

Geneva



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Geneva, the beautiful city

Magnificently situated on the banks of the largest lake in central Europe , at the foot of the Jura mountains and at the gates of the Alps, Geneva has all that is needed to charm you. Allow yourself to be tempted. You will not regret it.

The smallest of the big capital

The town is an international capital and can offer visitors many different aspects. Famous for its humanitarian commitment is Geneva is preferred all over the world; specialties: -„longeole“, this is a sausage which one you have to cook about two hours.

-„fricassé“, this is porc

It has more than 1100 restaurants and offers an extremely vast and varied range of „cuisine“ from all over the world.

They take care about the environment. The town is near the mountains and this makes Geneva naturally one of the largest European centres of tourism.

Statistic: habitants

Canton: 404`304 including 151749 foreigners (38 %) from 157 different nations

City: 175`351 including 75`511 foreigners (43 %)

Geneva, is fairs and festivities

Geneva offers a large variety of shows. Ist agenda of festivals and cultural events alternates theatre, dance, classical and contemporary music, jazz and even open-air cinema on the lakeside.

The fairs and trade shows represent further attractions throughout the year with the Automobile Show, the Inventions and New Techniques Fair, the International Book and Press Fair and the High Watchmaking Fair, etc.

Some atractiveities

- the fountain: . it`s 130 m. high

. force 1360 HP

. weight of the watersubstance about 7 t.

. it`s in business between March and Octobre

- The „ Bold`Or „ : Every year in June is a competition of about 500 sailors. It`s a very difficult

race but for the audiente great happening.

- the Christmas Cup:

It happens in the „ Jardin Anglais „ area. There are people from whole Switzerland which remove the tops and bottoms of their training suits, leaving nothing more than a bathing suits and cap.

So far, nothing really extraordinary. But when these same persons dive into the drink and undertake, with rigorous strokes, a sport course in the tranquil and pernicious water of the leman, at under 10 °, it starts to border on the unusual, the spectacular, the exploit, the grandiose.

The summer party of Geneva:

The origin was in the year 1947. It will be opened at Wednesday before the 2. August weekend, it's a party of all nations. It is the first reason to make the people pleasure. The music is very different like classic, techno, folklore. And if you are hungry, you can choose whatever you like. One of the most beautiful moments of the party is surely the fireworks which happens at Saturday evenings.

-the casino:

It's open from lunch time until 4 o'clock am.

-wine:

Some sorts: there are black and white or grey „ Pinot „ „ Chardonay „ „ Risling „ „ Cabernet „ „ Sauvignon „ „ etc.

History

Some centuries before the Christianity the „ Kelten „ and the „ Allobroger „ lived here. They built the first walls and streets, worked with iron and cultivated the fields. There are no documents from that time.

The history of Geneva began in the year 58.v.Chr. with the step in from Caesar. He fought with his troop against the „ Helvetica „ which wanted to go to the south. He won, crossed the „ Rhône „ and then he made a colony on the right shore of the lake. Geneva was now a Roman city.

When the Roman Empire broke down, Geneva went „ burgundisch „. In the middle of the fifth century Geneva went the capital of king Gundiols empire. In the year 500 the kingbrothers Gondebaud and Godegisel fought against each other, through which Geneva burned down in part. Gondebaud won and gave his power to his son Sigismund, which rebuilt the cathedral, and gave it the name St., Petrus.

1389 the people went powerful. So they began to reign the city. From the beginning of the sixteenth century till 1536 the „ Reformierte „ fought against the „ Katholiken „ . Some knights tried to prevent the reformation.

In spite of it the reformation made progress. 1536 the reformation is finally introduced in Geneva by the „ Berner „. Some months later Jean Calvin came to Geneva. First the people didn't want him, but because of their big religious and political problems they took him back. From 1560 the small republic of Geneva went a „ protestantisches „ Rome. 1564 the „ Berner „ retired and gave their power to the „ Savoyer „ (kath.). So „ Savoyen „ is dangerous for Geneva. They fought against each other a long time, sometimes Geneva won, and sometimes Geneva lost, but finally France, Switzerland and the pope persuaded Geneva and „ Savoyen „ to sign the contract of peace.

From 1683 much refugees from France reached Geneva. This refugees brought industry and new banks, and the commerce took new boom. But this refugees made problems too. They were a competition for the people, so they were not really accept. The refugees built their own party.

Now there were 3 parties in Geneva:

-the „Natifs“ (refugees)

- the „ Representanten

- the negatives (they had the power) (born in Geneva, but not citizen)

It followed some revolt: 1737, 1765 and (very bloody) 1782.

1782 the negatives were defeated.

1792 the „ Natifs „ received the full civil rights.

Much people of the two parties wanted that Geneva and France unite, but the people of Geneva didn't want to.

1798 France let 3 troops the places, the gates and the „ Zeughaus „ taken.

Geneva were so shocked, that they couldn't defend. Geneva lost its independence.

1813 Napoleon ran away from a 300'000 men troop from Austria. A colony came to Geneva. The Austrian were celebrated as „ Befreier „.

1813 Geneva was independent again. But they knew, that alone they hadn't any chance. So they turned to Switzerland. 1814 Switzerland consented. Geneva was now the twenty-second „ Kanton „ from Switzerland.

Celtic and Roman Geneva

Geneva was one of the first regions in Switzerland under the mastery of Rome, in which a Celtic race, called Allobroger lived in first. The town (oppidum) was a part of the province Gallia Narbonensis, which was founded in 121 before Christ.

Why apart of the Roman kingdom?

