

Nyon

Canton of Vaud · Switzerland

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Nyon is a lakeside town on Lake Geneva, between Geneva and Lausanne. The old town sits on a terrace above the harbour. A castle with five towers overlooks the lake.

The town was founded by the Romans. It is calm and pleasant, with views across the lake to the Alps. Many visitors come for a day from Geneva.

When to visit

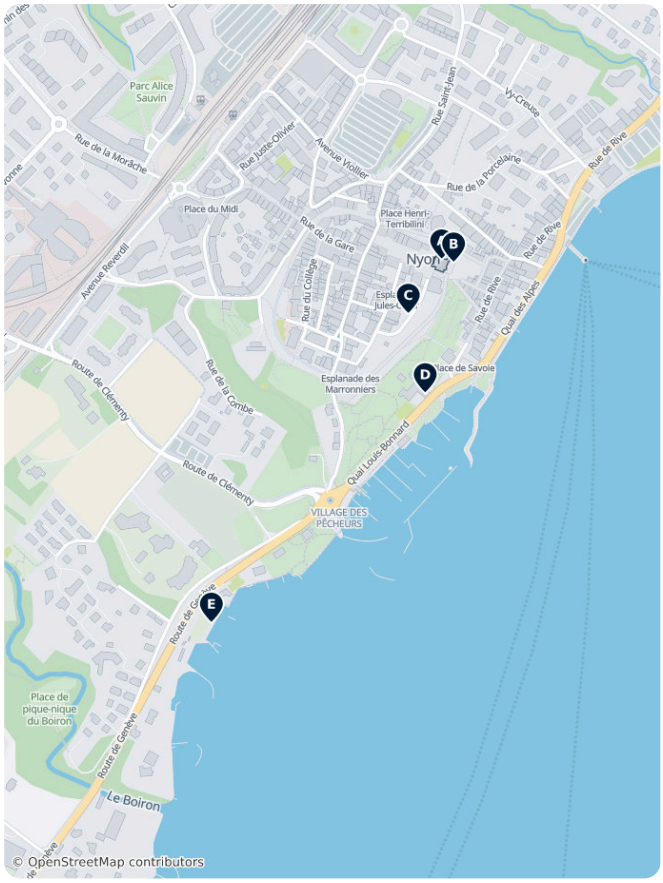
May to September is the best time for the lakefront, the beaches and boats. Summer is warm. The Paléo Festival, a large open-air music festival, takes place in July. Visions du Réel, a documentary film festival, takes place in April. Winter is mild but often grey.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for watersports	6° / 11°	0° / -6°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
February	Poor Poor for watersports	7° / 14° Feels like 4°	0° / -7°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
March	Fair Fair for cycling	11° / 18°	3° / -3°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
April	Good Good for cycling	15° / 22°	6° / 1°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
May	Good Good for sightseeing	19° / 25°	10° / 5°	18 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
June	Good Good for sightseeing	23° / 30°	14° / 9°	16 rainy days · Calm winds
July	Good Good for sightseeing	24° / 31°	16° / 11°	16 rainy days · Calm winds
August	Good Good for sightseeing	24° / 31°	16° / 12°	15 rainy days · Calm winds
September	Good Good for sightseeing	20° / 26°	13° / 7°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
October	Good Good for cycling	16° / 23°	9° / 3°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
November	Fair Fair for cycling	10° / 17°	4° / -2°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
December	Poor Poor for watersports	7° / 12°	1° / -5°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds

Climate data: NASA POWER + Copernicus ERA5-Land · 1996–2025

Top sights

- A Château de Nyon is a medieval castle above the lake. It holds a museum of local history and porcelain.
- B Esplanade du Château is a terrace by the castle with views of the lake and the Alps.
- C Musée Romain shows finds from the Roman town of Noviodunum.
- D Musée du Léman shows the history of the lake and of boats.
- E Plage des Trois Jetées is a lakeside beach for swimming in summer.



