



Leaflet for newly registered Swiss citizens

1. The Regional Consular Centre should be notified without delay of the following

- Any change of address or telephone number
 - Departure from the consular district
 - Any change in civil status (marriage, birth, divorce, death etc.)
 - Acquisition or loss of any other nationalities
- **Failure to provide this information could cause inconvenience.**

The **FDFA's online desk** simplifies correspondence between Swiss citizens residing abroad and their Swiss representation. The representation is also available for questions about the FDFA's online desk. Once you have opened an account on www.evera.eda.admin.ch you can enter your personal details online in the Register of the Swiss Abroad. Once you have registered, you can:

- View your personal details.
- Order and pay for a confirmation of registration and nationality.
- Announce civil status matters such as marriages, births, changes of names, deaths, etc.
- Announce changes of address
- Register or de-register in the electoral register
- Update contact details (phone, email, etc.).
- Order publications (Swiss Review, the representation's newsletter).
- Contact your representation

2. The following opportunities are available to Swiss citizens resident abroad

- Membership of the Solidarity Fund of the Swiss Abroad
- The right to vote in Swiss federal ballots (see enclosure and information in the Swiss Review)
- Membership of the various Swiss clubs
- Application for Swiss passport or identity card

3. Publication for Swiss citizens resident abroad: Swiss Review www.revue.ch

A magazine, containing information useful to Swiss living abroad and published jointly by the Swiss Abroad Organisation and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, is sent periodically to Swiss citizens registered with the Regional Consular Centre. Please note that **changes of address for the Swiss Review** can be entered directly in the above-mentioned **FDFA's online desk** or must be sent to the Regional Consular Centre and not to the distributor in Switzerland.

As a Swiss citizen living abroad, you cannot claim to have been unaware of a particular deadline or of legislation that concerns you once it has been published in 'Swiss Review'. We therefore recommend you read 'Swiss Review' attentively on a regular basis.

4. Swiss citizenship: your rights

For information on nationality, naturalisation as a Swiss citizen and many other questions relating to the law on citizenship and citizens' rights, please consult the website of the Regional Consular Centre: www.eda.admin.ch/rcclondon.

Information for Swiss citizens living in the United Kingdom

Regional Consular Centre

c/o Embassy of Switzerland, 16-18 Montagu Place,
London W1H 2BQ
Phone 020 7616 6000
Email london.cc@eda.admin.ch
Website www.eda.admin.ch/rcclondon

Opening hours Monday to Friday 9am to 12noon, by appointment only.
Closed Saturday, Sunday and [public holidays](#).

Phone hours for consular matters Monday to Thursday 3 pm to 4pm

Nearest tube stations Baker Street, Marble Arch, Edgware Road, Marylebone

Swiss Church

79 Endell Street, London WC2H 9DY
Phone 020 7836 1418
Email info@swisschurchlondon.org.uk
Website www.swisschurchlondon.org.uk

Opening hours Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm

Nearest tube stations Tottenham Court Road, Holborn, Covent Garden

Religious services On the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month. Services begin at 11am and are followed by a lunch. Sermon is in English, parts of the liturgy may be in French and German. Occasionally there are additional services in German.

The Swiss Church is happy to provide information about various meeting groups. The addresses and aims of these groups are set out in the above-mentioned website.

The Swiss Benevolent Society (SBS)

The Swiss Benevolent Society UK enhances the quality of life of fellow Swiss citizens of all ages, from all walks of life, who are experiencing difficulties.

The SBS employs a Welfare Officer who:

- offers counselling, advice and support
- advocates on behalf of clients with agencies such as the Regional Consular Centre, social services, benefit agencies and hospitals
- helps to co-ordinate clients' overall care
- provides financial help in emergencies or in the form of regular pensions

Welfare Officer

Mrs Petra Kehr Cocks
Swiss Benevolent Society
79 Endell Street
London WC2H 9DY
Phone 020 7836 9119 (Tuesday & Wednesday only)
Email info@swissbenevolent.org.uk
Website www.swissbenevolent.org.uk

If you wish to make a donation please visit the relevant section of the above-mentioned website.

Events

The Embassy sends out a regular Newsletter with information on cultural events with a Swiss connection. If you are interested, please send an email to london.culture@eda.admin.ch with "subscribe to cultural Newsletter" in the subject line in order to be added to the email distribution list.

