

Good to Know

Upon your arrival in the canton of Jura
Opening hours of shops and on public holidays
Residence authorisations (or permits)
Personal liability insurance
Drugs, alcohol and tobacco
Pets
Rules and customs in Switzerland

Upon your arrival in the canton of Jura

In this chapter you will find important information relating to very different areas of life, for example on: What to do when you arrive in the Canton of Jura Shop opening hours and public holidays The different residence authorisations (or residence permits) Third-party liability insurance Drugs, alcohol and tobacco Pets Rules and customs in Switzerland

When you arrive in the Jura, what should you do?

Report to the Resident's Register Office in your municipality
Apply for a residence authorisation (permit)
Register your children at school if they are under the age of 16
Take out a contract for health insurance
Apply for a permit to work

Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets, brochures)

www.bonjour-jura.ch/en/good-to-know/upon-your-arrival-in-the-canton-of-jura

Opening hours of shops and on public holidays

In Switzerland most shops are closed on Sundays and public holidays, except shops in railway stations and petrol stations. Public holidays vary from canton to canton.

Public holidays

Public holidays are like a Sunday. Public holidays in the Canton of Jura are as follows:

- 1 January: New Year
- 2 January: Second day of the New Year
- Good Friday (Friday before Easter)
- Easter Monday (Monday after Easter)
- 1 May: Labour Day
- Ascension Day (40 days after Easter Sunday)
- Whit Monday (50 days after Easter Sunday)
- Corpus Christi (60 days after Easter Sunday)
- 23 June: in memory of 23 June 1974, the day on which the people of the Jura voted to create the Canton of Jura (Jura plebiscite).
- 1 August: Swiss National Day
- 15 August: Assumption
- 1 November: All Saints
- 25 December: Christmas

In the district of Porrentruy, Martinmas (2nd or 3rd Monday after 1 November) is also a public holiday.

Shop opening hours

The cantons regulate the opening hours of shops.

In the Canton of Jura, shops are generally open from Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Some shops remain open until 9 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays.

Shops at railway station and petrol stations are often open seven days a week.

Some village shops are also open on Sunday mornings.

Opening hours of public services

Cantonal services are generally open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. and from 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. The working hours of municipal services (e.g. the hours of the municipal office) may vary, so checking in advance is recommended.

Virtual counters

More and more cantonal and communal services are available online 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Many services can be accessed on the internet.

Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets, brochures)

www.bonjour-jura.ch/en/good-to-know/opening-hours-of-shops-and-on-public-holidays

Residence authorisations (or permits)

A residence authorisation is required to live or work in Switzerland. There are different types of authorisations. The term residence permit is also used.

Various forms of authorisation

Anyone who lives or works in Switzerland for a period of more than three months needs an authorisation.

The conditions are different for European Union (EU)/EFTA nationals and those who hold the nationality of other states (outside the European Union and EFTA).

This authorisation is sent by the Population Office of the Canton of Jura. The following table summarises the forms of authorisation.

For asylum seekers:

People who come to Switzerland to apply for asylum have other permits.

Permits for foreigners

Foreigners living in Switzerland receive a permit. This permit may differ from person to person, depending on various criteria (e.g. country of origin).

All permits are issued in the form of a biometric card.

To obtain a permit, you have to go to the Bureau des passeports (Passport Office) in Delémont and have your biometric data (fingerprints and photo) recorded.

If your licence is lost or stolen, you must reported this to the police immediately.

Extending/renewing your residence permit

There are several steps to renew your authorisation, depending on your status and nationality. You will receive a form to complete. You must return this form by the deadline. Renewal is not automatic. There are conditions. For example: learning French. Sometimes renewal is declined. For example, if:

- the person has committed an offence
- the person receives welfare for a long time

Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets, brochures)

www.bonjour-jura.ch/en/good-to-know/residence-authorisations-or-permits

Personal liability insurance

Every adult should have personal liability insurance. This insurance covers the costs if you damage someone or something by accident.

Individual liability

If you unintentionally injure someone or damage their property, you are financially liable. For example, if you injure someone while playing sports, the costs can be very high. And if you don't have insurance, you are the one who has to pay.

Personal liability insurance

In case of damage, it is important to have personal liability insurance. That way, it is the insurance company that pays a large part of the costs. Most private insurance companies offer this insurance. It is valid for everyone living under the same roof. Although it is not mandatory, it is highly advisable to have personal liability insurance.

