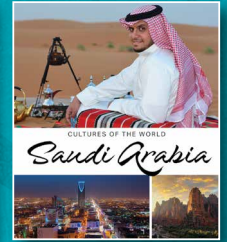
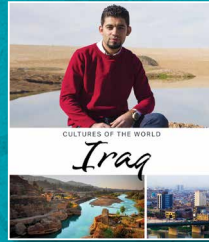
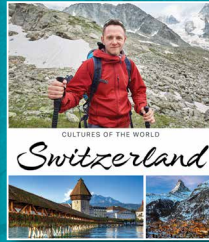
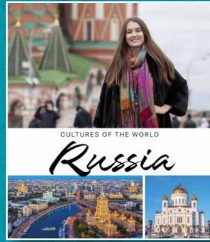
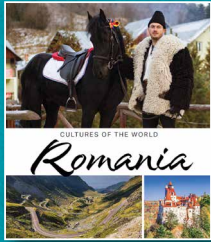
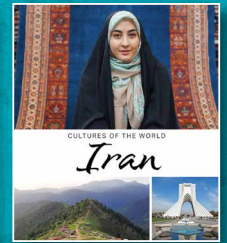
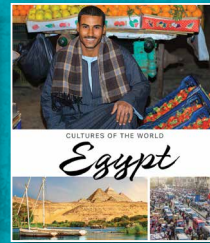
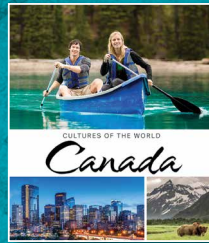
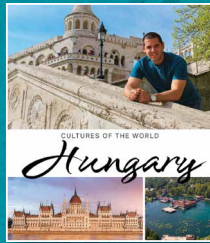


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**CHAPTER 7**

## Lifestyle

What are the Swiss like? They're unique people, made more complex by the increasing mix of cultures, traditions, languages, groups, and histories in the combination. There are also some characteristics that the Swiss might recognize as being common qualities among their compatriots. Some of these include being on time, speaking more than one language, greeting strangers, and valuing their own and each other's privacy. Of course, there's variation within the population, but many Swiss people would see themselves in several of these behaviors.

Switzerland enjoys a privileged position in the world. This is due, among other things, to its early industrialization and a well-educated population that has enabled the country to specialize in producing high-quality products and providing valuable services, such as banking and investing. The Swiss are more than just a collection of banks, managers, watchmakers, and scholar entrepreneurs, however. Switzerland has led the world in other important ways, such as in its long tradition of aid and disaster relief work.

**CITY LIFE**  
The kind of life a Swiss person lives depends on their environment. The cities and towns of Switzerland are home to many Swiss people who see themselves in several of these behaviors.

**Travel Tip**  
Switzerland is the birthplace of the Red Cross, one of the world's most important humanitarian organizations. The Red Cross flag, a red cross on a white background, is a symbol of a message of the flag of Switzerland.

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**CHAPTER 5**

## Environment

The varied environments of Canada are often seen as the nation's greatest assets. Its forests, rivers, lakes, mountains, rivers, and coastlines are treasured by Canadians. These landscapes are not only offer stunning beauty, but they hold economic worth as well. Preserving Canadian ecosystems has become a paramount importance, though balancing the environment and the economy has called for hard decisions.

Conservation is a growing sector of the Canadian economy. Some of the conservation projects have been initiated by Indigenous people with aid from the federal government. Indigenous people have come to see conservation as a way of creating their economic development as well as a way of ensuring a greater appreciation for nature among Canadians and tourists.

**PARKS AND PROTECTED AREAS**  
Canada's first national park, the magnificent and snow-capped Banff, was created in 1870 to preserve the beauty of the Rocky Mountains, or Rockies. Today, there are 37 national parks and 10 national park reserves. The national parks, which cover slightly more than 3 percent of Canada's land, are managed by the federal government. The provincial governments manage their own parks.

As of 2022, about 11 percent of Canada's total land area was protected.

**Travel Tip**  
Five of Canada's national parks are located within the Rockies.

Environment 59

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