

Appenzellerland Tourismus AI
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Media information – Facts and figures

A HOLIDAY WORLD OF ITS OWN: APPENZELL – SMALL ON SIZE, BIG ON ADVENTURE

“Hanfblüte”, “Vollmond”, “Brand Löscher”: the “Brauerei Locher” brewery from Appenzell has been quenching the thirst of those with a love for hiking from all over the world for almost 300 years with its range of innovative products – now in the fifth generation. Loud, quiet and still – the trickle of mineral water in Appenzell comes in three different varieties. The mineral spring in Contenbad above Appenzell, which has been tapped since 1657, has been refreshing both body and soul for centuries. Mildly tangy, very tangy, extra tangy: the world-famous Appenzeller cheese with its unique and zingy aroma will be sure to leave you wanting more. The “Altmann”, “Hoher Kasten” and “Säntis” mountains: for those who want to go high and conquer the rugged peaks of the Appenzell region, which contrast with the lovely surrounding hills. The likes of Hautle, Liner and Lämmli have lovely captured this landscape on canvas with masterful skill – a comparison with the original is well worth it.

The 69,500 innovative people of Appenzell impress not only with their skill for commerce, but also with their artistic and cultural flair. There is hardly any other place where the traditions of painting, music or linguistic art are embraced as distinctly as in the two half-cantons situated at the eastern tip of Switzerland, spanning just 67 square miles.

Location.

Area of Appenzell Innerrhoden (AI) – one of a total of 26 cantons in Switzerland: 172 km².

Inhabitants in AI:	16,295
Number of districts in AI:	6 districts (= municipalities)

Arriving by train (Herisau):	Arriving by car:
Lucerne station: 2 h	Lucerne: 2 h
Zurich station: 1¼ h	Zurich: 1¼ h
Schaffhausen station: 1¾ h	Bern: 2½ h
Chur station: 1¾ h	Basel: 2 h
Bern station: 2½ h	Innsbruck: 2¾ h
Basel station: 2¼ h	Munich: 2¾ h

Public transport.

Appenzeller Bahnen, St. Gallen–Appenzell line	www.appenzellerbahnen.ch
Appenzeller Bahnen, Gossau–Wasserauen line	
Appenzeller Bahnen, Altstätten–Gais line	
Postauto St. Gallen–Appenzell incl. PubliCar	www.postauto.ch/ostschweiz

Aerial cableways.

Hoher Kasten Drehrestaurant u. Seilbahn AG	www.hoherkasten.ch
Luftseilbahn Jakobsbad–Kronberg AG	www.kronberg.ch
Luftseilbahn Wasserauen–Ebenalp AG	www.ebenalp.ch
Säntis-Schwebebahn AG	www.saentisbahn.ch
Seilbahn Alp Sigel	www.alpsigel.ch
Seilbahn Frümsen–Staubern	www.staubern.ch

Occasions in the Appenzell region – customs and tradition.

“Viehschau”.

Farmers bring their cows, after they have been lovingly dressed up, to the showground to have them examined and evaluated by a jury for bone structure, milk yield and udder. The best cows and bulls are displayed at the front of the line by the end of the day.

“Stobede”.

Cosy Alpine festivals in summer with traditional Appenzell string music, folk dances, yodelling and bell-ringing Alpine dairymen.

“Ebenalpe Stobede” at the “Berggasthaus Ebenalp” inn

“Alpstobede” on the “Meglisalp”

“Potersalpestobede” on the “Alp Potersalp”

“Bollestobede” at the “Berggasthaus Bollenwees” inn

“Sollerstobede”, Berggasthaus Plattenbödeli

“Sollerstobede”, Berggasthaus Ruhesitz

“Jakobifesch” on the Kronberg

“Betruf”.

During the Alpine season (June to mid-September), the prayer call is made in the evening on various Innerrhoden Alps. From a favourable location, Alpine herdsmen sing out their prayers through a wooden megaphone and ask for the protection of the cattle, Alpine pastures and people.

“Chlausezüüg”.

Innerrhoden Christmas custom – Finely painted beavers (“Chlausebickli”) are attached along with red apples to a pyramid-shaped wooden frame, which stands in a bowl filled with nuts and dried pears. This beautiful tradition can be seen in shop windows in the village of Appenzell, and can also be found in many Innerrhoden living rooms to complement the Christmas tree.

Appenzell Innerrhoden, December.

“Räuchle”.

In the villages, the altar boys walk from house to house with the censer, while the fathers walk with a traditional smoking pan through the rooms of the house, through the stable and around the home. During this time, the family recites a little prayer from the psalter, asking for protection against “Öbel ond Oofall” (evil and accident). Appenzell Innerrhoden, Christmas, “Altjahrabend” and “Dreikönigstag”.

