

Walchwil Integration Guide

Compiled & maintained by Neil MacLeod on behalf of **Walchwil International Men's Club**, this guide is designed to provide information to both new and existing residents of Walchwil, supporting their integration into village life and expanding their knowledge of the local area, its people and its traditions

While information is provided and summarised by the authors, there are many links to individual businesses, as well as well established local information sites such as those listed below

It is recommended that you switch on Google Translate as some of the links will take you to information listed in German

We appreciate the effort involved in maintaining the following information sites, and highly recommend their use in supplementing the information shared elsewhere in this document

www.zug.ch	Everything Kanton Zug related
www.zug4you.ch/en/home	News, events and services across the Kanton of Zug
www.walchwil.ch	Gemeinde Walchwil
Crossiety-App	Gemeinde communication platform (all events)
www.punkt-walchwil.ch	Events (past & future) in Walchwil
www.wimc.ch	Walchwil International Men's Club
www.ch.ch/en	Easy answers to just about everything in Switzerland

Please feel free to propose updates, amendments or additions that may improve this content and relevance of this document to neil@wimc.ch

Willkommen in Walchwil

Walchwil is a village and a municipality in the canton of Zug in Switzerland, it covers an area of just under 16 square km, at an elevation of 449m (Dorfplatz)
With a population of circa 4000, 38% are non Swiss, representing 68 different nations

If you are reading this for the first time, you are likely to have recently arrived in the wonderful village of Walchwil, and we wish you a very warm welcome

Moving to a new location can be really daunting, and when it's a new Country, with new language(s), different customs, rules and ways of life, it can be a real challenge....

This guide will help you navigate the path from landing in Walchwil, through getting to know the village and its inhabitants, understanding local customs and official requirements, and ultimately establish a solid platform for true integration into the local community

Transportation

Transportation networks in Switzerland are generally very good, very safe, very reliable, and extend to almost anywhere you would be likely to visit, however unless you know some of the ticket options, you may end up paying more than you need to

The information below should help you in finding the most cost effective options for you, your family and anyone visiting from overseas

www.sbb.ch	Switzerland Trains
www.zvb.ch	Zug Transport
www.zugensee-schiffahrt.ch/en	Zug Lake Boats

There are many different passes to choose from for public transport, below summarises most of what's on offer, however please check the links above as things do change
You should be able to find the best options for you, your family and any visitors from abroad

Please note: annual family passes often require proof of residency for which a form will be provided that must be filled in and stamped at the village Gemeinde (10 CHF admin fee)

Latest tickets & offers from SBB

www.sbb.ch/en/tickets-offers/buy

Free travel for children under 6

Children under 6 years of age can travel free of charge whether accompanied or not

Children's Co-Travel Card or Junior Travel Card

This is an absolute no brainer for those with children between the ages of 6 and 16, without one of these passes, your child would have to pay half standard fare for each trip

The Children's Co-Travel Card, costing only 30 CHF per year, allows your child to travel with any adult ticket holder to anywhere in Switzerland

www.sbb.ch/en/tickets-offers/travelcards/travelcards-children/children-co-travelcard

The Junior Travel Card, costing 30 CHF per year, allows your child to travel with one parent ticket holder to anywhere in Switzerland, for the 3rd child onwards, these passes are free

<https://www.sbb.ch/en/tickets-offers/travelcards/travelcards-children/junior-travelcard>

Halbtax card

Generally, unless you have decided to take a GA annual travel pass, it makes sense to purchase a Halbtax (half fare) travel card, this will give you up to half price reduction on most travel throughout Switzerland and can pay for itself after just a few trips

Note: for short trips e.g. Walchwil to Zug the discount is a little less than half price

www.sbb.ch/en/tickets-offers/travelcards/half-fare-travelcard

Half fare travel card plus

This is a new offering from 2024, and builds on the Halbtax card, providing the opportunity to deposit an amount of money up front to earn a bonus amount of travel, and still allow for a refund at the end of the year if not all the deposited money is consumed

While this seems a bit complicated, it looks like a good alternative to the GA if you travel regularly, but maybe not enough to justify the expense of a GA

www.sbb.ch/en/tickets-offers/travelcards/half-fare-travelcard-plus

GA & family GA

The GA travel card essentially gives you access to unrestricted travel across Switzerland throughout the year, and is typically used by very frequent travellers

