

# ZERMATT INSIDE

June 2016, 14th Year, No. 3



Municipality of Zermatt, Citizens' Community of Zermatt, Zermatt Tourism, Zermatt Bergbahnen AG  
Gornergrat Railway/Matterhorn Gotthard Railway

**Innovative project in the Matter Valley**

The unique natural and cultural landscape of the Matter Valley, with Switzerland's highest mountains, imposing glaciers, extensive permafrost areas, and a very high level of biodiversity, significantly shapes the lives of the local population. Despite this unique natural and cultural landscape, the valley faces various challenges. Many communities are struggling with emigration and a decline in jobs.

Public funds are scarce, jeopardizing the functioning of many communities. At the same time, natural resources and traditional cultural landscapes are under pressure.

This means not only a valuable cultural heritage but also important tourism potential is being lost. Furthermore, the communities in the lower Matter Valley can hardly benefit from Zermatt's tourist attraction.

In order to more specifically enhance the diverse natural and cultural landscape in the Matter Valley, the municipalities of the Matter Valley have now joined forces to launch a geotourism region based on the principles of sustainability. In addition to the environment, emphasis is also placed on the culture, ethics, and economic well-being of the local population. Through the collaboration between Zermatt, as an internationally renowned tourist destination, and the surrounding municipalities, synergies can be created and new experiences can be gained regarding the successful interplay of intensive and extensive tourism. At the core of the project are concrete projects in three thematic areas. You can read about the six projects already in the implementation phase as part of the "Sustainable Geotourism Region Matter Valley" project, which is supported by the federal government as part of the Sustainable Spatial Development Model Project 2014–2018, in this issue of "Zermatt Inside" on page 8.

[www.inside.zermatt.ch](http://www.inside.zermatt.ch)

## A pioneering achievement celebrates its birthday

125 YEARS OF THE VISP–ZERMATT RAILWAY LINE

**MGB** On July 18, 1891, the Visp–Zermatt Railway (VZ) made its maiden voyage. This historic anniversary will be duly celebrated by the Matterhorn Gotthard Railway on Friday, July 22, 2016.

The program begins in the morning with invited guests and from 3 p.m. the public festival on the Matterhorn starts  
Plaza in Zermatt.



Today, the Matterhorn Gotthard Railway transports around 3 million passengers annually to Zermatt. Before 1890, approximately 12,000 visitors made the pilgrimage to Zermatt annually, either by mule or on foot – although these visits were limited exclusively to the summer months. That improved transport conditions would significantly increase the flow of visitors was already clear several years before construction, but such a railway project required great courage due to the diverse technical and economic risks. In 1886, the time had finally come: two banks from Lausanne and Basel submitted a proposal to the Swiss Federal Council.



Steam locomotive No. 2 «Monte Rosa» at Zermatt station.

A request for a railway from Visp to Zermatt was submitted. Surveying work began in the summer of 1887. Four years later, on July 18, the entire line was inaugurated. For the next 42 years, the railway ran exclusively during the summer months until 1933, when the line was open year-round.

**fusion**  
In 1999, the BVZ Zermatt-Bahn was transformed into BVZ Holding AG. Four years later, the merger of the BVZ Zermatt-Bahn and the Furka Oberalp

Bahn the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn and in 2005 the Gornergrat Bahn was taken over by today's BVZ Holding AG.

**Celebrations on July 22, 2016**  
The anniversary of the Visp–Zermatt railway line will be celebrated on Friday, July 22. The program begins in the morning with invited guests, and the public celebration begins at 3:00 PM on the Matterhorn Plaza in Zermatt. With festivities and a colorful  
The public will be entertained with a musical program. The highlight will be a performance by Alpentainer Trauffer.

### Matterhorn Plaza

**Feast and enjoy**

**MGB/E** In summer 2016, the Matterhorn Plaza will be the venue for, among other things, numerous food specials, which will dominate the summer evening program in the village center of Zermatt. Furthermore, the open-air location will once again offer space for an anniversary celebration: The Matterhorn Gotthard Railway is celebrating 125 years of the Visp–Zermatt railway line.

Page 2



### Abandoned bicycles

**BURDEN ON THE COMMUNITY**

**LE** The municipality of Zermatt is launching a campaign against abandoned bicycles, which are sometimes left abandoned in public parking lots near the train station and in the Wiesti area. These often broken or stolen bikes block the bike parking spaces and, as they rust away, spoil the village's appearance.

Page 4



### Renovation work on Hörnliweg

**LOCAL PROFESSIONALS AT WORK**

**ZI** The renovation work on the hiking trail from Schwarzsee to the Hörnlihütte is scheduled to begin in summer 2016. Since Sherpas are not permitted to be used for the repair work on the Hörnliweg, local experts and a construction company have been commissioned to carry out the work.

carries.

Page 13





# Matterhorn Plaza: The Event

## 2016 program starts in June

In front of the Grand Hotel Zermatterhof, in summer Zermatt, is the meeting point for connoisseurs and railway enthusiasts

**MGB/BK** The Matterhorn Plaza premiered as a meeting place and event venue last year, when the anniversary celebrations for "150 Years of the First Ascent of the Matterhorn" took place here. In summer 2016, the 400m² larch wood event space will host numerous food specials and once again be the stage for an anniversary celebration: The Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn is celebrating 125 years of the Visp–Zermatt railway line and invites the public to join in the celebrations on Friday afternoon, July 22, 2016.

The Matterhorn Plaza is located right in front of the Grand Hotel Zermatterhof, and what could be more natural than using this direct access to the restaurant kitchens for special food specials under the open sky?

**Sitting outside and under the canopy feast on the summer sky**

Starting June 22nd, "say- cheese! Raclette and fondue specialties" will be part of the summer evening atmosphere at the Matterhorn Plaza every Wednesday through Sunday. On Saturday, July 2nd, it's "Beer & Dine": a brasserie menu will be served, with a beer sommelier selecting the beer pairing. The warmer it is on this Saturday evening, the happier fans of the cool drink made of hops, malt, and water will be with Petrus. On three dates in July (8th, 15th, and 23rd), there will be a BBQ evening with grilled delicacies from Oklahoma Joe's belly and plenty of lounge atmosphere. On August 1st, the Swiss Confederation's birthday will be celebrated at the Matterhorn Plaza, naturally with a special festive menu. And a few days later, on Friday, August 5th, the wine village of Salgesch will be a guest at the Plaza. The winemakers present their fine wines and invite you to a tasting.



See and be seen at the Matterhorn Plaza in front of the Zermatterhof.



### 125 years of railway history

After the first ascent by the British Edward Whymper in 1865, the Matterhorn enjoyed increasing popularity. Zermatt was only accessible on foot accessible, and the need for a rail connection was great. Thus, construction of the meter-gauge Visp-Zermatt Railway began in 1888.

Three years later, on July 18, 1891, the 44km long line from Visp to Zermatt was opened. The narrow-gauge railway initially only operated from June to September, but passenger numbers significantly exceeded expectations just a few years after its launch. This growth was largely due to the opening of the Gornergrat Railway in 1898, the Simplon Tunnel (opened in 1906), and the Lötschberg Railway (opened in 1913). However, the First World War brought an abrupt end to this growth. It wasn't until 1927 that passenger numbers returned to pre-war levels.

The Visp-Zermatt Railway has always strived to offer its passengers the best possible comfort, so it replaced its steam locomotives with electric vehicles in 1929. On June 6, 1930, the long-awaited section of the line from Visp to Brig was finally opened. Maintaining rail service to Zermatt during the winter succeeded only in 1933. The effect did not last long

wait: Zermatt subsequently continuously expanded its tourist offerings.

In the decades following the Second World War, the BVZ continuously modernized its rolling stock and infrastructure. In 1972, the railway responded to the increasing number of passengers by introducing a regular Shuttle service between Täsch and Zermatt. The anniversary year of 1991 should have been a happy one for the Brig-Visp-Zermatt Railway. Instead, several rockfalls occurred that year. While no one was injured, they did damage large sections of the railway line. During the rockfall on April 18, 1991, huge boulders crashed onto the tracks near Randa, forcing traffic to be diverted to the road. Three weeks later, the rockslide collapsed again, damming the Vispa River. On August 10, 1991, regular railway operations finally resumed.

In 1991, the railway was renamed again – from then on, it was called BVZ Zermatt-Bahn. On 28 June 1999, the shareholders of the railway finally voted to transform the company into BVZ Holding AG. This was an important preliminary decision for the merger with the then Furka Oberalp Bahn to form the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn in January 2003.

### Colorful summer atmosphere in the village center of Zermatt

The food specials at the Matterhorn Plaza are the evening program. When the sun is shining, you can also have breakfast on the Plaza from 10:00 a.m., meet with colleagues for lunch, or round off a summer day in the mountains with an aperitif with friends.

As with any event location, the Matterhorn Plaza is always a bit about seeing and being seen . Sitting at the Plaza, you're at the heart of the action, right in the village center, with a view of the Matterhorn and right in front of the Grand Hotel. It's the little pleasures that enrich life . And the Matterhorn Plaza is a great place for all guests in Zermatt to relax and bask in the summer sun.

### Great music program on July 22 at the Matterhorn Plaza

On July 22nd, the anniversary of the Visp– Zermatt railway line will be celebrated. Everyone is invited to the Matterhorn Plaza starting at 3:00 PM to celebrate with the Matterhorn Gotthard Railway. A varied music program will be offered, and the Grandhotel Zermatterhof will be responsible for the culinary highlights. • Afternoon: FAB4 and Wintershome

- 7.30 pm Trauffer

Further information on the 125th anniversary celebration	
Visp–Zermatt railway line	<a href="http://www.mgbahn.ch/125">www.mgbahn.ch/125</a>
Additional information on all events at the Matterhorn Plaza	<a href="http://www.zermatterhof.ch">www.zermatterhof.ch</a>

## IMPRINT

**Publisher:** EG: Municipality of Zermatt, BG: Citizens' Community of Zermatt, ZT: Zermatt Tourism, ZB: Zermatt Bergbahnen, MGB: Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn/Gornergrat Bahn **Editorial committee:** Oliver Summermatter (Coordinator), Edith Zweifel, Roman Haller, Daniel Luggen, Barbara Truffer, Jan Bärwalde, Chantal Bittel-Käppeli, Martin Niederberger **Editorial editing:** Perrine Anderegg, Philipp Mooser, [inside@mengismedien.ch](mailto:inside@mengismedien.ch) **Layout:** Mengis Druck AG **Advertisements, subscriptions:** Mengis Medien AG, [inserate@walliserbote.ch](mailto:inserate@walliserbote.ch), [abodienst@walliserbote.ch](mailto:abodienst@walliserbote.ch) **Printing:** Mengis Druck AG, Visp

# Municipality of Zermatt – Administrative accounts 2015

## 13 FURTHER IMPROVEMENT OF FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

### Results overview

Current account (in CHF)	2015 invoice	2014 invoice
<b>Earnings before depreciation</b>		
Expense	52 237 190.19	47 825 490.16
Yield	69 205 441.43	59 410 168.03
<b>Self-financing margin</b>	<b>16 968 251.24</b>	<b>11 584 677.87</b>
<b>Result after depreciation</b>		
Self-financing margin	16 968 251.24	11 584 677.87
Ordinary depreciation	8 359 156.99	7 884 087.41
Additional depreciation	2,632,700.00	372 029.95
<b>surplus profit</b>	<b>5,976,394.25</b>	<b>3,328,560.51</b>
<b>Investment appraisal</b>		
expenditure	13 290 585.13	10 514 644.75
revenue	2 626 119.65	1,765,954.75
<b>Net investments</b>	<b>10 664 465.48</b>	<b>8,748,690.00</b>
<b>financing</b>		
Self-financing margin	16 968 251.24	11 584 677.87
Net investments	10 664 465.48	8,748,690.00
<b>Financing shortfall</b>		
<b>Financing surplus</b>	<b>6,303,785.76</b>	<b>2 835 987.87</b>

The 2015 administrative accounts closed with a profit of CHF 6.0 million and a financing surplus of CHF 6.3 million. Cash flow amounted to CHF 16.9 million. Net investments of CHF 10.7 million were realized.

### Current account

Overall, the annual result significantly exceeded expectations and forecasts in the budget. The increase in revenue is primarily due to the higher forecast for tax revenues (+CHF 4.9 million). Regarding tax revenues, the higher forecasts also impact previous years. The increase in tax revenue cannot be attributed to any one tax period alone.

The withdrawal from special financing amounted to CHF 1.0 million more than budgeted. The withdrawal from the wastewater treatment plant was CHF 0.5 million less than anticipated in the budget , and the difference from the budget for the waste management bill was CHF 1.5 million more than anticipated. In the budget, we already assumed that the new waste management regulations would be adopted and that there would be no further deficit in the waste management bill.

Water rent revenues developed positively compared to the previous year and the budget. Compared to the previous year, water rents increased by CHF 0.9 million, and compared to the budget, the increase was CHF 0.4 million.

**On the expenditure side, the budget (CHF 60.9 million) was exceeded by 3.7% (CHF 2.3 million).**

The additional expenditure compared to the budget results from additional depreciation (CHF 2.6 million). On the one hand, the school buildings to be renovated were fully depreciated (CHF 1.9 million). On the other hand, the residual values of the district heating plant had to be fully depreciated (CHF 0.3 million). Since the sports arena's installations have reached the end of their technical service life, these facilities were also fully depreciated as a precautionary measure (CHF 0.3 million).

Personnel expenses, at CHF 11.9 million, are in line with the budget (CHF 11.8 million). The increase of CHF 0.6 million compared to the previous year is primarily due to the expansion of the police force (+CHF 0.2 million) and the increase in technical staff (+CHF 0.2 million).

Material expenses rose to CHF 12.4 million, representing savings of CHF 0.9 million compared to the budget (CHF 13.3 million).

The 2015 administrative accounts include interest payable of CHF 0.7 million. The ongoing debt reduction resulted in CHF 0.1 million less interest payable on bank loans compared to the previous year.

### Expenses by type in million CHF

Expense	Invoice 2015 11.9	2014 invoice
Personnel expenses		11.3
Material expenses	12.4	11.3
Passive interest	0.7	0.8
Depreciation	11.3	8.9
Compensation to communities	0.7	0.8
Shares and contributions without earmarking	2.8	2.3
Own contributions	8.3	8.1
Deposits in special financing	0.7	0.6
Internal billing	14.5	11.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>63.2</b>	<b>56.1</b>

### Revenue by species breakdown in million CHF

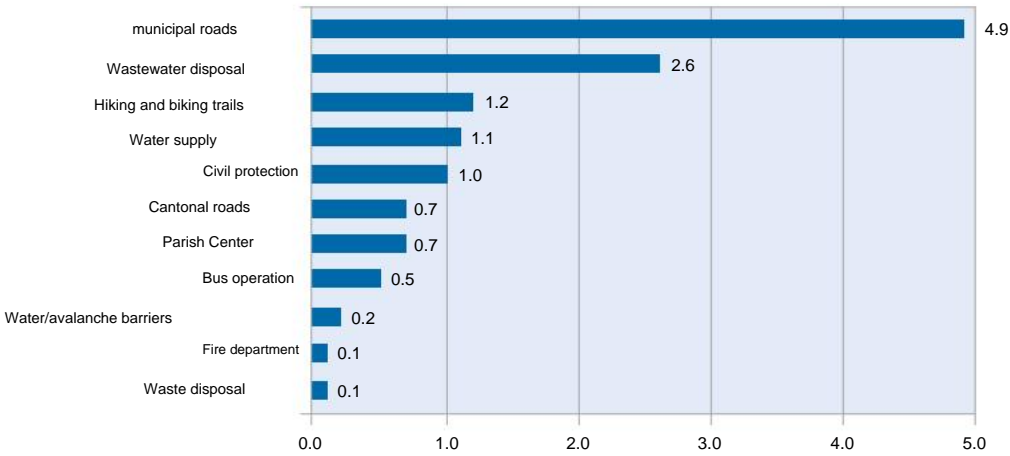
Yield	Invoice 2015 32.8	2014 invoice
Tax		27.5
Regalia and concessions	3.9	3.0
Investment income	1.5	1.4
Fees	10.4	9.6
Shares and contributions to earmarked funds	0.7	0.5
Refunds from communities	0.8	0.5
Contributions for own account	1.2	1.9
Withdrawals from special financing	3.3	3.1
Internal billing	14.5	11.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>59.4</b>

### Investment appraisal

Gross investments amounted to CHF 13.3 million, while investment contributions amounted to CHF 2.6 million. The net investment total thus amounts to CHF 10.7 million.

The highest investments were made in the municipal road network, with a total of CHF 4.9 million being spent on this. CHF 2.6 million was invested in wastewater disposal. Investments in hiking and biking trails amounted to CHF 1.2 million in 2015.

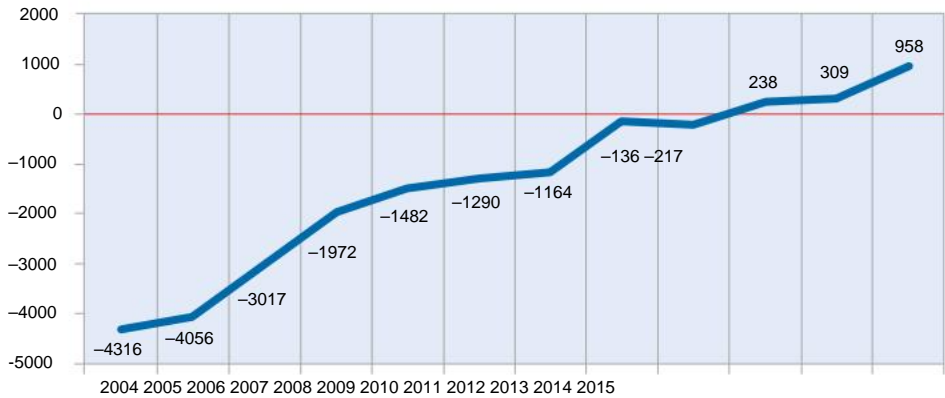
### Gross investments in million CHF



### Balance sheet

The profit surplus of CHF 6.0 million is credited to equity . Equity thus increased from CHF 68.6 million to CHF 74.6 million. Net debt per capita was reduced during 2013 and converted into net assets. In 2015, net assets per capita continued to grow and amounted to CHF 958.00 as of December 31, 2015.

### Development of net debt / net assets per capita in CHF





# Removal of bicycle corpses

## REMOVE AVOID AND BROKEN BICYCLES – CREATE MORE BICYCLE PARKING SPACES

**EC** The municipality of Zermatt is **struggling with numerous abandoned bicycles** . These block public bicycle parking spaces and **negatively impact the village's appearance** . For this reason, a project **to remove parked bicycles will start in mid-June 2016** .

They're parked at the train station, by the Gornergrat Bahn, or even in the Wiesti: dead bikes. Bikes that are rarely or never used . Usually, they're broken, stolen, or deliberately discarded bikes left to their fate in public bike parking areas . Often , these trusty old bikes even spend the winter in these parking lots, blocking valuable parking space. To create more bike parking spaces, the Zermatt Municipality Security Department (EWG), in collaboration with the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn, has launched a project to remove these abandoned bikes.

### Marking and Confiscation:

All bicycles parked in public bicycle stands at the train station, the Gornergrat Bahn, and in the Wiesti area will be marked with an orange self-adhesive tape starting mid-June 2016. If the bicycle is still in use, the owner must remove the tape to prevent it from being registered as abandoned by the EWG. Bicycles that are still marked with a tape after 30 days and are therefore unused will be confiscated by the EWG.

### Review and assignment

The confiscated bicycles are kept for 30 days. The EEC records the relevant data and



The public bicycle parking area near the train station is overcrowded most of the time.

The bike handler also checks whether the bikes have been reported stolen in the past. If the bikes can be identified, the owner is notified directly. In order for the bike to be returned to the owner, the owner must provide proof of ownership (e.g., a purchase receipt, etc.) . A fee of twenty francs will be charged for the return.

Anyone who is missing a bicycle and would like to inquire whether it is among those confiscated can contact the Traffic Department for verification: 027 966 22 06.

### Disposal and reuse

What happens after the confiscated bicycles have been stored for 30 days? Defective and unusable bicycles are disposed of by the EWG. Intact bicycles are reused and auctioned off for charity.

### Village image and lack of parking spaces

The project to remove abandoned bicycles was initiated at the request of the residents and the municipal council. The aim is not only to address the negative impact of abandoned and sometimes dilapidated bicycles on the village's landscape, but also to address the lack of parking spaces for bicycles used daily. The goal of the project is to banish broken and unusable bicycles from the village. At the same time, it will create sufficient parking space for bicycles used daily .

**Please remove this tape if the bike is still in use.**

When disposing of the tape, remember: Do not put it on the floor!

For further information: [www.gemeinde.zermatt.ch](http://www.gemeinde.zermatt.ch)

Safety Department, Traffic Division, 027 966 22 06.

Orange EEC ribbon used to mark parked bicycles.

Am Bach 9  
3920 Zermatt  
[www.biner-itc.ch](http://www.biner-itc.ch)

Phone: 027 967 88 78  
Fax 027 967 88 79  
[info@biner-itc.ch](mailto:info@biner-itc.ch)

We would be happy to  
advise you personally!

# Biner

## IT-Consulting GmbH

...since 2002 your computer/IT partner in

[info@fux-yvo.ch](mailto:info@fux-yvo.ch)  
[www.fux-yvo.ch](http://www.fux-yvo.ch)  
Fax 027 967 79 66  
Phone: 027 967 79 66  
Phone: 079 266 15 15

**FUX YVO CARPENTRY**

House Sunrise  
House Sunrise  
Wichjeweg 28  
Wichjeweg 28

Old wood  
inside/outside

# cold-star


Refrigeration and air conditioning, energy technology, heat pumps

**Kälte-Stern AG** Kantonsstrasse 75c, 3930 Visp  
Telephone 027 946 16 49, [www.kaelte-stern.ch](http://www.kaelte-stern.ch)



# School, sports and leisure facilities

## VARIOUS OFFERS

 The School, Sports, and Leisure Facilities (SSFA) offer guests and locals a variety of sports activities throughout the year. In addition to the facilities on the Obere Matten, the Chrome sports field is also available for these activities.

**Winter activities**  
At the beginning of the winter season, the artificial and natural ice rinks on the Oberen Matten are opened and invite you to ice skate, play ice hockey, and curl .

**Summer activities**  
As soon as spring, with its warm temperatures, melts the snow and ice, this also marks the start of the SSFA team's "conversion" of the Obere Matten. Tennis, beach volleyball, basketball, volleyball, a skate park, and outdoor climbing wall – the offerings are extensive and are actively used by the local community.

**Football games prohibited**  
We've noticed that young people are repeatedly playing soccer on the basketball court across from the St. Mauritius Care Home . In the past, there have been several incidents in which elderly people have been hit and injured by flying soccer balls, or windows have been broken. We've also observed young people climbing the facade of the Care Home to collect stray balls from the balconies ( danger of falling)!

We state clearly that playing football on the upper mats is not permitted!

**playing football**  
The Chrome sports field is a great place to play soccer. Just a few years ago, a new artificial turf was installed, significantly improving the sports field's appearance.




Playing football on the upper mats is prohibited.

**Information and reservation**  
If you have any further questions or would like to make a reservation, the SSFA team is available at any time at 027 967 62 64 or sportarena@zermatt.ch.

# E-bus operation – relocation of the «Spiss» bus stop

## NEW STOP IN OPERATION SINCE 17 MAY 2016

 The electric buses of the Winkelmatten line as well as The cable car line has always served the Spiss stop near the former transshipment point (Riffel Garage) on its circular route. For safety and general reasons, this stop has been relocated approximately 30 meters to the east.

**New stop**  
The new bus stop for both bus lines in Spiss is located on the east side of the "Central" parking garage (on Matterstrasse, opposite the wooden pedestrian bridge). The previous "Spiss" stop on Spissstrasse will no longer be served.

The relocation of the bus stop will not affect the bus schedule. The travel times at the individual stops will remain the same.


We thank you for your understanding and wish you Have a good trip.



The new bus stop is located on Matterstrasse, east of the Central parking garage.

# Care and relief service of the Social Medical Centre of Upper Valais

## NEW OFFER SINCE 1 JANUARY 2016

 At the delegate meeting of the Social Medical Centre of Upper Valais (SMZO) on 22 June 2015, the municipalities of Upper Valais approved the introduction of a care and relief service by the SMZO on 1 January 2016.

**Interesting service**  
On October 30, 2015, the cantons of western Switzerland celebrated the first joint Family Caregivers' Day, and on May 8, 2016, we celebrated Mother's Day. These days draw attention to important people in our lives. To ensure this doesn't just happen once a year, our new service might be of interest to you.

The care service of the Social Medical Center of Upper Valais offers the opportunity to represent relatives at home if they need a free afternoon or would like to go shopping in peace.

**Relatives can reach their limits**  
Family caregivers make a significant contribution and often devote themselves day and night to their family members . Support and assistance are often provided almost as a matter of course and on the side.

Presence, attention and constant availability do not seem to look like work on the outside.  
But it is precisely such situations, which sometimes last for years, that can be draining.  
This often leaves little time for yourself, and there's a risk that you'll reach your limits. It doesn't help anyone if you also get sick.

To prevent this, we would like to support you. You can treat yourself to a short break, while a home care worker devotes their time to caring for the elderly person in need of care in their familiar surroundings.



**information**  
Further information about this offer and our other services can be found on our website [www.smzo.ch](http://www.smzo.ch). If you have any questions, please contact us at [betreuungsdienst@smz-vs.ch](mailto:betreuungsdienst@smz-vs.ch) or at the Mattertal location, phone 027 966 46 83. We would be happy to send you our information brochure.



# Zermatt Women's and Mothers' Community



The "Mothers' and Women's Community Zermatt" is an association founded in 1917 in the Zermatt parish that organizes church and social events and has approximately 400 members. It is a member of the Catholic Women's Association of Upper Valais (KFBO) and, through this, affiliated with the Catholic Women's Association (SKF).

**program**  
The board puts together a varied program twice a year, striving to meet the needs of all women. The "Young Mothers' Circle" offers craft and fairy tale afternoons, Advent events, and a children's clothing exchange.

We are a merger of women who are in the community and work for the well-being of society. Under the name «Frau-

offered in September. We organize several events for the seniors of our community, including an exciting lottery afternoon, the anointing of the sick, and excursions.

The main program always includes creative elements, such as working with concrete, making angels, or making jewelry. Various

Courses are organized, most recently a yodeling course. In the church and parish we work with and manage

First Communion dresses. Club outings are organized, we go out to eat together or do something sporting, such as snowshoeing or curling. We help with

various events such as the folklore parade or the parish festival.

We welcome new ideas and are always open to suggestions for improvement.

**membership**  
Any interested women can join the women's and mothers' community. Women of other denominations are also welcome. The annual membership fee is CHF 20.

**contact**  
The club program is available at [www.fmg-zermatt.com](http://www.fmg-zermatt.com) and is sent to all members twice a year. The Zermatt Women's and Mothers' Community offers all women in the community the opportunity to make new contacts, foster community, laugh together, and experience exciting things. We look forward to welcoming as many as possible to the AGM on June 15, 2016.



# Modernization of the community and school libraries

## A NEW DIRECTOR OF LIBRARIES

**GI** The library is an important cultural , educational, and social institution. It offers free access to high-quality knowledge, culture, and information and is a place where people can meet or participate in events.

The services offered by the community and school libraries should become broader and more modern. In addition to books for children, young people, and adults, audiobooks , magazines, and electronic media will soon be available. The library also aims to become more involved in the cultural life of the municipality of Zermatt by establishing partnerships with other cultural stakeholders and organizing events. To this end, the school and municipal libraries are converting to an electronic lending system and are joining forces.

join the BiblioWallis network. Starting July 1, 2016, the municipal library will also be open on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Diana Schnyder becomes head of the community and school library**  
As part of the reorganization of the community and school libraries, Diana Schnyder was found to lead both libraries, providing an experienced manager . Diana Schnyder was formerly a kindergarten teacher and currently heads the community and school library in the municipality of Stalden . She will take over the management of both libraries effective July 1, 2016 , and, together with Silvia Burgener Bächler and Karin Biner-Perren, will tackle the reorganization and modernization of the Zermatt community libraries .

**Cataloging work in summer**  
In order for the new lending system to be implemented, the first step is to catalog all media in the community and school libraries.

This work will be carried out over the summer and into the fall, so that at the beginning of the next school year, first the school library and then the community library can operate with the new electronic lending system.

**Join BiblioWallis**  
The municipal and school libraries will join the BiblioWallis network. This makes it possible to use the services of all affiliated libraries . Customers receive a uniform user card and can search in a common catalog.

or e-books can be borrowed free of charge.



Diana Schnyder, head of the community and the school library.

# Zermatt Youth Fund – financial support

## APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY 31 JULY 2016

**IE** The Zermatt Youth Fund aims to support clubs, groups or events that significantly promote the interests of young people . Young people are defined as children of preschool age up to young adults of a maximum of 20 years.

**Application review**  
The Youth Fund Commission, consisting of five members, is responsible for reviewing all submitted applications and subsequently allocating financial resources.

The applications already submitted are currently being examined by the Commission for completeness and accuracy. The decision for financial support is made in April and in

November of each year. Applications for the current year can be submitted until July 31, 2016.

**Available online**  
The application form, guidelines, and regulations of the Zermatt Youth Fund are available on the Zermatt Municipality website at [www.gemeinde.zermatt.ch/jugendfonds](http://www.gemeinde.zermatt.ch/jugendfonds).

**Submission of applications**  
All applications must be submitted to the following address:  
**Bianca Ballmann**  
**Mattertal Youth Work Center**  
**Zermatt, Täsch, Randa**  
**English Quarter 8**  
**3920 Zermatt**



The Zermatt Youth Fund has, among other things, provided financial support to the Zermatt Ski Club in purchasing goal posts.



# Nepal – one year after the devastating earthquake

In 2015, the Zermatt community donated CHF 10,000.

**After the severe earthquake in**  
Last year, in April 2015, the municipal council donated ten thousand Swiss francs to the earthquake victims. Part of this was donated to the hospital in Lukla via the Nicole Niquille Foundation , and the other part to the Luhma Project.

**project (Lukla Helicopter Medical Assistance Project).**

Bruno Jelk, Daniel Brunner and Gerold Biner have founded an association for this purpose and provide a brief insight into what has been achieved on site to date and what is still planned.

### Lukla Hospital

The important hospital in Lukla was quickly rebuilt thanks to the many donations . Today, the medical infrastructure is once again fully available to the population.

### Chumchet Children's School

After months of work, the school (C-Air + Chay Ya School) in Chumchet was finally completed in May 2016. Since then, the children have been able to attend this school again.

### relief supplies

A total of six pallets of relief supplies were transported via Geneva to Kathmandu. In close cooperation with the SimrikAir crew and acquaintances in the country, various relief centers were supplied with pulses, rice, sugar, salt, hygiene items, toys, and clothing .

### Nepal experience pays off

Two cultures encountered each other with mutual respect . Thanks to the caring approach, the rather shy residents soon became trusting and greatly appreciated this initial care. Without the connections and many years of experience in Nepal, such a mission would hardly have been possible on a private basis.

### Future plan

In addition to many residential buildings, individual school buildings also need to be rebuilt. One focus project is the school building in Chumling in the Tsum Valley, located at an altitude of 2,360 meters above sea level. Classes are currently not possible there. It lacks equipment, insulation, and sanitation facilities. The school is to be rebuilt with the help of volunteer specialists from our country in cooperation with local workers .

A second project involves the mountain settlement of Lower Keraunja, which was severely devastated by the earthquake and the strong monsoon . The majority of the facilities in this village are provisional and makeshift.

### Thanks and information

The founders of the association thank everyone for their support and donations and their valued commitment.


Further information about the stand the reconstruction work and the Donation accounts can be found on the website <http://www.earth-c-air.com/>.



Lukla Hospital



Chumchet Children's School



**Our current Offers:**

### Zermatt

Building land / at Stalden

Studio / Riffelalp **sold**

Studio Riffelalp

3½-room apartment / Wiesti 3½-room apartment / Spiss 3½-room **newly renovated**

apartment / Zer Bännu

4.5-room apartment / Winkelmatten 4.5-room apartment / Spiss **Duplex attic apartment**

5½-room apartment / Winkelmatten

6.5-room apartment / Riffelalp

### Bag

Building land / zer Blattli

studio **near train station**

Studio / in the courtyard

2.5-room apartment 2x **near train station**

3.5-room apartment / Eya 3.5-room **new**

apartment / Haus Pollux 3.5-room **attic apartment**

apartment / Monte-Rosa 3.5-room **sold**


apartment / Haus Löucha


4.5-room apartment **near train station**

Single-family house/Nackji **Foreign quota**

For further, non-binding information, please call us or visit us at the Remax shop in the Viktoria Center.

Your real estate professional in the inner Nikolaital:  
Mario Fuchs 079 338 94 79


[www.remax.ch](http://www.remax.ch)



Gestaltung | Werbung | Medien

**Closer to the customer.**

Gliserallee 6 Tel. 027 530 10 50  
3902 Brig-Glis [www.simplondruck.ch](http://www.simplondruck.ch)



**Iseli-Albrecht AG**  
**Elektro und Haushalt**


**Balfrinstrasse 15 A, 3930 Visp, Tel. 027 945 13 44**

We offer the following brands  
**at absolutely top prices:**  
Bosch, Electrolux, Liebherr, Miele,  
V-Zug, Schulthess, Siemens,  
Jura, Turmix, Koenig


**Full factory warranty**

**Great offers and exhibition equipment!**


**NEW: Own express service**  
**Delivery and assembly**  
• on time  
• professional  
• reliable



**Schlaue Füchse...**  
„Kaufen bei Iseli-Albrecht AG –  
denn Qualität muss nicht teuer sein!“



All devices available for short notice




**WAGENBRENNER OLIVER**

**METALWORK - IRON MERCHANT - CONSTRUCTIONS**

Doors & windows in steel or aluminum Fire-resistant doors Folding and sliding doors

Wrought iron railings  
Repairs of all kinds

Tel. 027 967 22 25 Fax 027 927 27 41 [wagenbrenner@zermatt.net](mailto:wagenbrenner@zermatt.net)



**Imboden Paul AG**

**Electronics store Zermatt**

Electrical and telephone installations  
Building cabling  
Bauknecht Service


**Phone 027 967 17 00**

**Isa's Beauty-Corner**  
**Isabelle Gerardo**


Beautician with diploma from KFB

Hotel Perren  
Vispastrasse 10  
3920 Zermatt

Phone: 079 301 57 67  
[beautycorner-zermatt.ch](mailto:beautycorner-zermatt.ch)




[isa.beautycorner@hotmail.com](mailto:isa.beautycorner@hotmail.com)



**JULIEN**

**TAG UND NACHT**  
**TAXI BOLERO**  
**ZERMATT**  
**027 967 60 60**



ZERMATT INSIDE | 7



# Sustainable geotourism region Mattertal

## IMPLEMENTATION OF SIX PROJECTS

**IE** In 2014, Berno Stoffel, CEO of Grächen Tourism, worked with partners to develop a concept that was submitted to the federal government. Of the 149 submitted projects, 33 were supported: One of these was the "Sustainable Geotourism Region Mattertal" project . The municipalities of Grächen , Randa, St. Niklaus, Täsch, and Zermatt are collaborating in this project under the leadership of the Grächen Tourism Agency. It is funded by the Federal Office for Spatial Development .

development within the framework of the “Model Project for Sustainable Spatial Development” program.

### Aim of the project

The goal of the "Sustainable Geotourism Region Mattertal" project is to develop a regional strategy for the Mattertal Valley, to more specifically enhance the diverse natural and cultural landscape, and to promote cooperation among various stakeholders in the region and between the municipalities. In 2015, the participants conducted a potential analysis and defined three strategic thematic areas:

- **Geotourism as a regional strategy**  
Leveraging natural resources and biodiversity for economic and tourism purposes
- **Cultural landscape**  
Showcasing cultural potential
- **Alpine farming**  
Marketing the Alpbazug

### The six projects in implementation

#### Topic area 1:

Geotourism as a regional strategy

#### Project: Mattertaler themed huts

With the new brand name «High Ways Mattertal» the Mattertal mountain huts

The brand will be built up through new offers and joint marketing by Grächen Tourism and Zermatt Tourism , e.g. three-day guided hut hikes • Tour 1: Pillow Lava and Edelweiss (Randa–Kinhütte–Täschhütte–Pfulwe–Zermatt)  
July 25-27, 2016: with Lori Bigler  
4–6 August 2016: with Daniel Studer  
21–23 August 2016: with Peter Salzmann  
• Tour 2: Rolling Stones (Randa–Europahütte–Bordierhütte–Grächen)  
08.–10.08.2016: with Raphaela Bregy  
16–18 August 2016: with Peter Salzmann  
29–31 August 2016: with Peter Bittel

#### Project: Mattertal Glacier Weeks

New programs for schools and families are being developed. •  
Glacier Week for children and young people from July 17–22, 2016  
Climbing, hiking to the Bordier Hut, ice training on the glacier, crossing a gorge and climbing a 4000-meter peak: children and young people move around in the high alpine region with two mountain guides.

- Project weeks for secondary school levels I and II  
School classes produce a promotional video about a tourism product. They receive compensation, but the video may be used for marketing purposes.

#### Project: Mattertal Forum

Twice a year, experts give lectures on the region's natural and cultural resources. The exchange between scientists and the public is encouraged , and research results return to their original location.

To date, the topics “What trees tell us about natural disasters” and “When the mountain thundered into the valley – 25 years of mountain



sturz Randa» has already held a forum.

The next forum will take place in St. Niklaus in November 2016.

#### Topic area 2: Cultural landscape

**Project: Suonen experience «Magic Water»**  
For centuries, the Riedbach stream has supplied the Grächen area with fresh mountain water. A network of hiking trails surrounds the four Grächen irrigation channels: Eggeri, Chilcheri, Drieri, and Bineri. Now, the people of Grächen have created a mythical adventure world around their irrigation channels – the "Magic Water" irrigation channel experience. •  
"Magic Water"  
opening on Saturday, June 18, 2016

**Project: Village tour**  
The character and charm of Täsch will be showcased in a village tour.  
Second-year students at the HES-SO University of Applied Sciences for Tourism in Sierre are planning a village tour for Täsch in the spring semester of 2016 as part of the "Sustainable Tourism" course .

#### Topic area 3: Alpine farming

**Project: Alpine descents in the Mattertal**  
The coordination of the Alpbazug (alpine descents) in the Matter Valley creates a new autumn tourism offering for visitors and locals . A guided hike to the Alpbazug (alpine descent) or a package including a hike and hotel accommodation can be booked at any location in the valley .

- St. Niklaus, 10.09.2016: Alpine descent with Püürufäsch, musical entertainment and local market stalls
- Randa, 10.09.2016: Sheep show, sheep shearing and festival catering
- Täsch, 10.09.2016: Alpine descent with festival, musical entertainment and cheese sale
- Grächen, 10.09.2016: Alpine descent with festive food and folk entertainment
- Zermatt, 11.09.2016: Shepherd's Festival with festive food and folk entertainment
- St. Niklaus, October 1, 2016: Goat show with petting zoo and sale of goat products

# Photography offer on the Gornergrat

## INDOOR AND OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHY OFFERS COMPLETELY NEW POSSIBILITIES

**MGE** From mid-July 2016, visitors to the Gornergrat can take home a very special souvenir photo . Alone or as a

**Group, in the classic style with the Matterhorn or something completely different; for example, with a jump into the Riffelsee.**

Photography remains one of the most important vacation activities today . "As a souvenir," "as a reminder of the trip," and "to look at later when you can no longer travel" were the most common responses to a survey. With the internet and social media, photography has become even more important, with beautiful landscape photos and original snapshots spreading rapidly.

Gornergrat Experience AG will launch a new photography program on the Gornergrat in mid-July and will continue to expand this with unique shoots and opportunities . Groups can enjoy stunning views of the star of the panorama, the Matterhorn.

horn, and give their photo a special touch with exciting subjects. An indoor photography session will soon be created in the former premises of the Swiss Taste shop in the shopping mall of the 3100 Kulmhotel Gornergrat . Visitors can pose in front of a green screen and have creative photos taken of themselves and their friends with the Matterhorn. There are no limits to creativity : whether it's a dip in Lake Riffelsee, climbing the Matterhorn, or striking a unique pose on the summit of the "Horn" - nothing is impossible.  
Even guests who happen upon one of the few bad weather days on the Gornergrat have the opportunity to have a unique photo taken of themselves in front of the breathtaking 360° panorama .

**For groups, the photo staircase will be available outside from 23 June 2016**  
**available, indoor photography starts in mid-July.**



Photography in the shopping mall at the 3100 Kulmhotel Gornergrat.



# Gornergrat Zermatt Marathon

## MOVING STAND AS A SPECIAL ATTRACTION

**MGE:** On Saturday, 2 July 2016, the marathon, which has become an integral part of the racing calendar, will take place at the foot of the Matterhorns has been held for the 15th time.

Around 2,300 runners from 30 nations have already registered for this major event. Participants traveling the furthest are from Brazil, Singapore , and Australia. While the field for the half marathon is already complete , spots are still available for the other race categories .

### The company Lonza with a large presence

«Lonza makes you fit» – under this On 2 July, around 300 Employees from the company locations Visp and Basel will participate in the Gornergrat Zermatt Marathon. The project, initiated by the largest employer in Upper Valais, was initiated months ago. completed health check The participants had individual They are meticulously preparing for the big challenge with their training plans. They are generously supported by their employer and will even wear a uniform outfit on competition day.

**Mobile grandstand**  
The moving grandstand is the special attraction of the Gornergrat Zermatt Marathon – a special train operated by the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn runs parallel to the marathon from St. Niklaus to Zermatt. From the train, you can follow the runners and experience the race atmosphere up close.

