Chur

Switzerland’s oldest city is by no means stuck in the past. Cultural events, bars, clubs, museums, shopping centers, stores and boutiques enliven Graubünden’s capital. Visitors who want to get to know the Old Town, can book a guided tour.

Celts, Romans, Ostrogoths, Franks - all ruled Chur, the gateway to important trade routes and alpine passes, at one time or another. What remains today, is its 5000-year history, documented by Early Stone Age and Bronze Age finds and artifacts from the Roman period, as well as testimonies to more recent history such as the 800-year-old Cathedral near the bishop’s residence.

During a guided city tour, history buffs can discover witnesses to the past and hear gruesome stories from civil wars, or amusing anecdotes from times of peace. To this day, Chur is a commercial center and capital of a large region, as evidenced by a variety of stores, museums, the theater and the PostBus station, a hub of Graubünden’s mountain world.

A regional mountain – the ‘Brambrüesch’ – means that Chur also has its own winter and summer
### General Info

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Canton</th>
<th>Grisons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postcode/ZIP</td>
<td>7000 - 7002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altitude</td>
<td>595 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>German</td>
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### Important holidays 2012 in Chur

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Holiday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01. Jan 2012</td>
<td>Su New Year’s Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06. Apr 2012</td>
<td>Fr Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08. Apr 2012</td>
<td>Su Easter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09. Apr 2012</td>
<td>Mo Easter Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. May 2012</td>
<td>Th Ascension Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. May 2012</td>
<td>Su Whitsun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. May 2012</td>
<td>Mo Whit Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01. Aug 2012</td>
<td>We Swiss National Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Oct 2012</td>
<td>Tu Christmas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Dec 2012</td>
<td>We St. Stephen’s Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Opening hours

**Shops/shopping**

- Monday - Friday: 8.30 am - 7 pm
- Saturday: 8.30 am - 5 pm
- Late night shopping: Friday until 8 pm

**Banks and currency exchange**

- Monday - Friday: 8 am - 5 pm
- Saturday: closed

**Public authorities and offices**

- Monday - Friday: 8 am - 5 pm
- Saturday: closed

### Important phone numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emergency calls:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>117 Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118 Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>144 Ambulance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1414 Swiss heli rescue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General information:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1811 General information such as eg doctors, theater, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>140 Breakdown Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>162 Weather Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>163 Road conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>187 Avalanche Bulletin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In summer, Chur is the ideal spot from which to set off on walks and visits to vineyards in the ‘Bündner Herrschaft’ winemaking region. Chur is the gateway to the Grisons mountains: 26 holiday and spa resorts can be reached in less than an hour from Chur.

### Highlights

- The Rhaetian Railway has been certified as an UNESCO world heritage site and therefore has a lot to offer – best explored from Chur.
- Chur is the only city in Switzerland with its own winter and summer sports region, linked with the city by means of the Brambrüesch aerial cableway.
- All well-known resorts in Graubünden are within easy reach from Chur. Which means the city has a new adventure to offer every day.
- The oldest archaeological discovery on city ground dates back to 12'000 to 9000 years BC. Chur has been continuously populated for at least 5000 years.
- Chur is natural: 50 percent of the city area is covered with forest and at the same time Chur offers an urban infrastructure with cultural events and a large variety of shops.
- Culinary delights: You will find everything from gourmet restaurants to local pubs in Chur.
A perfect day in Chur.

The capital of the Graubünden holiday region may be Switzerland’s oldest city – as celebrated in impressive style in the pretty Old Town – yet it looks firmly to the future: witness the striking modern architecture. And while Switzerland’s Alpine city cherishes its traditions, it has plenty to tempt the most cosmopolitan visitor – chic boutiques, stylish lounge bars, fine galleries and much more.

Out of this world  11:00

It was originally meant for New York, where it would have caused a sensation. But when the financing of the project proved difficult, Chur stepped in – and created the world’s first Giger Bar. Inside, you are surrounded by fantasy creatures and skeletons from the imagination of the Oscar prize-winning creator of “Alien”, H.R. Giger, who was born in Chur. As you sip your earthly drink, you have the creepy feeling that you have ended up in another world...

Lift off for lunch  12:00

There’s nothing quite like it anywhere else in Switzerland: from the heart of the city you ride the cable car up to the Brambrüesch, Chur’s local mountain – popular in summer and winter alike. On the vast sun terrace of the mountain restaurant, you enjoy the fabulous views – followed by specialities from Graubünden, which taste especially good in the fresh mountain air.