There are various versions available depending on age and needs, however if members of your family also travel frequently e.g. kids attend school daily in Zurich, then the family GA offers some significant discounts over the individual prices

www.sbb.ch/en/tickets-offers/travelcards/ga

Zuger & Zuger Plus annual cards

If you or your family members are travelling extensively within the Zug area network, but less frequently elsewhere, then this annual pass may be best for you, the cards can be bought covering specific tariff zones, or for a very reasonable price, the whole Zug network, and comes with additional vouchers and benefits, including off peak companion travel

www.tarifverbund-zug.ch/abos-und-tickets/jahresabo/

Rigi day card (for Walchwil residents only)

As a resident of Walchwil, it is possible to book Rigi day cards directly with the Gemeinde providing full access to the entire Mount Rigi rail and gondola network

There are only 4 tickets per day available and they can be booked up to 60 days ahead

These are for residents only (not including guests) and there is a 10 CHF processing fee per ticket, with tickets having to be collected from the Gemeinde office within 1 week of booking

Children up to 15 years of age can travel on Rigi for free if accompanied by an adult, so this is an excellent deal given full price Rigi day tickets start at 75 CHF www.rigi.ch/en

www.walchwil.ch/verwaltung/dienstleistungen.html/177/egov_service/382

Day Pass Children

The Day Pass Children is available for children under 16 at the price of CHF 19 in 2nd class or CHF 33 in 1st class. A child can use it to travel throughout Switzerland alone, together with other children or with adults for a whole day

www.sbb.ch/en/tickets-offers/tickets/day-passes/day-pass-children

Saver Day Pass

With the Saver Day Pass you can travel throughout Switzerland for a day on all routes in the GA area from as little as CHF 29 with a Half Fare Travelcard and from CHF 52 without a Half Fare Travelcard - the earlier you book, generally the greater the discount

www.sbb.ch/en/tickets-offers/tickets/day-passes/saver-day-pass

Swiss Travel Pass

This is the go to pass for people visiting from abroad, providing access to all the transport options afforded by the GA card, plus access to museums, and various other discounts. While this is a great holiday aid, unless your guests are travelling extensively every day, it may be more cost effective to purchase single trips or saver day passes.

www.sbb.ch/en/tickets-offers/tickets/guests-abroad/swiss-travel-pass

Boat timetable

www.zugersee-schiffahrt.ch/en/scheduled-cruises-travel-info/timetable

Bike day pass

www.sbb.ch/en/tickets-offers/tickets/day-passes/bike-day-pass.html

Bike annual pass

www.sbb.ch/en/tickets-offers/travelcards/annual-bike-pass.html

Dog passes

www.sbb.ch/en/tickets-offers/travelcards/dog-pass.html

SBB App

Mobility

Taxis / uber / night busses

****Cheaper 6 ticket price between Walchwil and Zug****

Swiss Drivers Licence

On arrival in Switzerland from another Country, you will usually be permitted to use the drivers licence from your Country of origin for up to one year, however you must visit the office below to convert your licence into the Swiss equivalent before the end of that year.

Strassenverkehrsamt (Road office in Zug)

Hinterbergstrasse 41

6312 Steinhausen

041 728 4711

There is some preparation required, however the process is relatively straight forward.

Hand in your non-Swiss drivers licence within one year of arriving in Switzerland to get your Swiss drivers licence automatically without having to take a test (you will have to fill out the following forms available on the www.zug.ch website)

- Zusatzangaben
- Gesuch

You will need to take along the following with you to the Strassenverkehrsamt

- Original drivers licence
- A passport photo
- Passport
- Residence card
- Certified eye test (simple, and relatively inexpensive test at any local optician)

MFK (similar to MOT in UK)

www.ch.ch/en/vehicles-and-traffic/cars-and-other-vehicles/vehicle-testing

In Switzerland, all passenger cars are subject to periodic inspections. This inspection assesses whether a vehicle meets the legal requirements for operational safety

This inspection is called the Motorfahrzeugkontrolle or MFK and costs 70 CHF

The first inspection must be carried out no later than 5 years after the vehicle was first put on the market. The second inspection takes place after 3 more years. After that, the inspection must be carried out every 2 years

