In addition, Switzerland has many unique grape varieties, and its wine naming and appellation usage are also unique. In addition, the Swiss domestic market has been dominated by a large number of mediocre daily consumption wines. These have made it impossible for outsiders who are not familiar with Switzerland to understand the origins of Swiss wine and appreciate its high quality standards.

In recent years, the situation that Swiss wines were unknown and invisible in the international wine world has begun to break. In some international wine competitions, especially the World Pinot Noir Wine Competition, Swiss wines have won gold and silver medals and achieved remarkable results. The mysterious Swiss wines have begun to show their demeanor and beauty behind the veil. It also makes people suddenly discover this unique land that has been thriving for thousands of years, with grape planting and brewing never interrupted, and the Swiss winemakers who have devoted their passion to brewing ancient culture, long-standing traditions, and sweet Milo year after year.

Swiss Army Knife

The Swiss Army Knife (Schweizer Armeemesser) is a folding knife with many tools on one blade. It got its name because the Swiss military equipped soldiers with this type of tool knife.

In 1891, Swiss Karl Elsener was the first person to make Swiss Army Knives. The 1890s was the era when the Swiss military began to use Swiss-made knives. In the past, they used German-made knives. In 1909, Karl Elsener began to engrave a white cross shield on the red handle of the Swiss Army Knife as a trademark, and named the product after his mother Victoria, and founded Victorinox. In the 1940s, American soldiers stationed in Europe liked this multi-purpose knife very much and called it the Swiss Army Knife.

Another common Swiss Army Knife brand is Wenger, which was also founded in Switzerland. In 2005, the company was acquired by Victorinox, so Victorinox is currently the only supplier of Swiss Army Knives to the Swiss Army. Generally, only

Victorinox and Wenger products are considered authentic Swiss Army Knives. As of 2010, the most functional knife model of Victorinox is the SwissChamp XAVT, with a total of 80 functions; and the most functional knife model of Wenger is the Giant Knife, with a total of 141 functions. It is also the largest Swiss Army Knife on record.

Swiss watch industry

When talking about watches, people will inevitably think of Swiss watches. Indeed, like Switzerland's mountains, cheese, chocolate and banks, Swiss watches enjoy a high reputation in the world. They are the most proud and proud things of the Swiss and have become a symbol of Switzerland. For hundreds of years, Swiss watchmaking technology and craftsmanship have been continuously improved and well inherited. The watch industry has not only created unlimited business opportunities for Switzerland, but also brought supreme glory.

Although Switzerland is a small country, it is a veritable watch power and is recognized as the "country of watches" in the world. Switzerland has many world-renowned watch brands, and the watch industry has become the third largest industry in Switzerland after pharmaceutical chemistry and machinery manufacturing. More than 95% of the watches produced in Switzerland each year are exported, and the watch industry is the main pillar of Switzerland's export economy. Swiss watches account for 40% of the world's total watch production, and 7 out of every 10 watches exported worldwide come from Switzerland.

However, the watchmaking industry in Switzerland is mainly concentrated in the Jura Valley, which is named after the Jurassic mountain in the geological era. This mountain range stretches from Geneva to Basel in Switzerland, so some people call this area the Watch Valley. Why is the watchmaking industry in Switzerland concentrated in this area? Because it is close to France. Everyone knows that Switzerland is the "country of watches" and is well-known for Swiss watches, but few people know that France is the cradle of watches in history. Like many other problems in Europe, to explain this phenomenon, we must find and excavate religious relics in the long river of history.

The Renaissance, which originated in Italy at the end of the 13th century, brought a golden age of scientific and artistic development to European countries. It was undoubtedly a historic development opportunity for clocks, which combined science and art. At that time, churches in northern Italy began to build bell towers to remind people of the time of prayer. To this day, the most significant difference between churches there and those in other regions is the bell towers that are separate from the main building.

The first European clock with timekeeping function appeared in Milan, Italy in 1335. In the Age of Exploration that began in the 15th century, clocks became an indispensable timekeeping tool in the process of geographical discoveries, and watchmaking technology developed rapidly. The opening of new routes greatly facilitated trade between Europe, Africa and America, and wealth and precious metals such as gold and silver poured into Europe from overseas, laying a material foundation for the development of the clock and watch industry. Clocks that embody knowledge and culture, reflect the latest technology, and become more and more exquisite naturally became a fashion that wealthy European monarchs and nobles competed to play with and pursue.

In 1492, Columbus discovered the New World, and Spain was the first to become strong. However, due to the rigid political system, primitive economic structure, weak handicraft foundation, and the fact that wealth was plundered too easily, Spain only cared about squandering and expanding its military, and failed to develop domestic industry and commerce. As a result, a large amount of gold, silver and wealth plundered by Spain from overseas colonies eventually flowed to Western European countries, helping these countries to develop industry and commerce and complete the primitive accumulation of capital. Therefore, Spain declined rapidly after the middle of the 16th century and became the poorest country in Europe. As a result, history favored France. France won the final victory of the Hundred Years' War between England and France in 1453,

completed the great cause of national unification, and its national strength became increasingly prosperous. French princes and nobles, who have always pursued fashion and loved art, began to order a large number of luxurious and expensive watches to show their noble status. French watchmakers were the first to display their talents and continuously create dazzling and exquisite watches, and the watch industry flourished in France.

But the good times did not last long, and the French could not withstand the test of history. As the turbulent religious reform movement launched by Martin Luther in 1517 swept across Europe, a religious struggle broke out between the French Protestant Huguenots and the Catholics. The Huguenots who were persecuted in the struggle fled France and went to another religious leader who settled in Geneva, Switzerland - the French religious reformer John Calvin, so the Huguenots were also called Calvinists. Geneva was the center of the European Reformation at the time. The large number of Huguenots who fled and the Protestants who gathered from other places made Geneva quickly become the center of Protestantism in Europe, known as the "Rome of Protestantism."

Calvinism advocates frugality and opposes extravagance. It prohibits believers from wearing jewelry and other acts of showing off wealth. It does not allow extravagance and enjoyment. Therefore, in order to survive, the local goldsmiths and jewelers in Geneva had to find ways to change their professions. It happened that among the Protestants who fled, there were many watchmakers with ancestral skills, who brought French watchmaking technology to the local area. The watchmaking skills from France and the local jewelry processing skills from Switzerland were naturally combined with each other, and the new watch industry began to appear in Geneva.

Soon, watchmaking became an emerging, independent manual industry, sweeping the entire Geneva region. Geneva became the world's watchmaking center. As the industry expanded, the world's first watch industry association, the Geneva Watchmaking Association, was established in 1601. At that time, there were more than 500 watch factories and workshops in Geneva. The increasingly crowded urban space and fierce competition forced some watchmaking craftsmen to move to the surrounding areas with a sparse population. During this period, although King Henry IV of France issued the famous "Edict of Nantes" in 1598 to restore the religious freedom of the Huguenots. It is not too late to mend the fence after the sheep have been lost. But unfortunately, this edict was not seriously implemented after the death of Henry IV in 1610. During the period of the famous Sun King Louis XIV, he simply abolished the "Edict of Nantes" in 1685 and declared the Huguenots illegal. Therefore, this industrial transfer did not flow back to France, but went all the way north along the French-Swiss border. As a result, more and more watchmaking workshops appeared in the Jura Mountains in Neuchâtel, Switzerland, north of Geneva. It was with this historical background and opportunity that the watch industry, which had declined in France, took root and grew stronger in Switzerland.

Switzerland has very beautiful scenery, but the land is very barren, with almost no available natural resources and unsuitable for agricultural cultivation. In the pre-industrial period when tourism was not yet developed, the Swiss could only focus on jobs that required a lot of human effort to complete, except for being mercenaries. In that era, the most patient, energy-consuming, but also the most rewarding job people could complete was watchmaking. The harsh living environment and long-term hard life have trained the Swiss to be hardworking and have a strong desire to survive. They welcome any possible development opportunities with an open mind.

In the 18th century, watchmaking became the most profitable industry in the Neuchâtel region, and watch factories and workshops sprang up like mushrooms after rain, spreading from the north of Geneva along the Jura Mountains to the northeast all the way to Basel. This area gradually became famous throughout Europe and was called the "Watch Valley". Watchmaking technology spread from here to the Black Forest region of Germany, which was further north. It later became the watch town of Germany, and the handmade cuckoo clocks were famous. The Franche-Comté region of France, located on the west side of the Jura Mountains, was also able to retain a part of the watch industry and gradually re-gathered some watch craftsmen from all over Europe. Now, 80% of the watches produced in France are produced here, and the regional capital Besançon is the watch center of France.

Since we are talking about the canton of Neuchâtel, we have to introduce La Chaux-de-Fonds, an important city in the canton of Neuchâtel, the world's watch capital. The headquarters or factories of many world-renowned Swiss watches are located in this city, and many of these brands even originated here. Although La Chaux-de-Fonds has so many brilliant brands, it is located in a remote mountainous area and is the coldest place in Switzerland. It holds the record for the lowest temperature in Switzerland at -41.8°C and is known as the "Siberia of Switzerland."

The urban layout of La Chaux-de-Fonds is like a huge chessboard, with the watchmaking industry as the central axis of the town planning. Factories and residential buildings are mixed together and spread out on both sides along the parallel streets perpendicular to the axis. This urban planning fully takes into account the needs of the watchmaking industry that was emerging at that time and reflects the cultural needs of the watchmaking industry since the 17th century. The streets in the city are very wide and straight. The orientation and spacing between buildings are very particular. Attention is paid to natural light directly entering the room, and attention is paid to preventing fire. In the era when electricity was not yet popular, house lighting was particularly important for watchmakers, and for factories and workshops, the importance of fire prevention is self-evident. La Chaux-de-Fonds is an outstanding example of a single manufacturing industry town. It has completely preserved the original appearance of the city since the industrial age. The watchmaking industry is still well preserved and quite active. Therefore, La Chaux-de-Fonds is considered to have special historical and cultural value. In 2009, La Chaux-de-Fonds and its neighboring sister city Le Locle were selected as World Cultural Heritage by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Heritage Center (UNESCO). In addition, Switzerland's largest and most comprehensive watch museum is located in La Chaux-de-Fonds. The museum houses more than 4,500 exhibits ranging from ancient sundials to advanced modern watches, recording the history of watch development. It is a must-see for tourists visiting La Chaux-de-Fonds.

The watch industry gradually shifted from Geneva to La Chaux-de-Fonds, and many watch companies and a large number of excellent watchmakers came to this cold mountain town. However, Geneva still maintains its status and pride as an "unshakable" watchmaking center - Geneva only produces elegant works of art, not watch movements. But with the continuous advancement of technology, the structure of watches has become more and more complex, and the demand has increased. It has become increasingly unrealistic for only one watchmaker to complete the entire production work alone. Therefore, technical division of labor and production cooperation are imperative. When the Genevans are "stubbornly conservative" and unwilling to change, the smart people of La Chaux-de-Fonds certainly know how to learn from each other's strengths and avoid the real and attack the virtual. As a result, many local watchmakers who are proficient in machinery and good at making movements began to specialize in making watch movements and other parts. The produced parts are then collected in nearby or Geneva watch factories, where they are assembled into various watches. In this way, not only a new watchmaking center has emerged in La Chaux-de-Fonds, but also a watch trade center has been formed.

During the heyday of the watch industry in the 18th and 19th centuries, 90% of the residents of La Chaux-de-Fonds were engaged in industries related to watch production, and the number of watches produced was five times the total output of all watch factories in Geneva. In 1800, Swiss watch production accounted for two-thirds of the world's total watch production. By 1900, watches produced in the small town of La Chaux-de-Fonds alone accounted for 55% of the world's watch production. During this period, the first industrial revolution originated in Britain also had an important impact on the development of science and technology in the 19th century, which naturally included the Swiss watch industry.

In 1884, the world was divided into 24 standard time zones. The concept of time has become increasingly important in our increasingly fast-paced lives, and people are increasingly demanding watches that can accurately tell time. At this time, the traditional manual workshops of watchmaking can no longer meet the needs of the market. The production method needs to quickly change from manual labor to machine production, continuously improve mechanization and automation capabilities, and the production model also develops towards large-scale production. Faced with such a huge scale of production and operation and a manufacturing industry that mobilizes the entire nation, even Karl Marx, the great mentor of the working class, was shocked. When analyzing the division of labor in the manufacturing industry in "Das Kapital", he

called La Chaux-de-Fonds a "huge industrial town" and used it as an example of industrialization to examine the development of manufacturing under the influence of capitalism, from handmade production in family workshops to large-scale factory production. To this day, La Chaux-de-Fonds is still the administrative center of the Swiss watch industry and the spirit of Swiss manufacturing.

As time goes by, watch technology has advanced by leaps and bounds. One thing worth mentioning here is the tourbillon technology. Breguet obtained the patent for this technology in 1801. The tourbillon is composed of more than 70 precision parts and usually weighs no more than 0.3 grams, which is equivalent to the weight of a feather. This exquisite mechanical device can free the watch from the influence of the earth's gravity and compensate for the loss of timekeeping accuracy caused by gravity. The tourbillon is recognized as one of the greatest inventions in the history of watchmaking, shining with the crystallization of human wisdom.

The only principle: only watches made in Switzerland can be called Swiss watches. The logo on the watch is: Swiss made. The most confusing is that there is only one word "Swiss". Most of these watches mean that they are registered in Switzerland. Although the brand is Swiss, the watch may not be made in Switzerland! For watches, at least 80% of the manufacturing value of mechanical watches should be completed in Switzerland, and at least 60% of electronic watches.

Swiss Movement Logo: The movement is assembled in Switzerland; the final inspection of the movement is completed in Switzerland; in addition to the assembly costs, the price of Swiss original components in the movement accounts for at least 50% of the total price of original components.

Other marks include the "Swiss Quartz" mark - the watch is made in Switzerland, the "Swiss Parts" mark - the parts used in the watch movement are made in Switzerland and assembled abroad, and the Swiss Case mark - the main processes are completed in Switzerland; assembly and inspection are completed in Switzerland; at least 50% of the production process is completed in Switzerland.

Special Table

- Patek Philippe
- Audemars Piguet Piguet
- Vacheron Constantin
- Breguet
- Roger Dubious
- Parmigiani Fleurier
- Blancpain
- Ulysse Athens Nardin
- FRANCK MULLER
- GIRARD-PERREGAUX

First Class Table

- Rolex
- IWC International Watch Co.
- Jaeger- LeCoultre

- Cartier
- Chopard
- Piaget

The remaining two to four categories of tables.

According to a report released by the Federation of the Swiss Watch Industry in January 2015, 29 million genuine watches were produced in Switzerland in 2013, while 33 million fake Swiss watches were produced around the world in the same year. In 2013 alone, the Federation of the Swiss Watch Industry confiscated and destroyed 1.2 million fake watches worldwide, 90% of which were made in China. Some of the fake watches flowed to Dubai and European markets. In Dubai alone, 150,000 fake watches were confiscated in 2013!

1. A friend had a personal experience. Today, my friend helped someone to pick up a repaired watch from a watch shop. This watch was a Rolex bought from a counter in Paris. It broke, so he took it back to the Rolex shop in Switzerland for repair. After inspection, only the movement was genuine, and the rest were fake. It should have been confiscated, but after negotiation, they agreed to repair it but wanted to remove the trademark. What a tragedy, a Rolex without a trademark...

2. What happened in the watch shop in Bern, Switzerland, is a reminder to everyone: If anyone tells me that Rolex in Dubai is cheap, I will laugh at him! Today, a Swiss customer took a Rolex bought in Dubai to check the watch! It turned out to be fake!!! Rolex company refused to admit it! The customer saved 1,000 Swiss francs, but bought a fake watch! No one in Dubai took the responsibility! This money was saved!!! So the mentality of being greedy for cheapness will hurt people! Only comparing the price instead of the quality, you will suffer the loss!

4. Rolex Headquarters A Hong Kong tour group, several people are choosing Rolex watches (unfortunately no photos allowed)! A Guangdong tour group of seven or eight men are also looking! They asked the Hong Kong people, why don't you buy gold Rolex in Hong Kong? The answer is: You idiots are the first to buy watches in Hong Kong (Mandarin: Only you idiots go to Hong Kong to buy)! Check and weigh, the same gold Rolex weighs 135 grams in Switzerland, and 118 grams in Hong Kong! The Guangdong people were petrified on the spot! From now on, if anyone says that things in Hong Kong are cheap, just go and buy more! I don't know if this weight difference is true or not, but I have to admire the shrewdness of Hong Kong people.

Seven out of every ten watches exported worldwide come from Switzerland. Despite this, the Swiss watch industry has remained decentralized in the handicraft period for more than three centuries. Except for a few famous brands, it has never been highly concentrated, and most manufacturers are small and medium-sized. Faced with increasingly fierce competition in the world, the watchmaking industry raised funds to establish the Swiss Watchmaking Institute in 1921 and the Electronic Watchmaking Center in 1962. Both are research and development institutions, both located in Neuchâtel. Before the mid-1970s, some new technologies first appeared in Switzerland. Among them were the earliest liquid crystal digital display; the thinnest watch (less than 1 mm thick); and the body temperature battery installed in the watch strap. However, it was caught up by Japan and Hong Kong in the mid-1970s. One is a high-end watch that is highly integrated with jewelry. After hard work and dedicated research, Swiss watchmakers launched a series of cheap plastic quartz needle watches in the 1980s. The earliest and most famous one was called Swatch. This is a self-made English word. The last five letters are "watch", and the first two letters are also the beginning letters of the English word "Switzerland". The quartz movement is sealed in a plastic case, so it cannot be repaired if it breaks, but it is not easy to break down, and a small battery can last for two or three years. This kind of watch has achieved great success in the Western market.

Swatch Group Ltd. is currently the world's largest watch manufacturer, owning several famous watch brands, such as Swatch, Omega, Tissot, Blancpain, Breguet, and Rado. It is led by G. Nicolas Hayek, Jr. His father Hayek launched the cheap Swatch plastic quartz watch in 1983, successfully saving the Swiss watch industry.

ETA SA , the world's largest blank movement manufacturer and supplier . The movements produced by the latter are widely used in entry-level and medium-end mechanical watches after debugging, polishing, improvement or modification. Among them , ETA2824-2, ETA 2892-A2 and ETA 7750 are the most widely used movements of ETA . Not only are they used by its watch brands, but their movements are also used in watches of mid-to-high-end brands such as IWC, Oris, TAG Heuer and Tudor after being improved.

Swiss Festivals

Carnival

The winter carnival (Fasnacht) is the most lively festival in Switzerland, with carnival celebrations of varying sizes in various places. Among them, Lucerne (Lucerne), located on the shore of the Four Forest Lake (also known as Lake Lucerne) in central Switzerland, has the most representative carnival, which can be called the fifth season of Lucerne. A gorgeous and dazzling celebration, breaking the routine hustle and bustle and carnival for 6 days. People wearing imaginative masks and costumes march in groups in the streets and alleys of the ancient city with unconventional shapes. The band plays the rhythm that belongs only to the carnival, and thousands of people dressed up carefully drive away the severe winter together. The 2017 carnival will be held from February 23 to 28.

Alpine Cattle Festival, Fun Fair

From September to October, various Alpine cattle drives, fun fairs and Alpine markets take place across Switzerland. In the Lake Lucerne region in central Switzerland, from Sörenberg to Schüpfheim , at the Entlebucher Alpabfahrt event, more than 200 cows are led by more than 200 Alpine shepherds and dairy workers holding bridles and reins and pushing carts, and various communities in folk costumes join the parade.

Following Nicholas

Following Nicholas Klausjagen is one of the most solemn St. Nicholas Festival customs in Europe. Two hundred people called Iffelen , who are dressed in gorgeous clothes and wear giant bishop's crowns on their heads , form a parade, followed by St. Nicholas and 1,000 followers of Nicholas who recite ancient words. Every year, it attracts 20,000 people to visit Küssnacht at the foot of Mount Rigi .

Swiss Wrestling and Alpine Festivals

Switzerland holds many Swiss wrestling (Schwingen) and Alpine festivals every year, with yodelling , flag dancing, alphorn and Swiss folk bands. In the Lake Lucerne region in central Switzerland, you can participate in the Rigi- Schwingen wrestling meeting, Brünig- Schwingen wrestling meeting, Innerschweizer Schwing & Älplerfest wrestling meeting and the Cantonal Wrestling Festival.

The story of William Tell is about the struggle of the first independent cantons of Switzerland, including Uri, Schwyz and Unterwalden, to fight for their freedom against the tyranny of their rulers. William Tell is a tyrant-killer, a national hero and one of the founders of a free social order. Visitors can visit the Rütliwiese , Tell Rock , Tell Chapel and the Hohle Pass. Gasse). His story is well documented and preserved in the Tell Museum in Burglen, canton Uri .

Swiss Churches

The tall twin towers of Zurich Cathedral (Grossmünster) standing quietly on the banks of the Limmat River are not only the

city's thousand-year-old landmark, but also the largest Romanesque building in Switzerland. But when you walk inside, you will find it looks so gray and dry. The only highlights are the stained glass and organ, which were added in the 20th century.

But in the history of the Reformation, the simple Zurich Cathedral played a pivotal role: in 1520, Zwingli, the first big figure in the Swiss Reformation, began his reform experiment here; three years later, under his influence, Zurich severed its relationship with the Roman Catholic Church, the organs and statues in the church were removed or destroyed, the mass ceremony was changed to a Protestant version, and the cathedral was recognized as the birthplace of the Reformation in the German-speaking part of Switzerland. Until now, the Zurich Reformation Museum and the Zurich University Theological Seminary are still located in the church.

Walking along the Limmat River, you will see the bronze statue of Zwingli not far from the cathedral, silently gazing at the flowing river and the city for which he gave his life. Over the years, Zurich has now transformed into an expensive financial city. Although churches are still everywhere, most people's faith has changed from biblical teachings to Swiss francs. I wonder what Zwingli would think if he knew about this?

After Zwingli died in the religious wars, the center of the Swiss Reformation gradually shifted from Zurich in the German-speaking area to Geneva in the French-speaking area. In the 16th century, Geneva was the holy land of the entire Protestant Church and was known as the "Rome of Protestantism". The one who brought all this to Geneva was another superstar in the world of religious reformation, John Calvin.

In 1540, Calvin, who was imprisoned for the second time, took over the hearts of the people of Geneva. From then on, the whole city became lifeless and dull under the control of Calvinism: women's jewelry and long skirts, men's drinking and entertainment, all forms of dance, drama, and festivals were all banned. Everyone had no choice but to go to church to listen to the master's teachings. John Knox, another big shot who was exiled here and eventually brought Calvinism to Scotland, described the city as follows: "Since the days of the saints, this is the best Christian school the world has ever seen."

As the base for the master's preaching, the Cathedral of Saint-Pierre de Genève in the center of the old city has unsurprisingly been transformed into a sexually aloof look: the gilded shrines and colorful portraits on the altar have been removed, all the slightly gorgeous decorations have been removed, and even the church bells no longer ring - as a believer in God, you have to be reminded to confess by a piece of metal, don't you think you should confess?

To this day, when you walk into Geneva's always gloomy cathedral, look around at the bare blue-gray columns, and admire the pulpit and chair where Calvin himself stood and sat, you can still seem to feel a sense of pressure, and feel deeply ashamed of the sin of having just bought a watch or eaten a cheese hot pot in the bustling market street at the foot of the church.

Walking in Geneva, you can find traces of that period in the Musée international de la ré forme and the Monument international de la Réformation in the University Park, which are both within walking distance of the church. In fact, if Calvin, who pursued "all glory to God", knew that such an eye-catching statue was built for him, he would definitely be so angry that he would come back to life and ask God for another 500 years to re-educate these ignorant laymen.

▲ The Reformation Wall, 10 meters high and 100 meters wide, was built between 1909 and 1917 to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Calvin's birth. In the middle of the wall are four tall statues, from left to right: Farel , Calvin, Beza , and Knox.

Contrary to the compact layout of the old city, when you come to the Münsterplatz in front of the Basel Cathedral (Basler M ünster) , you will feel suddenly open. This thousand-year-old church with a Gothic appearance was restored into a Gothic-Romantic style after experiencing earthquake damage. The exquisite sculptures and colorful tiled roofs are eye-catching, reminiscent of the famous Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna.

However, all the splendor came to an abrupt end after entering the church, returning to the simple Swiss style. As one of the

important cities of the Reformation, Basel was once known as the "European Reformation Center" (it was here that Calvin first published his masterpiece "The Christian Principles"). Of course, there was no reason for the city's landmark cathedral to be spared. The complex decorations inside were swept away, leaving only a few pitiful ancient sculptures and murals. The stained glass windows were not installed until the 19th century.

The Pfalz platform behind the cathedral is a popular viewing spot, where you can not only see the city of Little Basel on the opposite bank, but also the mountains of the Black Forest in Germany and the scenery of France. With the rushing Rhine River at your feet, the majestic Basel seems to have never been so peaceful and calm for thousands of years. Those who fought for religious doctrines in the past years seemed crazy and boring, just like the great sage buried in the church corridor, Erasmus of Rotterdam, who was ridiculed in his famous book "Praise of Folly"...

In 1536, the Bernese, who formed a Protestant alliance with Zurich and Basel, conquered the French-speaking canton of Vaud and immediately enforced the Reformation. Lausanne, like Geneva, became the Protestant center of the French-speaking region. Most of the Catholic churches were destroyed, and only two survived, including the city's symbol, the Cathedral of Our Lady of Lausanne (Cathédrale Notre Dame).

The majestic Cathedral of Our Lady is still the largest church in Switzerland today and is also known as "the most beautiful Gothic building in Switzerland". The gate of the church is covered with intricate and lifelike statues of saints. It is said that before the Reformation, these statues were all colorful.

Compared with the previous cathedrals, the interior of Notre Dame Cathedral is also simple and solemn, but it can be called gorgeous. Many pillars still retain medieval carvings and decorations. The painted rose windows with the theme of cosmic images formed by different seasons and months are particularly famous.

The cathedral, which stands at the highest point of the old city, is the last church in Switzerland that retains the watchman system. Every night from 10 pm to 2 am, the watchman's voice will ring the time from the church bell tower. I wonder if Calvin could hear this annoying noise in Geneva, dozens of kilometers away, and accuse it of disturbing God's rest?

Even in the whole of Europe, Bern is considered the most low-key capital, so low-key that you have never thought that the capital of Switzerland is not Zurich or Geneva. However, the Gothic cathedral (Berner Münster) in this city is unusually ostentatious, with a 100-meter-high bell tower making this building the tallest church in Switzerland.

In the German-speaking part of Switzerland, Bern, Zurich and Basel formed the "Iron Triangle of the Reformation". As early as 1528, they parted ways with the Roman Catholic Church, removed icons, stopped mass and switched to Protestant worship. But whether it was negligence or mercy, the colorful sculpture depicting the scene of "The Last Judgment" above the church door became the only surviving sculpture, and it is now the biggest attraction of this church.

Climbing up the 344 steps of the bell tower and overlooking the exquisite old town of Bern is quite a dreamy feeling. The narrow streets, continuous arcades, and fountains of various shapes seem to have never changed since the Middle Ages. Except for the church itself at your feet, the interior has been transformed into a plain and simple one with few highlights.

those mentioned above. There are still a number of churches with unique connotations that are worth visiting, such as Lucerne's Hofkirche, Jesuitenkirche and Franciscan Church.