In the second century before Christ Rome got involved in the war between their friends in Massalia and the Salluvier, a celtic race. The Romans helped their friends and fought against the Salluvier. Rome wanted the Celtic's leader, but he was hidden in an Allobroger's town so that they and their area got involved, too. The Arverner an other Celtic race tried to protect the Allobroger, but they were unsuccessful, they lost their regions containing Geneva in 121 before Christ and a new province was arisen by the Romans „Provincia Gallia Narbonensis“. By the help of the Roman people the Celtic „oppidum“ changed to a bigger „vicus“. Many remnants of Roman culture were found, e. g. the bridge over the Rhone, which was already used before Caesar used it first in 58 before Christ. Furthermore the two town gates, which were destroyed in the 15th and the 19th century and a lot of inscriptions were found. After these first excavation in 1851 archeologists still find Roman remnants today, like parts of the town wall found in Rue de l' Hôtel-de-Ville 11, which was made of stone blocks transported from Nyon.

Between the 1st century before Christ and the 3rd century:

In this period of time the small road village magnified to a bigger city. Basilicas like St Germain in Rue des Granges, in which the basement and an apsis of the later Roman time is kept. Further an old altar now stands in the new church. An other church La Madeleine in Rue de la Madeleine shows three different foundations of churches between the 6th and the 14th century as well as a later Roman memoria from the 5th century, which stood in the middle of a Roman cemetery. A marketplace in Bourg-de-Four was built, too. Further remnants show parts of holy buildings, therms, temples and architecture. These buildings were put up in honour of the town god „Genava“ and other gods like „Jupiter“, „Apollo“, „Mars“. Most of them aren't still to see because they were destroyed.

The technical infrastructure:

The technical infrastructure was organised very well. That shows the two bridges over the Rhone and the Arve in the south where a big burial field was found. The main harbour was built in the area Rue Verdaine, but nothing remained. In 27 before Christ the Romans built a Quai along the shore, which was made of stone blocks and piles. They hadn't got problems with water, they had pipelines of five kilometres in length, which delivered enough water. Further in certain rooms of the old cathedral hollows under the floor warmed up the rooms over them.

Geneva's environs:

In the period between the 1st century before Christ and the 3rd century lots of estates surrounded the city. One of the biggest ones was the manor in „Parc la Grange“ 1,5 kilometres from town.

This estate comprised a main building (40x30,5m), an annexe and a bath building (all together 95x84m). It was found in the first century and left in the 4th century. Many remnants of mural painting and tessellated floors are kept in the museum of arts and history.

In the later Roman time in 300:

In 300 Geneva built the townwall with its two gates in NW and SE. The NW gate was pulled down in 1460 and the other in 1840, which stood in the area of Bourg-de-Four. Today very little is to be seen of these buildings. What's about the buildings in the town? Very little is known about these buildings because there aren't a lot of remnants of house construction, etc. Foundations were found, probably those of a marketplace (macellum) and other foundations of an episcopal see.

The episcopal see:

From 1976 right up to the present day, archaeological excavation has been going on under St. Pierre's cathedral. Eleven excavation zones have been specially marked out in the subsoils of the cathedral. These areas have become one of the most important archaeological sites north of the Alps. The cathedral's portal from 1000 is the first of a series of remnants of a major centre of Christian worship that goes back as far as 350 A.D. From the construction of the very first buildings (a church and a baptistery) up to the period during which the current cathedral was built, this place of worship underwent constant changes over a period of nearly one thousand years. These changes were produced by the first bishop in 400 because of him they put up an ecclesiastical centre with a double cathedral. The first baptistery was pulled down in return for it a new was erected in the east, in the south a new court was laid out and a new church in the south was been added. Foundations of both cathedral, the last baptistery and the popular tessellated floor in the arrival hall of the bishop's quarters, different graves and over ten grave inscriptions of the 5th century are kept in the „Site archéologique“ under the cathedral.

The Burgunder:

As the Burgunder took possession in 443, Geneva was appointed to the capital of Burgund. This made the city rich and bigger. Above all the old church, which was remodeled in a cathedral, St. Pierre of 42m in length and 12m in breadth. In it tessellated floors and marble walls illuminated the mighty building. More years later, before 500 the church was extended. The bishop's room of representation built in the SW of the bishops chapel (17x10m) was decorated with the popular and large scale tessellated floor. In 500/501 the brotherhood of the two kings of Burgund Godegisel and Gundobad was breaking down so that Geneva lost its popularity as a worldly and religious residence. But in 515 Gundobad and his son Sigismund rebuilt these ecclesiastical buildings. In addition they built a cathedral in the middle of the church centre.

Old Town of Geneva

The old town of Geneva is situated on a hill between the rivers Rhône and Arve. For a first short visit you have the possibility to take a touristic train, which departs every half hour from the Place Neuve. You will see the following monuments and places:

The Cathedrale of „St. Pierre“

From the north-tower you have a beautiful view over the whole city and the lake. The biggest bell weights more than 6t. Every hour the bells play a melodie wich changes every month.

From 1160 until 1260 the cathedrale was built. The cathedral St. Pierre was destroyed many times because of some fires and the Reformation in the middle of the 16th Century, so its original design changed often. Today the facade is from the 18th century.

The church St. Germain

The church „St. Germain“ is one of the oldest churches of the town. In the 13th century it was built the first time. After the fire of 1334, which has destroyed the whole old city, it was built completly new in the 15th century.

Then it was used as slaughterhouse, cannon factory, shedhall and arsenal.

Since 1803 it's been a catholic christian church again.

The beautiful windows are created by Bodjol in 1968 and 1969 and the organ by Lukas Fischer in 1978.

Townhall

In the Townhall political decisions are taken. Since the 15th century international congresses held. And at the 22 August 1864 it was signed the first Geneva Convention from which the international red cross was found.

At 15 novembre 1920 was the first Assembly of the UNO. The tower „Baudet“ is the oldest part of the Townhall (16th century).

