

ZERMATT INSIDE

February 2017, 15th Year, No. 1



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

New focal point at Zermatt Unplugged

Since its first edition in 2007, the organizers of Zermatt Unplugged have been rethinking the festival in the Matterhorn village year after year, continually striving to surprise guests with imaginative innovations on and off stage .

The lineup for this year's edition has already been announced – including Nelly Furtado, Stephan Eicher, Michael Bolton, Paolo Nutini, Jess Glynne , and LP. In addition to the musical program, the culinary diversity of the festival, which takes place this year from April 4th to 8th, is also a sure bet. Just in time for the anniversary year of 2017, the offerings will be expanded with the Taste Village – a true gem and a highlight in the heart of the village.

On the grounds of the Obere Matten ice rink and tennis courts, right next to the tented stage, cozy wooden chalets will be set up, where Zermatt restaurateurs and other festival partners will offer small culinary delights with a regional focus, as well as a New Talent Stage, inviting visitors to linger and enjoy themselves. A place for encounters and enjoyment, where you can grill over an open fire or sample caviar from Valais with a glass of white wine .

On page 12 of this issue of Zermatt "Inside ," you can read about the new partner who will be presenting a wide range of culinary delights at Taste Village, who is responsible for the innovative concept of Taste Village, which stands for quality over quantity, conscious consumption over mass production, and aesthetics in dialogue with the landscape and destination instead of a modular festival. You can also read what Zermatt Unplugged Managing Director Rolf Furrer has to say about the new offering .

www.inside.zermatt.ch

Living energy cities modern energy policy

ZERMATT IS AN ENERGY CITY

EC The village of Zermatt can now energystadt. This label is the community for its exemplary and measurable energy policy. Energy cities play a role in the implementation the Federal Government's Energy Strategy 2050 a key role.

In 2014, Zermatt joined the Energy City association, demonstrating its commitment to pursuing a sustainable energy policy. By receiving the Energy City label, Zermatt has now reached an important milestone. The label is an award from the Swiss Federal Office of Energy and the Energy City association. It is presented to municipalities that have implemented or adopted selected energy policy measures. They thereby promote renewable energies and increase their energy efficiency.

Strengths and potential for action analyzed

In order to obtain the Energy City label, Zermatt underwent a comprehensive assessment. It's important to note that the Energy City label is far more than just energy and also encompasses measures in the areas of spatial planning, waste management, water and wastewater , and mobility. To receive the Energy City label, a municipality must achieve 50% of its potential across all areas; for the European Energy Award, 75% is required.

With 59 percent, Zermatt clearly met the requirements for the label.

Exemplary mobility standards – with potential

Thanks to its car-free status and excellent public transport connections , Zermatt, as expected, scores highest in the mobility category, with a score of 76%. However, there were some drawbacks for the high traffic volume in-



Ulrich König, councillor Anton Lauber, mayor Romy Biner-Hauser and Patrizia Imhof (from left) present the Energy City label.

nerorts and the expandable infrastructure for bicycle parking spaces.

Anchoring the Energy City in the structures
Zermatt achieved good results in the areas of communication and cooperation (58%) and internal organization (57%). These two areas involve communicating the Energy City themes externally and collaborating with other municipalities, private individuals, and organizations, as well as creating internal structures for addressing these issues. For example, the municipality has established a dedicated Energy City Commission, which defines and develops the strategic goals and key measures within the Energy City framework.

The eight-member commission consists of the two responsible municipal councilors, representatives of the administration and the electricity company (EWZ), as well as a representative from the public and the external Energy City consultant.

Energy from local resources and waste products

In the area of supply and disposal, Zermatt achieved a good result of 55%. The municipality has an innovative waste management concept, which won the Watt d'Or award in 2012. Since 2014, organic waste has been recycled in the biogas plant, generating electricity and heat. Overall, Zermatt supplies approximately 60% of its electricity from its own power plants. Considerable further potential exists in the utilization of waste heat from the wastewater treatment plant's wastewater. A feasibility study for a wastewater- heating network in the Spiss district is currently being prepared.

