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## Did you know?

Do you know:

**Where the first telephone was installed in Switzerland?**

**Where the first tennis court was built in Switzerland?**

**Where one of Switzerland's first funiculars was built?**

*Read on and become informed:*

Territet is located between Montreux and Veytaux, on the Lake Geneva shore. Territet unites several formerly separate hamlets. While the lower part (below the main road) was always called Territet, there were two other localities on the higher ground called Collonge and la Veraye.

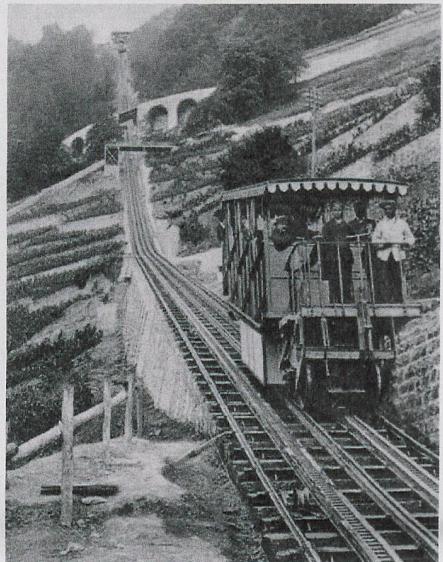
While the very first hotel of the region was opened in neighbouring Veytaux in 1829, other hotels were soon built in Territet, like the "Chasseur des Alpes" in 1840 which became in 1855 the Hôtel des Alpes-Grand Hôtel.

The current Montreux city centre consisting of rich farmland was developed only later, which is why the famous Orient Express train would stop in the Territet station and not in Montreux. Foreign tourists started to stay in Territet from 1848 onwards and their numbers picked up from 1861 when the train station was opened. A number of VIPs visited Territet in the following years, among whom was emperor Franz Joseph I of Austria in 1893.

In 1879 the first phone to be installed in Switzerland was installed in Territet. Territet also had the first tennis court in Switzerland. It was created in 1894, exclusively for the use of the English tourists (Swiss or other nationalities weren't allowed to access this tennis court!).

The Territet-Glion funicular railway, one of the oldest in Switzerland, was opened in 1883.

*Amazing what Tourism can bring to small regions. Now you know. Ed.*



## Six Swiss regions named in Europe's ten most prosperous regions

Six Swiss regions make the top ten most prosperous regions of Europe measured in terms of GDP per person, according to an analysis by the University of Lausanne.

The six Swiss regions are Zurich (3rd), Ticino (4th), Basel (5th), the region around Zug (6th), Bern-Solothurn (7th) and Suisse romande, Switzerland's French-speaking region (8th). The only regions ranked higher were Luxembourg (2nd) and the City of London (1st). The ranking is based on 2015 data.

The City of London led with an average 212,800 euros, followed by Luxembourg (89,900), Zurich (89,571), Ticino (76,842), Basel (75,117), Greater Zug (70,876), Bern-Solothurn (69,438), Suisse romande (67,692), Stockholm (64,300), and Inner East London (64,300).

The report is focused on Suisse romande. Between 2014 and 2105, it was one of the fastest rising regions rising from 12th to 8th in terms of GDP per person.

The ranking changes when the figures are adjusted for purchasing power, a measure which attempts to cancel out the effect of exchange rates. On this measure Suisse romande slips from 8th to 25th, a ranking that still places it in the top 10% most prosperous regions in Europe on a per capita basis.

### Strong growth

GDP growth per capita in Switzerland has been solid over the 15 years from 2000. Central Switzerland (+36%) led the pack, followed by Ticino (+27%), North-west Switzerland (+26%), Bern-Solothurn (+26%), Eastern Switzerland (+23%), Suisse romande (+21%) and Central Zurich (+11%). The Swiss average was 22%.

### Less is more

Regions with the fastest population growth since 2000 experienced the slowest per capita growth in GDP. Both Zurich and Suisse romande had high population growth rates (both around +21%) which ranked them 15th and 16th in Europe. At the same time these two

regions had Switzerland's lowest rates of per-person gains in GDP: Suisse romande +21%; Zurich +11%. No other parts of Switzerland made the European top 30 on population growth.

BY LE NEWS So now you know. Ed

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