The city of business
Networked, international, dynamic, capable

St. Gallen is the centre and motor of the dynamic economic zone where the borders of Germany, Austria and Switzerland meet. It is a region traditionally known for its precision engineering, a focus on exporting and an international outlook. Some 76,000 people work in St. Gallen, around half of them commuting in from outside the city. This underlines the city’s magnetic attraction for business. The service industry dominates today, with almost 84 percent of all jobs. The city’s highly qualified employees ensure that all its sectors produce top-quality goods and services.

St. Gallen has outstanding education facilities and performs industrial research to the highest standards. The University of St. Gallen (HSG), the various faculties of the FHS St. Gallen and Empa not only achieve top results through their practical approach but are also closely linked to business.

St. Gallen has excellent road and rail links to all national and international destinations. Further benefits include good levels of pay and rent as well as a favourable tax system, especially for companies.
The last ten years has seen the number of jobs in St.Gallen rise at a far higher rate than in Switzerland’s other large cities. The University of St.Gallen (HSG) and its affiliates have given rise to numerous companies specialising in corporate and tax consulting, IT and trusts, whose services are in demand far beyond Switzerland’s borders. Countless banks and insurers have their head offices or regional centres in St.Gallen. The city’s businesses and industries produce top products known around the world, including printing presses and grinding systems, ampoules and packaging for medicines, pharmaceuticals, opto-electronic and medical devices and items, powder coating systems, top-quality textiles and filtering units.

Companies in St.Gallen benefit from a favourable tax system compared to elsewhere in Switzerland. In recent years the canton of St.Gallen has created extra jobs by relieving much of the tax burden on companies, and now has some of the lowest corporate tax rates in the country. It is widely known that Switzerland is among the top locations internationally in terms of corporate taxes. At the same time, levels of pay and rent in the city of St.Gallen compare very favourably with other large centres.

St.Gallen’s labour market stands out through its adaptability. The quality and productivity that have made Switzerland famous the world over is the product of relaxed labour laws, a stable relationship between unions and management, and an education system that sets global standards. Professionals and students from St.Gallen regularly return from business competitions around the world with awards. The city’s proximity to the border and the bilateral contracts between Switzerland and the EU enable the recruitment of professionals living nearby in adjacent countries.

St.Gallen lies at the centre of the dynamic business triangle formed by Stuttgart, Munich and Milan, cities that can be reached by road and rail in two and a half to three and a half hours. Trains leave every half an hour to make the 50-minute trip to Zurich Airport, from where flights take off to more than 130 destinations in some 80 countries. The business airports at St.Gallen-Altenrhein and Friedrichshafen fly to several European cities every day. Compared to other urban centres, St.Gallen’s top-class public transport network has spelled an end to daily traffic jams.

Contact

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