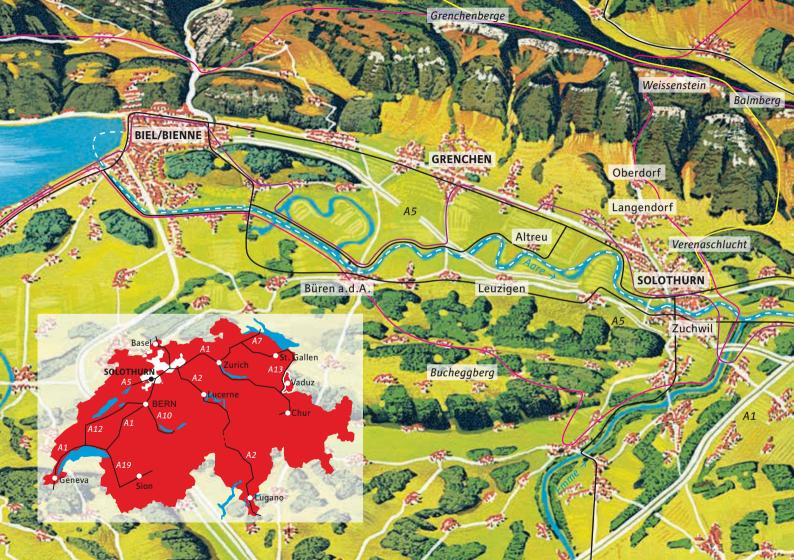


Solothurn – a vibrant city







Canoeing (route no. 1) www.canoeing-in-switzerland.ch

JULA. WORLD OF COFFEE

Welcome

to JURAworld of Coffee, the home of coffee

Are you looking for a day out with a difference, a flexible venue for your seminar or event or something to brighten up a wet day? Then our unique world of coffee is just what you are looking for. We aim to make coffee accessible to everyone so the JURAworld of Coffee and its unique exhibition are open to all our quests.



Exhibition (DE/FR/EN)

Discover distant lands and their coffee cultures and listen to stories about the legendary drink to stimulate all your senses.

Tip: the world's only Roger Federer Walk of Fame



Group offers (by arrangement)

We are pleased to offer tailored programmes to groups, such as tours through the exhibition or service factory, barista shows, coffee roasting demonstrations and coffee tastings.



Café lounge

The elegant café at JURAworld of Coffee is a great place to relax and unwind. Be tempted by a number of creations, from classics to exciting trend specialities. Experience everything that coffee has to offer.

JURAworld of Coffee

Kaffeeweltstrasse 1, 4626 Niederbuchsiten +41 (0)62 389 84 90, info@juraworld.com

Opening times

Monday – Friday 9 am – 6.30 pm Saturday 9 am – 5 pm

Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

oublic toilets at the Rythalle next to the Baseltor

A warm welcome to Switzerland's most beautiful baroque city

Solothurn is a popular tourist destination. In the traffic-free Old Town, you'll discover historical buildings, attractive fountains, fascinating museums, delicatessens and boutiques. Cultural and sporting events such as the Solothurn Film Festival, the Literature Festival, the open-air "Solothurn Classics" and the Bike Days enjoy national and international stature. Solothurn is also a great destination for the energetic, with around 500 km of interconnected cycling routes, hiking trails, golf courses and an adventure park.

This city guide is packed with the latest tips to make your stay in Solothurn and the surrounding region an unforgettable experience. For more information, why not talk to us in person – either by phone or at our Tourist Center next to St. Urs Cathedral.

Jürgen Hofer, Director

Region Solothurn Tourismus

Hauptgasse 69, 4500 Solothurn phone +41 (0)32 626 46 46, fax +41 (0)32 626 46 47 info@solothurn-city.ch, www.solothurn-city.ch

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Publisher: www.solothurn-city.ch Graphics: www.urs-amiet.ch Text: www.muellertext.ch Printing: www.vsdruck.ch nfoPoint: at the station, Tourist Center entrance

Fourist Center opening hours

A valuable meeting resource at a reasonable price in the loveliest baroque city in Switzerland.



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Solothurn



Solothurn Services Region Solothurn Tourismus Hauptgasse 69 · CH-4500 Solothurn Telephone +41 32 626 46 66 info@solothurnservices.ch www.solothurnservices.ch

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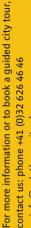
- Quick, tailored to your needs, and free of charge
- Find the right location and services with a personal consultation
- We facilitate social events as well
- We know the area let us share our knowledge
- One consistent contact person from the start

Solothurn



Our guided city tours are extremely popular and include lots of stories and anecdotes about Solothurn. Take Casanova, for example, who fell in love with a lady from Solothurn, or Napoleon, who reputedly drank his water in front of Hotel Krone and left without paying. Whether it's Casanova, the Old Town, churches or witches that take your fancy, you're sure to find plenty to interest you here.

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Guided city tours (general public)

Would you like to know more about the city of Solothurn? Then join one of our guided city tours. Even locals will be surprised by what they'll discover on the tour.