What does the insurance cover?

This insurance pays for property damage (to things) and bodily injury caused to other people.

It pays for repair costs, medical expenses, lost wages or liquidated damages. It can also cover damage caused by some pets. However, it does not pay if the damage affects people living under the same roof. Damage caused intentionally or through gross negligence is not covered

Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets, brochures)

www.bonjour-jura.ch/en/good-to-know/personal-liability-insurance

Drugs, alcohol and tobacco

It is important to comply with drug, alcohol and tobacco laws. Here's what you need to know:

Drugs

The Federal Narcotics Act prohibits the possession, sale or consumption of illegal drugs. Even in small quantities.

If you deal in drugs, there are serious penalties.

Alcohol and tobacco

The sale of alcohol and tobacco is limited by age. In the Canton of Jura:

- it is prohibited to sell alcoholic beverages to young people under the age of 16
- it is prohibited to sell tobacco and hard liquor to young people under the age of 18.

The ban on smoking

There are strict rules on where smoking is prohibited.

These rules serve to protect the health of all.

Smoking is prohibited:

- in enclosed public spaces (hospitals, government offices, schools, museums, cinemas, theatres, trains and buses, shops and shopping centres)
- in premises where several people work

The right to smoke in restaurants depends on the size of the restaurant. In many restaurants there is a special smoking room. We call it a smoke house.

Some people find it hard to stop smoking or taking drugs.

They have addictions (to tobacco, drugs, etc.). You can find information on options for assistance and addiction prevention, e.g. help services and support organisations.

Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets, brochures)

www.bonjour-jura.ch/en/good-to-know/drugs-alcohol-and-tobacco

Pets

If you have pets at home, there are rules you have to follow. Some pets cannot be kept in an apartment. Dog owners must pay a dog tax.

Keeping pets

In rented apartments tenants may have small pets such as guinea pigs, hamsters, canaries or fish.

On the other hand, landlords may prohibit keeping larger animals such as cats or dogs in the lease agreement. The owner may also prohibit noisy or dangerous animals.

Before getting a pet, you must ask the owner of the apartment for permission.

Pet owners must comply with the federal laws on the protection of animals. For example, for some species you cannot keep an animal alone (e.g. rabbits) or you need fairly large cages.

Some animals (exotic animals) are not allowed to enter Switzerland. Other animals require special authorisation from the Service de la consommation et des affaires vétérinaires - SCAV (Department of Consumer and Veterinary Affairs).

Dogs

There are special rules for dogs in the canton of Jura:

- All dogs must have a microchip under the skin. They must also be registered. Owners receive an ID card for their dog.

Please note that this card is not the pet passport used when travelling abroad.

- Dogs must be registered in the municipality of residence. You have to pay a tax every year.
- Dog owners must collect their pet's mess.

Otherwise, they may be fined.

- It is advisable to attend training courses for dogs.
- Special permission is required to keep certain breeds, such as Pitbulls or Rottweilers.

Your veterinarian will be able to assist with any questions you may have.

Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets, brochures)

www.bonjour-jura.ch/en/good-to-know/pets

Rules and customs in Switzerland

Each country has its own rules and customs. In Switzerland there are also some rules that are unwritten. It is important to respect these.

Different cultures

Switzerland is a diverse country with its different regions and four national languages. Attitudes vary from region to region. What is a custom in French-speaking Switzerland may be different in German-speaking or Italian-speaking Switzerland. Differences between cities and the countryside are also important. But there are also some customs that are similar across the whole of Switzerland:

Greetings

In Switzerland, when people greet each other, they shake hands and look each other in the eye, including between men and women. We often use "Bonjour" as the standard greeting, but between friends, we can say "Salut". In the countryside, people usually greet each other, even if they don't know each other.

Saying "merci" ("thank you") and "de rien" ("you're welcome") is also important, including in shops or restaurants.

Punctuality

Punctuality means arriving on time.

In Switzerland, people usually arrive on time.

If you are more than five minutes late, it is considered polite to give a warning by phone or text message. This is especially important at work.

For meetings or appointments, it is best to set the time in advance.

Surprise visits are not common, even with friends.

Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets, brochures)

www.bonjour-jura.ch/en/good-to-know/rules-and-customs-in-switzerland