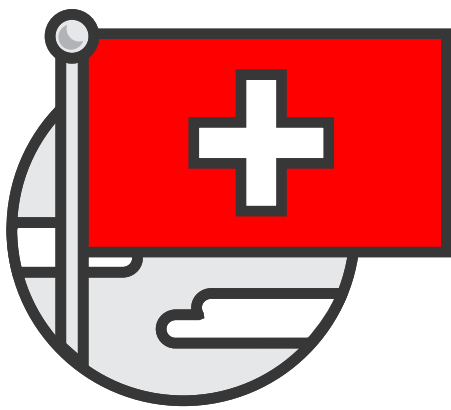


ROAD TO SWITZERLAND



SWITZERLAND

Alpine landscapes, cheese, yodelling - Switzerland is world famous for these things. Yet the country is so much more than a collection of clichés.

There is much to see and learn from the country and its people that you could spend a lifetime there and not experience everything you should.

Explore the cities of Zurich, Bern and Lausanne on this three-day journey.



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DAY 1

ZURICH

Zurich is a city known for its rich culture as well as its position as a financial capital of the world. Switzerland's largest and most wealthy city, Zurich has a creative buzz that's made it one of the premier destinations for hipsters the world over. Yet its history hasn't been lost; the narrow laneways and medieval architecture of the old town are entirely preserved, alongside the newer developments the city's wealth has created.

Visit the Old Town (or Altstadt, in German) and explore the nooks and crannies of its many narrow streets. Medieval houses and renaissance-era halls are everywhere, with some of the highlights of the area including the dual towers of the Grossmünster and Peter's Church, which has the largest clockface in Europe. Strangely enough, it's also a place where modern culture thrives - the Old Town has the highest density of clubs in the entire country.





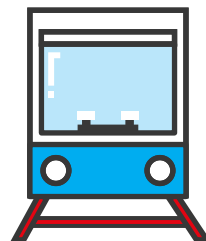
See the city from a new perspective on a cruise of the Limmat River. Even after you've explored the Old Town, you can appreciate it from the comfort of a gently moving boat. Speaking of which, the boats all have glass roofs, so you can still see everything no matter where you're seated. Some operators will even take you all the way to the beginning of the enormous Lake Zurich.

For an exciting ride, hop on board the Funicular Rigiblick, Switzerland's first fully automatic cable car, having been in operation since 1901. Today the car takes around 600,000 passengers per year, saving people walking up the 92m slope. Once at the top, you're treated to an awe-inspiring view of the city

Discover art from around the world at the Museum Rietberg. Featuring pieces from Africa, Asia, Oceania and the Americas, the focus of the Museum is unique in that it features very little European art. It was opened in 1952, initially as a home for the collection of Baron Eduard von der Heydt, who donated it to

the city. Since then it has only grown, with the iconic emerald glass entrance built in 2007.

Zurich is also well-known as one of the chocolate capitals of the country. With names like Confiserie Sprüngli and Confiserie Teuscher, you can hunt around and buy some of the best chocolate you'll ever taste.



FOR AN EXCITING RIDE, HOP ON BOARD THE FUNICULAR RIGIBLICK, SWITZERLAND'S FIRST FULLY AUTOMATIC CABLE CAR, HAVING BEEN IN OPERATION SINCE 1901.





**DAY
2**

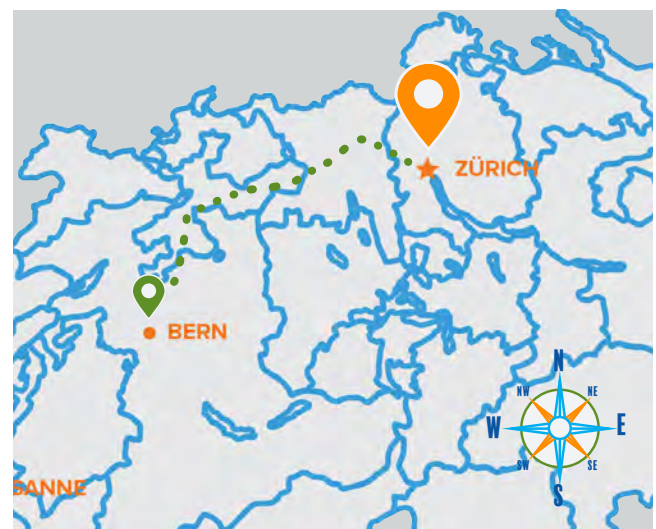
BERN
(124 KM FROM ZÜRICH, 1 HOUR 20 MINUTES)

Make your way onto the A1H heading north-west out the city. Be prepared - this route has tolls. Along the way the A1H becomes the A1, the highway you can follow until you see the signs leading you to the city.

