

Ticino and Ascona - Locarno

Switzerland with a mediterranean flair



Ticino is the southernmost canton of Switzerland, offering a perfect blend of alpine landscapes and Mediterranean charm. Spanning approximately 2,800 square kilometers, this Italian-speaking Alpine region juxtaposes elements such as palm trees and glaciers, dolce vita and extreme sports, medieval castles and contemporary architecture. Parts of the charming capital, Bellinzona, are designated UNESCO World Heritage Sites, while Lugano, nestled along the shores of its namesake lake, thrives as a vibrant financial and cultural center. Locarno and Ascona, situated on Lake Maggiore, beckon visitors with opportunities for art appreciation, swimming, biking, and leisurely strolls. The wine and culinary haven of Mendrisiotto, nestled in the southernmost part of the canton, seamlessly blends natural beauty, joie de vivre, and gastronomy. Thanks to its location on the sunny side of the Alps and mild climate, Ticino is affectionately known as the "Sonnenstube der Schweiz" and offers ample opportunities for sporting activities year-round.

Ticino Ticket and Swisstainable



The now digitized Ticino Ticket is given to everyone in Ticino from the first overnight stay at a hotel, campsite, and youth hostel at check-in and is valid for the duration of the stay. It allows free use of public transport throughout Ticino and includes a constantly growing range of discounts at leisure facilities, cable cars, boat trips (on the Swiss side of the waters), and cultural institutions.



Overall, the tourism offer in Ticino is oriented towards sustainability criteria. With "Swisstainable," Switzerland Tourism emphasizes the wide-ranging aspects of a sustainable offer of the destination Switzerland. Experience it for yourself! [Ticino Ticket | ticino.ch](https://www.ticino.ch)

Swiss Wine Tour

The Mendrisiotto is the largest wine-growing region in Ticino – symbolically represented for almost a hundred years by the dominant red Merlot in all its diversity. In the mild climate of the hilly southern tip of Switzerland, vines thrive, cultivated by a young generation of winemakers who, through entrepreneurial spirit, innovation, and a love for tradition, consistently transform



them into award-winning red gold. The Mendrisiotto - a region waiting to be discovered. With a red wine that simply enchants. The intense red of Mendrisiotto Wine Red epitomizes the grand wine tradition in Ticino. Swiss Wine Tour now offers enthusiasts and connoisseurs new opportunities: tailor-made experiences revolving around wine throughout the canton of Ticino, discovery tours, in-depth explorations, and other unforgettable experiences related to gastronomy, landscape, and wine can be conveniently and individually arranged and booked with the highest quality guarantee. [ticino.ch/swisswinetour](https://www.ticino.ch/swisswinetour)

Locarno Film Festival, 7-17.8.2024

The Locarno Film Festival is the most important film festival in Switzerland. It was founded in 1946 after the Second World War and is one of the most renowned and oldest festivals in Europe, along with the Venice and Cannes Film Festivals. The focus is on films of the retrospective and the competition for the Golden Leopard. During these eleven days, over 300



films will be shown in 13 theatres and stars such as Meg Ryan, Harrison Ford, Juliette Binoche or Sir Anthony Hopkins walk the red carpet. It is a place of exchange, creativity and for the future of cinema. There are many other cultural activities to discover around the festival.

[Locarno Film Festival](#)

100 years of the Centovalli train

A century on its back and not a bit tired. The "Centovallina" or "Vigezzina," as it is called in Italy, connects the cities of Domodossola and Locarno via a route that is considered a true masterpiece of engineering. And this has been the case for exactly 100 years - to be celebrated throughout 2024 starting in November 2023!



A railway line of 52 km winds through wild and romantic natural landscapes and passes numerous idyllic mountain villages. It's hardly surprising that the tourism specialists from "Lonely Planet" have included the "Ferrovia Vigezzina-Centovalli" - its official name - in the list of the 10 most spectacular railway routes in Europe. With its 83 bridges and 31 tunnels, the "Centovallina" impresses not only with breathtaking views but also as the most direct connection between the two Simplon and Gotthard railway lines and, via Italy, as the fastest way from Ticino to Valais. The approximately one-and-a-half-hour journey from Locarno to Domodossola is like an uninterrupted adventure tour through impressive landscapes dotted with panoramas of deep gorges, wild mountains, waterfalls, and rivers.

[Ferrovia Vigezzina Centovalli](#)

Red Bull Dual Ascent, 29.10.-2.11.2024

Due to the unique quality of the rock and the countless climbing and bouldering routes, the Ascona-Locarno region is popular with climbers and boulderers. Thanks to the mild climate all year round, the world's best boulderers meet here mainly in the winter months to benefit from excellent training conditions. Reason enough for Red Bull to launch a typical Red Bull event in this



perfect setting: extreme, spectacular, one-of-a-kind! For the third time, the Red Bull Dual Ascent is being held at the famous Verzasca dam in Vogorno. 24 of the world's best climbers compete in teams of two, on two identical routes right next to each other, each consisting of six pitches and 180 meters of climbing. An exciting head-to-head competition for athletes and spectators alike in a picturesque natural landscape at the entrance to the Verzasca Valley.

