

Zürich

Geneva + Basel

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 keeping 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 Hästens Luxuria beds, Kiehl's products, parquet flooring and a fine collection of contemporary Swiss art.
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

Food and drink

Swiss 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

2 Panama Bar & Grill, Unterstrass
Summer staple

This relaxed restaurant sits on the concrete platforms above favoured river swimming spot Badi Oberer Letten and epitomises how Zürich's myriad lake and riverside swimming clubs help the city spring to life on sunny days.
panamabar.ch

3 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

4 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

5 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

Retail

In the bag

1 Pelikamo, City
Dapper dressing

Zürich-based menswear brand and retailer Pelikamo has garnered a loyal following.
pelikamo.com

2 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

3 Soeder, Langstrasse
Understated selection

Soeder's Langstrasse shop sells sustainably produced products such as knits and cosmetics.
soeder.ch

Geneva

Hotel

Checking in

1 Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues Geneva, Grottes-Saint-Gervais
Grande 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

Food and drink

Top tables

1 Le Bologne, Grottes-Saint-Gervais
Meaty subject

An impeccable offering from Florian Le Bouhec's stable, with a meat-heavy, French-inspired menu that includes risotto made from celery, served with truffles and foie gras.
lebologne.com

2 Paradiso, Jonction
Coffee heaven

This espresso bar and café, opposite the Musée d'Ethnographie de Genève, is a terrazzo-floored paradise with top coffee and fresh food.
cafeparadiso.ch

Retail

Aesthetic refreshment

1 Horlogerie Desbiolles, Centre-Plainpalais-Acacias
Old-time dedication

Yvon Desbiolles and his son Fabien restore watches and clocks here the "old-fashioned way".
artisanhorloger.ch

2 Correspondances, Centre-Plainpalais-Acacias
Man's world

A spacious menswear shop that sells brands such as Engineered Garments and Gitman Vintage.
correspondances-shop.ch

Basel

Hotel

Inns 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

Food and drink

Making a meal of it

1 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

Retail

Basel buys

1 Grimsel, Vorstädte
Covetable designs

Run by graphic designer Alexa Früh and interior architect Bettina Ginsberg, their showroom is filled with pieces from around the world.
grimsel.net



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