

## Geneva



As the sun's majestic rays stream through a breathtaking plume of water, a rainbow takes shape. The tallest fountain in the world, the Jet d'Eau shoots up from the pure surface of Geneva's beloved lake. An unrivaled monument, it is surrounded by a fabled city, which rises like a precious Swiss jewel amongst the mountains and valleys of eastern France. A picturesque cityscape where medieval streets lead to grand 18th century palaces and buildings of splendid modernity, Geneva combines a historical ambience with a technological pedigree. Home to legendary watch-making brands and international organizations such as the United Nations, this time-honored locale celebrates innovation while gracefully honoring the past.

### Memorable Experiences

#### City of Music

Listen to classical orchestras and jazz bands at June's Fête de la Musique.

#### Legendary Lake

Board a historic steamboat and cruise the fresh waters of Lake Geneva.

#### Divine Vistas

Climb the cathedral tower to glimpse views of Geneva's alpine peaks.

#### Neoclassical Beauty

Be surrounded by the world-renowned glass and ceramics at the Ariana Museum.

### Distinctive Details

Sunny yellow marigolds and red begonias bloom from the botanical face of a floral clock. An icon of this watch-making city, the Horloge Fleurie is composed of eight circles that change color with the seasons.

### Starwood Preferred Guest Recommends

#### Place des Nations

One broken leg hangs from an immense wooden chair. A monument for the victims of landmines, the massive structure is the focal point of the radiant Place des Nations, a wide square surrounded by the headquarters of international organizations.

### Destination Information

**Country** Switzerland  
**State** Canton of Geneva  
**Elevation** 373 meters  
**Population** 185,431  
**Language** French, English



**Area Code:** 22  
**Country Code:** 41



**Geneva Cointrin International Airport (GVA)**



**Transportation:**  
Car, Train, Tram, Taxi, Bike



**Swiss Francs (CHF)**

### Nearby Luxury Collection Hotels and Resorts



#### Hotel President Wilson

Address: 47, Quai Wilson  
Phone: (41)(22) 906 6666



## Culture

History, nature, art, and science await discovery in beloved locales.

### Highly Recommended



#### MAMCO

Fluorescent tubes of electric pink, blue, and yellow neon illuminate the corners of whitewashed rooms. Candy-colored beacons, they form glowing letters that spell the word “art.” The inspiring works of acclaimed international artists fill four intriguing floors of a former 1950s factory. Playfully arranged within a stunning industrial space, provocative pieces such as a wood and aluminum storefront by Jeanne-Claude Christo are on display alongside black and white drawings by Allan McCollum, which hang upon mauve and steel blue walls.

**Address:** 10, rue des Vieux-Grenadiers  
**Phone:** (41)(22) 320 6122



#### Geneva Botanical Garden

Myriad shades of green unfurl across gentle slopes and vibrant arboretums. Rocky ledges surround tranquil pools that glisten in the afternoon sun. Nature rejoices in these magnificent gardens, showcasing its dazzling brilliance in neat plots of spring blossoms and wild tangles of long grass and unpruned hedges. The fragrant scents of herbs, flowers, and young pine trees drift through the air around peaceful walkways where indigo tulips grow. Established in 1817, this enchanting Eden houses sixteen thousand species of plants from all over the world.

**Address:** Chemin de l’Impératrice 1  
**Phone:** (41)(22) 418 5100

### Family



#### CERN

A spiral ramp winds its way through the inner and outer shells of a mysterious dome. A cocoon of finely spun fibers drapes around the cylindrical wooden arches to form a globe-shaped frame like an atmosphere protecting the planet Earth. Within this highly technological laboratory, seven kilometers from the center of Geneva, the world’s leading scientists are making breakthrough discoveries about the universe. Guided tours follow themed itineraries that include visits to the Accelerator Complex, the Control Centre, and the Solar Axion Telescope.