Rainwater management is also to be further improved: Zermatt is considering the introduction of a rainwater fee based on the sealed area and is working on further expanding the separation system for rainwater drainage.

Continued on page 2

Prato Borni

NEW TASTE EXPERIENCES

BC A first-class gastronomic experience : At the Alpine Gourmet Prato Borni, the diversity of regional offerings is highlighted. Chef Ralph Busch sets an ambitious precedent, creating dishes using products from the Valais region. Traditional dishes are presented in a completely new way. This creates culinary experiences that tickle the palate .



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New guest attraction

AN EXPERIENCE CENTER

IO in the new InfoCube on Trockener Steg, visitors can expect a wealth of exciting, interactive, and vivid information about the history of the development of the Klein Matterhorn and the major project of the new 3S cable car. Admission is free year-round , making the InfoCube an ideal day trip destination.



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Zermatt Unplugged

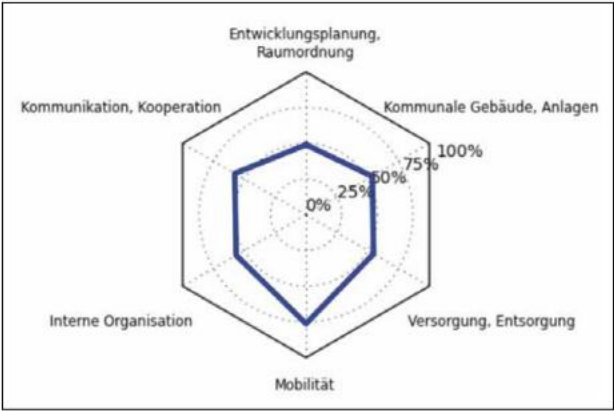
NEW FEATURES FOR THE ANNIVERSARY EDITION

ZI Zermatt Unplugged makes the subtle difference. The organizers want to focus on further developing the quality of the festival for its 10th anniversary .

As a highlight , a new "Taste Village " will be launched on the site with cozy chalets, taste stands, and a new stage.



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The spider diagram shows what proportion (in %) of their the municipality of Zermatt is exploiting its potential for energy policy action in various areas.

Away from fossil fuels in public buildings

The municipal buildings and facilities sector performed well, scoring 54%. Efficient water consumption and the purchase of 100% green electricity from hydropower are positive aspects. However, the share of renewable energy in the heat supply of municipal buildings is still very low: 67% of the buildings are heated with heating oil and approximately 15% with inefficient electric heaters. In the future, Zermatt intends to strive for sustainable building standards when renovating or constructing new public buildings and promote the replacement of oil and electric heating systems. The conversion of street lighting to efficient LED technology is an ongoing project that is intended to further reduce the municipality's electricity consumption in the coming years.

Energy requirements in the construction project

The greatest potential for action exists in the area of development planning and spatial planning (49%). This area includes planning (concepts, strategies) in the areas of climate, energy and waste, landowner obligations (e.g., through building and zoning regulations), and building permits and inspections. The latter

is of particular concern to the Canton of Valais. For a positive assessment of the Energy City label, the municipality must conduct a thorough building permit process. Starting in January 2017, the municipality will specifically review each building application for the required energy certificate and have its calculations reviewed by an external expert. Building controls will also be tightened to ensure compliance with energy requirements.

«Incentive and commitment»

Further measures are already planned: a specifically developed action plan defines which measures are to be implemented in Zermatt over the next four years to further improve these areas. The focus in Zermatt will be on, among other things, replacing oil and electric heating with renewable heat sources, expanding local bus services, and reducing traffic volumes within the town.

The action plan was a prerequisite for receiving the Energy City label, which Zermatt will hold for the next four years. The implementation of the measures is reviewed annually by the Energy City consultant. If Zermatt stays on track with its energy policy and continues to implement exemplary measures, the municipality can apply for renewal of the label after four years. "For us, the Energy City label is both an incentive and an obligation," says municipal councilor Anton Lauber, who oversees energy in Zermatt.

