



Country Profile: Switzerland

Switzerland is a highly developed democracy. Liechtenstein is a democratically run constitutional monarchy. Read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on Switzerland for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	Switzerland
Continent:	Europe
Capital City:	Bern
Boundary Countries:	Austria 164 km, France 573 km, Italy 740 km, Liechtenstein 41 km, Germany 334 km
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	UniversitätsSpital Zürich (Zürich), Spital Saanen (Saanen), Lindenhofspital Bern, Klinik Beau-Site (Bern), Klinik Hirslanden (Zürich)
Main Cities:	Bern, Geneva, Zürich, Saanen
Country Size:	41,290 sq km
Population:	7,523,934

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	German (official) 63.7%, French (official) 20.4%, Italian (official) 6.5%, Serbo-Croatian 1.5%, Albanian 1.3%, Portuguese 1.2%, Spanish 1.1%, English 1%, Romansch 0.5%, other 2.8% (2000 census) <i>note:</i> German, French, Italian, and Romansch are all national languages, but only the first three are official languages
Currency:	Swiss franc (CHF)
Predominant Religions:	Roman Catholic 41.8%, Protestant 35.3%, Orthodox 1.8%, other Christian 0.4%, Muslim 4.3%, other 1%, unspecified 4.3%, none 11.1%
National Holidays:	Founding of the Swiss Confederation, 1 August (1291)
Economic Status:	Switzerland is a peaceful, prosperous, and stable modern market economy with low unemployment, a highly skilled labor force, and a per capita GDP larger than that of the big Western European economies.
Security:	Swiss Armed Forces: Land Forces, Swiss Air Force (Schweizer Luftwaffe); Switzerland has no navy, but maintains a fleet of military patrol boats to patrol Swiss borders
US Presence:	U.S. Embassy Bern Sulgeneckstrasse 19 CH-3007 Bern, Switzerland Tel: +41 31 357 70 11 Fax: +41 31 357 73 20
Major Airports:	Airports: 65, Airports w/paved runways: 42

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