Even when most Swiss cantons converted to Protestantism, Lucerne still held on to its Catholic faith, even going so far as to make enemies with other cantons and building city walls to resist the invasion of Protestant forces. In order to reward the city's loyalty, the Pope of Rome sent an envoy to stay here, and the cathedral he used was the predecessor of the Hauff Church.

The interior of the present Hauff Church is exquisitely decorated, and the carvings and altar are worth stopping to admire carefully; the Jesuit Church on the other side of the Reuss River is the first large-scale Baroque religious building in Switzerland, with a gorgeous interior and unique marble decorations with white background and red patterns; the Gothic

Franciscan Church has a pulpit that is known as one of the "most luxurious" in Switzerland, and the colorful sculptures on the roof are also dazzling.

When it comes to dazzling sights, how can we miss the most exquisite St Gallen Kathedrale in Switzerland ? This church, which was listed as a World Heritage Site as early as 1983, is a recognized masterpiece of Baroque architecture. The pink, green, white and gold tones make the interior of the church magnificent. The extremely delicately carved golden altar and guardrails will drive people with trypophobia crazy. You really can't miss it.

Swiss income and expenditure

income:

To understand how much the Swiss earn, just ask their neighbors - Germans, Austrians, French and Italians - if they are willing to work in Switzerland. If you look for a similar job in Switzerland or Germany, the approximate salary conversion is as follows:

- For positions with an annual salary of less than 70,000 euros, the same position can get twice the salary in Swiss francs in Switzerland, that is, a position with an annual salary of 50,000 euros will basically get 100,000 Swiss francs a year in Switzerland;
- For positions with an annual salary of more than 70,000 euros, the same position in Switzerland can get a salary of about 1.8 times in Swiss francs, that is, a position with an annual salary of 100,000 euros is basically 180,000 Swiss francs a year in Switzerland.

——According to the current exchange rate of EUR to CHF, which is about 1:1.1465, in fact, the salary level in Switzerland is about 150%-160% of that in Germany

- Of course, there are huge differences in salaries for positions in different industries, years of service, and experience, and it is impossible to generalize; but at least one thing is certain, the salaries that Swiss people receive are still quite attractive.

The key point is that Germans' wages are definitely not low in Europe.

According to the data of Eurostat in 2016, the analysis is about the level of pre-tax wages per capita in European countries: Germany as a whole has an average monthly income of about 2,302 euros per capita, which is not low considering the huge population base of 82 million people in Germany. Germany's neighbor Austria is 2,324 euros per month, and its Eastern European neighbor Poland is a pitiful 793 euros, and the Czech Republic is 932 euros. The UK is equivalent to 2,383 euros per month, northern Italy is 1,758 euros, and Spain is 1,749 euros. The Nordic countries are all higher, which is in line with everyone's impression - good welfare and high income, but Sweden is only converted to 2,458 euros, and Norway is 3,395

euros.

Look at Switzerland, the average monthly income per capita is a crushing 4,887 Euros, which is equivalent to 34,388 RMB based on today's exchange rate!



According to the latest data from the Swiss Federal Statistical Office in 2018, the average monthly wage in Switzerland has reached about 6,200 Swiss francs, equivalent to about 43,000 RMB! The hourly wage in Zurich is equivalent to 33 euros per hour, and the hourly wage in Berlin, the capital of Germany, is 19.9 euros.

Switzerland is one of the countries with the highest per capita wages in the world. The figures of other countries that seem to be comparable to it are actually meaningless - you told me that the per capita income in Monaco is more than 5,000 euros, and Luxembourg is more than 4,500. Please, people who can live and file taxes in these two places have basically left the circle of our daily discussion of living standards!!!

-Expenditure side:

High income and high prices are symbiotic. In Switzerland, apart from the basic living expenses, all service charges related to human capital are relatively expensive. A few days ago, there was an article titled "Going abroad as soon as the holiday comes? Because we are too poor!" In which a girl lamented, "With a child, the monthly rent + medical insurance + childcare fee for a child is more than 5,000 Swiss francs, while the per capita income before tax is 6,200, and after tax it is only more than 5,000."

When I lived in Switzerland, I often went to the buffet restaurant in Migros . A set meal, including drinks + main meal + bread

+ dessert, only cost 20-30 Swiss francs, which was very economical.

But once it comes to services that require human capital investment, it is really expensive. For example, if you don't buy good insurance, you will spend thousands of Swiss francs every minute to see a doctor. Another example is pharmacy. Pharmacy work is one of the highest-paid industries in Switzerland, with an average salary of nearly 9,000 Swiss francs per month. The wool comes from the sheep, so keeping healthy and buying good insurance are the most important.

According to the latest statistics, the average monthly disposable income of a household in a city like Zurich in Switzerland is less than 8,000 Swiss francs. For a city with such a low consumption level as Zurich, this is still a drop in the bucket. For a meal with friends, 300-400 Swiss francs is the minimum.

In Switzerland, high-income groups with an annual salary of more than 500,000 Swiss francs are subject to an applicable income tax of approximately 29.4%. Compared with Germany, France or other Nordic countries, this is simply a red envelope from the government.

This is why the cost-conscious Swiss people go to neighboring countries to consume or buy houses. After all, the purchasing power of the euro per unit of currency is stronger in neighboring countries.


To sum up, Switzerland's income is good, but due to the price issue, the 60% extra income compared to Germany may only have an actual purchasing power of about 20%-30% more.

There is another data that economists rarely quote - the starting salary of high-quality talents. How much reasonable starting salary can be given to high-quality talents is one of the implicit indicators of the level of local economic development. For example, in Hangzhou, which has been developing rapidly in recent years, the salary level has also risen, attracting many elites from Beijing, Shenzhen and Shanghai. High-quality talents: We define them as those who have at least a master's degree or above, are under 40 years old, and have expertise or work experience in their field.

This is a table obtained from a German headhunting company, which shows that for graduates with a master's degree in Switzerland, the starting salary for finance positions is about 99,000 Swiss francs, legal positions are slightly higher at 108,000 Swiss francs, R&D personnel can also get 108,000 Swiss francs, and the lowest Sales Support position is 94,000 Swiss francs.

Base l

Bus Stops	Bus Drop -off: Tinguely Brunnen , Steinenberg 4, 4051 Basel, Switzerland , 47.553924, 7.590645 Petersgraben 50 , 4051 Basel Bus parking: Erdbeergraben , 4053 Basel Car parking: Parkhaus Steinen , Steinenschanze 5 , 4051 Basel (2.10m) Parkhaus City , Klingelbergstrasse 20 , 4056 Basel (2.10m)		
Latitude and longitude	7° 35'E, 47° 33'N	Equivalent to China ...	Qiqihar, Heilongjiang
Area (square kilometers):	22.75	Population ('000):	166
City status	The third largest city in Switzerland (after Zurich and Geneva), it is the capital of the Basel-Stadt canton (Basel-Stadt in German, Bâle -Ville in French), and is located at the intersection of three		

	<p>countries in northwestern Switzerland. It borders Alsace in France to the northwest and the Black Forest Mountains in Germany to the northeast. The Rhine River flows east and north through the city, dividing Basel into two parts. The larger one is located on the west bank and is called the Greater Basel area, while the Klein Basel area is located on the east bank.</p> <p>The old town of Basel belongs to Switzerland, the airport is located in the Saint-Louis region of France, and the area north of the Rhine is German territory.</p>
Origin of the name	
Basic historical information	<p>In prehistoric times, Basel was occupied by the Kelten . The history of Basel as an urban settlement began on the Kirchberg. In the first century BC, Celts from the Rauricii tribe lived in the fortified "oppidum". Today, the remains of the "Celtic wall" can still be seen in the semi-underground windows of the Rittergasse .</p> <p>Later, the Romans were attracted. After the Romans, the Almands and Franks settled in Basel. Historically, Basel belonged to the Burgundian dynasty. In 1033, it was occupied by the German Emperor Conrad II and remained a German territory for about 300 years. In 1501, it joined the Swiss Confederation and became the eleventh state of the Confederation. In the 18th century, Basel merchants started out in the silk weaving industry and gradually became rich. The 18th century was the golden age of urban construction, and most of the splendid ancient buildings seen today are products of that period.</p>
City logo	 <p>The city emblem is a black bishop's scepter that bends to the left.</p>
Economy, culture, famous people	<p>Basel is known as the "Cultural Center of Switzerland" and "University City". In 1460, the first university in Switzerland was established in Basel. Basel is a cultural capital with 40 museums, making it the city with the highest density of museums in Switzerland.</p> <p>Basel is a region with developed chemical and pharmaceutical industries. The headquarters of the largest pharmaceutical companies in Switzerland, including Novartis and Hoffmann-La Roche, are located in Basel. The Baselworld watch and jewelry exhibition held in April every year is particularly famous.</p> <p>The headquarters of the Bank for International Settlements.</p>
Main Specialties	
other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hometown of famous tennis player Roger Federer – the world-renowned architectural design firm HERZOG & DE MEURON , the designer of the Beijing Bird's Nest .

***Entering Basel, Switzerland from the A5 highway in Germany, you can exit the highway and take the French mu house to enter Switzerland, where there are fewer queues and drivers evade taxes.**

No matter where you stand in Basel, you can see two beautifully shaped white high-rise buildings that look like stairs. This is the landmark building of Basel - the headquarters building of the world's pharmaceutical giant Roche Pharmaceuticals Group. It is also known as the "Roche Twin Towers". The building was designed by the famous Swiss architectural firm Herzog & de Meuron and cost 500 million Swiss francs, equivalent to about 3.8 billion yuan. Building 1 is 178 meters high and Building 2 is 205 meters high. It is the tallest skyscraper in Switzerland.

More than 120 years ago, Roche was born in the city of Basel.

Basel Town Hall

The town hall is a representative building of the Swiss city of Basel. It is located on the city's market square (Marktplatz). It is a red sandstone building with a unique tower. The political center of Basel has been located at this location since 1290. It was destroyed by an earthquake in 1356 and all records and documents were lost. The part that remained in the Basel earthquake is the oldest part of the town hall.

Basel joined the Swiss Confederation in 1501. In 1503, it was decided to expand the town hall at all costs. The construction lasted from 1504 to 1514. In 1521, Hans Holbein the Younger was responsible for the painting. In 1608-1609, Hans Bock created "Jehoshaphat Admonishing the Judges" and "King Herod" on the side walls of the courtyard and "The Last Judgment" on the right staircase. In 1611, he also painted the image of the goddess of victory outside, with palm branches and children's pageant. The painting on the tower was created by William Balmer in 1901. There are 12 coats of arms hanging on it, representing the 12 cantons including Basel, which joined the Swiss Confederation at that time.



Munatius in the Courtyard Plancus : A Roman general in the 1st century AD, he was Caesar's subordinate and friend in the Gallic Wars. He founded Augusta Raurica, the first Roman colonial city in the Rhine River Basin. Basel was a fortress 20 kilometers away from Raurica at that time, so he is also regarded as the founder of Basel. He also founded Lyon, the second largest city in France.

Basel Cathedral

This Romanesque and Gothic church built of crimson sandstone is not only a landmark of Basel, but also an important cultural heritage of Switzerland. The famous humanist thinker Erasmus is buried here.

Originally a Catholic cathedral, it is now a Protestant Reformed Church. The cathedral dates back to the Carolingian dynasty. The building was destroyed in 917 when the Hungarians attacked the entire city. The current cathedral was built between 1019 and 1500 in Romanesque and Gothic styles. In the early 11th century, Holy Roman Emperor Henry II built a magnificent new cathedral for Basel. In the last 25 years of the 12th century, the church of Henry's time was replaced by Romanesque architecture, and was restored to a Gothic cathedral after the great earthquake in 1356. The high walls made of red sandstone, the roof made of colorful tiles are unique, and the double towers with hollow art spires are spectacular. The two bell towers are named after St. George (Georg) and St. Martin (Martin), respectively. The George bell tower is about 65 meters high and the Martin bell tower is nearly 63 meters high. The 60-meter-high north tower of the church was designed by German architect Ulrich von Ensingen , who also participated in the construction of the Strasbourg Cathedral in France and the Ulm Cathedral in Germany (Einstein's hometown). The tower of the latter is the highest in the world (161.53 meters). There are two large and small cross-shaped cloisters on the south side of the church. The dark red arches of the cloisters contrast with the green grass in the courtyard. On both sides of the gate are statues of St. George slaying the dragon and St. Martin.

Martin (316-397) was a former Roman soldier in the early fourth century. He retired from the army and became a hermit because he thought that being a soldier conflicted with his beliefs. He was elected as the Bishop of Tours many years later. The most famous legend about him is that when he was still in the army, he cut off half of his robe during a snowstorm and shared it with a beggar to prevent the beggar in rags from freezing to death. It is said that the beggar was the incarnation of Jesus. He died of illness on November 11 and was later listed as a saint. Therefore, November 11 was regarded as the feast day of St. Martin by the Catholic Church, and it was derived into St. Martin's Day. Martin Luther, an important religious reformer, was baptized on November 11, so he was named Martin, and this day was also celebrated by German Protestants.

The representative food of the festival is Martinsgans , which is a roasted whole goose. There are two legends about Saint Martin and geese. One is that when he was elected as the Bishop of Tours, he hid in the goose house in order to refuse the position, but was betrayed by the cry of geese. Another is that when he was preaching, he was interrupted by a group of geese that broke into the church, so these geese were served on the table until now. The more likely reason for this custom is that in

the early years, geese were a convenient tax item at the end of the year and a severance gift for employees. The St. Martin Festival on November 11 coincides with the end of the year, so roast goose has become a seasonal food.

According to the folk customs of North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany, St. Martin's Day on November 11th announces the arrival of Carnival in the following year. Because historically, the period from St. Martin's Day to Christmas is Ramadan, St. Martin's Day is the last day for overeating, similar to Carnival.

The wine cellar, the choir, the tomb of Erasmus of Rotterdam, the Galluspforte and the two cloisters bear witness to the cathedral's history over the centuries.

The epitaph of Erasmus is located in the center of the church, with his tomb just below.

Erasmus (1466/67/79-1536), also known as Erasmus von Rotterdam, was the most famous humanist scholar (nicknamed the Humanist Monarch) during the European Renaissance, a philosopher, theologian and writer. **Erasmus** was well-versed in ancient and modern times, knowledgeable, and proficient in Latin and Greek. Erasmus was the name he gave himself (the Latin name of a Christian saint in the 4th century). He compiled and translated the New Testament of the Bible into Greek (partly from Jerome's Latin version), and it was this version that Martin Luther translated when he took refuge in Wartburg (translating Greek into German). Erasmus also wrote many works of his own, the most famous of which is "Praise of Folly". At that time, Emperor Charles V of the Empire, kings and monarchs of various European countries were honored to be friends with Erasmus, and his brilliance far exceeded that of Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo and Raphael of the same period. King Henry VIII of England, King Francis I of France, and Emperor Charles V all offered him generous conditions to lecture or serve as an advisor.

Erasmus was a Catholic, and because of his high reputation, the Pope could not say much when he criticized the Vatican. However, his criticism of the Vatican (including the Hymn of Folly) seriously influenced a young German priest, Martin Luther, so some people say that the egg laid by Erasmus was hatched by Martin Luther.

Compared to Erasmus, Martin Luther was just an unknown priest. Martin Luther naturally wanted to take advantage of Erasmus's glory. They had a lot of correspondence, but Erasmus only wanted to lead the church's own reform (the core of which was to oppose scholastic philosophy) by criticizing the Catholic Church, rather than setting up a new school like Martin Luther did. Eventually, the relationship between the two deteriorated. In addition to Martin Luther, Zwingli of Zurich was also an admirer of Erasmus, and Calvin of Geneva personally visited Erasmus before his death.

The main tenets of Erasmus' humanistic thought are freedom and tolerance. He opposed wars between European countries and even advocated European unification (quite ahead of its time). His doctrine of the mean was to resolve problems through negotiation rather than war, and when war became inevitable, he became discouraged.

A sarcophagus in the church contains Gertrude Anne of Hohenberg (1225-1281), the queen of Rudolf I, the first German king of the Habsburg family, and the ancestor of later members of the Habsburg family. In the middle of the sarcophagus is the double-headed eagle emblem of the Holy Roman Empire. The red, white and red one on the left is the emblem of the Austrian Habsburg family. The one on the right is the emblem of the Habsburg family except the Austrian branch.

In 1273, Rudolf I of the relatively weak Habsburg family was elected as the King of Germany, which opened the Habsburg family's hundreds of years of rule in Europe (Rudolf I did not become emperor, and the first emperor of the Habsburg family had to wait until Frederick III in 1452). And the first wife of Rudolf I is buried here. They gave birth to more than a dozen children, most of whom were monarchs of various European countries or married monarchs. Until the end of the Austro-Hungarian Empire in World War I, the emperors of the Habsburg family and the Austrian monarchs were all descendants of Rudolf I and Queen Anna. In 1281, Anna died in Vienna and was buried in Basel Cathedral according to her will.

In the monastery connected to the church, there is also the tombstone of the great mathematician Jacob Bernoulli (1655-1705). The Latin epitaph was written by his wife and children, mentioning that he was a professor at the University of Basel for 18 years and a member of the Royal Academy in Paris and Berlin. At the bottom is a spiral curve of mathematics.

- It closes at 17:00 in summer and 16:00 in winter. You can only look from the outside when you arrive, so be prepared in advance.
- There is a public toilet in the square in front of the door

Tanjali Fountain

About 500 to 600 meters southwest of the cathedral, on Theater Street, is the modern National Theater of Basel. The theater stands on a multi-level square. There is also a uniquely designed mechanical fountain in the center of the street. The Tanjali Fountain is a unique fountain designed by the artist Tanjali. A bunch of metal objects spray water jets at each other, and each design and function is different.

Spalentor

One of the three oldest gates in Basel, it was built in the 14th century when the wall around the town was finally expanded and rebuilt in the 19th century. In the past, people had to pass through this gate when entering Basel from France. The main tower with a triangular roof is surrounded by two round towers.

In commemoration of the Franco-Prussian War, Switzerland kindly took in many women, children and the elderly in the Strasbourg war zone.

Three Kingdoms Monument

It is the border point between France, Germany and Switzerland. The monument is located on a small island in the middle of the Rhine River in Basel, Switzerland.

Augusta Raurica is an ancient Roman site located on the south bank of the Rhine near Basel, Switzerland. It is the oldest known Roman site on the Rhine .

Named after the Celtic Raurica tribe and the Roman Emperor Augustus, Augusta Raurica's remains are exceptionally well preserved. In its heyday, the city was home to up to 20,000 inhabitants. Workshops, commercial enterprises, inns, temples and public baths were all closely connected. Through archaeological excavations, many buildings have been discovered, preserved and open to the public, including:

- Colosseum: Only partial remains remain.
- Aqueduct: Provides Augusta Raurica with drinking water from Liestal .
- Main Forum: Temple of Jupiter, Great Hall and Assembly Hall of the City Council.
- Theater: forms an architectural whole with the temple across the street.

There are also some private commercial buildings (a grocery store and workshop, a bakery, a pottery and a tile kiln) and part of the sewer.

The decline of Raurica began with an earthquake in 250 AD and the looting of the Alemanni (a branch of the Germanic people who occupied the area of present-day Switzerland after the fall of the Western Roman Empire in the 5th century). Since then, barbarian invasions have never stopped.

Specialty Restaurants

Restaurant Löwenzorn , Gemsberg 2, 4051 Basel (city center)

Gasthof zum Goldenen Sternen , St. Alban- Rheinweg 70, 4052 Basel (high price , close to the river , convenient parking)

Group meal: Xiao Lu's , Münsterberg 11, 4051 Basel (city center, small place)

Bern

Bus Stops	<p>Bus parking : Grosser Muristalden , 3006 Bern, Switzerland , 46.948248, 7.460134</p> <p>The maximum parking time is 2 hours. If the parking lot is full, there is also a bus stop on the left side of the roundabout.</p> <p>Drop-off: Amthausgasse 5, 3011 Bern, Switzerland (1 bus place)</p> <p>Car park: Klösterlistutz 18, 3013 Bern</p> <p>Rathaus -Parking Amag Bern , Postgasshalde 50, 3011 Bern (2M) Close to the city center, available if time is tight</p>		
Latitude and longitude	N 46° 57' E 7° 27'	Equivalent to China ...	
Area (square kilometers):	52	Population ('000):	127
City status	<p>It is the capital of the canton of Bern and the capital of the country. Its old town is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Bern is located on the Swiss plateau, adjacent to the Alps, and the Aare River, a tributary of the Rhine, runs through the city. The Aare River surrounds the old town on three sides. The old fortifications and fortresses sloping into the river.</p>		
Basic historical information, origin of the name	<p>The city of Bern was founded in 1191 by the Zahringen family using the peninsula formed by the Aare River. The name Bern is derived from the German word for "bear", which is pronounced "Bayer" in German and later changed to "Bern". Legend has it that at the end of the 12th century, the Duke of Zahringen, who ruled the central and eastern parts of Switzerland, wanted to build a fortress in Bern. In order to name the city, the Duke of Zahringen decided to go out hunting and use the first beast he killed as the city name. As a result, he killed a bear, so he named the city "Bear". Because of this historical origin, Bernese people still have a special preference for bears, and the image of bears can be seen everywhere. Whether it is the fountain in the center of the street or those ancient buildings, there are almost all sculptures of bears.</p> <p>In 1353, Bern became the eighth canton of the Swiss Confederation and was completely rebuilt after a fire in 1405.</p> <p>In 1848, when Switzerland was founded, the Swiss people decided to choose the seat of the federal government between Bern, Zurich and Lucerne. In the end, they voted for Bern, which is the capital of Switzerland. Not choosing Zurich was a compromise between the German-speaking and French-speaking regions. Geneva is the center of the French-speaking region and has the highest international reputation, while Zurich is the center of the German-speaking region and has the strongest economic strength. If any one of them is designated as the capital, it will make the other party unhappy. Although Bern belongs to the German-speaking region, it is not far from the French-speaking region, so everyone can accept the establishment of the federal government here.</p>		
City logo			
Culture, famous people	<p>Many famous people have come to Bern in history. For example, Engels went to Bern to guide the Swiss workers' movement in the autumn of 1848, and Einstein studied physics in his spare time while working at the Federal Patent Office in Bern and published his "Special Theory of Relativity".</p>		
Main Specialties	<p>Walking through the six-kilometer-long limestone buildings, the medieval arches tell of the long history. The fountains left over from the Renaissance are everywhere, still retaining their</p>		

	<p>gorgeous appearance. When you look up, you can see the exquisite cathedral's unique glazed tile roof. There is the earliest six-kilometer-long arched promenade shopping center in Europe. There are many museums, coffee shops, restaurants and shops. There is also a weekly market and a lively Christmas market at the end of the year.</p> <p>Bern has many fountains, sandstone facades, narrow streets and historic towers. The Rose Garden is higher than the Bear Park, and the cathedral bell tower is 101 meters high. From these two places, you can overlook the old town.</p> <p>Zibelemärit) held on the fourth Monday of November every year is especially worth a visit: in the early hours of the morning, a large number of tourists begin to flock to the city's traditional onion market. The best time to visit the onion market is at five o'clock in the morning, when the stalls of about 700 vendors are full and the onion snacks are freshly cooked and delicious.</p>
other	

Einstein House Kramgasse 49 , CH-3000 Bern 8, Schweiz

The Einstein House is quietly located at 49 Kramstraße in the heart of the old town, just 200 meters from the famous clock tower (Zytglogge). The house is open to the public on weekdays, and welcomes people to see the style of this great physicist. Albert Einstein rented here from 1903 to 1905, accompanied by his wife Mileva and son Hans Albert. This two-story apartment is filled with old furniture, photos and documents, which, although displayed in a modern way, still exude the unique charm of that era. The exhibition provides a glimpse into Albert Einstein's life and the unique environment in which he carried out his vital scientific work. In addition, there are various publications, books and postcards for sale.

Albert Einstein was born on March 14, 1879 in a Jewish family in Ulm, Germany. In 1895, at the age of 16, Einstein came to Switzerland to attend secondary school in the northern canton of Aarau. After graduating from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EHT), he obtained a lecturer's certificate and Swiss citizenship. After graduating from university, Einstein was just a poor foreign college student, penniless, without food or clothing, and running around looking for a job.

In early February 1902, the 23-year-old Einstein came to Bern to seek development and made a living as a private tutor. In June of that year, the Swiss federal government notified him that the Federal Intellectual Property Office hired him as a third-class employee with an annual salary of 3,500 Swiss francs. With a stable annual salary, Einstein's life was settled. On January 6, 1903, Einstein married his university classmate Mileva Maric, who was born in a middle-class family in Serbia. In the autumn of that year, after several moves, they finally chose a third-floor apartment at No. 49 Kram Street in the center of the old city.

The street outside the apartment window was called "Bern's most beautiful street" by the great German writer Goethe. When you open the window, you can see the famous Bern clock tower a few dozen meters away. Einstein often listened to the bells of the clock tower ringing every hour from the window, and once told his friends that "the bells bring me inspiration."

1905 was a fruitful year for Einstein. He published five papers in the Annals of Physics, laying the theoretical foundation for reinterpreting the universe. Among them, the paper entitled On the Electrodynamics of Moving Bodies publicly proposed the theory of special relativity for the first time and established a new theory of space and time. In another paper, Einstein proposed the mass-energy equation $E=MC^2$, indicating that material particles can be transformed into huge energy.

In 1908, Einstein was already a world-renowned theoretical physicist. His job at the Patent Office with an annual salary of 4,500 Swiss francs was no longer enough for him to display his talents. So in October 1909, Einstein resigned from the Federal Patent Office and moved his family to Zurich, where he taught physics at the University of Zurich. During his seven years in Bern, Einstein published 32 papers, which was the heyday of his research.

In 1921, Einstein won the Nobel Prize in Physics. After Hitler came to power in 1933, Einstein gave up his German citizenship, accepted the invitation of Princeton University to continue his scientific research in the United States, and obtained American citizenship. He died in the United States on April 18, 1955 at the age of 76.

The entrance of No. 49 Kram Street is located in the arcade next to the shops. It shares the same entrance with the Einstein Cafe. There is a wooden door on the left side of the cafe that separates the apartment upstairs from the outside. Go up the narrow spiral wooden staircase to the third floor and you will reach Einstein's former residence.

After pushing open the door, you will see a long and narrow corridor. At the end of the corridor is the master bedroom of more than 20 square meters. On the other side parallel to the corridor is a small bedroom and a "hallway" of only 5 or 6 square meters. The interior of the apartment is simply furnished. According to the custom of the early 20th century, the interior walls are covered with light pink patterned wallpaper, and the top is decorated with simple relief patterns. Except for a few tables and chairs used by Einstein during his lifetime, there is no luxurious furniture.