La Maison Tavel

La Maison Tavel is the oldest private residence in Geneva. Its facade dates from the first half of the 14th century when the house was reconstruct after the fire of 1334, which destroyed nearly half of the town. But the foundations are even dating from the 9th century.

In 1963 the city acquired the house to convert it into a museum of Old Geneva.

In the museum you find differently excavations and curiosities from the Middle Ages, the Ancien Régime and the Restoration of Geneva. When you go to the attic you'll see the astonishing scale model (32m²) of Geneva in 1850. Still enclosed by ist fortifications.

It tooks Auguste Maguin 18 years to realize this scale model.

Old Arsenal

This building dates from the beginning of the 17th century. Originally intended as a granary, it was turned into an arms arsenal until 1877.

In front of the arsenal you see 5 cannons and 3 mosaic frescoes of Alexandre Cingria. They were placed in 1949 and represent important periods in Geneva history:

The arrival of Julius Cesar in 58 BC, the fairs of the Middle Ages and the welcoming of the Huguenot refugees during the Reformation.

Today the Old Arsenal serves as the headquarters of the State Archives.

Grand-Théâtre

Until 1879 Geneva didn't have an own opera-only the Théâtre de Neuve, but it was conceived for theatre and concerts not for operas.

The Grand-Théâtre was inaugurated with a presentation of Rossini's „William Tell“.

Today the greatest composers come here to have their works performed.

May 1st 1951 the whole Grand-Théâtre burned down during a rehearsal.

The Grand-Théâtre reopened its doors at 10 Decembre 1962 with its original facade.

General Dufour equestrian statue

Born in 1787, Guillaume-Henri Dufour became commander-in-chief of the Swiss army, modernised the country's defences, reconstructed Geneva's ports and quays. He helped the University with different things. He became a member of the Committee of Five of the Red Cross.

The Wall of the Reformers

The wall was erected in 1909 to honor the Reformation, especially John Calvin. It is 100 meters long and backed by a part of the ancient walls that surrounded the city until the middle of the 19th century. At the center of the wall, 5 meters high, are the 4 great figures of the movement: Guillaume Farel, one of the first to preach the Reform in Geneva, John Calvin, the "pope" of the reformers, Théodore de Bèze, the first rector of the Academy and John Knox, founder of Presbyterianism. On stones you see engraved the names of two other important persons: Martin Luther and Ulrich Zwingli, the great pioneers of Reformation in Germany and Switzerland.

Back to the Place Neuve you can relax in the beautiful Parc des Bastions.

Religious Places

City of cosmopolitan tradition, 19th century Geneva harboured a population of all countries and confessions conscious of this diversity and respectful of religious freedom, James Fazy, father of the Geneva constitution of 1847, included certain clauses to assure that each religion would be able to conduct its service.

So starting in 1850, the Grand Council granted a terrain of some 700 m² to each religion (congregation) the Roman Catholics were the first to benefit from this measure, as they built the Basilique Notre-Dame, followed by the Anglicans, Jews and Freemasons.

Saint Peter's Cathedral

This cathedral was built between 1160 and 1232, so the first phase lasted nearly a century. But many events, including a series of fires led to restoration and reconstruction, substantially changing the original sign. Most important in this mutation was the Reformation in the 16th century, with its philosophy of austerity. The cathedral's interior was totally transformed; alters, statues, paintings were destroyed, furniture carried away. Colored decorative pieces were whitewashed. Only the stained glass windows were spared and we can still see "Calvin's chair" and the sculpted stalls of the canchel. Moreover we find a monument and statue honouring the Duke of Rohan, who acted as leader of the French Protestants under Henri IX. and Louis XIII., and whose remains rest in the cathedral. Later there was another change in aspect. The current neo-classic facade dates from the middle of the 18th century, replacing the former gothic style.

The remarkable copper arrow dates from the end of the 19th century. Under the cathedral we'll find one of Europe's largest subterranean archaeological sites. By exploring the foundations of former religions buildings we see how the cathedral grew from a simple chapel to its present size.

Since 1749 the famous belles of Saint-Pierre give every hour a melody, which changes each month.

During the Reformation the church was transformed into a depot during the Reform. Then at the end of the 17th, it became an auditory for the philosophy courses at the Academy. At the end of the 18th century it was returned to the Protestants.

The temple of Saint-Gervais

In the 17th century, some watchmakers settled in the Saint-Gervais quarter. Commerce developed.

Artisans and tradesmen came together in this neighbourhood which became, and remained until the end of the 19th century, the centre of the "Fabrique", organisation that included watchmakers, engravers, jewellers and goldsmiths.

All these craftsmen lent the quarter a picturesque appeal.

It was here that the Temple de Saint-Gervais was erected, on the site of a 4th century sanctuary and the foundations of a Roman church of the 10th century.

this was set afire in 1345 by the lord of Gex as a result of a quarrel with the bishop of Geneva over the Saint-Gervais quarter.

Not until 1435 was the church entirely rebuilt in Gothic style, by the bishop François de Metz, then through the influence of Felix V, who became bishop of Geneva in 1444.

1478, a large chapel was attached to the chancel, the “Chapel of the Germans”, dedicated to the Brotherhood of Saint-Espirit.

The reform began at the middle of the 16th century and the church became a temple.

To eliminate all sign of idolatry all ornaments were removed and walls limewashed.

Several restorations, including those of 1810 and 1845, contributed to put back into full view the beautiful paintings.

All this constitute the main charms of this church.

St.Germain Church

St.Germain Church, founded in the 13th century, is one of Genevas oldest. It was built on the site of an old church. Renovated after the fire of 1334 that destructed the Old Town, then entirely reconstructed in the 15th century it has had diverse careers. after its debut as a church, it became a butcher shop, a canon foundry, a granary and artillery store. In 1535 its priest, rallying to the Reformist theses, invited Guillaume Farel to preach there. It returned to Catholic services in 1803.

Some informations about the history:

1792: French armies entered Savoy in 1792, after the Revolution of 1789.

1798: They occupied Protestant Geneva

1801: Catholicism was officially re-established

1803, October 16: The first mass celebrated in St.Germain Church

The Genevans, who considered the attribution of this church as a demand of the occupying army, made things difficult for the priest and forced him to resign. A firm-handed man, Jean François Vuarin, celebrated and ardent defender of the Catholic faith Geneva replaced him in 1806.

In 1870, an anticlerical movement spread throughout Europe. Eager to reinforce his authority and condemn these liberal trends, Pope Pius IX promulgated the infallibility of this office. Many Catholics were opposed. In Geneva, there was a schism between those who remained faithful to the Church of Rome and others who rallied to the “Swiss Association of Liberal Christians”, which later became the Catholic Christian Church of Switzerland, and to which St.Germain Church was allocated in 1873.

Russian Church

In 1859 the Orthodox Russians were given the possibility of building the church, but a benefactor was needed. They found him in the person of Grand Duchess Anna Feodorovna Constanca, sister-in-law of Tsar Alexander 1st and aunt of Queen Victoria, and Prince Consort Albert. She had lived in Geneva for many years Realisation of the Plans for the church were confided to Grimm, a professor of architecture at the Academy of St. Petersburg, and work started in 1863 under the direction of Guillaumand, a Geneva architect. The church was built at the place of an ancient Benedictine monastery, destroyed in the 16th century. Construction lasted 3 years and was a pure masterpiece in Byzantine Muscovite style. The superb gilded cupolas, restored in 1966, constitute a brilliant landmark.

The admirable decoration and the numerous ikons of the 16th to 20th centuries are very famous.

In this church Sonia, the daughter of Dostoevsky, was baptised at the beginning of May 1868 but unfortunately died a few days later.

The Holy Trinity Church

The church was dedicated in 1853 on a site given by the city and state of Geneva. Funds were raised by donations from residents and tourists in Geneva. Many friends in England also gave money generously. There aren't any renovations since then. The only substantial change being the building of an underground hall in 1966.

Although the church building is relatively recent, an English church community has existed more or less continuously in Geneva since 1555.

The Holy Trinity Church in Geneva belongs to the Anglican Diocese of Gibraltar in Europe, which reaches from the Canary Islands to Ankara and from Moscow to Morocco.

Wall of the Reformation

The construction of the Wall of the Reformers began in 1909 in the "Parc des Bastion". The monument is built by a part of the ancient walls that surrounded the city until the middle of the 19th century. At the centre of the wall, 5 meters high, are the great figures of the Reformation: Guillaume Farel (1489-1565), one of the first to preach the Reform in Geneva, John Calvin (1509-1565), the "pope" of the reformers; Théodore de Bèze (1513-1605), first rector of the Academy of Geneva; and John Knox (1513-1572), founder of Presbyterianism in Scotland.

Behind these statues stands the motto of the Reformation and of Geneva: "Post Tenebras Lux" (= after the darkness the light), in other words: After ignorance, understanding of the Bible (Thanks to the Reformation!).

Here and there, the statues and bas-reliefs represent the great Protestant figures of the different Calvinist Countries, and the remarkable moments in the development of the Reformation. At the ends, two essential dates: 1536, when the people of Geneva ratified the Edicts of Reformation; and 1602, when the Genevan repelled the "Escalade" they founded their religious and political independence. Martin Luther and Ulrich Zwingli, the great pioneers, also hold important places.

The Calvin Auditory

In the 16th century people crowded into this little chapel in the heart of the city, near the St. Pierre Cathedrale.

This ancient chapel, which has become known as the Calvin Auditory, was constructed in the 15th century, on the site of other religious edifices. It is in Gothic style, very sober, even austere.

In this chapel, between 1556 and 1558, John Knox exercised his influence on the English-speaking community. Another illustrious figure in the Reform movement, Knox had fled to Geneva, exiled from Scotland under the oppressive regime of Mary Tudor-"Bloody Mary". And finally, it was here that a certain Miles Coverdales directed the preparation of the first bible in English, known as the "Geneva Bible".

Reformers and reformed, exiles, communities of every language – French, Dutch, German, Italian and, especially, English – came together to pray. But also to follow the theological teachings of John Calvin and Théodore de Bèze, the great names of the Reformation. It was here that many pastors were formed. And here, too, that Geneva's first "university", the Academie, was born under Calvin's impetus.

Protestant services are held here, still today. It receives members of the Church of Scotland, the Dutch Church and the Reformed Italian Church. Focal point of the Reformation, it holds an important place in the opulent destiny of Geneva.

Different Religions in Geneva

11 Protestant Churches

f. ex. Saint Peter's Cathedral

The Temple of Saint-Gervais

- 5 Roman Catholic Churches f. ex. Basilique Notre-Dame
- 5 Christian Catholic Churches f. ex. Saint-Germain Church
- 1 Armenian Church
- 3 Orthodox Churches f. ex. The Russian Church
- 3 Anglican Churches f. ex. The Holy Trinity Church
- 1 New Apostolic Church
- 2 Israelite Churches f. ex. The Synagogue Hekhal Haness
- 1 Islamic Church

Universities and Schools

François Versonnex, a rich owner of a chemist's, was founded a public school in 1429 in Geneva.

People learnt to read, write, had orthography and logic.

In 1534 this school changed in a monastery of Franziskaner.

A famous man for this school was Mathurin Cordier, because he contain important impulse from a teacher, at who the memories are still living.

Today everybody can visit a school whether poor or rich.

University

The Academy of Geneva was inaugurated in 1559. About 1870 it became a University under the Influence of Carl Vogt. His competences were devided in seven faculties (sciences, medicine, letters, economic and social sciences, right, theology, psychology, sciences about education), an institute (architecture) and a school (translation and interpretation). In the middle of the xvi. century this university was built by Calvin. More than 7000 students go every day to this school. There are 8 different facultative subjects.

Around this impressive building you find a great garden with many sculptures... and in the middle of this beautiful park: the university.

The enter hall is full of monuments, pictures and other creative objects. At the reception we meet very helpful and lucky people who give us with pleasure some informations. The students are 19 to about 40 years. Everyone is very gently, interested and nice.

This building is quite special: the ceiling is very high and there are many big windows; but not all over the building. Sometimes there are very dark places which are a little bit uncanny. During the reading the students are sitting in fixed tables, with paper and pen. After the first part its possible to ask things witch aren't clear and so it can be that a discussion will be started. the rooms are so big that we can't understand anything when they don't speak into the microphone. When we heard the ceiling about psychology were there surely one hundred of students in this room; remarkable that there were a lot more of women than men.

Differences between schools in Zurich and Geneva

Our school compared with the private school "Ecole Secondaire Française Gai Savoir SA":

This private school is in the middle of the city. There are houses and streets around it.

This building is devided in one part school and one offices.

We had the possibility to visit a French lesson in a class of six students. They were five weeks before the bac (They follow the French school system)

First impressions:

- no pictures
- no shaped hauling
- small rooms
- no television
- no slide-machine

- little students, most of boys
- no little public tasks for students
- no schoolyard
- dirty blackboard
- in general small school
- no holding up hands

When we arrived a gently assistant and flexible and uncomplicated teachers like students, greeted us.

During the lesson the students were very active.

Between the undergraduate was a relaxed atmosphere. Sometimes there were drinking or eating something.

The teacher was very competent.

After the interval tune the students were very patience.

The ascent of the taxes of the university amount 500.- per semester.

College Voltaire (pubic school)

After our first visit in this school we were disappointed.

This monument is very big and interesting, there are a lot of students who are very gently, but when we asked for a watch during the lesson in the secretarity, they weren't very friendly and they only said that we had to write a letter to the Headmistress. so we took 1 and 1/2h to do that and hoped, that we'll got a message as fast as possible. The next day we got the short news, that it is to short-term to organise this visit. WE were annoyed, because this people were so complicated and unflexible.

So we weren't very happy when we remarked two days later, that we had to find a curriculum because of a comparison with our school. We went there nevertheless once again, but we didn't receive this important thing. So we wrote down one of the time-tables and remarked that one of the class is in the third year had a lesson about German. We looked for the room and asked the teacher, if we could sit into the class to watch his education. Immediately, he agreed and fetched two tables and chairs. This lesson was very interesting and the students are very good teached and promote. Their education stands very high and is showed very exactly. Sometimes the teacher have to became louder because the students begin to speak about everything beyond about German.

When they hear the interval tune, they took all their things and put them into their bags.

So they resemble us very much!! Now our in-sight is surely better than before this visit.

Time-Table

Hour	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
8.00-8.45	English	Italian	German	English	Italian
8.60-9.35	English	Italian	German	English	<u>Italian</u>
9.55-10.40	Ch-Ph4	French	Philo	Chemistry	<u>Math</u>
10.45-11.30	Ch-Ph4	French	Philo	Chemistry	<u>Math</u>
11.35- 12.20					
12.25-13.10					
13.15-14.00	German	History		<u>Physic</u>	<u>French</u>
14.05-14.50	Maths	History		<u>Physic</u>	<u>French</u>
15.00-15.45	Maths				

College des Coudrier

This house is very big and near a famous shopping-center "Balxert".

There is a nice and huge schoolyard. The walls in the schoolhouse are decorated. Around this building are a lot of trees and a big monument, which shows to people in iron. The students can spend in a leisure space in recreations, they can play table-tennis. The people are very friendly. The schoolyard was in general a little bit dirty, and the classrooms have old tables and chairs, which are demolished.

<this school count 700 students and they are between 12 and 15 years old .Everybody is together its a global school.

There are a lot of students who didn't speak French at home about more than half of students. The school shelter 66 different nationalities. The most of their, lives near this school and they came by feet or with the moped at this school.

The half time of a day they have free faculty.

They study German, French and in the fourth class they had to learn easy English.

There are so many Facultative objects like Photography, theatre climbing, Informatic, Latin, English method of working Italian ,so most of all the atmosphere is very good between the students, we think that this sort of people are very creative, flexible human and helpfully. after this school the best students are going to the college, other, better students to the diploma school and very bad students are going to take a instruction. it's very hard to judge a person like this. It's like we put them up a stamp with the label: "I'm a bad student and I can't visit a Spanish lesson because I'm too imbecile.

now, we want to show you this school system:

A is a very excellent student

B is normal IQ

C a bad student

Every student gets a letter and a number, for example:

Cindy gets the sign: 9-C-C-5

9= class

C-C= too bad

5= student number

When they want to go to a college, they have to get A-A or A-B or B-A

The other letter combinations have to go in an instruction.

The most important subjects are French, German and Maths - main subjects.

Because they all have different time- tables, they also have diverse curriculums.

So when a student reach A-A, A-B, B-A they have to learn latin, sciences(Biologie and Physics) and the fondations of English to enter in a college. Normally each student has 32 hours a week. Wednesday afternoon all students are delivered from this school. But there are also many easy subjects, for example: Sports, Painting, Music etc. 18 to 24 students are in a normal class.

This school is for us something between Primary and Secondary school.

We visited a lesson from the ninth class:

It was very funny that we met three persons who speak German!

