

ECU Summer Study Abroad: Switzerland and the World Health Organization

August 5 – August 15, 2013 ITINERARY (Tentative)

August 5 – 9 *GENEVA - Hotel Bernina www.bernina-geneve.ch

The world's smallest metropolis Cosmopolitan Geneva - a world of its own, a world for everyone, quite apart from the rest of Switzerland. Capital of Peace is one of its names - the European headquarters of the United Nations is located here. Another well-deserved name for this city with a humanitarian tradition, international organisations and cosmopolitan flair, is The World's Smallest Metropolis. Quays, lakeside promenades, parks, elegant stores and lively streets and alleyways in the old part of town wait to be discovered. Boat trips beckon on the lake and the Rhone River. The Alps seem close enough to touch. Geneva - small metropolis surrounded by unspoiled nature and breath taking scenery. On its limits lie magnificent country estates, hidden behind ancient stands of oak, and, to the north, peaceful villages, home of fruity Perlan wines.

August 5 – Monday

Arrival in Geneva (you make your own flight arrangements) Free train from airport to hotel.

Meet-up with fellow classmates and spend afternoon exploring Geneva

Group dinner at local restaurant

FIRESIDE CHAT

Tuesday August 6 – SITE VISIT: (1) University of Geneva Hospitals (2) Individual site visits to Geneva Health Professionals (matched to students graduate program aspirations)

*Breakfast at Hotel

Guided walking tour of Old Town Geneva

Dinner on own in Old Town

August 7 – Wednesday-SITE VISIT: International Red Cross Museum

*Breakfast at Hotel

International Red Cross Museum and Geneva Arboretum

Group Dinner at local restaurant

August 8 – Thursday –SITE VISIT and BRIEFINGS: World Health Organization

*Breakfast at Hotel

Group Dinner at local restaurant

FIRESIDE CHAT

August 9 – Friday SITE VISIT and BRIEFINGS: United Nations European Headquarters (including several UN High Commissions on Health)

*After Site Visit, take the UN Tour

Group Dinner at Geneva’s oldest fondue restaurant

August 10 Montreux- Hotel **Helvetie** www.montreux.ch/helvetie

August 10 – Saturday

*Breakfast at Hotel

*Meet private guide at Hotel and travel via motor coach from Geneva to Montreux via Lausanne and Broc

*Visit Olympic Museum

*City tour of Lausanne

*Tour Cailler Chocolate Factory

*Tour vineyard in the historic Lavaux region

*Tour Chillon Castle

* Meet group for dinner at our hotel; evening on your own to explore Montreux

Built in three tiers, Lausanne has the sparkling blue waters of Lake Geneva at its feet, deep green forests at its back and snow-capped Alps in the distance. It is a city to explore with your senses, offering everything from quaint country markets to cosmopolitan shops and shows. A climb up to the Old City will take you to Lausanne’s superb gothic cathedral, to the ancient castle of Saint Maire and to the university with its fine museums. Down by the waterside is the picturesque resort of Ouchy (more time to explore Ouchy), where you can linger in one of the lakeside restaurants and visit the Olympic Museum, and temporary museum on a boat.

Chocolate Factory Cailler in Broc

The visitor trail provides a complete immersion into the brand, its history and products. The experience is sensitive, sensual and poetic, giving the visitor a window into the world of chocolate by means of a transparent and sparkling aesthetic. This sense of imagination is paired with presentations on the different stages in the Caillers chocolate production process, which are relayed as part of the interactive audiovisual guided tour. Through cameras the visitors can watch live as the ingredients of chocolate are processed. The past is also present through an updated selection of photographs that retrace the factory's history, from its humble origins in 1898 right up to the 1960s. This journey through time brings back many memories. Appetites whetted, visitors can then visit a "tasting room" where you can try as many and as much of the chocolate as you desire!

*The **Lavaux Vineyard Terraces** of Switzerland have been chosen by UNESCO as a new World Heritage Site. The Terraces stretch for about 30 kilometers along the south-facing northern shores of Lake Geneva, in the Vaud region. They cover the lower slopes of the mountainside between the villages and the lake, and their origins can be traced back to the 11th century*

Montreux is the most frequented resort on Lac Lemman (Lake of Geneva), thanks to its beautiful location and pleasant surrounding countryside. The city stretches gently along the shore of a wide, south-facing bay and rises above the lake like a huge amphitheatre amidst the wooded and vine-clad slopes. Montreux has attracted many visitors since the 18th century. Its palm trees give sample proof of its mild climate. The main features of the city tour is the Vieux Montreux (the old parts of the township) and, of course, the visit of the Castle of Chillon - one of the most impressive, medieval strongholds of Switzerland, immortalised by many famous poets

August 11-12 * **Zermatt*** Hotel **Butterfly** * www.hotel-butterfly.com

Drive by motor coach through Aigle, along the Rhone Valley - the orchard of Switzerland - through pretty towns, such as Martigny, Sion and Sierre. At Taesch the road ends, as Zermatt is traffic-banned, and your journey continues by train to Zermatt, at the foot of the Matterhorn - the rocky pyramid, the outline of which is renowned throughout the world..Zermatt is a beautiful Alpine resort where the air is sparkling with an almost forgotten purity. There's great shopping and nightlife in Zermatt too!

August 11 – Sunday

*Breakfast at Hotel in Montreux

*Motor Coach to Täsch and then shuttle train from Täsch to Zermatt

Spend afternoon exploring Zermatt

*Meet for dinner at Hotel Butterfly

FIRESIDE CHAT

August 12 – Monday

*Breakfast at Hotel Butterfly

Explore Zermatt (hiking the trails around the Matterhorn; zip-lining, even skiing!)

Dinner on your own

August 13 -14 *Lugano * **Hotel Acquarello*** www.acquarello.ch

August 13 – Tuesday

*Breakfast at Hotel

*Motor Coach from Montreux to Lugano via Simplon Pass and Stresa

- *excursion to Isola Bella and visit to the Palace (with private guide)
- *private boat from Stresa to Isola Bella and back

*Dinner on your own in Lugano

Stresa has been an internationally renowned resort since the middle of the last century. An attractive place in a panoramic and picturesque setting on the Lake Maggiore, facing the Borromean Islands. Take a short boat ride to visit Isola Bella - one of the three main Borromean Islands. Visit the Majestic, baroque palace; park, a masterpiece of Italian style garden, which is laid out on then terraces. Return to Stresa by boat and continue to Lugano.

August 14 – Wednesday

*Breakfast at Hotel

Explore City of Lugano and Lake Lugano on your own

FINAL FIRESIDE CHAT

*Evening private boat from Lugano to a typical Restaurant “Grotto” for farewell dinner

Thanks to its geographical configuration Lugano is often called the, little Rio de Janeiro of the Old Continent. Its subtropical vegetation and pleasant climate all year round make Lugano one of the most popular Swiss holiday resorts. Lugano offers all the amenities of a cosmopolitan city in a charming and relaxing atmosphere. A stroll through the characteristic traffic-free Old town with its many arcades and cobble-stoned streets, (the Via Nassa, shopping mall of Lugano) the many piazzas will drive you even further into this romantic-Latin world. Discover some of the not-so-easy-to-get-to places in the surrounding area, as well as the center of the town including the Monument of Independence, the Park, the Piazza Riforma, the Santa Maria degli Angioli, the church of pure Franciscan character with its imposing frescoes.

August 15 – Thursday

*Breakfast at Hotel

*Motor coach to Milan Malpensa Airport

Return to the US