High thrills  13:30

Ever heard of bikeboarding? Or dirtsurfing? Or mountainboarding? Well, now is your chance to have a go – on your way back down the mountain. In front of the restaurant on the Brambrüesch begin Graubünden’s strangest and most spectacular descents. You can rent the necessary equipment from the sports school, which operates one of its base camps here.

A place of inspiration  16:00

Experience the spirit of the region through the eyes of its artists: Graubünden’s fine art museum shows important works by Giovanni Segantini, the Giacomettis, Ernst Ludwig Kirchner and others. The collection is housed in the magnificent Villa Planta, which also stages outstanding special exhibitions.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17:30</td>
<td>Drinks and downloads</td>
<td>Lots of wood panelling and furniture, lots of history, lots of atmosphere: the Angelika Kauffmann café in the heart of the Old Town is the perfect place in which to relax and linger over tea or coffee and a couple of sweet treats. These should restore your energy enough for a city tour with an audio guide, which you can hire from the tourist office – or easier still, download to your own MP3 player.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20:00</td>
<td>Alpine City Sushi in the guildhall</td>
<td>The creativity on show in Chur is exemplified by the cooks at the Rebleuten guildhall, who have designed Graubünden dishes with a difference, such as their Alpine City Sushi, with local cheese, barley, Bündnerfleisch (air-dried meat) and Swiss chard. And the perfect place in which to enjoy them is the panelled parlour of the guildhall, well worth a visit in its own right. There’s also a cosy smokers’ lounge, with open fireplace.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22:00</td>
<td>Spoilt for choice</td>
<td>For an atmospheric venue in which to round off the day, head for “Schall und Rauch”, one of Chur’s most stylish bars. Eight beers on tap, 200 spirits and 300 different cocktails make for a bewildering choice, but the hip atmosphere and cool sounds laid on by slick DJs guarantee a top night out.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24:00</td>
<td>Hotel Freieck</td>
<td>Located in the heart of the Old Town, this pleasant mid-range hotel delights guests with its warm welcome – and its prosecco breakfast.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Current events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>«Oktoberfest Chur»</td>
<td>24 OCT</td>
<td>Informations will follow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Market</td>
<td>30 NOV</td>
<td>This is considered the biggest Christmas market in Switzerland, with roughly 120 vendors displaying their wares in the Obere and Untere Gasse alleys, on Ochsenplatz, Kornplatz and Martinsplatz squares. As in earlier years, the Chur old town association sticks to its traditional concept, allowing only handcrafted Advent and Christmas objects from the region for sale. The festive event is further enhanced with various musical presentations. Verein Churer Weihnachtsmarkt · Obere und Untere Gasse, Ochsenplatz · 7002 Chur · T +41 (0)81 252 12 27 · weihnachtsmarkt-chur.ch/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cathedral

The 800 year old cathedral was reopened in October 2007 after many years of restoration. A pleasant walk through the pedestrianised Old Town takes you along twisting alleyways to the Bishop's Palace.

St. Martins Church

Since 1919, a special decorative feature of the church has been three stained-glass windows by the artist Augusto Giacometti.

Protective buildings for Roman Excavations

The protective buildings covering the archeological finds from Roman times were designed by Graubünden's architect Peter Zumthor. They are a protective cover as well as a museum and a veritable architectural gem. The filigree lamellas of the buildings let the visitor guess the original extent of the Roman buildings.

Geschäftshaus Würth

Glass panels are placed at regular intervals over the three upper storeys, forming a screen which reacts to sunlight. Between the panels, you can see red stripes, which warm the cool-looking facade visually. Architects: Dieter Jüngling and Andreas Hagmann.

Townhall

Town Hall. Because of its irregular layout and the slanting ridge of the roof, the building seems to be all out of joint. That isn't the result of politics, though, but of the history of the building. After the fire in the town in 1464, the building was rebuilt and then extended and altered several times. The inside of the building, with its artefacts from various eras, also reflects the diverse history of the Town Hall.