Energy City label ceremoniously presented

During the New Year's reception on January 20, 2017, the municipality of Zermatt was ceremoniously presented with the Energy City label by Ulrich König, ambassador of the Energy City association and former director of the Swiss Association of Municipalities. Following municipalities such as Visp, Brig, Saas-Fee, and Naters, Zermatt is thus the ninth municipality in Upper Valais to be awarded the label. At the handover ceremony, Mr. König praised the community's willingness to play a pioneering role in energy policy.

Zermatt was supported on its journey to becoming an Energy City by Energy City consultant Patrizia Imhof. She emphasized the advantages of an independent energy supply, which allows the municipality to reduce its dependence on foreign energy while simultaneously generating local added value : "Valais is known as a sunny spot and a watery haven; it's important to utilize these resources and transform them into locational advantages."

Use the advisory services and live Energy City

Municipalities certified with the "Energy City" label serve as ambassadors and role models. They demonstrate the success of an energy policy based on renewable energies and energy efficiency. However, "Energy City" is not an administrative label; it goes beyond that. Being an Energy City doesn't just mean that municipal buildings are renovated in an exemplary manner or that energy production facilities are built; the municipality also wants to promote this idea externally: together with the population and the economy, more can be achieved. SMEs can already access energy efficiency consulting from external specialist partners through EWZ. Together with the other Upper Valais Energy Cities, an energy consulting center is also being established. Starting in spring 2017, this center will provide independent and neutral advice to private individuals and companies on topics such as heating replacement, subsidies , building renovations, solar energy use, etc. The municipality will provide early notice of this service.

About the Energy City label

Energy City is a certification program developed in Switzerland. It recognizes municipalities that have introduced quality management for the implementation of their energy and environmental policies. The program is credible evidence that the energy strategy of the federal government is realistic.



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Construction periods spring and autumn 2017

GENERAL PROVISIONS

EEC The municipal council sets the construction times for the current year in January . Out of consideration for Zermatt's roads and bridges, special transports the maximum permissible total weight of 26 tonnes (vehicle and load) do not exceed.

In accordance with municipal regulations, the use of motor vehicles (trucks, single-axle tractors , and motorized carts), construction machinery, and drilling , blasting, and trenching operations are permitted only during specific periods (construction periods). Helicopter flights are subject to the provisions of federal law and the agreement of April 13, 2004, between the municipality and Air Zermatt.

Permitted construction periods spring 2017

Approved period

Monday, 1 May 2017 to Wednesday, 31 May 2017 evening (early construction site installation on Friday, 28 April 2017 – special transports in this context require approval)

Permitted construction periods autumn 2017

Approved period

Monday, October 2, 2017, to Friday, October 27, 2017, evening (early construction site installation on Friday, September 29 , 2017 – special transports in this context require approval)

Uniform operating times

The following standard operating hours apply to motor vehicles, construction machinery, and drilling, blasting, and excavation work: 7:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.–6:30 p.m. (Mon.–Sat.)

Data for approved early and/or extended Geothermal drilling

Approved period spring

Wednesday, April 19 to Friday, April 28, 2017 evening
Thursday, June 1 to Wednesday, June 14, 2017 evening

Approved period autumn

Monday, 18 September to Friday, 29 September 2017 evening
Monday, 30 October to Friday, 10 November 2017 evening

Closing days 2017

Bridge access: Friday, May 26, 2017
Whit Monday: Monday, June 5, 2017

Restricted periods for journeys with combustion engines

From 1 July to 31 August 2017, no permits will be issued for special transports with vehicles with combustion engines in and through Zermatt.

As of December 1, 2017, no permits will be issued for special transport for construction purposes.

restrictions

1. Motor vehicle traffic/construction machinery

On Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, no transport may be carried out using vehicles with combustion engines .

No excavated material may be removed on Saturdays.

2. Crane removal/November

The removal of cranes by helicopter in the month of November is permitted on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays of the 3rd and 4th weeks of each month upon written request .

General provisions

1. Application

Requests for special driving permits must be submitted in writing to the Safety Department no later than 24 hours before the start of the journey . Requests submitted later will not be processed until the following day.

2. Weight limit

All trucks used require a permit . Excavation material transports and special transports must not exceed the maximum permissible total weight of 26 tons . Three-axle vehicles are permitted up to this weight limit (total weight).

3. Premature site installation

Special transports carried out with trucks and other vehicles with combustion engines as part of the early construction site installation require approval.

4. Site installation plan

A site installation plan must be submitted to the EEC Construction Department.

5. Blocked days

On these days and on public Sundays and holidays, motor vehicle traffic, the use of construction machinery and the carrying out of drilling, blasting and excavation work are generally prohibited.

6. Speed

The maximum permitted speed in urban areas is 20 km/h for all vehicles.

7. Truck transport goods

Trucks may only transport excavated and demolition material. Where space permits (except on public land), trucks should deliver building materials, construction elements, and components to the construction site from which the excavated material is being transported during the excavation period.

8. Transport tracked vehicles

Tracked vehicles, except those with rubber tracks, may only be transported on low-loading vehicles . The tracks must be cleaned beforehand. A written request must be submitted to the municipal safety department in advance.

9. Street cleaning

To prevent contamination of municipal roads and paths, the construction site access road must be paved with asphalt or concrete. This measure must be implemented to a width appropriate for vehicles and along the entire length from the road to the construction site (max. 50 meters). Appropriate measures must be taken to ensure that no dirt gets onto the road when leaving the construction site. Companies whose construction site exits cause excessive pollution of public roads will be billed for the resulting special expenses based on the client's external estimates . Violations of the regulations will be subject to additional fines. Otherwise, the provisions of the traffic regulations apply. The municipal council may require additional measures in special cases.

10. Penal provisions

Violations of the above provisions will be punished with a fine of between CHF 50 and CHF 5,000, unless the penal provisions of federal or cantonal laws apply.

Information sheet for construction sites

For the use of public land, the EEC must submit a notice of use at least 10 working days before the start of construction.

A site installation plan must be submitted, which usually contains the following components, if applicable for each implementation stage:

Requirements for construction

- Site plan showing the locations of Material and personnel barracks as well as material emerge from storage
- Location of any crane systems, including the swivel ranges
- Location of construction site toilet

Requirements for drainage and ditch applications

- Construction site drainage according to SIA 431
- Connection and location, time, to the public sewerage or drinking water supply
- Application for excavation in public areas (supply and disposal lines of any kind according to the form "Application for Excavation Permit in Public Road Areas". Note: The infiltration areas must be kept free of soil compaction.)
- In the case of street lighting interruptions and work on them: Proof of sufficient Lighting of public areas

Traffic management requirements and construction site traffic

- Traffic management on public roads and paths adjacent to the construction site, while the construction period
- Traffic management on construction sites (supply and disposal) and handling of goods handling
- Paved parking spaces for vehicles of the main construction and ancillary businesses
- Use of public land by application form «Use of public land» including a fully completed application form; this also applies to the attachment of installations to public candelabras and traffic signs or the removal of fences
- Measures to keep public areas clean land

For further information, please contact the Construction Department and the Civil Engineering and Safety Departments at 027 966 22 15 or email: bauabteilung@zermatt.ch



In Zermatt, special regulations apply during construction periods.

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Cultural Prize Winner 2016

URS BINER (DAN DANIELL) IS HONORED

In each legislative period of the Municipal Council, one cultural award winner for Zermatt is honored. Upon proposal The Cultural Commission decided this year's Decision unanimously on Urs Biner (Dan Daniell).

Who doesn't know him? As an entertainer and restaurateur, the new cultural award winner is well -known and very popular far beyond the country's borders. When you think of Zermatt , you can't help but stumble across the name Dan Daniell.

As a chef and host, he has been pampering his guests with culinary delights at his restaurant Chez Heini for years , always accompanied by his singing talents. With his musical and television appearances, his dedication to the "Wolli," and his very personal style, he has done much for the Matterhorn village and contributed greatly to the good.

