



Welcome

A Portrait of Küsnacht



Küsnacht Town Council

From left: Claudio Durisch, Gauthier Rüegg, Susanna Schubiger-Münger (Vice President), Markus Ernst (President), Klemens Empting, Pia Guggenbühl, Adrian von Burg, Catrina Erb Pola (Head of Administration), Daniel Wipf (Deputy Head of Administration).



Welcome to Küsnacht!

Küsnacht has much to offer. Come discover its lively, multifaceted character to understand why so many people enjoy living in Küsnacht.

Have you moved here recently? Landed an interesting job? Have you resettled here for your company? This brochure offers an introductory look into the multiple pleasures of life in Küsnacht. We are delighted to share our village with you in the following pages. If you would like to learn more about Küsnacht, further information is available on www.kuesnacht.ch. We also keep you up to date on Küsnacht activities via Facebook.

Day by day, you will come to know Küsnacht in your own individual way, as you engage in conversations with the locals, authorities and the administration.

We warmly welcome you to Küsnacht!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Ernst', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Markus Ernst
Town Council President



Küsnacht at a glance

“We’re a village” claim Küsnachters with pride. Still, they cherish their close proximity to the S-Bahn trains that bring them to downtown Zurich in ten minutes, and to the airport in less than 30 minutes. Four bus lines and the Forchbahn train lines further increase mobility. As a lake community, Küsnacht also features two boat stops! Lake Zurich passenger boats go north to downtown Zurich, south to the town of Rapperswil or simply offer a pleasant ride across the lake.

Strolling through Küsnacht reveals a variety of interesting districts. Attractive buildings and stately detached houses with spacious gardens are found on both sides of the “Küsnachter Tobel” ravine that extends all the way up to the areas of Itschnach and Allmend. With a mix of urban and graciously suburban, the Goldbach and Heslibach areas are rich in well-tended greenery. In the area of “Küsnachter Berg” and in the Forch district, charming hamlets with a rural character abound. Here, agriculture dominates the landscape.

The railway station, the two churches and our community centre are all found in the village centre by the lake. Most schools, sports and shopping facilities are located here. Attractive restaurants and hotels complete the picture.







Küsnacht is a superior place to live, and a good place to work. Craft enterprises, tradesmen and service companies provide jobs enlivening the village. The stable tax base further contributes to the appeal of Küsnacht.

We attach great importance to sustainability. An “Energy City” since 2001, Küsnacht has been awarded the Energy City Gold Label since 2010. Strong focus is placed on efficient use of energy and the promotion of renewable energy. As a globally responsible community, Küsnacht also regularly achieves top positions in the Solidar Municipality Rating.

In Küsnacht, the lake is the elixir of life delighting the citizenry in every season and weather, year round. It will come as no surprise to hear neighbours exclaim: “We live in the most beautiful town in Switzerland.”

Küsnacht in numbers

Inhabitants	14'494
Municipal territory	1'235 ha, 32% farmland, 30.2% forest, 28.7% residential
Workers	6'465 employees
Farms	20 farms with 280 cows, 73 sheep, 8 pigs, 48 chickens, 7 bee colonies and 2 alpacas

2020 Statistics Department of the Canton Zurich



Discoveries, encounters

There is plenty to discover outdoors in Küsnacht. Interesting hiking trails are found along the “Küsnachter Tobel” ravine. Its special attractions include the Alexander Stone, a 5m high ice age boulder, the Wulp Castle ruins from the High Middle Ages, and the legendary Dragon’s Cave. A popular recreational area stretching along the upper edge of the municipality is found on the Forch. The Panorama Path, stretching from Rehalp tram station in Zurich to Feldbach railway station, displays sweeping vistas. Halfway up are two popular outdoor water destinations: the “Rumensee” and “Schübelweiher” ponds.

The extensive network of forests and hiking trails will make joggers’ and bikers’ hearts race. In the “Küsnachter Berg” area, they meet cows, horses, sheep, donkeys, goats and chickens. Nature lovers are also drawn into the forest, rich with flora and fauna. In the various small nature reserves, some are lucky enough to encounter rare inhabitants like the white-throated dipper or unusual species of bats.



City Map

For sports enthusiasts there are facilities for a wide range of activities including swimming, skating, curling, ice hockey, tennis, basketball, handball, football, boccia – the possibilities are endless.







