

Live in the Grisons, experience quality



View over Chur

Facts and figures

The Grisons is characterised by a particularly high quality of life: In Swiss ratings from consultants and banks, the canton always ranks among the leaders. An above-average number of days with sunshine and a favourable climate contribute a great deal towards quality of life. These are supplemented by the picturesque villages, a varied range of leisure-time activities and an intact nature which are aspects in favour of the Grisons as a place to live.

Foreign employees and companies also value the internationality of the Grisons. Tolerance, as well as linguistic and cultural diversity, is characteristic of the Canton Grisons.

Quality of life meets lifestyle

Understanding among the people of the approx. 150 valleys of the Canton Grisons is excellent, despite the range of several different languages and dialects spoken here. In among the nearly 1000 mountain peaks are high-tech companies as well as traditional skilled craftsmen. Cosmopolitanism and still a strong bond to the mountains is a trademark of the Canton Grisons. And it is this trademark which guarantees real quality of life. The cosmopolitanism is expressed in the infrastructure ranging from an expansive transport network to the many educational and leisure-time activities available. The strong bond to the mountains, on the other hand, provides the opportunity to slow down and relax. In this way, the Grisons provides inspiration and strength for new entrepreneurial high performance, either alone or with other people.

Pristine natural experiences

The versatility of the Grisons is shown in the countryside. From high alpine mountains and glaciers to the mediterranean-feeling Rhine Valley with its vineyards which fascinate locals and tourists alike. Clean lakes and rivers are inviting for a swim in summer, the fresh air for a deep breath and relaxation – and always the next beautiful village just around the corner. Thanks to the short distances involved, anywhere and everywhere can be reached quickly and comfortably by train, bus, car or even by bicycle.

Leisure time and sporting activities

The most popular holiday destination in Switzerland both summer and winter: Naturalists and sport enthusiasts find everything that their hearts could wish for. More than 40 famous holiday destinations, including St. Moritz, the Engadin, Klosters Davos, Laax or Arosa Lenzerheide, await visitors with numerous activities in the categories of skiing, snowboarding, cross-country skiing, ice hockey, bob, climbing, biking, tennis, hiking, swimming and many more. Golf enthusiasts have also favoured the Grisons for many years now. Fifteen courses in the most beautiful scenery are waiting for the tee off. The next course is just around the corner. And not to be forgotten: The legendary, historic railway routes of the Glacier, Bernina and Arosa Express – unforgettable alpine experiences for rail passengers.

Culture and events

A complete leisure-time offer must include a varied and lively culture scene. Thanks also to the numerous tourist destinations and their excellent infrastructure, guests and inhabitants of the Grisons have a wide range of offers to choose from. These include different museums and galleries, theatre, concerts, festivals and regular events organised by cultural and tourism associations. There are also many world-cup sporting events staged each year for ski, snowboard, cross-country skiing, ice hockey, polo, bob and biking. Active people always get their money's worth.

Key Figures

50 %

less fog than
the Swiss average

130

different nationalities live
permanently in the Grisons

No. 1

The Grisons is Switzerland's most
popular leisure-time destination

1st place

Switzerland is the
happiest country in the world

Source: UN World Happiness
Report 2015 and BfS



Working and living
– the Grisons offers
quality for both



Regeneration and wellness



Tolerance and personal freedom are given emphasis

Localities for relaxation and business events

Pure relaxation thanks to attractive wellness oases

In the Grisons there are many wellness hotels with extensive bathing and sauna landscapes, spa areas and Turkish baths or hamams, which are usually also open to non-residential guests and provide relaxation in the evenings or at weekends. Among these are the well-known and renowned baths and hotels in Vals, Flims, Scuol, Bad Ragaz, St. Moritz, Pontresina, Arosa or Lenzerheide – the list is practically endless.

First-class locations for seminars and congresses

Along with seekers of wellness and relaxation, the first-class hotels also provide excellent infrastructure for seminar and congress participants. It is no coincidence that the World Economic Forum (WEF) attracts the crème de la crème of industry and politics to the holiday paradise Davos. Staging an event in the Grisons means choosing variety and authenticity.

