

WELCOME TO *Arosa*

This guide aims to offer you insights not just into kosher food, but also into other valuable aspects that can enhance your visit to Arosa. It also serves to mitigate potential tensions between Jewish tourists and locals, which have unfortunately resulted in negative reports about Jewish tourists in Switzerland. Therefore, we emphasize the importance of familiarizing oneself with Swiss culture and local norms. This guide will help you clarify some of the issues and help everyone to have a better vacation experience in Switzerland.

We wish you a pleasant stay in Arosa!

GOOD TO KNOW

Kosher Food

As products sold in regular supermarkets do not have hechsherim, please refer to the kosher list which specifies all available kosher products in Switzerland.

You can find the kosher list here:



There is also an app which makes the Kosher shopping easier:



IOS



Android

SWISS CULTURE AND SOCIAL NORMS

Quietness

Switzerland values quietness, especially at night after 10 pm. Please keep noise levels low in public areas, including during phone conversations.

Cleanliness

Switzerland is renowned for cleanliness. Visitors should adhere to local standards by using designated waste bags or bins. Littering is considered highly impolite, and illegal waste disposal may result in fines. Household waste should not be disposed of in public bins.

Fairness

Public amenities like playgrounds are accessible to everyone. Please use these facilities for a reasonable amount of time to allow others to enjoy them too.

Patience

Swiss culture emphasizes patience. In public transport, wait for passengers to disembark before boarding. At stops, form queues without pushing, giving priority to those who arrived first. Children should also queue and be briefed accordingly.

RENTED APARTMENTS AND HOTELS

Shabbat Rules

When spending Shabbat in a hotel or apartment, inform your host in advance about necessary preparations, for example such as using a key instead of an electronic card or keeping certain lights on if possible.

Rented Apartments

Leave the apartment or hotel room clean and tidy upon departure, even if you paid for cleaning. Final cleaning is charged, but the space must still be broom-clean. Dispose of all waste properly and check your rental agreement for specific duties.

Kashering

If you kasher an apartment, return it to its original state. Never heat all four hot plates simultaneously; it damages the thermostat. Heat one or two plates at a time, cool them down, then pour hot water. Use thick aluminum foil for hotplates, as thin foil can burn and is hard to remove. Ceramic glass cooktops cannot be koshered. Take precautions when kashering a gas stove.

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ACTIVITIES

Safety in the Mountains

In the mountains a hiking trip needs preparation even if it is just a “one hour walk”. Sticking to the rules will make your excursion a safe and nice experience.

- **Preparation**
 - **Difficulty level:** Don't underestimate hiking; plan your trip in advance. Many trails are high alpine, steep, and narrow, unsuitable for prams.
 - **Weather:** Monitor weather conditions and adjust plans if rain, snow, fog, or heavy winds are expected.
 - **First Aid:** Carry a first aid kit with compress dressings, gauze pads, and bandages.
 - **Trail safety**
 - **Marked Route:** Always stay on marked trails. Signposts and markers guide you safely.
 - **Shoes:** Wear sturdy, appropriate footwear
 - **Water:** Take enough water with you, even if it is not hot and sunny.
 - **Throwing rocks:** Avoid throwing rocks as other hikers might be below. Picking flowers is strictly forbidden.
- **Nature & Rules**
 - **Nature:** Stay on marked trails for safety and environmental protection. Avoid stepping on flowers, grasslands, or entering private property.
 - **Fireplaces:** Use designated fireplaces and ensure fires are completely extinguished before leaving. The risk of forest fires is high.
 - **Waste:** Leave nature as you found it. If bins are unavailable, take your waste with you and dispose of it properly later.
 - **Rest rooms and toilets:** Use public toilets during excursions in nature (e.g., mountains, lakes, playgrounds).

Swimwear

Most swimming pools and lake beaches are mixed-gender. Swimming in a T-shirt or non-swimwear is not allowed caused of hygienically reasons.

Non-kosher restaurants

Ordering only tap water is inappropriate. Each person should order at least one beverage. Sharing one drink among many people is impolite. Consume your own food only in designated picnic areas, not in restaurants.

Prices

Consumer prices are fixed and non-negotiable.

Arosa Card

The Guest Pass is personalized and only the named owner can use it. Sharing the Arosa Card is not allowed and considered theft.

Here you can find further information about the Arosa Card:



SECURITY AND ANTISEMITISM

If you encounter any anti-Semitic incidents, report them to the Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities.

Report an incident here:

