

Pfadibewegung Schweiz
Mouvement Scout de Suisse
Movimento Scout Svizzero
Moviment Battasendas Svizra



Gilwell-Ticket 2016



External Website SSGM



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Caption

Specific term (wording SSGM), with translation to be validated

[Hypertext link](#)

[Image]

1. HOME PAGE

Short text by Fiffan/Wiff with presentation of the contents of the website, sentence „Questions? Please ask!“ (mailto or link to section CONTACT US) and „NB: for simplification reasons, only the male gender is used in the following pages“.

[(aerial) view of a federal camp or scout activity]

2. OUR SECTIONS

Most guides and scouts in Switzerland are distributed by age, in one of the four sections the Swiss Guide and Scout Movement consists of:

- [Beavers](#), for children 5-6 years old
- [Brownies/cubs](#), 6-10 years old
- [Guides/scouts](#), 10-14 years old
- [Ventures](#), 14-17 years old
- [Guide/scout leaders and rovers](#), 17 years old and older

Click on links for more information

[people of all sections together or symbols of the sections]



2.1. Section Beavers

[Beavers](#) -> [Brownies/cubs](#) -> [Guides/scouts](#) -> [Ventures](#) -> [Leader/rover scouts](#)

Introduction

[Beaver in "uniform"]

The section Beavers was initiated in the late 2000s in the Swiss Scout and Guide Movement. It comes from a will of some of the members of the association to allow younger people to participate in the movement. Children can be beavers from 5 to 6 years old, whereupon they become brownies or cub scouts. Due to its relative youth, the section is not yet present in most scout groups in Switzerland.

Uniform and scarf

Beavers usually do not wear any specific clothing beside their scarf, which is sometimes a little smaller than the usual one to adapt to their smaller size. Some groups also have dedicated t-shirts for the section.

Types of activities

The motto of the section says "*Be cheerful*". Beavers are always traveling together with their leaders. In a playful way, their activities lead them to get to know their surroundings and to discover new things. Their imagination and curiosity take them from adventure to adventure, which they experience as a group.

The beaver and the related frame stories make the main leitmotiv of the section, and are usually used in all beaver activities. Recurring characters, which can be represented as well by physical people as by living pets, dolls and the like, allow the beavers to relate to the beaver's story and the respective *quarterly theme*.

Mixed beavers units of 5-7 beavers are often led by 3-4 older leaders, who are responsible for the program and the well-being of the children they look after. They regularly attend training courses, to best meet the needs and abilities of the children.

[beavers in a typical beavers' activity]

Meetings and camps

Beaver activities usually take place on one or two Saturdays a month, for two hours' time. Beavers units are not allowed to organize camps or weekends for their children. Yet, they can sometimes have daylong excursions.

Other information

Beavers do not have dedicated badges. They do also not have any special law and do not make a promise.



2.2. Section Brownies/Cub scouts

[Beavers](#) -> [Brownies/Cubs](#) -> [Guides/Scouts](#) -> [Ventures](#) -> [Leader/Rover scouts](#)

Introduction

Most of the scouts between 6 and 10 years old are named Cub scouts. In some groups, girls between 6 and 10 years old have their own section, the section Brownies. Both sections are similar in all aspects, except the imaginary world on which their activities are based. The usually mixed units are divided into 3-5 combs, each with 5-6 children of the same gender. Each comb is lead by its oldest and most experienced member, the comb leader, seconded by his comb leader in second.

[Cub+Brownie in uniform]

Uniform and scarf

The uniform the brownies and cubs wear is turquoise/hell blue; and looks otherwise same as the scout uniform. Brownies and cubs wear their group's scarf.

Types of activities

Both sections do similar activities, with the motto "*Do your best!*". Their activities, such as dressing up like Indians and making arrows, hunting phantoms or building the best of the tree houses, are based on a *quaternary theme*. Cubs follow the *Jungle Book* by Rudyard Kipling (1865-1836) as a motivational frame, while brownies have the *Story of the Lutins*.

Meetings and camps

Brownies and cubs meet 3-4 Saturday afternoons per month. They have at least one one-week-long (summer-)camp, in which they usually sleep in scout chalets. Most packs organize one or two weekends each year, as well as other smaller camps (autumn-or Easter- or Ascension-camps).

[Cub or Brownie in front of scout home]

Law and promise

See [Law and promise](#).

Badges

Each brownie or cub has at least the emblem of his group on the left sleeve of his shirt, as well as a fabric wolf head of his comb's colour. The left sleeve is intended for membership badges, and the right sleeve for personal development badges.

[Wolf head badge]

When he becomes a *combs leader in second*, a cub (or brownie) becomes one strip of yellow fabric, which he can sew on his right pocket. When he becomes a *comb leader*, he becomes a second yellow strip, to be sewed next to the first one.

