

## practical information



## How to get there:

Lucerne is situated on the most important route running from north to south. Direct fast trains also link Lucerne to the international airports in Zurich (1 h 10 min), Basel (1 h 40 min) and Geneva (3 h). The **tourist office** (041 227 17 17) is at Zentralstr. 5 next to the **railway station** **1** where you also find shopping, fast food, restaurants, hotel booking, lockers, bicycle rental, rest rooms, bookstores, foreign currency exchange, and the medical station "Permanence" (open 24 hrs). **2** Post office and Swisscom center next to the railway station; laundrette, Jet Wasch, at Bruchstrasse 28 and "Altstadt-Express-Wäscherei" at Löwengraben 14; **@** Internet station at Café Parterre, Mythenstr. 7; in downtown Lucerne everyone can access Wireless LAN, just connect with **Luzern.WLAN** and surf!



## save money

The **LucerneCard** gives you unlimited travel on public transportation in the city, a 50% discount on admission to most of Lucerne's museums and more. Costs CHF 19.– (24 hours), CHF 27.– (48 hours), CHF 33.– (72 hours). The LucerneCard is available at the tourist office and at the railway station.

www.luzern.org  
www.centralswitzerland.ch  
www.backpacker.ch

## budget accommodation

**3** Backpackers Lucerne, Alpenquai 42, (041 360 04 20) »www.backpackersluzerne.ch;  
**4** Lion Lodge Luzern, Zürichstrasse 57 (041 410 01 44) »www.lionlodge.ch; Lucerne Youth Hostel, Sedelstr. 12 (041 420 88 00) (take bus no 18 from the train station and get off at the stop "Jugendherberge", takes 18 minutes) »www.youthhostel.ch/luzern;  
Etap Hotel Luzern, Kellerstrasse 4–8 (041 367 80 00) »www.etaphotel.com



On Lake Lucerne in wintertime



The Water Tower and the Chapel Bridge

Lucerne is unique, you'll love it! Centrally located, just an hour south of Zurich and Basel, it offers an incredible panorama. Lucerne lies at the western end of Lake Lucerne (Vierwaldstättersee) which is the geographical and spiritual heart of Switzerland. The city, as well, features the world-famous medieval Chapel Bridge (Kapellbrücke), connecting the old part of town to the new. The over 660-year-old wooden-covered bridge partially burnt down in 1993 but has been restored to its original condition. You'll be charmed by Lucerne's misty lake, by the snow-capped mountains rising above, and the many possibilities for excursions you have from here.

## highlights

**5 Chapel Bridge.** The world-famous 660-year-old bridge, which burnt down in August 1993 and was reconstructed six months later, true to the original. See the paintings of the Swiss and local city history inside the covered bridge.

**6 KKL** (Culture and Convention Center Lucerne). The KKL (at Europaplatz, next to the station) is the work of the Parisian architect Jean Nouvel. It houses one of the finest concert halls in the world and the Museum of Art – the fourth largest in Switzerland.

**7 Lion of Lucerne** (Löwendenkmal). "The Dying Lion of Lucerne" figures among those monuments known all around the world. Globetrotter Mark Twain described the Lion of Lucerne as "the saddest and most moving piece of rock in the world". Denk-

malstrasse (Bus no. 1 to Maihof, get off at Löwenplatz).

**8 Glacier Gardens** (Gletschergarten). The real history of the Swiss glaciers; a place not to be missed. Next to the Lion of Lucerne. Daily 10 am–5 pm, admission CHF 12.–, students CHF 9.50, with guest card CHF 10.–.

**9 The Bourbaki Panorama**, an 1100-sq metre circular painting, is one of the world's few panorama paintings still in existence. The scene is brought to life with recorded commentary (in English). At Löwenplatz 11. Open Mon 1–5 pm, Tue–Sun 10 am–5 pm, admission CHF 8.–/students CHF 7.–.

**10 Collection and Picasso Donation Rosengart.** The most recent museum in Lucerne. It owes its importance to two unique groups of works by **Paul Klee** and **Pablo Picasso**. At Pilatusstrasse 10; open daily

11 am–5 pm, admission CHF 18.–, students CHF 16.–.

