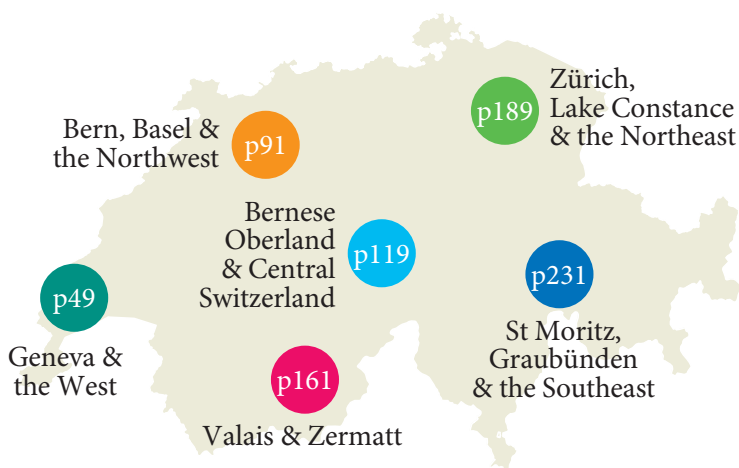




Discover
Switzerland

Experience the best
of Switzerland

This edition written and researched by
**Nicola Williams, Kerry Christiani,
Gregor Clark, Sally O'Brien**



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This Is Switzerland

No one has a hard time conjuring images of Switzerland: Alps, chocolate, cows with bells, cable cars, mountain meadow hikes, tidy old villages, yodelling, lake steamers, cheese (lots of tasty cheese!) and much more. And the reality lives up to the iconography. This orderly nation – where a train is officially late if it's three minutes off – is a splendid place to explore winter or summer, whether you're cliché-hunting or ready for a surprising adventure.

What giddy romance Zermatt, St Moritz and other legendary names evoke.

From the intoxicating chink of Verbier glitterati hobnobbing over champagne in ice-carved flutes to the reassuring bell jangle of cows coming home in Kandersteg, Switzerland is a harmonious tableau of beautiful images. This small, landlocked country is so darn easy to step into and experience.

Switzerland begs outdoor escapades with its larger-than-life canvas of hallucinatory landscapes.

Skiing and snowboarding in the winter wonderlands of Graubünden, Bernese Oberland and Central Switzerland are obvious choices. Or you can hop on an engineering marvel of a train and travel to the crevassed ice on Jungfrauoch (3454m), at what seems like the top of the world.

The perfect antidote to this rich Alpine land is a surprise set of cities. There's the capital Bern, with its Old Town and world-class modern art; Germanic Basel and its bold architecture; shopping-chic Geneva astraddle Europe's largest lake; and ubercool Zürich with its rooftop bars and atypical Swiss street grit.

Smaller but equally beguiling are Lucerne, St Gallen, Chur and Lausanne. Here medieval wooden structures complement ancient stones, and old towns beg exploration. You may be charmed by a castle or simply a scrumptious slice of cake. Either way, Switzerland never fails to reward.