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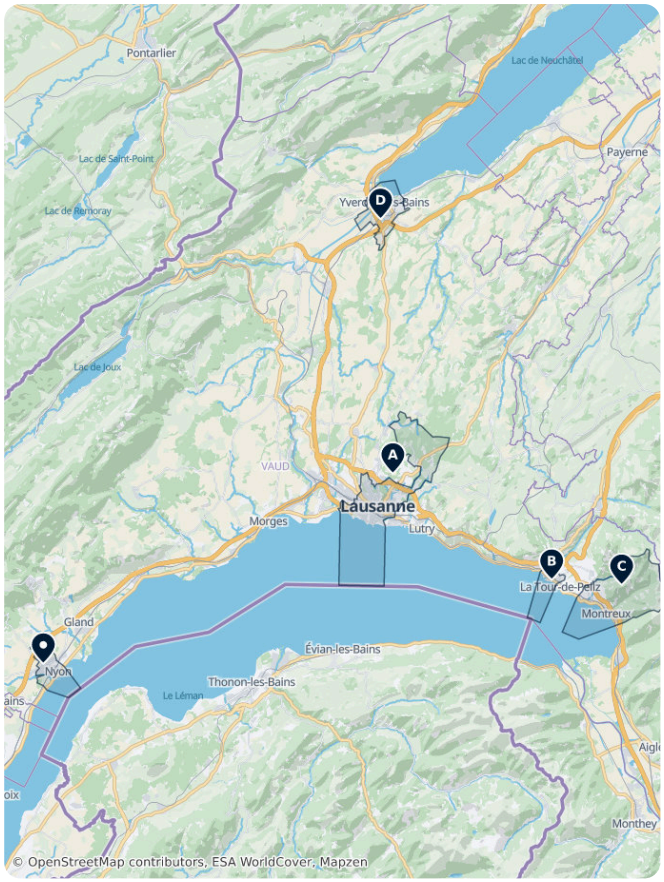
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What to experience

- Walk the old town and look at the castle.
- Swim in the lake in summer.
- Take a lake boat to Lausanne or Yvoire.
- Cycle along the lakeshore.
- Visit the weekly market, which is held on Tuesday and Friday.

Day trips

- Geneva is about 25 minutes away by train.
- A Lausanne is about 20 minutes away by train.
- B Vevey and C Montreux lie further along the lake.
- Lake boats connect Nyon with towns on both shores, including Yvoire in France.
- D Yverdon-les-Bains is a spa town on Lake Neuchâtel.



Where to explore

- Lausanne, Vevey and Montreux are the main towns along the same lake.

Getting there

- By air: Geneva Airport is about 20 minutes away by train.
- By train: Nyon is on the main line between Geneva and Lausanne. Check times on SBB.
- By boat: lake boats stop at Nyon in the warm months.

Getting around

- The old town and lakefront are easy to walk.
- The station is about 10 minutes from the old town.
- Local buses link the town with nearby villages.
- Lake boats leave from the harbour.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The old town and lakefront are compact. The old town is on a gentle hill above the lake.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

High

Lakeside paths and quiet roads are mostly flat or gently rolling.

Driving

- A car is not needed for Nyon itself.
- Parking in the old town is limited and costly. Use a car park near the lake.
- The main road along the lake can be busy at rush hour.

Food & drink

Try perch fillets from the lake and cheese fondue. Local white wines come from the La Côte area, the vineyards north of the lake. The old town has many cafés.

People speak French. English is widely understood.

What to eat & drink

BREAKFAST

Birchermüesli
A raw-oat, fruit, and yogurt breakfast invented by a Zurich doctor around 1900, now standard on breakfast buffets.

LUNCH

Rösti
A fried, shredded-potato cake, originally a Bernese farmer's breakfast, now a national side dish.

DINNER

Cheese Fondue · Fondue
Melted Gruyère and Vacherin cheese in a shared pot, eaten by dipping bread cubes on long forks.

Raclette
Cheese melted tableside or under a grill and scraped over boiled potatoes, pickles, and onions.

Zürcher Geschnetzeltes
Sliced veal and mushrooms in a creamy white-wine sauce, traditionally served with rösti.

Älplermagronen
Alpine herder's macaroni gratin with potatoes, cheese, and cream, often topped with fried onions and served with apple sauce.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Cervelat
Switzerland's best-known sausage, usually grilled and often called the country's unofficial national dish.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Swiss Chocolate · Schweizer Schokolade
Switzerland pioneered milk chocolate in the 19th century; look for small-batch chocolatiers alongside the big national brands.

Basler Läckerli
A dense, spiced honey-and-candied-fruit biscuit from Basel, traditional around Christmas.

DRINKS

Swiss Wine · Vin Suisse
Mostly consumed domestically rather than exported; Valais and Vaud, along Lake Geneva, produce the best-known Chasselas whites.

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Safety & health

- Nyon is very safe.
- Lake water is cold in spring. Swim in marked areas.
- Tap water is safe to drink.
- Watch your bags at festival time.

History

The Romans founded Noviodunum on this site in the 1st century BC. Remains of a Roman colony have been found beneath the old town.