Every Wednesday and Saturday (May to October), 60-90 min. 2.30 p.m., Baseltor (outer side) CHF 10/person, free for children up to 16 years



Guided city tours (groups)

Take a stroll through Solothurn's historic Old Town with one of our tour guides and listen to countless fascinating stories about the city.

Max. 25 people per group Tours offered in various languages CHF 140/hr. CHF 160/1.5 hrs



Themed tours

Our themed tours include some amazing tales: discover the legend behind Solothurn's sacred number 11 while touring the Old Town, follow the route to the Hermitage (Einsiedelei), or hear stories of saints, harlots and witches.

Max. 25 people per group Tours in German CHF 160/hr. CHF 180/1.5 hrs



Casanova - his time in Solothurn around 1760

Casanova fell in love with a beautiful ladv from Solothurn. Exactly how close was their relationship? Hear all the juicy details of this exciting love affair in the places where it happened.

Tours offered in German and French Group size and prices on request



Öufi Boat tours

Take a fresh look at the city from the river: the Öufi Boat shows you Solothurn from the river Aare, giving you a different perspective on the picturesque Old Town and the Jura mountain range beyond.

Prices and group size on request



Electric bike tours

Half the effort, twice the fun! Hop onto an e-bike for an 11-kilometre tour in and around Solothurn and, at 11 stop-offs, listen to fascinating information about the city's 2,000-year history.

Max. 12 people per group CHF 230 / 2 to 3 hours and CHF 35 hire charge per bike

suggestions More

election of the





Only available at
Suteria, 4500 Solothurn
Hauptgasse 65, Schmiedengasse 20
Hans Huber-Strasse 38
Suteria, 4600 Olten
Hauptgasse 11
www.suteria.ch

From Öufi beer

to a glass of wine



The people of Solothurn are a sociable bunch, which is why the city has so many restaurants, snack bars, bars and cafés. There's so much to tempt your palate, from the community cafés that are a familiar sight in Switzerland to renowned gourmet restaurants, and from trendy bars to stylish coffee houses. Why not try one of Solothurn's specialities while you're here?

Penthouse Lounge, Ramada Hotel, www.ramada.de Complete list of restaurants: www.solothurn-city.ch

Solaare, www.solaare.ch



Outdoors

In summer, the Aare has a positively Mediterranean holiday feel. The pavement café culture thrives both here and in the Old Town – ideal for those who want to see and be seen! In winter, the atmosphere of the Santa Claus Market ("Chlausemäret") will enchant you, with its festive aroma of gingerbread and "Glühwein" as well as visits from Saint Nicholas himself.



Bars

You'll be surprised to learn that the historic Old Town has a wide range of bars and lounges. In summer, it draws locals and visitors alike to the trendy bars and relaxed coffee lounges along the Aare. And if the weather takes a turn for the worse, go and explore: you're sure to find the perfect place to take refuge.



Restaurants

Solothurn has a lively culinary scene. If you like to try regional and seasonal specialities or are a fan of Asian, Greek or Italian cuisine, you'll be impressed by the wide variety of restaurants in Solothurn. There's everything from trendy local bars to refined restaurants, and from informal snack bars to Gault-Millau-starred establishments. Enjoy your meal!



Cafés

After a relaxing stroll through the beautiful Old Town with its marvellous shops, take a break in one of the many cafés and fine confiseries. Order a strong coffee or aromatic tea – with a delicious sweet treat on the side. The legendary Solothurner Torte comes highly recommended.



Market

Market traders from around the region offer their specialities for sale in Solothurn's Old Town. The market is a gourmet's dream, offering everything from fresh fruit and vegetables to delicious breads and cheeses.

Every Wednesday and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 12 noon Monthly market, every 2nd Monday of the month from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Shopping

The traffic-free Old Town of Solothurn is a unique shopping paradise, where you can amble at ease from shop to shop. You're sure to find what you're looking for in the traditional department stores or one of Solothurn's specialty shops. Every street is lined with individual boutiques, galleries and larger stores offering unique products.

More suggestions

Café Bar Landhaus, www.kreuz-solothurn.ch Hafebar, www.hafebar.ch Aarebar, www.aarebar.com

From St. Ursus to St. Verena



The mighty St. Urs Cathedral, an important early classical church, is an imposing landmark. The city of Solothurn is full of notable places of interest, including the clock tower with its astronomical

clock, the Jesuit Church, the 11 fountains and – lying outside the city – the tranquil hermitage of St. Verena.



St. Urs Cathedral

The Cathedral was built between 1762 and 1773 by architects Gaetano Matteo Pisoni and Paolo Antonio Pisoni. The cathedral's facade, with its imposing flight of steps, is simply awe-inspiring. The interior of this most important example of early classical Swiss architecture is constructed of light-coloured Jura limestone, and is also well worth seeing.



Clock tower

The city's oldest structure was erected in the first half of the 13th century. The astronomical clock was added in 1545. The clock has three hands. The large hour hand shows the hours of day and night, while the smaller sun and moon hands run anticlockwise and indicate the position of the celestial bodies. The group of automata, consisting of a knight, death and a king, were also installed in 1545.



