



## Mirjam's Insights and Cool Facts on life in Switzerland



### New banknotes for Switzerland

Have you already received one? A 50-franc bill of the new series of Swiss banknotes?

After loud opposition of the public on the winning designs featuring cells and embryos in 2005 the Lucerne graphic artist and second place winner Manuela Pfrunder was chosen to work on the new design.

So with a rather un-Swiss delay of 6 years, the first bill of the new series was introduced on 12th April this year. The 20, then 10,100,200 and 1000 franc bill will be phased in at intervals between now and the end of 2019. They are slated to last for 15 years.

But no worry: Even 20 years after the old bills have been recalled, you can still exchange them. Time enough to dig up the money from under your mattresses ☺.



#### New bills show "The many facets of Switzerland"

Switzerland rarely celebrates personalities and so it comes as no surprise that the ninth banknote series does no longer show Swiss personalities. Instead each note depicts a typically Swiss characteristic, which is then illustrated graphically using a key motive. The colour scheme will remain identical to the current series, which will help to avoid confusion at the check-out. The bills are slightly smaller which means that ATMs have to be adapted for about CHF 450.- each...

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ 10-franc bill:<br/>TIME, yellow</li><li>▪ 100-franc bill:<br/>WATER, blue</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ 20-franc bill:<br/>LIGHT, red</li><li>▪ 200-franc bill:<br/>MATTER, brown</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ 50-franc bill:<br/>WIND, green,</li><li>▪ 1000-franc bill:<br/>LANGUAGE, purple</li></ul> |
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#### Life expectancy' of a bill and how to avoid counterfeits

In general, banknotes with greater values are in use for longer than those with smaller values. A 1000-franc note is more often used for storing value and can therefore be in circulation for more than ten years whereas a 10-franc note has to already be replaced after two to three years.

With the 15 incorporated features the note is said to be the most secure in the world. The production costs 40 rappens per bill. Not sure if your note is genuine? Check the website of the Swiss National Bank: [www.snb.ch](http://www.snb.ch)

#### Did you know that

- damaged notes can be exchanged at the Swiss National Bank(SNB) in Zurich as long as you can present 1-2 parts of the bill that are together larger than 50% of the original and show the same serial number?
- the 1000-franc bill is the second most valuable banknote in the world still being printed? Singapore has a bill worth about 7500 francs, though. We'll think of that fact once we see the last new bill, latest in 2019 ☺.

Mirjam runs the popular HOW THE SWISS WORK seminars at the WAC in Uster.

General information, Swiss schooling system (from kindergarten to apprenticeship/ university), school customs, do's and don'ts, Swiss manners, local customs, food and "unwritten rules" of daily life and so many more topics are covered in this fantastic and informative class.

Mirjam is a native Swiss and trained coach for English speaking people, teacher in the Swiss school system and experienced in personal development: [www.coaching-lounge.ch](http://www.coaching-lounge.ch) or pick a flyer in the WAC-clubroom. For more on the seminar and to sign up contact our club office manager: com@wac.ch