Swiss Clubs in the United Kingdom

Please visit the website of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK (FOSSUK) and the Embassy website and for contact details of Swiss clubs in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

www.swiss-societies.co.uk/member-clubs-societies

www.eda.admin.ch/countries/united-kingdom/en/home/living-in/clubs.html

Switzerland Travel Centre

Switzerland Travel Centre STC, 30-33 Minories, London EC3N 1DD

Email sales@stc.co.uk, Phone 0207 420 4900, Webpage www.switzerlandtravelcentre.com/en/gbr

Driving Licence

You can continue to drive in the UK without exchanging your [valid Swiss] licence **for 12 months after becoming resident**. After 12 months you must exchange your licence to keep driving. You can exchange it up to 5 years after becoming resident, if it has not expired.

You can apply for a UK driving licence by completing application form D1 which you will find in any Post Office or on the website of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA).

www.gov.uk/exchange-foreign-driving-licence

Work / residence permit for the United Kingdom

Since 1 January 2021 the UK government has operated a new Points-based Immigration system (PBS). Swiss citizens without Swiss-British or Swiss-Irish dual citizenship, who moved to the UK after the end of the Brexit transition period on 31 December 2020, have to demonstrate that they fulfil a specific set of requirements under the PBS. Further guidance regarding this new system can be found on the UK government websites:

www.gov.uk/guidance/new-immigration-system-what-you-need-to-know

www.gov.uk/guidance/the-uks-points-based-immigration-system-information-for-eu-citizens

Brexit – ‘settled and pre-settled status’ in the UK

Swiss citizens and their family members who were living in the UK up to 31 December 2020, and who wish to remain in the UK, have to hold a new residence status under the UK's EU Settlement Scheme called settled or pre-settled status. The deadline for applications was 30 June 2021. It is possible to make a late application where there are 'reasonable grounds' for doing so.

For more information on the EU Settlement Scheme, late applications and other changes for Swiss citizens after Brexit please visit:

www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families

www.eda.admin.ch/london/brexit

National Insurance / Tax

Swiss citizens who intend to work in the United Kingdom are required to apply for a National Insurance (NI) number.

www.gov.uk/national-insurance

www.gov.uk/apply-national-insurance-number

You have to pay tax on your income if you come to live in the UK. If you are employed your employer will deduct Income Tax from your wages.

You will have to send a Self Assessment tax return if you work for yourself or you have other UK income.

www.gov.uk/tax-come-to-uk

When leaving the UK permanently, P60 and P45 forms issued by your employer serve as proof of UK tax payments. Please keep them safely as you might need to provide them.

www.gov.uk/moving-or-retiring-abroad

Information sources for Swiss citizens abroad

Swissinfo.ch (www.swissinfo.ch)

SWI swissinfo.ch is the international unit of the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation (SBC). As part of its public service mandate, SWI swissinfo.ch provides independent reporting on Swiss politics, business, science, culture and society, and, additionally, reports on issues that have particular relevance for Swiss citizens living abroad, to engage with them and assist them in exercising their political rights in Switzerland.

Satellite television and radio

SRG SSR (www.srgssr.ch) broadcasts its television and radio channels in Switzerland's four national languages (SRF, RTS, RTI, RTR). For copyright reasons, the television channels are encrypted. Swiss households abroad can obtain a Sat access card from SRG SSR to decode encrypted channels. The radio stations are broadcast free-to-air (www.broadcast.ch).

Other links

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)
House of Switzerland (FDFA)

www.eda.admin.ch
www.houseofswitzerland.org

Federal Department of Justice and Police (passport and identity card)
Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport (Swiss Armed Forces)

www.fedpol.admin.ch
www.vtg.admin.ch

Federal Assembly – Swiss Parliament
Swiss authorities online

www.parlament.ch
www.ch.ch

Old-age and survivor's insurance (OASI) - Swiss compensation office (SCO)

www.ahv-iv.ch

Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA)
Swiss Community (OSA)

www.aso.ch
<https://members.swisscommunity.org/>

Swiss education
Swissnex network
Switzerland Global Enterprise

www.educationsuisse.ch
www.swissnex.org
www.s-ge.com

Switzerland Tourism
Presence Switzerland (PRS) – Switzerland's official information portal

www.myswitzerland.com
www.aboutswitzerland.org