Küsnacht's two lakeside resorts, the "Strandbad Küsnacht" and the cosy "Kusenbad", both entice you to dive and swim. Approximately 60% of the lakefront area is open to the public and perfect for leaving everyday life behind. Breathtakingly beautiful sunsets are part of the program.

In terms of community life, more than 100 Küsnacht associations are engaged in ensuring it is lively. August 1st celebrations, the legendary "Küsnacht Chilbi" funfair, cosy village square picnics and the seasonal Christmas market are just a few of the popular events. For such sporting events as basketball, ice hockey and soccer matches, voluntary club engagement is indispensable.

Three district associations generate social interactions in the neighbourhoods of Allmend, Goldbach and Heslibach and the Küsnacht Protestant Church and the Küsnacht/Erlenbach Roman Catholic Church also enliven the community with their activities.

Ultimately, community life is cultivated in everyday life. You will learn more about "the village" while chatting at the shopping counters, meeting in restaurants, and socializing in various clubs.



A superior place to live, a fine place to work

As an exclusive residential area with an excellent quality of life and attractive tax rates, wealthy people gravitate to Küsnacht and high property rates result. To ensure that young families and long-established Küsnacht residents find affordable accommodation, Küsnacht provides land for various non-profit building cooperatives to build on. This ensures a healthy mix of age groups and wealth brackets. Opportunities for culinary delights and socializing abound. With 22 restaurants and takeaways, the gastronomic variety is diverse – whether a local restaurant, a bratwurst stand, a pizzeria or michelin star gastronomy, hospitality is a top priority in Küsnacht. The Hotel Sonne, with its lovely self-serve lakeside lounge, also offers a fine restaurant and gracious rooms for large events, and cosy rooms for overnight stays are offered at Gasthof Ochsen.



Küsnacht's work landscape

1'249 Workplaces

96 Employees agriculture and forestry

851 Employees in industry and construction

5'518 Employees in service industries incl. trading

2020 Statistics Department of the Canton Zurich

The Küsnacht Trade Association, founded in 1855, now has over 200 members.



The young and the elderly

One encounters several school buildings in Küsnacht. Thanks to its decentralized layout, the Küsnacht School buildings are dispersed throughout the entire community. The school comprises four primary schools; Dorf, Heslibach, Goldbach and Itschnach/Limberg, all with associated Kindergartens. These schools enrich the diversity of community life in Küsnacht by means of their individuality and different neighbourhood orientations. Both the Küsnacht secondary school and the Tempus School, a public vocational preparation year in the district of Meilen, are centrally managed.

Since 2018, the formerly independent Küsnacht School is part of the political community. As of 2020, it is attended by 1'270 children and young people. During lunchtime and off-peak hours, childcare and meal services for students are available upon request. Those families interested in taking advantage of one of these services, who have moved to Küsnacht shortly before or during the current school year, will find a special online form for newcomers on the Küsnacht School website.



Küsnacht School

For children up to Kindergarten age, the community crèche in Heslibach offers day care. Private schools and childcare facilities in multiple languages complement the educational spectrum in Küsnacht.







Küsnacht has a wide range of opportunities not only for youngsters but also for elderly Küsnacht inhabitants. Thanks to clubs and volunteers, senior citizens living at home have medical, meal and chauffeur services, as well as support and entertainment for everyday life. The Küsnacht community and the non-profit cooperatives rent out retirement homes for various needs. Many elderly people spend the end of their days in the community's own old age and health centres in Wangensbach and Tägerhalde.

The local authority's Old Age and Health Department is the central contact point for all issues relating to old age. It coordinates the various services and provides information, advice and support for elderly residents and their families.



Old age and health centres



Rich in history, rich in culture

Over the years, many noteworthy personalities have settled in Küsnacht for various periods of time; German socialist leader August Bebel, architect Lux Guyer, the poet C.F. Meyer, author Thomas Mann, and entrepreneurs Klaus Johann Jacobs and Walter Haefner.

Those interested in culture will find a wide range on offer in multiple venues: concerts, readings, theatre performances, exhibitions and a culture night. These are hosted and made possible by the support of both private individuals, local associations and the municipal cultural commission. The three primary hosts are the Küsnacht Cultural Association, Artischok (an association for artists and art enthusiasts) and the municipal cultural commission.