Personal development

Personal development happens in three *achievement steps* for both brownies and cubs. The only differences are found in the names of the badges they receive and sew/glue on the right sleeve of their shirt after achieving these steps. The required skills to obtain each badge are divided into the *5 relations* of the *scout method*.

In addition to this, cub scouts and brownies have the opportunity to strengthen their skills in one or more specific domains and.

[3 main badges]



2.3. Section Boy scouts/Girl guides

[Beavers](#) -> [Brownies/Cubs](#) -> [Guides/Scouts](#) -> [Ventures](#) -> [Leader/Rover scouts](#)

Introduction

Section Girl guides/Boy scouts, the core of the Swiss Guide and Scout Movement, is intended for young people aged 10-14. In Switzerland, most of the troops are mixed, and consist of about 25-30 girls and boys. The patrols of 6-7 people are usually not mixed and are lead by a patrol leader and his second.

[Guide in uniform (patrol leader)]

Uniform and scarf

Guides and scouts wear a traditional kaki shirt, with a different cut for males and females. It has two big pockets on the chest and epaulettes. Yet, some groups make their own shirt with different cut, colour etc.

Types of activities

Typical "scouting" activities are big hikes in the mountains, la Soule competitions or mud battles. They spend their time outside, organizing events, sharing, deciphering secret messages and having fun in board games evenings, the whole with the *motto* "Be prepared!"

[Scouts at a field game]

Meetings and camps

Guides and scout traditionally meet on Saturday afternoons. In addition to one or more camps, they also often have patrol-activities, where the patrol leaders organize activities for their patrol, under supervision of a guide/scout leader but without them being present at the activity.

Law and promise

See [Law and promise](#).

Badges

Each guide or scout has at least the emblem of his group and the one of the WOSM or WAGGGS on the left sleeve of his shirt, as well as a fabric floater of her/his patrol's colour. The left sleeve is intended for membership badges, and the right sleeve for personal development badges.

When he becomes a patrol second leader, a scout (or guide) becomes one strip of grey fabric, which he can sew on his right pocket. When he becomes a patrol leader, he becomes a second grey strip, to be sewed next to the first one. The patrol leader also wears a grey cord with a whistle on his left arm, the whistle being kept in the left pocket of the shirt.

[Left shirt pocket of a patrol leader]

Personal development

Personal progress happens in three *achievement steps* for guides and scouts. They receive one badge for each step reached, which they sew/glue on the right sleeve of their shirt. The required skills to obtain each badge are divided into the *5 relations* of the *scout method*.

In addition to this, guides and scouts have the opportunity to strengthen their skills in one or more specific domains.

[3 Badges]



2.4. Section Ventures

[Beavers](#) -> [Brownies/Cubs](#) -> [Guides/Scouts](#) -> **Ventures** -> [Leader/Rover scouts](#)

Introduction

Ventures are scouts between 14-17, too old to be with the youngest scouts of 10 and too young to be leaders. The main goal of this section is to support the final education of young people, helping them to get independent from other people as responsible adults. Venture "teams" of 7-10 ventures plan and organize their activities, called "enterprises", on their own, under supervision of one or two older venture leaders.

Uniform and scarf

A venture shirt is red, otherwise same as a scout shirt.

Types of activities

Since ventures plan their activities by themselves, there is no typical venture activity. Some teams organize very "scout-like" activities, like snowshoe wandering with a night in an igloo or building a fire table in the middle of a sea for Christmas. Some also do more "social" enterprises, such as helping building a school in a developing country. Since the participants organize everything by themselves, they also sometimes do some unusual things, like offering coffee and croissants in a tram in the morning. The venture leaders are also part of the team, they mainly help to keep things secure. Success is not always there, the fire table might be too weak to support the fire and sink or there might be a lack of thermos bottle just minutes before the departure of the tram, but one surely learns from her/his mistakes! The **motto** of the venture section is "Commit oneself!" meaning they are preparing for organizing activities for others, as they will later be able to do as rovers.

Meetings and camps

As said above, ventures plan and organize everything by themselves. This means they can schedule their meetings as they want, be it once on a Saturday afternoon at a venture's or weekly in the evening in a bar. Same is for camps or weekends.

Law and promise

See [Law and promise](#).

Badges

Each venture has at least the emblem of his (or her) group and the one of the WOSM (or WAGGGS) on the left sleeve of his shirt, as well as a "Venture badge", with the word "PIONNIERS" or "PIONIERI" for the men, and "CORDEES" for the women. The left sleeve is intended for membership badges, and the right sleeve for personal development badges.

At his (or her) first participation to an international event (jamboree), a venture becomes the Swiss scouts badge, for letting other scouts notice he comes from Switzerland.

In Switzerland, ventures do not have any specific personal development or skill badge.