The total area of the apartment is only 70-80 square meters. There is no bathroom or kitchen in the apartment. There are two households on each floor, sharing the kitchen and bathroom. According to the staff, Ms. Ina, with the consent of the owner of the apartment, the kitchen and bathroom originally shared by the two families have been renovated by a female resident on the same floor and become part of her apartment. After Einstein's family moved out in 1909, the apartment has been rented out normally, and the tenants have changed one after another. Perhaps there are too many foreign celebrities who have lived in Switzerland, and the owner did not open it for free just because Einstein lived there.

In 1979, a spontaneous non-governmental organization in Bern, the Einstein Society, rented the third-floor apartment at No. 49 and used it as Einstein's former residence for visitors. However, the association's monthly rent was not enough to cover the fees of more than 100 members, so it had to rely on the commission income from ticket sales and the sale of books about Einstein to supplement the rent and electricity bills.

In the simple former residence of Einstein, the two chest-high "tables" that impressed the reporter the most were: one was similar to the tripod used by field workers, with the tabletop height being movable up and down; the other was similar to the flip-top desk used by middle school students. Ina said that these two tables were Einstein's workbenches, and he liked to stand while reading and writing papers. Ms. Ina even imitated Einstein in her own home, reading and writing while standing, and felt that "it was easy to concentrate and good for treating waist and shoulder diseases." The most prominent photo in the former residence was of Einstein standing in front of the tripod while working, which showed that Einstein was very used to the "standing table".

From a modern perspective, Einstein's former residence seems shabby, stingy, and even inadequate in terms of living area, decoration style, and comfort. However, it was Einstein who worked out the theory of relativity while living in a humble house. His vision was not blocked by the Alps, and his thoughts reached the infinite universe. Einstein's contribution to human understanding of the universe is unparalleled, and he is forever respected and loved by the world.

Tickets: 6 Euros

Bell Tower

One of Bern's most distinctive city symbols and considered a true masterpiece of medieval clockmaking art, it was built in the early 13th century and has served as a city gate guard tower, prison, clock tower, city life and civic memorial center.

The clock tower has been in existence for 800 years. Despite many renovations, the clock tower and its 15th-century astronomical clock are still the most well-known symbol of Bern and a major tourist attraction. It is listed as a Swiss national property and is part of the World Heritage Site of Old Town Bern. It was built in 1530 after the fire and visitors can also visit the interior. When the clock tower rings the bell, a small robot will stagger out from the top of the three-story-high clock and hit the clock on its head with a hammer to tell the time. At the same time, under the clock face, "Old Man Time" waves his pipa, a rooster crows and flaps its wings, and a pair of bears pass by like a revolving lantern. The whole show is extremely wonderful and interesting. The astronomical clock on the first floor was built in 1218. The design of the clock face is quite complex. In addition to telling the time, you can also see the season, month, date, week, and



the full moon and the moon, which is very scientific.

fountain

Bern is known as the "City of Fountains". There are more than 100 springs in the city, 11 of which still retain their old appearance. There are more than 100 fountains, 11 of which are the most famous. If you want to find all these 11 fountains, go to the info next to the train station to find a map. These 11 fountains are not all on the main road. Only 7 can be found along the main road. The rest are not far away and nearby. Their locations are marked in blue. After walking through the 11 fountains, you can also take a look at the style of the old city. It is said that the fountain water can be drunk directly. These fountains have different shapes, such as the Statue of Justice Fountain, the Bear Fountain, etc., which dot the streets of Bern. It brings tourists



a mysterious sense of tracing back, and tells people the story of Bern in its unique way.



Statue of Justice wearing a blindfold and holding scales and sword, by Hans Gieng , Bern , Switzerland , 1543

Ryfflibrunnen / Ryffli Fountain is located on the west side of the old town of Bern and depicts a legendary archer.



and depicts

The Piper Fountain Pfeiferbrunnen / Bagpiper Fountain is located not far from the west side of town of Bern, and vividly depicts a bagpiper.



Anna-Seiler- Brunnen / AnnaSeiler Fountain is located in the west of the old town. to commemorate Anna Seiler, one of the founders of Bern's first hospital. The depicts her serene expression.

It was built sculpture



gunslinger

The Marksman Fountain is located not far to the west of the clock tower . It depicts a with a spirited look, and the little bear below is also holding a gun.



Kindlifresserbrunnen / Child Eater Fountain is the most famous of several decorative fountains in Bern, built around 1545. It shows an ogre eating a child, with a bag next to him containing more children. It was used to scare disobedient children. "Ogre" was the name people gave to Jews in the Middle Ages, because according to medieval legends, Jews had a hobby of eating children. The Ogre Fountain stands on Kornhausplatz .



The Zähringerbrunnen / Zähringen Fountain is located not far to the east of the bell tower. It depicts a bear in armor with a bear cub under its feet. It was built in memory of the Duke of Zähringen, the founder of Bern. But his image cannot be seen on the fountain. There is only the ubiquitous Bern bear wearing the duke's clothes. So it is also called the Bear Fountain.



The Samson Fountain depicts the biblical hero Samson's victory over a lion.

The Runner Fountain Läuferbrunnen / Runner Fountain is located under a tree on the Aare River on the east side of Bern's Old Town and depicts what a messenger would have looked like in the past.

The Fountain of Justice Gerechtigkeitsbrunnen / Fountain of Justice is located in the center of Justice Street. She holds a sword (symbolizing sentencing and death penalty) and a scale (symbolizing fairness) to show justice.

The goddess of justice comes from Greek mythology. Her name is Themis. She is the daughter of heaven and earth and she often holds a scale in her hand. Later, the goddess of justice married Zeus, the god of all gods, and gave birth to a daughter, Dick, to help her in managing law, order and justice. Dick is a beautiful girl holding a sword. After the rise of ancient Rome, the Romans accepted the Greek gods and mixed them with the Roman gods, creating many new gods. They combined the images of Themis and Dick into one, named Justitia (from the word law jus), she holds a scale in one hand and a sword in the other.

The deep meaning of the statue of the goddess of justice requires us to look at her appearance. On the one hand, the famous German jurist Rudolf von Jhering once made a very insightful statement about the symbolic meaning of the sword and the scales: "The goddess of justice holds the scales in one hand to measure the law, and the sword in the other hand to uphold the law. If the sword is not accompanied by the scales, it is naked violence; if the scales are not accompanied by the sword, it means weakness. The two complement each other. Only when the strength of the sword held by the goddess of justice and the skill of holding the scales go hand in hand, can a perfect state of rule of law prevail."

The Western goddess of justice, also known as the goddess of justice, is the embodiment and symbol of law and judges, and is also a symbol and emblem of Western judicial concepts. Statues of the goddess of justice often appear in front of courts and law schools or on buildings in Western countries. Its image is often a young woman with a solemn face and a solemn expression, wearing a blindfold or closing her eyes, holding a scale in one hand and a sword in the other. On the back of the statue, there is a widely circulated ancient Roman legal motto engraved: "To achieve justice, even if the sky collapses and the earth breaks." For nearly 500 years, she has stood between heaven and earth every day, silently, but awe-inspiring, revealing and maintaining a long-standing legal concept in the Western world-"Law is fairness and justice."

As a symbol of the court, what is the legal metaphor of the goddess of justice "blindfolded"? She is the god of judgment, who uses a balance to weigh the evidence presented by both parties in a lawsuit. The party with sufficient evidence wins the case, while the party with insufficient evidence loses the case and is punished with a sword. Her duty is to "judge" rather than discover, so her eyes should be covered or closed, which helps her eliminate distractions, think carefully, fight against the powerful, and achieve justice.

According to research, the earliest blindfolded statue of the goddess of justice was created by sculptor Hans Jean for the "Fountain of Justice" in Bern, Switzerland in 1543. At that time, in addition to the blindfold, scales and sword, the goddess statue also had many other symbols: such as the crown (representing nobility), the scepter (representing majesty), the fascinator (representing punishment), the snake (representing hatred), the dog (representing friendship), the book (representing law), the skull (representing death), the cross (representing religion), etc. However, these "accessories" were gradually simplified later.

Federal Parliament Building (German: Bundeshaus)

The seat of the Swiss Federal Parliament. Designed by architect Hans Otl, the building was inaugurated on April 1, 1902 at a cost of 7.198 million Swiss francs. It has a Renaissance style. It is the seat of the Swiss government and parliament. Its function is equivalent to Zhongnanhai in China. It is the place where government officials and the National People's Congress hold meetings.



The two chambers of the Federal Parliament are separated by the dome hall. The dome itself has an external height of 64 meters, and the goddess on the top is the symbol of Switzerland, the goddess Helvetia. The internal height is 33 meters. The Swiss national emblem is depicted in the center, and the Latin motto "Unus pro omnibus, omnes pro uno" (I am for everyone, everyone is for me), surrounded by the cantonal emblems of the 22 cantons in 1902. The cantonal emblem of Jura was painted in 1979 and placed outside the mosaic. It consists of two meeting halls and a central hall, which is thick and solid. Parliament is held here and political activities are carried out. The Federal Parliament Building is the seat of the Swiss government agencies. There is a fountain show in the square in front of the building.

Bern is also known as the capital of government officials. It is said that more than 25% of its residents work in government-related jobs.

Free guided tours of the interior of the Parliament Building. Opening hours: Book a day in advance for a chance to visit (call +41 31 322 8522). Closed during parliamentary periods, public holidays and special events. Passport required. 45 minutes. Please

arrive at the security checkpoint on the east side of the Parliament Building 30 minutes before the hour and wait.

Bern Cathedral zu St.Vinzenz)

Bern Cathedral is the tallest and most important church in Switzerland from the late Middle Ages. As one of the ancient buildings in Bern listed as a cultural heritage by UNESCO in 1983, Bern Cathedral plays a vital role in the urban architecture of Bern. Bern Cathedral was built in 1421 and is a large Gothic building that took nearly a century to complete. In the late 19th century, a spire was built on the top of the church, making it the tallest church in Switzerland, with a height of 100 meters.

The front of the church has a relief of "The Last Judgment" created by Erhart Kűng, as well as 15th-century stained glass (the two pieces on the right side of the front are works from the 19th century), which are very famous.

During the cathedral's regular concerts or Christmas, you can hear the wonderful music played by the 18th-century organ. Take the 254-step spiral staircase to the balcony in the middle of the church, where you can enjoy a beautiful view. On the square of the church, a handicraft market is held on the first Saturday of every month.

Next to **Bern City Hall** is the St. Peter und Paul Church.

Bern's **arcade shopping arcade** is the longest covered shopping arcade in Europe. The arcade has a unique structure. There is a sidewalk in front of the ground floor of the building along the street. The top of the sidewalk extends outward to form a corridor. The side of the corridor facing the street is supported by arched columns. There is a wide arch between the two columns. The corridors are connected and the arches are connected. They are long and winding, forming an arcade. This architectural style is a cultural feature of the Middle Ages.

In the old town, there are seven or eight kilometers of arcades, and the most exciting one is the section from Hospital Street in front of the train station to the old clock tower on Clem Street, which is home to large shopping malls, fashion stores, jewelry stores, antique stores, watch stores, craft stores, sweet shops, chocolate shops, coffee shops and restaurants, etc. The shops on Market Street and Hospital Street are full of the latest luxury fashions and modern accessories; Milan's avant-garde fashions are on display in Noble Street and Church Street; Grocery Street, Post Office Street, and Justice Street have a wide range of goods and every store has meticulous and thoughtful service.

Next to the clock tower, the favorite chocolate shop of Bernese people, Confiserie Tschirren , Kramgasse 73, 3011 Bern, Switzerland

- Altes next to the Bear Park There is a free toilet in the basement of Tramdepot
- The round-trip bus trip in Bern takes a long time to stop, and the attractions in the city center are scattered. If meals are included, the trip should be controlled within 2 hours.

Lausanne

Bus Stops	Olympic Museum : Bus park: Avenue de la Tour Haldimand (Quai d'Ouchy), 1006 Lausanne, Switzerland , 46.505140, 6.641648 Bus Drop-off & Car park: Quai de Belgique , Losanna Shanghai Restaurant & Cathedral: Car park: Place du Tunnel 7, 1005 Lausanne, Switzerland Bus park: Place du Tunnel 10 , 1005 Lausanne, Switzerland , 46.526113, 6.634740		
Latitude and longitude	6° 38'E, 46° 31'N	Equivalent to	China ...

Area (square kilometers):	41.37	Population ('000):	Central area 117, metropolitan area 312
City status	<p>It is a city in the French-speaking region of Switzerland, located on the north shore of Lake Geneva (French: Lac Léman). Lausanne is located about 50 kilometers northeast of Geneva. It is the capital of the Swiss federal canton of Vaud and the Lausanne region. It is also the core city of the Greater Lausanne metropolitan area and the fifth largest city in Switzerland. Like its neighbor Geneva, Lausanne is the headquarters of many famous international organizations such as the International Olympic Committee, so it is also called the "Olympic Capital". The Lausanne Institute of Management in Lausanne is also a world-class famous university and research institution. Lausanne is also located in the center of the Swiss wine region.</p> <p>Lausanne was not the original location of the International Olympic Committee's headquarters. For quite a long time after the establishment of the International Olympic Committee, its headquarters was in Paris, at the residence of Pierre de Coubertin, the "Father of the Modern Olympics" and the founder of the modern Olympic Games. However, the First World War broke out in 1914, and the whole of Europe was filled with smoke. In order to protect the precious historical data and archives of the Olympic Movement from being destroyed by the war, in April 1915, Coubertin moved the headquarters of the International Olympic Committee to Lausanne, a neutral country in Switzerland. Since then, Lausanne has had an indissoluble bond with the Olympic Movement and has become a city with a significant impact on the international sports world. In 1982, the International Olympic Committee declared Lausanne the "Olympic City", and on December 5, 1993, the International Olympic Committee declared Lausanne the "Olympic Capital". Lausanne has the Olympic Museum, the Olympic Research Center, and streets and stadiums named after Coubertin. As the heart of the international Olympic movement, Lausanne has made significant contributions to the development of the Olympic movement.</p>		
Origin of the name			
Basic historical information			
City logo	<p>The Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne is the world's first hotel management school. It was founded in 1893 and ranks first in the world in hotel management along with Cornell University in the United States. It is the only hotel industry vocational university recognized by the Swiss government and the Chinese government. Its graduates are distributed in 106 countries around the world. The alumni association now has 7,000 members, of which 65.5% work in the hotel and catering industries. It has a huge influence in the hotel industry. Almost all international hotel chains in the world have alumni from Lausanne, and many of them hold senior positions. The chairmen and general managers of 18 of the world's 25 famous hotel groups are graduates from Lausanne. In addition, the International Ballet Competition in Lausanne is also very famous. The competition started in 1972 and is held in the last week of January every year. It is mainly for young ballet students aged 16-18, and selects potential ballet newcomers from among them and sends them to famous schools around the world to be trained as ballet superstars. The famous ballet dancers who grew up in the International Ballet Competition in Lausanne have now become the pillars of major ballet companies.</p>		
Culture, famous people	Many famous European writers such as Byron, Rousseau, Hugo and Dickens have lived here one after another, so Lausanne is also known as the "International Cultural City".		
Main Specialties			
other	There is a public toilet next to the Olympic Museum		

Olympic Museum

The Olympic Games originated in ancient Greece and were named after the venue in Olympia. In 776 BC, the ancient Greeks stipulated that the Olympic Games should be held every four years in Olympia for the sake of peace and to show respect to the Olympic gods. At that time, each city-state had its own way of counting years, and there was no common era. However, the most important event between the city-states every year was the Greek Games. There were four types of these Games: the Olympic Games, the Pythian Games, the Nemean Games, and the Isthmian Games. These four Games were headed by the Olympic Games and were held in four locations in order. This formed a four-year cycle, called the Olympic cycle (Olympiad), which became the method for city-states to calculate years.

But after Christianity unified Europe, the Olympic Games were considered pagan activities and were banned. It was not until 1776 that British archaeologists discovered the ruins of the ancient Olympic Games during an investigation. From 1875 to 1881, Germany excavated cultural relics at the ruins of Olympia, which attracted the interest of the world. In July 1889, at the International Track and Field Congress held in Paris, France, Pierre de Coubertin, a French educator who was later honored as the "Father of the Olympics", first publicly announced his idea of restoring the Olympic Games. In January 1891, Coubertin, as the Secretary General of the French Federation of Track and Field Associations, invited almost every sports organization and club in the world to participate in the International Sports Congress held at the Sorbonne Seminary in Paris, France on June 16, 1894. This conference was the first Olympic Congress. 78 representatives from 37 sports organizations from 9 countries attended the meeting. At that time, Coubertin became the first Secretary General of the International Olympic Committee. The first Olympic Games were revived by the General Assembly, and the first Olympic Charter, which was initiated and formulated by Coubertin, was adopted. This congress marked the birth of the modern Olympic movement. Coubertin was hailed as the "Father of the Modern Olympics". The congress decided to hold the first modern Olympic Games in 1896, and the historic city of Athens in Greece won the right to host it.

The Olympic Museum is themed on the Olympic Games and was inaugurated on June 23, 1993 at the initiative of Juan Antonio Samaranch, President of the International Olympic Committee.

The concept of the museum was formed 99 years before its birth, when the International Olympic Committee was founded on June 23, 1894. The original concept was called "Olympism", a philosophical concept of the unity of sports, art and culture. After the headquarters of the International Olympic Committee settled in Lausanne in 1915, Baron Pierre de Coubertin proposed the construction of a museum. The baron believed that the Olympic Museum would not only become a historical legacy of the modern Olympic movement, but also a concrete manifestation of Olympism. In 1980, after Samaranch became the President of the International Olympic Committee, he made the establishment of a huge, first-class Olympic Museum and Olympic Research Center in Lausanne one of his top priorities. Samaranch's goal was to build the museum into a vibrant cultural center, including modern audio-visual equipment and computer-assisted display technology. In 1988, the museum building began to be built in the Ouchy district overlooking Lake Geneva.

In 1995, the Olympic Museum won the "European Museum of the Year Award". The museum has tens of thousands of exhibits. It is the home of interactive exhibitions of curiosities, documents, and film and television records, and collects rare treasures from the mysterious ancient Greece to the modern times. The Olympic Museum is the world's largest knowledge center for the Olympic movement. The 3,400 square meter exhibition hall displays permanent and temporary exhibits with unique styles. The museum is also an international storage and research center. There is also a conference hall with 180 seats, a bar, a coffee shop, and a sculpture park overlooking the Alps and the lake. It attracts a large number of tourists to visit Lausanne every year, and has welcomed more than 2.6 million tourists since its opening.

At the entrance of the museum, a high jump device is set up, and the height of the horizontal bar is the best record of high jump in the Olympics. In front of it, there are two rows of 8 marble columns, which are from Thassos Island in Greece. They are donated by the Greek government and are said to be the whitest marble with the least texture in the world. This pure white symbolizes peace and the "fair play" sports spirit. In front of the museum square, the Olympic flame is lit all year round. The

museum has 5 floors and a total construction area of 11,000 square meters. In order to coordinate with the pastoral scenery of Lausanne, there are only 2 floors above ground, and the remaining 3 floors are underground.

1 May to 14 October (daily) : 09 am to 6 pm

15 October to 30 April (Tuesday to Sunday) : 10 am to 6 pm , closed on Mondays (except Easter or special events), 25 December and 1 January

Full price Adults (aged 17+) CHF 18 ; Children aged 6-16 (under 6 free) CHF 10

Senior citizens CHF 16 ; Students, disabled persons CHF 12

Group (10 or more people) :

Full price Adults (aged 17+) CHF 15 ; Senior citizens CHF 14 ; Students, disabled persons CHF 10 (◇)

Pupils: aged 6-16 CHF 7 (*) ; Children under 6 FREE (*)

Audio guide in 8 languages CHF 5

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) was founded on June 23, 1894 at the Sorbonne University in Paris, France. Its headquarters is also located in Paris, which is said to be the residence of Coubertin. In 1915, it moved to Lausanne, Switzerland, a neutral country, to avoid World War I. It was originally located in a casino in Lausanne. In 1922, it moved to a villa called Villa de Mon Repos (where Coubertin lived until his death). In 1968, Villa de Mon Repos was no longer sufficient, and the Lausanne City Government gave the Château de Vidy by the lake to the IOC for free. In 1986, a small glass building was completed and became the headquarters of the IOC. In November 2015, the International Olympic Committee decided to demolish the original building on the original site to build a new headquarters building, with an estimated investment of US\$156 million. On June 23, 2019, the 125th anniversary of the establishment of the International Olympic Committee, the new site was completed and put into use.

Notre Dame Cathedral in Lausanne

The construction started in the middle of the 12th century and took more than 80 years to complete in 1232. It was built to dedicate to King Rudolf of the Habsburg family who ruled the Roman Empire. At the end of the 13th century, Pope Gregory V established a bishop's seat here. After the 16th century, it gradually became a Protestant church. The overall appearance of the church is well preserved to this day. It is known as the most beautiful and luxurious church in Switzerland. On the main entrance of the church is a 13th-century statue with the theme of Saint Moses and John in the Bible. Although many colors are mottled, its exquisiteness still makes people sigh today. The interior of the church is solemn and dignified. Many stone pillars have medieval paintings. The most famous here is the Rose Window. The paintings on the window are based on the cosmic images formed by different seasons and months. It is mysterious, exquisite and beautiful.

In the Middle Ages, many European cities set up a night watchman in the church for the purpose of timekeeping and public security. In addition to telling the time on the hour, the night watchman also had to patrol the entire city from a high place. Once there was a fire or military situation, he had to inform the local military and civilians to take precautions. Lausanne was once coveted by the powerful army of the Duke of Savoy in the southeast. In order to prevent the invasion of the enemy, the Archbishop of Lausanne built a night watchman network around the city of Lausanne. The most important of these was the night watchman located on the highest point of the city, the Cathedral of Notre Dame. As long as he found the enemy around, he would immediately ring the church bell to wake up the residents to defend themselves.

Lausanne has kept the tradition of keeping watch in the cathedral for more than 700 years until today. Now, every night from

22:00 to 2:00 the next morning, the watchman on the bell tower will stand on the square bell tower and shout in French to all directions, "It is... o'clock now!" In the quiet night, with the bright moon hanging high, the shouting of the watchman suddenly rings in your ears, as if bringing you back to the distant medieval times.

Place Du Tunnel 5 1005 Lausanne

Francois Church and Saint Francois Square

Built in the 13th century, Saint-Francois Church is located at the entrance of the old town. It was once a monastery and later became a Protestant church. The interior of the church adopts a simple and unique structure and simple decoration, and is especially famous for its exquisite stained glass windows.

Pl. St. Francois is one of the landmarks of Lausanne. Located in the center of the old town, Pl. St. Francois is the center of life, entertainment, shopping and leisure for local residents.

Geneva

Bus Stops	Place des Nations : Bus drop-off/car parking: avenue de la Paix , Office B520, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland Bus parking: Rue des Alpes 3 , 1201 Genève , Switzerland Jardin Anglais : Bus drop-off: Rues-Basses Longemalle , Genève, Switzerland , 46.204576, 6.150242 Rue Pierre- Fatio 7 case postale 3142 1211, 3 Genève, Switzerland Car park: Mont-Blanc car park , Quai du Général-Guisan , 1204 Genève (1.95m) There are entrances to the garage from both the north and south		
Latitude and longitude	46° 12' N, 6° 09' E	Equivalent to	China ...
Area (square kilometers):	15.93	Population ('000):	194
City status	The second largest city in Switzerland, the largest city in the French-speaking region, and the capital of the canton of Geneva. Geneva's international reputation is mainly due to the numerous international organizations here, including the United Nations Office in Geneva and the headquarters of the Red Cross. Organizations belonging to the United Nations include the World Health Organization, etc.		
Origin of the name	Geneva (English: Geneva, French: Genève , German: Genf) is named after the ancient city built by the Celts in BC. The Roman general Caesar mentioned Geneva in "The Gallic War". The name may have originally been the same as the city of Genua (now Genoa) in Liguria, meaning "knee", which refers to Geneva's special geographical location in a corner; however, the origin of the name Geneva is more likely to be based on the root word gen-"birth" (Genawa is located on Lake Geneva, the source of the river; perhaps Geneva means "birth of water").		
Basic historical information	In the 9th century, Geneva became the capital of Burgundy. It has always been the object of contention between the Burgundians, the Franks and the Holy Roman Empire. In fact, Geneva has always been ruled by its bishops until the Reformation, when Geneva became a republic. Due to the religious reform led by Calvin and others, Geneva is often referred to as the "Rome of Protestantism". In the 16th century, Geneva was the center of Calvin's Protestantism; St. Peter's Cathedral in the old town was Calvin's own church. Calvin settled in Geneva in 1536 and published "Institutes of the Christian Religion" here.		
City logo	"The Ascent of the City": On the night of December 11, 1602, the people of Geneva defeated the		

	army of Carlo Emanuele I, Duke of Savoy, who came to attack them , and maintained the independence of Geneva, which was still a republic at the time. It marked the complete failure of the Duke of Savoy's desire to annex Geneva as their capital north of the Alps. For the people of Geneva, the Ascent of the City is a symbol of their independence, so this day is designated as the Ascent of the City Festival. Every year, a parade ceremony with horse teams, cannons and soldiers dressed in the costumes of the time is held in the old town of Geneva to celebrate.
Culture, famous people	In 1712, Rousseau, a famous writer, philosopher, educator, sociologist and thinker who influenced France and even Europe, was born here.
Main Features	Geneva is home to many international organizations, including the United Nations European headquarters, the World Health Organization, the International Labor Organization, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the World Intellectual Property Organization, the World Meteorological Organization, etc. In addition to UN agencies, many international organizations are headquartered in Geneva, including the World Trade Organization, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the World Economic Forum, the International Committee of the Red Cross, etc.
economy	Geneva's economy is dominated by finance, especially private banking (managing about \$1 trillion in assets) and international trade finance. Geneva has a long tradition of watchmaking (Patek Philippe, Vacheron Constantin, Rolex, Piaget, Chopard). Many multinational companies have their international or European headquarters in Geneva.

- If you live in Appart ' City Annemasse , cars can be parked in the parking lot in front of the train station, Place de la Gare, 74100 Annemasse .

Lake Léman , also known as Lake Geneva , is an important lake in Western Europe. Lake Léman is slightly crescent- shaped . The north shore and the east and west ends of the lake belong to the Swiss cantons of Vaud, Valais and Geneva, while the south shore belongs to the French department of Haute-Savoie. Switzerland and France occupy 60% and 40% of the lake respectively.

Lake Geneva is about 75 kilometers long from east to west and about 14 kilometers wide from north to south. It has a water area of about 582 square kilometers. It is the largest freshwater lake in Switzerland and the second largest in Central Europe, second only to Lake Balaton. The deepest point is 310 meters deep.

Palace of Nations

The Palais des Nations was built in 1929 and established as the headquarters of the League of Nations in 1938. Although Switzerland did not join the United Nations until 2002, the Palais des Nations has been the European headquarters of the United Nations since the 1950s. The United Nations Office in Geneva is the second largest United Nations center after the United Nations headquarters in New York. The building faces Lake Geneva and the French Alps across the lake. On a clear day, you can see Mont Blanc. The exterior is made of Italian lime, limestone from the Rhone River and the Jura Mountains, and the interior is made of marble from France, Italy and Sweden. The brown linen carpet is produced in the Philippines... and the decorations and furnishings donated by the member states also fully reflect the cultural diversity. The entire building is 600 meters long and has 34 conference rooms and 2,800 offices. The Palais des Nations is one of the largest diplomatic conference centers in the world. About 9,000 conferences are organized each year, attracting about 28,000 delegates each year.