Old building

A stately home as a work of art in itself. The politician Peter von Salis-Soglio had a huge garden, the present Fontana Park, created alongside his property. Inside the old building, his love of detail is striking: one room is decorated entirely in the Chinese style, another has a ceiling set with precious gems. Throughout the house the walls are decorated with works of art.
Obertor

Together with the Maltese tower and the Sennhof tower, the Obertor is one of the surviving towers of the mediaeval town fortifications. With its impressive appearance, the Obertor soon became a symbol of Chur. The four-storey tower, tapering towards the top, blends in with the structure of the housing development which is based on the town walls, but at the same time, with its lighter stonework, it stands out from the terraced row.

Chur Tourismus · Bahnhofplatz 3 · 7001 Chur · T +41 (0)81 252 18 18 · F +41 (0)81 254 58 89 · info@churtourismus.ch · www.churtourismus.ch

PostAuto Station

Postal bus station. The postal bus station is covered by a glass dome. At night, the structure is illuminated by spotlights, lighting up the centre of Chur. There is also a gently domed glass and steel structure over the platforms of Chur station. In its appearance, the 300 m long span of the unsupported glass roof is reminiscent of railway halls from the 19th century. Architects: Richard Brosi and Robert Obrist.

PostAuto Schweiz AG · Gürtelstrasse 14 · 7000 Chur · T +41 (0)58 386 31 66 · graubuenden@postauto.ch · www.postauto.ch/graubuenden

Giger Bar

The Oscar-winning "creator" of the "Aliens" has opened a bar in his home town. The entire interior decor of the bar and the furniture were designed by Giger.

Giger Bar
Comercialstrasse 23
7000 Chur
Tel. +41 (0)81 253 75 06
www.hrgiger.com

Bars

Bar: Schall und Rauch

The "Schall und Rauch" ("Noise and Smoke") could be called a lounge bar. Or a late-night café. Or a smart club for night-time revellers. But in fact it is simply the "Schall und Rauch". A unique place, where the warm colours make you forget about the cold night outside.

Schall und Rauch · Welschdörfli 11 · 7000 Chur · info@schallundrauch.ch · www.schallundrauch.ch

Bar: QBar

If you're into cocktails, you'll find refreshing icy Caipirinha here, and if you're into good music there's a blend of chill house sound, hit parade and the best music from the last 20 years. It's pleasant and yet something special. Just like the interior decor: from the blue fabric beer mats to the lounge, the special brickwork and the fixtures and fittings, every object and every detail here contributes to the special atmosphere. It is all very effectively lit, so party guests and music fans can gaze proudly round the room and out through the large glass windows on to the street.

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Club: Selig

At the Selig they're ready for all kinds of musical styles and events. So the music resounds here in the broadest sense of the word. From Thursday to Saturday, you can just party and dance to good music here, it's as simple as that. The club has filled a gap in the cultural entertainment available in Chur: nothing to do with high culture or commercial interests, but now there's a straightforward, attractive meeting place here.

Selig Tanzbar · Welschdörfli 19 · 7002 Chur · T +41 (0)81 284 10 10 · info@extrabar.ch · www.selig-live.ch

Toms Beer Box

This is the sister club of Schall und Rauch and is situated in the heart of the Old Town. Here, you'll find beer from all over the world. Toms Beer Box has long been an institution in Chur and it is renowned for its fine beers and unusual music.

Toms Beer Box · Untere Gasse 11 · 7000 Chur · T +41 (0)81 252 77 57 · info@toms.ch · www.toms.ch

Felsenbar

Meeting point for night life in Chur. Cool drinks at the bar - hot rhythms on the dance floor! DJ sounds of yesterday and today lasting into the small hours.

Felsenbar · Welschdörfli 1 · 7000 Chur · T +41 (0)81 284 50 50 · info@felsenbar.ch · www.felsenbar.ch

City Museums

Graubünden's Art Museum Chur

It later became the Administrative Office of the Rhaetian Railroad; since 1919 it is Graubünden's Art Museum. The collection comprises works by Angelika Kauffmann, Ferdinand Hodler, Alberto Giacometti, Augusto Giacometti, Ernst Ludwig Kirchner and Giovanni Segantini.

Bündner Kunstmuseum · Postplatz · 7002 Chur · T +41 (0)81 257 28 68 · F +41 (0)81 257 21 72 · info@bkm.gr.ch · www.buendner-kunstmuseum.ch

Rätisches Museum

The Graubünden Museum of History is located in the Buol house in Chur's Old Town. The exhibition includes archaeological, cultural and folk art objects from all over Graubünden from prehistoric times, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and Baroque periods through to the 19th and early 20th centuries.