**Address:** 7 kilometers northwest of Geneva’s city center, on the Route de Meyrin  
**Phone:** (41)(22) 767 6649

### Local Specialties



#### Museum of the Reformation

Herringbone floors stretch across the gracious rooms of a patrician mansion. Refined shades of sky blue, eggshell, and persimmon coat walls illuminated by elegant chandeliers. Within the charming 1772 Maison Mallet, the history of the Reformation is revealed through fascinating caricatures, rare bibles and portraits of Calvin and Rousseau. A serene atmosphere engulfs the Music Room, where historic wooden church pews offer a place to spend a peaceful moment listening to the psalms, hymns, and chorales of this monumental movement.

**Address:** 4, rue du Cloître  
**Phone:** (41)(22) 310 2431



## Shopping

A premiere destination for the most revered names in fashion, watches, and antiques.

## Local Specialties



### Manor

Soft cashmere sweaters in olive and chestnut hues sit in neat piles upon modernist tables. Tommy Hilfiger denim hangs from steel wracks beside striped, boat-necked T-shirts. Mannequins wear Lacoste pencil skirts with prim leather belts. A department store of impeccable style, this Swiss classic stocks exclusive fashion labels alongside Dior cosmetics, Seltmann Weiden porcelain and wines from the most acclaimed regions in Europe. A food emporium on the top of its six-floor building offers an open-air terrace with dazzling views of the snow-peaked Swiss Alps.

**Address: 6, rue Cornavin**  
**Phone: (41)(22) 909 4699**

## Local Charms



### Plaine de Plainpalais

Boxes overflow with French paperbacks. Jade vases stand regally among the porcelain figurines of Victorian parlor clocks and the graceful motifs of art nouveau picture frames. Skeleton keys pile together in a mass of hundreds, surrounded by shiny brass doorknobs. Beneath the leafy canopy that lines the periphery of a rambling plot of land just west of the Parc des Bastions, antique vendors set out their intriguing treasures every Wednesday and Saturday. Stalls filled with gems from Geneva's past line up in neat rows that stretch across the grassy square.

**Address: Plaine de Plainpalais, between Boulevard Georges Favon and Avenue du Mail**

## Neighborhoods



### Old Town

Beyond wishing wells, where the sounds of trams mingle with the rhythms of clicking heels, stone roads climb up steep inclines. A serene medieval atmosphere pervades winding alleys and quiet squares lined with elegant shuttered houses. Distinctive antique stores along the Grand Rue, Rue de Perron, and Rue de la Fontaine entice with exquisite window displays of graciously framed eighteenth century prints and leather-bound volumes of English literature.

**Address: Situated on Geneva's Left Bank, surrounding the fifteenth century Hotel de Ville and the Saint Pierre Cathedral**



### Rue du Rhone and Rue du Marche

A ring of sparkling diamonds surrounds the pale gold face of a Cartier watch. A classic, iconic piece, it glistens in the warm light of a display case set into the mahogany walls of one of Geneva's most revered boutiques. Audemars Piguet, Bulgari, Chopard, Omega, Rolex, Bédard, Piaget, Patek Philippe, legendary names in jewelry and watch making line Geneva's most exclusive thoroughfares with their stately facades. With sumptuous interiors of plush carpets and velvet settees, these rare houses of handcrafted timepieces continue a revered Swiss tradition.

**Address: Just across the river on Geneva's Left Bank**



## Cuisine

The finest gastronomy from around the globe is on offer in this international city.

## Acclaimed



### Spice's Restaurant

Foie gras combines with the sophisticated flavor of black walnuts. A filet of seabass rests upon a colorful bed of zucchini, tomatoes, and fennel. Aromas from the Far East mingle among continental recipes steeped in tradition. These exceptional dishes, prepared by chef Ulrich Behringer, are graced with evocative touches like gleaming banana leaves and delicate white orchids. This stunning presentation of innovative creations merges with a serenely elegant interior of caramel toned leather and polished cherry wood to create a most memorable dining experience.

**Address:** Hotel President Wilson, 47 Quai Wilson

**Phone:** (41)(22) 906 6666



### Restaurant du Parc des Eaux-Vives

Refreshing breezes drift off the fresh blue waters of Lake Geneva, rustling the leaves of towering oak trees. A dozen tables, shaded by the canvas of teak umbrellas, are set with white linen and crystal stemware on the open-air terrace of an eighteenth century manor. Beyond wide doorways flanked by Provencal blue shutters, a sophisticated dining room is filled with art deco details. Sumptuous European elements, like armchairs of burgundy velvet and refined gold chandeliers, offer a transporting ambience for a feast of grilled entrecote or Normandy scallops.