There are also two museums in Küsnacht. The “Ortsmuseum” is Küsnacht’s local museum, found at the entrance to the Küsnacht ravine. It hosts a permanent exhibition while also mounting special exhibitions with accompanying events focussing on locally relevant themes. The C.G. Jung building and museum, located lakeside, allow visitors to see the home and workplace of the founder of Analytical Psychology, C.G. Jung.







Küsnacht history stretches a long way back

15,000 BC	Alexander Stone, ice age glacial boulder, comes to rest in Küsnacht ravine
3rd–4th century	Construction of a Roman estate on the Allmend
11th–12th century	Construction of Wulp Castle
1188	First documented mention of the Church
13th/14th century	Construction of the “Zehntentrotte” building, today the Seeclub Boathouse
13th–16th century	Construction of the Höchhus, today the seat of the municipal library
1358	Founding of the spiritual Order of Johannites in Küsnacht
1529	First school in Jürgehus (new building approx. 1780)
1778	First local stream flooding
1832	First cantonal teacher training seminar in Seehof (in Johanniterhaus from 1834)
1835	Start of passenger shipping on Lake Zurich
1878	Second village stream flood
1894	Opening of the right bank railway line
1912	Commissioning the Forchbahn
1929	Commissioning the lake waterworks
1948	Opening of the C.G. Jung Institute
1963	“Seegfrörni” freezing of Lake Zurich in February
1968	Interval timetable introduced with double track on Zurich–Küsnacht–Herrliberg railway line
2007	Kantonsschule Küsnacht new building Inauguration
2009	Partial merger of Küsnacht and Zollikon Municipal Utilities with Energie und Wasser Erlenbach AG into Werke am Zürichsee AG
2018	Merger of the political community and the school community



Politics and administration

The main tasks of the Municipal Council are to fulfill the present challenges and to judiciously plan and shape Küsnacht's future. Our goal is to ensure that Küsnacht remains an attractive residential community with an active, balanced citizenry. The goals as well as the council's plan how to reach them are written down in the Political Guidelines, which are available on the Küsnacht website.

Various daily and local newspapers, as well as the municipal newsletter, all keep you informed about political events. You can also learn a lot at the events organised by political parties and associations. We encourage you to participate in political events and actively take a role in shaping our shared political landscape. Küsnachters express their political opinions democratically, in the municipal assembly or at polls. The spectrum of political parties is broad. You will find contact details on the Küsnacht website.

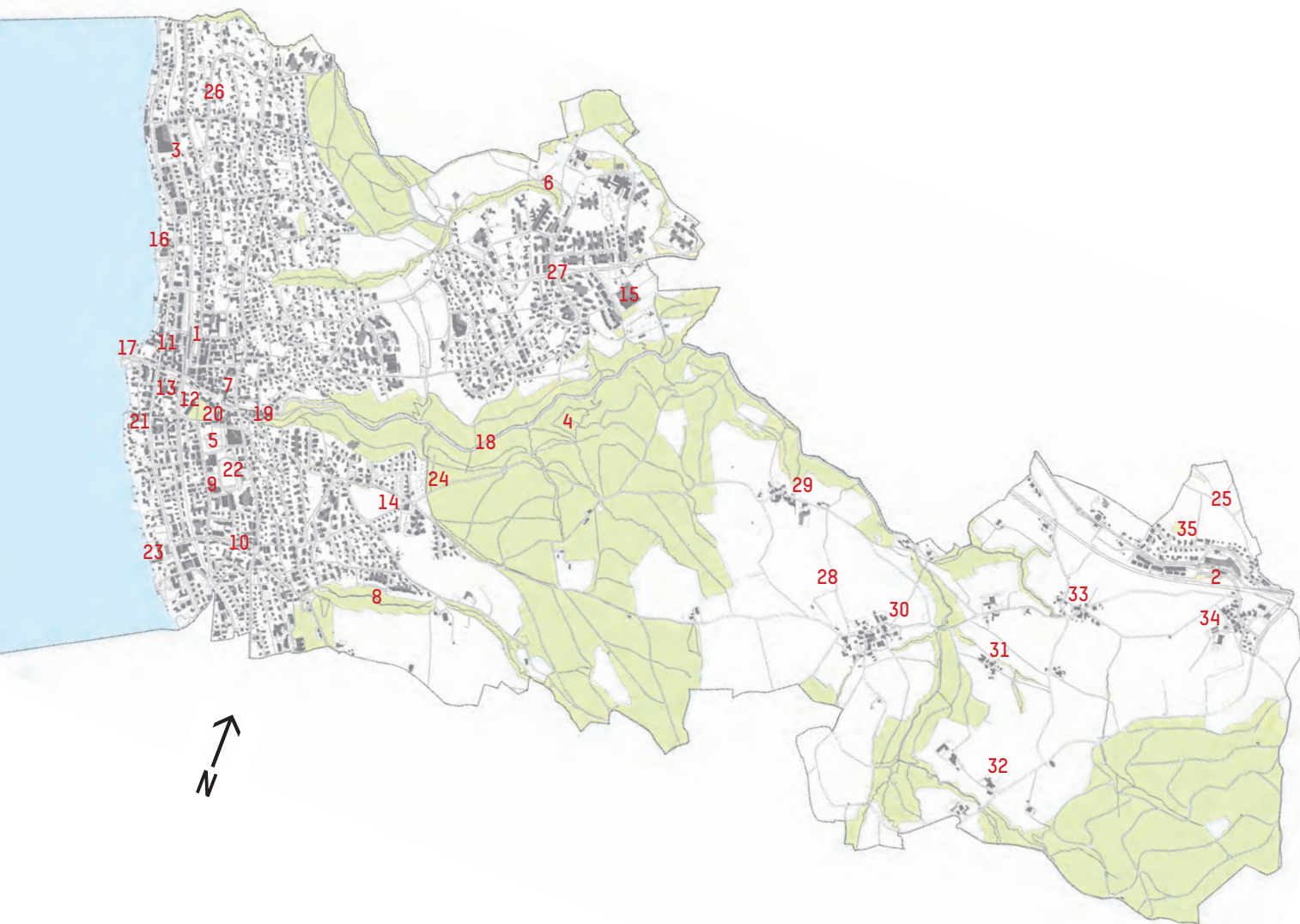
Küsnacht political events, past and present, have shown the capacity to decisively influence the entire region. Historic Ustertag in 1830, for example, saw Küsnacht instrumental in the successful populist revolution. Today, Küsnacht remains relevant in current politics, being represented in the Cantonal and National Councils.



