

BUSINESS INSIDER UK

12 reasons Luxembourg is the best country in the world



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The small landlocked nation of Luxembourg is bordered by France, Germany, and Belgium, and while it is mostly known for its tax breaks for big companies, the tiny country has many perks to offer.

The area of the whole country is 998 square miles, and as of January it counted 562,958 inhabitants.

Luxembourg has a stable political landscape and is the [ninth-least-corrupt](#) country in the world.

For 19 years until 2013, the country was led by the head of the Christian Social People's Party (CSV), Jean-Claude Juncker, who is now president of the European Commission.

The world's last grand duchy — a territory whose head of state is a grand duke or grand duchess — Luxembourg is like no other place on earth.



Flickr/Wolfgang Staudt

Luxembourg City.

1. Location location location

Located in the heart of Western Europe, Luxembourg offers easy access to every big and small city around.

With up to nine flights to London on some days, the financial hub of the world is only a one-hour flight away. Paris is not even an hour away by plane and is two hours away in TGV. Brussels is a three-hour train ride away, and it takes just two hours to fly to Berlin.

And while the plane tickets when flying from Luxembourg's only airport, the Findel, can be quite pricey, there are a few airports close-by in neighboring countries where low-cost companies fly from.



Google Maps/Skitch

2. Castles are everywhere

Though the country gained its full independence only in 1839, Luxembourg City's roots go back very a long way.

The first mentions of the city go back to the year 963. It is also around that time that the construction for the city's fortification began.

Throughout the country, vestiges of the country's medieval history are also displayed in different museums and can be seen in the [Casemates](#) underground tunnels (built for the defense of the city in the 1600s), in the numerous castles, and in the architecture of many towns throughout the grand duchy.

Most of the castles are located in the north of the country; the three biggest castles are the ones in Vianden Clervaux and Bourscheid.



Wikimedia

Vianden Castle, Luxembourg.

3. Luxembourg City is like no other

While it doesn't have the most creative name, the country's capital is a superb example of the juxtaposition between the old and the new as well as natural and man-made.

Built in the middle ages, the city center is full of small, old buildings and remnants of its medieval past. The valley in the middle of the city boasts a river surrounded by greenery.

Other parts of the city, such as the financial center, Kirchberg, are home to glass skyscrapers and big avenues. The city is also the cultural heart of the country and is host to many museums, art galleries, bars, and restaurants.



Wikimedia

Luxembourg City at night.