Jesuit Church

The Jesuit Church, built between 1680 and 1689, is regarded as one of the best examples of baroque architecture in Switzerland. A statue of the Virgin Mary sits atop the main facade. Inside, the main altar, which dates back to 1704, is decorated with an image of the Assumption. The interior is a unique example of magnificent stucco work in the Italianate manner.



Defences and towers

The defences built between 1667 and 1727 encircled eleven bastions on either side of the Aare, which incorporated the older towers. Because the rural population saw the defences as a symbol of oppression, they were almost entirely dismantled between 1835 and 1880. The large bastion next to the Riedholz tower and the semi-defence next to the Crooked Tower (Krummer Turm) were retained.



11 fountains

Village fountains, used by women to wash their clothes, are a ubiquitous sight. In Solothurn, however, the official fountains are particularly grand and illustrate how wealthy the city was at the time of the Ambassadors. Moreover, Solothurn has more fountains (11 in total) than any other city in Switzerland. The majority of the fountains were constructed in the 16th century.



The Verena Gorge / Hermitage

From Solothurn station, either follow the yellow signs or take the bus. In the outskirts of the city, the quiet path leads you through the woods to the hermitage where St. Verena is said to have lived. The Chapels of St. Verena and St. Martin, the hermit's cell and the Oelberg and Magdalene caves are a moving experience.

Bus no. 4 (for Rüttenen), exit at St. Niklaus bus station

More suggestions 31 Franciscan church, Untere Steingrubenstrasse

Nordringstrasse

Protestant church,



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to Hodler

Amazing rarities and works of art are waiting to be discovered in Solothurn's museums, such as Hodler's "Lake Geneva", a genuine Van Gogh, Solothurn turtles and fossilized dinosaur bones, 400 suits of armour as well as genuine furniture from centuries gone by.

Gurzelngasse 12,

www.pcmuseum.ch



Museum of Fine Art Solothurn

The collection of Old Masters and Swiss and European art is held in high regard by art lovers. The special exhibitions present contemporary artists.

Werkhofstrasse 30, 4500 Solothurn www.kunstmuseum-so.ch Tuesday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Blumenstein Historical Museum

The objects on display in this museum's magnificent rooms tell the story of how people lived in Solothurn between the 17th and 20th centuries.

Blumensteinweg 12, 4500 Solothurn www.museumblumenstein.ch Tuesday to Saturday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Natural History Museum Solothurn

On display are animals, plants and fossils from the region, as well as marvellous special exhibitions. People of all ages will have fun discovering more about nature at this museum.

Klosterplatz 2, 4500 Solothurn www.naturmuseum-so.ch Tuesday to Saturday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Waldegg Castle

The baroque garden, the valuable furnishings and the paintings tell stories from a time when Solothurn had political and economic ties with the French court.

Schloss Waldegg 1, 4532 Feldbrunnen-St. Niklaus, www.schloss-waldeag.ch April to October: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. November/ December: Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Old Arsenal Museum Solothurn

There's plenty to see here: the historic building, rifles, pistols, sabres, swords. uniforms and flags. The 400 suits of armour on display in the armoury room (Rüstsaal) are among the highlights.

Zeughausplatz 1, 4500 Solothurn www.museum-alteszeughaus.ch Tuesday to Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Stone Museum

Switzerland's only stone museum displays rare stones from the Roman and the Renaissance period, introduces the city's stone structures and explores the art of stonemasonry.

Hauptgasse 60 (western entrance to the Jesuit Church), www.steinmuseum.ch May to October: Tuesday to Saturday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Audio Tour**

suggestions More

ENTER – Museum of Comuters and Technology,

4500 Solothurn,

www.puppen-spielzeug-museum.ch (losterplatz 7, 4500 Solothurn, www.trivialliteratur.ch

From Swiss film to literature



There's always something happening in Solothurn.
Right at the start of the year, the nationally
renowned Film Festival draws visitors in droves.
After the colourful carnival celebrations,
spring brings the Literature Festival – followed

by open-air events which take place throughout the summer in and around Solothurn. And the Kofmehl stages great concerts all year round for music and rock fans.

www.weissenstein-schwinget.ch **Solothurn Beer Festival,** www.biertage.ch **Santa Claus Market,** www.friedhofplatz.ch

with Film Festival on

the Krummturmschanze, www.altesspital.ch

Solothurn's summer films



Film Festival

The Solothurn Film Festival is the premier festival of Swiss film. In January, around 57,000 film fans watch a representative selection of current Swiss films. For 8 days, Solothurn becomes the scene of encounters and dialogue between the worlds of film, politics and culture. Various film awards are presented.

www.solothurnerfilmtage.ch



Literature Festival

In June, the city becomes the realm of the written word, as the Literature Festival brings together authors and their readers. The festival has a packed programme of readings with discussions, podium debates, workshops, musical and acting performances, translation workshops, literature-related exhibitions and films, and events in schools.