Reservation required at [info@zermattmarathon.ch](mailto:info@zermattmarathon.ch) or Tel. 027 946 00 33.  
• Departure of the mobile grandstand in St.Niklaus: 8.50 a.m.  
• Arrival of the mobile grandstand in Zermatt: approx. 9.50 a.m.

### program Gornergrat Zermatt Marathon 2016

**Friday, 1 July 2016,**  
11:00–22:00 Pasta Party with musical entertainment, Zermatt, Bahnhofplatz  
6:00 p.m. Presentation of the favorites for the race on Saturday, Zermatt, Bahnhofplatz  
7.30 p.m. Monster concert with the three Guggenmusik bands, Zermatt, Bahnhofplatz  
**Saturday, July 2, 2016**  
8.30 a.m. Starting shot for the 15th Gornergrat Zermatt Marathon in St. Niklaus



10:15 a.m.	Starting signal for the 3rd half marathon in Zermatt	7:15 p.m.	Ultra Marathon award ceremony and 10- and 15-time finisher awards, Bahnhofplatz in Zermatt
from 2 p.m.	various victory ceremonies on the Riffelberg		
From 3 pm	after-pasta party at the station square in Zermatt	from 8:15 p.m.	free concert by Robert Brigante & Band, Bahnhofplatz in Zermatt
6:00 p.m.	Yodeling Mass with the yodeling club «Bachji» Lalden, Bahnhofplatz in Zermatt		

Further information at [zermattmarathon.ch](http://zermattmarathon.ch)

# A unique offer for a unique excursion mountain

## MEET THE MATTERHORN ÿ AS A UBS CUSTOMER, GO TO THE GORNERGRAT FOR 10 FRANCS!

**MGE:** Switzerland Tourism and UBS are ringing in summer 2016! UBS clients can travel to 35 of Switzerland's most beautiful mountains for just 10 francs. This includes the Gornergrat in Zermatt.

Anyone who has "always" or "absolutely " wanted to enjoy the 360° panorama with breathtaking views of 29 four-thousand-meter peaks on the Gornergrat has a unique opportunity this summer with the UBS Mountain Promotion. UBS is offering its clients excursions to 35 mountains at a special price.

As a UBS customer, you can purchase a return ticket from Zermatt to the Gornergrat for a one-time fee of CHF 10 at the Gornergrat Bahn ticket counter in Zermatt by presenting your UBS debit or credit card .

Plan your day on the adventure mountain according to your wishes and take a leisurely stroll from Rotenboden to Riffelsee to enjoy the reflection of the Matterhorn in the lake , or simply indulge in culinary delights on the mountain.

Each UBS client can bring along up to four young people up to the age of 16 – even if they are not UBS clients.

Young people do not have to be related to the customer and also pay only 10 francs. but cannot be cumulated with other discounts and reductions.

This offer is valid from 13 June to 30 October 2016. The number of excursions at the special price is not limited,

**Further information can be found at [www.gornergrat.ch](http://www.gornergrat.ch) or [www.ubs.com/bergaktion](http://www.ubs.com/bergaktion)**



Participating railways
German-speaking Switzerland
Schynige Platte (Wilderswil)
Schilthorn (Stechelberg)
Niesen (Mülenen)
Niederhorn (Beatenbucht/Beatenberg)
Bettelberg (Lenk im Simmental)
Wasserfallen (Reigoldswil)
Pilatus (Kriens/Alpnachstad)
Stanserhorn (Stans)
Klewenalp (Beckenried)
Rigi (Arth-Goldau/Vitznau/Weggis)
Fronalpstock (Stoos)
Hoch-Ybrig (Weglosen/Oberiberg)
Brunnenberg (Luchsingen)
Pizol (Bad Ragaz)
Sântis (Schwägalp)
Hoher Kasten (Brülisau)
Naraus (Flims)
Caischavedra (Disentis)
Schatzalp (Davos)
Motta Naluns (Scuol)
Muottas Muragl (Pontresina)
Diavolezza (Bernina)
Ticino
Monte Lema (Miglieglia)
Monte Comino (Centovalli)
Mornera (Monte Carasso)
Pesciüm (Airolo)
Western Switzerland and Valais
Gemmi Pass (Leukerbad)
Belalp (Blatten near Naters)
Gornergrat (Zermatt)
Sorebois (Grimentz/Zinal)
Les Ruinettes (Verbier)
Jorasse (Ovronnaz)
Berneuse (Leysin)
Rochers de Naye (Montreux)
The Pleiades (Vevey)



# New themed trail

## THE GORNER GLACIER THROUGH THE CHANGES OF TIME

**FC** the fascinating history of the imposing Gorner Glacier in the Monte Rosa massif provides perfect material for a new themed trail.

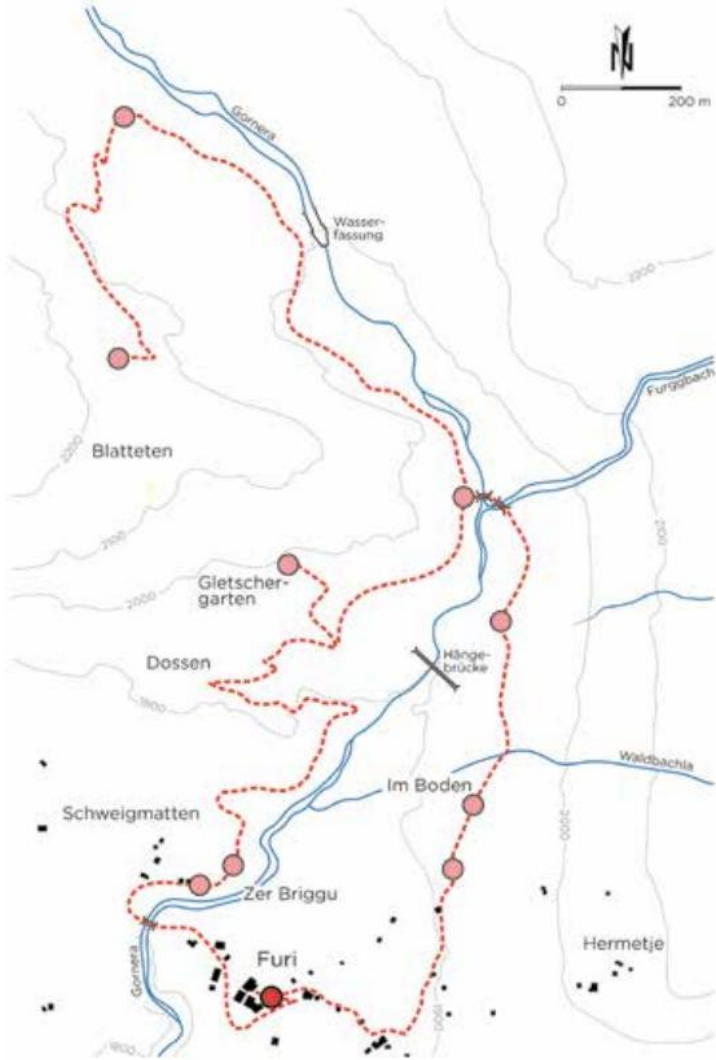
The idea for creating a glacier-themed trail originated with Klaus Julen and Othmar Perren. The meticulous research of geographer Hanspeter Holzhauser takes us back to the Little Ice Age (c. 1300–1850/60), when the Gorner Glacier was significantly larger than today, advanced into cultivated and populated land, and destroyed it. The Zermatt Bergbahnen,

with extensive experience in the creation of themed trails, will now realize this project in June and open the themed trail .

On the tour, which starts on the Furi, continues along the right side of the Gornera suspension bridge towards Blatteten, and leads back to Schweigmatten via the Glacier Garden. You will learn about the spatial range within which the Gorner Glacier moved back and forth during the post-glacial period and how it developed into an unpleasant and destructive neighbor during its final advance.



The end of the Gorner Glacier tongue, drawn from the lower slope of the Augstschummenalp on July 23, 1835. A small circle shows the hamlet of Zur Brücke, which had to give way to the glacier a few years later. Arrow shows the location of the alp in the ground. Source: JR Bühlmann, Prints and Drawings Collection of the ETH Zurich



The circular route of the theme trail «Gorner Glacier in the changing Time» with the Food bank locations.

You will also learn how quickly vegetation re-established itself in the rubble-covered new land, the glacier foreland, which was created by the drastic and sustained retreat of the Gorner Glacier over the last 150 years or so , and that there have been several such recolonization phases in the history of the Gorner Glacier .

scraped rock surfaces and rounded humps.

Hanspeter Holzhauser, author of the book "History of the Gorner Glacier: A Puzzle of Historical Documents and Fossil Wood from the Glacier Foreland ," impressively demonstrates how the glacier shaped the lives of the people of Zermatt.

As a landscape designer, the Gorner Glacier left traces that you will encounter on the tour, namely moraine deposits, smooth polished and

By dating trees that were once knocked down by the glacier during its advance, the history of the Gorner Glacier can be reconstructed over thousands of years.

# 3S construction blog online

## DIGITAL PREPARATION OF THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN THE HISTORY OF ZERMATT MOUNTAIN RAILWAYS

**FC** construction work on the world's highest tricable gondola lift is already underway at various locations. The tricable gondola construction diary has been online since mid-May and, in addition to updates from the construction site, provides detailed background information on the most comprehensive construction project in the history of Zermatt Bergbahnen AG.

### Construction diary of the 3S Bahn

On blog.matterhornparadise.ch, interested readers will find regularly updated reports from the construction site as well as general information about the construction project. Separate blog posts cover topics such as the design of the cabins by Pininfarina, the groundbreaking drive technology from Leitner ropeways, the design of the mountain and valley stations, and the material cable car on Matterhorn glacier paradise.

Selected content is enriched with video clips. In addition to a general project video, interested parties can take a 360° tour of the 3S cabin . Short clips detailing construction progress will be shown at irregular intervals throughout the summer . In addition , two construction cameras installed near the new top and bottom stations provide daily images of the construction sites.

### First highlight of the construction summer

At the end of May , the first highlight of the 2016 construction summer took place with the assembly and cable hoisting of the material cable car from Laghi Cime Bianche–Testa Grigia–Matterhorn Glacier Paradise. The tower assembly and cable hoisting were carried out using a Kamov helicopter. During the course of construction, the material cable car will transport all materials for the mountain station and tower 3, as well as the electromechanical and various other materials for the valley station and towers 1 and 2.



The 3S construction blog is available at [blog.matterhornparadise.ch](http://blog.matterhornparadise.ch).