Note: be very careful should you make any modifications to your car, no matter how small, as they could potentially lead to failing the MFK together with obligations to address any issues, and potentially fines (for example, I had non OEM winter wheels, requiring an additional certificate and a re-test costing around 300 CHF)

Ordinarily you will receive a summons to bring in your car for the test in your local centre (for Walchwil, this will be at the Strassenverkehrsamt in Zug) with a specified date, which can be modified once by request if required

It is also possible to book a voluntary control if, for instance, you are selling your vehicle and need an up to date MFK to secure the sale

It is expected that the vehicle will be presented for the MFK in good, clean condition (this requires cleaning both the outside and underside of the vehicle as well as the engine bay

Many people use the service of a local garage to prepare / repair / clean and sometimes even take the car in for the inspection

While the official centre for the MFK for Walchwil residents is the Strassenverkehrsamt in Zug, locals often proactively make appointments at the equivalent in Schwyz, with the support of a local garage for preparation, where I have heard that things can go “more smoothly” aso there is currently there is a backlog in Zug leading to significant delays

Auto Motorway Vignette

www.bazg.admin.ch/bazg/en/home/services/services-private/strassenabgaben-private/vignette-autobahngebuehren

In order to use the Motorway / Autobahn in Switzerland, your vehicle must have a Vignette registered to it either electronically, or physically displayed on the windscreen
The annual cost is 40 CHF, further details available via the link above

Note: if you are expecting visitors arriving into the Country by car, they will need to purchase a Vignette at the border if arriving on one of the main Autobahns

Winter / Summer Tyres

Generally it is expected, and safer to have separate tyres for Winter & Summer driving in Switzerland, and although it is not required by law, you will find it difficult or even forbidden to drive some routes in Winter without them

There are many garages that offer a tyre or wheel changing and storage service, and the prices vary considerably depending on whether it is a local business, or a named dealership

There are some great local business located in the immediate neighbourhood that can provide this service, and as well as being far more convenient, they are often a lot cheaper than the alternatives in the bigger centres

Should your tyres require replacement, then again you can do better than using the named dealerships, and there are a number of companies from which you can get tyres delivered directly to your preferred garage at a fraction of the price (some examples below)

www.reifendirekt.ch

www.reifen-pneus-online.ch

www.e-pneu.ch

Local Walchwil garages websites and offers to be added

Fuel

Details to be added

Garages available

Difference in price (Zug v Schwyz)

Car washes / valeting

Car hire / taxis / Uber

Car repairs

Speeding offences / tickets / fines / disqualification

www.ch.ch/en/vehicles-and-traffic/how-to-behave-in-road-traffic/traffic-regulations/driving-over-the-speed-limit/#driving-at-excessive-speeds

Parking

Most properties will have their own parking spaces, as well one or two temporary communal visitors spaces, however parking can be a bit of a challenge in Switzerland, and it's generally worthwhile using the many paid parking areas if out and about

While parking can be a little expensive, it's cheaper than getting a ticket for illegal parking

For short stays, there are often limited parking spaces outside shopping areas, where you can input your car registration, or sometimes the parking spot number to a machine for a defined free parking period, longer stops will require cash, credit card, or mobile registration depending on the location (make sure that you carry some coins in your car just in case)

In Walchwil, there is free short stay parking for those visiting the COOP just next to the railway line, but on the other side of the railway, it is paid parking only

Opposite and under the Dorfplatz (Gemeinde & Riviera restaurant) you can park up to 2 hours for free, however remember to register your parking bay number in the machine

Blue parking discs are also used in Switzerland and surrounding countries, so you should make sure that you always have one in your vehicle, so you can display your arrival time and prevent being fined in a short stay parking area

Recycling

Switzerland is renowned as a world leader in recycling, so you can imagine that there is a lot of information in the subject - rather than go into detail, the following link will provide great oversight www.expatica.com/ch/living/household/recycling-in-switzerland-102695/

Walchwil Ökihof (recycling centre)

www.walchwil.ch/verwaltung/abteilungen/infrastruktur-sicherheit/entsorgung.html/235

Residents are expected to take certain waste products to the Ökihof where you are required to separate them out and place each in the correct receptacles

