

The “Island” in Europe : Switzerland



Being a backpacker and traveling around Europe was my dream. In my final summer vacation as a university student, I went to Europe on a two month journey. I first arrived in Switzerland, the beautiful “island” in Europe. Why I called it an “island” is because Switzerland is surrounded by the Alps and is separated from other countries. When I stayed in Grindewald, a peaceful town located on Jungfrau, I ate my breakfast and enjoyed the spectacular view everyday. The warm sunshine sprinkled on my face and the cool wind refreshed me. I miss it!



Thanks to the natural environment of Switzerland, the quality of water which comes from the mountains, lakes and underground is fresh and clean. The Swiss government takes water quality monitoring seriously, so you can drink tap water and don't need to purify it. You can find lots of fountain basins easily on the streets. They are not only decorations but also a place you can get free potable water.



On the other hand, I saw something interesting, a bicycle with a buggy. Parents taking their babies or young children to wander around the city with this kind of bicycle is common. In comparison, Taiwanese parents think taking young children outside can be a problem because they think it's very inconvenient and can be dangerous. In Switzerland, parents think it is good for children to go outside and play. They don't always keep their eyes on their children like Taiwanese. Sometime I saw a mom walking into a coffee shop and she left her children outside. It was unbelievable.

Switzerland was my favorite country on this European journey. People are lovely and the view is gorgeous. I will never forget this amazing experience and I will visit Switzerland again.