

INTRODUCTION

Relocation of domicile or business activity to Switzerland

The Swiss confederation guarantees an economic freedom that allows all people, also foreigners, to establish a company in Switzerland or to participate in one.

Due to the relative low number of regulations in the Swiss commercial law, there are numerous possibilities to choose the ideal legal form for your company.

Switzerland is a small land with a high standard of living, which is hardly accomplished by any other country. This statement is only possible because divers prominent factors combine in this special country: Beautiful and manifold landscape, low criminality, an excellent health care system, distinguished education, first-class sport facilities, high efficient public utilities, the legendary Swiss tidiness and – of course – the famous Swiss precision.

The team of Swiss Relocation consults supports and manages the organizational and administrative part of your relocation to Switzerland. Due to our long lasting experience we guarantee a professional service.

LOCATION FACTORS

Switzerland – your location for:

- Your company**
- Your domicile**
- Your assets**

Switzerland is one of the most competitive business locations of the world. Innovative capacity and technology, a liberal economic system, political stability, close integration with foreign markets, an excellent education- and health care system, an optimal infrastructure and a high standard of living as well as a competitive tax system are sound reasons to settle your company in Switzerland.

The political system in Switzerland is built federalistic, political decision are broad supported from the nation. The unemployment rate is low. Minor inflation rates, low capital costs, a good investment climate and a solid spending capacity are the foundations of one of the most liberal and competitive economies of the world. The gross domestic product is significantly over the EU-average.

According to the Mercer-Rating, Zurich, Geneva and Berne belong to the most livable cities of the world. In the aspects of income, schools and safety, urban and rural regions in Switzerland reach high notes regularly. In addition Switzerland offers an intact nature, manifold landscapes, a first-class health care system and a moderate tax burden.

Location promotion is an important part of the economic policy in Switzerland and is supported through a tight partnership with the economy and the cantons. Your Swiss relocation team organizes and coordinates all aspects of your settlement in Switzerland. Be it for the establishment of a company, tax advice, search for real estate and staff or the settlement of your family.

LEGAL CONSULTING

In line with your settlement in Switzerland and your residence on-site later on, we handle all legal activities that are connected with it.

Succession of a company

We support you in all relevant issues regarding your planning of the company's succession. And we will present the most suitable solution for your company.

Inheritance

During the counseling of the planning of your inheritance we also consider international aspect such as the double tax agreement.

Acquisition of companies

We gladly support you in the process of acquiring a Swiss company. On the one hand we conduct the coherent due diligence and on the other hand we are also of help in the search of appropriate targets.

Law of contract

We prepare necessary contracts including all dealings regarding land charge register as well as commercial register in connection with your relocation and activities in Switzerland.

Residence authorizations

We take over the organization and obtaining of residence authorizations of all sorts. We also arrange the coordination with the relevant authorities. This applies for earners as well as pensioners and all other non-employed persons.

Due diligence

In the process of acquiring a company we gladly conduct the due diligence. Objects of the due diligence are annual financial statements, human and factual resources, strategic positioning, legal and financial risks as well as environmental liabilities.

Real estate

Due to the federalistic system in Switzerland, there are differences in the cantonal law regarding the purchase of real estate. We have the knowledge to advise you regarding the regulations in any cantonal or in federal law. There is more than one possibility to acquire a real estate (free of authorization) for foreign investors and to use it as rented beds.

In the occasion of an individual counseling interview we can offer you solutions that match your requirements and visions.

Establishment of a company

We advise you on the building of a sustainable structuring of your company. Basically there are three important legal forms in Switzerland: "Einzelfirma", "Aktiengesellschaft (AG)" and "Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung (GmbH)". Furthermore Switzerland is one of the few countries that allow bearer shares in an AG. We support you gladly in your decision to choose the suitable legal form for your company and help you to establish such company within a week.

Trust law

We are able to clarify the relevant regulations for you that gained recognition in Swiss law. For example the optimization regarding real estate property of trusts or contribution to Swiss domiciled beneficiaries. Our consultation also covers the tax regulations thereof.

