



Northeastern Switzerland

POP 902,860 / AREA 4418 SQ KM / LANGUAGE GERMAN

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Why Go?

Northeastern Switzerland is the place to tiptoe off the map and back to nature for a few days. Here country lanes unravel like spools of thread, weaving through Appenzell's patchwork meadows, past the fjord-like waters of Walensee and south to remote hamlets engulfed by the glacier-licked peaks of the Glarus Alps. This region calls for slow touring: whether you're cycling through cornfields and apple orchards on a cloudless summer's day, or walking through Klettgau's gold-tinged vineyards in the diffused light of autumn.

From the thunderous Rheinfall to the still waters of Lake Constance, nature is on a grand scale here. Completing the storybook tableau are castle-topped towns like Stein am Rhein and Schaffhausen, their facades festooned with frescos and oriel windows; while in graceful St Gallen, the abbey library literally catches your breath with its rococo splendour.

Best Places to Eat

- » Bäuml (p280)
- » Fischerzunft (p272)
- » Schlössli Worth (p273)
- » Burg Hohenklingen (p275)
- » Segreto (p280)

Best Places to Stay

- » Park Villa (p271)
- » Lofthotel Murg (p285)
- » Märchenhotel Bellevue (p286)
- » Schloss Wartegg (p278)

When to Go

Summer brings folksy festivals galore to the rural hinterland and open-air concerts to St Gallen and Schaffhausen. Fireworks light up the Rheinfall and Kreuzlingen on Lake Constance in August. Make the most of warm-weather cycling around Lake Constance and hiking in the Alps. Autumn is toasted with new wine in Klettgau's vineyards, while winter's arrival brings twinkling Christmas markets to the region's towns and skiers to its slopes.



Northeastern Switzerland Highlights

- 1 Slip back to the Middle Ages exploring the half-timbered heart of **Stein am Rhein** (p274)
- 2 Feel the spray of the **Rheinfall** (p273), Europe's largest waterfall
- 3 Enjoy a fascinating romp through literary history at

- St Gallen's **Stiftsbibliothek** (p278), a rococo masterpiece
- 4 Hike through the magnificent karst mountains above Appenzell on the **Zwinglipass** (p283)
- 5 Pedal, walk or canoe over to Germany and Austria on **Lake Constance** (p276)

- 6 Meet Daisy and co at **Bolderhof** (p275) in Hemishofen, where you can cow trek to the Rhine
- 7 Admire the **ornate oriel windows** (p270) in Schaffhausen
- 8 Lose the crowds and find remote Alpine wilderness around **Piz Sardona** (p285)