The country's capital, Bern is a city known for its unique historical atmosphere. Much of the city has been preserved from eras past, with narrow cobbled streets, fountains and brick-red roofs making up much of the city. The Old Town itself is a UNESCO World Heritage site, but the rest of the city captures much of that magic too.

See the seats of Swiss power at the Federal Palace. The building's impressive footprint and shape is befitting of its current purpose as the country's parliament. Built between 1894 and 1902, a 62-metre dome sits atop the building - it's truly a sight to see, as within it is a detailed stain glass

window depicting the Federal coat of arms. This is one you'll want to book in advance - tours are limited to 40 people and it's unlikely you'll be able to jump straight into one on the day.





Get up close to a bear, right in the middle of the city at BearPark. Bears and Bern have long been associated with each other - local legend has it that the city was named after a bear the founder met whilst hunting in the woods. True or not, bears have since become a significant part of the city's culture, gracing the city's coat of arms since 1220. Spanning over 6,000 square metres, the park is currently home to Finn, Bjork and their daughter Ursina.

Nothing quite beats a view of a city from up high - make your way to the top of the Gurten and you'll get just that. At a height of 860 metres above sea level, what you can see will be limited only by your eyesight. You can get to the top by foot or take the glass-roofed train for a great view along the journey. Yet it's not just a view at the top - there's also a park, a children's play area and a restaurant.

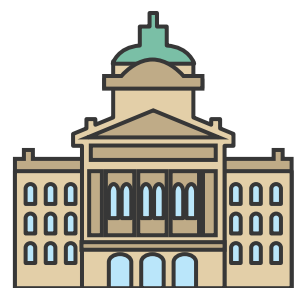
Take in a slice of the surreal and see the Meret Oppenheim Tower Fountain. Created in 1983 by the surrealist artist Meret Oppenheim, the fountain is a bizarre sight to witness.

It resembles a tower made of dirt, on top of which sits a model that resembles a small stone temple. It's truly something that words cannot describe - you need to see it for yourself.

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**SEE THE SEATS OF SWISS
POWER AT THE FEDERAL
PALACE. THE BUILDING'S
IMPRESSIVE FOOTPRINT AND
SHAPE IS BEFITTING OF ITS
CURRENT PURPOSE AS THE
COUNTRY'S PARLIAMENT.**

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**DAY
3**

LAUSANNE (101 KM FROM BERN, 1 HOUR 10 MINUTES)