Cosmopolitan and family-friendly

A paradise for families

Throughout the Grisons you will find entrepreneurs and employees who relocated to the Grisons as soon as they started a family. The reason is clear: The Grisons is the ideal location to raise children and have an active and happy family life. Playing in nature, watching animals, freedom of movement, walking to school alone with other children, a myriad of leisure-time activities – children love all this. This is supplemented by the high quality of schooling and further education offers as well as the opportunity for families to afford a nice house – with garden if required. Real estate prices are significantly lower than the Swiss average.

A cosmopolitan and tolerant population

The population of the Grisons numbers nearly 195,000 people. Of these, 17.7 % are foreign citizens. People from around 130 different nationalities have permanent residence in the Grisons. Three of the four official languages of Switzerland are spoken here as mother tongue: German, Italian and Rhaeto-Romanic. In addition, along with their mother tongue, most inhabitants of the Grisons also speak a foreign language. First foreign languages are taught already in primary school and increasingly, also English. In the international business environment, English is widespread along with the official national languages and is often used by people in leadership positions. A high degree of openness and tolerance is the result of this co-existence of different language groups and religions and the large number of foreign nationality residents. This makes it easier for foreign companies to work from a Swiss location.

Switzerland is the happiest country in the world

Researchers examined 158 countries with regard to factors such as income, life expectancy, health system as well as subjective awareness such as the feeling of freedom or satisfaction.

Source: UN World Happiness Report 2015

“The high quality of life was one of the reasons we chose a location in the Grisons.”

Roland Obrist, CEO of Oblamatik AG, part of the international Viega Group, Chur

The German Viega Group employs around 4000 employees at 5 production locations throughout the world.



Hotel Schatzalp, Davos (also a Hollywood film location)



Health and Safety

“Good universities, technical colleges and the city of Zurich can be reached in less than one hour. We are located in the Grisons Rhine Valley because we greatly value the quality of life and the cluster for life science technology.”

Elmar Morscher, CEO Integra Biosciences, Zizers

Integra Biosciences relocated its headquarters from Zurich to the Grisons.



Quality of life: plenty of sunshine, no fog

Good weather and a favourable climate improve wellbeing. The Grisons is one of the areas with the most sunshine in Switzerland and thanks to the long hours of sun and the mild climate, it is also the warmest vine growing area in the German-speaking part of Switzerland. Many different types of grape are grown here and are processed to create great wines. A further advantage is the low number of foggy days. In contrast to the agglomeration centers of Switzerland, there is very little fog in the Grisons. In short: A climate which promises zest for life.

Safety means quality of life

Freedom of movement and security are guaranteed everywhere and always in the Grisons. The very low crime rate speaks for itself. Children usually walk to school by themselves turning the journey into an important social adventure and allowing them to gain mutual experience. Athletes and nature lovers looking for peace and quiet are also safe, whether while hiking alone, jogging in the woods or biking in the evening after work.

Excellent health service

The health system in Switzerland is one of the best in the world. Highly trained medical personnel guarantee first-class comprehensive treatment in doctors' practices, public hospitals and many private and special clinics. In the Grisons, there is always a doctor or hospital nearby.



View of the Engadin mountain lakes

Tips and Information

Culture and leisure-time activities
www.graubuenden.ch

Weather forecasts
www.wetter-graubuenden.ch

Public transport
www.rhb.ch | www.sbb.ch



Relocating and settling in

International companies often send foreign members of management and experts – so-called Expats – to Switzerland or at short notice and for a limited period of time. Specialised relocation agencies, Expat groups, books and websites provide answers to the most important questions about relocation and living in Switzerland and ensure that Expats can settle in and become acclimatised quickly.

Along with internationally experienced consultants and specialised agencies, the internet is also a good source of useful information – not least the homepage of the Canton Grisons.

Business location development
www.awt.gr.ch

Education and research
www.berufsbildung.gr.ch und
www.bildung-graubuenden.ch

Language courses, integration and identification papers
www.afm.gr.ch

Relocating to Switzerland
www.ch.ch

Focus point: Moving to Switzerland.
 What do I need to know?