[Red Bull Dual Ascent](#)

The Moon&Stars turns 20, 11-21.7.2024

Moon&Stars is the music festival that brings the stars of pop, rock and rap, as well of tens of thousands of visitors, to Locarno. Status Quo, Michael Patrick Kelly, Lenny Kravitz and Snow Patrol, among others, will be on stage for the 20th anniversary of the festival. Moon&Stars is not just music and it's not just a festival; it's an experience to be lived to the max! The festival's Food&Music



Street makes the atmosphere really special, with its bars, food trucks and plenty of completely free concerts. It's a bit like being on the moon, but a moon full of people, partying, laughter, music and everything the summer has to offer. [Moon & Stars](#)

Pardy and the mystery of the hidden chestnuts

This fantastic new family game in the style of a "treasure hunt" will capture the hearts of young and old alike. The family transforms into a chestnut-hunting team to help Pardy the leopard find the chestnuts that his friend Fioralba has hidden in Intragna, Locarno, Ascona and Tenero, leaving a trail of clues and riddles in their wake. [Play with Pardy](#)



40 years of JazzAscona, 20-29.6.2024

JazzAscona turns 40! The festival is one of Switzerland's biggest jazz festivals, and it's the only such event outside the USA to be officially supported by the city of New Orleans. For ten days, Ascona experiences a warm, "southern state" wind blowing through its alleys, bringing good vibes and a wealth of great music. The lakeside promenade and the village are a sea of happy souls carried away by the music, dancing, laughing or simply enjoying the relaxed ambience. JazzAscona celebrates its 40th edition with "Jazz off the Wall", a street art event featuring more than 40 giant-size photographic oeuvres by Yuri Catania and a fantastic line-up. All concerts are free of charge! [JazzAscona](#)



Agri-Experiences

A completely new way to discover the culinary, scenic, and cultural heritage of Ticino is offered through Agri-Experiences: experiences on the farm with direct contact with animals, discovering different products and flavors as well as gastronomic specialties in a unique landscape. These are thematic offerings that follow the rhythm of nature and the seasons, suitable



for adults and families alike. From harvesting edible flowers on the Piano di Magadino, to e-bike tours through the vineyards of Terreni alla Maggia in Ascona, to bread baking and cheese making on a farm in Malcantone, these Agri-Experiences offer something for everyone!

[Agriesperienze | ticino.ch](https://www.ticino.ch/agriesperienze)

Scattered hotel on Monte Generoso

With the Albergo Diffuso del Monte Generoso, the southernmost valley of Switzerland, Valle di Muggio, offers top-class tourist experiences. Particularly attractive are the combined stays: whether in the picturesque Scudellate or on the idyllic Alpe di Caviano - the offers are connected via hiking trails - breathtaking views are guaranteed. Following the Osteria Manciana, the Ostello di Scudellate, and the Casa dei Gelsi, the renovated accommodation on the Alpe di Caviano will open this spring. The various accommodations allow hikers to linger and stay in the tranquility of Monte Generoso's nature.



[Albergo Diffuso Monte Generoso](https://www.albergo-diffuso-monte-generoso.ch)

Basodino: a not so eternal ice

With an area of 2 square kilometers, the Basòdino Glacier is the most extensive glacier in Ticino. Its lower boundary currently sits at about 2500 meters, while the upper boundary settles at around 3120 meters, leaving the eponymous peak at a lofty 3273 meters. Over the last 150 years, the glacier has retreated by approximately 1,400 meters. A comparison with photos from that time is very impressive. In 2008, due to a significant retreat, the glacier split into two parts: the "Basòdino Glacier" (southern part) and the "Cavergno Glacier" (northern part). Even without additional warming, the glacier's surface and volume will continue to shrink significantly for a certain number of years. Consequently, the glacier will increasingly appear fragmented. By the year 2030, only a few remnants of ice may remain near the higher ridges. ticino.ch/basodino



LAC – Lugano Arte Cultura – the futuristic cultural heart of Ticino

In the futuristic Ticino Cultural Center LAC and the historical Palazzo Reali, the MASI in Lugano offers a rich program with temporary, often spectacular, exhibitions and always new presentations of the collection. The exhibition program is accompanied by an extensive educational offer in several languages and is aimed at various audiences. The artistic offer is further enriched by the collaboration with the Giancarlo and Danna Olgiati collection – part of the MASI network – which is entirely dedicated to contemporary art. [Museo d'Arte della Svizzera Italiana \(MASI\)](http://Museo d'Arte della Svizzera Italiana (MASI))

