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## Chur - The Swiss Railway and Alpine Village

Chur is the oldest city in Switzerland with a history that dates back 5,000 years. The city is astonishingly impressive and boasts a beautiful old-town without a car in sight. Chur is also an ideal starting point for unforgettable mountain and railway adventures as it is the capital of the Graubünden Canton and the hub of the Rhaetian Railway,

### **The starting point for adventures in the train or on the mountain**

The city of Chur located on the Alpine Rhine and at the foot of imposing mountain peaks is much more than just a stop on the historic north-south trade route. The Alpine City is the last stop on the major international railway lines from Germany and the Benelux region. It is the starting point of the Rhaetian Railway with the UNESCO World Heritage route through the Albula/Bernina region and the world-famous railways Bernina and Glacier Express.

Whether its the surrounding luxurious spa resorts such as Davos-Klosters, St. Moritz and Bad Ragaz, or the famous sports destinations such as Arosa, Lenzerheide and Flims-Laax, the regions are all accessible by train and post bus directly from the city. The same also applies to unique tourist sites in the area such as the original Heididorf, the impressive Rhine Gorge (Swiss Grand Canyon) or the fascinating Viamala Gorge. Chur is the only town in Switzerland to have its own summer and winter sports area due to the Brambüesch mountain, which is accessible directly from the town centre with a modern cable car.

### **Pack your bags, it's worth seeing!**

The important cathedral town is also the centre of Rhaeto-Romanic Switzerland and is considered the oldest city in the Confederation. Archaeological discoveries near the cathedral indicate there was a settlement here 11,000 years before Christ and the ceramics and tools found testify to a Roman military station. Chur has preserved its history and made it accessible with star architect Peter Zumthor designing the delicate wooded construction that protects the archaeological excavation sites, and those that are enthroned in the Rhaetian Museum in the old town. With the title of "Capital of Graubünden", those who visit the Museum of Fine Arts and the Natural History Museum of Graubünden see two more fantastic examples of our alpine culture. By the way, all three are open Tuesday to Sunday from 10am to 5pm.

Guests from all over the world can discover Chur's most important sights while taking a leisurely stroll through the car-free town centre. You are able to learn a lot about the history and culture of the Alpine town by taking a guided city tour or with an audio guide available in 13 languages. Some of the most enticing places to visit include the episcopal castle, the three-aisled Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption and the picturesque buildings in the old town of Chur.

### **Mediterranean flair**

With more than 500 speciality shops, Chur also attracts shopping fans as it is the largest shopping centre between Zurich and Milan. The car-free old town and the small winding streets tempt you to have a leisurely shopping spree. Gourmets will love the numerous cosy cafés and the choice of over 130 restaurants. Regional specialties from Grisons such as Capuns, Maluns or Pizokel are a very popular choice. The mild climate makes Chur one of the warmest cities in Switzerland giving it its noticeable Mediterranean charm. Therefore there are also wonderful wines to be found in the Alpine town and in the surrounding Rhine Valley.

### **Further Information**

[www.churtourismus.ch](http://www.churtourismus.ch)