2.5. Section Scout/Guide leaders and Rovers

[Beavers](#) -> [Brownies/Cubs](#) -> [Guides/Scouts](#) -> [Ventures](#) -> [Leader/Rover scouts](#)

Introduction

After 4 years as a venture, one has come too old for organizing activities under the supervision of a venture leader. In fact, the experience he or she has acquired during these years has raised him almost at the same authority level as a leader. It is now time to become a true leader, and either to begin organizing activities for other sections, or continue living in an independent rover unit, a “clan”.

Uniform and scarf

The rover shirt, based on the same design like the scout one, is normally green; in some groups, a scout keeps his (or her) kaki scout shirt when he becomes a leader.

Types of activities

Most of the leaders plan and organize activities for the other sections. Others live their scout life in a clan, together with 8-10 other rovers. Activities of a clan are pretty much the same as the venture activities, except that more of them imply a deepest involvement in social matters. Some of the rovers are also involved at the cantonal and/or federal levels of the Swiss Guide and Scout Movement. Their tasks can be either “office-scout” administrative tasks, like writing guidelines for planning activities and administrating the whole movement, or practical/executive ones, like organizing a national event (national jamboree).

Meetings and camps

“Active rovers”, leaders, usually meet once before each activity, and at the activity itself. They also meet several times a year for general planning sessions or fun activities. Independent rovers, on the other hand, have no predefined meeting schedules, so they meet whenever they want to.

Law and promise

See [Law and promise](#).

Badges

Each rover has at least the emblem of her/his group and the one of the WOSM or WAGGGS on the left sleeve of his shirt. The left sleeve is intended for membership badges, and the right sleeve for personal development badges.

When he (or she) becomes a leader, a rover (or guide) receives a leader badge, which he attaches to the button of his left pocket, and a cord with a whistle for his left arm, the whistle being kept in the left pocket of his shirt. The colour of the leader badge and cord depends on his function in the group or organisation.

Beside the promise, rovers have only one dedicated badge, the Rover scout spiritual animation badge. A rover gets this badge after a special rover scout spiritual animation, an evening where the rover discusses about scout questions with other rovers near a campfire. Questions are often citation of B.-P., about the fundamentals of scouting and scout values.



2.6. Organisation

Switzerland is a federal state. This means there is no central state administrating the cantons: the cantons are mostly independent states, united only to share resources for interacting with the rest of the world. This is also true for the Swiss Guide and Scout Movement. Some program and other critical points are organized at the federal (national) level, but most of the administrative work is done by the cantons.

Local level

The local level is made of the scout groups. They are the basis of the Swiss Guide and Scout Movement. They organize all scout activities for their sections and units, as well as they interact with the participant's parents. They also do the local level public relations.

→ [Find a scout group](#)

Regional/cantonal level

The cantonal association has the main role in organizing scouting in Switzerland. It ensures a good application of the *educational principles* of scouting in the local scout groups. It is the main link between all actors of the scout movement in the canton and coordinates the actions of common interest. It also ensures to spread scouting in all regions of the canton. One most important task of the cantonal association is also to organize the [training courses](#) a scout leader attends in his scouting career.

Federal level

As its name says, the federal level federates the different cantons. Its tasks include elaborating a coarse national program, managing contacts with the other national scout associations/organizations and dealing with the non-scout world at national level. The federal association is composed of three main organs:

- The Delegates assembly and Federal conference, representing the cantons and regions. The cantonal/regional leaders make the Federal conference, and each canton sends a variable number of delegates the Delegates assembly, depending on the number of its members. They make every important decisions, such as approving the annual report, voting the budgets and electing the co-presidents.
- The national board composed of 7 members. The executive role of the national board is to deal with the back-end side of the association, meaning everything financial, legal, multilingualism and etc.
- The Executive committee, an executive organ of 5 paid commissioners. It deals with everything "scout" at federal level, such as implementation of the movement's global strategy and coordination of scout activities at the federal level.

If possible in terms of human resources, each of these entities is lead by two co-presidents, a woman and a man.

In order to assist the Executive committee, there are 11 specific committees dealing with some aspects of the tasks. Depending of the needs, additional project groups and ad-hoc workgroups can be created, for instance for dealing implementing new things in the movement (database of members) or planning a national event (federal camp).

[Federal level organogram]



2.7. Figures

Here you can find some interesting figures about scouting in Switzerland. Note that details about cantonal associations are not shown here. For more information, please consult directly the cantonal associations' websites listed on our [links](#) page.