### AIRCAM ZERMATT – Local specialists for aerial filming

The construction progress on the new 3S cable car will be A construction diary with photos and text, as well as spectacular film footage. The aerial photography was provided by the local film specialists from AIRCAM ZERMATT. AIRCAM ZERMATT was founded by four young men from Zermatt who, thanks to their many years of experience, cover all aspects of drone flying and have already completed various film projects for local partners.

[www.aircamzermatt.ch](http://www.aircamzermatt.ch)





# «The mountain world around the Gornergrat has always fascinated me»

**MG:** THE GORNERGRAT GUIDE WALTER STUDER IN AN INTERVIEW

**How did you come to work as a Gornergrat guide?**

The MGBahn/Gornergrat Bahn invited all interested retirees to an information event . Since I've always been fascinated by the mountains around the Gornergrat , I was very interested in the Gornergrat Guides. I applied, and in the summer of 2015, I worked as a guide for the first time.

**What do you do when you are not guiding on the Gornergrat?**

I regularly go hiking, traveling, and skiing in the winter . I also enjoy gardening in the summer . And every now and then, I take a trip to the Gornergrat, where I feel very comfortable.

**What is your connection to the Gornergrat?**

Through my previous job with MGBahn, I often came into contact with the Gornergrat. Even as a train conductor , I was able to inform passengers about the Gornergrat and its beauty. I still enjoy excursions into the Zermatt mountains – even in winter as a skier.

**How does the offer work?**

**What can guests learn from the Gornergrat guides?**

The guide will provide guests with a better understanding of the panorama surrounding the Gornergrat. He will share fascinating stories about the view of 28 four-thousand-meter peaks and the majestic Matterhorn! He will also explain the flora, fauna, and the impressive glacier landscape.

**What other topics do you report on?**

Interesting details about the first ascent of the Matterhorn on July 14, 1865, are provided. Information is also provided about the Kulmhotel Gornergrat and the historic Gornergrat Railway.

**In which languages are the tours offered?**

We are approximately ten to twelve guides who offer tours in German, French, Italian, Spanish, English and Japanese.

**For which guests is a tour with the Gornergrat Guide suitable?**

For all guests – young and old alike –, which is located in Zermatt, – enjoy the Gornergrat and nature.

**What experiences did you have with guests last year – when the Gornergrat guides were deployed for the first time?**

The guests were very impressed and pleased with the stories. They were also very interested in the Zermatt mountains and the first ascent of the Matterhorn.

**Which guest would you like to personally welcome on a tour?**

Former Federal Councillor Adolf Ogi.

**What is your favorite mountain activity?**

**What can you recommend?**

My favorite offer is the Gourmet Ticket. You can indulge in culinary delights at various stations, enjoy the panorama, and wander a bit in between.

But it's fun. If you don't want to hike, you can also take the train to the nearest restaurant. I also highly recommend the sunrise tours, which take place every Thursday .



Walter Studer is 74 years old, married, lives in Termen and has two adult children.

best of electronics....

.... ganz in Ihrer Nähe!

**Elektro Imboden & Söhne AG**  
Haus Bellevue • 3920 Zermatt  
T 027 966 26 26  
verkauf@imboden-elektro.ch

best of electronics!

## Fireplace renovation

made to measure!

Custom-made fireplace glazing and fireplace warm air inserts!

With our 40 years of experience, we can turn your (open) fireplace into an optimally functioning heating system!  
No renovation work on the existing building structure!  
Quick installation in just a few hours!  
In-house production – Swiss quality product!  
5-year warranty!

**Free expert advice at your location!**

Melima Markus Meier, Loohof 1, 5304 Endingen  
Tel. 056 242 16 52 [www.melima.ch/](http://www.melima.ch/) [info@melima.ch](mailto:info@melima.ch)

Custom-made fireplace warm air insert  
(glazed without corner posts)

The next issue of «Zermatt Inside» will be published on  
**August 5, 2016**

**Reserve your ad in time!**

Advertising deadline: July 15, 2016  
Phone 027 948 30 44

**ZERMATT INSIDE**  
mungs Media AG

**JULEN HEIZÖLE**  
ZERMATT  
027 967 47 47



# Happy guests come back

“HEROES IN TOURISM”: WILLINGNESS TOWARDS GUESTS STRENGTHENS THE POSITIVE IMAGE OF THE DESTINATION

**zi** The search continues for "Heroes in Tourism" (best case scenario). Anyone who sees guests on the streets of Zermatt who need assistance in some way and helps them could be awarded a prize. This "Heroes in Tourism" initiative conveys a lasting, positive image of Zermatt – Matterhorn to guests.

The Zermatt-Matterhorn destination is known for its comprehensive and warm hospitality, and the "Heroes in Tourism" repeatedly contribute to this.

"Positive experiences linger in the memory for a long time. Especially when a guest least expects it," says Viktoria Cristiano of Zermatt Tourism. She is a quality manager and works to ensure that more heroes are discovered in tourism.

In April 2016, the first heroine, Ana Luisa Simoes Dias, was honored along with Sonja Sarbach, who observed the heroic deed and reported it to Zermatt Tourism. Both received concert tickets to the Zermatt Unplugged music festival. Their stories are touching. In addition to the respective observers, a Zermatt resident and employees of Schwendimann AG, Zermatt Bergbahnen AG, Elektrobusbetrieb Zermatt, Taxi Schaller, Taxi Imboden, Hotel Sarazena, Hotel Schweizerhof, and Romantik Hotel Julen were also honored.

Here's how it works: Anyone who sees guests on the streets of Zermatt who need assistance in any way and helps them will be rewarded, along with the person who observes the situation and reports it to Zermatt Tourism.

### Shining examples

A scare with action at the Biner bakery on Bahnhofplatz. **Ana Luisa Simoes Dias** is working as a bakery clerk, just as she has for years. Suddenly, she sees a Zermatt customer fall badly on the street outside. Ana Luisa Simoes Dias immediately rushes out and helps the woman, who lies on the ground with a pained expression on her face.

She takes her to the warmth of the bakery, immediately calls the hotel where the woman is staying, and informs them of what has happened.



Ana Luisa Simoes Dias (left) assisted a fallen guest. Sonja Sarbach reported the good deed to Zermatt Tourism. Both received awards.

Since the leg injury is more serious than expected, an ambulance is called. Until the ambulance arrives, Ana Luisa Simoes Dias cares for the woman with compassion and provides her with water.

**Telmo Santos**, an employee of the waste disposal company Schwendimann AG, is on a work tour in the village. He spots an Asian couple laboriously searching for the right route on the village map. Without hesitation, he approaches them. He kindly explains the route, which leads them directly to the hotel.

Two taxi drivers from the companies Schaller and Imboden were observed at the beginning of the "Heroes in Tourism" campaign, selflessly assisting arriving guests. **Minir Ameti** (Schaller) and **Imeri Mensur** (Imboden) politely and courteously explain to arriving guests at the train station square which route they need to take on foot to reach their hotels.

**Arthur Fernandes**, a former employee of the Sarazena Hotel, was observed performing the exact same action: He, too, warmly and uncomplicatedly, showed a foreign family the way to their hotel. Zermatt resident **Annemarie Hartrodt** sees a woman on the ice rink in winter struggling to get her sledges

to tie her skates. Annemarie Hartrodt spontaneously goes up to her and asks in English if she can tie her skates. She is obviously astonished and thanks her with a smile.

**Nicola Ruii** from the Hotel Schweizerhof helps an elderly lady with an umbrella. She's already soaked. Spontaneously, Nicola Ruii selflessly and naturally offers her his umbrella.

Two Zermatt regulars have an ignominious dining experience in a Zermatt restaurant. The following day, they are taken to the restaurant by **Paul-Marc Julen** at the Romantik Hotel Julen. He apologizes for the negative experience, even though the incident did not occur at a Tradition Julen establishment. He also offers an aperitif to "compensate" the regular guests, as Paul-Marc Julen puts it. "This hotel family knows what's appropriate," reads the letter sent to Zermatt Tourism by the affected regular guests.

Winter operation at the Gant gondola station. **Petar Samoila**, an employee at Zermatt Bergbahnen AG, strikes up a friendly conversation with a family. He works at the station. And, as if it were only natural,

Petar Samoila hands out chocolate to the children. He also slows down the gondolas so the children can board comfortably and safely. He waves goodbye to the family. A small detail: The chocolate is not a promotional gift, but rather from the employee's personal collection.

He handed them over on his own initiative. We all know the frustration of not being familiar with the public transport system and then missing a bus. But first things first. At a bus stop, a passenger jumps on the bus but is unlucky because he gets the one going in the wrong direction. **Hasani Asan**, a driver from Elektrobetrieb Zermatt on duty, shows the passenger the stop opposite. Heavily laden with shopping bags, the passenger makes his way to the correct stop, which is 50 meters away. At that very moment, the bus departs from there. Hasani Asan quickly grabs his radio and asks his colleague in the other bus to stop and wait for the passenger. The passenger apparently didn't notice the bus driver's intervention. He gratefully jumps on the bus.

Thanks to all these friendly people living in the Zermatt – Matterhorn destination, the positive image of local hosts is significantly strengthened.

**Still wanted: Heroes in tourism**

If you see someone spontaneously helping a guest, please report this shining example.

If there is a photo of the situation

It's perfect if it's done right. Important: talk to the guests and the helpers.

you learn the names. And in the heartfelt

During the dialogue you can also ask whether it is possible to take a photo.

The «Heroes in Tourism» and the

The respective observers will continue to receive prizes. This is intended to promote culture and Awareness of the high-quality hospitality

friendship will continue to be cultivated.

**Registration forms and information: [zt.net.ch/heldenimtourismus](http://zt.net.ch/heldenimtourismus)**

DU

BIST EINGELADEN

ZU UNSEREM

ALL YOU CAN EAT

SWISS BBQ

JETZT MEINEN TISCH SICHERN

+41 27 966 99 66

JEDEN FREITAG & SAMSTAG IM SOMMER

18UHR

49CHF

NZ

HOTEL NATIONAL

ZERMATT



# Dry stone walls and road widenings

## HÖRNLIWEG RENOVATION: CONSTRUCTION WORK BEGINS IN EARLY SUMMER

**Local experts and a construction**  
This summer, the company is renovating the hiking trail from Schwarzsee to the Hörnlihütte. It was planned that Sherpas from Nepal would have contributed their expertise in dry stone walls. Now the experts from "Schteimüürini" are stepping in.

**Breach.**  
Actually, everything should have been different. But the officials in Bern weren't sympathetic . "I think it's a shame that we weren't allowed to bring in Sherpas from Nepal to repair the dry stone walls along the Hörnliweg," says mayor Christoph Bärger. The plan was to repair sections of the path to the Hörnlihütte with specialists from Nepal during the anniversary summer of 2015.