Carnival

In Solothurn, carnival begins on the 13 of January. From this day, Solothurn becomes more like Honolulu and descends into colourful mayhem. "Dirty Thursday" begins at 5 a.m. with the "Chesslete" torch-lit procession. Other highlights are the carnival processions on Sunday and Tuesday. On Ash Wednesday, the mad festivities come to an end with the burning of the "Bööqq".

www.solothurner-fasnacht.ch



Solothurn Classics

The popular open-air concert "Solothurn Classics" features opera and operetta performances by internationally renowned artists, if possible under the starlit sky at the St.-Ursen-Bastion. The top-class program offers numerous highlights for opera fans and newcomers alike.

www.solothurn-classics.ch



Bike Days

The Swiss Bike Festival is more than just an essential event for cycling nuts. It is also an occasion when the city of Solothurn plays host to numerous bike suppliers who come to demonstrate their products, and when a number of locations in the immediate vicinity are made available for various trial runs and competitions. There's plenty to marvel at during the events.

www.bikedays.ch



Art Supermarket

Solothurn's Art Supermarket has now become a real insider's tip for art lovers and bargain hunters. The idea behind the Art Supermarket is simple yet clever: artists sell their pictures at fixed, affordable prices. There's a huge selection, so you're sure to find a picture you love.

www.kunstsupermarkt.ch

More suggestions

Business and baroque



Business and baroque exist cheek by jowl in Solothurn. Switzerland's finest baroque city is an ideal venue for seminars, conferences and events. This charming small city is located

centrally in the Mittelland region between Berne, Basel and Zurich. Direct motorway links and the main rail station close to the city centre guarantee excellent access.

626 46 66, info@solothurnservices.ch

some kind of event?

Already planning on

suggestions

More

So contact us, we're happy to help!

Solothurn **SE**?VICES

Solothurn Services

Solothurn Services provides professional support with organising all kinds of events. Our team seeks ideal locations, finds the most suitable meeting facilities and overnight accommodation and, on request, also arranges a social programme or team events. In short: your best bet for seminars, congresses and social programmes in Solothurn!

www.solothurnservices.ch



Historic rooms

Solothurn offers a variety of historic venues for meetings and seminars: examples include the Palais Besenval and Waldegg Castle, two properties which used to belong to a noble family. Then there is the Kulturm (a former fortress), the Solheure (a former slaughterhouse), the baroque Knights' Hall of the von Roll family, and the Altes Spital, which was once a hospital and orphanage.



Landhaus

The Landhaus, built in 1722, is located directly on the banks of the river Aare. Nowadays the ancient building serves as an ideal seminar and meeting centre. The rooms offer a range of possibilities, enjoy the light of day and can be fitted with a variety of technical equipment.

www.solothurnservices.ch



Fringe programmes

Experience our variety of fringe programmes: tours of the historic town, encounters with Casanova, visits to the Öufi brewery or thrilling electric bike tours you're spoilt for choice! Be tempted by a voyage along the river Aare on the Öufi Boat, fascinated by intoxicating absinthe tales, or savour the fragrant aroma of fresh coffee beans.

www.solothurnservices.ch



Concert Hall

Constructed at the end of the 19th century, the Concert Hall is situated to the north of Solothurn's historic centre, close to the Fine Art Museum park. The building can accommodate 590 people. The large and small concert halls are renowned for their outstanding acoustics, making them ideal for musical performances or voice presentations.

www.solothurnservices.ch



Team events

Discover Solothurn together: a paper chase through the old town, raft building on the Aare or giant pick-a-stick in the Sports Centre, Olympic-style games on a farm or at an indoor venue, creative team painting, a torchlight hike or even llama trekking with a fondue in the forest - the possibilities are endless.

www.solothurnservices.ch

www.solothurnservices.ch



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Activities



With two golf courses, an adventure park, two rock-climbing centres and opportunities for parachuting or paragliding, Solothurn is action-packed. For anybody looking for something a little more sedate, the sports centre, with its miniature golf

and sauna, is the perfect alternative. The region of Solothurn offers sporting activities for all ages and interests.

Steinerhof, riding school and retirement stables,



Balmberg Adventure Park

Balmberg Adventure Park offers something for climbing enthusiasts of all ages. It has 10 courses with varying levels of climbing difficulty. The largest adventure park in German-speaking Switzerland, Balmberg can accommodate 230 climbers at once, making it an ideal day out for families, groups and clubs.

www.seilpark-balmberg.ch



Mittelland skating route no. 3

Inline skating through the "Three Lakes Region": the Mittelland skating route connects Romanshorn with Estavayer-le-Lac, passing through the heart of Solothurn on the way. The entire route is suitable only for experienced skaters. The easy short tour through the region of Solothurn is also suitable for beginners and families.

www.skating-in-switzerland.ch



Zuchwil Sports Centre

The sports centre in Zuchwil offers lots of activities for athletes, families and anyone who likes to be active. In summer, it offers an open-air swimming pool, miniature golf and tennis, and in winter a skating rink and ice hockey. The indoor pool, Jacuzzi, sauna park, fitness centre and training centre with sports hotel are open all year round.

