

LIECHTENSTEIN

HOTELS•MOTELS•INNS



Country Dialling Code (Tel/Fax): ++4175

National Tourist Office: Postfach 1139 FL-9490 Vaduz Tel: 2321443 Fax: 3921618

Capital: Vaduz Time GMT +

Background: The Principality of Liechtenstein was established within the Holy Roman Empire in 1719; it became a sovereign state in 1806. Until the end of World War I, it was closely tied to Austria, but the economic devastation caused by that conflict forced Liechtenstein to conclude a customs and monetary union with Switzerland. Since World War II (in which Liechtenstein remained neutral) the country's low taxes have spurred outstanding economic growth.

Location: Central Europe, between Austria and Switzerland

Map References: Europe

Area: total: 160 sq km land: 160 sq km water: 0 sq km

Climate: continental; cold, cloudy winters with frequent snow or rain; cool to moderately warm, cloudy, humid summers

Terrain: mostly mountainous (Alps) with Rhine Valley in western third

Natural Resources: hydroelectric potential, arable land

Population: 32,207 (July 2000 est.)

Nationality: noun: Liechtensteiner(s) adjective: Liechtenstein

Ethnic Groups: Alemannic 87.5%, Italian, Turkish, and other 12.5%

Religions: Roman Catholic 80%, Protestant 7.4%, unknown 7.7%, other 4.9% (1996)

Languages: German (official), Alemannic dialect

Economy: Despite its small size and limited natural resources, Liechtenstein has developed into a prosperous, highly industrialized, free-enterprise economy with a vital financial service sector and living standards on a par with the urban areas of its large European neighbors. Low business taxes - the maximum tax rate is 18% - and easy incorporation rules have induced about 73,700 holding or so-called letter box companies to establish nominal offices in Liechtenstein, providing 30% of state revenues. The country participates in a customs union with Switzerland and uses the Swiss franc as its national currency. It imports more than 90% of its energy requirements. Liechtenstein has been a member of the European Economic Area (an organization serving as a bridge between European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and EU) since May 1995. The government is working to harmonize its economic policies with those of an integrated Europe. Industries: electronics, metal manufacturing, textiles, ceramics, pharmaceuticals, food products, precision instruments, tourism

Currency: 1 Swiss franc, franken, or franco (SFR) = 100 centimes, rappen, or centesimi

Railways: total: 18.5 km; note - owned, operated, and included in statistics of Austrian Federal Railways standard gauge: 18.5 km 1.435-m gauge (electrified)

Highways: total: 250 km paved: 250 km unpaved: 0 km

Ports and Harbors: none

Airports: none

Visa: the visa requirements are the same as Switzerland, please see Switzerland visa section for further details

Duty Free: custom regulations follow Switzerland, please see Switzerland visa section for further details.

Health: no specific precautions

BALZERS

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TRIESEN

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VADUZ

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AIRLINES & HELIPORTS

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