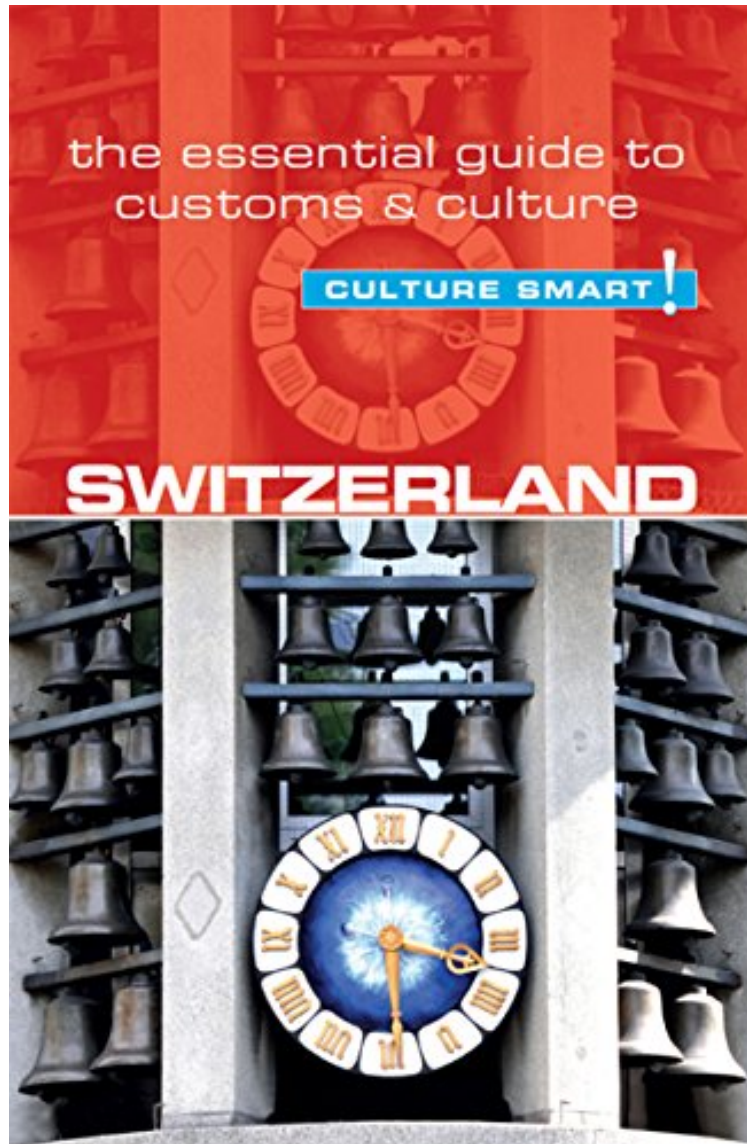


(Ebook free) Switzerland - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture

Switzerland - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture

Kendall Hunter

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Kendall Hunter : Switzerland - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Switzerland - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Respectful and trueBy CustomerThis book truly captures the Swiss essence in a respectful and appreciative way. My late stepfather was Swiss (my mom and I are Latin American, he moved to our contry when they got married) and these pages brought to life so many memories! He trying to fit in a

society that doesn't plan long term and time is 'relative', our emotional way to socialize, etc. I remember my mom once asking him by the tenth time in a very flirty way (as customary here) 'Honey, do you love me?', and him looking at her with an expression of confusion all over his face, answering 'Darling, I already told you I love you this morning. I haven't changed my mind.' In the end, we learned a lot from him as well as he from us. Books like these, that can actually help you understand and appreciate a different culture faster, are really a treasure. Thanks to the author for this great work. Totally recommended. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating in-depth guide By Professor Starman Superbly written, great insights into the Swiss culture. Details not found in any other travel guide such as why the Swiss never drive with the car windows down. Fascinating reading. 22 of 22 people found the following review helpful. Switzerland - Culture Smart! By Sarah W. Megonigal I bought this book as a gift for a graduate student who was going to work in Switzerland for two years. However, I did look through it before giving it away, and I had done quite a bit of research on line before picking this particular item. The book seemed to me a very practical guide for someone taking up residence in Switzerland, and was not so much meant for the casual 2-week vacationer. The sections on cultural differences between the Swiss and other people were particularly interesting, and would head off some awkward moments for a new immigrant. The parts about rules for apartment living sound quite strict for someone from America, but, again, would prevent misunderstandings between Swiss and foreign tenants. There are also the more usual guidebook sections on recreation, such as hiking, skiing, eating in restaurants, etc. The student who received the book proclaimed it "great", and I think it will come in handy in the months ahead.

There is far more to Switzerland than beautiful scenery, chocolate, watches, faceless bankers, and spotless cities. The real Switzerland is full of surprises and anything but bland. This small, rugged, landlocked country at the heart of Europe has been a confederation since the first three cantons came together in a defensive alliance in 1291. Four national languages are spoken within its borders. Its present twenty-six cantons are largely autonomous and retain their individual characters. In this grassroots democracy real power lies with the people, who exercise it directly through frequent referendums. "Swissness" is, above all, a spirit of independence and of communal involvement. Although it is a model of peace and multicultural cooperation, with one of the highest standards of living in Europe, Switzerland's prosperity has been hard-won. Historically neutral, it maintains a semi-detached relationship within the European Union. In 2014, a national referendum supported quotas on EU migrants. Despite the several hundred thousand EU nationals living and working within its borders, and almost half a million Swiss working in the EU, this small, resource-poor country appears determined to retain its independence. Culture Smart! Switzerland provides an historical perspective, explores Swiss values and attitudes, and looks at the cultural continuity of festivals and traditions. It helps you navigate the workplace, the neighborhood, and the social scene. It offers crucial insights into Swiss business culture, and more generally on differences in communication style. Swiss people are not always easy to get to know. Proud, industrious, fair-minded, and creative, they respect the individual, which means that while they appreciate clear thinking and direct talking, they avoid confrontation. They will never intrude, yet will willingly help out if asked. Make the effort, and people will respond. Warmth, decency, intelligence, and wit are among the many hidden riches of this fascinating society.

"Culture Smart! has come to the rescue of hapless travelers." —Sunday Times Travel