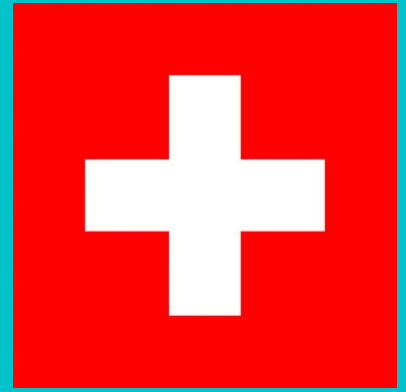


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TOUR UPDATE

The Newsletter of mikesworldtour



Tour Highlight:

October 2022
Zürich, Switzerland



Mountains, Cheese, & Chocolate

Contributed by Michael Davis



A QUICK HISTORICAL, POLITICAL, & SOCIAL OVERVIEW

Switzerland's constitution was adopted in 1848, and largely revised in 1874. The country is known to be neutral in many international affairs, and the government gives a lot of power to the people through referendums in its direct democracy systems. The political system avoids giving a lot of power to the federal government, and many of the power rest in its local government called Cantons. This is due to the large ethnic diversity within the country. The country has 4 official languages being French, German, Italian, and Romansh. The language os "Swiss" does not exist. The country has the most Nobel prize winners per capita, and the country is not a member of the EU. FreedomHouse gives Switzerland a rating of 96 meaning free, but recent laws have been accused of targeting minority groups.

Zürich, Switzerland



Some quick tips for Zürich :

- Everything is expensive in Switzerland so be careful spending but also do not feel bad paying \$20 for a meal
- You have to buy train tickets but they do not always check, but the fine for getting caught without one is \$100

FOOD & DRINK

CHEESE FONDUE



Cheese from Switzerland is very famous, and the Swiss like to enjoy their cheese fondue style. They have a wide variety of cheese fondues with different flavors and ingredients inside. Some cheeses can cost you \$200 so make sure you are reading the menus correctly! They always give bread to dip the fondue in, and also enjoy it with other meat to dip inside.

EXPERIENCES

This lookout tower is not exactly in Zürich, but actually in a city nearby called Winterthur. My friend lived here, so we spent the first day exploring the city. This lookout tower provided panoramic views of the city. We did a hike through the forest to get to the lookout tower, and it has immaculate fall vibes. If you find yourself in Winterthur, highly recommend going here.

ESCHENBERGTURM



Zürich, Switzerland

LINDT CHOCOLATE FACTORY



The massive chocolate facility of Lindt is a dream for chocolate lovers. Guests can enjoy "unlimited" free chocolate, and get to sample white chocolate, milk chocolate, and dark chocolate from a fountain. Besides stuffing your face with chocolate, you also get to learn about the history of Lindt, and how it became the respected and famous chocolate brand it is today. Over 100 million Swiss Francs have been invested in this facility to provide the perfect space for chocolate lovers to sample the wide variety of flavors that Lindt offers.

LAKE ZÜRICH

Besides being home to David Dobrik (Chicago suburbs kids will get this reference) Lake Zürich is the lake in which the city of Zürich is situated on (obvious I know). The lake is super pretty especially at night with the lights of the city illuminating on lake. In the summer, you can swim in the lake as well as there are kayaks and other boats in the lake. There are various houses and towns situated on the lake, and it serves as a transportation hub for the city.



Zürich, Switzerland



MOUNT TITLIS



We did a day trip to Mount Titlis from Zürich, and I was able to see snow for the first time this year! After being in New Orleans for the last two years, I almost forgot what it is like to have winter. Although it was kinda pricy (\$95 train ticket and \$95 gondola ticket), it was absolutely worth it. On top of Mount Titlis is an observation deck with an ice cave. It also is home to the highest suspension bridge in Europe that you can walk across. It was very frightening, but the views from the bridge were insane. There were some skiers on the mountain, but it was still a little too warm for the mountain to be packed with skiers. Although I was wearing my gym shoes, I still had to play in the snow to bring back some of my childhood. Surprisingly, the mountain was not super cold at the top, but I definitely could have worn better clothing (sweatshirt and sweatpants probably not the best idea). For great views a day trip to Mount Titlis is totally worth it.

See You On the Next Stop on the Tour!