**Address:** 82, quai Gustave-Ador

**Phone:** (41)(22) 849 7575

## Local Specialties



### L'Opera Bouffe

Warm goat cheese with prune jam makes an elegant prelude to a meal of tortellini in a butter and sage sauce or a filet of beef with herbed butter. A premiere selection of bordeaux and burgundy wines rests upon the marble top of a mahogany bar, ready to accompany each enriching dish. Within this classic, French bistro setting of this charming restaurant, meaningful conversations transpire around small, wooden café tables. Warm light emits from sunflower yellow lampshades and illuminates brass wall sconces hanging beneath a pair of gilded angels.

**Address:** 10, rue Pierre-Fatio

**Phone:** (41)(22) 311 8033

## Indigenous Flavors



### Le Boeuf Rouge

Ruby hued wine streams down the neck of a glass decanter as a waiter pours a bottle of Cotes-du-Rhone, and the pungent aroma of exquisitely roasted châteaubriand wafts from a bustling kitchen. Within this restaurant's gracious Belle Epoque dining room, a spirit of lively sophistication ensues. Specialties from the Lyonnais region, such as entrecote, andouillette and farm chicken infused with beaujolais wine are served from silver trays with French panache. Proprietor Carlos Farina greets his guests alongside his brother and son.

**Address:** 17, rue Alfred-Vincent

**Phone:** (41)(22) 732 7537



## Noteworthy

Nearby places surprise with artisanal delights and compelling natural wonders.

## Highly Recommended



### La Halle de Rives

Lemon hued roses rise above tangerine poppies and fuchsia orchids. A tiered pedestal bursts with fragrant blossoms. Across the way, Italian flags flank a wide stall where a refrigerated case displays homemade ravioli, tortellini and gnocchi. Well-stocked shelves brim with black truffles, onion foccacia, and wines from the Piedmont and Tuscan regions. Specialty goods from around the world join locally grown fruits and vegetables, three fromageries and an enticing patisserie offering chocolate cakes and blueberry tarts in Geneva's vibrant emporium.

**Address: 29, Boulevard Helvétique**

## Recreation



### Bains des Paquis

Awash in sunshine, a long wooden pier hovers over the edge of sparkling waters. Princely swans glide by through the shadow of a historic white lighthouse. Providing access to one of the world's most treasured lakes, Les Bains des Paquis is an inviting haven on Geneva's Right Bank. A glass-walled spa includes saunas, hammams, and a Turkish bath, offering long moments of relaxation year-round, while a swim through the sapphire waters of Lake Geneva provides instant rejuvenation. Fresh juices can be enjoyed during breakfast or lunch at an on-site restaurant.

**Address: 30, Quai du Mont-Blanc**

**Phone: (41)(22) 732 2974**

## Local Charms



### Carouge

Beyond the pale yellow facades of eighteenth century buildings, rose bushes fragrance the air in hidden gardens. The sound of water, trickling from a fountain in the central square, mingles with the call of a blue bird. Two kilometers south of Geneva's city center, beyond the brisk waters of the River Arve, Carouge offers a quiet repose in the enchanting environs of a Mediterranean influenced town. Here, craftsmen and artisans set up their shops and studios among historic churches, atmospheric cafes, and flower posts bursting with pastel blossoms.

**Address: 2 kilometers south of Geneva's city center, across the River Arve**

## Day Trips



### Lausanne

The southern slope of the Swiss plateau glides down to meet the majestic expanse of a calm blue lake. Among lush trees and tranquil parklands a charming city unfolds with scenes of a graceful cathedral, authentic shuttered homes, and a vast old town where inviting cafes and alluring boutiques lie at the end of winding cobbled roads. Nestled among the stunning Swiss landscape, between the Jura Mountains and the Alps, Lausanne is an enchanting city filled with beauty and culture. Spend an afternoon wandering its hidden alleys, soaking up its unrivaled ambience.

**Address: 50 kilometers northeast of Geneva**