"Our relationship with Nepal is excellent thanks to Air Zermatt and the Zermatt rescue team ," Bärger continues. This is because Zermatt has been working for years to build a rescue station in cooperation with specialists from Nepal . This is in the mountain town of Lukla, at the starting point of Mount Everest. "For once, the Sherpa experts could have helped us. That would have been a good thing for Zermatt," Bärger regrets.

But the Federal Office for Migration and the Department for Development and Cooperation (SDC) of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs saw things differently. After a long back and forth, federal officials decided that the Nepalese Sherpas waiting to be deployed would not receive work permits.

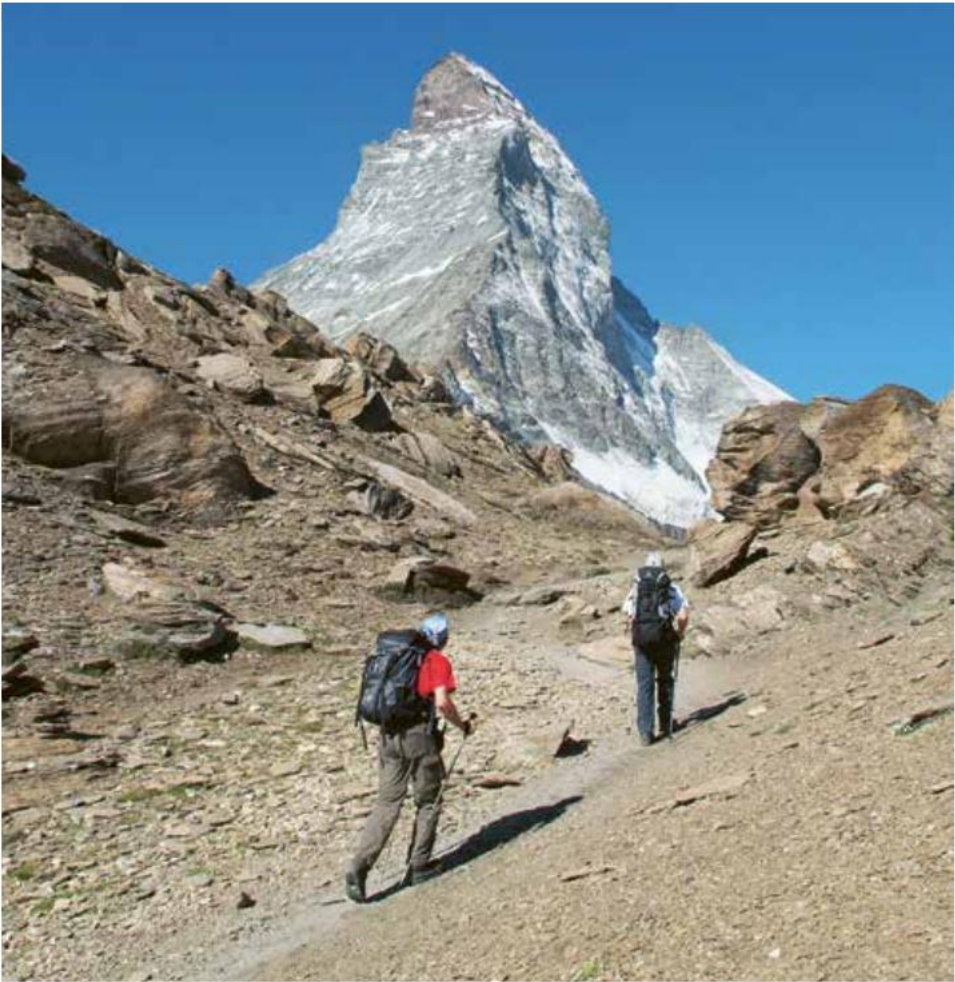
"The red tape neighed," comments Christoph Bärger.

**Path is now being renovated**  
Every winter, rockfalls, lightning, and extreme temperature fluctuations destroy parts of the Hörnli Trail. "In the spring, the damaged footholds mounted on a rock face at the Hir-li trail have to be replaced," says Ami Fux, Head of Technical Services for the municipality of Zermatt.

Slipped sections of the trail and narrow passages are now being repaired and improved for hikers and mountaineers . "This is necessary for safety, because in the summer of 2015, over 10,000 day visitors came up to the Hörnli Hut," explains hut warden Kurt Lauber. In addition, there were 3,000 alpinists and mountain guides who climbed the Matterhorn . Around 80% of Matterhorn ascents are made via the Hörnligrat, with the Hörnli Hut (3,260 m) as the starting point.

Since no Sherpas can be brought in for the work , experts from the Valais region of "Schteimüürini" in Susten VS will now carry out the work: "Last summer, I looked at the route twice to estimate the effort involved ," says Beat Locher of "Schteimüürini."

He will renovate the path together with municipal employees and the Imboden construction company . "During an inspection, the scope and approach for the renovation will be determined, and a work program will be drawn up," says Beat Locher. Regarding the nature of the path, he says: "The Hörnliweg is a heavily frequented high-alpine hiking trail. It runs



The hiking trail to the Hörnli Hut is extremely popular with hikers and is used by thousands every summer for a trip to the Hörnli Hut or to climb the Matterhorn.

along the heavily jagged and weathered Hörnligrat. It seems to be moving everywhere, certainly due in part to the thawing of the permafrost. Entire sections of the path have slipped away, along with the dry stone walls on the valley side.

**Dry stone walls: a cultural asset** "The successful, long-term realization of a construction project in high mountain permafrost is a logistical and technical challenge ," explains Locher. The renovation, reconstruction, and new construction of dry stone walls is just one of several available technical measures . "This requires the collaboration of various construction experts who work together to develop the best solution tailored to the respective requirements . This means that dry stone masons, construction specialists, rock and rockfall protection experts, and geologists must work hand in hand," he continues. This, according to the expert, results in the professional application

of suitable materials such as steel beams, wood, reinforced and anchor concrete, stones – dry and mortared – combined with the latest injection and nailing technology. Beat Locher also regrets that Sherpas and people from the Valais cannot work hand in hand : "Experts can always benefit from each other. Working with Sherpas – for sure!" They exchange knowledge, compare skills, learn a lot , and can get to know and understand another culture better .

**Understanding the hikers**  
"The construction work will certainly disrupt hikers ," says Ami Fux. "We hope for their understanding." The experts will visit in June. Also present will be Beat Locher of "Schteimüürini," Hörnlihütte warden Kurt Lauber, and Ami Fux, the municipality's representative for the construction work. The municipal council has approved a loan of CHF 100,000 for the entire renovation.



Example of a dry stone wall, expertly stacked by the specialist company Schteimüürini.

Partl AG

SCHREINEREI

Natel 079 611 17 47 | [www.partlag.ch](http://www.partlag.ch)

Lauber Jean-Luc

Kundenplattenleger

Boden- und Wandbeläge

Haus Aruna    Tel. 027 967 80 24    [info@luclauber.ch](mailto:info@luclauber.ch)

3929 Täsch    Natel: 076 339 19 67    [www.luclauber.ch](http://www.luclauber.ch)



# “The findings help enormously with marketing”

## E-FITNESS TRAININGS PROMOTE THE ONLINE PRESENCE OF TOP PERFORMERS

**The e-fitness trainings have in the Destination Zermatt–Matterhorn best A foothold. For almost a year now, courses have been offered to meet a wide range of needs . This is how the service providers in Zermatt-Matterhorn are building strong online muscle. Interest in the workshops, trainings, and coaching sessions is high.**

It's a model of success . By the beginning of June 2016, a total of 243 people had attended 23 e-fitness courses offered by Zermatt Tourism. This allows service providers and their employees to receive comprehensive training in the field of digital communication. "With e-fitness training, service providers use their time and budget in a targeted manner , thus saving themselves unnecessary effort ," says Pascal Gebert, who is responsible for the e-fitness program at Zermatt Tourism.

Two people provide information about what they have learned in the e-fitness courses and what their plans are: Albert Julen (65), holiday apartment landlord, and Jonathan Taugwalder (29), director of the Hotel Pollux (see the two boxes).

**How were you introduced to the courses attentive?**  
AJ: In the summer of 2015, I read the article about the e-fitness program here in "Zermatt Inside." It immediately became clear to me: This is an exciting project. I was also able to talk to Pascal personally .

Gebert about the courses and thus carry out an initial needs assessment for me. ren.  
JT: For me, it was the newsletter that is regularly sent out specifically for the e-Fitness program .

**Several people participate in each course. Is an exchange among the participants?**  
AJ: I benefited enormously from this exchange . It led to relaxed conversations.  
JT: Yes, the conversations with other participants are always very interesting.

**What are the tasks that you will be carrying out online for your business in the near future based on the knowledge gained from the courses? have to realize?**  
AJ: Once the apartments are renovated, we'll take photos so they can be viewed on our new website, which goes live in December . And, of course, the TOMAS booking tool and all other options need to be presented in a way that's tailored to potential guests.

JT: The personal coaching session "The Website as a Top Salesperson" with Joe Dreixler was a real eye-opener. We sat together at the computer and analyzed our website. His critiques and comments opened my eyes on many levels. I filled five A4 sheets with points. Now I'm working on working through them all and adapting the website accordingly.

**What other e-fitness training sessions will you attend?**  
AJ: I'll take the advanced course for the TOMAS booking system. And, of course , I'll check out what other courses are available.

JT: For me, the focus is clearly on courses that cover individual areas of online marketing in depth.

**What can you say in general about the courses?**  
AJ: What's on offer educates me and keeps me up to date. I'm impressed by the young, competent, and dedicated instructors who teach us. For me, this is my "senior university," so to speak. Because when we observe what has happened in the accommodation sector in recent years , we have to ask ourselves what else lies ahead. For example, the Airbnb phenomenon. The Zermatt-Matterhorn tourism region must take matters into its own hands to avoid becoming a victim of global mechanisms. That's why it's important to regularly seek the advice of experts.

JT: We attend courses where affordable experts share their knowledge with us. Often, something clicked for me during these courses, and I had an aha moment. This made me realize that it's more important to encourage bookings rather than creating more atmosphere and emotion on the website . I've already noticed a massive drop in the bounce rate during the booking process.

**e-Fitness courses to join**

The courses will continue. Registration is required. The event on July 14, 2016, is the most important event of the year. It takes place only once a year.