- Glass (bottles & Jars) sorted by colour into the glass containers
- Corrugated cardboard, card & brown paper into the carton skip
- White paper, newspapers, magazines into the paper skip
- Christmas wrapping paper into special small skip immediately after Christmas
- Expanded polystyrene into small dedicated skip
- Metal into the metals skip - make sure it is metal only (remove plastic etc.)
- Bricks, garden pots, crockery, sheet glass etc. into the construction waste skip
- Tin cans into the automatic crusher (small set of steps leading to a hopper)
- Electrical appliances (any electrical goods) into the designated bins
- Plastic bottles & containers - into the labelled tote bags e.g PVC, PET, HDPE etc.
- Batteries, coffee pods, aerosol cans, light bulbs, corks etc. into the labelled trays
- Books, folders, xxx, xxx, xxx into the labelled wooden crates
- Shoes, clothes, textiles into the designated crates, in the plastic bags provided
- Even stale bread is collected via a small shoot at the top of the steps

Pretty much everything goes into the general skip and is charged for by weight (min 2 CHF)
More details in this link www.zebazug.ch/beratung/english

Best to get to know the routine, as it can be a little embarrassing when the staff point out your mistakes in a flurry of pure Schweizerdeutsch

The Ökihof is also a great place to meet people, as pretty much everyone goes there, and it's only open for short periods each week (except public holidays)

- Monday & Friday 13:15 - 16:30
- Wednesday & Saturday 08:30 - 11:30

Food & garden waste as well as general household rubbish is collected regularly, and your apartment will have designated receptacles for these, however the household rubbish must be in the official (Zug Kanton) blue sacks, which can be purchased at most grocery stores
Collection dates for your address here www.zebazug.ch/entsorgen/daten/sammelkalender

Nb: it's a lot cheaper to recycle than to dispose of everything in the blue sacks

Bars & Restaurants in Walchwil

Fyrabig Bar www.fyrabigbarwalchwil.ch

Located just next to the Walchwil Bahnhof, this is a friendly locals bar where smoking is permitted and Pizzas are freshly prepared on the premises

Restaurant Aesch www.restaurant-aesch.ch

Located a short walk up the hill from the Bahnhof, this friendly bar & restaurant serves seasonal food, with many of the local clubs and societies using it for their frequent get togethers

Riviera Cafe www.restaurant-riviera.ch

Located in the Dorfplatz opposite the church and next to the Walchwil Gemeinde, this Cafe Bar has long been a favourite of the Expat community, and in 2024 became an Italian restaurant, serving Pizza & Pasta, as well as welcoming guests for drinks during the day

Restaurant Pfaffenboden www.pfaffenboden.ch

Located high up on the Walchwilerberg, this traditional Swiss restaurant enjoys great views, and is the location for various traditional swiss events, as well as being the starting point for hikes, BBQs etc. but unless you are fit, and have plenty of time, it's maybe better to drive!!

Sternen Walchwil www.sternenwalchwil.com

Featured in the Michelin Guide and located by the lake, this is fine dining at its best and is the local venue to celebrate that really special occasion, certainly not cheap, but well renowned for the gastronomic experience

Gasthaus-Engel www.gasthaus-engel.ch

With its lakeside location & great views, this high end Asian style restaurant serves great tasting food, attracting visitors from Zug and beyond

Restaurant Zugersee Lido www.zugersee-lido.ch

Located right on the lake, with its Mediterranean inspired menu, this restaurant offers local lake fish in a glamorous setting

Badi Walchwil www.seebadwalchwil.ch

This seasonal bathing area beside the lake is very popular with the local community, with locals and expats coming together to enjoy the natural beauty with access to the lake and kids swimming pool during the summer months (May to September)

Quality food and drink is provided by the friendly hospitality team of Plaza Zug

A great place to meet people and make lifelong friends...