Opposite the gate of the United Nations is the International Red Cross, which has a longer history and is still active in global humanitarian aid. Outside the side door is the United Nations Square. There is a famous lame chair in the square. This 12-meter-high, 5-ton wooden chair was created by the famous Swiss sculptor Daniel Berset in 1997 on behalf of the International Disabled Persons' Federation to commemorate the official entry into force of the "Landmine Protocol". Daniel, the "carpenter" who made this chair, said that about 26,000 people are injured or killed by landmines every year in the world, and more than

one-third of them are children. In Angola, Africa, a landmine-stricken area, the total number of landmines buried is as high as the total population of the country, and about 20,000 people have been amputated due to landmines. He said that the meaning of designing the chair with three legs is self-evident - it symbolizes the limbs lost by humans due to landmines, but not death, but standing tenaciously and with dignity. "

The League of Nations is an international organization formed in 1920 after the end of World War I. It was initiated by then-US President Wilson. All countries that declared war on the Allies during the war and newly established countries were founding members of the League of Nations. Although Wilson worked hard to promote the establishment of the League of Nations and won the Nobel Peace Prize, the United States did not join the League of Nations in the end because it failed to compete with Britain and France for leadership. At its peak from September 28, 1934 to February 23, 1935, the League of Nations had 58 member states. Its purpose was to reduce the number of weapons, quell international disputes and maintain people's living standards. During its 26 years of existence, the League of Nations helped mediate certain international disputes and deal with certain international issues. However, because the United States never joined the League of Nations, and the League of Nations lacked military force and the coercive power to enforce resolutions, it was controlled by a few major powers such as Britain and France since its establishment and became a tool in the hands of major powers. In the face of the formation and external expansion of the fascist alliance of Germany, Italy and Japan in the 1930s, the League of Nations controlled by Britain and France pursued a policy of appeasement at the expense of the territory and sovereignty of small and medium-sized countries, paralyzing the League of Nations. After the outbreak of World War II, the League of Nations existed in name only. After World War II, the League of Nations was replaced by the United Nations.

The United Nations is an international organization established in 1945 after the Second World War. The United Nations is committed to promoting cooperation among countries in international law, international security, economic development, social progress, human rights and achieving world peace. The United Nations now has 193 member states and its headquarters is located in New York, USA. There is also a United Nations office in Geneva, which is the second largest United Nations agency after the United Nations headquarters in New York, USA. The name "United Nations" was conceived by US President Franklin D. Roosevelt and was first used when the "Declaration of the United Nations" was issued on January 1, 1942. From April 25 to June 26, 1945, representatives from 50 countries attended the United Nations Conference on International Organizations held in San Francisco, USA, with the purpose of drafting the "Charter of the United Nations". The representatives discussed the proposals put forward by representatives of China, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference in the United States from August to October 1944. On June 26, 1945, representatives of 50 countries signed the "Charter of the United Nations". The United Nations Organization was officially established on October 24, 1945. Since then, October 24 has become the United Nations Day celebrated every year.

The Palais contains many important monuments that were gifts from member states, private patrons and artists. The most well-known monuments include:

Celestial Globe: (USA, 1939). The spherical frame is decorated with constellations and stars, 85 constellations are gilded and 840 small stars are silver-plated. The sphere is equipped with a motor that turns the head slowly on the axis to the North Star. Unfortunately, this motor is no longer functional.

Conquering Space: (USSR, 1971).

Most people: (Russia, 1997).

Monument to Peace (Tomb of Gustave Revilliod , 1890).

Juan José Pedrosa is a cabinetmaker who has been working at the United Nations Office in Geneva since 1974. Inspired by the old tradition of the craft "guild members", each member is required to create a masterpiece that demonstrates his or her outstanding skills. From 1986 to 1991, Mr. Pedrosa spent 2,800 hours of his spare time to make this wooden ball. It symbolizes the idea of tolerance and human progress. The entire wooden ball is made of only three types of wood: the light-colored one

is ash, the red and dark parts are beech, and the screws and nuts are boxwood. The wooden ball has a diameter of 1.6 meters and weighs 400 kilograms.

In 1979, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill's granddaughter, Sanders, cast this bronze statue named "Family" and presented it to the United Nations. The statue shows a man and a woman, and the hollow part is the image of a child with arms stretched upwards, representing the international community's hope that children will grow up healthily under the care of adults.

There are 5 artworks donated by China in the Palais des Nations. In 1935, the old Chinese government presented the League of Nations with a cloisonné vase, a set of silk embroidery paintings and a set of Changsha embroidery paintings. In 1984 and 1987, the Chinese government presented the United Nations with a "Temple of Heaven" tapestry and a bronze "Horse Stepping on Flying Swallow" imitating the Han Dynasty. The "Temple of Heaven" wool tapestry presented by the Chinese government to the United Nations in 1984 is 3.65 meters long and 2.75 meters wide. No matter from which angle you look at it, the gate of the Temple of Heaven always faces the viewer. This is a must-see "attraction" for visitors to the Palais des Nations.

Guided tours are available in 12 languages (1 hour), including: Human Rights Hall, "Central Hall", General Assembly Hall, Conference Rooms, watching a film showing the activities and functions of the United Nations Office in Geneva, and visiting donations from various countries to the United Nations. Number of participants: 20-140. When entering the Palais des Nations, you can buy a "Pass for Peace" for 25 Swiss francs, which represents the wish for world peace.

The Palais is surrounded by the beautiful Parc Ariane, where peacocks roam and 800 different tree species can be found. The gardens were once owned by a family who agreed to build the Palais on the condition that the public and the peacocks could roam freely. The birds in the gardens have mostly been donated by Japanese zoos over the years, and the gardens also have 19th-century villas and dozens of statues, ancient towers and monuments - some of which were donated by member states. A celestial globe sculpture donated in 1939 with 85 gold-plated asterisms and 840 silver-plated stars is a sight not to be missed.

September to March , Mon-Fri , April to August , Monday to Saturday , Annual closure from 10 Dec 2016 to 4 Jan 2017

Mornings: 10 am to 12 noon (tours start at 10:30 am and 12:00 noon)

Afternoons: 2 pm to 4 pm (tours start at 2:30 pm and 4 pm)

waiting time to access the Palais des Nations can be up to 30 minutes

We will resume our guided tours on Thursday 5th of January 2017

Visitors must enter at the Pregny Gate of the Palais des Nations at 14, avenue de la Paix . alid identity documents are required

Adults: CHF 12.- per person

University students, senior citizens and disabled persons: CHF 10.- per person

School children and youths (aged 6 to 18): CHF 7.- * per person

Groups (minimum of 20 adults): CHF 10.- per person

Reservations are compulsory as of 15 people

– There is a free public toilet next to the United Nations Plaza tram stop

International Red Cross

The Red Cross, full name "International Committee of the Red Cross", is headquartered in Geneva. In fact, the Red Cross was founded by Henry Dunant, a Swiss banker born in Geneva. His birthday, May 8, is "World Red Cross Day", and the red cross logo is also made by flipping the colors of the flag of his home country, Switzerland.

In 1859, Henry Dunant witnessed the tragic battle of Solferino between the Austrian, French and Sardinian armies while passing through Lombardy, Italy, and found that the wounded were often uncared for and in dire conditions. On February 9, 1863, Henry Dunant, Gustave Moynier, Guillaume - Henri Dufour, Louis Appai and Theodore Maunoir jointly established the "International Committee for Relief to the Wounded", marking the beginning of the International Red Cross Movement.

The Red Cross Movement has seven basic principles: first, humanity, providing non-discriminatory relief to the wounded on the battlefield; second, impartiality, not discriminating on the basis of nationality, race, religious beliefs, class prejudice and political views, striving to alleviate people's suffering only according to needs, giving priority to those in the most urgent need; third, neutrality, not taking a stand between the two parties in the conflict, and never participating in political, racial, religious or ideological disputes; fourth, independence, although the Red Cross Societies of various countries are humanitarian assistants to the governments of their countries and are subject to the laws of their countries, they must always maintain their independence so that they can act in accordance with the principles of the Movement at any time; fifth, voluntary service, never expecting to gain benefits in any way; sixth, unity, there can only be one Red Cross Society in any country. It must be open to everyone and must carry out humanitarian work throughout the country; seventh, universality, the Red Cross is global, all Red Cross Societies enjoy equal status, bear the same responsibilities and obligations, and support each other.

The Monument Brunswick is the tomb of Charles II, Duke of Brunswick, built in 1879 in Geneva, Switzerland, modeled after the Scala family cemetery in Verona. Charles II, Duke of Brunswick, donated his property to Geneva and died in the city in 1873.

Geneva Flower Clock fleurie

Located on the western edge of the city's English Garden, it was built in 1955 and is the city's symbol. With a diameter of 5 meters, it was once the world's largest flower clock until a 15-meter-diameter flower clock appeared in Tehran, Iran in 2005. Usually, about 6,500 flowers and shrubs are used to decorate the flower clock, which changes with the seasons. When the flowers that make up the clock face are over, people plant another type of flower to form a new pattern on the clock face. The hour and minute hands of the clock are the same as ordinary clocks. Whether in the sun or in the wind and rain, they keep moving accurately on the clock face.

The English Garden (Jardin Anglais) is located on the shore of Lake Geneva. It was built in 1854 and covers an area of 25,430 square meters. It contains the National Monument (Le monument national) built in 1869 to commemorate Geneva's joining the Swiss Confederation in 1814. The Four Seasons Fountain is in the center of the park. The statue on the east side of the park is **Gustave Ador** , a Swiss politician who served as the Federal President in 1919.

fountain in Lake Geneva . The 140-meter-high water column can be seen from many places in the city. The Geneva Jet d'Eau is the largest artificial fountain in the world. It was originally built in 1891, and the height of the spray was only 90 meters at that time. It has been rebuilt since 1958. It is powered by two sets of underwater water pumps with a total weight of 16 tons, driven by a 500-kilowatt 2,400-volt engine that can reach 1,500 revolutions per minute. Each water pump has a power of 1,360 horsepower, the flow rate of the fountain is 500 liters per second, the water speed at the nozzle reaches 200 kilometers per hour, the pressure of the water entering the water pipe is 16 atmospheres, the height of the water column can reach 140 meters when there is no wind, and the amount of water staying in the air is as much as 7 tons. The water sprays out from the nozzle, reaches the peak and returns to the water surface, and each round lasts 16 seconds.

- There is a free public toilet in the English Garden, but there are long queues. There is a paid toilet at the entrance to the underground parking lot.

Rue de la Croix-d'Or famous commercial pedestrian street

St. Peter's Basilica

The cathedral of Geneva belongs to the Swiss Reformed Church. It was built in the 12th century and combines different architectural styles. It is most famous for being the base of John Calvin, the leader of the Reformation. Calvin's wooden chair is

preserved in the church.

Extensive excavations have recently taken place beneath the cathedral, revealing that the site has a rich history dating back to the Roman Empire, with three churches existing simultaneously on the site from the 8th to the 10th centuries. The existing building was originally a cathedral and an early Christian funeral cult; the other two buildings were incorporated into the present-day structure in the 12th century and apparently had different purposes, one for public sacraments and the other for church doctrine.

Monument to the Reformation

Commonly known as the Reformation Wall, the monument is 100 meters long and features sculptures and reliefs depicting important figures of the European Reformation. Located on the walls of Geneva's old city, the monument is located within the University of Geneva, founded by John Calvin, reflecting Geneva's importance to the Reformation. The monument was erected in 1909 to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Calvin's birth and the 350th anniversary of the founding of the university. During the Reformation, Geneva was the center of Calvinism, and its history and heritage since the 16th century has been closely linked to Protestantism. Therefore, the monument highlights the main figures of the Calvinist sect, but also includes some key figures from other denominations.

Mont Blanc, meaning White Mountain, is the highest peak in the Alps and the highest peak in Western Europe and the European Union, with an altitude of 4,810 meters. Mont Blanc is sometimes also called "White Girl" (French: La Dame blanche).

The two most famous towns near Mont Blanc are Courmayeur in Italy and Chamonix in France, where the first Winter Olympics were held. Visitors can take a cable car up the mountain.

The Mont Blanc Tunnel is one of the cross-border tunnels between France and Italy. It is located near Mont Blanc in the Alps, connecting Chamonix in France and Courmayeur in Italy. The total length is 11.6 kilometers. The project started in 1957 and was completed in 1965.

On March 24, 1999, a Belgian truck carrying margarine and flour caught fire in the tunnel, killing 39 people. Afterwards, the burned tunnel was rebuilt and the safety equipment was strengthened. A heat sensor was installed at the entrance of the tunnel to detect whether the vehicle was overheating, and the escape signs were enlarged and the escape routes were indicated in French, Italian and English. It was reopened to traffic in 2002, three years after the incident.

- Tunnel toll, bus 158 euros
- Bucherer operation method: bring the customer into the store, go to the second floor to register, and press the elevator buttons 2 and 0 at the same time. Generally, it does not take more than 1 hour.

Evian Town

Bus parking: Same route , 11 Avenue General Dupas , 74500 Évian -les-Bains, France

There is a free toilet in the basement of the building next to it

C ar parking: 7 Quai Charles Albert Besson, 74500 Évian -les-Bains, France (Casino parking)

The full name of Évian -les-Bains is Évian for short . It is located on the shore of Lake Geneva in the northern part of Haute-Savoie, France, opposite Lausanne, Switzerland. The population is about 7,300.

The Evian mineral water brand is owned by the French multinational Danone Group. In the summer of 1789, France was in the midst of the French Revolution . French nobleman Lessert suffered from kidney stones. Drinking mineral water was popular at the time, so he decided to give it a try. One day, when he was walking to the nearby town of Evian, he took some spring water

from the garden of Gentleman Cachat . After drinking it for a while, he was surprised to find that his illness was miraculously cured. This strange news quickly spread, and experts made special analyses and proved the efficacy of Evian water. After that, a large number of people flocked to Evian to experience the magic of Evian water for themselves, and doctors even included it in their prescriptions. Gentleman Cachat decided to fence off his spring and start selling Evian water. Napoleon III (Louis Napoleon Bonaparte) and his queen had a special liking for the mineral water of Evian Town, and officially named it Evian Town in 1864 (Evian comes from Latin, which means water). For a time, the spring of Cachat 's house was full of celebrities and celebrities, enjoying Evian water.

Evian's water is said to come from the Alps, which is one of the few pollution-free areas in the world. At an altitude of more than 2,000 meters, the average temperature is below zero degrees Celsius all year round. Below 3,200 meters above sea level, there is snow all year round, and there are abundant pollution-free water resources. The uniqueness and uniqueness of this region create the uniqueness and uniqueness of the product. Evian is a natural mineral water that uses ozone-free sterilization. Domestic mineral water generally uses ozone sterilization. Ozone will produce bromate when it encounters bromide in water, and bromate is a Class 2B carcinogen that is potentially harmful to the body. Therefore, there is no bromate in Evian's water. Natural mineral water contains certain trace elements, which are beneficial to human health.

In popular culture, Evian is portrayed as a luxurious and expensive bottled water. It was named in Agatha Christie's mystery novel Murder on the Orient Express. It has become popular among Hollywood celebrities.

The most famous water source: Buvette et Source Cachat , 19 Rue Nationale , 74500 Évian -les-Bains, France

- Follow the pedestrian street Rue Nationale . There are signs along the way. Note the uphill sign on the right hand side of the alley.
- Evian is famous for its tree branch artwork

Château de Chillon

Parking : Avenue de Chillon 1 2, 1820 Veytaux , Switzerland

A medieval castle on Lake Geneva in the town of Veytaux near Montreux , Switzerland , connected to the shore by a covered bridge. The castle was originally owned by the Duke of Savoy and was occupied by Bern in the 16th century. The castle has a wealth of medieval monuments, including defense towers, arsenals, ducal residences, heraldry halls, chapels, etc. There is a prison in the basement.

The Genevan independentist François Bonivard was imprisoned here between 1530 and 1536 .

Bonivard was a pioneer of the Geneva independence movement. As a result, he was hated by the Duke of Savoy, who imprisoned him in chains in the underground prison of Chillon Castle from 1530 to 1536. He was later rescued by the Geneva Liberation Organization.

The British poet Lord Byron visited the castle in 1816. At that time, the castle guide told him about the priest being imprisoned in chains. Byron was deeply moved by the historical facts and wrote the famous 392-line long poem "The Prisoner of Chillon", which praised the importance of freedom and carefully described the priest's feelings of being imprisoned. Byron also left his autograph on the stone pillar in the castle, which attracted many tourists to see his original work. In order to protect Byron's original work from falling off over time, the castle used acrylic plates to protect it. However, Byron's signature attracted many tourists to imitate it and also signed their own signatures on the stone pillars. Byron's signature and the imitation effect may be the beginning of the earliest tourists' "visit here". Although the castle no longer allows tourists to sign, the handwriting of these imitation behaviors is still preserved for tourists to see. The signing location is in the prison room No. 9. After entering, go in through the 5-9 entrance on the left.

George Gordon **Byron** , Baron (1788-1824), was a British poet, revolutionary, and a leading figure in romantic literature. His famous works include the novels Don Juan and Childe Harold's Pilgrimage, as well as the short story She Walks Gentle. The British upper class hyped and attacked his divorce from his wife, forcing him to leave his homeland in disgrace. He then traveled around Europe. In 1823, Byron joined the Greek War of Independence against Ottoman slavery, and died of illness in the Greek army's tent in 1824.

The House of Savoy (Savoia) is a European dynasty that ruled Italy from 1861 to 1946. Its founder was Humbert I, who owned Savoy (southeastern France and northwestern Italy), the area east of the Rhine River and the southern part of Lake Geneva. In the Middle Ages, the House of Savoy incorporated the western part of the Alps, where France, Italy and Switzerland meet, into its territory. In 1416, the family was promoted to the Duke of the Holy Roman Empire. In the 17th century, it acquired the territory of northeastern Italy and won the title of king, first the King of Sicily (1713) and later the King of Sardinia (1720). After the unification of Italy in the 19th century, Vittorio Emanuele II established the Kingdom of Italy. After World War II in 1946, the royal family was deposed, thus ending the rule of the House of Savoy.

Lavaux vineyard terraces

Located in the canton of Vaud in western Switzerland, on the northern shore of Lake Geneva, it stretches about 30 kilometers from Chillon Castle in the east to the eastern suburbs of Lausanne in the west. There is evidence that grapes were planted in this area in Roman times. The current grape terraces were first built in the 11th century, when Benedictine and Cistercian monasteries controlled the area. The grapes produced are the raw material for producing high-quality wine. It was listed as a World Cultural Heritage in 2007.

famous wines such as St- Saphorin , Dézaley and Epesses . Taking the yellow-blue wine vineyard train Train des Vignes is a convenient way to travel. The train departs from Vevey and follows the winding path through the lush vineyards to Puidoux-Chexbres ; the journey only takes 12 minutes. There you can taste local specialties and try wines in different wine cellars. Take a look at the small restaurants, those mini restaurants are typical of Lavaux, just like the small villages of grape farmers or the picturesque beaches of Geneva.

Viewing Points:

Route de la Petite Corniche , 1091 Bourg -en- Lavaux

Winery:

Patrick Fonjallaz , Rlle du Petit Crêt 1, 1098 Bourg -en- Lavaux

One of the oldest wineries in the area, in its 13th generation. Chaplin once visited. Suitable for small groups <20 people, 22CHF/person

Domaine du Daley , Ch. Des Moines 8, 1095 Lutry

Lake view restaurant Le Deck , Route de la Corniche 4, 1071 Chexbres

Montreux

Bus: Eurotel Montreux , Grand' Rue 81, 1820 Montreux X 3

Grand' Rue 67-57 1820 Montreux X 3

It is a small town in the canton of Vaud, Switzerland, located on the east bank of Lake Geneva, at the foot of the Alps. It is famous for its comfortable climate and is the starting point of the famous Golden Express. Population 25K .

Freddie Mercury by the lake is the lead singer of the rock band Queen. The statue is about 3 meters high and looks out over Lake Geneva. Since 2003, fans from all over the world have gathered in Switzerland on the first weekend of September every year ("Freddie Mercury Montreux Day") to pay tribute to the singer.

Li Ning pommel horse action picture

The Golden Pass Express connects Lucerne in central Switzerland and the elegant lakeside city of Montreux in the French-speaking southwestern region. You can enjoy the colorful scenery along the way, such as the bright lake, the majestic Alps, the leisurely pastures, the beautiful vineyards, etc. The most exciting section is from Luzern to Interlaken , also known as the Golden Pass Line. This section of the road is 75 kilometers and the Golden Pass Express takes a total of 2 hours. The scenery along the way is extremely beautiful.

Five crystal-clear lakes, Swiss snow-capped mountains and magnificent waterfalls: During the nearly two-hour trip, visitors will cross the Brundi Pass while relaxing in a comfortable modern train and enjoying a fantastic Alpine panorama.

Golden Pass train ticket booking: In the coffee bar under platforms 6-9 of Montreux station, there is a long queue. There is no wifi on the train.

from Montreux to Zweisimenn , with snow-capped mountains and ski resorts.

Parking location in Zweisimenn : Simmengasse 1 , 3770 Zweisimmen , by the river

The famous American comedy master **Chaplin** left the United States in 1952 and settled in Vevey, a small town near Montreux . He spent the last 25 years of his life in Switzerland with his family until his death on Christmas Day in 1977. After his death, he was buried in Corsier. sur Vevey Cemetery. His former residence has now been turned into a museum "Chaplin's World" for visitors to visit. His former residence is located in Corsier, Vevey, Vaud, on the shores of Lake Geneva , covering an area of about 14 hectares. It was opened to the public as a museum on April 17, 2016. On the lakeside promenade of Vevey on the shores of Lake Geneva, the bronze statue of Charlie Chaplin created by British sculptor John Doubleday is still a special landscape, attracting tourists from all over the world. His other masterpiece - the Charlie Chaplin ice sculpture - also entered the Jungfrau Ice Palace in early December this year.

Morges

Morges is a beautiful lakeside town located on the northern shore of Lake Geneva. It is known as the "Flower of Lake Geneva" because of its colorful flowers all year round. The surrounding area is rich in wine .

Tolochenaz is located in the western suburbs of Morges and is full of luxury villas. The famous actress Audrey Hepburn (1929-1993) settled here from 1963 and died here in 1993. Her former residence and tomb are located here. The Independence Park (Parc de l' Ind épendance) is located next to the Morges Castle. It is shaded by trees and has exquisite sculptures and an octagonal pavilion. The Tulip Festival is held here every April and May.

Gruyères

Bus/car: Parking City Centre , Route de la Cité 100, 1663 Gruyères

Car : Parking 1, Route de la Cité 95, 1663 Gruyères

It is a town in the canton of Fribourg in the French-speaking part of Switzerland. The medieval town is an important tourist

attraction in the upper valley of the Saane / Sarine River and is famous for its locally produced Gruyère cheese. The town is located on a hilltop 82 meters high, overlooking the Saane Valley and Lake Gruyère . Legend has it that the founder of the town, Gruerius, caught a crane (French: " grue ") and chose it as the arrogant coat of arms.

Gruyères Castle (French: Château de Gruyères) is a medieval castle and a famous tourist attraction in Switzerland. The main building was built at the end of the 13th century. In 1476, Lord Louis Count used it as a base to fight a fierce battle with the Burgundian army in conjunction with the Old Swiss Confederation Army. In the 16th century, the last Count Michel declared bankruptcy and the castle was taken over by Fribourg. Since 1849, the castle has become the private property of the Bovy et Ballang family in Geneva. In 1938, the Fribourg State Government bought the castle and turned it into a museum.

Thun

Bus Stops			
Latitude and longitude		Equivalent to China ...	
Area (square kilometers):		Population ('000):	
City status	One of the oldest cities in Switzerland. Now it belongs to the canton of Bern. The Thun Military Academy is the largest military academy in Switzerland. Today, Thun is also the largest garrison base in Switzerland. The Aare River flows through Thun, flows out of Lake Thun, and more than 20 kilometers downstream reaches the Swiss capital Bern.		
Origin of the name	The place name Thun comes from the Celtic word Dunum, which roughly means fortress.		
Basic historical information	In the first year of Caesar's conquest of Gaul (58 BC), Thun, along with the entire Swiss region, fell into the hands of the Roman Republic (later incorporated into the province of Upper Germania), and subsequently became an important administrative center for the surrounding areas. In the 5th century, the Burgundians replaced the Romans in this area, and the Aare River became the dividing line between the Christian Burgundians and the pagan Alemanni. In 1033, Holy Roman Emperor Conrad II was granted the title of King of Burgundy, and Thun, which originally belonged to the Kingdom of Burgundy, was incorporated into the Holy Roman Empire. In the 12th century, the emperor entrusted the noble Zähringen family to rule Thun and its surroundings. In 1190, Berthold V of the Zähringen family built Thun Castle. Slowly, a city was formed with the castle as the center. The castle is the birthplace of the city.		
City logo			
Culture, famous people			
Main Specialties			
other			

Thun Castle Thun is a landmark building in Thun. In 1190 , it was built by Duke Berchtold V of the Zähringen family . In 1218 , the Zähringen family died out, and the castle and the entire city of Thun were transferred to the Kyburg family of Swabia . After the Kyburg family got the castle, they expanded it and basically formed the scale we see today. In the 14th century, Thun (with the castle) was sold to the Canton of Bern. The Canton of Bern added some new buildings to the castle, and the castle has also

been used as a prison, court and museum.

Part of the castle is now a castle museum, and the Knight's Hall is also used to host meetings, concerts and other activities.

The tower on the north side of Thun Castle is called Chutziturm , which was built around 1250. Because it was used as a prison, it is also called the Prison Tower.

Berntorscheune **Barn** . This may be because there used to be a city gate called Berner Gate, and the road to Bern was just outside the Berner Gate. The building was built in 1655 by a carpenter named Hans Eimann , and it was probably originally a barn. This building is the only remaining agricultural-related building in Thun, and it can be regarded as a witness to history. The building is two stories high, and the huge wooden roof is very distinctive. There are many triangular holes underneath and on the sides of the building, which may be used for ventilation of the barn.

Obere Hauptgasse is an important commercial street and main street in Thun. It is unique because, firstly, this street is very old, and secondly, the first and second floors of the shops on both sides of the street have platform-like passages for walking, which means that tourists can visit the shops on the first and second floors, and there is a staircase connecting the first and second floors at a certain distance.

Spiez

Bus stop: Seestrasse 72, 3700 Spiez , Switzerland

Bahnhofstrasse 13, 3700 Spiez , Switzerland (Second row of parking spaces at the bus stop for short boarding and alighting)

Located on the southern shore of Lake Thun , the town has an area of 16.69 square kilometers and an altitude of 607 meters . It is a popular tourist destination. Lonely Planet magazine once said that Spiez is the most beautiful town in Switzerland. Standing at the highest point of the town (where the train station is located), you can see the beautiful scenery of Spiez.