“Funkensonntag”.

On “Funkensonntag” (“Bonfire Sunday”), the individual areas and villages around Appenzell compete to see who can light the biggest bonfire to chase away winter with its roaring flames. An array of different places in Appenzell Innerrhoden

“Landsgemeinde”.

On the last Sunday in April, several thousand citizens and numerous visitors look forward to a unique, democratic communal congress (“Landsgemeinde”) hosted on the “Landsgemeindeplatz” in Appenzell. The people elect the so-called “Cantonal Commission” (cantonal government) and the cantonal court of Appenzell Innerrhoden “on an equal footing” with cantonal government councillors.

“Fronleichnam”.

The Innerrhoden people’s love of festive, colourful processions is particularly evident in this famous, solemn calendar event – Corpus Christi (or “Fronleichnam”). With the holiest of all sacraments on display, this key day is accompanied by the clergy in festive regalia and the “Herrgottsgrenadieren” – the Grenadiers of the Lord God. Numerous women dressed in the noble festive costumes of Innerrhoden contribute to this splendid sight.

For more events in the Appenzell region, please get in touch with Appenzellerland Tourismus AI, appenzell.ch/veranstaltungen.

Events in the Appenzell region – Culture.

Events.

Appenzell Spring Days	Appenzell	www.appezoell.ch
A-Cappella-Festival Appenzell	Appenzell	www.appenzell.ch
Open Alpine Dairies Day	Alpstein	www.appenzell.ch
Appenzell Folk Festival	Appenzell	www.laendlerfest.ch

Museums.

Museum Appenzell	Appenzell	www.museum.ai.ch
Kunstmuseum Appenzell	Appenzell	www.kunstmuseumappenzell.ch
Kunsthalle Ziegelhütte	Appenzell	www.kunsthalleziegelhuette.ch

Sport in the Appenzell region.

Hiking.

All hiking suggestions for the Appenzell-Alpstein region available at appenzell.ch/wandervorschlaege

Themed walking trails.

Barfussweg	Jakobsbad-Gontenbad	1½ h
Rondom trails	taking you around every village in AI	approx. 1 h
Chlustobelweg	Weissbad-Brülisau	1 h
Geologischer Wanderweg	Hoher Kasten-Saxerlücke-Brülisau	4½ h
Hörwanderung Kronberg	Kronberg-Jakobsbad	2 h
Appenzeller Kapellenweg	Appenzell-Sammelplatz-Steinegg-Appenzell	3 ½ h
“Pfeff ond Lischt”-Weg	Steig, Appenzell-Schlatt	1½ h

Tips and tricks.

The current state of hiking trails in Alpstein	appenzell.ch/wegzustand
Hiking suggestions with maps and altitude profiles	appenzell.ch/wandervorschlaege
Trail guides for the region (excluding Oberegg district)	appenzell.ch/wanderzeiten
Film entitled “Alpstein von Oben” (“Alpstein from above”)	appenzell.ch/alpsteinvonoben
Webcams in and around Appenzell	appenzell.ch/webcams
Information at a glance, which mountain inns and cable cars in Alpstein are open.	alpstein.ch

Bicycle. Mountain bike. E-bike.

All route suggestions available at www.appenzell.ch/velo

The popular “Culinary E-Bike Tour” takes you on a picturesque journey through the Appenzell hills in just one day – from restaurant to restaurant, and from dish to dish.

More available at www.appenzell.ch/route222

Other sports.

Golf	Golf course in Gonten	www.golfplatz.ch
Climbing	Luftseilbahn Wasserauen-Ebenalp	www.ebenalp.ch
	Berggasthaus Meglisalp (mountain inn)	www.meglisalp.ch
	Berggasthaus Bollenwees (mountain inn)	www.bollenwees.ch
Paragliding and hang gliding	Flugschule Appenzell	www.gleitschirm.ch
Bobsleigh Run / Zipline Park	Kronberg-Bobbahn	www.kronberg.ch

For more information on activities such as tennis and squash, snowshoe hiking, etc., please contact Appenzellerland Tourismus AI, appenzell.ch

Restaurants and accommodation in the Appenzell region.

25 mountain inns transform the Alpstein mountain range into a culinary paradise. More detailed information available at: alpstein.ch

Hotels and restaurants in and around Appenzell available at: appenzeller-genuss.ch

Note to editorial teams.

Up-to-date photo material can be requested from Appenzellerland Tourismus AI. Please do not hesitate to get in touch for further information:

Appenzellerland Tourismus AI

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