

SIT Global Master's in Diplomacy and International Relations Switzerland, Canton of Geneva and Canton of Vaud

Nota bene: The SIT Graduate Institute / World Learning Association in Switzerland is registered as a private university in the Canton of Vaud. Due to Swiss immigration regulations, SIT students who are non-American citizen entering Switzerland on a student visa are legally required to reside only in the Canton of Vaud which delivers the residence permit. American citizens entering Switzerland on a tourist visa and staying up to 90 days can live in the Canton of Vaud, Canton of Geneva, or in neighbouring France.

All prices below are indicative and subject to current inflation. We highly recommend that all students apply as early as possible in order to secure accommodation.

Housing Form: General Information

*Please read the information below carefully, complete the form on page 6, and send the completed form to your SIT Graduate Institute Admissions counsellor.

* For all prices in Swiss Francs the current exchange rate can be checked on <https://xe.com>

*For some residences you are required to pay local residence fee of approximately CHF 40 per month to the local commune.

Room and board are the responsibility of each graduate student; these costs are NOT included in your tuition *except* during the four-day study trip to Vienna. Local SIT staff will provide information on the local housing market, approximate budgets, and available services. Each student is responsible for covering all accommodation expenses upon arrival in Switzerland as well as transportation costs.

Canton of Geneva (City of GENEVA) / Canton of Vaud

The housing options in Geneva and the Canton of Vaud include university residences, and independent / shared apartments for which students apply directly through the email/websites below

University Residence Accommodation

(Apply directly through the website)

Student apartments are furnished and include either shared kitchen or bathroom facilities or individual facilities depending on the type of accommodation and availability. Utilities are often included in the rental price. All tenants are required to pay a deposit equivalent to one month's rent or full payment of the rent 2 months in advance. This deposit is used as a guarantee in case of property damage and is reimbursed on departure. The rent including local taxes may range between CHF 700 and CHF 2'000 per month. If you are interested in this option, please go to the website of the University Residences below and apply online.

Canton of Vaud

In the Canton of Vaud, the public universities are located in Lausanne and student residences are concentrated in the Lausanne area (approximately 30 miles from Nyon).

Please note that there is no university in the city of Nyon and thus housing for students in Canton of Vaud is limited. Nevertheless, you can find shared rooms in apartments to sublet or accommodation at the Youth Hostel in Nyon. It is also possible to find private apartments through local real estate agencies (*régies* in French) for rent but there are many documents to provide, and it is rather difficult to arrange leases for less than 3 months.

We suggest focusing on the following towns in the Geneva Lake Region of the canton of Vaud: **Coppet, Nyon, Gland, Morges, Aubonne, Renens, Rolle, Lausanne**. We also recommend that your accommodation should be close to the railway station which would allow you to commute easily when coming to your class in Nyon or to the briefing in Geneva.

1. City of Nyon

Youth Hostel : <https://nyonhostel.ch/>

Mention that you are an SIT student.

Prices:

Dormitory with 6 beds (3 bunk beds)

From CHF 34.– (approx. price per month CHF. 1'020 (30 days)

Toilet and sink in the room; Showers on the same floor; Free Internet over WiFi

Breakfast included 06:30 – 09:30 h

Link for reservation: <https://nyonhostel.bookworldhostels.com/?agent=HomePage&lang=en#angebot>

We recommend to make the reservation at andreas.kappeler@nyonhostel.ch (please indicate that you are SIT students in Nyon)

You can also book for either an individual or double room, if available, as this option is the most requested, prices vary from CHF 1500 to CHF 2500

2. City of Nyon and other cities of the Canton of Vaud (ie. Coppet, Nyon, Gland, Morges, Aubonne, Renens, Rolle, Lausanne).

The websites to search for accommodations in the City of Nyon and other cities of the Canton of Vaud:

- A site destined for students of the European Erasmus program which is also open to non-Erasmus students: <https://erasmusu.com/en/home>

3. City of Lausanne and surrounding area

- Real Estate Agency “Livit” manages several student buildings in Lausanne, Renens, Ecublens
<https://www.livit.ch/en>

Student village:

- <https://studentvillage-lausanne.ch/>
- <https://www.camp-us.ch/en/>
- Lausanne. Pension Bienvenue : <https://www.pension-bienvenue.ch/fr/chambres-prix/>

- Lausanne. Foyer Bon Accueil, students from 18 to 24 y.o. (women only)

<https://www.studenthome.ch/foyer-bon-accueil-lausanne.html>

- Lausanne. Fondation Solidarité Logement for students. Prices CHF 700 – 1000 : <https://www.fsle.ch/fr/>

The foundation manages many residences among which are the following:

- *Résidence Le Valentin : <https://www.fsle.ch/en/accomodations/valentin/>

The shared spaces, consisting of an equipped kitchen and a living room, are on the ground floor. Sanitary facilities are available on each floor. These have 2 separate rooms, one with 3 shared shower cubicles (set next to each other), and another with 2 toilets.