Spiez is backed by mountains and faces vineyards, with a magnificent castle towering above. The Niederhorn mountain range above the lake stretches all the way to the Bernese Alps, forming a magnificent panorama. The mild climate and bright sunshine greatly improve the quality of life here, making it an ideal starting point for exploring the many famous tourist attractions in the Bernese Oberland or Valais.

Spiez Castle has a very long history. It was built in the 10th century and is a medieval castle that has been listed in the Swiss National Important Cultural Property List. The building is in Baroque style. Now the castle is owned and managed by a foundation, with a museum inside and ceremony and gathering places that can be rented out.

- Park your car or car by the lake, take your guests or yourself to the viewing platform of the train station, 3 kilometers round trip. There are free toilets in the passageway of the train station. Migros restaurant next to the train station offers a set meal (salad + staple food), and water is free. There is an unbeatable view. The B floor of the shopping center is a supermarket,
- Free toilets on the 1st floor (the lower two floors)

- There are several western restaurants by the lake. There is a free toilet at the ticket office at the pier

Interlaken

Bus Stops	City center: Bus park, Strandbadstrasse 46, 3800 Interlaken Interlaken Ost: in front of the train station		
Latitude	and	Equivalent	to

longitude		China ...	
Area (square kilometers):	4.4 km ²	Population ('000):	5.7
City status	The Aare River runs through the city, surrounded by greenery. It is the focus of Alpine tourism and a stopover to the Jungfrau and Eiger peaks. Interlaken's tourism industry began in the early 19th century, and now a large number of tour groups set out from Interlaken to the Jungfrau every day.		
Origin of the name	Interlaken means "between the lakes" because it is sandwiched between Lake Thun (Thunersee) to the west and Lake Brienz (Brienzersee) to the east.		
Basic historical information	Until 1891, it was called Aarmühle , which means mill on the Aare River. The history of this place began in 1133 when an Augustinian monastery was founded under the protection of Holy Roman Emperor Robert III. As the monastery church continued to expand, it gradually evolved into a city over the next few hundred years. Today, Interlaken belongs to the canton of Bern.		
City logo			
Culture, famous people			
Main Specialties			
other	in the casino garden and on the side of Kirchhofer near the bus parking lot, 1CHF		

- Kirchhofer delivery: Enter through the small door on the left side of the casino garden entrance, not before the restroom. Applicable to all Kirchhofer stores
- Bucherer and Omega submitted bills separately, with Bucherer number written on them
- Staying in Interlaken hotels can receive a Gaestkarte and take the local public transport for free

Alps slide Gondelbahn Kandersteg Oeschinensee

Kandersteg near Lake Oeschinen . The entire slide is about 749.8 meters long and it takes nearly 2 minutes to get from the top of the mountain to the bottom.

The Toboggan slide is open every summer after May 7. After arriving at the cable car station, buy a round-trip ticket for going up and down the mountain and take the cable car up. You can buy a ticket for five trips, and after the trip you can hike to Lake Oeschinen.

Jungfrau joch

Jungfrau (4158 meters) is the highest peak in the Jungfrau mountain range of the Alps. This area showcases the incomparable natural scenery of the Alps. The other two peaks are Eiger (3970 meters) and Mönch (4107 meters). In the center of the scenic area are the famous Eiger, Mönch, the rocky Jungfrau and the glacier landscape near the Aletsch Glacier. According to legend, the Eiger and the Jungfrau are a pair of lovers. The arc-shaped Mönch is in the middle, preventing the lovers from meeting. Therefore, the complete appearance of the Jungfrau cannot be seen from the Eiger, and the complete Eiger cannot be seen from the Jungfrau. Over the years, although the lovers cannot see each other with their eyes, they have been together for a long time, allowing each other to see each other with their hearts. In 2001, the Jungfrau mountain area was listed as a World Natural Heritage by UNESCO.

Jungfrau Railway Station is the highest railway station in Europe, with an altitude of 3,454 meters. There is a signboard with the words "Top of Europe" at the exit, which attracts many people to take photos here. The Jungfrau Railway (Jungfraubahn) uses a rack railway, starting from Kleine Scheidegg Station at an altitude of 2,061 meters. It is about 7 kilometers long with a maximum slope of 25%. Construction began in 1896 and took 16 years before it was opened to traffic in 1912. About three-quarters of its section passes through the rock wall of the tunnel under the glacier, which is a very difficult project.

Interlaken Ost ↗ Lauterbrunnen ↗ Kleine Scheidegg ↗ Jungfrauoch When going up the mountain , the cogwheel train will stop for about five minutes at two small stations in the tunnel, Eismeer , where passengers can get off and admire the sunny and snowy world outside the tunnel through several large glass viewing windows carved out of the stone in the tunnel. The Sphinx Observation Deck, 3,571 meters above sea level, offers a 360-degree view. Standing on the Jungfrau, known as the "Roof of Europe", you can see the most breathtaking panorama of the Alps: the longest glacier in the Alps, the majestic Aletsch Glacier, which is 23.6 kilometers long and covers an area of 117 square kilometers. On a clear day, you can even see the snow-capped Vosges Mountains in France and the Black Forest in Germany.

Note:

- The temperature on the mountain is minus 8 degrees Celsius all year round, so keep warm
- People with serious heart disease, high blood pressure, or altitude sickness should not go up the mountain because the oxygen is thin. Normal people will also have altitude sickness, so don't do strenuous exercise immediately after reaching the top of the mountain.
- Wear sunglasses and sunscreen, the UV rays are strong
- Please note that the weather on the mountain is changeable and there may be a lot of clouds and fog.
- There is free wifi at the top of the mountain , joch@guest
- The scenery is more beautiful when going up the mountain through Lauterbrunnen and down the mountain through Grindelwald
- Generally, it takes no more than two hours to climb the mountain. The reason is altitude sickness. Follow the arrows on the tour route , focusing on 4 , 7 , 8 , and 9. There are top of europe signs on 4 and 9. You must take the elevator to visit 4 before the light show, otherwise you will have to go back. Remind 6 not to go, it takes 1.5 hours to go back and forth. Meet at 1



operate:

- Interlaken The line for getting tickets at OST is long, so allow 30 minutes. If you are short on time, you can get on and off at Lauterbrunnen . This saves more than an hour.
- Reserve seats. Staff will be available at each station to guide you to the boarding location. Klein Scheidegg team will line up on the far left side of the station. Jungfrau team will line up on the right side of the track at No. 3.
- If you are not accompanying your guests up the mountain, print out the timetable in advance and tell them the time to go down the mountain.
- Interlaken The lowest price for parking near ost station is 2CHF, and there is no printed receipt. You can stop at the small road at the door to wait for customers. Free parking is available at ALDI interlaken
- SPHINX has a Kirchhofer watch shop, which can deliver orders

Schilthorn-Gloria Peak

Schilthorn is 2,970 meters above sea level and offers a 360-degree panoramic view of the Swiss skyline, including the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau. Another visual feast is the interactive "Bond World 007" exhibition, where you can relive the adventures of the secret agent - "On Her Majesty's Secret Service".

Schilthorn operation detailed strategy: Bus destination: Go to Stechelberg , the direction is past Lauterbrunnen After about 6 or 7 kilometers, enter the parking lot and buy a ticket (the company has a package, so you don't even need to buy a ticket). Go up one floor and check your ticket to get on the large cable car (every 30 minutes, up at 25 or 55 minutes, down at 30 or 00 minutes). It can accommodate 100 people. Follow the Stechelberg sign. The first stop is Gimmelwald . You don't need to check your ticket when changing cars. It is also a large cable car. The second stop is Murren . You need to check your ticket by a

machine when changing cars, but from Murren At Brig, the cable car is smaller and requires ticket inspection, so the group may be forced to go up in two trips, but don't worry, the cable cars are only 10 minutes apart, so guests are asked to follow the SCHILTHORN signs and change to another cable car (brig- Schilthron You will reach the top after you get off the cable car at the last station. Even if you don't wait, the place is small and you will not be able to escape. Go up the stairs on the left side of the cable car. You will see the " terrace " sign near the souvenirs. There is a glass door leading to the observation deck, where you can see the Eiger Peak. Mönch and Jungfrau, and then up to the revolving restaurant. Cable car journey. Stechelberg - Gimmelwald - Murren - Brig - Stechelberg ... 4 cable cars about 35 minutes, pay attention to the return time, 10 minutes early to meet up! Parking is free, don't pay. The first outbound cable car is 8:35 , the last return cable car 17:00 Schilthorn spring cable car maintenance time April 20-24 .

Titlis

TITLIS Bergbahnen , Gerschnistrasse 12, 6390 Engelberg , Switzerland

The prototype of the snow-capped mountains in the German novel "Heidi" by Swiss writer Johanna, was later adapted into the Japanese animation "Girl of the Alps".

The highest peak is 3238 meters above sea level. It is part of the Swiss Alps. Titlis is a famous scenic spot in the Alps. You need to take two types of transportation to climb Titlis. The first section is a regular cable car, each car can seat 8 people. The cable car tour goes from Engelberg to Trubsee at an altitude of 2428 meters. There are flags of different countries outside each cable car. The temperature in August is 1 to 5 degrees Celsius.

Then transfer to the world's first rotating mountain cable car Rotair , which can carry 80 passengers, and climb to the top of the mountain cable car station at an altitude of 3020 meters. Each trip will rotate 360 degrees, and the breathtaking scenery will be in sight. The one-way trip to the top of the mountain takes about 45 minutes.

The Titlis Mountain Station has both outdoor and indoor areas. The indoor area is a multi-storey small shopping mall. The famous ice cave can be easily reached through the passage on the first floor. The 150-meter-long ice cave trail takes you 10 meters below the surface of the glacier. Exploring the ice cave is a super cool experience. The temperature in the cave is kept at minus 1.5 °C all year round. The ice cave is a cave dug by the glacier. The cave is winding and cold. Although it is a bit simple, it is made of pure ice, and with colorful lights, it adds a bit of mystery.

There are several souvenir shops, restaurants, ice cream shops, and a Swatch watch store at the Titlis Mountain Station. The 5th floor is a watch shop and the exit to the top of the mountain. Euros cannot be used on the mountain, only Swiss francs and credit cards can be used.

Types of games available:

Ice Flyer Chairlift: 12CHF, Titlis Glacier Park , Glacier Hike, etc. The "Glacier Flyer" chairlift goes directly over the Titlis Glacier to the free Glacier Park (open only from May to October). Those who still need thrills can enjoy endless fun riding rubber inner tubes and other slippery objects down the snow slope.

Titlis Rock Walk: A spectacular suspension bridge located at the South Window Observation Deck at the top of Titlis Mountain, on the steps to the right of the entrance to the Ice Flyer Chairlift. The Rock Walk is only 1 meter wide and over 100 meters long, with an altitude of 3,041 meters, a 500-meter-deep cliff, and 150 heart-pounding steps. The unique perspective of facing the abyss brings a shocking visual experience! The Titlis Rock Walk holds the record for the highest suspension bridge in Europe. It has been open to the public free of charge since December 2012.

In addition, every cable car station on Mount Titlis has a free WiFi signal " Titlis -Guest", which is directly connected without a

password. The beautiful scenery and novel experience on the mountain must be shared with relatives and friends as soon as possible.

Note:

- There is a winding mountain road before arrival, so guests are reminded to take motion sickness medicine in advance and fasten their seat belts.
- Keep warm, the temperature on the top of the mountain is -10 degrees in winter and 8 degrees in summer
- People with heart disease, fear of heights or high blood pressure should not use this device because the oxygen is thin.
- Wear sunglasses, as ultraviolet rays and snow reflect strongly.
- You need to scan the ticket barcode at each entrance to the mountain. Remind guests not to lose their tickets before going down the mountain, and you need to swipe the card at the final exit.
- There are two cable cars. To avoid getting off at the wrong station on the first section, the tour guide took the first cable car and the guests followed him. The copy is not distorted. Pay attention to the gap between the cars when getting on and off
- There is free Wi-Fi at the top of the mountain . " Titlis -Guest", direct link, no password required.
- The elevator at the Peak Cable Car Station only stops at the 1st and 5th floors. After arriving, you can first visit the ice cave on the 1st floor, which leads directly to the Lingxiao Rock Trail and the suspension bridge outside. Or you can take the elevator directly to the 5th floor viewing platform.
- Guests are reminded to dine early as the restaurant is crowded during peak hours.
- -way trip takes 4 to 5 minutes. Please go down the mountain one hour in advance and go to the toilet before getting on the bus.
- There is a toilet at the ticket office exit. Please use it before boarding the bus.
- There is a free tubing area at Trübsee station in winter and spring, and you can go to the lake in summer .

Tour guide team operation:

- Purchase/collect tickets at the Group window and receive a Chinese introduction. The driver will collect the meal coupon by himself and report the group number.
- Linie8 at the entrance, the exit souvenir shop, and the mountaintop chocolate shop have commissions based on the team number sheet. Valid for 5 months.
- The watch shop on the 5th floor of the mountain will hand in the Bucherer number and the name list. [The name list can be sent by email to titlis@swisslion.ch](mailto:titlis@swisslion.ch)
- Submit the completed commission form at the photo studio on the 4th floor, valid for 5 months.
- The guide's meal is at the restaurant on the second floor of the mountain top, and the free meal voucher can be used to redeem food worth up to 30 Swiss francs.

Engelberg means "Angel's Town". In the 12th century, it developed into a small town in the valley with the Benedictine monastery as the center. Before joining the Swiss Confederation in 1798, it was an independent country ruled by the monastery. Now, almost all monks have become teachers in the monastery's affiliated schools. Engelberg has beautiful scenery, with Mt.

Titlis, which is covered with snow and glaciers for thousands of years . There are lakes in the mountains such as Trübsee and hillsides full of flowers.

Benedictine Abbey in Engelberg (Benedictine Kloster): The large abbey has many magnificent 18th-century decorations and Switzerland's largest organ, which consists of 8,838 pipes. Visitors are welcome to visit.

Cheese factory and shop (Schaukaserei Kloster Engelberg): The new building in the monastery is a factory and shop that produces and sells cheese and local products. The traditional cheese-making process of the monastery is preserved here, and you can visit the cheese-making process.

Engelberg Local Museum (Talmuseum): Utilizing a farmhouse from 1786, it displays information on life and agriculture in the area, and introduces the history of the valley from multiple aspects including sports, sightseeing, folklore, culture, and geology.

Glenfiddich Castle Grafenort : A seigniorial castle built in Grafenort in the 17th century and owned by the monastery.

Lucerne

Bus Stops	Löwenplatz : Löwenstrasse 20 , 6004 Luzern, Switzerland Pick -up/drop-off: Schwanenplatz , 6004 Lucerne, Switzerland Bus parking: P2 Inseliquai , Inseliquai , Luzern 6005 Car parking: City Parking , Zürichstrasse 35, 6004 Luzern, Switzerland (2M) Free toilets available Bahnhof -Parking P1, Bahnhofpl . 1, 6002 Luzern		
Latitude and longitude		Equivalent to China ...	
Area (square kilometers):	twenty four	Population ('000):	79,5
City status	Lucerne is the capital of the canton of Lucerne in central Switzerland, located on the shore of Lake Lucerne. The Reuss River flows through the city of Lucerne, and the majestic Mount Pilatus stretches out around Lucerne. Mount Pilatus, 2,123 meters above sea level, is the northernmost peak of the Alps.		
Origin of the name	Lucerne is located in the center of Switzerland. Its Latin name means "light", that is, the city of light. According to historical records, Lucerne was called "Luciaria" in 840 AD . The name came from a legend about light. It is said that an angel used a beam of light to guide the first people who lived here to build a chapel. At that time, it was just a small fishing village. After the city was built in the 8th century AD, Italian merchants crossed the Alps and came here to do business, thus forming a town. It joined the Swiss Confederation in 1332 and has since embarked on a road to prosperity.		
Basic historical information	The Benedictine Abbey was established around 700 AD, and Lucerne gradually developed thereafter. Lucerne was founded in 1178. After the St. Gotthard Pass in the Alps was opened in the 13th century, Lucerne became an important commercial town for transshipping goods across the Alps. In 1291, Lucerne was ruled by the Habsburgs. However, as the people grew increasingly resentful of the Habsburgs, Lucerne joined forces with the surrounding towns to demand independence. Lucerne joined the Swiss "Perpetual Alliance" of the other three forest cantons of Uri, Schwyz and Nidwalden, which became the original confederation (Eidgenossenschaft) on November 7, 1332. Later, Zurich, Zug and Bern joined. With Lucerne's victory at the Battle of Sempach in 1386 , Austrian rule finally ended. Lucerne's victory led to an era of expansion, and by then the area of		

	Lucerne was roughly the same as it is today. In 1386, Lucerne (Lucerne) and its surrounding area formed a Swiss canton. In 1841, Lucerne broke away from the Swiss Confederation, which led to the War of the Independent League in 1847. In 1848 Lucerne rejoined the Swiss Confederation. In 1830, with the rise of the holiday trend among the British upper class represented by Queen Victoria, Lucerne's tourism industry developed greatly.
City logo	
Culture, famous people	<p>Several centuries ago, Queen Victoria of England took hundreds of entourages to visit Lucerne, Switzerland. After the visit, the Queen wrote in her diary that "this was her most enjoyable day."</p> <p>The beauty of mountains and lakes is pleasing to the human nature. The beauty of Lucerne has comforted the souls of many literary and artistic masters. Wagner wrote his masterpieces "The Poet of Nuremberg" and "Twilight of the Gods" in Lucerne, and the place where he lived has now been turned into a memorial hall. Tolstoy lived here for a period of time and later wrote the novel of the same name "Lucerne". French writer Hugo also visited Lucerne many times, and the building where he lived is still well preserved on the north bank of the Reuss River. He once chanted, "Lucerne is elegant and quiet, the clear water gently laps the river bank, and the soft water flows under my feet." Their stories and words have added more romance to this city.</p> <p>Many musicians were inspired by this and created immortal masterpieces. It is said that Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata" was influenced by the poet Leirstab's comment: the first movement reminds people of "a boat rocking on the moonlit lake in Lucerne, Switzerland."</p>
Main Specialties	
other	

- Gueblin office is on Wagenbachgasse (turn left after the bakery ice cream shop)
- at Loewenplatz , but there are long queues

Lake Lucerne , also known as the Lake of the Four Forest States, is located in central Switzerland. It is the fourth largest lake in Switzerland and the largest lake located entirely in Switzerland. Lake Lucerne spans four ancient Swiss cantons: Uri, Schwyz (from which the Swiss German name Schweiz comes), Unterwalden (now divided into Obwalden and Nidwalden), and Lucerne, which is also the origin of the name "Lake of the Four Forest States". The lake covers an area of 114 square kilometers, with a maximum length of 39 kilometers and a maximum width of 3 kilometers. It is 434 meters above sea level and 214 meters deep at its deepest point. The total volume is 11.8 cubic kilometers. Many of the lakeshores are cliffs and peaks rising to 1,500 meters above sea level, which creates many beautiful landscapes.

The Lake Lucerne area can be called the birthplace of the Swiss Confederation.

William Tell

Wilhelm Tell, a national hero in Swiss history, was born on the shore of the beautiful Four Cantons Lake. At the end of the 13th century, Four Cantons Lake was ruled by the Austrians under the rule of the Habsburg family. After arduous struggles, Wilhelm Tell led the people to drive out the Habsburg rulers and destroy the enemy's nest, completely overthrowing the rule of the invaders. His heroic story has been passed down from generation to generation in Switzerland, inspiring this nation to fight tirelessly for independence and freedom; artists have also created many literary and artistic works based on this story, such as: the last play of German playwright Schiller is "William Tell". The work describes that in the 13th century, the Austrian governor who ruled Switzerland oppressed the people wantonly, erected a long pole in the downtown area, placed a hat on the pole, and ordered pedestrians to bow to the hat. One day, William Tell was arrested for not bowing. The governor ordered an apple to be placed on the head of Tell's youngest son, and ordered Tell to shoot it with an arrow. Only if he hit it would he be exempted

from punishment. Tell shot the apple. But the governor broke his promise and still arrested Tell. During the escort, William Tell boarded a boat and passed through Lake Lucerne. There was a strong wind and waves, and the soldiers were terrified. Tell took the opportunity to shoot the governor with an arrow and escaped. The people supported him and rose up to resist the Austrian rule, and finally gained freedom. There is also an opera about William Tell composed by Italian composer Rossini, among which the "William Tell Overture" has become popular and circulated all over the world.

Kapellbrücke

The Reuss River divides Lucerne into two districts, the old and new. There are seven bridges on the river, the most famous of which is the landmark of Lucerne - the Chapel Bridge. It is a wooden covered bridge located in Lucerne, Switzerland. It is 204 meters long and was built in 1333. It is the oldest existing wooden bridge in Europe, a landmark of Lucerne, and a major tourist attraction in Switzerland. Because there is a St. Peter's Church on the north bank of the bridge, it is called the Chapel Bridge. It was originally built for the defense needs of Lucerne. Inside the covered bridge are about 120 paintings about the history of Lucerne drawn in the 17th century. Most of the Chapel Bridge was burned down in a fire caused by a collision accident in 1993, and it was rebuilt soon afterwards. There is a 140-foot-high octagonal water tower (Wasserturm) in the middle of the bridge, which is built of bricks. This water tower was originally used as a prison, torture chamber, observation tower and vault. The current water tower is the hall of the Lucerne Arms Association and the exhibition hall of ancient weapons. The water tower and the flower bridge, one standing and the other lying, together form the wonderful beauty of the water tower and flower bridge (water tower covered bridge).

– There are free toilets at the Starbucks by the river, for ladies on the ground floor and for men on the second floor

A one-minute walk to the west is the Jesuit Church (Jesuitenkirche), built in 1666, which is the first large Baroque church in Switzerland. The vestments of Brother Klaus, a famous Swiss religious patron, are stored here. Palast was built in 1557 in Italian Renaissance style. It was the private residence of Lux Ritter, the mayor of Lucerne. It is now the office of the city government.

the old castle bridge is the Spreuerbrücke , which was built in 1408 and was originally part of the Lucerne fortifications. Spreuer means husk, and the bridge was the only place where husk could be dumped into the Lucerne River at that time, hence the name. Meglinger painted 67 paintings on the bridge with the theme of the Black Death, titled Dance of Death. In 1568, a small chapel was added to the center of the bridge. The grating bridge in the river is a unique landscape reflecting ancient engineering technology. The grating bridge inserts or raises the fence above the water surface to regulate the water level of Lake Lucerne.

Swan Square is the central business district of Lucerne's ancient city, with high-end watch shops, jewelry shops and souvenir shops everywhere, covering almost all well-known Swiss brand watches and Swiss specialties such as Swiss Army knives, cuckoo clocks, and handmade chocolates. A 3-minute walk from Swan Square are three old town squares, namely the Hirschenplatz , which originated from the medieval post station of the same name; the Weinmarkt , where the Swiss Confederation was established ; and the Kornmarkt , where the Town Hall is located . The Town Hall was built in 1602-1606 in the Italian Renaissance style. Its corridor facing the river is still used for holiday markets.

This porch in front of the train station is the remnant of the 19th century train station, which was destroyed by a fire in 1971. The Lucerne Culture and Conference Center (KKL Luzern) on Europaplatz next to the train station is the work of the famous Parisian architect Jean Nouvel . The concert hall has 1,840 seats and is one of the best concert halls in the world. The Lucerne Hall, conference center, auditorium and art museum are also part of this outstanding building.

Löwendenkmal) in the park near **Lion Square** (Lowenplatz) . The statue was designed by Danish sculptor Bartel Thorvaldsen to commemorate the approximately 1,100 Swiss mercenaries who fought in the battle to defend the Tuileries Palace in Paris in 1792. Of these 1,100 soldiers, approximately 760 died in the battle and 350 survived. The Latin words "HELVETIORUM FIDEI AC VIRTUTI" are engraved above the stone statue, which means "Dedicated to the loyal and brave Switzerland". The first line of

the inscription below is "DIE X AUGUSTI II ET III SEPTEMBRIS MDCCXCII", indicating the time when the tragedy occurred: August 10 and September 2 and 3, 1792. The two shields on the lion's right front paw have the cross emblem symbolizing Switzerland and the fleur-de-lis symbolizing the French royal family. Mark Twain spoke highly of this stone statue, saying that it is the saddest and most touching stone in the world.

Switzerland was a poor and backward country at that time. The men were forced to make a living and went to various European countries to serve as mercenaries. Swiss mercenaries were loyal to their employers and brave and good at fighting, but honor and money could not cover up the cruelty of the mercenary system. After this incident, Switzerland stopped exporting mercenaries, leaving only the guards serving the Catholic Church in the Vatican. The Swiss Guard was established in 1506 as a mercenary organization to protect the Holy See of the Catholic Church and the Pope himself. The team members were originally mercenaries hired to protect the monarch, but gradually transformed into a mercenary organization of the nature of the guard exclusively belonging to the Vatican City State. On May 6, 1527, during the Sack of Rome, the Swiss Guard fought a fierce battle to cover the Pope's evacuation, and 147 out of 189 soldiers were killed. May 6 is therefore regarded as an important memorial day for the Swiss Guard. The Swiss Guard has been evaluated as absolutely loyal, and it is still the protective force and ritual symbol of the Vatican to this day. The selection requirements for the Swiss Guard are that the candidate must be a male Swiss citizen, unmarried, Catholic, must have completed basic training in the Swiss Army and obtained a certificate of good conduct, be between 19 and 30 years old, be at least 5 feet 8.5 inches tall (174 cm), and have at least a high school diploma.

- There is a free toilet on the slope to the right of the lion statue in the park

The twin churches at the foot of the lake are **St. Leodegar's Church**, which was first built in 735 and rebuilt in Renaissance style in 1633. The towering twin spires are unique in shape and are also the most eye-catching landmark along the lake in the old town. Inside the church are exquisite altar reliefs and an organ with 4,950 brass pipes.

The old city of Lucerne is located on a small hill north of the Reuss River. The Museggmauer Wall. This old wall surrounding the city was built in the 14th century and was part of the city's defense facilities at the time. After hundreds of years of historical changes, most of Lucerne's walls were demolished between 1833 and 1856, but the Musegg Wall was fortunately preserved. However, today only 9 towers and a small section of the wall in the north of the old city remain. The existing Musegg Wall is 870 meters long, 1.5 meters thick on average and about 9 meters high. The three watchtowers, Schirmer, Zyt and Mannli, are open to the public in summer.

1535 on the Zeitturm tower. It rings one minute faster than other bells, which is an anomaly in Switzerland, a country known for its precise clocks. However, it is the oldest surviving bell in Lucerne, so it enjoys the privilege of "ringing the bell first".

Weinmarkt is where the people of Lucerne swore to join the Swiss Confederation. The old lime tree marks this as the main square of a medieval town. In fact, the first town hall of Lucerne was located on this square and was not moved until **the 19th** century. The square is surrounded by ornately painted hotels, restaurants and shops.