Sections

5 to 6 years old	Beavers
6 to 10 years old	Cub scouts/Brownies
10 to 14 years old	Boy scouts/Girl guides
14 to 17 years old	Ventures
17 years and older	Scout/Guide leaders and Rovers

Name

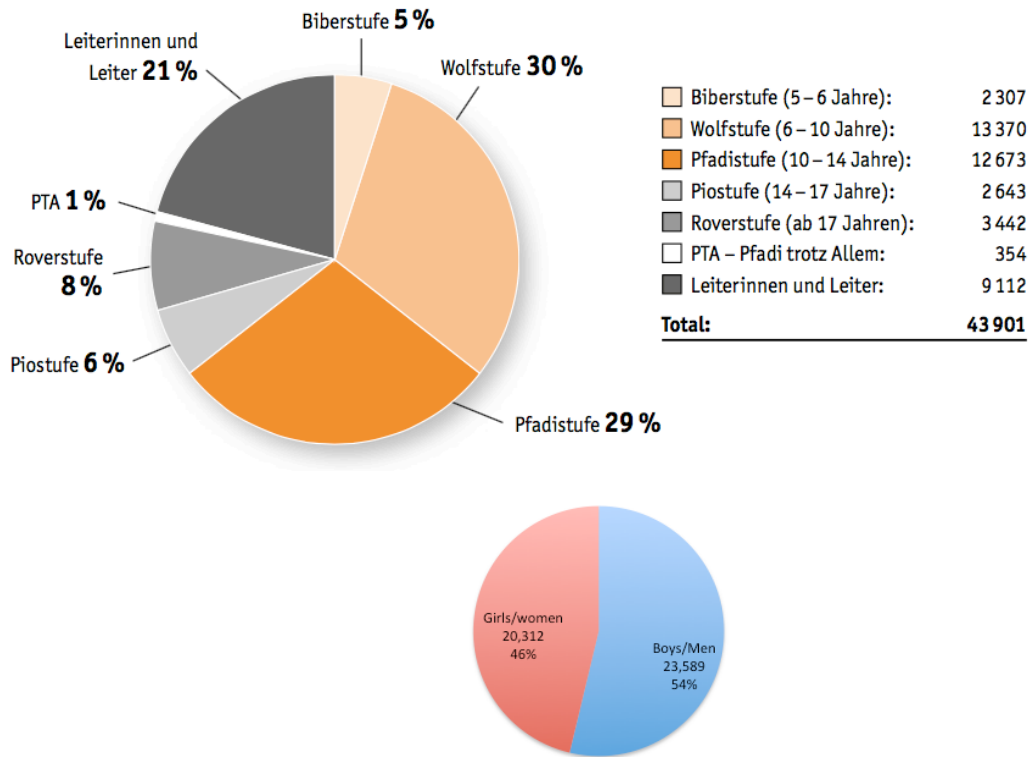
Since Switzerland has more than one official language, the Swiss scouts also have more than one official name

German	Pfadibewegung Schweiz	PBS
French	Mouvement Scout de Suisse	MSdS
Italian	Movimento Scout Svizzero	MSS
Rumantsch	Moviment Battasendas Svizra	MBS
English	Swiss Scout and Guide Movement	SSGM

Structure of the movement and effectives (as for 2015)

The Swiss Scout and Guide Movement is organized into 23 cantonal and regional associations, with about 700 scout groups.

Section	Boys/Men		Girls/women		Total	
	abs.	%	abs.	%	abs.	%
Beavers	1'267	55	1'040	45	2'307	5
Cubs/Brownies	7'375	55	5'995	45	13'370	30
Scouts/Guides	6'572	52	6'101	48	12'673	29
Ventures	1'446	55	1'197	45	2'643	6
Special needs	211	60	143	40	354	1
Rovers	1'994	58	1'448	42	3'442	8
Leaders	4'724	52	4'388	48	9'112	21
Altogether	23'589	54	20'312	46	43'901	100



Courses attended

The SSGM offers yearly over 20 different types of training courses, tailored to meet the different functions and needs. These courses are intended every year by 5'100 young men and women to prepare them for their future leaders' responsibilities.

[Table from "Kursangebot" from the yearly report 2016 of the SSGM]

More information is to be found in section [Educational structures](#).

Financial

In 2015, the total income for the federal association of the Swiss Guide and Scout Movement was of CHF 2,705,417, of which CHF 757,260 came from the participants, with an average membership fee of CHF 18.- per member.



3. OUR CORE VALUES

In this section are presented the ways the Swiss Scout and Guide movement produces scouting. Beside general information about how we implement the law and Promise in Switzerland, you will discover here the educational goals we want to achieve and by which methods we try to achieve them.

1. [Educational structures](#)
2. [Educational methods](#)
3. [Traditions](#)
4. [Law and Promise](#)

Click on links for more information

3.1. Educational structures

Introduction

This page focuses on the main training courses our leaders attend during their scouting “career”. Each scout group organizes some internal courses, for example training courses for patrol leaders, the other ones being organized by either the canton, region or at the federal level. Some of the courses lead to a federal patent for organizing and leading camps with children and young people.