Sportzentrum Zuchwil, Amselweg 59, 4528 Zuchwil, www.szzaq.ch



Golfclub Wylihof

Close to the city of Solothurn is one of Switzerland's most beautiful golf courses. At 6,584 metres, this 18-hole championship course is the longest in Switzerland. Even the restaurant is well worth a visit: after your game, you can sit in front of the open fire in the lounge before topping off the day with a delicious meal.

Golfclub Wylihof, 4542 Luterbach www.qolfclub.ch



Cis Sports

Do you prefer tennis, badminton, squash, handball, basketball, floorball or miniature golf? You can take part in all of these at Cis Sports Solothurn. The sports centre also has its own restaurant so you can refuel afterwards.

Cis Sports, Hans-Huber-Strasse 43, 4502 Solothurn www.cissolothurn.ch



Golf Limpachtal

This diverse 18-hole course is laid out on the plain of the Limpach valley, with the obstacles provided by artificial lakes and renaturalized brooks. The golf course, which is 6.2 km long in total, has 14 water obstacles, the longest fairway in Europe at the eleventh hole (666 metres) and the only par 6 in Switzerland.

Golf Limpachtal, Unterdorf, 4587 Aetingen www.qolf-limpachtal.ch

suggestions More

Skiing on the Grenchenberg, www.grenchenberge.ch Skiing on the Balmberg, www.balmberg.ch



SolothurnTrainStation:+41(0)512269817

Other rental stations in the Seeland region:

Biel/Bienne:	+41 (0)51 226 23 14
Ins:	+41 (0)58 327 24 30
Kerzers:	+41 (0)58 327 60 30
Murten:	+41 (0)58 327 60 90
Yverdon-les-Bains:	+41 (0)51 224 82 11

Infos and reservations



From a leisurely bike ride to downhill thrills



The region of Solothurn is perfect for cycling. Idyllic scenery and sleepy farming villages are waiting to be discovered along national cycling routes 5 and 8 as well as the regional cycling routes. Anyone who enjoys the thrill of mountain biking will find challenging routes on the first Jura mountain range around the Weissenstein.

Fropical Sunset, Bike und Fun Shop, Bielstrasse 28,

4500 Solothurn, phone +41 (0)32 623 31 41

TCS Camping Lido, phone +41 (0)32 621 89 35



Mittelland and Aare route no. 5/8

The route from Aarau to Solothurn winds with the Aare through the delightful landscape. Not far past Solothurn is the small town of Altreu, famous for its stork colony. Keen cyclists can ride straight through, or you might prefer to take time for a picnic on the banks of the Aare. The route is ideal for families.

All Solothurn cycling routes: www.cycling-in-switzerland.ch



Bucheggberg Tour

The gently rolling hills of the "Buechibärg" are particularly suitable for cycling tours. The route takes you through an idyllic landscape of gorgeous farmhouses, whose roofs reach almost to the ground. The cycling route passes through Biberist to Lüterkofen, Lüterswil and Büren an der Aare, before picking up national route 5 to return to Solothurn via Altreu.



Southern foot of the Jura (Jurasüdfuss), route no. 50

A varied ride at the foot of the Jura. Beyond Olten, you'll pass historic castles, such as Schloss Neu-Bechburg, along the first Jura mountain range. The route takes you past villages to the baroque city of Solothurn, which is the perfect place for a coffee break, before continuing along the Aare towards Grenchen.

www.cycling-in-switzerland.ch



Passwang-Oberaargau, no. 71

From Dornach, which is home to the Goetheanum of the Anthroposophical Society, the route leads you through the softly rolling Jura landscape and the Schwarzbubenland region, past cherry trees and flower-filled meadows. Once you reach Passwang, at an altitude of 949 metres, you'll be rewarded with a spectacular view of the Alps and the Thal Nature Park. The route then continues to Balsthal and Oensingen.



Arch cycling route no. 44

Heading west along the Aare, cycle through the Grenchen Witi, a unique cultural and natural landscape. Discover numerous storks' nests on the roofs of the farmhouses in Altreu. Crossing the Aare bridge, the route continues east via Arch and back to Solothurn. Cycling maps are available from the Solothurn Tourist Office.



Chasseral-Weissenstein - bike route no. 44

The Chasseral–Weissenstein route is one of the most awe-inspiring routes in Switzerland, especially on clear days. During this bike tour along the Jura mountain range, you will enjoy far-reaching views across the Mittelland region, right over to the snow-capped Alps. The tour is a real challenge for serious cyclists, as it involves climbing more than 1,200 metres.

www.mountainbiking-in-switzerland.ch

More suggestions
Hiring bicycles and Flyers

Rent a Bike, Solothurn train station, phone +41 (0)51 226 98 17, Monday to Sunday, 9 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.





Where nature is at peace in Thal, our visitors are at leisure.