REAL ESTATE

Finding real estate that corresponds with your requirements is of prime importance, when you decide to relocate. We support you effectively with your search and the purchase as well as sale of your private real estate or investment object .

Good reasons to invest in real estate in Switzerland:

- ☒ Value preservation with low volatility
- ☒ Good returns and safety regardless of the economy and stock markets
- ☒ Limited or no inheritance tax

The acquisition of real estate in Switzerland by foreigners is restricted by law but possible. We are always ready for you, to support you professionally and make the appropriate inquiries with the relevant authorities.

- ☒ Foreigners do not require special approval from the state for a commercial real estate.
- ☒ Foreigners without a residence permit who want to purchase a Swiss residential property require a permit/quota.
- ☒ Swiss authorities may grant foreigners a residence permit if the foreigner establishes a company in Switzerland and operates as well as invests in it.
- ☒ A property in Switzerland can also be purchased on behalf of the company.

Purchase and sale

- ☒ Condominium
- ☒ Vacation home, secondary residence
- ☒ Villas/Cabins/single and multi-family houses
- ☒ Office, commercial, industrial properties, hotels and restaurants
- ☒ Lands
- ☒ Investment properties
- ☒ Projects

Real estate valuations

Properties often represent a significant part of the individual assets. The price is one of the most important variables in the process of buying or selling a property. We as a competent partner can help you make the right decisions about investments and disinvestments. An independent appraisal costs comparatively little and keeps you from a disastrous mistake.

All our reviews are conducted by experienced valuation experts.

Renovation and conversion

You want to give your property a new shine, but do not know exactly how to tackle it? Our experts will prepare a restructuring plan that suits your needs and wishes and guide you expertly in the overall renovation management.

Property management

We are committed to a professional and responsible management of your property.

Rent

Qualified partner companies do the professional rental and optimal management of your property.

Financial advice

We offer a professional, personal and confidential advice for international companies and private individuals in connection with the financing of your property. In addition, we support you in obtaining offers from financial institutions.

TAXES

Especially in the higher income segment are taxes a high expenditure. In recent years, the legal regulations were tightened worldwide. Nevertheless, there is still planning and optimization potential. This we want to determine from case to case.

Due to our long experience we can guarantee a comprehensive tax consulting and optimization.

Because of our international network consisting of renowned experts, it is possible to conduct a holistic reflection. We are also able to elicit, tax benefits, and thus the location advantages, to elicit the individual cantons within Switzerland.

Counseling of individuals and legal persons.

Completely independent, we show you your potential savings in Switzerland and abroad. Every case will be considered individually. In particular for legal persons Switzerland offers still interesting tax structures.

Lump sum taxation (flat rate)

Despite pressure from various quarters, the lump sum taxation is still a possibility in most Swiss cantons. Although the barriers were lifted a little this still is a tool for foreigners without employment.

Property gains tax and property transfer taxes

For any non-gratuitous change of ownership of real estate incur property gains tax and property transfer taxes. We support you in the execution of this work and are able to optimizing the costs.

Value added tax

Although the Swiss VAT is only 8%, there is planning potential particular in international transactions, which we would like to discuss with you.

Withholding tax

As is generally known the withholding tax, which accumulates primarily on dividend distributions, represents a high liability. With good planning this can be quite reduced, especially at international level. It is also to be considered, that in Switzerland, 40% of dividends are exempt from taxes if you hold at least 10% of the capital or common stock.

Inheritance and accessions tax

In Switzerland, inheritances and gifts are not taxed in a direct line. Compared with numerous foreign tax regimes, this represents a great advantage. In this aspect, we also consider the international situation.

ACCOUNTING

In line with commercial law you need to comply with numerous regulations in Switzerland as well. We can rely on a well-trained and competent team.

Maintain operational accounting

Regardless of the industry and the size of your operation, we can keep your accounts. With the implemented software we use, it is possible that you have direct access to your accounts.

Consulting with annual financial statements

The Swiss tax law allows a relatively large margin of discretion in the final definition. We assist you in the legal framework for the corresponding optimization.