(note: in poor weather, the Badi is not always open, please check website for details)

Meutschi www.muetschi.ch/informationen/wochen-menue

Not everyone knows this, but you can visit the restaurant at the Meutschi (Retirement Home) which is located just opposite the entrance to the parking area by the COOP, where great value lunches are served daily in the restaurant to the public

Bars & Restaurants worth leaving the village to visit

Pizziera Bacco, Arth www.baccoarth.ch

Located directly on the lake in Arth, this has always been a popular Italian restaurant with the residence of Walchwil

The Horseshoe Event Bar, Arth www.horseshoe.ch

With its own brewery, this bar is pretty much always open, and is known for its generous sized food portions

Restaurant Is Hüttli, Meierskappel www.is-huettli.ch

Located over the other side of the lake in the village of Meierskappel, this traditional Swiss restaurant is well worth a visit even if just to try the Cordon Bleu which is some of the best (and biggest) in the area

Restaurant Zugerberg, Zug www.zugerberg-restaurant.ch

Located at the top of the Zugerberg next to the funicular, this is a popular restaurant has a varied seasonal menu, and great views across the Zugersee

Kurios Bar & Kitchen, Zug www.kurioz.ch

A Zug institution, great food, great cocktails, great music and open late - well worth a visit

Steakhouse Bahnhof, Mettmenstetten www.steakhouse-bahnhof.ch/en/home

Situated right beside the Bahnhof in Mettmenstetten, this place is a carnivore's delight, just jump on board the S5 train out of Zug and you will be there in 12 minutes

The Freiruum, Zug www.freiruum.ch

This place has something for everyone, with play areas for the kids, study areas, and numerous vendors providing various different cuisines and drink options - find a seat, place your order and wait for the signal that it is ready - great concept and very popular

San Marco Ristorante & Pizzeria, Zug www.san-marco-zg.ch

Down to earth Italian restaurant where you can watch the sun setting over the Zugersee while dining outside right beside the lake

Ooh! Curry, Zug www.oohcurry.ch/zug-home

Located just outside the centre of Zug in the Herti quarter, Ooh! Curry offers authentic Indian street food style cuisine - finally an local restaurant that delivers the true flavour of India

Gotthärdli am See, Zug www.gotthaerdli.ch

Tucked just back from the lake in the old town area of Zug, this Thai restaurant offers generously proportioned authentically flavoured dishes in an intimate atmosphere With an extensive wine list and cocktail bar, it's a little gem, and well worth visiting

Please note:

The above is just a small selection of the many great bars & restaurants within easy reach of Walchwil, check this link for many more www.zug-tourismus.ch/restaurants

TV, Radio, Internet & Mobile Phones

www.serafe.ch/en 335 CHF per year at time of publication

Providers (often combined with mobile phone & internet packages)

www.wwz.ch

www.wingo.ch

www.swisscom.ch

www.salt.ch

www.yallo.ch

Smart TVs cover most streaming services via home Internet

Shopping

The two main grocery stores in Switzerland are Migros & COOP, with shopping centres typically being owned & run by one these, and featuring their own sister stores
Migros doesn't sell alcohol, but does stock branded non-alcoholic equivalents
(Both have loyalty cards and Apps, providing awards and additional discounts)

For variety and lower costs, try Lidl, Aldi or Denner (a subsidiary of Migros)
It is worth a drive round the lake to Immensee where Lidl & Aldi are right next each other, with free parking (download the Lidl App for daily / weekly price promotions)

Although Denner is owned by Migros, its cheaper, and they sell alcohol - watch out for their discount weekends, where wine, beer, chocolate etc. is regularly discounted by 20%, with the discount being applied to existing deals (e.g. 50% off case deals for wine)

Specialist and artisan shops can be found in all major centres, however some of the more commonly available shops are listed below:

Major Grocery

www.coop.ch
www.migros.ch
www.manor.ch

Discounter Grocery

www.lidl.ch
www.aldi.ch
www.denner.ch

Discounter Other

www.otto.ch
www.radikal-liquidationen.ch

Garden

www.jumbo.ch
www.landi.ch

Cash & Carry

www.aligo.ch
www.topcc.ch

Electronical

www.interdiscount.ch
www.melectronics.ch

Online Clothing

www.zalando.ch

Online Electrical

www.galaxus.ch
www.digitec.ch

Other Online

www.brack.ch

Shopping Centres

Seewen Centre

www.seewenmarkt.ch

Seedamm Center

www.seedamm-center.ch

Zugerland Steinhausen

www.ekz-zugerland.ch

Mythen Center

www.mythen-center.ch

Emmen Center

www.emmencenter.ch

Mall of Switzerland

www.mallofswitzerland.ch

Ikea Rothenburg

www.ikea.com/ch/en

Local Business / shops

Days Out

General Swiss destinations

www.myswitzerland.com/en

Swiss Museum of Transport

www.verkehrshaus.ch

Tierpark Goldau

www.tierpark.ch

Victorinox (Swiss Army Knife)

www.victorinox.com

Landquart Fashion Outlet

www.landquartfashionoutlet.ch

Swimming Pool Baar

www.lättich-baar.ch

Zugerberg

www.zbb.ch

Seilpark Rigi (high ropes etc.)

