

Epic Exchange

Enliven your sense of adventure!



Working in Switzerland

Have you ever dreamt about spending a year working on an actual working farm in Switzerland, well here is your opportunity. To live and work in the mountains of Switzerland like a local is an iconic adventure. An opportunity to explore awesome landscapes, work incredibly hard, spending time outdoors on a working farm with like minded people, be well compensated and come away from your experience with memories and friends which will last a lifetime!



Program Overview

Our partner organization has been helping adventurous travellers for many years to experience what life is really like in Switzerland. Applicants travel to Switzerland to broaden their knowledge, expand current skills and gain an unforgettable cultural experience without the hassle of worrying about where you are staying or working.

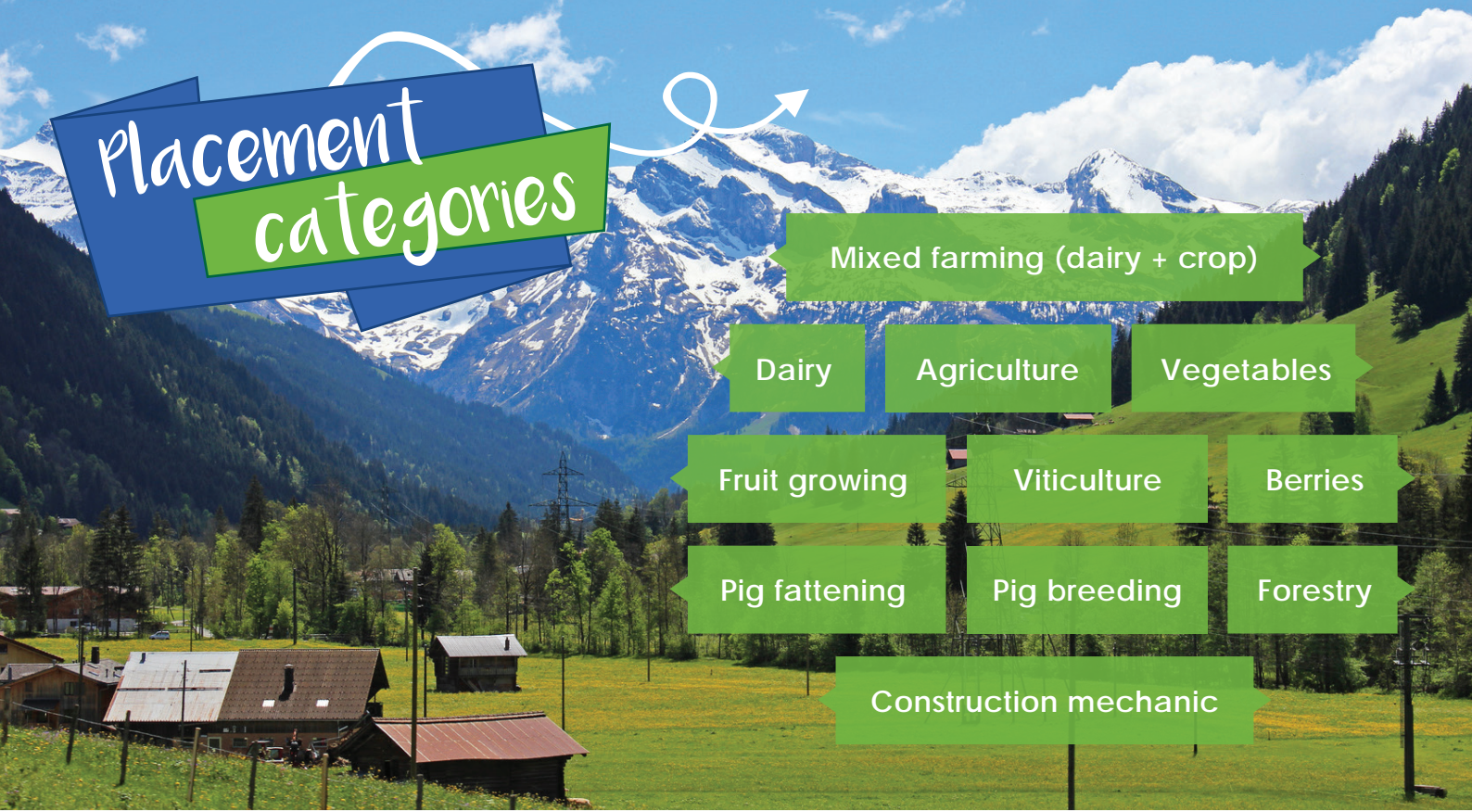
Our partner organization is not an employment agency but rather a cultural exchange organization where they provide assistance with a placement that is related to your current skills, education and background.

Placements on offer are anywhere between 6 to 18 months, so you can live like a local, work and holiday in Switzerland with the support of our program and staff.

The program gives Agricultural graduates an opportunity to enhance their knowledge and skills through a structured and guided work based training by providing exposure to Swiss techniques, methodologies, standards of service and management style.

The program will include step by step assistance throughout the whole process from completing the necessary paperwork, interview guidance, assistance with visa application as well as assistance with flights, travel insurance, as well as an opportunity to meet other adventurous travellers at orientation.