**11 Museum of Nature** (Natur-Museum) A permanent biological exhibition shows flora and fauna from Central Switzerland, with a variety of live animals in aquariums and terrariums. Kasernenplatz 6 (next to Spreuerbrücke), open Tue–Sun 10 am–5 pm, closed on Mondays, admission CHF 6.–/students CHF 5.–.

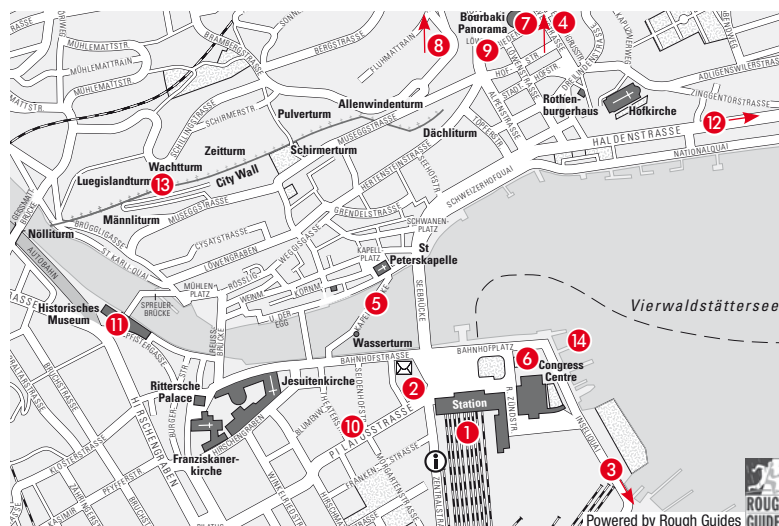
**12 The Swiss Transport Museum** (Verkehrshaus) is the biggest and best museum in Lucerne! And Europe's largest and most diversified transport museum also includes a **giant-screen IMAX cinema**. Lidostrasse 5 is 2 km east of the center. You can take a boat or bus no 6, 8 or 24 from Lucerne station to the "Verkehrshaus-Lido" stop, or else it's a pleasant twenty-minute lakeside stroll. Open daily 10 am–5 pm, admission CHF 27.– (museum only); CHF 18.– (IMAX only); or buy a combi-ticket (museum and IMAX) for CHF 37.–.

**13 Musegg Wall.** A part of the rampart built in 1386; almost entirely intact. Three towers are open to the public: Schirmer, Zyt and Männli. The oldest city clock, built in 1535, is on the Zyt tower. This clock is privileged to chime every hour one minute before all the other city clocks.

**14** A very good reason for coming to Lucerne at all is to explore the beautiful **Lake Lucerne** (also in winter). All boats depart from the quay directly outside the station. **Free** with Eurail- and Swiss Pass, 50% off with Interail.



**Mount Pilatus.** An excursion to mount Pilatus (2,132 m / 7,000 ft) is an absolute must if you stay in Lucerne! Take bus no 1 from Lucerne train station to Kriens (bus stop: Linde / Pilatus). Panoramic gondolas will take you to Fräkmüntegg and from there a cable car will take you to the peak of mount Pilatus, offering a fantastic view! Fräkmüntegg is also the starting point for the **longest toboggan slide in Switzerland** (6 km).



 Visit Switzerland's first and only **glass labyrinth** at the Glasi Hergiswil. A walk through this world of glass created by light, sound and the play of illusion is an impressive experience. The entrance fee is CHF 5.-; slippers and gloves for the walk are available at the cash register. **How to get there:** Hergiswil is only 10 minutes by train from Lucerne. At the Glasi Hergiswil you can also visit a great exhibition on art glass production with museum, shop and show, free of charge. Open Mon – Fri 9 am – 6 pm, Sat 9 am – 4 pm.

### Excursion from Lucerne: Schwyz

Just 40 train-minutes from Lucerne lies Schwyz, a small but characterful town with plenty of history. Worth visiting is the **church of St. Martin**, with its ornate interior (on the terrace above the central Hauptplatz square). The **Rathaus**, sitting on the square itself, has a façade decorated with frescoes painted in 1891. And a little northwest lies the **Ital-Reding House**, an early seventeenth-century manor house set in its own garden and with a magnificent interior. Across the garden – and in

the same complex – is the ancient **Haus Bethlehem**, one of the **oldest wooden houses in the country** (dating back from 1287)!