The Kapellplatz is home to the **Fritschi The fountain**, with statues of allegorical figures on top, is an ancient Renaissance-style fountain, although it is actually less than a hundred years old. The statues standing on the top of the fountain are the legendary Fritschi brothers (Fritschibrunnen — Brother Fritschi), and the lower half is a mask of the Fritschi family. It is said that Fritschi's tomb should be under this fountain, which was connected to the cemetery of St. Peter's Church in the Middle Ages. No one is sure whether Fritschi really existed. The legend can be traced back to around 1450. The most likely statement is that a farmer from outside the city came to the town as a joke. He left some money to the Chamber of Commerce on the condition that the Chamber of Commerce must supply drinks to the poor during the carnival. To this day, the Chamber of Commerce continues to fulfill this obligation and has set up a museum in Nölliturm. One of the floors of the guild hall in the city tower is dedicated to Fritschi. After his death, his deeds became known in different ways, so his statues can also be seen in other Swiss towns.

Another theory is that Fritschi was a hero active in Lucerne during the Middle Ages. Together with his wife Fritschene, he led the cavalry to repel the invasion of the Austrians in Zurich. When they triumphed, the couple rode proudly through the city of Lucerne on tall horses. After that, Fritschi became the leader of the Lucerne Carnival. Later, people made a life-size doll out of straw and affectionately called this doll "Fritschi Papa" as the mascot of the Lucerne Carnival. Fritschi also became an important role in the Lucerne Carnival (Luzerner Fasnacht) every February. The opening ceremony of the carnival will also be held in the square in front of the fountain.

Lucerne Carnival Mural

The building where the large carnival mural is located is the temporary headquarters of the carnival!

The Bourbaki Panorama has the world's largest 360-degree circular mural, depicting the scene of the French army entering the snowy Switzerland under the order of General Bourbaki during the Franco-Prussian War.

The Glacier Heritage Park (Gletscher Garten) is a paradise with many Alpine plants and sun terraces. It is also an outstanding natural site composed of giant glacial potholes from the Ice Age 20,000 years ago and ancient fossils 200 million years old. There is a glacier museum inside, where you can see a complete map of the Alpine landscape and a model of the city of Lucerne, and you can also walk through the historical mirror maze, which is endless fun.

Swiss Transport Museum (Verkehrshaus der Schweiz) - the largest transport museum in Europe. It is like a theme park, introducing knowledge about land, sea, air and transport machinery in an easy-to-understand way. There is also the "Color Longines Planetarium" where you can appreciate the universe and the ocean, and the "Swiss Panorama" that projects the beautiful scenery of Switzerland on a 360-degree big screen. The Chocolate Adventure, a collaboration between the Transport Museum and the Lindt brand, reveals the source of the delicious Swiss chocolate for you, with Chinese audio guides, which is very interesting.

Lake Lucerne

Without a doubt, it is one of the most beautiful lakes in Switzerland. You can cruise on the lake in one of the five old-fashioned paddle steamers or 14 elegant saloon boats (like brand new motor boats). It is definitely a regional specialty.

Ballenberg Open Air Museum

At the Swiss National Open Air Museum, you can see what Switzerland looked like in the past. 100 original buildings, each hundreds of years old, were brought here from all over Switzerland. Traditional craft displays make history come alive.

Lake Brienz

This verdant lake, framed by the majestic mountains of the Jungfrau Region, offers a place for both thrill-seekers to splash about in the water and more relaxed people to enjoy an outing on the lake aboard the vintage steamer Lötschberg, which was built in 1914.

Wirtshaus Taube

The inconspicuous stone house has a great history. It is the oldest existing building in the city, built in 1175. The restaurant is close to the Spreuer Bridge, located in a quiet corner of the medieval old town, as if entering a time tunnel in an instant. The interior of the restaurant is in the style of a medieval farm, with a strong warmth of an old grandmother's home.

Address : Burgerstrasse 3, CH-6003 Luzern

Website : www.taube-luzern.ch

Burgerstube

The restaurant is located in a 500-year-old Gothic-style house. Stube means living room in German. Entering the restaurant is like entering the hall of a medieval city noble.

Address : Bahnhofstrasse 30, 6003 Luzern

Website : www.wilden-mann.ch/cn/Home

ZunftHausrestaurant Pfistern

The largest mural in the city. This building, built in 1576 , is adjacent to the old town hall and was originally owned by the city's bread and grain guild. The interior and exterior decorations of the restaurant show the strength of the old emerging city's industrialists and businessmen. The gorgeous murals on the exterior walls are probably the largest in the city. The seats facing the lake are also facing the landmark of the old city, the "Covered Bridge Water Tower".

Address : Kornmarkt 4, CH-6004 Luzern

Website : www.restaurant-pfistern.ch

Old Swiss House

The restaurant was formerly an antique shop . The furniture, decorations, lamps , and some tableware in the restaurant are all genuine antiques !

Address : Löwenplatz 4, CH-6004 Lucerne

Website : www.oldswisshouse.ch

Schiffrestaurant Wilhelm Tell

The restaurant is located on the Wilhelm Tell , a steam paddle steamer with a history of more than 100 years. The interior decoration recreates the scene of lake cruise and dining a hundred years ago.

Address : Landungsbrücke 9 , CH -6006 Luzern

Website : www.schiffrestaurant.ch

Stadtkeller Restaurant

The most lively restaurant in the city. In the evening, there is a Swiss folk song and dance performance to liven up the atmosphere, and it is the only one in the entire German-speaking part of Switzerland. The performance lasts for a total of one and a half hours, like a celebration, including yodelling mountain singing, flag dancing, alpine horns, and music and dance with various farm utensils.

The lively performance team is happy to communicate with the guests: if they are Texans, they will sing "Yellow Rose of Texas";

if they are Australians, they will sing "Waltzing Matilda"; if they are Chinese, the melodious "Jasmine Flower" will immediately play... When dining here, you must also be prepared to go on stage and join the performance, shouldering the mission of winning glory for the country and competing with international friends in a friendly manner.

The Stadtkeller's home-brewed beer is well-known in Lucerne, and brewer Reinhard Knispel, who obtained the title of master brewer at the Institute of Brewing Technology in Munich, has been brewing beer here since 1998. The restaurant offers two types of home-brewed beer: Stadtkeller Beer 2011, which is brewed strictly according to the Bavarian Beer Purity Law of 1516, and a five-grain beer brewed with barley, wheat, spelt, rye and oats as the base.

Address : Gambrinus Gastronomie AG, Sternenplatz 3, CH - 6004 Luzern

Website : www.swissfolkloreshow.com

Lucerne Carnival

40 days before Easter is the seventh Wednesday. The time before that is the celebration day, the so-called carnival. According to state law, the celebration days are Thursday (Dirty Thursday), Monday (Fat Monday) and Tuesday. It is usually in the week of February 11, which is close to the Chinese New Year, so if you travel to Switzerland during the Spring Festival, you must not miss this wonderful show. It usually lasts for many days, making the whole town immersed in the festive atmosphere for many consecutive days.

The origin of the Lucerne Carnival is related to an old man named Fritschi, his wife Fritschene and their child Fritschikind. The name Fritschi may be taken from Fridolin, but the origin and meaning of this name are unknown. The only thing that can be confirmed is that the image of Fritschi can be traced back to the 15th century, when people made life-size dolls out of straw, called them "Fritschi", and used them as one of the iconic images of the guild.

For centuries, the carnival parade included a cart carrying the Fritsch family. If the parade once embodied themes such as patriotism, history and folklore, now it also presents a new irony. In the 1920s, the Fritsch parade had a new competitor from the newly formed Wey Guild, which used frogs as the main symbol of the satirical parade. Today, the Fritsch parade is held on Fat Thursday, the week before Ash Wednesday, while the Wey Guild parade is held on Carnival Monday and Shrove Tuesday, the last night before Lent, with a monster concert on Shrove Tuesday. These events bring the colorful carnival to a climax.

Guggemuusige, or masked improvisational bands, are one of the main attractions of the Lucerne Carnival. They usually dress up in costumes, wear masks or heavy makeup, and play familiar melodies on a variety of brass and percussion instruments. They play loudly and often off key. These groups first appeared around 1950 and were copied from some groups in Basel. Soon thereafter, the number of groups increased to dozens. And unlike the performers in Basel, they do not march through the streets in a rigid formation, but often stop to play along with the scene and intertwine with the whole crowd. There are also many individuals or small groups pretending to be bands to play instruments or to play pranks to add to the carnival atmosphere. Masked balls are held in large venues at night and attract hundreds of people.

The 2018 Lucerne Carnival will be held from February 8 to 13.

Mount Pilatus

Mount Pilatus is a mountain near Lucerne, Switzerland, straddling the cantons of Obwalden, Nidwalden and Lucerne, with the highest peak located on the border of Obwalden and Nidwalden. Mount Pilatus got its name from the local legend that Pilate is buried there. People who have reached the summit include Queen Victoria and Lenin.

There are many legends about Mount Pilatus in Switzerland. It is known as the most eerie and terrifying mountain. The origin of its name is related to Pilatus, the Roman governor of Judea who sent Jesus to the cross between 26 and 36 AD. One theory is that after sentencing Jesus, Pilatus went into exile and finally committed suicide by jumping into a river from a mountain. That mountain was later called Mount Pilatus.

Another theory is that when the Roman emperor Tiberius fell ill, he asked Pilatus to send Jesus back to Rome for treatment. When Tiberius learned that Jesus had been crucified, he ordered the arrest of Pilatus, who committed suicide in prison. When his body was thrown into the Tiber River, it immediately caused a terrible storm, which did not stop until Pilatus' body was fished out. The same thing happened when his body was thrown into a river in France. Finally, people took his body to a distant mountain (the mountain was named Mount Pilatus) and placed it in a hidden and dark pond, but this still failed to stop the ghost of Pilatus from continuing to cause trouble. Local residents believed that he was the culprit for the frequent howling winds in the area and the capsizing of boats in the lake. Climbing Mount Pilatus was strictly prohibited in the Middle Ages because people were afraid of angering the ghost of Pilatus again. In 1585, a priest who had long been excommunicated in Lucerne called on and led a group of very courageous villagers to once again step into the restricted area of Mount Pilatus. They wanted to challenge the ghost of Mount Pilatus. They threw stones into the lake and stirred it constantly, but the ghost did not appear again! From then on, the ban on climbing Mount Pilatus was lifted. The legendary pond has dried up and turned into a swamp.

Mount Pilatus not only has many mysterious legends, but also the world's steepest cog railway in the mountain. This railway was built in 1889 by engineer Eduard Locher, who led 600 brave Italian workers and many Swiss locals in three summers. It still maintains the title of "the world's steepest cog railway" with a maximum inclination of 48 degrees. On June 4, 1889, the Pilatus Cog Railway was officially put into use. At first, it used steam locomotives, which were replaced by electric locomotives in 1937. The body of the railway is red to symbolize a red dragon that appeared in the mountain in the summer of 1421. At that time, a dragon flew to Mount Pilatus and hit a farmer. When the farmer woke up, he found that the stone next to him had turned into the shape of a dragon and was covered with blood. He thought that this stone was the incarnation of the dragon. What's more exaggerated is that people believe that this stone stained with dragon blood has the effect of curing diseases. It is currently on display in the Natural History Museum in Lucerne. Another legend about dragons is that in the autumn of a certain year, a young man who went up the mountain to collect firewood accidentally fell into a valley. When he woke up, he found himself lying on a pair of dragons that were preparing to hibernate there. Fortunately, the two dragons took good care of the young man through the cold winter until he recovered. When spring came, the pair of dragons were ready to fly away from their hibernation place, and signaled the young man to sit on their tails and take him home. Therefore, the red dragon became the symbol of Mount Pilatus. In the corridor carved out of the rock on the top of the mountain, there is a painting of a dancing fire dragon on the rock wall.

The total length of the cog railway is 4,618 meters, and the climbing height is 1,696 meters (the starting point of the cog railway, Alpnachstad, is 436 meters above sea level). The railway has an average slope of 42°, and the steepest point is 48°. It is the steepest cog railway in the world. The speed of climbing up the mountain is 7-12 kilometers per hour, and the whole journey takes 30 minutes; the speed of descending the mountain is 6-9 kilometers per hour, and it takes 40 minutes. The track base is made of granite slabs, the track bridge is paved with gravel, and the all-steel rails are firmly erected on the roadbed.

By train or cable car, you can climb to the top of Mount Pilatus (2,132 meters) from an altitude close to Lake Lucerne. From the sunny weather at the foot of the mountain, to the green meadows, then to the tall tree forests, then to the pine trees with white snow, and finally to the top station of Pilatus, the scenery along the way is unparalleled. At 7,000 feet, you can enjoy the most beautiful panorama, overlooking the beautiful picture from Lucerne to Lake Lucerne, from the Säntis Peak to Mount Titlis, from the Bernese Alps to the Jungfrau, from the Black Forest on the Swiss border to the French Alps. Another attraction is the longest summer toboggan run in Switzerland (1,350 meters). The forest rope park is very suitable for family tourists, and children must be at least 8 years old. There is a large children's park next to the Krienseregg cable car station, a recreation area with marked hiking trails, a picnic area with tables and benches, and an open-air barbecue area.

On the top of Mount Pilatus, you will see a kind of black bird. They form a large group and circle in the air. At first glance, you would think they are a group of crows, but they lack the crows' cawing and occasionally make a light and pleasant cry. The introduction on the mountain tells you that this bird with black feathers and bright yellow beak is called the Alpine Jackdaw (Alpdohle).

Golden Round Trip is a wonderful trip from May to October . Take a boat across Lake Lucerne from Lucerne to Alpnachstad , then take the world's steepest rack railway to Pilatus-Kulm, take the aerial cableway and panoramic gondola lift down the mountain, and then take the bus back to Lucerne. When going down the mountain, take the cable car and gondola to Kriens and Lucerne, or you can choose to go in the opposite direction. Going the other way can avoid the crowds and save a lot of time waiting in line.



<http://www.pilatus.ch/en/railway-cableways>

Guided Tours of Mount Pilatus

1: Parking lot: It is far from the snow mountain and you cannot see it. If a guest asks why you cannot see the snow mountain, tell him that it is in the mountains to the right of the ticket office and cannot be seen from the parking lot. The house with the "red dragon" sign facing the parking lot has toilets. Behind the first row of houses and between the second row of houses is the ticket office.

2: Swipe the card to get on the first stage cable car. After buying the ticket, line up, with the barcode on the ticket facing up, swipe the card, and enter when the green light comes on. The card cannot be thrown away. Note: The card cannot be swiped twice in a row, and the red light will come on the second time. There are three groups in Liezi who told me that their cards are not working well, that is, they did not enter when the green light came on, and they swiped the card repeatedly. The cable car is closed, with 4 seats, and the journey takes 15 minutes. Note! ! : On the way, you will pass a place where you can get off the cable car. It is prepared for skiers on the halfway point. Those who go up the mountain cannot get off the cable car here. Because the tour guide cannot follow, you must tell the guests in advance.

3: First stage: After getting off the cable car, swipe the card to exit the station and enter the first stage. There is a toilet on the right and an observation deck on the left. In front of the left hand in the house is the second stage cable car point with an arrow: Pilatus . Guests who arrive first can go to the observation deck to enjoy the view while waiting for later guests. The gathering time is determined according to the number of people. In Liezi, 20 minutes is set, so that later guests can also go to the observation deck to enjoy the view. After the gathering, the first explanation of Pilatus can be carried out. After the explanation, enter the second stage cable car point. Note: a. If you arrive at Pilatus in the morning, there will be fog on the top of the

mountain, which will not dissipate until noon, so the observation deck is the best place to overlook. b. The observation deck can go directly to the bottom of the mountain. If you go down, you don't know where you are. Remind guests not to go down the mountain.

4: Get on the second stage cable car: swipe the card to enter the waiting area. The large cable car can only accommodate 35 people at a time. You need to control the group. Groups with less than 35 people should try their best not to let others cut in line and get on the same car. You can introduce the world's best: the cable car angle on the car. About 5 minutes

5: The top of the mountain: It is a rectangular glass house. The stairs on the left lead to a restaurant. The tour guide can eat with the meal card given when buying the ticket. If you don't go upstairs on the left, go left and there is a toilet. Go right and there is a souvenir stall. Go to the end on the right and you will see a band. I don't know if it happens every day. The old men with no manners sang and danced with the band, took photos with them, and took photos with their musical instruments ... We played for a long time and didn't give a single tip: (! Go to the right end and you can go to the Dragon Cave. You can go out to the outer platform on the right. You can climb the mountain to the top of the mountain from the outer platform. It is not far away.

6: Dragon Cave: A very distinctive long cave carved in the mountain. It takes 5-8 minutes to walk to the end (barricaded). A natural "Great Wall"-style building with arrow holes. 7: Going down the mountain: Swipe your card and take the cable car down the mountain. You can experience the feeling of safe cliff jumping, which is unique in the world.

The first stage is the terrace. Introduction to Pilatus: Mount Pilatus is located in the south of Lucerne, with an altitude of 2,129 meters. It is also called Dragon Mountain. It is said that a dragon was found here. The tourism logo of Pilatus is a red dragon. I don't know why Pilatus is called this name? Because Pilatus is the second most sinful person who betrayed and hanged Jesus. It is puzzling that this Christian place in Europe would name a mountain with this name. The best of Pilatus: 1 : It has the longest ski slope in Switzerland. 2 : It has the most inclined rail train in the world, with an inclination of 48 degrees. Sitting in the cable car up the mountain, you feel like you are flying directly up the mountain, and going down the mountain is like jumping off a cliff safely. This feeling is unique in the world. There is a sunny terrace here, where you can enjoy the breathtaking mountain panorama and the unique view of Luzern, 6 lakes and the snow-capped Alps. In addition , Yodeling , flag waving, and Alpine horn concerts, which were once part of the folk music of this area, are now purely to meet the needs of tourists. Dragon Cave: Introducing the differences between Chinese dragons and Western dragons, and the legend of slaying dragons

Rigi

Mount Rigi is 1,797 meters above sea level, but because of its unique geographical location and the height that allows you to overlook the mountain, it has become one of the must-see attractions for tourists. It is the forefront of the Alps and is known as the Queen of Mountains. It has the most famous observation deck in central Switzerland. Since ancient times, it has been a famous place to watch the sunrise and sunset. From the observation deck on the top of the mountain, you can also enjoy the panoramic view of the Alps and the Black Forest extending to Germany and the plains of France.

Mount Rigi is a famous tourist destination with a long history. It has attracted countless tourists since the 19th century. Even before the railway was opened, it had already built a high-end hotel and welcomed many princes, nobles, and literati, such as Queen Victoria, Weber, Mendelssohn, Victor Hugo, etc. The Rigi Kulm Hotel, which stands independently on the top of the mountain, has been built since 1816 and has received many celebrities. Now, it takes only one and a half hours to reach Mount Rigi by boat or mountain railway from Lucerne. Watching the magnificent sunrise and sunset from Mount Rigi at an altitude of 1,800 meters is the ultimate enjoyment. After looking at the beautiful scenery, it is strongly recommended to hike down the mountain along the vast pasture while watching the cattle and alpine plants.

The classic route to Rigi:

Go up the mountain: Cruise + Red Train

Take the cruise from Lucerne to Fluelen at LuzernBahnhofquai, Pier 1 , opposite Lucerne Train Station . After 57 minutes, get off at the 4th stop, Vitznau Pier , and walk about 50 meters to Vitznau Train Station. Take the red train (it is best to sit by the window on the left side of the carriage for a better view), which runs for 30 minutes and goes directly to the final stop, the train station on the top of Mount Rigi . Kuim 1797m. A short walk to the top of Mount Rigi. The Vitznau Cog Railway was built in 1871 and is the first cog railway in Europe. It starts at Vitznau Station and passes through Mitterschwanen , Grubisbalm , Freibergen , Romiti Felsentor , Rigi Kaltbad -First , Rigi Staffelhöhe , Rigi Staffel , and finally the destination Rigi Kulm . ※Note: There is only one bus every hour, so be sure to check the time in advance.

2. Goldau - Rigi Kulm Time taken: 44 minutes

The Goldau rack railway starts from Arth-Goldau RB station, passes through Goldau A4 , Kräbel , Fruttli , Rigi Klösterli , Rigi Wölfertschen -First , Rigi Staffel , and finally reaches the end point Rigi Kulm .

※Note: There is only one bus every hour, so be sure to check the time in advance.

3. Weggis - Rigi Kaltbad , Rigi Kaltbad First - Rigi Kulm Time taken: 53 minutes

In addition, you can take the viewing cable car from Weggis and then take the Rigi Kaltbad Switching to the rack train is also a good option.

Down the mountain: hiking + train + cable car + boat trip

Most people choose to visit the beautiful town of Weggis on their way back to Lucerne. To get to Weggis, you can take a cable car from Kaltbad . From the top of Rigi Mountain to Kaltbad Cable Car Station, you can either take a cable car (25 minutes) or hike.

from the Weggis cable car station to the Weggis pier. There are signs along the way and you can go downhill. The town of Weggis has all kinds of Swiss elements, such as cows, wooden houses, exquisite small gardens, etc. The scenery by the lake is particularly beautiful.

4. Take a boat from Weggis Pier back to Luzern Bahnhofquai Pier.

Every Sunday from June to September, visitors can watch the sunrise by cable car from Goldau to the top of Rigi Kulm and experience a magnificent sunrise. Accompanied by the beautiful sound of mountain flutes. The experience ends with a delicious breakfast at Rigi Staffel .

Dinner in a mobile restaurant. Every Saturday from July to September, the panoramic aerial cable car Weggis & ndash Rigi Kaltbad is transformed into a romantic mobile restaurant. Experience an unforgettable high-altitude adventure with a breathtaking panorama! Wrestling and Alpine Festival



Rigi Mountain is 90 euros at your own expense. Reservation phone number is 0041413998787. If the company has not signed a contract, you can apply for New Start Tour (NST for short). The adult price is CHF 36, free for children under 5 years old, CHF 16.6 for children aged 6-16. Summer promotion from July 1 to August 31, all children under 16 are free. Reservation must be made by phone 24 hours in advance

Vitznau Bahnhofstrasse 20 minutes early on the day and take the train for half an hour to the top of the mountain. It takes an hour to get off the train and go to the launch pad on the top of the mountain. There are two ways to go down the mountain. You can take the train down to the bottom of the mountain, or take the train down to the middle of the mountain and take the cable car down to Weggis, where the driver will pick you up. This works very well.

The scenery along the way is extremely beautiful. There are mountains on one side of the top of the mountain and a lake on the other side. There is also a restaurant on the top of the mountain, but it is very high-end and not suitable for Chinese people to dine there because they don't have time. The altitude of Mount Rigi is not more than 1,800 meters. In winter, it is more beautiful than Pila and Titlis. Guests can walk around freely on the top of the mountain. Many locals take their children to the top of the mountain to ski. If your hotel is along the BRUNNER line, going to Rigi is the best choice! Note that the train must be on time. If you miss it, you need to wait another hour! Don't be late. There is a small restaurant when you just get off the train at the top of the mountain. It is too crowded, too slow, and they charge tour guides. There is a big cave next to it. When you walk to the end, there is an elevator. When you get to the top, it is the big hotel.

1. The first route (1) Take the cruise ship from Lucerne to Flüelen at Pier 1 opposite the Lucerne train station . (2) After 57 minutes, get off at the 4th stop, Vitznau Pier , and walk about 50 meters to Vitznau train station. (3) Take the red train, which runs for 30 minutes and goes directly to the final stop, the train station on the top of Mount Rigi . Kuim).

2. The second route (1) Take the cruise from Lucerne to Flüelen at Pier 1 opposite the Lucerne train station. (2) After 41 minutes, get off the boat at the third stop, Weggis Pier , and walk uphill for about 10 minutes to the Weggis Cable Car Station. (3) Take the cable car, 10 minutes to the Kaltbad Cable Car Station, and walk about 5 minutes to the Kaltbad Train Station. (4) Take the red train from Vitznau, which runs for 12 minutes to the final stop, the Rigi Train Station.

3. The third route (1) Take the train to Arth -Goldau at Platform 7 of Lucerne Train Station . (2) After 26 minutes, get off at Arth-Goldau Station and walk for about 7 minutes to Arth -Goldau RB. (3) Take the blue train, which runs for 44 minutes to the final stop, the train station at the top of Mount Rigi.


Which route should you choose when you go up Mount Rigi for the first time? Most Chinese travelers choose the first route to the mountain. The advantage of the first route is that you can enjoy the beautiful scenery of Lucerne Lake and mountains along

the way by taking a cruise. When you arrive in Vitznau, you can walk a few dozen meters to get on the small train. The small train is the starting station and goes directly to the terminal station. You can also overlook the scenery below the mountain along the way. Although the second route can also enjoy the beautiful scenery of lakes and mountains, after arriving in Weggis, you have to walk uphill for 10 minutes to get to the cable car station. After taking the cable car to Kaltbad, you have to walk for 5 minutes to the small train station and then take the small train. You get on the train halfway and all the good seats are gone. The third route cannot enjoy the beautiful scenery of lakes and mountains. After taking the train to Alte Goldau, you have to wait for 8 minutes to change to the blue train.

Mountain train guide: 1. Rigi Snow Mountain in Switzerland: It is best to do it in winter. Arrive at Vitznau at 9:00 in the morning and take the train all the way to the top of the mountain. The train takes half an hour and the top of the mountain takes an hour. There are two ways to go down the mountain. You can take the train down to the bottom of the mountain, or take the train down to the middle of the mountain and transfer to the cable car to Weggis and let the driver pick you up. The reservation number is 0041413998787. Because there are many stations on the mountain, many people who live on the mountain want to take the train, so you must make a reservation and let them keep a seat for you!