- *Résidence Chablais: <https://www.fsle.ch/fr/logements-residences/residence-du-chablais/>

Each floor has a fully equipped kitchen and 2 bathrooms shared among the 7 students of the floor.

**Residence Le Valentin et Residence Chablais: check regularly for cancellations, due to comparatively low prices, these are the most popular residences.*

- Bérée Apartments :

Three 4 1/2 room apartments (9 rooms), 4 apartments of 5 1/2 rooms and 3 apartments of 4 1/2 rooms (25 rooms). These are independent apartments of 3 or 4 people with private rooms, two bathrooms, kitchen and shared living room.

- Villa Marc Dufour : <https://www.fsle.ch/en/accomodations/villa-marc-dufour/>

In total, there are 10 rooms: They are spread over 4 floors:

- 2 rooms, a bathroom and the free-of-use washing room are located on the garden floor,
- 2 rooms and a big kitchen on the ground floor,
- 3 rooms and a bathroom on the first floor, and
- 3 rooms and a bathroom on the second floor in the attic.
- Loyers Couchirard : <https://www.fsle.ch/en/>
4 rooms flat

4. City of Renens. Student Residence Silo Bleu: <https://www.silobleu.ch/>

Bachelors

Independent / Shared Apartments with other students

(Apply directly through the website)

Independent / Shared bachelors and apartments are furnished and shared with other tenants. Typically, a bachelor has one big bedroom with a kitchen. The apartments may have two or more bedrooms, a shared kitchen and bathroom. Depending on the size, the price may vary between CHF 1500 – CHF 2500 for a bachelor and from CHF 1700 – CHF 3000+ per month for apartments. The rent cost is usually split between the tenants. Utilities such as electricity, internet, etc. may or may not be included in the price and are quite expensive in Switzerland.

Students should visit these websites:

- AIRBNB Switzerland
<https://fr.airbnb.ch/s/Switzerland/all>
- Private landlords in Switzerland
<https://www.homegate.ch/en>

Canton of Geneva / City of Geneva

List of University Residences in Geneva:

Please note that the University residences give priority to students registered at the Swiss university. It is generally difficult to find a place at the university residences if you are not a student at the local university. Occasionally there may be vacant rooms but the prices for non-Swiss university students will be higher than those listed online.

- Cité universitaire : <http://website.cite-uni-geneve.ch/en/nos-hebergements/les-solutions/>
- Centre universitaire protestant 2 : <https://www.studenthome.ch/centre-universitaire-protestant-2-geneve.html>
- Résidence Hugo-de-Senger : <https://www.logement-geneve.ch/immobilier/residences-universitaires/hugo-de-senger-residence-universitaire.html>
- Résidence Voltaire: <https://www.ville-geneve.ch/plan-ville/social/residence-voltaire>
- Résidence Webster : <https://webster.ch/currentstudents/residentiallife/index.php>
- List of other university residences : <https://www.unige.ch/batiment/service-batiments/logements/logements-en-residences/residences-du-blru/>
- Résidence Saint-Justin : <https://www.justinus.ch/accueil/index.html>

List of Other Residences in Geneva

- Résidence Moléson (prices : from CHF 900 to CHF 1'100): <https://www.residencemoleson.ch/>
- Résidence Dalphin (prices: CHF 2'000 and up) : <http://www.gerpar.ch/en/The-residences/Residence-Dalphin/>
- Résidence Rossi (prices : from CHF 1'050 to CHF 1'500) : <https://www.residencrossi.ch/>
- Résidence de France (prices : from CHF 1'500 – 3'000 and more): <http://www.gerpar.ch/en/The-residences/Residence-de-France/>
- Geneva Hostels (shared dormitory)
<https://www.hostelworld.com/findabed.php/ChosenCity.Geneva/ChosenCountry.Switzerland>
- Agence immobilière : <https://www.homegate.ch/louer/biens-immobiliers/lieu-nyon/liste-annonces>

Independent / Shared Apartment

(Apply directly through the website)

Independent / Shared bachelors and apartments are furnished and shared with other tenants. Typically, a bachelor has one big bedroom with a kitchen. The apartments may have two or more bedrooms, a shared kitchen and bathroom. Depending on the size, the price may vary between CHF 1500 – CHF 2500 for a bachelor and from CHF 1700 – CHF 3000+ per month for apartments. The rent cost is usually split between the tenants. Utilities such as electricity, internet, etc. may or may not be included in the price and are quite expensive in Switzerland.