From the precipitous Jura to rolling

hills



The Solothurn Jura region offers an extensive network of hiking trails – whether you're looking for a gentle ramble or a challenging (multi-day) hike in the Jura. The area around the Bucheggberg or the Wasseramt is also perfect for walks of all lengths. So pull on your walking shoes, pack your map and get out there!

Solothurn Woodland Hiking Trails 1 to 4 **Suggested walks:** www.solothurn-city.ch



The Thal Nature Park

The Thal Nature Park lies nestled in the mountain ranges of the Solothurn Jura, between Weissenstein and Wasserfallen – within striking distance of Basel, Bern and Zurich. Here, you can enjoy quiet rambles or go for an energetic bike ride. Visitors are also drawn to the lively Thal for its cultural programme and numerous events.

www.naturparkthal.ch



Balmberg

The Balmberg, which is easily accessible by PostBus, is another starting point for short walks and longer hikes. The paths lead towards Weissenstein via routes which include the Röti, or towards Stierenberg to the "Chambefluh". In autumn, the Balmberg is particularly alluring, with the sunshine, the sea of mist and the magnificent views.



Bucheggberg

With its farming villages and rolling hills cloaked in forest and meadows, the "Buechibärg" is an ideal destination for walkers. Relax in the great outdoors on Solothurn's doorstep. Walk the route from Lohn, via Mühledorf to Messen, for instance, and admire the view of the long Jura mountain range and the Bernese Alps.

www.buechibaera.ch



Jura Crest Trail - hiking route no. 5

The Jura Crest Trail is considered a classic among the national long-distance routes. Three routes lead through the canton of Solothurn. On route 5, the walk starts in Balsthal, heading for Schwängimatt. Via the "Hällchöpfli", the path heads to the Weissenstein mountain on a well-signposted high-altitude route, affording views over the Mittelland and the Alps.

www.hiking-in-switzerland.ch



Weissenstein

On a clear day, you will be rewarded with a fantastic alpine panorama: at 1,280 metres above sea level, the horizon extends from Säntis to Mont Blanc. Weissenstein is popular with hikers, offering countless hiking trails for discovering the first mountain range of the Jura. You could happily spend several days hiking here – heading west over the Hasenmatt and ever onwards to the Grenchenberg.



Grenchenberg

This rewarding hike begins in the town of Grenchen. The waymarkers point the way to the Stierenberg and the "Wäsmeli", about an hour-and-a-half's walk away. The path continues along an easy route to the Upper and Lower Grenchenberg, whose peak lies 1,348 metres above sea level. This walk is an opportunity to enjoy nature in all its unspoiled glory.

More suggestions

Seeland—Solothurn trail, route 76
Weissenstein—Wasserfallen trail, rout
Planet Path on the Weissenstein



From the boat MS Siesta to a canoe



Do you love the water? Then you're sure to enjoy a cruise on the Aare to Biel, stopping off in Altreu, the home of the stork colony. Alternatively, you can paddle a canoe on Solothurn's inshore waters. You can also swim and soak up the sun at the public swimming pools in Solothurn and the surrounding region, as well as in the lake Burgäschi.

Solothurn Swimming Bath, Römerstrasse 49 4500 Solothurn, phone +41 (0)32 622 14 86 H**äftli Nature Reserve,** www.bueren.ch

www.aare-faehre.ch



Aare cruise

You'll encounter storks in Altreu, the historic small town of Büren an der Aare, and sail through the imposing sluice gates in Port as you cruise from Solothurn to Biel. This unique river cruise is regarded as one of Switzerland's finest.

Timetable: www.bielersee.ch or Tourist
Office in Solothurn



Büren an der Aare

The small town of Büren an der Aare boasts cosy restaurants serving delicious food and lots of places of interest, including the castle of the former "Landvögte" senior officials, the Town Hall, the two municipal fountains, the arches on Hauptgasse and the mighty wooden bridge over the Aare River. The cruise from Solothurn to Büren an der Aare lasts 90 minutes.



Öufi Boat

Sit back and admire the beauty of Solothurn as you glide gently past the city on the Öufi Boat. From the Aare, you can take in the picturesque Old Town and the changing moods of the sky and the Jura mountain range. Individual group trips can be booked at Region Solothurn Tourismus.

www.solothurn-city.ch



Lake Burgäschi

This small moraine lake on the border of the cantons of Solothurn and Bern was created in the last ice age. Along with the three giant boulders in nearby Steinhof, it is thought to be a remnant of the Rhone glacier. Walkers can walk the perimeter of the lake on the woodchip path. In summer, the "Badi" tempts people to swim in the lake.



Altreu / Witi Information Centre

The journey begins with a leisurely cruise on the Aare. Altreu is home to the stork centre that is famous throughout Switzerland. In fact, the Witi Information Centre was awarded "European stork village" status by Euronatur. The Witi Information Centre and fascinating guided tours tell you everything you need to know about storks and how they live.

www.infowiti.ch



Canoe Aare route no. 1

Canoeing on the Aare through Switzerland's Mittelland region is a fascinating experience. The journey begins in Biel and proceeds via Büren an der Aare to Solothurn and on to Wangen an der Aare. The river journey is full of variety, but tranquillity and isolation are guaranteed.