Federal programme for Youth and Sport

The Federal programme for Youth and Sport, abbreviated Y+S, is the official Swiss organization for promoting sports. It depends on the Federal Office of Sports. It is the organization that delivers the federal patents, for the courses it entrusts the organization to the different scout associations. It also edicts some rules about the activities done in a camp, and sponsors its participants if the conditions are fulfilled.

Main training courses organized at the cantonal/regional level

Y+S Basis course

The 8-days long Basis course is the first official course a scout leader should attend, at the earliest at the age of 17 years. It provides him with lots of information and skills about educating, organizing an activity for and leading a small group children or young people. The patent he receives at the end of the course, makes him a Y+S group leader, and enables him to second the main camp leader in a Y+S conditions-fulfilling camp.

Y+S Camp leader course

Attended by Y+S group leaders, 8-days long course enables them to lead a Y+S conditions-fulfilling camp as Y+S camp leaders. Here the course is mainly focused on the management of a scout leaders team and of a camp organizing team, as well as all on the administrative aspects of the organisation of a camp. The participants to this course are all major, meaning they are all above 18 years old.

Safety modules (Y+S)

Training courses organized at the federal level

Panorama course (non Y+S)

The Panorama course is usually the first non-Y+S course a scout leader attends. One has to be 21 years old or older to participate in a Panorama course. The Panorama course is not



exactly a *training* course, it is more a reflexion and thinking course, where the participants discuss and share their experience, their critical thinking being stimulated. At the end of the course, they receive the Gilwell woggle. The Panorama course is the first part of the traditional Wood Badge training.

Gilwell course (non Y+S)

It is the one-week-long second part of the Wood Badge training. Its content is about the same as the Panorama course for older scouts (above 23 years old), this time at the federal level, only one Gilwell course being organized yearly in Switzerland. It is the “highest” course one can attend in Switzerland. After completion of his “ticket”, a small national-wide project he carries out, a “Gilwell scout” receives the Gilwell scarf, and the two Gilwell beads.

Coach course (Y+S)

Each Y+S camp is appraised and validated by a Y+S coach. He is an experimented camp leader and can thus bring his experience to advise the camp organizing team. He is mainly an external point of view for checking that the camp meets the Y+S rules, in terms of education, security etc.



3.2. Educational methods – fundamental principles of scouting

The fundamental principles of scouting explain the educational part of what we call “scouting”. They describe the main goals of scouting and the means to achieve them. The main goal of scouting is to promote the overall development of the person, leading him to become a responsibly thinking and acting person.

The Swiss version of the fundamental principles of scouting is based on the ones of the world associations. The fundamental principles of the SSGM are divided into 5 relations and 7 elements of the method. The 5 relations describe the goals we want to achieve with scouting, as the 7 methods describe how we mean to achieve them.

Scouting achieves its goals (relations) through the methods by the means of the activities.

The five relations (goals)

The meaning of “overall development” is defined using the five relations. These relations are all complementary. For every relation, the scout movement formulates a goal, which its members try to achieve by the activities they offer and using the 7 methods.

- Relationship with the self: being self-confident and being critical to oneself
- Relationship with the body: taking care of and express oneself
- Relationship with the fellow men/women: go to the other and respect him
- Relationship with the world: being creative and act in an ecological way
- Relationship with God/spiritual dimension: being open and thinking

The seven elements of the method

The seven elements of the method are ways given by the SSGM to achieve the educational goals.

- Personal development
- Law and Promise
- Life in the group
- Rituals and traditions
- Participation and responsibility
- Outdoor life
- Gameplay

3.3. Traditions

Every scout group has its own particular traditions, some of them being “official”, with a number of peculiar unwritten ones.

One of the only countrywide traditions is the Thinking day, where every scout wears his scarf at work/school.

You can find more information about our national/regional events in section [Events](#).

3.4. Law and Promise

Beavers do not have any special Law or Promise.



Cub scouts

Wolves live in group. This is possible because they follow the same rules. The law rules their hunts, parlance and life. The law is very important in the pack: "Without law, we are not a free folk!" Their Law and Promise are very similar to the first Cub Scout Law and Cub Scout Promise, after adaptations to fit the Swiss culture.

The motto

Do my best!

The Wolves' Law

Open your eyes and ears;

Discover your environment and respect it;

Keep smiling and be helpful to other.

The Wolves' Promise

I promise to do my best to

Live the Wolves' Law,

*** *Here the cub can add something personal to his promise* ***

And I beg the pack to help me keeping this promise.

Guides/Scouts

Since BP initiated the Scout Movement a hundred years ago, the Scout Law is the very main pillar of scouting. It is the main link between all scouts worldwide, together with the Scout Promise. Our Scout Law is based on BP's first Scout Law and has been revised a couple of times. Every scout in the world knows the same Law, arranged to fit his fellows' culture. The Law is thus the same for every section except the Cubs and Brownies, who have a simpler version adapted to their age.

The motto

Be prepared!