We enter with the rector into a classroom where a lesson is going on. Immediately all students stand up and only one still sit on his chair. The rector pronounce the name of this shy boy, who held a hanky on his nose. The boy want to stand up, but the teacher interrupt, because this student Lose blood. All students have respect of this person! In the Schoolroom is a projector, a blackboard and a slide machine , tables and chairs are very dirty and we don` t see far and wide a charwoman. All students say: “ Madame” to their teacher, also in the other schools.

It` s marvellous that all people are so motivated and they want unconditional to contribute to the teaching. A great difference is that all the schools, whether private or public haven` t any little employment for the students, no wishing the blackboards, no boss of class etc. All teachers are very careful, friendly and have a good circular passage with their under graduate.

Geneva English School

The Geneva English School is a private, non-profit-making primary school which was founded in 1961. It's owned and managed by an association which is composed of parents whose children attend the school.

The main objective of the school is to offer education on British lines for children of primary school age living in or near Geneva, and to prepare them for secondary education in any English-speaking school.

There are one hundred and seventy pupils at school which is situated in Genthod, a village on the northern shore of the “Lac Lemman” , six kilometres outside the city centre and near to the airport.

The school buildings are based around a magnificent “maison de maître” which overlooks the lake and the Alps and is set in an estate of 30 hectares.

Several classrooms, French rooms, the library and the administration are housed in the original building and a recently constructed classroom block and gymnasium complete the school complex. These are surrounded by extensive playing fields and playgrounds and there is a large area of easily accessible car parking.

Teaching Programme

The school follows in general the programme covered by state and independent schools in the U.K. and aims to prepare its pupils for all types of secondary education. A high standard of work is expected and achieved.

A recent survey showed that approximately 20 per cent of the children leaving go on to state or independent schools in the U.K., 65 per cent go to other international schools in the area and the remaining 15 per cent to Swiss private and state schools.

The Geneva English School is a member of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools and the International Schools Association.

The school has seven classes including a Preparatory Class and the teaching staff is made up of experienced, qualified, British class teachers, four French teachers of French mother-tongue and a Learning Support specialist. The children also enjoy the help of French and English-speaking assistants.

The school keeps abreast of all developments in the teaching world and adopts those innovations which are considered likely to benefit the children and the evolution and development of the school. It aims through its curriculum to develop basic skills and build up knowledge, to stimulate the child's capacity for reasoning, to draw out the child's full potential and to cater for moral, social, emotional, aesthetic and physical development.

The full range of primary school subjects is covered but it is obvious that literacy and numeracy are of vital importance and great emphasis is placed upon these elements in our curriculum.

French is taught in small groups in all classes by a staff of qualified and experienced teachers using a variety of methods. There are many local organised activities in which the children are encouraged to participate in order to develop their French.

Here in Geneva are so many different schools, that we can't find out how the mathematics intersection of school look like.

So, now we'll come to an end:

During this five days we saw much of Geneva, most of all of the diverse schools which we visited. It was very interesting and funny and we enjoyed this time very much.

Parcs

Parc Mon-Repos

Surface: 41'400 m²
Year: 1899

If one follow the bank at the end of the Quai Wilson he will find the Parc Mon-Repos.

Mon-Repos is the work of Philippe Plantamour who built his family mansion here in 1848. The park is united by two landed properties by him. He also created a magnificent garden, which a fine collection of rare plants.

Later he bequathed the property to the Geneva authorities who converted it into a Museum of Ethnography in 1901. In 1939 Swiss French television set up its first even studios here. Today, the building houses the Henry-Dunant Institute.

The little stone pavilion at the edge of the lake, houses the limnology station, set up by Philippe Plantamour in 1877. The station is still in operation today.

Finally, that remains of the small hort, cultural ethabishment, which existed at the beginning of the century, ist the orangery. The building along the rue de Lausanne formerly part of the Auberge de Sécheron have been turned into offices and now house the Departement of Parks and Environnement of the city of Geneva.

Parc Le Grange

Surface: 213'097 m²
Year: 1918

The remains of a first century Roman villa in the upper park prove the importance of this site since antiquity. Aquired by the Franconis family in the late 17th century, the land was sold to the Lullin family, who built the present dwelling around 1768.

In 1800, the estate was bought by Francois Favre-Cayla, a local dignitary, whose son and grandson gave the parc its present look.

The committee to help the Greeks was foundet by Gabriel Eynard in the villa. And it's was here, on August 11, 1861, that Geneva Convention, forerunner of the Red Cross, was concludet under the chairmanchip of Henry Dunant. His great-grandson William Favre (1842-1918) bequeathed the estate to the city of Geneva 1918.

Armand Auberson created la Roseraie. In 1945 Geneva's city council approved the construction of the rose garden and the purchase of 12000 roses.(over 200varieties) Two years later, the International Contest for New Varieties of Roses of Geneva was created, and at the same time itsown rose garden in the upper park.

The park is open every day from sunrise to sunset. The closing is announced by a bell.

Parc de l'Ariana

Surface: 30'000 m²
Year: 1890

This domain, one of the oldest in Geneva, once formed part of the Varembe estate and formerly belonging to the Varember family. It was Gustave Reveilliod, an eminent traveller and collector, who chose the name "Ariana" in memory of his mother née Ariane de la Rive. A member of one of the oldest of the local Genevese families, he is typical of those citizens who were passionately attached to their town. He represented the Swiss Confederation at the inauguration of the Suez Canal in 1869.

In 1877, he caused a museum in Renaissance style to be built in his grounds in order to house and display the phenomenal collection of objects amassed during his travel. From 1884 onwards the public were admitted to some of these rooms and on his death, in 1890, the property was bequeathed to the town of Geneva, together with a million francs for its upkeep.