15.06.2016

The website as a top seller – Introduction

16.06.2016

The website as a top seller – continuing paced

21.06.2016

Search engine optimization (SEO) for vacation rentals

22.06.2016

Search engine optimization (SEO) for hotels

June 30, 2016

Google AdWords

05.07.2016

Simply create your own video

14.07.2016

e-Fitness Impulse Zermatt – Identify opportunities, leverage digitalization, save costs

**Registration is mandatory at [www.ztnet.ch/e-fitness](http://www.ztnet.ch/e-fitness)**

This is because we've made it extremely simple. Guests only need to enter their first and last name, email address, and credit card details. Nothing more. It's user-friendly and has hugely positive effects.

**The hotelier**

**Jonathan Taugwalder** (29) grew up in Zermatt at the Hotel Pollux. Even as a teenager, Jonathan Taugwalder worked in the family-owned hotel, even during semester breaks. He has completed studies that provide the know-how for hotel management: a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

economics and the Master in Finance and Accounting at the University of St. Gallen (HSG). In 2014, he took over the directorship of the hotel.

Taugwalder has taken targeted courses through Zermatt Tourism's e-Fitness program, providing him with practical knowledge for the business. The main topics were the website and optimization options for bookings.

**The holiday apartment landlord**

**Albert Julen** (65) grew up in Zermatt and lives in Brig. He rents out three apartments with 18 beds in Zermatt. He wants to set up a website for this service so that the apartments

can be booked online. The website is intended to December 2016. In preparation, Albert Julen has participated in numerous e-fitness courses offered by Zermatt Tourist

mus. He particularly appreciates the customized solutions offered by the e-fitness programs.

Albert Julen was professionally active until his Since his recent retirement, he has worked as an emergency psychologist and in business consulting and human resources development. In Zermatt, his responsibilities included training the Matterhorn Care Team.



The two e-Fitness participants Jonathan Taugwalder (left) and Albert Julen: both took part in the e-Fitness courses.

**Alexander Domig**  
eidg. dipl. Tankrevisor

- Tankrevisionen
- Tanksanierungen
- Lecksicherungsanlagen
- Neutankanlagen
- Demontagen

Pomonastrasse 22  
3930 Visp  
Tel. 027 946 17 67  
Fax 027 946 74 67  
[www.tankwall.ch](http://www.tankwall.ch)  
[info@tankwall.ch](mailto:info@tankwall.ch)

**Daria Mürset**  
KomplementärTherapeutin  
von Krankenkassen anerkannt  
ASCA- und EMR-Qualitätslabel  
[daria.muerset@me.com](mailto:daria.muerset@me.com)  
Tel. 079 679 79 35

**Kinesiologie  
Rückentherapien  
Lymphdrainagen  
Beckenbodentraining  
Ernährung  
Massagen  
Shiatsu**

[www.gesundheit-zermatt.ch](http://www.gesundheit-zermatt.ch)

COMPETENCE CENTER

**3924 St. Niklaus**  
Telephone 027 956 13 60 / 079  
213 66 68  
[www.walchmaschinen.ch](http://www.walchmaschinen.ch)

Now own repair service for all Miele appliances Your specialist throughout Upper Valais. Visit the largest Miele Competence Center in Switzerland. Don't buy any more Miele appliances without a quote from us. All Devices available  
**We only have Miele, but everything from it!**

**KENZELMANN**  
IMMOBILIEN

027 923 33 33

[www.kenzelmann.ch](http://www.kenzelmann.ch)



# The future is in our hands

Dear insiders  
Dear Insiders

What would the Zermatt-Matterhorn destination be without events? They lend the village a special atmosphere. This was evident last summer at the celebration of 150 years since the first ascent of the Matterhorn. Perhaps the most successful example is the open-air performance "The Matterhorn Story" on the Riffelberg. The anniversary proved that such events increase added value. Having something to offer encourages guests to return and stay longer.

But events require financial resources. The members of Zermatt Tourism approved the visitor's tax increase of 0.50 cents per overnight stay at their extraordinary general meeting in April. In doing so, they sent a clear signal for the future of the destination. Do the same and

Vote yes to the tourist tax increase at the general meeting!

Let's lay the foundation for a successful future together. In Randa, Täsch, and Zermatt.

Yours, Janine Imesch



# Culinary hiking through the mountains

TASTE OF ZERMATT, GOURMET HIKES AND HUT EVENINGS ARE AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES

**ZT/Z:** In summer, guests take time to experience the mountain landscape. New experiences can be enjoyed this summer can be booked: the Findler evening in the Paradies restaurant, the Gourmet Pass, which offers four courses in four mountain restaurants, and the "Taste of Zermatt" package.

What other destination can offer this : over 100 restaurants in the village, over 60 restaurants in the mountains. The destination

Zermatt – Matterhorn offers more culinary choices than any other mountain region in the Swiss Alps. The range of diverse offerings is broad. From hearty Rösti (fried potatoes) to Alpine hay soup, seafood to gourmet desserts, everything is offered in the Zermatt mountains. No fewer than five restaurants in the mountains have even been awarded Gault Millau points and are thus listed in the Swiss culinary guides Gault Millau and Michelin.



Hike towards culinary delights in a hiking paradise – that's what the new offers from ZBAG and Zermatt Tourism offer.

Image: Michael Portmann

### Findler evening

Every Friday evening from 1 July to 30 September 2016, guests can enjoy a cozy evening in the Restaurant Paradies.

his 13 Gault-Millau points the house of host Gaston Zeiter culinary delicacies on the plates. Even independently of the special offer, guests can take advantage of the extra trips between Zermatt and Sunnegga at 6 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

More information at [www.matterhornparadise.ch/findeln](http://www.matterhornparadise.ch/findeln).

### Gourmet Pass

With the Zermatt Gourmet Pass This summer, Bergbahnen AG guests can enjoy culinary delights at four of Zermatt's best mountain restaurants, complete with stunning Alpine panoramas.

Participating are the restaurant Rothorn, the Fluhalp, Chez Vrony, and the Findlerhof. Guests decide themselves whether they want to travel the individual sections comfortably by train or on foot.

Further information at [www.matterhornparadise.ch/gourmetpass](http://www.matterhornparadise.ch/gourmetpass).

### Experiences for the palate

What could be more authentic than an evening in a mountain hut? In an Alpine hut, where guests sit comfortably together. The Paradies restaurant offers culinary delights every Friday evening (see box). The Gourmet Pass of the Zermatt Bergbahnen (box) offers a culinary cross-

Also new is the "Taste of Zermatt" hike (see tour finder at [zermatt.ch](http://zermatt.ch)) and the Zermatt Tourism "Taste of Zermatt" package, which combines a hike with the Rothorn, Fluhalp, Chez Vrony, and Findlerhof restaurants.

[www.zermatt.ch/Taste-of-Zermatt](http://www.zermatt.ch/Taste-of-Zermatt)

## Cube Reaction Hybrid HPA Race 500

CHF 3'099.– (Netto)

Kein Berg zu steil, kein Ziel zu weit! Mit diesem E-Bike erreicht die Freude am Mountainbiken ein neues Level. Die vereinte Leistung von Mensch und Bosch CX Motor sorgt zusammen mit dem hochwertigen Alu Super Lite Rahmen und der brandneuen Shimano XT11-fach Schaltgruppe für ein bis dato unerreichtes Fahrvergnügen.

Cube Reaction Hybrid HPA Race 500  
CHF 3'099.– (Netto)

SLALOM SPORT Kirchstrasse 17 • 3920 Zermatt • T +41 27 966 23 66 • [www.slalom-sport.ch](http://www.slalom-sport.ch)

SLALOM SPORT ZERMATT



# Zermatt–Visp bike trail now available

THE BIKING OFFER IN THE THREE COMMUNITIES OF THE DESTINATION WILL BE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED

The new bike trail from Zermatt to Visp is 36 km long. It has an elevation gain of approximately 1,000 meters. Construction work between Zermatt and Täsch is still ongoing. The trail is set to officially open on July 17, 2016.

"The approval process was extremely complex and lengthy," says Mario Fuchs, mayor of Täsch, summarizing the preparatory work for the bike trail. In the Zermatt – Matterhorn destination, bikers will cycle through the three municipalities of Randa, Täsch, and Zermatt. "For us outside of Zermatt, for Täsch and Randa, this is very positive," says Mario Fuchs, pointing to the new offerings in Täsch, including the Buvette and the Schalissee waterski adventure in the municipality of Täsch.

The new bike trail ideally complements the destination's tourism offerings. The 2018 strategy, adopted in 2013, already established that bike options must be expanded to boost summer tourism.

### Bike paradise in the high mountains

The bike trail leads through forests, meadows, vineyards, and dry-stone walls, where, depending on the time of day, it's very sunny. Four-thousand-meter peaks tower on both sides. At times, you ride along the old cantonal road, now reserved exclusively for agricultural vehicles. And sometimes you can hear the sound of the Vispa. Only in the village of Stalden do bikers have to briefly detour onto the busy cantonal road, only to immediately rejoin the bike trail. Otherwise, the route is car-free. Occasionally, agricultural vehicles are seen. The sporting highlight is the stretch between St. Niklaus and Kalpetran.

Now the question arises: Should I take a leisurely ride down from Zermatt, or rather from Täsch, to Visp, or tackle the 1,000 meters of elevation gain from the bottom in the sweat of my brow? Both are possible, depending on your fitness level.

### Don't forget your swimming trunks

Between Täsch and Randa, the Schalissee awaits with a pleasant surprise. The waterskiing facility and swimming area provide a cool change of pace. Barbecue areas and the new buvette invite you to relax. Drinks and snacks are available there. Swimming is prohibited in the Vispa River.

### Rail transport for bikes and leisurely bikers

If you want to take it easy, you can skip a stage and take the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn.



Bike Trail Zermatt–Visp: The route goes through cool forests, along rock faces and mainly on the old cantonal road.

The bike ticket entitles you to the ride. Individual bikers do not need to register for the train ride, but it is required for groups of ten or more. The Visp–Zermatt route has stops in Stalden, Kalpetran, St. Niklaus, Herbruggen, Randa, and Täsch, all of which offer restaurants and shopping opportunities.



The signage of the new bike trail.



A change from biking: swimming or water skiing in the Schalissee between Täsch and Randa.

### Official opening of the bike trail

The Zermatt-Visp Bike Trail will be officially opened on Saturday, July 16. Prominent bike enthusiasts will inaugurate the trail during a torch relay from Visp to Zermatt.

The scheduled arrival time at the station square in Zermatt is between 3 and 4 p.m. Participants will be:

Personalities from business, politics, and sports. Bikers also ride the entire route.

### Sporting event for everyone

Anyone who would like to participate in the torchlit bike ride is welcome to join in. Everyone is cordially invited. On Saturday afternoon, July 16, 2016, an aperitif for the public will be held at Zermatt train station square.

Registration modalities and information for participation

Details of the torchlight procession will follow soon in the Zermatt Tourism event calendar.