At the "Schaukäserei Schwyzerland" (at Milchstrasse 5, just a 2 minute walk from Schwyz train station) you can **produce your own Swiss cheese** or just **watch the cheese production!** (open Tue – Sat 9 am – 5 pm, closed from Dec 23rd – Jan 10th; admission is free).

Opposite the Mythencenter shopping complex at Schmiedgasse 57 is Victorinox, the manufacturer of the **original Swiss Army Knife**. You can not visit the factory here, but in its on-site shop they sell the complete range of pocket multitools at **discount prices** (open Mon – Fri 7.30 am – noon & 1.15 – 6 pm, Sat 8 am – 3 pm).

**How to get to Schwyz:** ½-hourly S-train (number 3) from Lucerne, takes 40 minutes. **Tourist office** at Bahnhofstrasse 4, (041 810 19 91).

**Budget accommodation in Schwyz:** Hirschen Backpackers Schwyz, same place as Hirschen Pub, Hinterdorfstr. 14 (041 811 12 76). »www.hirschen-schwyz.ch

Mount Pilatus, a highlight in Lucerne



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### events

<b>Nov 5th – 14th</b>	Lucerne Blues Festival (at different locations)
<b>Nov 27th – Dec 22nd</b>	Christmas market (inside railway station)
<b>Nov 29th</b>	Keith Emerson & Greg Lake at the KKL (tickets at <a href="http://www.ticketcorner.com">www.ticketcorner.com</a> )
<b>Dec 2nd – 19th</b>	Christmas market at Franziskanerplatz
<b>Dec 8th</b>	Göla & Bellamy Brothers at the KKL (tickets at <a href="http://www.ticketcorner.com">www.ticketcorner.com</a> )
<b>Dec 31st</b>	New Year's Eve party everywhere in the city
<b>Dec 31st</b>	Barstreet New Year's Eve party at Allmend (tickets at <a href="http://www.ticketcorner.com">www.ticketcorner.com</a> )
<b>Jan 14th</b>	Monserrat Caballé at the KKL (tickets at <a href="http://www.ticketcorner.com">www.ticketcorner.com</a> )
<b>Mar 3rd – 9th</b>	Carnival of Lucerne – the most famous in Switzerland!
<b>Mar 25th</b>	Honky Tonk Festival. Live music in over 30 bars and cafés

### entertainment, fun & parties

- **Mr. Pickwick** (Rathausquai 6) is a good place next to the famous Chapel Bridge.
- **Parterre** (Mythenstrasse 7) is an Internet-café, bar and restaurant.
- **Bar 59** (Industriestrasse 5) is a place to "hang around underground" while drinking and partying.
- **Jazzkantine zum Graben** (Grabenstrasse 8) is a place where you can listen to live jazz and have a drink.
- **Concert house "Schüür"** (Tribtschenstrasse 1) is a concert house but also has a bar and a nice garden. Call 041 368 10 30 for today's program. »www.schuur.ch
- Are you looking for a disco? Try **The Loft** (Haldenstrasse 14).
- **"Salü Café Bar"** (Waldstätterstrasse 5), with French ambience, is a good place to stay at.
- **Jet Club** (Pilatusstr. 29) at Hotel Astoria; dance club open every night! Hotel Astoria has a bar too, the **"Penthouse"**, not cheap but with a beautiful view.

backpackers lucerne alpenquai 42 ch-6005 lucerne  
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[www.backpackerslucerne.ch](http://www.backpackerslucerne.ch)

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closed: dec 15<sup>th</sup> 2010 – feb 28<sup>th</sup> 2011



Victorinox is the world leader of pocket multitools and the largest employer in the Swiss Knife Valley. Who does not know these great pocket knives and multitools, this symbol for quality and multi-functionality? They are give aways of US presidents in the white house and successfully probed with expeditions from the north pole to Mount Everest. Victorinox accompanies people through life. And has for 125 years. Some say: "It's a friend not just a knife"!

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(See competition on page 23)

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Victorinox pocket knives and multitools are available in hardware stores, specialist shops, sport and outdoor-shops, department stores, souvenir shops, at hostels etc.