The Law

Guides and Scouts, we wish

To be honest and sincere

To rejoice in all that is beautiful and give joy to others

To listen to and respect others

To share

To be thoughtful and helpful

To choose to the best of our abilities and to commit ourselves

To protect nature and to respect life

To face difficulties with confidence



The promise

With your help and happily, I promise to do my best

or

With the help of God, with your help and happily I promise to do my best:

To study in detail the values of our Scout Law;

To search for the meaning of my life;

To be involved in the community where I live;

...

**** Section is to be finished later, by adding paragraphs for Ventures/Rovers ****



4. OUR COUNTRY

Switzerland is a small country in the heart of Europe. It is known for beautiful mountains, cows and chocolate. In the scouting scene, Switzerland is mostly known for the two scouting centres in Kandersteg and Adelboden. In this section you can find interesting facts and figures about Switzerland

- [General facts](#)
- [International Scout Centres](#)
- [Culinary Specialities](#)
- [History](#)
- [Events](#)

[Picture of Switzerland]

4.1. General facts

Did you know that Switzerland is one of 2 countries in the world that have a square flag? In this section you can find the most important facts about Switzerland.

[Swiss flag]

Population

about 8,000,000

Capital

Berne

Largest City

Zürich

Religious denominations

Roman Catholic (46%)

Protestant (40%)

others (14%)

Currency

Swiss franc, CHF

Area

15,940 sq. mi./41,285 sq. km

Distances

North-south 137 mi./220 km

East-west 216 mi./348 km

Cantons

23, three of which are subdivided into half-cantons

*[Administrative map of CH showing cantons + capital, for example:
<http://flyswitzerland.com/switzerland-maps/>]*

Highest point

Dufour Peak in the Monte Rosa massif (Valais) 15,203 ft./4634 m

Lowest point

Lake Maggiore (Ticino) 633 ft./193 m



Language

Switzerland is one of the most multilingual countries in Europe. Many Swiss, particularly those who work with visitors in one way or another, speak several languages. The national languages of Switzerland are German (central and north-eastern Switzerland), French (western Switzerland), Italian (southern Switzerland) and Rumantsch (south-eastern Switzerland).

Climate

Temperatures generally do not reach extremes of hot or cold. In the cities, summer temperatures seldom rise above 86°F/30°, and the humidity is rather moderate. In winter temperatures often fall below 32°F/0°C and there is snow and ice. The southern part of Switzerland has subtropical vegetation and a mild climate year-round.

Famous inventions

[Swiss army knife]

- Velcro
- Cellophane
- Swiss Army Knife
- Potato peeler
- Muesli
- Edible Chocolate Gold
- Milk Chocolate
- Instant Coffee
- ...

Fun facts

We have 208 Mountains over 13123ft./3000m high

We have the longest tunnel in the world, the Gotthard tunnel with 57km length

We have more than 1500 lakes

We produce half of the world's luxury watches

We have more banks than dentists and more Starbucks coffee shops than banks

“CH” is an Abbreviation for “Confoederatio Helvetica”



4.2. International Scouting Centres

In Switzerland you can find two International Scouting Centres: Kandersteg International Scout Centre (WOSM) and Our Chalet (WAGGGS)

KISC

Kandersteg International Scout Centre is the World Centre of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM). The KISC is located in the Bernese Alps near the village of Kandersteg, 3937ft/1200m above sea level. The Centre began in 1923 with Lord Baden-Powell, who, after the first World Scout Jamboree, had a dream about a place where all Scouts from all over the world could meet: the Permanent Mini Jamboree. In 1930 Baden-Powell visited the KISC. The Campsite can accommodate up to 1400 Persons. Next to the Campsite there are the Chalet with room for 180 people, the Kanderlodge with space for 44, the Tower with capacity of 57 and the Sunneblick with 47 beds.

[KISC]

For more Information please visit their website:

<http://www.kisc.ch/>

Our Chalet

Our Chalet is one of five World Centres of the WAGGGS. With events throughout the year, Our Chalet welcomes independents and groups of visitors of all ages for tours, programmed events and overnight stays. It is also located in the Bernese Alps near the village Adelboden, 4'430ft/1350m above sea level. Our Chalet was founded by Helen Storrow and opened in 1932.

[Our Chalet]

More Information can be found on their website:

<http://www.ourchalet.ch/>



4.3. Culinary Specialities

Swiss cuisine combines influences from the German, French and North Italian cuisine. However, it varies greatly from region to region with the language divisions constituting a rough boundary outline. Here we have listed some delicious recipes from different parts of Switzerland. Have fun trying them out.