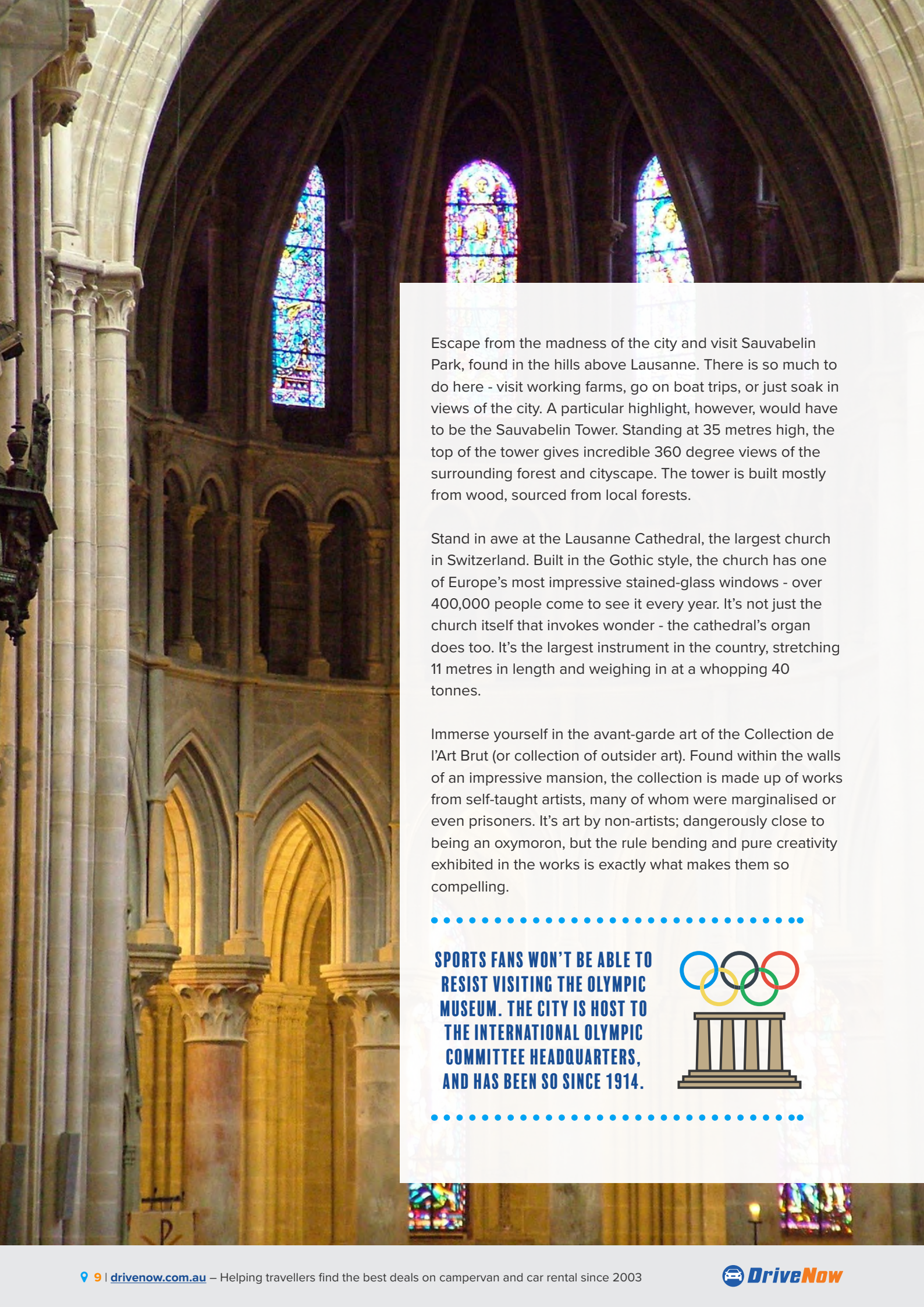
Make your way onto the A12 south-west out of the city. Follow this highway until it joins Route 9, which you will take into the city.



Lausanne is a hub of culture and refinement. Surrounded by vineyards, it's Switzerland's fourth-largest city and boasts one of its most vibrant atmospheres. Part of that comes from being a student city - Lausanne is the home of one of Europe's most prestigious research institutes, the EPFL. Like Zurich, the city sits on a lakeshore, offering residents many recreation opportunities as well as just a place to relax.

Sports fans won't be able to resist visiting the Olympic Museum. As previously mentioned, the city is host to the International Olympic Committee headquarters, and has been so since 1914.

Housed on the shores of Lake Geneva, the Olympic Museum has three whole floors of screens and artifacts that tell the story of the game's history and spirit. The Museum was founded in 1993 and is the city's most visited.



Escape from the madness of the city and visit Sauvabelin Park, found in the hills above Lausanne. There is so much to do here - visit working farms, go on boat trips, or just soak in views of the city. A particular highlight, however, would have to be the Sauvabelin Tower. Standing at 35 metres high, the top of the tower gives incredible 360 degree views of the surrounding forest and cityscape. The tower is built mostly from wood, sourced from local forests.

Stand in awe at the Lausanne Cathedral, the largest church in Switzerland. Built in the Gothic style, the church has one of Europe's most impressive stained-glass windows - over 400,000 people come to see it every year. It's not just the church itself that invokes wonder - the cathedral's organ does too. It's the largest instrument in the country, stretching 11 metres in length and weighing in at a whopping 40 tonnes.

Immerse yourself in the avant-garde art of the Collection de l'Art Brut (or collection of outsider art). Found within the walls of an impressive mansion, the collection is made up of works from self-taught artists, many of whom were marginalised or even prisoners. It's art by non-artists; dangerously close to being an oxymoron, but the rule bending and pure creativity exhibited in the works is exactly what makes them so compelling.

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SPORTS FANS WON'T BE ABLE TO RESIST VISITING THE OLYMPIC MUSEUM. THE CITY IS HOST TO THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE HEADQUARTERS, AND HAS BEEN SO SINCE 1914.

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CONCLUSION

Are you ready to explore one of Europe's most interesting and varied countries? [Book your hire car at Zurich Airport](#) and get on the road!

www.drivenow.com.au

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Zurich

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