Mountain farming in Switzerland is very exciting and interesting. You will see how the farmers work on steep land and what they produce in high altitude. There is also a lot of possibilities to see how they make cheese and raise the cattle. Our partner can show you farms where they also manufacture other products, like fish or goat and sheep cheese. Switzerland is a modern country with a lot of tradition and culture! Switzerland is well-known for cheese and chocolate!

You will see how Swiss mountain farmers work and gain their income. There is a good combination between agriculture and tourism and you will see beautiful mountain areas with a lot of attractions and activities.

Switzerland is in the heart of Western Europe. It borders on Germany in the North, Austria and Lichtenstein in the East, Italy in the South and France in the West. Switzerland is a small mountainous country, covering part of the central Alps and the Northern Alps. With its mountains and hills, rivers and lakes, Switzerland offers diverse landscape despite measuring only 220 km from North to South and 350 km from West to East.

Switzerland has concluded trainee agreements with about 30 countries in order to enable young people to extend their occupational and linguistic skills in Switzerland. Internship positions are available for 6-18 months. If you are already quite independent, there is also the possibility to live outside the family or to work and live on a large vegetable farm with other people.





In order to qualify

- Currently studying or graduated from college/university with an agricultural degree or diploma of at least two years in length
- Some farm experience is required
- Some experience with agriculture machines, dairy cows, beef cattle, sows and pigs as well as in the fields
- Basic knowledge of German and/or willingness to learn German whilst on your program
- Happy to live with a host family
- Have a clear criminal record and hold a current drivers license and have an international drivers licenses
- Be fit and healthy, willing to work hard and open to new ideas and cultures
- Be between the ages of 20 - 35
- Be available for 6 - 18 months

What can we offer

- ▶ A good host family
- ▶ Placements from 6-18 months
- ▶ Support if there is a problem
- ▶ Placement in all kinds of farms like dairy farm, beef cattle, pigs, field crop, mixed farm, vegetable farm, farms with tourism (mostly for girls)

As the saying goes,

“ life is 5% what happens
to you, and 95% how you
react to it ”

What do we need from a candidate

A completed application form

Complete CV/Resume with all dates
(day/month/year)

Copy of your passport

A motivation letter

Copy of your agricultural education
(diploma, etc.)

2 reference letters

A placement request



Feel free to
contact us at:
011 784 4556



Please visit our website
for more information:
www.epicexchange.co.za

What's included in the program?

Your success here is mostly down to you, and is determined by your attitude. You also need to be physically and mentally fit.

- ▶ Step by step assistance throughout the program from completing all required paperwork to obtain the necessary paperwork to legally work in Switzerland for up to a year
- ▶ Confirmed placement and contract documentation
- ▶ Pre-departure orientation - Vital information to get you ready for the adventure of a lifetime
- ▶ Assistance with all travel arrangements to get to host farm
- ▶ Back up support throughout full length of program

If you accepted on the program then its because one or more things in your application form told us that you would be capable of succeeding in this environment. Thousands of young people from all walks of life have succeeded here.

Please do not make the mistake of assuming that the great experiences that so many people speak of having had in Switzerland will come to you easily. You will have to work hard for them and you will have to deal with many new and potentially challenging circumstances along the way, especially at the beginning.

It won't all be easy, and there may well be some things that you may not like. Be prepared for it to be tough; that is all part of the adventure, and this is what will make it feel all the more worthwhile long after you have returned home.

You don't have to be a superhero to succeed here. Thousands of young people have enjoyed and experienced good and great things in rural Australia, many probably just like you.

If interested, what next...?

If experiencing Switzerland firsthand is something you would like to do then get in touch with us and we will enliven the sense of adventure within you!

The program is not a package holiday. Paying and turning up does not guarantee success here. You have to engage fully, get completely involved in everything, be energetic, hard working, willing to learn and try new things, and become good at finding ways to be useful. This will shape the way your experience develops.

Costs

Please refer to separate budget for full breakdown of costs

Spending money

All applicants need to arrive with a minimum of CHF 500 in support funds to pay for things such as food, travel and other expenses until they receive their first pay check. All applicants are also required to travel with a credit card.

Wages

Trainees will be paid CHF 3420 (R69 460) gross per month. The farmer will deduct room and board (CHF 990.00/month), the social insurance, taxes, health insurance and the net salary will be around CHF 1500 -1600 (R30 450 - R32 496). Every canton has slightly different tax systems and health insurance and net salary can vary slightly.

The ordinary hours of work will be 49 to 55 hours per week. Working overtime is paid or will be given as extra time off. All applicants will generally have 1.5 days off per week and will be allocated 1.83 days of leave per month.

Epic Exchange Contact information

Johannesburg

Corner Main Office Park – Building A, Second Floor,
Corner Main and Payne Road, Bryanston

Tel: 011 784 4556

Email: info@epicexchange.co.za

Capetown

Workshop 17, 17 Dock Road, V&A Waterfront, Cape Town

Tel: 021 300 3344

Email: info@epicexchange.co.za

Banking details:

Please put applicants name and surname as reference for any payment and then email proof of payment.

Bank: First National Bank

Account name: Epic Exchange

Account No: 625 9911 7746

Branch No: 2500655