In 1904 the Botanical Garden was set up on the lower part of estate (henceforth cut off by the railway line). The domain originally covered a surface of 62 acres, but part of it was given by the town of Geneva in 1982 to the League of Nations in exchange for the two lakeside properties: Moynier and Bartholoni (now the Perle-du-Lac). This operation enabled the League of Nations to construct a building which now houses the UN but involved the demolition of the family mansion, outbuildings and a small zoological garden. The Ariana museum was renovated by the town of Geneva between 1983 and 1993.

In the park is a majestic Japanese bell - a copy in fact of the Shingon temple bell in Shinagawa, dating from 1657. The original was lost during the troubled period of Japanese history preceding the fall of the feudal regime towards 1867. In 1873, although unaware of its origin, Gustave Reveilliod saved it from being melted down and placed it in his museum.

In 1930, amidst popular rejoicing, it was returned to Japan and in recognition of this, the town of Shinagawa offered Geneva a consecrated replica. This was installed in 1991, in the presence of the Reverend Junna Nakada, High Priest Honsen-Ji and the authorities of both towns.

Parc Perle-du-Lac

Surface: 48'900 m²
Year: 1929

This idyllic spot has been a firm favorite as far back as Roman times, as evidenced by the thermal bath of a Roman villa discovered in 1926.

In 1825 François Bartholoni bought the Melly estate and in 1828 built an ornate,

Jean-Jacques Rousseau

Jean-Jacques Rousseau was born in Geneva on the 18.June 1712. Already, on the 4.July, his mother Suzanne, née Bernard, died. 1718 he moved with his father Isaac to St.Gervais, the workmanquarter. Four years later his father had to flee to Nyon, because he hurted a officer. This was a terrible blow for J-J. His uncle Gabriel Bernard let the education of J-J to the preacher Lambercier in Bussey. J-J didn't like him, but the lessons were very advantageous to him. 1724 he made a apprenticeship as a writer, but one year later, he became dismiss and learned the copperplate engraving. After his unhappy childhood, he fled, 1728, to Annecy to Mme. De Warens, a Calvinist who became catholic. She was his motherly friend and a mistress for him and she exercised an influence for his going over to the catholic church. J-J wanted to become a preacher but he broke off the seminary. 1730 he passed through Switzerland and France as a musician and music-master. Not till 1737 he got back to Geneva to settle some inheritance-affairs. 1738 he separated from Mme. De Warens and four years later, 1742, he moved definitive to Paris. He invented a new system for music-note but it wasn't accept. 1745 he became acquainted with his life's companion, Thérèse Levasseur, and they lived in free marriage. The first of 5 children was born one year later. J-J brought all in the orphanage, for that he was severely criticised. But we hadn't to forget that he wasn't married, the children consequently illegitimate. In the 18.century it was a scandal.

1751 he left his family to earn their livelihood. He copied music-notes. 1748 he got now Mme D'Epinay, who allowed him later. 1754 travelled J-J with Thérèse to Geneva, where he was taken in again in the Calvinist church. 1755 he moved with his wife in the house "Eremitage", that Mme D'Epinay let them. In this time he criticised the "Gedicht ueber das Unglueck in Lissabon" of Voltaire. This was the beginning of the breach with his friends. 1757 he moved to the house of "Mont-Louis" in Montmorency. This was also the breach with Mme D'Epinay. More and more friends drawed back from J-J, therefore he moved in the little castle, that the duke and the duchess of Luxemburg offered him. There he finished to write, in spite of a illness, the "Emile", who appeared in 1762. This big educationbook was immediately confiscate in France. Against J-J was remit a warrant of arrest and he had to flee. The archbishop of Paris condemned this book too. J-J renounced at the civic burgomaster of Geneva, because the council of the city foreboded the "Emile" too. But this wasn't the only problem for him: he had to resist at the attacks from Voltaire too.

On the 30.8.1768 he married Thérèse Levasseur. In France they had to live with a false name, because the warrant of arrest was always valid. Ten years later, on the 2.7.1778, J-J died. On the 4.7. he became burried on an island in the lake of the park of Ermenonville and on the 11.10.1794 his coffin was transported in the Pantheon of Paris.

Important works

- Réponse au mémoire anonyme, intitulé: Si le monde que nous habitions est une sphère (1737)
- Lettre à M. de Voltaire sur son poème de "La Loi naturelle" et sur le désastre de Lisbonne (1761)
- Emile ou De l'éducation (1762)
- Du Contrat social ou Principes du droit politique (1789-1791)
- Rousseau juge de Jean-Jaques (1775)

Rue Rousseau

It's a short street. The houses are very old and neglect. One of those houses has funny shutters: every shutter has another colour and another design. A Spiderman is paint on the wall. We think that young people live in it.

In this street it has a big Manor too. You can look through the windows and you see how the bakers from the Manor-restaurant work. It's very interesting.

It hasn't a lot of tourists there. What a pity!

Musée Rousseau

The Rousseau-museum is in the University of Geneva. The admission is free It's a small dark room near the library. You can see some portraits, books, sculptures and letters, but they lie close one upon another; so it is a little bit badly arranged. Next to each thing it has a comment, but it is only written in French.

François-Marie Arouet (Voltaire)

V was born on the 21.11.1694 in Paris. His father was a rich notary. He was a unusually intelligent child. After he had finished his studies, he began to write. He was very popular. In 1717 he was arrested for one year, because of a satire that he hadn't written. In this time he wrote the tragedy "Oedipe". This tragedy was his first big success. In 1718 he adopted the name Voltaire.

He was arrested again, because he provoked Chevalier de Rohan-Chabot for a duel.

But he didn't rest there for a long time: they banished him. V. went to England because it was a politically free country.