Zurich

Bus Stops	Bus Drop -off: Parada Bus Grupos , Stadthausquai 1, 8001 Zürich, Switzerland (pay) St. Annagasse 4 , 8001 Zürich , Switzerland (pay) Bus park : Limmatstrasse 7 , 8005 Zürich , Switzerland Car Parking : Parkhaus Hohe Promenade, Rämistrasse 22A, 8001 Zürich, Switzerland (2.1M) Driving from the north, go up the viaduct and enter the garage directly. There is a free toilet Lindenhof : Parkhaus Urania, Uraniastrasse 3, 8001 Zürich (2.1M)		
Latitude and longitude	8° 32'E, 47° 23'N	Equivalent to China ...	
Area (square kilometers):	91.88	Population ('000):	402
City status	Located on the Limmat River, which starts from the northern end of Lake Zurich, the confluence of the Limmat River and the Syr Darya River is at the main train station square. It is the largest city in the Swiss Confederation, with a population of nearly 1.1 million in the urban area and 1.9 million in the Zurich metropolitan area including the suburbs. It is the capital of the canton of Zurich and the main commercial and cultural center of Switzerland. Zurich is a representative city of the Swiss banking industry and one of the world's financial centers. The UBS, Credit Suisse and many private banks have their headquarters in Zurich. Zurich International Airport is the largest airport in Switzerland. The headquarters of the International Football Federation is also located in Zurich. According to surveys, Zurich ranked first in the world in the selection of the world's best cities to live in for the past two years.		
Origin of the name	The Romanized form of the city's name, " Turicum ," was found on an unearthed tombstone from the Roman occupation period in the 2nd century AD. The Roman emperor set up a customs checkpoint on the Lindenhof hill and named it " Turicum , " from which the place name Zurich came.		
Basic historical information	In the Roman Empire, it was the main tax collection point for goods transported to the empire by water. In 835, Louis II, the grandson of Charlemagne of the Frankish Empire and King of the		

	<p>East Frankish Kingdom, rebuilt a Carolingian castle on the site of an ancient Roman castle and built a women's monastery (now the Women's Cathedral). Zurich later became a territory of the Holy Roman Empire and a free city under the empire in 1218. In the Middle Ages, Zurich became a transportation hub connecting northern Italy and Germany and a commercial city dominated by the textile industry. In 1351, it joined the Swiss Confederation and became the fifth state of the Swiss Confederation. In 1440, due to land disputes with other states, a war broke out and it was expelled from the Swiss Confederation. It was defeated in the civil war in 1446 and was readmitted to the Confederation in 1450.</p> <p>In 1847, the first railway in Switzerland connected Zurich and Baden, and Zurich Main Station became the starting point of the Swiss railway network. The history of the main station building can be traced back to 1871.</p>
City logo	<p>Zurich's blue and white coat of arms has been used since 1389, evolving from a flag with blue and white stripes that had been used since 1315. The first confirmed flag of the same design was in 1434. The coat of arms features two pairs of lions. There are different accounts of the red ribbon (Schwenkel) on the flag: for the people of Zurich, it was an honor bestowed by Rudolf I. For the surrounding people, it was a symbol of shame, commemorating the flag lost at Winterthur in 1292.</p> 
Culture, famous people	<p>Zwingli was the leading priest in Zurich when he began the Swiss Reformation. He lived here from 1518 until his death in 1531.</p>
economy	<p>Zurich is not only the largest financial center in Switzerland, but also an important financial center in Western Europe. There are more than 120 banks concentrated here, more than half of which are foreign banks, so it enjoys the title of "European Millionaire City". The UBS, Credit Suisse and many private banks have their headquarters in Zurich. Banks are lined up on both sides of Silpolt Street and Stock Exchange Street. The trading volume of the Stock Exchange is second to none among Western European exchanges, and a total of 70% of Western European securities transactions are conducted here. Bahnhofstrasse in Zurich is considered to be the richest street in the world. The funds mobilized from here each year exceed 20% of the world's funds. The headquarters of the Swiss Stock Exchange is also located in Zurich. The Swiss Stock Exchange is the only exchange in the world with a fully automatic trading and clearing system in the early 21st century. Its advanced equipment and high-quality personnel provide excellent services to investors. Zurich's gold market is even more famous. In the 1960s, it became the world's second largest gold market after London.</p> <p>Due to the confidentiality of Swiss banks, Zurich has become the world's main center for offshore banking. The financial industry accounts for about a quarter of the city's total value. In 2005, the GDP of the Zurich region was \$160 billion or \$45,000 per person. Zurich has been the city with the best basic living conditions in the world for several consecutive years.</p>
other	<p>ETH Zurich Technische Hochschule Zürich, abbreviated as ETH Zürich or ETHZ, is one of the two federal institutes of technology in Switzerland and one of the most famous universities of technology in the world, enjoying the reputation of "the best university in Europe". The university was founded in 1855 and currently has 26,000 teachers and students in 16 departments. Its teaching and research fields cover architecture, engineering, mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences and management sciences. It has produced 32 Nobel Prize winners including Einstein. Overall ranking 7th in the world</p>

Shopping street Bahnhof Strasse

This 1.4-kilometer-long avenue includes two dazzling consumer paradises, Globus and Yermoli. The shops on both sides display

luxurious goods, antique treasures, precious furs, watches, jewelry, and intoxicating French perfumes. This is a holy place for those who pursue world-famous brands. Fashion brands with first-class design and tailoring have decorated their windows with great charm. Other famous watch, jewelry design, clothing design and antique appraisal companies are also distributed on both sides of the avenue, such as Beyer, Bucheron, Bvlgari, Cartier, Gubelin, Les Ambassadeurs Meister and Turier, adding a modern and luxurious touch to the ancient cobblestone road in the city.

Paradeplatz is a square in the center of Zurich, Switzerland, located on Bahnhofstrasse. It is one of the most expensive real estate in Switzerland and is synonymous with wealth and Swiss banks. UBS and Credit Suisse are both headquartered here.

Grossmünster Cathedral

It is one of the three main churches in Zurich, Switzerland (the other two are Fraumunster and St. Peter's Church). The church is located near the banks of the Limmat River. The present-day church was built around 1100 and was inaugurated around 1220. According to legend, the earliest church was founded by Charlemagne. The Zurich Cathedral was a monastery church that competed with the Zurich Fraumunster Church across the Limmat River in the Middle Ages. In the basement of the church is a statue of Charlemagne, whose mount kneels down in front of the tomb of the patron saint of Zurich. According to legend, Charlemagne, who loved hunting, once chased a deer all the way from his capital Aachen to Zurich, when his horse suddenly knelt down to pay tribute to a tomb. It turned out that this was the tomb of the patron saint of Zurich, Saint Felix and Regula (a Christian saint who was martyred in Zurich in the 3rd century), so Charlemagne ordered the construction of a monastery and church on the site of the tomb. It predates the Fraumunster, which was built by Charlemagne's grandson. Recent archaeological evidence proves that this was a Roman cemetery. The Zurich Cathedral is built in the Romanesque style and its twin towers are considered a recognized landmark of Zurich.

The Zurich Minster played an important role in the history of the Reformation. In 1520, Zwingli started the Reformation in German-speaking Switzerland during his tenure at the Zurich Minster, and in 1523 he won a series of debates presided over by judges, which eventually led to the local authorities approving the church's severance of relations with the Roman Pope. In 1524, the iconoclasts removed the organ and religious statues. Other changes included the abandonment of Lent, the change of the Mass, the denial of celibacy, the eating of meat on fasting days, the change of the Bible lectionary to a 7-year cycle of the New Testament, the ban on church music, and other major reforms, making this church one of the most important sites in the history of the Reformation and the birthplace of the Reformation in German-speaking Switzerland. The church houses the Museum of the Reformation and the Faculty of Theology of the University of Zurich.

Zurich 's Fraumünster Cathedral

Founded in 853, the Benedictine abbey was donated by the king, whose land was exempt from taxes and directly governed. In 1045, King Henry III authorized the abbey to open markets, collect tolls, and mint coins, making the abbess the de facto manager of the city, who appointed the mayor. However, the power of the abbey gradually waned in the 14th century, and independent mayors began to emerge, not under the control of the abbey. The abbey was dissolved in 1524 during the Zwingli Reformation, and the abbey buildings were demolished in 1898 to make way for the construction of the Stadthaus.

The Romanesque choir dates back to 1250-70, and the five stained glass windows in the church were created by Marc Chagall in 1970, depicting the Prophet (Elijah's Ascension), Jacob (wrestling with God, dreaming of a ladder to heaven), Christ (his life), Zion (the angel blowing the trumpet at the end of the world), and the Law (Moses).

Night view: The best place to take photos of the night view is on the northwest side of the bridge between the two churches.

In front of the Cathedral of Our Lady, beside the Limmat River, there is a not very well made equestrian statue. The owner of the equestrian statue is Hans Waldmann (1435-1489), a knight in the 15th century, a military noble (baron), the commander of the coalition forces of the Old Swiss Confederation, and the mayor of Zurich under the Holy Roman Empire. Due to his

outstanding military talents, especially his record with Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy, Waldmann was famous in Europe at that time. He organized and led Swiss mercenaries to fight between European countries. In 1489, due to political struggles, Waldmann was sentenced to death and buried in the Cathedral of Our Lady. In 1937, the people of Zurich built this equestrian statue in memory of this historical figure (although it is controversial).

Water Church (Wasserkirche)

It is a church on an island in the Limmat River in Zurich, located between Zurich's two medieval cathedrals, the Zurich Cathedral and the Zurich Frauenkirche.

The site was a pagan meeting place in ancient times, and the central stone is now in the church's crypt, where, according to medieval legend, Saints Felix and Regula were executed. The first church was built in the 10th century and rebuilt in various stages, culminating in the reconstruction completed in 1486. During the Reformation, the Water Church was identified as a place of idolatry and secularized, and in 1634 became the first public library in Zurich, becoming a center of learning and greatly contributing to the creation of the University of Zurich in the 19th century. In 1839, the island was connected to the right bank of the Limmat River with the construction of Limmatquai .

Zurich City Hall

It was built between 1694 and 1698. It was the seat of the government of the Republic of Zurich before 1798. After 1803, it belonged to the Canton of Zurich and had a cantonal parliament and a city council.

St. Peter 's Church

The location of the church is where the Temple of Jupiter was built in Roman times. Where the Romans lived, they would usually build a temple to the main god Cupid, and the temple would usually be located in a high place not far from the residential area, that is, to the south of Lindenhof, the birthplace of Zurich.

In the 8th and 9th centuries, the Franks built a 10-meter-long and 7-meter-wide chapel on the site of the Roman Temple of Jupiter. Around the 10th and 11th centuries, it was converted into a Romanesque church. The current church was rebuilt in 1706 and is the first Protestant church in Zurich (other churches were converted from Catholic churches). Most of the existing old churches in Zurich once belonged to monasteries, while St. Peter's Church is a separate parish church.

Interestingly, the church tower does not belong to the church, but to the city of Zurich. Its original purpose was to be used for fire observation. The church belongs to the St. Peter Parish of the Evangelical Reformed Church of Zurich. The church has a European first, which is the large clock face with a diameter of 8.7 meters, which is the largest church clock face in Europe. The minute hand is 5.73 meters long and the hour hand is 5.07 meters long.

Lindenhof

It provides a commanding height overlooking the beautiful scenery of the old town. In the 4th century, it was a Roman fortress. In the 9th century, Charlemagne's grandson once again built a magnificent palace as his residence. In 1798, the Helvetic Constitution was verbally sworn in Lindenhof.

The Swiss National Museum is a museum located in Zurich, Switzerland, close to Zurich Central Station. It is one of the most important cultural history museums in Europe. The museum building was built in 1898. Now the Swiss National Museum has become one of Zurich's important tourist attractions.

- There are toilets on the Stadthausquai and behind the Rathaus , which cost 1 Swiss franc. There is a free toilet on the 4th floor of the Coop shopping mall on Bahnhof Street.

Featured restaurants:

Restaurant Zeughauskeller , Bahnhofstrasse 28A, 8001 Zurich

There are cannons and rifles from World War II as decorations, and the waiters use the emperor's sword to pierce the meat and serve the dishes.

Bucherer Zurich:

The office is on the street behind. Ring the doorbell and go up to the first floor. You will need to provide the name of the travel agency.

Rhine Falls Schaffhausen

Car park: Adlerstrasse , 8200 Schaffhausen

Schaffhausen is a city in the canton of Schaffhausen in northern Switzerland. Schaffhausen is the capital of the canton of Schaffhausen and has the manufacturing plant of IWC Schaffhausen. It is home to the Rhine Falls, the largest waterfall in Europe. The quaint Schaffhausen is considered one of the most beautiful ancient towns in Switzerland. The exquisite Baroque buildings and up to 170 oriel windows decorate the town magnificently. The town of Schaffhausen originated from the Rhine Falls. In the past, shippers on the Rhine River often needed to find a place to unload and store goods to avoid ships being blocked by the rapids of the waterfall. The town came into being and has become the capital of the canton of Schaffhausen.

The first thing you see when you enter the town is the market, which is now Vordergasse . Here you can also find the tall Gothic St. John's Church and experience its extraordinary sound effects. Built in the Gothic style around 1000 AD , it belongs to the Protestant church. From 1515 to 1517 , the building was expanded to five halls. In the Middle Ages, the St. John Street in front of the church was the location of the fish market.

Frescoes of the Knight's House, built at the end of the 15th century, on the main street of Schaffhausen On Vordergasse , paintings based on Greek and Roman mythology were created to praise medieval knights. The original frescoes were painted by the famous local painter Stimmer Tobis Stimmer The mural was completed between 1568 and 1570. One of the corners of the mural is the warrior master Hans von Waldkirch . The original painting is currently kept in the Museum zu All Saints Church. Allergy The current mural was repainted in 1943 .

Munot Castle can be seen from a few kilometers away . This circular fortress was built between 1564 and 1589 and was designed by Albrecht Dürer. From the battlements, you can enjoy a wide view from a unique perspective. Every night at 9 o'clock, the Munot sentinel living in the tower will ring the Munot bell, which is a sign that the town gates and taverns are closed.

The Rhine Falls is a waterfall on the Hochrhein (one of the upper reaches of the Rhine). It is located between Lake Constance (German: Bodensee) and Basel (German: Basel) .

The Rhine Falls was formed about 14,000 to 17,000 years ago. It is currently the largest waterfall in Europe, and its average flow rate ranks 22nd in the world. It is about 150 meters wide and 23 meters high. The average water flow in summer is about 600 cubic meters per second, about 250 cubic meters per second in winter, and about 373 cubic meters per second on average throughout the year. The snowmelt period in early spring every year is when the water flow of the Rhine Falls is the largest. The highest flow record was 1,250 cubic meters per second in 1965, and the lowest flow record was 95 cubic meters per second in 1921. A small lake has formed in the area around the Rhine Falls, with the deepest point being about 13 meters. Due to the abundant water, there has been a hydroelectric power plant here since the 19th century, and the supply of electricity has enabled the industrialization of nearby Schaffhausen.

Compared with our Huangguoshu Waterfall, the Rhine Falls is wider, but not as high as the Huangguoshu Waterfall. The actual height of the Huangguoshu Waterfall is 77.8 meters, of which the main waterfall is 67 meters high; the width of the waterfall is

101 meters, of which the top of the main waterfall is 83.3 meters wide. There are 18 waterfalls of different sizes, majestic, strange, dangerous and beautiful, forming a huge waterfall "family", which was rated as the world's largest waterfall group by the Guinness World Records Headquarters and listed in the Guinness World Records.

There are two rocks in the middle of the waterfall, which can only be reached by boat. There are stairs on one of the rocks that allow people to walk up to the top with the Swiss flag. There is a fireworks display here every year on Swiss National Day (August 1st).

Schloss Laufen South Shore : Parking am Schloss Laufen , Rheinfallweg , 8212 Laufen-Uhwiesen

Free parking for all cars. Admission fee: CHF 5.00 , children aged 6-15 : CHF 3.00 . Groups of 15 or more: CHF 3.00 per person, groups of 30 or more: CHF 2.00 per person

- The south bank is close to the waterfall and has better views.
- There is a free toilet to the right of the ticket office.
- The viewing platform is slippery, so be aware in advance.
- There is an elevator on the right side of the platform for easy return.

Schlössli North Shore Wörth : Rheinfallstrasse , 8212 Neuhausen am Rheinfall , Switzerland , 47.677846, 8.610206

Free entry. Cars are CHF 5 /hour, free before 9:00 and after 18:00

Bus Parking: Beim Einfahren ist an der Schranke Buy Tickets entnehmen . Der Chauffeur parkt das Fahrzeug auf the Kurzzeithaltestelle und how to get a job aussteigen . from CHF 15.- Quittung an der Kasse bezahlt werden. Der Chauffeur fährt das Fahrzeug anschliessend zur Burgunwiese in Neuhausen 2. Rheinfall (ca. 5 minutes entfernt), wo er es ohne weitere Gebühr und ohne zeitliche Beschränkung parken kann (Quittung gilt als Parkticket). Die Gäste werden nach ihrem Aufenthalt 2. Rheinfall wieder abgeholt .Für das Abholen sind 15.- per hour bezahlen . Somit kann ein Reiseкар einen ganzen Tag für CHF 30.- am Rheinfall parken.

Felsenfahrt : 10CHF, 5CHF year 6-16, 20 minutes , 1 boat every 10 minutes .

St. Gallen

The name and establishment of St. Gallen have deep roots in an Irish missionary named Saint Gallus (550-646) , who built a monastery around 612 AD . From 747 AD, the Abbey of St. Gallen began to follow the Benedictine Rule, requiring believers to study books attentively and set up a library. After his death, Saint Gallus was buried in the church of the monastery (now the crypt of the cathedral). Later, the place was called St. Gallen after him.

Abbey of St. Gallen

The most famous building in St. Gallen. In 719, St. Othmar founded the monastery on the site of the 7th century Irish monk St. Gallus, which later developed into the most important Benedictine monastery in Europe. In the 13th century, it became an independent fiefdom (1207-1798) until the secular power of the bishop was abolished in 1798. In 1983, the entire monastery was listed as a World Heritage Site.

There are two sculptures above the front of the cathedral, St. Moritz on the right and St. Desiderius on the left.

Saint Maurice was an Egyptian Christian in the third century and a Roman officer of the Theban Legion. In 287 AD, Maximian ordered the Theban Legion to cross the Alps and go to Gaul to suppress the rebellion of Christians. Maurice, a Christian, refused to obey the order and stayed in the area of present-day Switzerland and refused to go to Gaul, so he was killed. It is said that 6,660 Christian soldiers in his Theban Legion were also killed. Later, Saint Maurice became the guardian of Switzerland and

Austria. There is a small town called Moritz in the canton of Graubünden, Switzerland. Saint Maurice usually appears in the image of a Roman military uniform. In the history of the Netherlands, there have been many princes named Mauritius, and the country Mauritius named after the Dutch colonists all originated from Saint Maurice.

Saint Desiderius, also known as Desiderius von Langres , was the Archbishop of Langres, France. The dates and records about him are not very clear.

The library of the Abbey of St. Gallen is one of the most extensive libraries in the medieval world, with a collection of about 170,000 books, including more than 2,000 medieval manuscripts (more than 400 manuscripts from the 8th to 10th centuries), including the famous German epic "The Nibelungenlied". Thanks to this library, St. Gallen became the religious, educational and cultural center of German-speaking countries.

The magnificent hall of the monastery library may be the most Rococo-style building in Switzerland. The small library is divided into two open floors. The library's bookshelves and floors are all inlaid with walnut wood. Swiss walnut wood is dark reddish brown, delicate, rich in color, and does not change over the years. The staircase leading to the second floor is hidden in a hidden place, and the corridor adopts large curved concave and convex curves. The dome painting is coordinated with the original color of walnut wood. The whole building is seamless and sacred. The bookshelves are equipped with iron cages. The books displayed behind the iron cages are national treasures.

St. Gallen Old Town

In the Middle Ages, the town developed into an important cultural and educational center in Europe. After that, the Abbey of St. Gallen was recognized by the international community and began to flourish. As the capital of the canton of St. Gallen and the largest city in the canton, St. Gallen has a population of 75,000 and an area of 39.41 km² . The unique geographical location - located at the junction of Switzerland, Germany, Austria and the Principality of Liechtenstein - makes St. Gallen an ideal starting point for trips to the Säntis Mountain and Lake Constance (also known as Lake Constance) in the Appenzell region. Whether you take the train or ride a bicycle, you can quickly reach the beautiful Lake Constance (also known as Lake Constance) along the bicycle path.

The capital city of Switzerland is not the only one with a deep connection to bears. The bear is also the symbol of St. Gallen. In the ancient city of St. Gallen, bears can be seen everywhere. Legend has it that St. Gallus could communicate with bears, and the bears not only did not harm him, but also served as strong laborers for him to build a monastery.

Another scenic spot of the ancient city is the exquisite bay windows that can be seen everywhere, competing with each other in beauty, as if in a silent contest. These bay windows are too delicate and complicated, and it is not easy to maintain them, and the cost is not small, so the government pays for it.

St. Gallen is a university town with a focus on economics. It has many theater companies and museums, providing tourists with a variety of cultural activities. The famous Magic Unlimited Mime Company originated here. In summer, the Art Nouveau Dreilinden-Weiher open-air swimming pool is full of romance, making you want to take a dip and enjoy the beautiful city scenery.

There is also a **St. Laurenzen Church in the city center** , named after the Spanish Christian saint St. Laurenzen in the third century. The history of the church can be traced back to the mid-12th century.

The city of St. Gallen began as a monastery in the 7th century. With this as the center, a city of a certain size was formed. The monastery was the highest power center of the city, and the abbot was equivalent to the mayor. In the 12th century, the secular part of the city was dissatisfied with the rule of the monastery and separated from the monastery. St. Gallen became two cities, one is the monastery and the other is the secular city. They each have an alliance with other political entities in Switzerland or Europe. For example, the monastery has a close relationship with the emperor of the empire. The secular city is allied with the Old Swiss Confederation. Of course, secular cities also need churches, so they built this Lawrence Church. The two churches are actually incompatible, but the distance between them is only about 100 meters. For hundreds of years after the church was

built, it has been the core building of the secular city. Whenever there are major issues that need to be discussed, they are here. It is said that this tradition has continued to this day.

During the Swiss Reformation in the 16th century, the city converted to Protestantism (Swiss Reformed) and the church was converted into a Protestant church, which intensified the conflict with the Catholic monasteries. Sometimes both sides would not allow the other to pass through the roads in their own areas. Of course, this confrontation was more disadvantageous to the monasteries because they were surrounded by the city. It is said that the people in the monasteries could only go out of the city through one gate. The conflict between the two religions lasted until the 20th century before it was eased.

The Karlstor Gate is the only surviving old city gate in St. Gallen. It was built between 1569 and 1570 and is named after San Carlo Borromeo, Archbishop of Milan (1538-1584) was a European theologian during the Renaissance. His tomb is in the basement of Milan Cathedral and he was canonized after his death. In 1570, the Archbishop visited St. Gallen. Because he was the highest-ranking religious figure to visit St. Gallen, the gate was named after him. The gate was used as a prison in the 17th and 18th centuries and is now a hotel. The reliefs above are the crucifixion of Jesus and some figures such as the Archbishop of St. Gallen.

The New Museum is not known as a museum, but as a place for experimentation with contemporary art, international and regional projects.

' Schoggiland ' - The Maestrani Chocolate Factory in Flawil , where you can see the chocolate production process without prior reservation.

Textile Museum and Library - Swiss and foreign embroidery from the 14th to 20th centuries, well worth a look.

Abtwil Säntispark – a water park with a wide range of leisure and entertainment facilities, including a wave pool, water slides, salt water baths and saunas.

From the 2502m high observatory on the heavenly Alpstein mountain you can see the ' Alpenkranz ' (the summit of the Alps) and six neighbouring countries (there is a cable car from Schwägalp).

For walkers, the "Bridge Route" with 18 bridges in Sittertobel near St. Gallen is a great experience: along the way you can learn a lot about the design and construction of bridges. The pilgrimage from Rorschach to Herisau via St. Gallen takes only six hours.

Children's Day (celebrated every May, celebrated every three years, such as May 2008, May 2011) - a large festival in St. Gallen, fried sausages are a must-have food for the festival; most citizens will participate in the festival celebrations, which evolved from traditional school festivals.

St. Gallen Open Air Music Festival (June) – One of the oldest and largest open air music festivals in Switzerland, held every June in Sittertobel near St. Gallen .

Therme Vals Vals

As early as the 17th century, Vals discovered that the local mineral water had medicinal value and was said to be able to treat bladder diseases. A simple bath was also built, which was said to be able to treat skin diseases. However, the ownership of the "holy water" has always belonged to the church. In 1864, a hotel businessman from Chur bought all the industries related to "water" and began to build hotels here. Since the 1880s, the upper class in Europe has discovered the high-quality tourism resources in the Swiss Alps. Vals also began to build hotels and health and leisure facilities to attract tourists.

The Vals Thermal Baths was built between 1994 and 1996. It is a spa hotel located in Vals, Switzerland. It is the masterpiece of Peter Zumthor, the 2009 Pritzker Prize winner and Swiss architect. The building was listed as a protected building two years after its completion. 7132 is the name of the company that owns the baths and the hotel, 7132AG. The baths are built on the mountain, and nearly half of them are embedded in the mountain. Zumthor completely abandoned the old baths and redesigned this one. Unlike most architects who want their works to attract attention, Zumthor hopes to hide the baths in the natural environment as much as possible. It is covered with thick snow in winter, and the roof is grass in summer, which is very harmonious with the surrounding mountains.

The semicircular main building connected to the bathhouse and backed by the mountain is the hotel. The ground floor is almost at the same height as the bathhouse. The furniture in some rooms was designed by masters such as Le Corbusier and Zumthor. There is also a seven-story hotel built in the 1960s, which is connected to the main building and the bathhouse by a double-layer glass passage for guests to enter the bathhouse. Many rooms in the hotel are also designed by several world-renowned architects, so it is also called the House of Architects, including 10 designed by Zumthor, 22 designed by Thom Mayne, 18 designed by Tadao Ando, and 23 designed by Kengo Kuma.

St. Moritz

A resort town in the Engadine Valley in Switzerland. Located in the Maloja district of the Swiss canton of Graubünden, with a population of around 5,200.

St. Moritz is located in the Alps and is a famous ski resort. The highest peak of the Eastern Alps, Piz Bernina, is located a few kilometers south of the town. St. Moritz hosted the 1928 and 1948 Winter Olympics and is one of the three cities that have hosted the Winter Olympics twice. Due to its excellent geographical location, St. Moritz has more than 300 days of sunny weather a year. Every winter, this alpine village holds the "White Grass" horse race on the frozen Lake St. Moritz, and the participants are all international upper-class people.

Matterhorn :

Zermatt train station. Walk on the right side for about 10 minutes, and then turn left across the bridge to the small Matterhorn cable car station. ➡ After crossing the bridge, take a big elevator and go up one level to the ticket office. Individual tickets are 87 Swiss francs, and the price for groups of more than 20 people is 72, no leader required. ➡ Facing the ticket office, on the right is the cable car entrance. First, the small cable car (usually opens the door twice before reaching the transfer station for the large cable car. Passengers who reach the top will not get off the car after opening the door halfway). The small cable car is similar to Titlis, and it plays in a loop. It is fully loaded with 6 people, because the station with the door opened in the middle is for residents along the way, ski enthusiasts, and people who are worried. It may be decided whether to open the door due to weather and other reasons. Please confirm how many times the door will be opened on the day when buying tickets at the ticket office to the station for the transfer of the large cable car. ➡ The large cable car is fully loaded with about 50 people, and generally runs every 15 minutes. Please try to go together as a team. After reaching the top, the large cable car will stop and arrive at Matterhorn Glacier Paradise, 3883 meters above sea level. ➡ After getting off the cable car, you can see a cave, a straight cave. The end of the cave leads to the outdoors. On the left side of the end is Matterhorn Glacier Paradise (enter here, the ticket is only valid once). Swipe the ticket to enter, take the elevator down, visit, take the elevator up, and exit from the entrance. Inside is a very miniature ice sculpture festival. On the right side of the end is a small shop selling souvenirs and food. On the left side of the way to the end, you can go to the outdoor viewing platform (Panorama Platterform) ➡ The frequency of the big cable car coming down is about every 15 minutes. In this season, it is recommended not to go down later than 3:30 pm ➡ If you love her. Invite her to the Little Matterhorn when the weather is good, the scenery is beautiful. If you hate her, invite her to the Matterhorn when the weather is bad, she will freeze to death, and then, there is no more. Notes: ① The

watch shop at the foot of the mountain has a lunch break and closes at 6:30 or 7:00 in the evening. There is a duty-free shop selling souvenirs. If you are not familiar with it, you will be beaten to death. You know. ② The small cable car takes about half an hour, and the large cable car takes about 15 minutes.