 $www. canoeing\hbox{-}in\hbox{-}switzer land. ch$

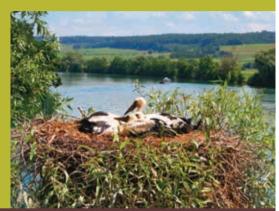
More suggestions

Solothurn Indoor Swimming Pool, Obere Sternengasse, 4500 Solothu www.hallenbad-solothurn.ch



From stork's nests

to castles



Watch storks, hares and migratory birds in the Witi area of outstanding natural beauty, near Grenchen. Or why not walk to a castle in the Thal Nature Park that was once the home of knights and other journeymen? The region of Solothurn boasts beautiful scenery, important nature reserves and fascinating and amusing places of interest. Many of them are insider's tips.

www.naturparkthal.ch

HAARUNDKAMM Museum, Mümliswil,

Watch Museum Welschenrohr, www.naturparkthal.ch



The steeple of St. Urs Cathedral

The steeple is 66 metres tall and well worth the 249-step climb to the top to enjoy the breathtaking views of the city, the surrounding area and the mountains.

In fine weather, from Easter to 1 November Monday to Saturday, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon, 1.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Sundays and public holidays, 1 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Adults CHF 3, children CHF 1 / CHF 2



Grenchen Airport

Grenchen Airport offers exciting guided tours of the airport for groups of visitors. Take a look inside the hangars, watch aeroplanes and, from the vantage point of the tower, learn about the daily life of the airport on the ground and in the air. Alternatively, why not take to the air and get a bird's eye view of the glorious region of Solothurn?

www.airport-grenchen.ch



Guided tours in Büren an der Aare

Would you like to find out more about the architecture or history of the small town of Büren an der Aare? Or perhaps you're more interested in the Jura water correction or a walk through the forests of Büren? You can find out more about guided-tour themes and how to book at Solothurn Tourism.

www.solothurn-city.ch



Findlingsgarten Grenchen

Around 60 of the 300 or so boulders dug up when the motorway was constructed can now be seen in this specially designed boulder garden. As well as gneiss and granite, the garden also contains examples of limestones and sandstones. Boards explain how the rocks were created millions of years ago when the alpine folds began to form, and were then transported to Grenchen by the glaciers tens of thousands of years ago.



Castle of Alt-Falkenstein

The castle of Alt-Falkenstein stands at the narrowest point of the Klus valley, between Oensingen and Balsthal. In days of old, the castle was the ideal base for keeping watch over the gateway to the Jura. Today, the history-laden walls enclose a museum of local history.

www.museum-alt-falkenstein.ch



Dinosaur tracks in Lommiswil

In a quarry above Lommiswil is Europe's largest area of tracks left by quadruped dinosaurs. From a viewing platform, you can see at least nine sets of tracks, with over 400 dinosaur footprints. The footprints can be seen most clearly when the light is falling at an angle, so it is advisable to visit them early morning or late afternoon.

Finds in Solothurn's Natural History Museum www.naturmuseum-so.ch

More suggestions

Jura World of Coffee Experience, www.jura.ch

Energy Park in the Thal Nature Park,

www.energypark.ch

JURA TROIS-LACS DREI-SEEN-LAND

BIEL/BIENNE SEELAND

NATÜRLICH WILLKOMMEN BIENVENUE NATURELLEMENT NATURALLY WELCOME







Solothurn has a huge choice of good restaurants, offering everything from traditional Swiss cuisine to Italian, Greek, Turkish and Asian food. You will be made to feel equally at home in the local cafés

and the sophisticated gourmet restaurants.

No matter where you eat, friendly and obliging service is guaranteed.

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Restaurant Attisholz, www.restaurant-attisholz.ch Romantik Hotel Sternen, Kriegstetten, www.sternen.ch

glance:



Restaurant Aaregarten

This sophisticated restaurant serves Swiss cuisine enhanced with youthful ideas and daring combinations. The fresh products are largely sourced from domestic suppliers based in the region. If the weather is fine, guests like to sit under the trees in the garden where they can drink in the view of the river Aare as they dine.

Oberer Winkel 2, 4500 Solothurn +41 (0)32 626 24 34, www.aaregarten.ch



Salzhaus Restaurant

"The place to see and be seen" is the motto of this exceptional restaurant. The terrace affords views of the Aare and is an ideal spot for watching the crowds from near and far. The restaurant's exquisite cuisine blends local recipes with Asian aromas and a fine range of salts from all over the world.

Landhausquai, 4500 Solothurn +41 (0)32 622 01 01, www.restaurant-salzhaus.ch



Cantinetta Bindella

The Ritterquai is home to a temple of Italian fine dining: in this homely osteria, guests can enjoy traditional Mediterranean cuisine including highlights such as home-made pasta and matured Parma ham. When the mercury rises, the garden is the ideal spot to enjoy a holiday ambience that could easily be in Italy itself.

