# Switzerland and Iceland are the two most expensive countries in Europe

Eurostat's June 2026 figures put Iceland at 84% and Switzerland at 81% above the EU average. Geneva comes in at about €4,200 a month for one person, by our estimate.




## #3

on the Global Peace Index 2026

| | |
|---|---|
| Capital | **Bern** |
| Languages | **German, French, Italian** |
| Currency | **Swiss franc (CHF)** |
| Population | **9,051,029 (2025)** |
| Price level 2024 (EU = 100) | **174** |
| Tax | **8.1% VAT** |
| Years to | **PR 10, citizenship 10** |
| English (EF index 2025) | **#30 in the world** |
| Global Peace Index | **#3 (2026)** |

★ Capital ● City we cover ● Other city

### WAYS TO MOVE

B Work Permit — **case by case**

Income or funds asked for one person

### COST FOR ONE, A MONTH

| | |
|---|---|
| Zurich | **€3,950** |
| Geneva | **€4,200** |

Our estimate for a comfortable life

### EAT LIKE A LOCAL

Fondue
Raclette
Rösti
Zürcher Geschnetzeltes

| EMERGENCY | PLUGS | EU AND SCHENGEN | WORK-DAY OVERLAP |
|---|---|---|---|
| 112 | J | Not EU, Schengen | 2 hours with New York |

Visas, costs, taxes and cities for Switzerland: **livingineurope.net/countries/switzerland**

**Sources:** Population, price level and minimum wage: Eurostat. English: EF English Proficiency Index 2025. Peace: Global Peace Index. Visas and tax: official government pages, as listed on each of our guides. Europe-wide comparisons: Tax Foundation 2026 and Eurostat. City costs are our estimates. Dishes: Wikipedia, National dish. Map: Natural Earth. Rules change, so confirm with the immigration office. Checked 7 October 2026.