For his great achievements and as a token of appreciation, Urs Biner was presented with the 2016 Culture Prize at the Zermatt Municipality's New Year's reception on January 20, 2017.



Mayor Romy Biner-Hauser honors Urs Biner, Zermatt Culture Prize winner 2016.

A look at the Grand Council

GRAND COUNCIL SESSION OF DECEMBER 2016

According to the Law on Spatial Planning and the Second Home Act was and is the revision of the cantonal building law, the next drastic Change for our canton.

However, in order for the building law to be negotiated, the "accession to the Intercantonal Agreement on the Harmonisation of Construction Terms (IVHB)" had to be discussed. By the end of 2015, this agreement 15 cantons have joined, four cantons have openly declared themselves against joining, and the cantons of Geneva, Vaud, and Zurich will not join this agreement, but will adopt the construction terms. This

The decision was very controversial, especially from the perspective of Upper Valais. Many doubts remain, and independent cantonal treatment of construction terms will no longer be possible in the future, as Parliament approved the accession with 77 votes in favor to 47 against.

The revision of the building code was fraught with emotion. While the amendment was approved on Tuesday with a matter-of-fact vote of 79 to 44, the discussion on Thursday afternoon was much more lively, with occasional inappropriate language.

Seventy-five amendments had to be discussed and voted on individually. Article 40 alone, which newly establishes the training and qualification requirements for building planners to submit a planning application, resulted in 21 amendments. This article, in particular, prompted strong comments from some members of Parliament.

From the perspective of our hotel industry, the Grand Council has proposal of the 2nd Commission in Article 21 a paragraph on



The Valais Hoteliers Association is now obliged to discuss this special use with the relevant State Council in such a way as to

to ensure that our hotel industry is sufficiently taken into account. The law was passed after more than four hours of debate with 96 votes in favour, 8 against and 5 abstentions. clearly adopted at second reading. Furthermore, the reduction of parliamentary compensation Today, a member of parliament earns CHF 200 per half day. Six sessions and various committee meetings are held annually. In the best case, a parliamentarian can earn CHF 10,000 to CHF Earn 12,000. In an intercantonal comparison, our canton ranks rather high. After a long back and forth, the motion to reduce parliamentary compensation was rejected in the final debate by 53 votes against to 34 in favor.

The 2017 budget for each department was discussed daily. In the final vote, the 2017 budget was approved with 76 votes in favor to 17 against, with two abstentions. Expenditures of CHF 3.149 billion are planned. Gross investments amount to CHF 609.329 million, and net investments are budgeted at CHF 220.283 million.

The current legislative period 2013–2017 is coming to an end. The final session will take place over three days in February. The focus will be on the cable car law, which will also be extremely important for our canton.


The next Grand Council and State Council elections took place. For the first time will be elected under the new electoral system (double proportional representation). It is very important for our region to support the candidates with a high voter turnout. Otherwise, we run the risk of no longer being able to elect representatives.

For four years, Romy Biner-Hauser and Anton Lauber have been able to inform you about the events in the Grand Council in "Zermatt Inside." An article about the February session may be published. Whether the section will be continued in the future is currently open. The newly elected Grand Council members determine. On our behalf, we would like to thank the editorial team for the platform and we hope that we have been able to give you, dear readers, a little more insight into the activities of the Grand Council.

Romy Biner-Hauser, Grand Councillor / Anton Lauber, Grand Councillor

It's a shame that
brokerage isn't an Olympic discipline.

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Grand Council/State Council elections March 5, 2017

New system for the Grand Council election: double proportional representation

Legal Provisions Grand Council

- Cantonal Constitution (Art. 84, 85 and 86 KV)
- Law on Political Rights of 13 May 2004 (GpolR)

- Decree on the electoral mode of the Grand Council of 09.03.2016
- Resolution of the State Council of 2 November 2016 on the election of the members of the Grand Council for the legislative period 2017-2021 (StrB)

- Ordinance on postal voting 12.03.2008 (VbStA)

Legal provisions of the State Council

- Cantonal Constitution (Art. 52 KV)
- Law on Political Rights of 13 May 2004 (GpolR)

- Resolution of the State Council of 2 November 2016 concerning the election of the State Council for the legislative period 2017-2021 (StrB)
- Ordinance on postal voting 12.03.2008 (VbStA)

Applicable electoral systems

Grand Council (Art. 138 GpolR) New electoral system

The deputies and substitutes are elected directly by the people according to the double proportional system.
The election of the representatives and the substitutes takes place in a joint election

instead of.