Ritterquai 3, 4500 Solothurn +41 (0)32 623 16 85, www.bindella.ch



Zum Alten Stephan

Outside the restaurant on the lovely Friedhofsplatz, a sign proudly proclaims this inn dates back to 1038. But time has not stood still, and guests enjoy a bistro cuisine of the highest calibre in the cosy "Stadtbeiz" (town hostelry) today. Gourmets also love gather in the "Zunftstube" – with a cuisine boasting 17 Gault-Millau points.

Friedhofplatz 10, 4500 Solothurn +41 (0)32 622 11 09, www.alterstephan.ch



The Kreuz Cooperative

Jam-packed during Solothurn's film & literature festivals, on other days too a variety of interesting guests dine night and day at this hostelry. New menus are concocted daily – featuring dishes with freshest ingredients & specialties at most attractive prices.

Kreuzgasse 4, 4500 Solothurn +41 (0)32 622 20 20, www.kreuz-solothurn.ch



Zunfthaus zu Wirthen

The seat of the former "Innkeepers' Guild" looks back on an over 500-year history. Nestled at the heart of Solothurn's historic centre, the guild house is today a popular restaurant and hotel with specialities earning city-wide fame: paper-thin pizzastyle "Flammenkuchen" and skewered meats flambéed with cognac at your table.

Hauptgasse 41, 4500 Solothurn +41 (0)32 626 28 48, www.wirthen.ch

Have you already discovered...

Hotel Roter Turm, www.roterturm.ch Restaurant Baseltor, www.baseltor.ch Vini-Al Grappolo, www.algrappolo.ch Restaurant Stalden, www.restaurant-stalden.ch



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Travel Centre Hauptgasse 69 c/o Tourismus-Center 4500 Solothurn Phone +41 (0)32 626 46 90 solothurn@asmobil.ch



From sleeping bags to suites



You will find a wide range of accommodation options in Solothurn, with everything from youth hostels to 4-star hotels. During popular events such as the Solothurn Film and Literature Festivals, Bike Days or the Solothurn Classics, it is advisable to book your accommodation well in advance.

Credit cards accepted

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Room without bath/shower

Number of rooms Number of beds Room with bath/shower

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Private garage

Public restaurant

Ambassador

www.ambassador-hotel.ch



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Hotel an der Aare ***5 www.hotelaare.ch



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Astoria ***

www.astoria-solothurn.ch



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Jugendherberge www.youthhostel.ch



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Bären

www.baeren-solothurn.ch



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Genossenschaft Kreuz Solothurn www.kreuz-solothurn.ch



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Baseltor *** Swiss historic hotel www.baseltor.ch



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RAMADA Hotel Solothurn **** www.ramada-treff.ch



Schänzlistrasse 5 4500 Solothurn T+41 (0)32 655 46 00 F+41 (0)32 655 46 01 solothurn@ramada-treff.ch

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rooms

Public

restaurant

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Outdoor/garden restaurant

Handicapped accessible Conference and banqueting rooms Restaurant with view

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Roter Ochsen www.roterochsen.ch



Berntostrasse 9 4500 Solothurn T +41 (0)32 322 55 33 roterochsen.ch

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Best Western airporthotel www.airporthotel.ch



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Urs + Viktor www.ursundviktor.ch



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TCS Camping Lido www.tcs.ch



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Zunfthaus zu Wirthen *** www.wirthen.ch



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Conference and banqueting rooms

Restaurant with view

Dormitory accomodation Handicapped accessible

Sporthotel www.szzaq.ch



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Comfort Hotel Egerkingen www.hotelegerkingen.ch



Oltnerstrasse 22 4622 Egerkingen T+41 (0)62 387 75 75 F+41 (0)62 387 75 76 hotel.egerkingen@autogrill.net

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Gasthof Sonne www.sonne-horriwil.ch



Hauptstrasse 20 4557 Horriwil T +41 (0)32 614 14 88 F +41 (0)32 614 35 56 info@sonne-horriwil.ch

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Gasthof Kreuz www.kreuz.ch



Oltnerstrasse 11 4622 Egerkingen T+41 (0)62 398 03 33 F +41 (0)62 398 43 40 kreuz@kreuz.ch

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Romantik Hotel Sternen*** www.sternen.ch



Hauptstrasse 61 4566 Kriegstetten T +41 (0)32 674 41 61 F +41 (0)32 674 41 62 info@sternen.ch

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Mövenpick Hotel Egerkingen www.moevenpick-hotels.com



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Kulturhof Weyeneth www.kulturhof-weyeneth.ch



Dorfstrasse 40 4574 Nennigkofen T +41 (0)32 622 21 60 info@kulturhof-weyeneth.ch

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Room without bath/shower Number of beds

Number of rooms

Outdoor/garden restaurant

Public restaurant

Credit cards accepted

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Private garage

Room with bath/shower I X 4 & D

