Snowy peaks rising above city skylines, wandering cows jewelled with tinkling bells, gooey strings of cheese stretching from bubbling pots of fondue and masterfully engineered watches watching people punctual. Few countries can be reduced to such clichés as easily as Switzerland. But this neutral power is so much more than the sum of its – albeit rather charming – stereotypes.

### Zürich

**Hotels**

- Get a room

1. Boutique Hotel Helvetia, Werd
   **New look**
   This 37-room hotel comes complete with Hastens Luxuria beds, Kiehl’s products, parquet flooring and a fine collection of contemporary Swiss art.
   [hotel-helvetia.ch](http://hotel-helvetia.ch)

2. Baur au Lac, City
   **Top of the lake**
   The family-owned Baur au Lac sits in the middle of its own expansive park with uninterrupted water and mountain views.
   [bauraulac.ch](http://bauraulac.ch)

**Food and drink**

- Sushi spread

1. The Monocle Café, Seefeld
   **Coffee and shopping**
   Our Zürich outpost opened in 2018 and we like to think it’s one of the best places in town to grab a coffee and pick up an issue of the magazine.
   [monocle.com](http://monocle.com)

2. Panama Bar & Grill, Unterstrass
   **Summer staple**
   This relaxed restaurant sits on the concrete platforms above favoured river swimming spot Badischer Letten and epitomises how Zürich’s myriad lake and riverside swimming clubs help the city spring to life on sunny days.
   [panamabar.ch](http://panamabar.ch)

### Geneva

**Hotel**

- Checking in

1. Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues Geneva, Grottes-Saint-Gervais
   **Grand dame**
   This was the city’s first hotel when it opened on the shores of Lake Geneva in 1834 and it remains an institution.
   [fourseasons.com/geneva](http://fourseasons.com/geneva)

2. Le Bologne, Grottes-Saint-Gervais
   **Meaty subject**
   An impeccable offering from Florian Le Boube’s stable, with a meat-heavy, French-inspired menu that includes risotto made from celery, served with truffles and foie gras.
   [lebologne.com](http://lebologne.com)

**Retail**

- Aesthetic refreshment

1. Kronenhalle, Hochschulen
   **Plate of the art**
   Kronenhalle is one of the few places in the world where you can drink and dine next to works by Miró, Matisse and Picasso. Expect German-Swiss classics and exceptional service.
   [kronenhalle.ch](http://kronenhalle.ch)

2. Bar Sacchi, Sihlfeld
   **Cool character**
   Claudio Sacchi’s bar is inspired by traditional Italian aperitivo joints, with a contemporary twist. The negronis keep the regulars coming back.
   [sacchi.bar](http://sacchi.bar)

3. EnSoie, Lindenhof
   **Sister act**
   The three-storey flagship of family-run local label EnSoie offers a range of the brand’s homeware, cheery dresses and colourful accessories.
   [ensoie.com](http://ensoie.com)

4. Soeder, Langstrasse
   **Understated selection**
   Soeder’s Langstrasse shop sells sustainably produced products such as knits and cosmetics.
   [soeder.ch](http://soeder.ch)

5. Gamper, Langstrasse
   **Simple pleasures**
   Chef proprietor Marius Frehner’s short, seasonal menu delivers uncomplicated food that emphasises the quality of the produce.
   [gamper-restaurant.ch](http://gamper-restaurant.ch)

### Basel

**Hotel**

- Ins and outs

1. Krafft Basel, Altstadt Kleinbasel
   **Old and new**
   Krafft Basel offers 60 classic yet modern rooms and junior suites with contemporary furniture.
   [krafftbasel.ch](http://krafftbasel.ch)

2. La Fourchette, Matthäus
   **French fancies**
   This is home-style French cuisine at its finest and there’s also an excellent selection of regional wines.
   [lafourchettebasel.com](http://lafourchettebasel.com)

3. Correspondances, Centre-Plainpalais-Acacias
   **Man’s world**
   A spacious menswear shop that sells brands such as Engineered Garments and Gitman Vintage.
   [correspondances-shop.ch](http://correspondances-shop.ch)

**Retail**

- Aesthetic refreshment

1. Corso, Aarauerstrasse
   **Soho feel**
   Shop for Epure and Etage from the toe to the crown.
   [corso-aarauerstrasse.ch](http://corso-aarauerstrasse.ch)

2. Poletti, In den Zolmen
   **Heritage and design**
   Poletti has filled its new premises with beautiful things made by top designers.
   [poletti.ch](http://poletti.ch)

3. A. Cosson, In den Zolmen
   **Fashionable kitchen**
   A. Cosson has filled its premises with utilitarian things that are beautiful.
   [acosson.ch](http://acosson.ch)

4. L. Puch, In den Zolmen
   **Stylish shop**
   The L. Puch showroom is filled with beautiful things made by designers.
   [lpuch.ch](http://lpuch.ch)

5. Motto, Eigerstrasse
   **Art and design**
   Motto has filled its premises with beautiful things made by designers.
   [motto.ch](http://motto.ch)

6. Studio Paper, In den Zolmen
   **Fashionable kitchen**
   Studio Paper has filled its premises with utilitarian things that are beautiful.
   [studiorchster.ch](http://studiorchster.ch)

7. Mooser – The Shop, In den Zolmen
   **Fashionable kitchen**
   Mooser – The Shop has filled its premises with utilitarian things that are beautiful.
   [mooser.ch](http://mooser.ch)

8. Pech Automotive – The Shop, In den Zolmen
   **Fashionable kitchen**
   Pech Automotive – The Shop has filled its premises with utilitarian things that are beautiful.
   [pech-automotive.ch](http://pech-automotive.ch)

**Food and drink**

- Making a meal of it

1.◆◆◆
   **Grand dame**
   This espresso bar and café, opposite the Musée d’Ethnographie de Genève, is a terrazzo-floored paradise with top coffee and fresh food.
   [cafe-paradiso.ch](http://cafe-paradiso.ch)

2.◆◆◆
   **Old-time dedication**
   Yvon Desbiolles and his son Fabien restore watches and clocks here the “old-fashioned way”.
   [artisanhorloger.ch](http://artisanhorloger.ch)

3.◆◆◆
   **Man’s world**
   A spacious menswear shop that sells brands such as Engineered Garments and Gitman Vintage.
   [correspondances-shop.ch](http://correspondances-shop.ch)

**Retail**

- Aesthetic refreshment

1.◆◆◆
   **Soho feel**
   Shop for Epure and Etage from the toe to the crown.
   [corso-aarauerstrasse.ch](http://corso-aarauerstrasse.ch)

2.◆◆◆
   **Heritage and design**
   Poletti has filled its new premises with beautiful things made by top designers.
   [poletti.ch](http://poletti.ch)

3.◆◆◆
   **Fashionable kitchen**
   A. Cosson has filled its premises with utilitarian things that are beautiful.
   [acosson.ch](http://acosson.ch)

4.◆◆◆
   **Fashionable kitchen**
   The L. Puch showroom is filled with beautiful things made by designers.
   [lpuch.ch](http://lpuch.ch)

5.◆◆◆
   **Fashionable kitchen**
   Mooser – The Shop has filled its premises with utilitarian things that are beautiful.
   [mooser.ch](http://mooser.ch)

6.◆◆◆
   **Fashionable kitchen**
   Pech Automotive – The Shop has filled its premises with utilitarian things that are beautiful.
   [pech-automotive.ch](http://pech-automotive.ch)

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