Lugano

Lugano is an Italian-speaking city in the canton of Ticino, Switzerland, and is also the southernmost city. With a population of 63,000 and an area of 26.2 square kilometers, it is the ninth largest city in Switzerland and the largest city in the canton of Ticino, as well as the largest Italian-speaking community outside of Italy. The official language is Italian. It is famous for its Swiss cheese fondue. The city is located on Lake Lugano and is surrounded by the Lugano Mountains.

Lake Lugano is located in southeastern Switzerland, at the border between Switzerland and Italy, between Lake Maggiore and Lake Como. It covers an area of 565.6 square kilometers and is a well-known tourist destination.

Bus pick-up and drop-off point: Piazza Manzoni, Via Massimiliano Magatti 2, 6900 Lugano, Switzerland

There is a restroom on the opposite side of the lake, and a photo-taking spot for "I love lug ano "

Busingen Enclave

German territory in Switzerland - Büsingen

Büsingen am Hochrhein is a town located in the canton of Schaffhausen, Switzerland. However, the sovereignty of this town does not belong to Switzerland, but to the German state of Baden-Württemberg . It is a German " exclave " located in Switzerland , and the residents living there have German nationality. The residents of Büsingen are really happy, they can "eat tea from both sides". In addition to enjoying German citizenship rights, they also enjoy a certain degree of Swiss citizenship rights. However, if you think it is a German territory and go there to spend money with euros, I'm sorry, please exchange it into Swiss francs first, they don't accept euros.

Every resident of Büsingen has a "dual personality". There are two systems for many things in their daily lives (it's rare not to go crazy immediately...). For example, when sending mail in Büsingen, you can freely choose to use the German or Swiss postal stamp (then when I write a postcard, should I tell people that I am in Switzerland or Germany...), because Büsingen has two postal area codes at the same time, so they also have two sets of telephone numbers at the same time. In addition, Büsingen residents can also use the public services of both countries at the same time. For example, if they call the police for help, the police of both countries will come to assist. But due to geographical reasons, the Swiss police usually arrive earlier (however, the two countries agree that no more than 10 Swiss police officers can enforce the law in Büsingen, and no more than 3 German police officers are allowed to be stationed for every 100 residents). What is more "fortunate" is that Büsingen is located in the German-speaking area of Switzerland, otherwise I am afraid that the residents of Büsingen would have to have two sets of mother tongues.

So, what historical factors have led to such an interesting enclave of sovereignty?

13th century, Central Europe was ruled by a country called the Holy Roman Empire , and today's Switzerland, together with Büsingen and Austria, were all part of the empire. A group of strong Swiss people were not satisfied with the empire later, and bravely drove the Habsburg family (House of Habsburg) responsible for ruling the local area out of Switzerland. The

family had to return to their other territory, Austria, in disgrace. The Swiss did not become complacent because of the "stage victory". They knew that if they did not unite, the "stage victory" would really be a "stage victory" and would soon return to their original state. So the tribes of Switzerland formed an alliance to unite against the empire, which became the foundation of today's Swiss Confederation.

At that time, Busingen was a person of character (or maybe he was a step behind others...), and did not join the alliance, so he remained under the rule of the Habsburg family. It would be strange if nothing happened to him with such a person of character and self-admiration for so many years. In the 17th century, the lord of Busingen was arrested and executed by the Swiss. The conflict between Austria and Switzerland immediately increased, and Austria became angry and almost picked up guns to fight Switzerland. Although the two countries only talked nonsense in the end, Austria was determined not to let Switzerland touch Busingen.

Have you ever heard of the French shorty Napoleon? Yes, Büsingen is also about him. In the early 19th century, he crowned himself emperor and called himself "Napoleon I". His power was growing like the sun, and he even controlled several independent states in today's southern Germany. The European powers were terrified. In order to prevent France from growing stronger, they formed a military alliance to oppose France and wanted to "beat it up". "Battle" was so attractive that Austria was ready to join immediately! However, "beating up" does not mean victory. The entire military alliance was disintegrated, and Austria was defeated and forced to sign the "Peace of Pressburg" signed by Napoleon in 1805. The treaty stipulated that Austria would lose all its territory and power in Italy, and Büsingen was ceded to one of the German states in southern Germany, the Kingdom of Württemberg. Later, a German country called the Kingdom of Prussia in northern Central Europe grew stronger. In 1870, the German states and kingdoms agreed to form a unified German Empire under the leadership of the Kingdom of Prussia. With the establishment of the German Empire, Büsingen became part of the empire and thus came under German rule.

When the First World War broke out, European countries were at war, and the residents of Büsingen finally woke up from their dreams and tried to break away from German rule and return to Switzerland! In 1919, they held a referendum, and 96% of them agreed to Büsingen's separation from Germany and return to Switzerland. However, Germany was certainly not a benefactor and would not give Büsingen unconditionally. Switzerland was unable to compensate Germany at a reasonable price, so the matter was finally dropped. Therefore, Büsingen is still a sovereign territory of Germany to this day. The residents of Büsingen are still Germans in law and Swiss in emotion. It seems that they will continue to maintain their "dual personality" until the nationality issue is resolved (God knows when...).

Gotthard Base Tunnel (GBT)

The total length of this tunnel is 57 kilometers, surpassing Japan's Seikan Tunnel (53.9 kilometers) to become the world's longest train tunnel, breaking the Guinness World Record. The Swiss spent 17 years to build it! It is known as the "Project of the Century"...

Looking back, people living in the Alps have made a lot of efforts to improve local transportation. In 1830, the famous winding road was built in the Trmola Gorge. In 1842, the local Probus bus service was officially opened. Although the road was built and the bus was opened, passengers still felt dizzy riding on this winding and dangerous road. Traffic jams often occurred, and often delayed most of the day. So in general, travel was still very inconvenient, and crossing the Alps became an extremely difficult thing...

By 1882, the first 15km-long Gotthard railway tunnel was built, which opened a direct passage for north-south traffic. However, due to the influence of the terrain, the number of passengers and cargo capacity

was greatly restricted. Until the modern era, the material communication across Europe became closer. Every year, millions of large trucks pass through the roads in the Alps, emitting countless exhaust gases. These exhaust gases have a great negative impact on local flora and fauna as well as the Alps. The mountains and blue sky of Switzerland are slowly eroded by exhaust gases.

Finally, the Swiss who couldn't stand it anymore made a decision....carve through this mountain!

GBT Tunnel Project Timeline:

1947 Basel engineer and urban planner Karl Eduard Gruner came up with the idea of building a base tunnel under the Gotthard.

1962 First tunnel project between Amsteig and Giornico.

1971 The federal government asked the Swiss Federal Railways to draw up a project plan and submit it for review in 1975 .

1994 The Alpine Initiative, which calls for shifting freight transport from road to rail and enshrining the protection of the Alps in the Swiss constitution, was passed by 52% in a national referendum .

1998 Citizens and parliament approve investment in the Alpine New Trunk Line project. Swiss Federal Railways creates contractor Alpine Link Gotthard AG.

1999 After preliminary work, excavation work on the Gotthard and Lötschberg tunnels began simultaneously.

2010 The Gotthard Base Tunnel (57 km in total) was finally broken through at both ends.

2016 The Gotthard Railway Tunnel is officially opened to traffic.

In the 17 years since 1994, the tunnel was entirely funded by Switzerland, costing 12 billion Swiss francs (82.5 billion RMB, a Guinness World Record), mobilizing more than 2,400 workers, and chiseling out 28 million tons of rock from the tunnel...

After the tunnel is opened, trains can directly cross the Alps in 20 minutes. It only takes 2 hours and 40 minutes from Zurich to Milan, which is 1 hour shorter than before. Railway transportation has also greatly replaced the usual heavy truck transportation... Many logistics routes that originally required large trucks can be replaced by this tunnel railway...

The two 57.106-kilometer Gotthard Base Tunnels, including all cross passages, openings and shafts, have a total tunnel system length of 151.8 kilometers. To ensure progress and quality, the Swiss are working hard: workers work in three shifts, 24 hours a day. The most advanced excavation equipment is used, and the excavation error is calculated in centimeters. The German-made drilling rigs are used to dig into the hardest bedrock. All the tunneling work is done by Sissi , Heidi and Gabi, three lovely names given by the miners to the three giant penetration machines. The drilling and blasting work of the Gotthard Base Tunnel is done by these three machines. In addition to the tunnel itself, many structures such as underpasses and bridges need to be built to assist the construction of the tunnel. Measures to prevent noise, dust and flooding, as well as how to protect nature and the environment are challenges that are equally important and are actively addressed as tunneling technology.

In addition to construction progress and safety, the operation of the tunnel in the later stage is the most important. The Wenling high-speed rail incident in China has reminded us of this. So, how safe is the Gotthard Tunnel? The top of the tunnel is waterproofed with anti-leakage plates. The double track used during the excavation project will be replaced by a single-track track. They consist of two single-

track tunnels connected by a transverse laneway, which can be used as an escape route in an emergency. The one-way tunnel avoids the possibility of train collisions; at the same time, if a train does not meet the specifications, the precise monitoring system will automatically start and the train will stop immediately! The tunnel has a large number of safety measures, with two escape routes every 325m.

- Gotthard Road Tunnel 16.942 km

Switzerland's lesser-known tourist destinations

Spiez parking spot

Seestrasse 72, 3700 Spiez , Switzerland

Kambly Campbell's Biscuit Factory Store, free tasting. Puppet show

Mühlestrasse 8, 3555 Trubschachen , Switzerland

The scenic route 10 from Bern to Lucerne passes through the famous cheese producing area of Emmental

1. The spectacular rocky valley of Creux du Van

The Creux du Van is located on the border between the cantons of Neuburg and Vaud and features a large number of natural rock landscapes. The 160-meter vertical rock walls enclose a 4-kilometer-long and 1-kilometer-wide valley, which reminds you of the location of the "Eyrie" in "Game of Thrones". Glaciers and streams shaped the lime deposits from the prehistoric ocean 200 million years ago into amazing rock formations. The steep rock walls record in detail the folding geological features of the Jurassic period.

The regional climate of the Horseshoe Valley is very special. The forests and Arctic alpine plants growing on the rocks are lush and green. Antelopes, wild sheep, lynxes and many other wild animals thrive in this primitive and simple natural environment. The 25 square kilometers of the nature reserve provide them with a peaceful and safe living environment.

Taste wine at Visperterminen , Europe' s highest vineyard

For wine lovers, the vineyards of Visperterminen must be on the list of must-visits in this lifetime. Surrounded by high peaks, the highest point here is 1,150 meters above sea level, which is higher than any other vineyard in Europe. Looking around, you can see the charming silhouette of the highest peak in Switzerland. There are a wide variety of grape varieties here, and there is also a rare grape variety in the world - Heida . You can enjoy the beautiful scenery while tasting the fine wine.

View the Earth from the Stockhorn Eye (Stockhorn-Augen)

The Stockhorn Eye is actually two artificial holes in the rock face, through which you can enjoy the

brehtaking scenery of the Aare Valley and central Switzerland. On clear days, the southern part of the Black Forest can be vaguely seen. The two mountain lakes, Berstocken and Hinterstocken , are not far from the top of the mountain. The adventure trail "Stockhorn and its surroundings" is located at the Chrindi intermediate station and was opened to the public in 2003.

The Stockhorn mountain railway runs every half an hour from Erlenbach in the Simmen Valley , passing through Chrindi and arriving at the Stockhorn mountain station in just 20 minutes. This is also a paradise for paragliders, bungee jumpers and hikers.

4. Push your stroller on the Raiffeisen Skywalk, one of the longest suspension bridges in Europe

Raiffeisen Skywalk is 374 meters long and is one of the longest pedestrian suspension bridges in Europe. Visitors can take a cable car up the mountain and then enter the suspension bridge freely. The safety measures of the suspension bridge are very good, and the width of the bridge deck is between 80 and 190 centimeters. Passengers with children or wheelchairs can also experience the high-altitude suspension bridge safely.

5. Watch the sunrise from the top of Rigi Kulm

If you go to Lucerne, you can plan an extra day and visit Mount Rigi (my favorite place). First, take a boat from Lake Lucerne to see the beautiful scenery, and then take a cogwheel train to the mountain. In winter, you can go sledding, skiing, and skating. From June to September, you can take a cable car to watch the sunrise every Sunday. If you can't get up that early, it's also a good choice to choose to hike up the mountain by yourself and walk along the mountain accompanied by the jingling cowbells.

6. Relax at Blausee , the "Swiss Jiuzhaigou"

This Blue Lake is not the famous hot spring in Iceland, but the most famous mountain lake in Switzerland. Because of the beautiful and changing colors of the lake, it is called "Swiss Jiuzhaigou" by the Chinese. The lake is located in the middle of a 20-hectare natural park in Kandersteg and was formed by rock slide. In 1885, the Blue Lake was praised as "a pearl in the depths of a dreamy forest" in a travel guide. Today, this area is very popular with tourists who like hiking, picnics, and bonfires. There is a hot spring hotel by the lake and an organic trout farm next to it. There are no crowded tourists here, only pure snow-capped mountains, emerald lakes and romantic forests. It is a quiet holiday place suitable for the whole family.

7. Take a train through the Rhine Canyon

The Grand Canyon was formed 10,000 years ago. The Romansh-speaking residents called this place "Ruinaulta ", which means "high pile of rubble". These strange white rocks are the remains of prehistoric landslides, and the Rhine River slowly and circuitously passes through the rocks. This canyon in the Vorderrhein Valley can be reached on foot, by train or by bicycle. The most labor-saving way is of course to take a sightseeing train, which is part of the famous Glacier Express itinerary.

8. Explore Europe' s largest underground lake, Lac Souterrain

This underground lake is located between Sion and Sierre in the heart of the Valais Alps . This navigable underground lake is an exceptional testimony to the formation of the Alps and lies 30-70 metres below the vineyards on the hillside. At 300 metres long, it is the largest underground lake in Europe.

The lake was discovered in 1943. In 1946, a 6.1-magnitude earthquake in the area caused large cracks in the lake bottom, lowering the water level of the underground lake and making it easier to navigate. The underground lake was officially opened to tourists in 1949. The mysterious caves, huge rocks, and the lake illuminated by lights show you a world that is completely different from the idyllic scenery on the ground.

Liechtenstein

Parking:	Parkhaus Marktplatz , Äulestrasse 72, 9490 Vaduz, Liechtenstein or Ä ulestrasse 6 , 9490 Vaduz , Liechtenstein Free for 1 hour , enter the parking spot number into the machine Bus : Rathausgasse 1, 9490 Vaduz, Liechtenstein		
Full Name:	Principality of Liechtenstein	capital:	Vaduz
Area (square kilometers):	160.4 , equivalent to one percent of Beijing's area	Population ('000):	36
Location	A small landlocked country in central Europe, it is one of the five smallest countries in the world, along with Andorra, San Marino, Monaco and the Vatican. Sandwiched between Switzerland and Austria, it is the only country with German as the official language but no border with Germany. This small mountainous country with a constitutional monarchy has a high national income level despite its small land area and sparse population. Its GDP is as high as 60,000 euros. It is a wealthy small country known for its beautiful Alpine scenery, tax haven and high living standards. The capital Vaduz is the seat of government and the royal family, with the Alps behind it and the Rhine River to the south.		
history	Liechtenstein was once part of the Roman province of Raetia. The Liechtensteiners are descendants of the Alemanni, who settled in the current area after about 500 AD. The name of Liechtenstein comes from the Liechtenstein Castle in Lower Austria, which means bright stone. Many members of this family served as advisers or close ministers to the Habsburg Emperor, and obtained large tracts of land and property from other nobles in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia (now the Czech Republic and Slovakia), but they never had their own imperial territory (directly under the emperor, not controlled by other nobles). In 1699, with the approval of the emperor, they purchased several small plots of territory in this area, and then they had the status to enter the Holy Roman Empire Parliament. In order to prove that the previous purchase of Liechtenstein was entirely out of political status, the Prince of Liechtenstein did not set foot in this new principality for more than 120 years.		

	<p>In 1868, Liechtenstein became a permanent neutral country, which has remained so until today. There is no army in Liechtenstein, only more than 60 policemen and several police dogs. Before World War I, Liechtenstein had always maintained a very close relationship with Austria, but during the war, this relationship caused the country's economy to suffer greatly, and it turned to seek to establish a customs and monetary union with Switzerland. It is almost a protectorate of Switzerland in terms of economy. In 1919, it went a step further and entrusted the country's foreign relations (defense, diplomacy) to Switzerland to form a neutral alliance. After World War II, the severe financial difficulties of the Liechtenstein dynasty were often alleviated by selling art treasures owned by the family. But in the following decades, because of its low tax rate environment, permanent neutrality and perfect central geographical location, it attracted many European companies to become a tax haven, and Liechtenstein gradually prospered. The development of tourism (mainly the skiing crowds in the Alps in winter) and financial services industry supports most of the country's economic income.</p> <p>The Prince of Liechtenstein is the sixth richest head of state in the world, with a fortune believed to be \$4 billion. Today, the people of Liechtenstein live a world-class lifestyle. The Prince of Liechtenstein still claims 1,600 square kilometers of land in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, as well as castles and palaces. Because of this dispute, Liechtenstein citizens were banned from entering Czechoslovakia during the Cold War. Liechtenstein established diplomatic relations with the Czech Republic and Slovakia in 2009.</p>
Political system	<p>Liechtenstein is a constitutional monarchy. The head of state is called the Prince, who has considerable actual power, such as dissolving the government and appointing and dismissing government officials. The current Prince of Liechtenstein is Hans Adam II, who was born in Zurich in 1945. In 2003, a referendum was held on the veto power of the Prince. Prince Hans Adam II threatened that if it was not passed, his royal family would move to Vienna to live. As a result, the referendum passed.</p> <p>The previous king, Franz Joseph II (1906-1989), succeeded to the throne in 1938 (and moved the royal family from Vienna to Liechtenstein). He insisted on national neutrality during World War II, which saved Liechtenstein from the disaster of war. He also turned the country from poverty to one of the richest countries in the world, and was deeply loved by the people. Franz Joseph II ruled for 51 years, making him the longest-ruling monarch in Europe and the longest-ruling head of state in the world at the same time. The current King Hans Adam II is the eldest son of the couple.</p> <p>The royal family of Liechtenstein has a special feature. Since this principality was originally established by Austrian nobles who purchased land in order to own a territory within the Holy Roman Empire, the country's rulers have long lived abroad, such as the Liechtenstein Palace in Vienna.</p>
economy	<p>Liechtenstein's basic personal income tax rate is 1.2%, and its inheritance tax is relatively low, so it is known as a tax haven in Europe. The 2008 Liechtenstein tax scandal first broke out due to a tax evasion investigation in Germany. Some citizens may have used banks and trust institutions located in Liechtenstein to evade tax obligations.</p>
Main Specialties	<p>Liechtenstein, known as the "Kingdom of Stamps", began issuing stamps in 1912. The stamps it issued are world-renowned for their beautiful designs and excellent printing. The Postal Museum in Liechtenstein is regarded as a holy place by stamp collectors around the world. The museum</p>

	<p>displays all stamps issued by Liechtenstein from the first stamp issued in 1912 to today, and also houses stamp treasures from all over the world. It has only one room, and on the walls around it are hung stamps issued from the first set of stamps issued by the country to today, as well as stamps and first-day covers issued by more than 100 countries and regions in the world, which are colorful. In addition to exhibiting stamps, the museum also displays postman's tools, such as hand lamps, mail bags, loudspeakers, movable type plates for printing stamps, postmarks, etc. When tourists come here, the first thing they think of is to buy the exquisite stamps issued by Liechtenstein as a collection or a souvenir.</p> <p>Every year, the country issues dozens of new stamps and sells them to countries around the world. Its stamps are of various types, with a wide range of themes, novel designs, and exquisite bindings, making them of high collection value. In order to develop the stamp industry, Liechtenstein mobilized artists from all over Europe to design stamps, and also invited some art masters to design stamp patterns for it at high prices. Sometimes, stamps are printed based on famous paintings in their collections, so it is favored by philatelists from all over the world. Every year, tens of thousands of stamp collectors and philatelists from all over the world specifically order new commemorative stamps issued here. The annual stamp revenue accounts for more than 12% of the country's GDP . Due to the special status of this pocket country, the stamps and postmarks here have become treasures for travelers and philatelists. The most lively place in Vaduz is the post office in the city center. People who come to mail postcards to relatives and friends or buy stamps or stamp commemorative stamps for stamps have to line up every day.</p> <p>Another famous product of Liechtenstein is dentures, whose production accounts for one-third of the world's production. The income from stamps and dentures alone has brought a lot of wealth to the people of Liechtenstein, and also made Liechtenstein rank among the top in the world's richest countries. Liechtenstein is also a world-famous "heaven" for tax havens and a "holy land" for money laundering. In fact, the largest income of this small country comes from the registration fees collected from foreign companies. Because here, any country and anyone can start a company, the procedures are simple and strictly keep the company owner confidential. Only a small amount of registration tax is required, and other taxes such as income tax and corporate tax are not required. This creates a convenient opportunity for tax evaders and money launderers around the world. Therefore, although there are countless companies in Liechtenstein, these companies basically have no facades, just mailboxes. Liechtenstein is already rich just by the fees from companies registered here from all over the world. No wonder everyone here lives a leisurely and comfortable life, as if they don't need to work and can eat all day. Since it follows the confidentiality system of Swiss banks, it has naturally become the best choice for many wealthy people in the world to deposit and launder money. For example, former Iraqi President Saddam and his family have 7 billion to 10 billion US dollars in assets hidden overseas, most of which may be stored in Liechtenstein banks.</p>
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Across the street from the post office is the Visitor Center . When you arrive at the Visitor Center, you must go to the counter to get an "entry stamp" on your passport (CHF3) to satisfy your vanity as a tourist who feels like you have entered another country. Near the Visitor Center, there are rows of enlarged versions of various exquisite stamps, as well as Chinese zodiac versions! Inside the Visitor Center, there are also various stamp sets and postcards for tourists to choose from. The second inexplicable fun + vanity: buy a Liechtenstein postcard here, put a Liechtenstein stamp on it and mail it back.

During the Chinese New Year, Liechtenstein issues Chinese zodiac stamps. Seeing Chinese people from all over the world rushing to buy them, locals think it is a very face-saving thing. Although it is only a small business of more than ten Swiss francs, the

people of Liechtenstein take it very seriously. These zodiac stamps are printed with the most advanced laser technology and high-grade gold foil hot stamping. Before handing them to the customers, the staff will also considerately ask if you need a paper envelope with a Liechtenstein postmark as a souvenir? If you also want a plastic packaging bag printed with the scenery of Liechtenstein as a gift, the other party will also be happy to give it to you for free.

The Postmuseum next to the visitor center is free. The museum itself is not big, but it displays a lot of clothes, equipment, vehicles used by postmen to deliver letters in the past, as well as some pictures of early people writing, sending and delivering letters, etc. Finally, blank postcards are provided outside the entrance, and visitors can DIY (draw) a postcard, which is also very interesting. Here, in addition to buying stamps, you can also see how local postmen in Liechtenstein delivered letters on bicycles on rugged paths in the Alps after 1912. This is a place that almost every Liechtensteiner has visited. While being educated, it will also make people here secretly determined to pass on the cause of their predecessors. In order to let future generations better remember how important stamps are to this country, in public places in Liechtenstein, stamp-style posters, floor tiles, etc. can be seen in many places, which has become a unique landscape in the city.

- Free toilets available

Vaduz Castle belongs to the royal family and is not open to the public. The history of the castle can be roughly traced back to the 12th century, and it has also experienced a process of continuous destruction and reconstruction during wars. In 1712, the Liechtenstein family bought Vaduz along with the title and the castle. However, as lords, the Liechtenstein family never lived here. It was not until 1938 during World War II, probably because Germany annexed Austria, that Prince Joseph II and his family moved to the castle to live, becoming true monarchs.

Tax Refund

- If your trip starts with Switzerland and ends with Liechtenstein, your Swiss tax refund will be stamped by customs and mailed when you leave Liechtenstein.

Historical Stories

Henri Guisan

Guisan can be seen everywhere in Switzerland, sometimes it is a street, sometimes it is a square, and sometimes it is even a district. They are all to commemorate Henri Guisan, a Swiss general who became famous during World War II.

For the older generation of Swiss, General Guisan is a legend. It was he who stopped Hitler's iron hoof for Switzerland. On April 7, 1960, Swiss General Henri Guisan died. Nearly 300,000 people took to the streets of Lausanne to see Guisan off. Swiss television broadcast the funeral live. This was the largest and most grand funeral in Swiss history.

Switzerland is not a nation of warriors. In history, there have been only three generals. All three were appointed in times of war. The generals were elected by parliament and served as the commander-in-chief of the Swiss army during wartime. The most recent one is General Guisan.

Henri Guisan was born on October 10, 1874, into a family of doctors in Mézières, Vaud. He studied natural sciences and agriculture in Lausanne at the age of 10, and graduated from Lyon, France. He became interested in the military because of his military service, and thus became a professional

soldier, rising from captain in 1894 to commander-in-chief in 1932. During this period, his sociable character from the French-speaking region won him good popularity. He was not a great strategist, but he was very good at listening to others' opinions and making decisions quickly, and taking responsibility for his own choices, even if it would cost him a price. He effectively resisted interference from the political world and resolutely led Switzerland to "war defense" in World War II, which was not an easy task at the beginning of World War II because the pro-German forces in the German-speaking region of Switzerland were very strong at that time.

Many people have doubts about Switzerland's ability to remain unscathed during World War II. Why didn't Germany attack Switzerland, a small country next to it? Some say it was because Switzerland was a neutral country, but this argument is untenable. Not all countries that claim to be neutral were able to escape the Nazis' iron hoof. Some say Switzerland was actually helping Germany to secretly attack, so Germany left a way out. But many Swiss people believe that it was General Guisan who led the Swiss to defend their country, and Hitler was "scared back" by the 500,000 Swiss "all soldiers", "fortified walls and cleared fields" and Switzerland's determination not to surrender.

Whatever the reason, during World War II, Guisan issued a declaration, which inspired the Swiss people with words, united their hearts, and boosted their morale; he also deployed "fortifications in the Alps" with actions, built a large number of underground bunkers, and buried explosives around major buildings such as railways, roads, and bridges, and even pushed the army to the farthest border that a neutral country could reach. Because Guisan's "spiritual defense" method strengthened the Swiss people's confidence in resistance, and Germany was facing the dilemma of fighting the Soviet army and the Allies at the time, it had to deploy a large number of troops to the main battlefield, and finally Switzerland was spared from being involved in World War II. After the war ended in 1945, he retired from active service. The following year, he was elected as a member of the Swiss Royal Military Academy. He died in Lausanne on April 8, 1960.

Therefore, Guisan has become a legend in Switzerland. Although Switzerland is known for its peace, this country that has established itself in Europe by renting out brave and loyal mercenaries has never forgotten to give a general due respect. He also made mistakes: in the spring of 1940, he contacted the French General Staff after France was occupied by Germany; in March 1943, he secretly met with the head of the German SS, Walter Schellenberg, on Swiss territory, without the government's knowledge. In this way, others can judge his honor and disgrace. In any case, Guisan is a person, a soldier, a general, and a Swiss legend.