

## Local Time

Switzerland is one hour ahead of Greenwich mean time. The country is nine hours ahead of Pacific and six hours ahead of Eastern standard time. Summer time usually lasts from the fourth week in May to the fourth week in September (during these four months Switzerland is on Greenwich mean time).

## Business Hours

The standard work week for the hard-working Swiss is 42 hours.

Offices	0800 to 1800 lunch break — one to two hours	Monday to Friday
Factories	0700 to 1700	
Major Banks	0815 to 1630	Monday to Friday
Small Banks	0815 to 1200 1330 to 1630	Monday to Friday
Government Departments	0800 to 1200 1400 to 1800	Monday to Friday
Department Stores	0800 to 1830 0800 to 1600	Monday to Friday Saturday
Retailers (general)	0800 or 0830 to 1230 1400 to 1800 or 1830 0800 or 0830 to 1600	Monday to Friday — closed Monday mornings  Saturday
Canadian Embassy	0800 to 1200 1330 to 1700	Monday to Friday

There may be slight variations in opening hours from canton to canton.

## Statutory Holidays

Legal holidays vary from canton to canton. However, the following holidays are observed throughout the country:

**New Year's Day** — *January 1*

**Berchtoldstag** — *January 2 (partly observed)*

**Good Friday** — *March or April*

**Easter Monday** — *March or April*

**Ascension Day** — *Variable*

**Whit Monday** — *May - Variable*