- Local Geneva website for expat community, including housing:
<https://www.glocals.com/classifieds/geneva/housing-and-real-estate/>
- AIRBNB Switzerland
<https://fr.airbnb.ch/s/Switzerland/all>
- Private landlords in Switzerland

<https://www.homegate.ch/en>

Neighboring France (next to Geneva)

We recommend accommodation in the towns of **Ferney-Voltaire** or **Annemasse** :

<https://fr-fr.roomlala.com/>

<https://www.uxco.com/>

<https://www.savoie-montblanc.immo/>

<https://www.agda.fr/>

When you contact an agency or owner in France, please ask them if they are situated near the railway station (the train goes directly from Annemasse to Nyon) or bus stop with the direct bus to Geneva (from Ferney-Voltaire). Apartment rent and food are cheaper in France, but you may need more time to commute and pay higher transportation costs. Transportation between Switzerland and France is less frequent than within Switzerland.

We strongly recommend to not reserve an accommodation on the French side of Lake Lemman, because of very limited transport options to Nyon and Geneva.

Housing Form: Student Application Sheet

Please note that housing and related services are not provided by SIT Graduate Institute, and the accommodation options listed above are in no way officially part of SIT. Therefore, any housing arrangement or contract is between the student and host University residence or landlord.

The prices above reflect only the approximate cost of housing for each option. Actual prices may vary.

Student Name: _____

Student Email: _____

Student Mobile Number: _____

I would like to have a room in a university residence or other local residence; I understand that I am responsible to apply by myself

I would like to have an independent / shared apartment with other SIT students. I understand that I am responsible to apply by myself

I have already secured my own housing in Geneva / Canton of Vaud

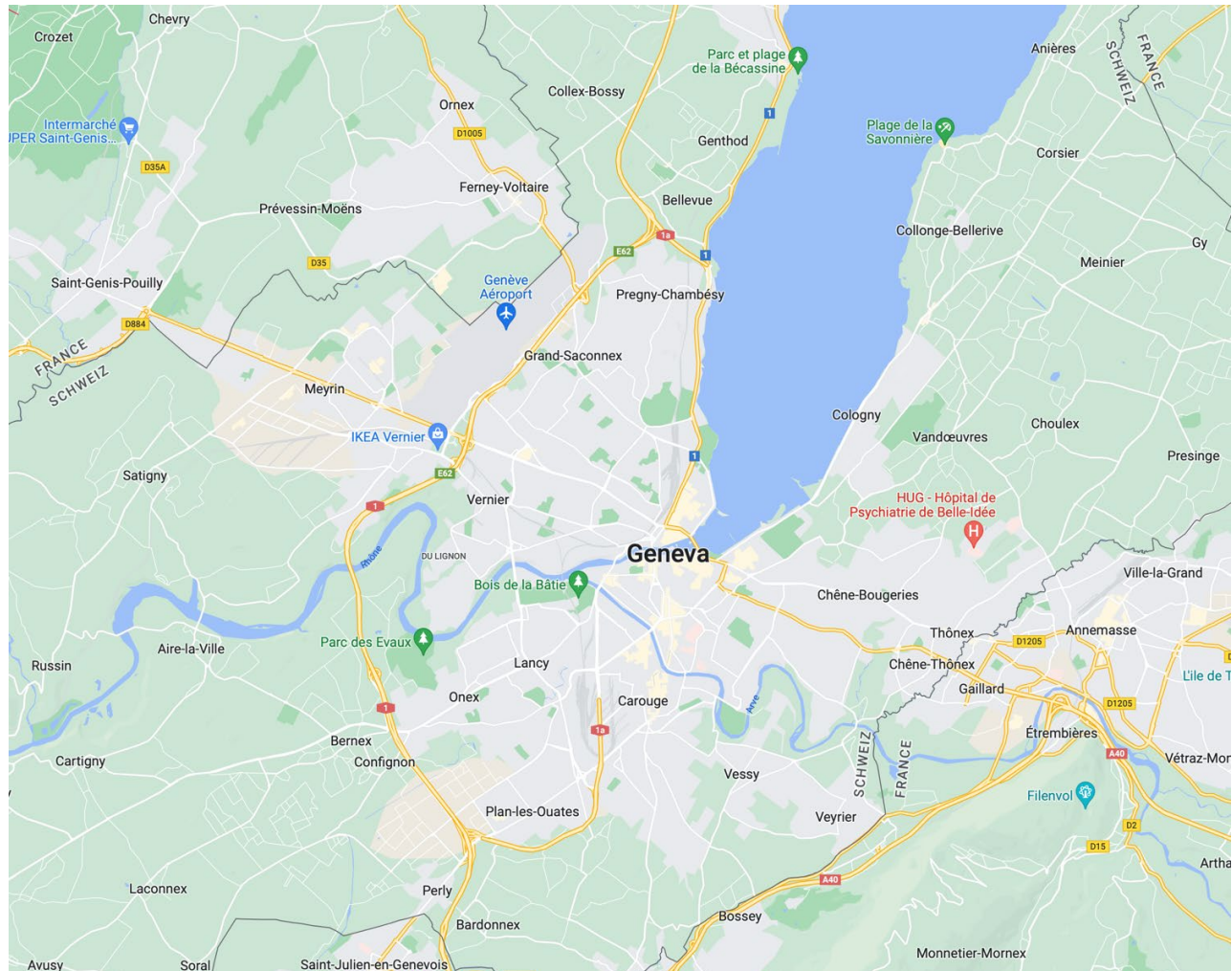
My address in Geneva / Canton of Vaud will be: _____