The canton is divided into six constituencies to ensure the distribution of seats among the political forces.

Our constituency of Visp is divided into three sub-constituencies: the Visp district, the Leuk district , and the Westlich Raron half-district. The lists of the sub-constituencies that have the same name and the same serial number now form a list group at the constituency level (Visp). The names of the lists must be identical; that is, they must be word-for-word identical ; a partially identical name is not sufficient. If a list appears only in a sub-constituency, it still forms a list group.

With this electoral system, the seats are first distributed among the various list groups in the constituency.

Furthermore, the submitted lists may not be combined; the system of double proportional representation does not allow a party to submit multiple lists in the same district.

State Council (Art. 114, paragraph 1 GpolR)

The election takes place according to the majority system, with an absolute majority in the first round and a relative majority in the second round.

Candidates for the runoff election

Candidates who were not elected in the first round and who received at least 8% of the valid votes may take part in the second round (Art.

127 para. 2 GpolR).

Silent voting (Art. 129 GpolR)

If the number of candidates for the runoff election is equal to or less than the number of seats to be allocated, all candidates shall be declared elected by the Council of State without a ballot. If there are still seats to be allocated, the runoff election shall be maintained only for these seats, and voters may vote for any eligible candidate.

Data

March 4-5, 2017

- Election of the Grand Council
- Election of the State Council

March 18-19, 2017

- Possibly second round of voting for State Council

Polling station and opening hours

Walka gymnasium

- Saturday, March 4, 2017, from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- Sunday, March 5, 2017, from **9:00–10:00 a.m.**

Resident Services/Chancellery

Possibly 2nd round of voting for State Council

- Saturday, March 18, 2017, from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- Sunday, March 19, 2017, from **9:00–10:00 a.m.**

Shipping election material

All eligible voters will receive the documents for the Grand Council and State Council elections for postal voting.

They contain:

- the ballot papers
- one voting envelope each (labeled with the respective election)
- a return form
- a transmission envelope

Postal voting

Delivery by post

The voter who wishes to exercise his or her right to vote by post must fill out the transmission envelope in accordance with the relevant Postage must be paid at the applicable postal rate and handed over to a post office; otherwise, the vote is invalid (Art. 14 para. 1 VbStA). The mailing must arrive at the municipal administration no later than the Friday before the election (Art. 14 para. 2 VbStA).

Deposit with the municipality

Voters can place the transmission envelope in the designated sealed ballot box upon receipt of the voting materials during the municipality's counter opening hours (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.), and no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the ballot (Article 15, paragraph 1 of the VbStA).

Voting at the polling station

Voters use the voting materials provided to them. If these materials are missing , a new ballot envelope will be handed to the voter personally at the entrance to the voting booths . Additional ballot papers will be provided in the booths.

It is prohibited for several people to enter the voting booth at the same time. The only exception is for persons who are prevented by infirmity from performing the necessary actions to exercise their right to vote themselves. They may be represented by a person of their choice .

This person must maintain the secrecy of the vote

(Article 27 of the GpolR).

Any conversation between voters, any consultations with the exception of those in the office, any distribution of ballot papers, any actions aimed at catching votes or obstructing the free exercise of the right to vote are prohibited in the polling station (Article 43 (2) GpolR).

Grand Council elections 2017–2021

Representatives from our region are important

On 5 March 2017, the Valais population who is elected to the Valais Parliament. Zermatt and Täsch have been the most successful in the last four years with a total of three Grand Councillors and two substitutes represented in the cantonal capital.

importance

For the tourist resort of Zermatt as well as for the neighbouring communities of Täsch and Randa it is essential that our destination continues to be

is represented in the Grand Council. Many projects are pending, and our goal should be to defend the existing seats.

