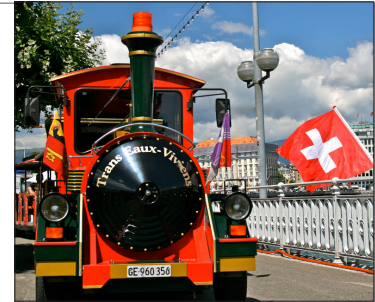


Switzerland

Live from Geneva podcasts

Author: Adrian Tennant
Level: Elementary / Pre-intermediate
Age: Teenagers / adults
Time needed: 30-45 minutes
Language and skills: listening, vocabulary (synonyms), grammar (quantifiers and intensifiers).



Warmer

1. Ask students to work with a partner and write everything they know about Switzerland onto the word wheel. Tell them they only need to write words, not full sentences. Monitor and help if necessary, e.g. prompting them with words such as *mountains*, or asking them what food Switzerland is famous for. Elicit ideas and write these up on the board.

Listening

2. Tell students that they are going to listen to six people talking about what they like about Switzerland. Ask them to look at the list of five topics and tick them if they are mentioned in the recording. Tell them to worry about understanding everything. Play the recording through once and then ask pairs to discuss their answers together, before checking as a class.

Key:
boxes that should be ticked: food, nature, castles

3. Ask students to look at the chart. Tell them you will play the recording again and they should tick each speaker for whom the phrases is true. Draw their attention to the first one, which has been done as an example. Play the recording and then get students to check their answers in pairs. Monitor, and play the recording again if necessary. Then, check the answers in pairs.

Key:

Which speaker ...	1	2	3	4	5	6
... loves the scenery?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
... lives in Switzerland?	✓	✓				✓
... loves the cheese?			✓	✓		
... stays with their children?			✓			
... likes that the place is clean?				✓	✓	
... thinks everything is very organized?				✓	✓	
... gives some facts about the place?						✓

4. Ask students to look at the sentences and see if they can remember if they are true (T) or false (F). Encourage them to work in pairs and discuss their ideas. Next, play the recording and get students to check their answers. Put students in pairs once more and get them to discuss their answers together and correct the ones they think are false. Finally, check the answers as a class.

Key:

- T;
- F – *Speaker 2 has lived there for 40 years.*;
- F – *Speaker 3 stays with her children / does not pay for accommodation.*;
- F – *Speaker 4 loves the food.*;
- T;
- F – *Speaker lives in a town with an old castle.*

Vocabulary

5. Ask students to read the sentences and match the words in the box to the underlined words in each sentence. Encourage students to work in pairs and discuss their ideas. Monitor, and help where necessary. Check the answers as a class and discuss any that students aren't sure about.

Key:

- lucky*;
- organized*;
- amazingly*;
- totally*;
- more famous*

Language

6. Ask students to look at the five sentences and to choose the correct word(s) to complete each one. Encourage students to work in pairs and discuss their ideas. Check the answers as a class and discuss any that students aren't sure about.

Key:

- very*;
- a lot of*;
- so*;
- really*;
- very*

Speaking

7. Put students into groups and ask them to discuss the three questions. Monitor and then have a short class discussion.

Transcript

Introduction

Welcome to onestopenglish's *Live from ...* series of authentic interviews. Today, the onestopenglish reporters are in the Swiss city of Geneva, where they ask locals and visitors what they like about Switzerland.



Speaker 1 (Male, Swiss)

So, err, I like living in Switzerland because it's ... first, I think it's my home country, and then because I just love landscapes and everything about it because there is so much, I don't know ... green places, like forests, mountains and everything.

Speaker 2 (Female, German)

Yes, I like it. I am here now for, err, 40 years and I am very happy because the style of life is very nice and we have everything in fact to enjoy our time. We have the lake, we have the mountains, err, yes, it's, it's quiet – it's a very quiet city.

Speaker 3 (Female, South African)

I love Switzerland. It's ... the countryside is beautiful. I love the mountains and the variety of places, err, to visit. There's a lot of historical interest and of course the different people. I love the cheese and the different foods ... and, er, travelling in Switzerland. Erm, I'm very fortunate that I have children that live there so I have the advantage of being able to visit it from time to time without paying a lot of money for accommodation. So, erm, I really enjoy the travelling.

Speaker 4 (Female, British)

I love Switzerland because, er, it seems so orderly and tidy and the trains always run on time, and everything is so clean. The flowers in the towns are beautiful, erm, the fountains in the, in the towns, the lakes – it all seems so beautiful, almost unreal. I love the mountains and ... the cows ... and of course the cheese and the, the food.

Speaker 5 (Male, British)

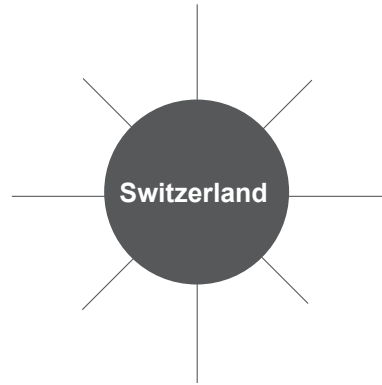
Right, what I like about Switzerland is it's a very clean country and it seems to be very well organized. It has spectacularly beautiful countryside; it has a kind of mix of mountains and lakes and, er, beautiful pasturelands and vineyards ... and I, I really appreciate that kind of, er, scenery.

Speaker 6 (Male, Swiss)

OK, so I, I live in Nyon. It's a very beautiful town with a castle from the 13th century which was completely renovated. Err, it overlooks the lake of Geneva, which is er, err, the second largest lake in Switzerland. Erm, what else? Err I, what do I like about Nyon? Err, er, it has an atmosphere; it's large enough you find er, all the basic services; it has, er, I think about 15,000 inhabitants; erm, and it's, err – in miles I guess – so it's 20 miles away from Geneva, which is of course better known.

Warmer

1. What do you know about Switzerland? Write your ideas on the word wheel below.



Listening

2. Listen. Tick [✓] the things that are mentioned?

- food nature
 drink castles
 music

3. Listen and complete the chart.

Which speaker ...	1	2	3	4	5	6
... loves the scenery?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
... lives in Switzerland?						
... loves the cheese?						
... stays with their children?						
... likes that the place is clean?						
... thinks everything is very organized?						
... gives some facts about the place?						

4. Listen again. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

1. Speaker 1 is Swiss. T / F
 2. Speaker 2 is Swiss. T / F
 3. Speaker 3 pays for their accommodation. T / F
 4. Speaker 4 doesn't like the food. T / F
 5. Speaker 5 particularly enjoys the scenery. T / F
 6. Speaker 6 lives in an old castle. T / F

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Vocabulary

5. Replace the underlined words in these extracts with a word with the same meaning from the box.

amazingly lucky more famous organized totally

1. I'm very fortunate that I have children that live there ...
2. It seems so orderly and tidy.
3. It has spectacularly beautiful countryside, ...
4. ... with a castle from the 13th century which was completely renovated.
5. ... it's 20 miles away from Geneva, which is of course better known.



Language

6. Choose the correct word(s) to complete each sentence.

1. ... it's a *so / very* clean country.
2. There's *a lot of / so* historical interest ...
3. ... it all seems *a lot of / so* beautiful.
4. I *really / very* appreciate that kind of scenery.
5. ... the style of life is *a lot of / very* nice.

Speaking

7. Work in groups and discuss the following questions.

- What do you like about your country? Why?
- What do you think visitors to your country would like? Why?
- How would you describe the place you live?