The community centre is located in the middle of the town on the village square, which is also used as a venue for various events. Alone or together with other partners, the Küsnacht administration guarantees comprehensive citizen services of a very high standard. These include resident reception and registration, the civil registry and funeral office, financial and tax administration, the municipal office, social services, police, fire brigade, lake rescue and civil defence, structural and civil engineering, planning, leisure and sports facilities, property management, waste disposal, the culture department, library and local museum, old-age and health centres, school, and water, energy and data supply.

If you have any questions or concerns, we welcome you to visit the Küsnacht administration offices at any time. And if anything isn't running smoothly, the own Council President has an open door scheduled into his monthly office hours, where anyone and everyone is welcome to drop by.

We wish you a lovely time in Küsnacht!



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|---|---|
| 1 Kuesnacht Train Station | 18 Kuesnachter Tobel |
| 2 Forch Train Station | 19 Local museum |
| 3 Goldbach Train Station | 20 Protestant Church and Community Centre |
| 4 Wulp castle ruin | 21 "Seehof" and "Zehntentrotte" buildings |
| 5 Dorf Cemetery | 22 Heslibach sports field |
| 6 Hinderriet Cemetery | 23 Kuesnacht's sand beach |
| 7 Community Administration / Village Square | 24 Vita Parcours |
| 8 Heslibacher Tobel | 25 Forch Military memorial |
| 9 Hesli Arena and indoor swimming pool | 26 Goldbach |
| 10 Heslibach | 27 Itschnach |
| 11 Höchhus Municipal Library and galleries | 28 Kuesnachter Berg |
| 12 Kantonsschule Kuesnacht, Seminar | 29 Schmalzgrueb |
| 13 Catholic Church and Parish Centre | 30 Limberg |
| 14 Allmend | 31 Wiserholz |
| 15 KEK indoor ice rink,
Fallacher outdoor sports field | 32 Hohrüti |
| 16 Kusenbad | 33 Wangen |
| 17 Kuesnachter Horn | 34 Kaltenstein |
| | 35 Forch |

Opening hours Municipal Administration

Monday to Friday: 8am – 11.30am / 1.30pm – 4.30pm (Monday until 6pm)
 Appointments outside opening hours available by telephone request.

Town Council President's hours

1st Monday of the month, from 5–6pm



www.kuesnacht.ch

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