Every vote counts

So that we can meet our needs in To represent the future in Parliament, we are all called upon to go to the ballot box. Because only with a high voter turnout and strong support for our local candidates can this goal be achieved.

become.

Every vote counts
Thank you for your support



Voting instructions

Grand Council – proportional representation system

You will receive the pre-printed ballot papers and a blank official ballot paper.

How can one vote?

A pre-printed ballot paper can

- be used unchanged
- be changed

a) Delete: You can delete pre-printed Names of candidates
Cross out data. This will give these people do not vote for candidates.

The now empty line counts only as a vote for the party (party vote).

b) Panachage: You can choose candidate Candidates from other lists on your ballot paper. This receive your candidate vote and their party your party vote.

The accumulation of a candidate (an existing candidate duplicate entries) is not valid.
The subsequently added candidate will deleted.

A blank official ballot paper can

- be supplemented with
 - a)** the name of a party and as many official candidates as you wish.
 - b)** Candidates without party designation. You can only vote for candidates votes who are on a list validly deposited in the sub-constituency (district).

Important

Each ballot paper must contain at least one Name of an eligible candidate of an electable candidate.

There may not be more names on the ballot

There are more tickets available than there are seats to be allocated.

State Council – Majority System

You will receive the pre-printed ballot papers and an official blank ballot paper.

How can one vote?

- Print out an official blank ballot paper fill

- Place a pre-printed ballot paper unchanged into the ballot envelope

- Alter a pre-printed ballot paper but by:
 - Deleting the name of one or several candidates
 - Adding the name of one or several candidates

The cumulation of a candidate is not valid!

Common mistakes in writing letters Voting and therefore invalid!!

- Postal dispatch without postage or insufficient postage
- late delivery by post
- Voting in the community mailbox
- Grouped dispatch (the transmission envelope contains the voting material of several people)

- not using the official transmission envelope and/or the official Voting envelopes

- **Return form is not included wrote**

Golden rules for correct Voting

- Use only an official voting slip of paper and the respective ballot envelope.
- **Please make any additions handwritten and legible.**
- Only candidacies that appear on pre-printed ballot papers are valid.
- Write your last name, first name and Always print out the candidates' numbers.
- Quotation marks, "ditto" or similar are not allowed.
- Your ballot paper must contain at least a valid name.
- The ballot paper may contain a maximum of contain information on how seats are to be allocated.
- Enter only one choice for each choice. note.
- Do not write anything additional on the ballot paper.
- Maintain the secrecy of the ballot: Do not put your signature on the ballot paper.
- **Don't forget to include the Voting the return form to sign.**

Tax return 2016 and tax advances 2017

SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS 30 APRIL 2017

The new tax period has experienced very few changes compared to last year. As a result of the negative Due to inflation, the flat-rate and social deductions are identical to those of the 2015 tax period.

Significant changes for the 2016 tax period

- Following the introduction of the Financing and Expansion of Railway Infrastructure Act (FABI), the Federal Department of Finance has decided that, as of January 1, 2016, wage earners may deduct a maximum of CHF 3,000 from their direct federal tax for travel expenses for commuting to and from work. This change affects the cantonal and municipal taxes do not.
- With regard to the taxation of capital settlements, the amendment to Article 33b, Paragraph 4 of the Tax Act will come into force in 2016. For spouses who are legally and effectively separated, as well as for widowed, legally or effectively separated, divorced, or single taxpayers who live with children or persons in need of support in the same household and for whose maintenance they are primarily responsible, the tax will be reduced by 2 percent, but not more than

reduced by at least CHF 2,340. Capital payments must be declared. The relevant information must be entered under item 7 of the tax return and marked with a cross. Otherwise, a fine may be imposed!

- Confiscatory burden through wealth tax : From 2016, the ordinance provides for a deductible of CHF 5,000 each for cantonal and municipal taxes, which is non-refundable.