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The collections of various Graubünden natural history enthusiasts from the 19th and 20th centuries formed the basis for the establishment of the Graubünden Natural History Museum. This is a centre of information for the study of regional natural sciences. It organises a range of activities to introduce the natural history of the canton of Graubünden, with all its characteristic features, to a wider public. A unique experience for anyone with an interest in flora, fauna, geology etc. Special exhibition and information for children.

Museum: Galerie Luciano Fasciati

Since April 2000, the gallery has been located under the roof of the nearly 100 year old, traditional Hotel Marsöl. About seven exhibitions by individual artists and themed group exhibitions are held each year. The gallery is in Chur's Old Town.

City parks

Fontana Park

In its present form, the Fontana Park has reverted to the boundaries of the former Baroque garden from before 1860. With its refurbishment, the park will become a multi-purpose recreation area. The modern fencing means that the park can be closed off at night, yet it permits the required degree of transparency. Have fun wandering in our Baroque garden.

City Tours

Audio Guide Chur

For visitors to Chur there is a "do-it-yourself" walking tour. The walks indicated on the map take visitors to the most beautiful places.

Public guided tours of the city - Chur

Every Wednesday (April to October) at 2.30 pm starting from the Tourist Information Centre, this public walking tour takes you through Switzerland's oldest city. Experience 5,000 years of settlement history come to life. Includes the modern train station, the vibrant City Centre, the narrow alleys of the old town and the 800-year-old cathedral.
Excursions

Brambrüesch Chur

Where the fog ends, Graubünden begins — and Chur is Switzerland's only large town to have its own skiing and hiking area. The local mountain is called the Brambrüesch, offering convenience and unlimited winter and summer sports opportunities, at altitudes of from 600 to 2200 m.

Bergbahnen Chur · Dreibündenstein AG · Kasernenstr. 15 · 7007 Chur · T +41 (0)81 250 55 90 · F +41 (0)81 250 55 91 · info@bergbahnenchur.ch · www.bergbahnenchur.ch / www.brambruesch.ch

Places To Be

Brambrüesch Chur

Where the fog ends, Graubünden begins — and Chur is Switzerland's only large town to have its own skiing and hiking area. The local mountain is called the Brambrüesch, offering convenience and unlimited winter and summer sports opportunities, at altitudes of from 600 to 2200 m.

Bergbahnen Chur · Dreibündenstein AG · Kasernenstr. 15 · 7007 Chur · T +41 (0)81 250 55 90 · F +41 (0)81 250 55 91 · info@bergbahnenchur.ch · www.bergbahnenchur.ch / www.brambruesch.ch

Arcasplatz Chur

From the Gänggelimarkt and the Chur Festival to the Hit Parade, everything takes place on the Arcasplatz in the heart of Chur's Old Town. The triangular square, surrounded by rows of historic houses, is especially appealing in summer, with its many cafés and restaurants.

Chur Tourismus · Bahnhofplatz 3 · 7001 Chur · T +41 (0)81 252 18 18 · F +41 (0)81 254 58 89 · info@churtourismus.ch · www.churtourismus.ch / www.churtourismus.ch

Neuer Bahnhof und PostAuto Station

New station and postal bus station. Chur's public transport centre is being enhanced and expanded: In summer 2007, the entire station in Chur was revealed to the public in all its glory. The refurbishment of the square in front of the station means there is now room to linger there. Comfortable benches, shady trees and three modern fountains now link the area between the station and the bus station, making a modern meeting point for locals and visitors alike.

Chur Tourismus · Bahnhofplatz 3 · 7001 Chur · T +41 (0)81 252 18 18 · F +41 (0)81 254 58 89 · info@churtourismus.ch · www.churtourismus.ch / www.sbb.ch

Old Town Chur

Enjoy the cultural and culinary amenities of this Alpine town! Especially worthy of note are the Bishop's Palace and the triple-naved cathedral of Sankt Maria Himmelfahrt. Whether you're after cathedral treasure, Giacometti, biodiversity or souvenirs, Graubünden's capital, with its three regional museums and over 500 shops, offers something to do in any weather.