www.seilpark-rigi.ch

Baar Lättich (Swimming Pool Complex)

www.xn--lttich-baar-l8a.ch/home

Höllgrotten Caves, Baar

www.hoellgrotten.ch

Zurich Zoo

www.zoo.ch/en

Legoland Germany

www.legoland.de

Europa-Park Germany

www.europapark.de/en

White Turf St. Moritz

www.whiteturf.ch/en

Mini Golf - Zug

www.stadtzug.ch/minigolf

Mini Golf - Arth

www.arth.ch/de/vereine/minigolf

Rigi - Queen of the Mountains

www.rigi.ch/en

Alpamare (Aquapark)

<https://alpamare.ch/en/>

Children's Playground (Spielplatz) with Zipwire and several BBQ areas

Freizeitanlage Usseregg, Forchwaldstrasse, 6318 Walchwil

Firewood is free from the hatches next to the toilets

www.zug-tourismus.ch/en/playgroundussereggwalchwil

Museums in Zug

<https://www.myswitzerland.com/en-ch/experiences/cities-culture/museums/museum-search/-/zug-1/>

Ice Skating (e.g. Herti, Heritage etc.)

www.zug-tourismus.ch/en/poi/sports-and-leisure-facility/ice-skating-zug

Skiing & Hiking (across Switzerland)

www.myswitzerland.com/en-ch/experiences/summer-autumn/hiking/hiking-search

www.bergfex.com/schweiz

Some of the popular destinations within easy reach of Walchwil

www.sattel-hochstuckli.ch/en

www.hoch-ybrig.ch

www.ibergeregg.ch

www.stoos.ch/en

www.rigi.ch/en

www.skiliftbrunni.ch

www.mythenregion.ch

Hiking (areas, routes, firepits) to add

Christmas Markets

Switzerland

Switzerland is famed for its Christmas markets, and they are well worth a visit, however it is worth planning ahead, as while some last a few weeks, others may be one or two day events. Some of the biggest & most well known are listed in the link below, but do your homework as there are many others to choose from.

www.myswitzerland.com/en-ch/experiences/cities-culture/listicles/christmas-markets

Germany

www.homeexchange.com/blog/best-christmas-markets-germany

France (Alsace)

www.christmas.alsace

Samichlaus Day

Although not celebrated in the UK and US, many other European countries, including Switzerland, celebrate this feast, where Samichlaus is accompanied on his journey by his helper Schmutzli (dressed in sackcloth with a blacked out face) distributing peanuts & chocolates to children - careful, he can be a bit scary if your kids are meeting him for the first time....

You can book Samichlaus to visit your children on the evening of 6th December, where he will take the opportunity to share chocolates, and talk to each child about how well they behaved in the past year, and giving them the opportunity to promise to be better next year.

In Walchwil, there are several Samichlaus travelling around the village, accompanied by the Schmutzli together with a group of lads carrying cow bells and a whip cracker. The groups tour the village all through the evening (many through to the early morning), making lots of noise, and steadily getting happier (and louder) after visiting the various village bars that support them during the festivities.

Note: if you have pets, or don't sleep well, while a lot of fun, this evening can be a challenge if you are not used to it.