Starters

Basler flour soup

[Flour Soup]

For 4 people

- 100 gr Butter, melt in a pan
- 125 gr Flour, add to the melted butter and roast while constantly stirring for 20-30 minutes till the flour takes on a caramel brown colour
- 2 l Stock, add 5 dl to the roasted flour, bring to boil, add another litre of stock and cook on low heat for an hour. Stir from time to time. Add rest of stock when needed.
- Season with salt and nutmeg or caraway
- 4 table spoon Red wine, add to the soup, if wanted strain through a sieve and boil it up
- 1 dl Milk
- 50 gr Gruyère cheese, grated

Mix Milk and Gruyère in a Soup boil, add the soup while stirring. Roast some onion rings as decoration.

Sausage-Cheese-Salad

[Sausage-Cheese-Salad]

For 4 people

- 230 gr Onions, peeled and sliced in rings
- 230 gr Swiss chees
- 340 gr Sausages, must use a cooked sausage
- 85 gr Gherkins
- 20 ml Wine vinegar
- 20 ml Water
- 1 coffee spoon Mustard
- 1 coffee spoon Sugar
- Salt and pepper



50 ml Salad oil

10 gr Chives, chopped

Pour water into a pot and bring to a boil. Place the onion rings in the boiling water and cook for 2 minutes. Pour into a sieve and let drain thoroughly. Remove any rind from the cheese and cut into strips. Remove any skin from the sausage and cut into slices. Slice the gherkins. Place the onion rings, cheese strips, and sliced sausage and gherkins in a salad bowl. Make the dressing by mixing together the vinegar and water, adding the mustard, salt, pepper and sugar, and whisking in the oil.

Pour the dressing over the salad ingredients and mix well. Refrigerate for at least one hour to let the flavours blend. Sprinkle with chives before serving.

Main Courses

Fondue

[Fondue]

Recipe from the Swiss French part

(For 4 people)

600 gr Bread, cubed

300 gr Gruyère cheese (mature)

300 gr Fribourg Vacherin cheese, grate through coarse grater and empty it into the caquelon (fondue pan)

300 ml Chasselas white wine

1 table Cornstarchs mix in a cup and pour over the cheese, bringing to the boil at a low spoon temperature, whilst constantly stirring.

1 Clove garlic peeled, add to the mixture

1 Small glass of Kirsch ... add a little pepper, paprika and nutmeg ... season according to taste

Leave the fondue to simmer on a réchaud (this is a small methylated spirits burner with a stand) in the middle of the table. Keep stirring the mixture, dipping the bread cubes on the forks into the liquid until the end. This prevents the cheese from burning underneath, which would give it a bitter taste.

Zürcher Geschnetzeltes

[Zürcher Geschnetzeltes]

Recipe from the Swiss Central part

(For 4 people)

600 gr Chicken breast, cut into not too thin strips, stir-fry in butter, take meat out of pan and put aside

40 gr Charlottes, finely chopped

120 gr Mushrooms, cut into stripes

1 Apple, peeled, pitted and cut into fine stripes, stew with some butter, charlottes and mushrooms



100 ml White wine, add and allow to reduce

300 ml Gravy, add

300 ml Cream, add and cook

1/2 Lemon, juice, add

Salt, pepper, paprika and Worcester sauce, add to season

Add meat and warm up. As side dish we suggest pasta or rösti (grated, fried potatoes)

Risotto with saffron

[Risotto with saffron]

Recipe from the Swiss Italian part

(For 4 people)

1 table
spoon Margarine, heat up in a pan

1 small Onion, finely chopped

1 Clove garlic, brown gently

250 gr Rice (sticky), add and brown gently

200 ml White wine, add and cook for a little while

1/4 tea
spoon Salt

1 sachet Saffron, add
pepper, add

Boiling chicken stock, pour into the pan a small amount at the time. The mass
8 dl ought to be sticky as well as "al dente". Cooking time after adding the wine: 20
minutes

100 gr Parmesan cheese, add and stir it in before serving

Desserts

Süssmostcreme

[Süssmostcreme]

For 4 people

100 ml Apple juice

2 table
spoons Corn-starch

2 Eggs, mix well with the apple juice and corn-starch, put aside

½ l Apple juice

2 table
spoons Sugar, add



Lemon, juice and grated skin, add to 1/2l of Apple juice and sugar, boil and then 1/2 take the pan off the cooker, Mix in the egg-juice-mixture from the first part, put the pan back on the cooker and heat it up, sieve the crème and let it cool down

200 ml Whipped Cream, add to the cooled down Apple juice crème

Bündner Nusstorte

[Bündner Nusstorte]

300 gr Flour

150 gr Sugar

150 gr Butter

1 Egg

Mix all to a dough, put 250 gr of dough aside for the lid, lay out the rest of the dough in a round cake form (3 cm high border).

300 gr Sugar, caramelize

250 gr Nuts, add to caramelized sugar

200 ml Cream, add and well up twice

Salt, pepper, paprika and Worcester sauce, add to season

Fill the mixing in the cake form, close the cake with the rest of the dough, put into the cold oven, heat up the oven, after 10 minutes turn down to middle heat, bake till the cake is golden.