Nota bene: The SIT Graduate Institute / World Learning Association in Switzerland is registered as a private university in the Canton of Vaud. Due to Swiss immigration regulations, students who require a Schengen visa to enter Switzerland who are studying at the World Learning Association in Switzerland are required to live in the Canton of Vaud.

Geneva Lake Region



Greater Geneva Region, including neighboring France (Ferney-Voltaire, Annemasse)



City of Nyon



City of Lausanne



City of Geneva



Transportation in Switzerland

Like many people who live, work or study in the area, you will be required to commute up to an hour daily by train or bus. The transportation system in Switzerland is excellent. Depending on where you live, you may be somewhat limited in terms of evening activities. As is always the case when living abroad, some adjustment on your part will be required.

It is highly recommended to consult the website of the Swiss national railway company (CFF) regularly.
<https://sbb.ch/en>

There are often attractive deals for point-to-point tickets or day passes (*carte journalière* in French) that allow unlimited train travel. These can be combined with local public transport. There are also reduced railway/public transport fares for those under 25 years of age, often combined with other offers.

The recommended option for commuting during your stay are the monthly point-to-point passes.

Please check the following urls for modular (adjustable) train tickets.

<https://sbb.ch/en/modular-travelcard>

<https://sbb.ch/en/fare-networks>

<https://sbb.ch/en/point-to-point-season-tickets>

Depending on your travel projects, another option is a monthly general pass usable for unlimited travel in Switzerland on the entire Swiss public transport network (train, bus, streetcar and boat). This is the most convenient pass to travel extensively in Switzerland.

Here are the links for local public transport in selected cities which may be combined with rail passes:

Nyon:

<https://www.bustpn.ch>

Lausanne:

<https://www.t-l.ch/en/home/>

Geneva (including the neighboring French town of Ferney-Voltaire):

<https://www.tpg.ch/en>

N.B. Tickets are usually purchased for an hour of travel within the applicable metro area. Monthly passes are also available and may be combined with rail offers.

There is the local Lemman Express which connects the neighboring town of Annemasse in France to the Geneva Lake Swiss rail network. As noted in the housing section, we strongly recommend to not reserve an accommodation on the French side of Lake Lemman outside of the towns of Annemasse and Ferney-Voltaire, because of very limited transport options to Nyon and Geneva.

<https://www.lemanexpress.com/en/>

Budget: Taking into account all offers and tickets (railway, bus transport), we recommend a budget between CHF 300-500 per month to cover all transportation costs, please consult the websites above regularly to have the latest information.

Local Swiss Contacts

If you have any further questions please contact Aigul Jarmatova at aigul.jarmatova@sit.edu or Joe Apostolidis at joe.apostolidis@sit.edu