



Swiss Life: 30 Things I Wish I'd Known

By Chantal Panozzo

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Life in Switzerland. The not-made-for-TV version. In 2006, American Chantal Panozzo moved to a spa town near Zurich ready for a glamorous life as an expatriate. She would eat chocolate. She would climb mountains. And she would order cheese in four languages. Instead, she lived a life more in tune with reality than fantasy. Contrary to popular American belief, Switzerland isn't just a setting in a storybook called Heidi. It's a real place where someone with a master's degree in communications can't make a phone call, where you can be hired in one language and fired in another, and where small talk doesn't exist—but phrases like *Aufenthaltskategorien von Drittstaatsangehörigen* do. *Swiss Life: 30 Things I Wish I'd Known* is a collection of both published (The Christian Science Monitor, National Geographic Glimpse, Chicken Soup for the Soul Books, and Brain, Child) and new essays in which Chantal discovers that no matter how hard she wills her geraniums to cascade properly, she will never be a glamorous American expatriate—or Swiss.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Chantal Panozzo's book *Swiss Life* is addictive - I read it in one sitting. Her essays about the pleasures and perils of life abroad are humorous, eye-opening, and bittersweet. As Panozzo cracks the Swiss codes of work and pleasure, the reader is immersed in tales of language and longing, of fitting in and standing out. Irresistibly funny and poignant, *Swiss Life* is a must-read!"

-Janet Skeslien Charles, author of *Moonlight in Odessa*

About the Author

Originally from Chicago and now back there again on a two-year "American Experiment" to determine if she really can live in a country other than Switzerland, Chantal Panozzo spent almost a decade of her life in the land of cheese, chocolate, and people who can pronounce her name. She has written about Switzerland for the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, CNN Travel, Fodor's, The Christian Science Monitor, and many others. In 2014, her collection of personal essays, *Swiss Life: 30 Things I Wish I'd Known* was published—eventually landing her on the front page of the highly esteemed Swiss tabloid, *Blick am Abend*, as the American who saved Switzerland's honor. She is currently trying to do the same thing for the United States as she writes the sequel, *American Life: 30 Things I Wish I'd Known*. In the meantime, she would like to remind everyone that really, it's okay to live in canton Aargau. www.chantalpanozzo.com

Users Review

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Sybil Davis:

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Alan Sarno:

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