AUDITS

Since we have the necessary special qualifications (entry in the Federal Audit Oversight Authority Register) we are able to carry out all statutory audit activities in Switzerland.

Limited and full audit

Here we adhere to the relevant Swiss standards. In this context, we also create consolidations.

Special assessments according to stock corporation law

This includes assessments of assets in kind, transfer of assets as well as the establishment audit or assessments in line with liquidations.

Design and testing of internal control systems (ICS)

The legislator stipulates that certain Swiss legal persons apply an ICS. The Board of Directors is responsible to implement this instrument. However, we would like to provide our knowledge in this matter.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Along with the establishment of the company it is a priority to find suitable properties, offices or production facilities and to set them up to meet your needs. Even staff with different skills must be recruited. In order to work cost-effectively and with little administrative effort, contacts with administration departments and government bodies are of advantage.

Coordination with the business development and administration departments

The economic development is an important part of the Swiss economic policy and is carried out in close partnership with industry and the cantonal administrations. Thereby foreign investments are supported. We establish the appropriate contacts to the economic development agencies and governments to coordinate the cooperation.

Operating licenses for your company and products

Switzerland has an advanced spatial planning and environmental law. Buildings for service and industrial enterprises can be built in the designated construction zones. We help you with the build and plan approval process as well as with the approval of products.

Creating business plans

The expected success of your company in Switzerland can be mapped in a business plan. We can assist you in creating such plan.

Creating of liquidation and financial plans

We also support you in the planning of investments and the financing and liquidity planning therefore.

Development of necessary infrastructure

Offices and / or production and storage areas must be adapted to your needs. We offer our know-how and networks in these areas.

Temporary management and directorships

In the initial it is rarely worth to have one's own management. We can take over this function under mandate relationship.

Personnel recruitment

A good knowledge of the local labor market is an advantage in the recruitment of staff. We are able to offer this. We even have years of experience with the acquisition of personnel from outside Switzerland.

Establishment of supplier relationships

In many cases it is advantageous to build a network of suppliers in the region. We know the economic structure in Switzerland and are able to find the right suppliers.

Integration in to the new social environment

Depending on your personal situation, the relocation to a foreign country raises many questions: which school is best, Where to shop? How do we find a home? etc. We offer a service management package for the move and the first time in Switzerland.

BANKS

Our partners are independent. We work with experienced seniors who have an excellent expertise in International Banking and understand the global context. They will take their time for you and they are mobile. Security, stability and reliability are always at the forefront.

Assets

Highest level of competence and experience ensure that your assets are in the best hands even in difficult market situations. Tax return, also for international rentals, is ensured from our partners.

Financing

Whether mortgage or Lombard credit financing - You will be actively involved from initial contact to the final payment. You get solutions at attractive rates.

Payment transactions

Whether in person, in writing or electronically - you have access to your accounts around the globe and this with the highest safety standards. All major credit cards and a debit card for all currencies and worldwide free remunerations are included as well.

INSURANCES

The insurance industry is characterized by a good mix of insurance companies. From global insurer, to locally based provider of specialized solutions all forms are represented.

The insurance companies in Switzerland provide individual solutions for the various threatening events and may rely on a wealth of experience and a stable financial center.

Supervision of insurances

The insurance industry in Switzerland is under state control. This regulatory oversight is to protect the insured against insolvency risks and abuses of insurance companies. In addition to state control and the protection standards of the insurance contract act, the insurance companies are trying to meet the interests of its insured when possible by understanding and goodwill.

Three-pillar concept

Switzerland is the envied for the so called three-pillar concept in retirement. In addition to a basic state protection, the areas of occupational and private pension offer very attractive tax optimization opportunities. The different funding procedures of each column also contribute to security.

Non-life insurance

A number of the relevant business risks can be hedged in Switzerland. These may have their origin in loss of personnel and related costs, or by entry of unwelcome events such as fire or water damage. Even risks that are caused by nature are insured in Switzerland. Failure of a critical production machine can bring your businesses in difficult situations? For this a customized solutions can also be found.