Küssnacht Klausjagen

Just across the lake in Küssnacht am Rigi, they take this to a whole new level, where they have a massive, world renowned, parade through the streets on the evening of the 5th December from 8.15pm

This is a must see, and best to travel by train (easy via Arth Goldau) as it is attended by thousand of visitors every year www.klausjagen.ch/home-en

Public Holidays & Bridge days

Public holidays vary across Switzerland, and while some cover the whole of Switzerland e.g. Christmas & Easter, others generally depend on the religious status of the individual Kanton

Interestingly the only official Swiss public holiday (federal day) is Swiss Day which takes place on 1st August

Public holidays scheduled over the coming years can be found here www.publicholidays.ch
While Wikipedia clarifies why www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_holidays_in_Switzerland

Should a public holiday fall on a weekend, unlike in many Countries, the holiday is not moved into the week, and the working week remains untouched (so not so great if Christmas falls on a Saturday)

To make things additionally complicated, should a public holiday fall on a Tuesday or Thursday, many businesses will provide a bridge day (additional day off) to effectively extend the holiday into a long weekend break

It is often the case that Zug for instance will have Thursday and Friday as holidays, while the same days in Zurich are standard working days which can be a bit of a challenge if you live in one Kanton and work in another, or even worse if you have members of your household working in different Kantons

List of Vereins (Societies / Clubs) in Walchwil

www.jugend-walchwil.ch/vereine.html/445

Tennis Club Walchwil

www.tcwalchwil.ch

Football Club Walchwil

www.fcwalchwil.ch

Music School Walchwil

www.musik.walchwil.schule

Sailing Club Walchwil

Fishing (rules and regulations)

www.zg.ch/en/natur-umwelt-tiere/wasser-und-gewaesser/fischen

Schwingen

www.rigi-schwingen.ch

www.esv.ch

Swiss Languages

The four official languages

German / Schweizerdeutsch

Duolingo / language schools / Translation Apps

Language schools (English, German etc.)

www.helveticinstitute.ch

www.softlanding.ch

www.duolingo.com

Doctors

www.aerzte-walchwil.ch

Ticks

www.ch.ch/en/health/ticks

Dentists

www.zap-walchwil.ch/en-gb

www.weisszahnarzt.ch/en-gb

Physios

www.physio-lisa.ch

www.gesundheitszentrum-walchwil.ch/en/home

Hairdressers / Barbers**Muetschi (Retirement Home)**

www.muetschi.ch/home/index

Elisabeth Centre

www.zentrum-elisabeth.ch

Fastnacht

www.fasnacht-walchwil.ch

Village shop

www.coop.ch/de/standorte/coop-supermarkt-walchwil/5928_POS

Cheese factory & dispenser on Dorfplatz

www.chaes-rust.ch

Music

www.chollerhalle.ch

www.ticketcorner.ch

Banking

www.raiffeisen.ch

www.zugerkb.ch/en

www.ubs.com/ch/en.html

Zuger Messe

www.zugermesse.ch

Fitness studios / Gyms

www.fitnesspark.ch/fitnessparks/eichstaette-zug

www.gesundheitszentrum-walchwil.ch/en/home

The Böögg

www.zuerich.com/en/visit/sechselaeuten/who-or-what-is-the-boeoegg

Importing things into CH (including cross border shopping)

www.ch.ch/en/customs

Rega membership

www.rega.ch/en

This is an absolute “no brainer” for anyone living in Switzerland, and absolutely essential if you like to spend time in the mountains (Hiking, Skiing etc.)

Patronage is 40 CHF per year for adults and free for under 18`s in the same family

For that small fee not only do you have the support of Rega should you get into difficulty and require rescue / repatriation not only across Switzerland & worldwide, but your patronage also supports the this incredible organisation to operate, providing essential rescue services across Switzerland

Rega is on standby 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, ready to respond to emergency calls – both in Switzerland and abroad. Are you seriously injured or ill? With Rega you can count on swift, uncomplicated emergency assistance by air

With its three ambulance jets and its 14 helicopter bases distributed all over the country, Rega is an integral part of primary medical care in Switzerland.

Reka Card

www.reka.ch

It's not often that you get free money, however this is as close as it gets

Often your employers will give you the opportunity to receive Reka credit, which is essentially free money that can be spent on goods and services throughout Switzerland, and even if you don't get this perk, you can still apply for a Reka Card, and pay money onto it

yourself - we use COOP, and get 3% extra added to our account when loading cash onto the card, which we then use to pay for public transport tickets through SBB

Sattel Stuckli Balloon Fiesta

www.erlebnisregion-mythen.ch/en/highlights/top-events/balloon-fiesta-at-sattel-hochstuckli

For more than 20 years now, various balloon teams from all over German-speaking Switzerland have been meeting at Herrenboden in the Sattel-Hochstuckli ski area for the Stuckli Balloon Fiesta. This unique spectacle takes place on a Sunday at the beginning of each year