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Restaurants
As early as 1677 the people of Chur are said to have met in the Süsswinkel for a round of drinks. For some years Inge Graiss and Daniel Truniger have been seeing to it that a beautiful piece of Old Chur history is preserved. In addition, they are proving that an Old Town pub is not only able to serve hearty local specialities, but also eclectic gourmet cuisine - and all this at excellent prices. Our terrace is a special highlight – here you can enjoy the summer while in the centre of the Chur Old Town.

Restaurant Brasserie Süsswinkel
Süsswinklgasse 1
7000 Chur
Tel. +41 (0)81 252 28 56

The Bündnerstube in the Zollhaus Restaurant is Chur's meeting place for all occasions. Your destination in Chur for banquets, family parties, special events and traditional cooking. The Zollhaus Restaurant has been one of Chur's finest restaurants since 1900. Magnificent rooms are available for family or business dinners.

Restaurant zum alten Zollhaus
Malixerstrasse 1-3
CH-7000 Chur
Tel. +41 (0)81 252 33 98
info@zollhaus-chur.ch

You and your guests will be enchanted by the classic modern ambience here. The restaurant, with its wide glazed frontage, is an inviting place to go into. Our well-trained staff will look after you during your visit and make every effort to read your wishes from your eyes. The chefs will amaze you with their creativity and sophistication. From the starter to the sweet temptations, they will bewitch your senses. Light, seasonal dishes teamed with fresh local produce guarantee you a versatile and well-balanced menu.

Restaurant Va Bene

Passion, emotions, seasons, coming together. This restaurant with top cuisine and magnificent views of Chur and the surrounding mountains now sports a trendy new look.

Restaurant Klein-Waldegg

Romantik Hotel Stern - Bündner Stuben

The Stern has an excellent reputation as a restaurant serving value-for-money Graubünden cuisine prepared according to traditional recipes. We only serve top-quality culinary delights, including Capuns, Maluns, Bizochels, calf liver Dolce Brusco and Chur Ratsherrenplatte. Vegetarians are also very well catered for at the Stern. In spring, the menu is complemented by Chur asparagus grown and cut on our own land. As befits a true Graubünden restaurant, the chef and his team treat our guests to superb venison dishes in the autumn. Awarded 13 Gault Millau points.
Sculptures

Benedikt Fontana

The bronze Fontana memorial dates from the year 1903 and is in memory of Captain Benedikt Fontana. He died in 1499 during the Swabian War at the battle of Calven, allegedly a martyr's death, before the Graubünden army put the Habsburgs to flight.

Framework of Borders

In the "Gerüst der Grenzen" (Framework of Borders) light sculpture, the borders of Switzerland (in red) and those of the canton of Graubünden (in blue) are superimposed on one another. This layering of the borders creates a special border world. Playing with such border lines emphasises the chance nature of their positioning in a historical context and in today's more island-like reality.

Sculptures Park Würth

Visitors may admire the art on display in this 1.200 m² area of the Würth Cultural Forum Chur. The Würth Building is open and transparent and so is also the park. All the sculptures are shown at their very best optical impact. On display are the works «Le Monde», «der Bär» and «Nana Mosaïque Noire» by Niki de Saint Phalle, «Fontaine pour Joseph Siffert» by Jean Tinguely and «Dolittle» by Bernhard Luginbühl.

Shopping

Zoppi Watches and Jewelry.

Specialty store for watches and jewelry with its own jewelry designer and studio. Exclusive representative of Rolex watches.

Membrini Crystal

If you hear the word "Crystal" in Graubünden you will automatically recall the famous diviner Paul Membrini. In 1980, his son Romeo opened his specialty store in Chur. The assortment of crystals comprises crystals of extraordinary quality and dimensions. One of the largest mountain crystal selection in the world. (2.5 tons).
Muja Glas Design
A very special boutique with its own design and glass blowing manufacturing in Chur.

Muja Glas Design · Untere Gasse 28 · 7000 Chur · T +41 (0)81 252 54 07 · info@muja.ch · www.muja.ch

Ullius Chemist
This century-old drugstore at the Obertor has long been producing the real Churer Rötelii (cherry liqueur) as per the original old recipe.

Drogerie Ullius · am Obertor · 7000 Chur · T +41 (0)81 252 17 21 · info@drogerie-ullius.ch · www.drogerie-ullius.ch

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