4.4. History

Switzerland

Switzerland is a small country in the middle of the Alps and Europe, situated at the crossing of different cultures and important means of communication. The geographical situation, with its numerous isolated little valleys, has always been reflected in the inhabitants. The strong desires of independence in each community have enhanced the federal system that we are still using and experiencing today.

Originally, the Helvetians, a Celtic tribe, populated the country. Then various people settled in the territory of the country: the Germans to the north, the Burgundies to the west, the Lombard's to the south and the Rhaetia's to the east. That is the reason why Switzerland today has four languages.

[Symbolic picture of the Rütlichschwur]

Swiss history starts with the pact from 1291, with which the three valleys of Uri, Schwyz and Unterwalden swore to help and support each other. This pact was above all to protect them from the invasions of forceful Dukes interested in the Gotthard. In the course of the years other cities and valleys joined the pact.

The country however always depended on a good relationship with its neighbours. A special emphasis was always placed on cultural and economical contacts. Profitable Treaties involving Swiss mercenaries used to be concluded with the neighbouring dukedoms. The Swiss confederation was also drawn into widespread international conflicts such as the Thirty Years War and the French Revolution. Civilian wars did not spare the country either.

Various constitutions were adopted between 1798 and 1848. As these constitutions did not always take into account the specificity of the Swiss people and their growing desire of independence, they had to be replaced one after the other. Finally, a federal state was created in 1848.

Swiss Scout and Guide Movement

[Black and white picture of scouts]

The first scout groups for boys in Switzerland were founded as early as 1910, the first girls group was founded only a little later.

On 5 October 1913 some cantonal scout associations found themselves in Bern and founded the Swiss Scout Federation (SPB). In contrast to the boys, the urge to form a common organizational form was initially less pronounced by the girls. It took several until 1919, then the Swiss Confederation of Scouts (BSP) was founded. As a result of its role as a multilingual and politically neutral country, Switzerland became an important meeting place for the global movement. The centres in Kandersteg (1923) and Adelboden (1932) were established and have remained meeting points for international meetings and cultural exchanges.

Already at this time first attempts were made to work together between the Swiss scouts and the Swiss guides. The efforts should however only intensify later and 1987 to the merger of the two associations lead: The Pfadibewegung Switzerland (PBS) was founded. Today, with 42'000 members and around 600 local groups, scouting is the largest youth movement in Switzerland and stands for adventure, friendships and shared experiences in nature.



4.5. Events

Switzerland takes part at following international Events:

- Explorer Belt
- Roverway
- JOTA JOTI
- Moot

Next to those events we have some national events:

[PFF or Bula]

- PFF: Open-air for scouts
- Roverschwert: national competition for rovers
- BuLa: national mini jamboree
- KaLa: regional mini jamboree



5. CONNECT WITH US

Want to get to know us? Or how about a visit to our country? In this section you are able to find all information needed to connect with us. Any general questions that are not answered on our website can be sent to the following email address: international@pbs.ch

[Scout handshake]

[Become a scout or guide](#)

[Find friends and partnerships](#)

[Campsites](#)

[Links](#)

5.1. Become a scout or guide

Recently moved to Switzerland and are looking for a Scout group to join? That is exactly what you will be able to find here. Click on the link below, enter your city name or postcode, define the search radius and hit enter.

<http://www.scout.ch/de/pfadi-online/links/pfadieinheiten/pfadieinheiten-in-der-schweiz>

5.2. Find friends and partnerships

If you want to build up a partnership with a Swiss scout group or want to find some friends then just click on the link below, enter your city name or postcode, define the search radius and hit enter.

<http://www.scout.ch/de/pfadi-online/links/pfadieinheiten/pfadieinheiten-in-der-schweiz>

5.3. Campsites

In Switzerland you are able to find many beautiful campsites or scout homes to spend a camp at.

Camp Sites:

<http://www.scout.ch/de/3/pfadistiftung/lagerplatzsuche>

Scout homes:

<http://www.pfadiheime.ch/>



5.4. Links

- [Our Chalet](#)
- [Kandersteg International Scout Centre](#)
... World scouting centres
- <http://www.myswitzerland.com/en-ch/home.html>
... Swiss tourism website with great ideas for excursions, accommodation and tips
- [The City of Basel](#)
... The most beautiful city of Switzerland
- [The City of Bern](#)
The capital City of Switzerland
- [The City of Zurich](#)
The little big City of Switzerland
- [The City of Geneva](#)
The most international City of Switzerland
- [The City of Bellinzona](#)
The most Italian City of Switzerland
- [The City of Montreux](#)
The Jazz capital of Europe
- [Swiss Youth Hostels](#)
- [CONTACT groups.ch](#)
Hotels and Chalets for Groups
- [Switzerland Tourism](#)
- [SBB](#)
Swiss Federal Railways