You will need to take the gondola up to view this spectacular close up, but it's really worth it as you not only get to see the balloons take off and travel across the amazing local landscape, you can also get up close and personal with the balloons and their pilots as they prepare and for lift off - remember to bring your cameras, the photo opportunities are just incredible

August 1st celebrations

www.myswitzerland.com/en-ch/experiences/events/taditional-events-summer/swiss-national-day-august-1st/

Nudist bathing in Zug

www.badi-info.ch/a/zug-choller.html

Nanny Agency

www.rockmybaby.ch/pages/home

Baby Sitters

www.babysitting24.ch/en/babysitter/zg/walchwil

Hospitals / emergency rooms

www.zgks.ch/en/home

www.hirslanden.ch/en/andreasklinik-cham-zug/home.html

www.spital-schwyz.ch/de

What to do in an emergency (including important phone numbers)

www.ch.ch/en/safety-and-justice/emergencies-and-danger/#

Birthday Treats

<https://www.newlyswissed.com/birthday>

Did you know that many business in Switzerland offer free treats on the date of your Birthday, this link will give you some great suggestions on how to spend less on your Birthday

Other subject areas to work on / enhance

Insurance (basic, enhanced, deductible etc.) - health, home, liability, car, rental etc.
Pension information (Pillars etc.)
Tax advice (including various ways to reduce the tax)
Tax / AVH etc. contacts / church / wealth
Honesty boxes
Venues for hire
Welcome Aperero
New Year Aperero
Alphorns / Yodelling
Bärgfäscht
BBQ areas (often including free wood) / Usseregg playground, BBQ area and running start
Night spots in Zug
Freie Bühne in the Dorfplatz
Dog Walking
Don't upset your neighbours (things to avoid or make sure you do right)
Second hand & free sites + Brocki + local charity stores
Unemployment (insurance, RAV etc.)
Turnip Parade
Village Chilbi
Volunteer Fire Service
Weather Apps
Emergency Numbers (police, ambulance etc.)
Blauring / Phadi (Guides / Scouts)
Swiss permits and requirements to obtain
Swiss passport / naturalisation
European v 3rd Country
Driving lessons
High level school structures (routes to follow e.g. KBA)
Pets: kennels, regulations, obligations
Cleaning services & handymen
Theatres and theatre groups
Voting / democracy
Accommodation / buying / renting / mortgages etc.
Postage from abroad (the rules and limits)
Cows returning from the mountains
General lake etiquette / boat ownership / fishing
Schools (local / international etc.)
Military service
Churches / religions / church tax
Local libraries inc School
Cross Border shopping
Fastnacht
Alphorn

Yodelling
Choir
Loyalty cards & Apps (Lidl, Cumulus, Coop etc;)
KTV
Tipping / cover charges
Berchold day
Children to work day
International foods
Badi
Cannons on Corpus Christie
Zug cherry race
Cherries, cheese, eggs, yoghurt, kirsch, honesty boxes
Swiss cuisine and drinks
Cultural events
Walchwil apartments for sale / rent + general housing (homegate etc.)
Windy App / hiking Apps weather Apps etc.

Requirements for changing Gemeinde - registering change of address on work permits /
passports / bank accounts etc.

Mittelalterfest Zug (middle age festival) runs for 2 days over a weekend around the middle of
September - great for families - including for 18 hours, over 70 stalls, minstrels, jugglers, and
musicians around the castle area of Zug - free entry

Insurance (contents, car, accident, travel, damage etc.)

TCS and traffic reports / Gothard tunnel etc.

Cows returning from mountains

www.myswitzerland.com/en-ch/experiences/events/events-search/?rubrik=alpinefestivals

Mini Golf

Theatres

inkolor.ch

Banks . Euro & dollar credit cards, 2 years free banking, but Kantonal better value

TV Radio annual charge

Overseas TV channels

Sports channels & internet

Walchwil next party WhatsApp group

School and other libraries

Amazon, Ricardo, facebook, aliexpress, <Temo, Zoolando

Car wash

Zuger helfen Zugern

Music school fundraising

Post office in COOP

Asian ingredients

Post office flyers opt out

Politics & political parties