He got to know a lot of rich financiers, who told him, how to invest his money. So when he came back to Paris he became a rich and independent man. The Parliament of Paris condemned the "Lettres philosophiques". V. had to flee. He went to the castle "Cirey" in Lothringen, who belong to Mme du Châtelet. He dedicated together with Mme du Châtelet the next years to the studies of history and natural science.

1736 he had a correspondence with the Crown Prince of the Prussia. In Europe he became very popular.

1744 he went back to Paris. Ludwig XV didn't like V., but he tolerated him. 2 years later he became a member of the Academie Francaise and he received with the mediation of the Marquise de Pompadour the post of a royal chamberlain and of a historian. But he soon fell in disgrace.

After the death of Mme du Châtelet (1749) he went to Potsdam to Frederick the Great, where he became the centre of the court. But soon it arised some tensions. V. searched a saved place and so he finally went to Geneva. Since 1750 he had a house there. He opened a theatre, what conducted to problems with the government of the calvinist city. 1760 he moved definitively to his castle in Ferney.

His literary fertility reached its climax. At the same time, he tried hard for the justice.

1778 he went back to Paris (Since 1744 Louis XVI is King).His entry was like a triumph.

2 months later Voltaire died. Paris prohibited to bury him ecclesiastically, so they buried him in Sellières. In the revolution, they moved his coffin to the Panthéon. They preserved his heart: Now it's in the National library.

The presence of Voltaire in Geneva has marked the local society in every point of view: political, social, philosophical, religious, cultural and economic. She has attracted a lot of visitors and foreigners and she let a continual impression, showed by works of architecture and by projects of urban areas.

Important works

-Oedipe (1718)

-Les lettres philosophiques (1733)

-Mémoires pour servir à la vie de M.de Voltaire (1759)

-Traîté sur la tolérance (1763)

Rue Voltaire

This street is longer than the Rousseau-street. It has modern houses and a lot of little shops. Nearly all shops are called Voltaire. It has a "Collège Voltaire" too. It's a big and old-fashioned building.

Musée Voltaire

This museum is in the old house of Voltaire. The admission is free. It has two floors and each floor has four big and bright rooms. Like in the Rousseau-museum it has portraits, sculptures books and letters from Voltaire. The comment is only in French, but the arrangement is good.

If you want, you can make a break in the little, beautiful park behind the museum.

The history of the United Nations Organization(UNO)

The League of Nations

First you should know some things of about the League of Nations, the failed predecessor of the UNO.

The League of Nations was founded after the 1st World War. Its objective was to prevent other wars like the WW1. The prevention of Wars based not on the balance of powers like in the 19th century, but on an international organization. So if somewhere was war that was not the business of the two warring countries, but the business of everyone. Thus the League of Nations should lead some joint operations to secure the peace.

The League of Nations should also promote international cooperation. An example for this were its subordinated organizations against weapon business, prostitution and drug business.

In a first phase after its foundation the League of Nations was quite successful, but the beginning of the 30's was also the beginning of the League of Nations' failure. The gravest failure was that the League of Nations could not prevent the 2nd World War.

There are three important causes for its failure.

1st

The League of Nations has never been a universal organization. E. g. when the USSR entered in the League of Nations, Germany and Japan had already left. A similar example are the United States, which never had entered in the League of Nations, but the foundation of the League of Nations was most of all the work of US-President Woodrow Wilson.

2nd

The national egoism of its members. Some countries were not ready to put back their national interests for the world peace

3rd

The League of Nations had not a distinct structure. It had two councils with the same competences, so there was a continuing rivalry.

The aims of The United Nations Organization

The UN has about 25 speziell organizations. It isn't an organization who wants to reign the whole world but an organization who wants to help all over the world. All these speziell organizations have a duty and a function. Here you have a view of the speziell organizations:

One of the biggest problems for the UN are the wars all over the world. The UN could help immediately but the security council has 15 members. The first five members are: Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Russia, USA, France and China and still ten other members. At least nine of the 15 members must be in the security council for a vote. The decision of the vote decide if the UN have or have not to do something . So it can't always help when some people are or must be against .

The aims of the UN are the securing of freedom all over the world and secondly the UN tries to protect the rights of the people and they also provide the children of Europe, Africa, Asia , South America with nourishment. The UN does many other good things for the whole world. For these many works are the speziell organizations responsible. At the moment the UN is trying to solve the Kosovoconflict and we all hope the best for the UN. Switzerland isn't a member of the UN but works nevertheless for a speziell organization.

The United Nations Organization(UNO)

On 25th of April 1945 delegates of 50 nations met in San Francisco for the „United Nations Conference“. „United Nations“ was a name used by the allies in the 2nd World War. One day later the delegates signed a Charter with 111 articles. The UNO was born.

The objectives of the UNO are:

1st

The maintenance of the world peace and the building up of an international security system.

2nd

The developement of friendly relations between the nations.

3rd

The promotion of the human rights.

So the UNO has similar objectives like the League of Nations.

Some important points in the UNO's history :

- June '48 First UN-observer mission in Palestine.
- Dec. 10th '48 Declaration of Human Rights
- Nov. 7th '56 Establishment of the first UN peace-keeping force on the Suez Canal.
- Jan. 4th '69 Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.
- Dec. 18th '79 Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination of women.
- Nov. 25th '81 Declaration of Elimination of Discrimination based on religion or belief.
- Sept. '87 Treaty on the Protection of the Ozone Layer.
- Sept. '90 Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- June '94 UN-observer mission for the elections in South Africa.
- Sept. 10th '96 Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty.

By the de-colonisation in the 60's, the interests of the ex-colonies (mostly African countries) became also represented. Because of that the UNO has become, on the contrary to the League of Nations, a universal organization. This universality, has given an authority to the UNO, which the League of Nations never has had.

But in the last time the UNO, especially the peace keeping forces, lost a bit of their authority (see Bosnia).