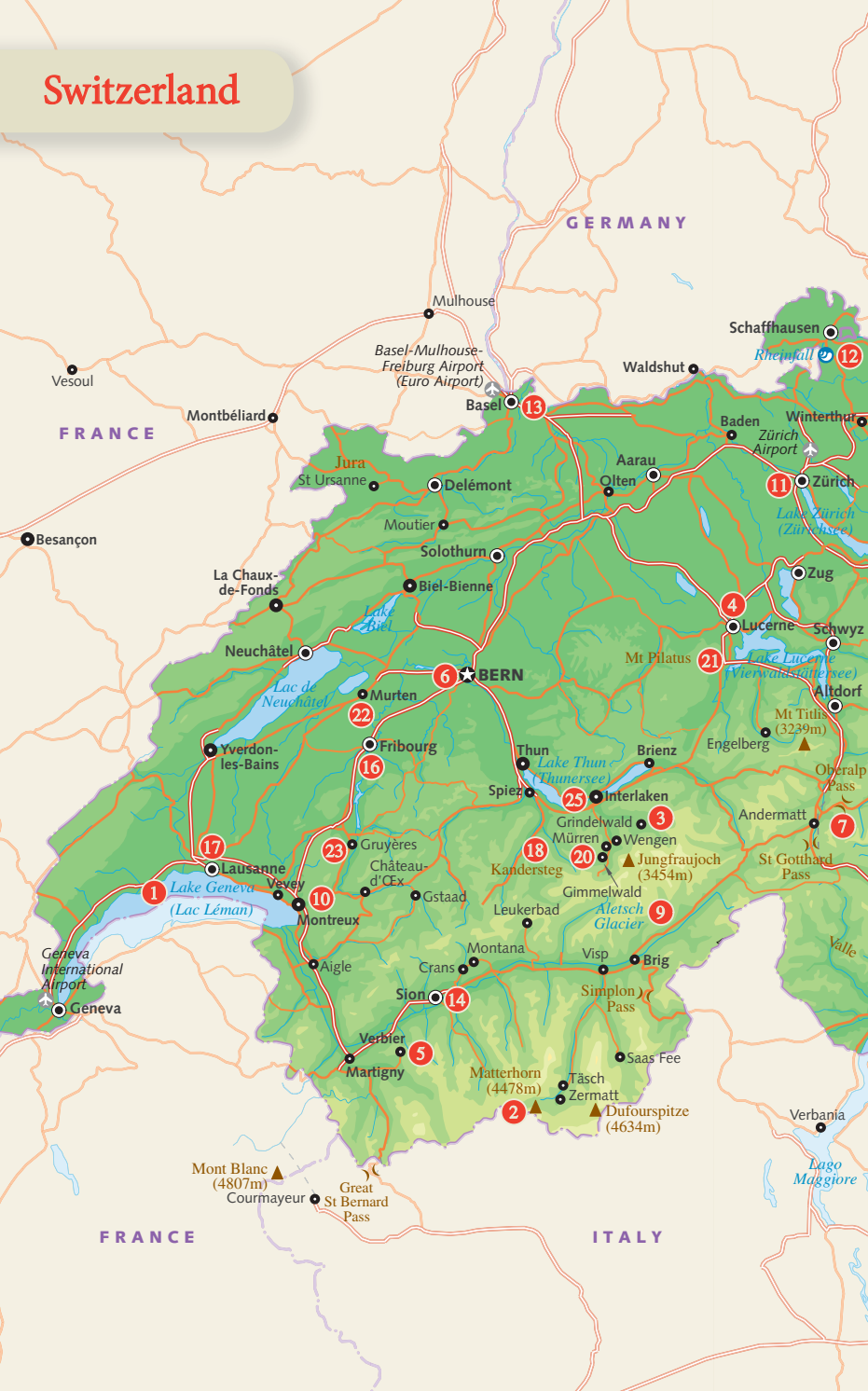
“
This small, landlocked country is so darn easy to step into and experience
”

Twilight over Zermatt and the Matterhorn (p178)

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Switzerland



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Top Highlights



- 1 Lake Geneva
- 2 Matterhorn
- 3 Grindelwald's Jungfrau Region
- 4 Lakeside Lucerne
- 5 Skiing Verbier
- 6 Bern
- 7 Glacier Express to St Moritz
- 8 Hiking in the Swiss National Park
- 9 Aletsch Glacier
- 10 Romance in Montreux
- 11 Zürich Lifestyle
- 12 Splash of the Rheinfall
- 13 Art & Architecture in Basel
- 14 Sion & Valaisian Wine
- 15 Lago di Lugano
- 16 Fribourg Café Life
- 17 Lausanne
- 18 *Vie Ferrate* in Kandersteg
- 19 St Gallen
- 20 Mürren & Gimmelwald
- 21 Mt Pilatus Circle
- 22 Murten
- 23 Fondue in Gruyères
- 24 Lake Constance
- 25 Interlaken Adventures