The castle was built in the 12th century and later rebuilt. In the late 18th century, Nyon was known for fine porcelain.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Switzerland at a glance:

CURRENCY
CHF CHF

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY



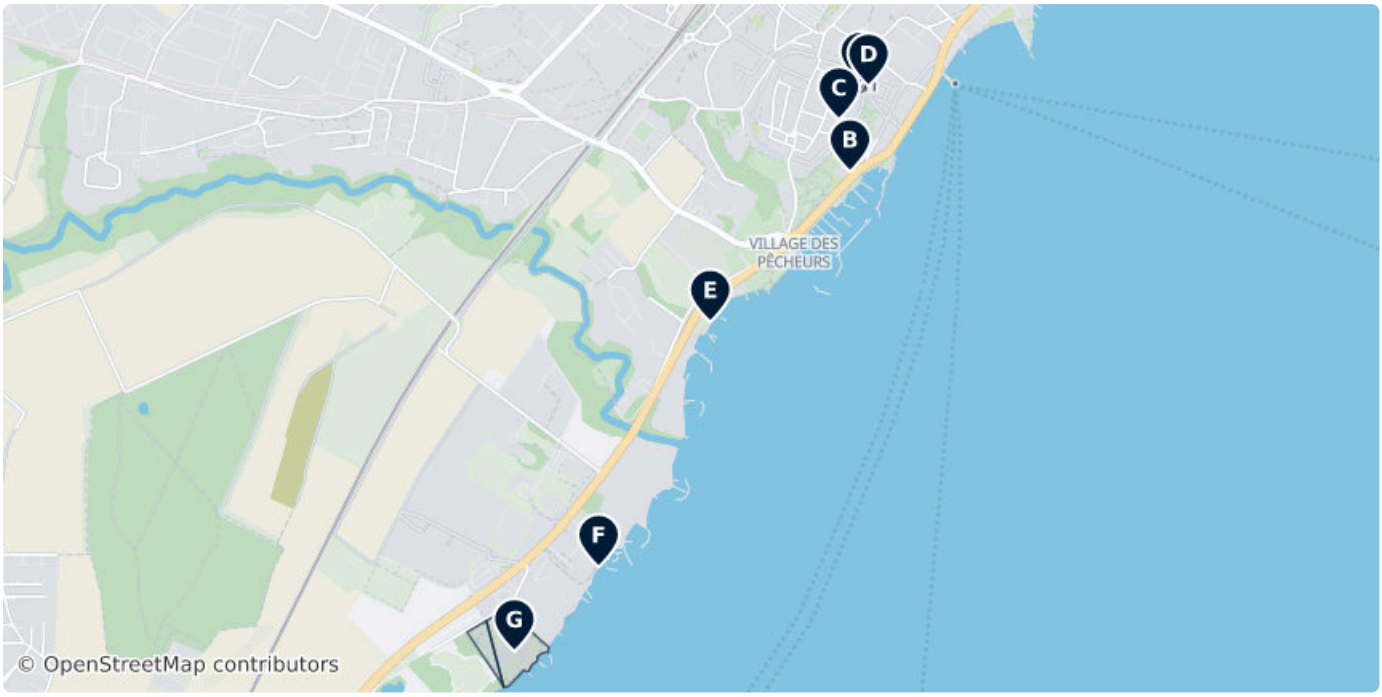
Type C / Type J
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LANGUAGES
German, French, Italian, Romansh

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Best of Nyon

Nyon's hilltop castle, Roman and lake museums, and the Lake Geneva beaches that define a visit to this old Vaud town.





A Nyon Castle

Perched in the municipality of Nyon, this historic Swiss castle is one of the town's defining landmarks.

Ruelle de la Poterne, Nyon 1260, Switzerland
(46.38206, 6.24069)

B Museum of Lake Geneva

Dedicated to Lake Geneva and its surroundings, this museum showcases boat models and live aquariums.

Quai Louis-Bonnard 8, 1260 Nyon (46.37998, 6.24032)

Apr-Oct Tu–Su	10:00–17:00
Nov-Mar Tu–Su	14:00–17:00

museeduleman.ch, +41 22 316 42 50

C Musée Romain

7 Rue Maupertuis, Nyon 1260, Switzerland
(46.38121, 6.23994)

Apr-Oct Tu–Su	10:00–17:00
Nov-Mar Tu–Su	14:00–17:00

mrn.ch, +41 22 316 42 80

D Esplanade du Château

Set right beside the castle, this scenic viewpoint overlooks the surrounding town and lake.

(46.38201, 6.24096)

E Plage des Trois Jetées

(46.37640, 6.23550)

F Plage de la Falaise

(46.37058, 6.23165)

G Piscine de Colovray

A local seasonal water park offering outdoor swimming facilities along Lake Geneva.

1260, Switzerland (46.36857, 6.22875)

May-Jun Mo–Su	09:00–20:00
Jul-Aug Mo–Su	09:00–20:30
Sep Mo–Su	10:00–19:00

nyon.ch/piscines, +41 22 361 67 71

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