As a reminder

To simplify the processing of tax returns, please refrain from:



The Tax Department and the Cantonal Tax Administration would like to thank all taxpayers and tax offices for their implementation!

VSTax 2016

We recommend that everyone use the free VSTax 2016 software at www.vs.ch/vstax to complete their 2016 tax return.

This software has been further updated for the 2016 tax period, making completing your tax return even easier. If you have any questions about using the program, please contact the relevant contact persons at www.vs.ch/vstax-kontakte. The 2016 tax returns will be sent out starting approximately February 20, 2017.

Deadline for filing tax returns 2016 is, exceptionally, April 30, 2017.

Tax advances 2017

The 2017 tax advance payments were delivered in February 2017. They serve as advance tax payments and are levied in accordance with Article 193 of the Tax Act. These advance payments are to be paid within 30 days of the due dates listed below:

- 1st installment February 10, 2017
- 2nd installment April 10, 2017
- 3rd installment June 10, 2017
- 4th installment August 10, 2017
- 5th installment October 10, 2017

In the final tax settlement for 2017, the amounts paid will be credited to the corresponding tax year. Interest will be calculated as follows:

- Any amounts requested and paid in excess will be subject to interest at 3.5% on the final settlement.

- The default interest rate for unpaid or late payments is also 3.5%.
 - The negative compensatory interest for outstanding amounts will be demanded in accordance with Article 164 paragraph a of the Tax Act with the final settlement from the general due date of taxes, March 31, 2018, and charged at 3.5% if the interest amount exceeds CHF 500.
 - No interest credit will be granted in 2017 for advance payments made independently of the on-account payments.
- Taxpayers who have paid too little are advised to make a supplementary payment to avoid the compensatory interest.

Do you have questions?

Don't hesitate, we are here for you!

The cantonal tax administration (Tel. 027 606 24 51) and the specialist office Taxes of the municipality of Zermatt (Tel. 027 966 22 40 or email steuern@zermatt.ch) will be happy to provide you with additional information. You can also find further tax information at www.vs.ch/steuern.

Collection of bioorganic waste – not like this!

INCREASED INCORRECT DISPOSAL IS DETECTED

Since the commissioning of the biogas plant in Zen Stecken, the collected bioorganic waste processed directly there. In recent months, it is increasingly being observed that discipline in proper disposal has decreased significantly.

Cutlery, clothes, plates, wood, fondue sets, plastic bags, glass bottles, PET bottles, and much more. All of these fractions must be laboriously sorted out from the biogas plant's processing machines again and again.

Damage to the machines

When emptying the bins, it's not always possible to sort out all improperly disposed materials. Foreign bodies often find their way into the processing machines, sometimes damaging the sensitive equipment. This shouldn't and shouldn't be allowed to happen!

What constitutes bioorganic waste?

Bio-organic waste includes, in particular, kitchen scraps from fruits and vegetables, food leftovers, cooked bones, coffee grounds, tea leaves, and fruit peels.



These fractions do not belong to the bioorganic waste!

- This does NOT include** raw bones, Eggshells, mussels, compost bags, green waste and, above all, plastic bags.

Delivery only by Schwendimann AG

It is prohibited to deliver organic waste directly to the biogas plant. Delivery is the sole responsibility of our waste disposal service provider, Schwendimann AG.



Incorrect disposal clogs the machines and damaged.

We thank you for your contribution to ensuring that the bio-waste containers will only contain organic waste in the future, and that the images shown are a thing of the past. If disposal practices do not improve in the future, we will be forced to remove the bio-waste containers from public garbage sheds as a first step.

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ANIMALS IN OUR ENVIRONMENT

The red fox

FOX AND HUMAN

The fox also occurs where

People live – in gardens and parks, in villages and towns. Not everyone is happy about it. Three questions, which are often associated with the animal appear, should be answered here
Can the fox be used by humans
dangerous? Can he kill cats,
Are guinea pigs or rabbits dangerous? And should they be fed?

anatomy

The body is long and narrow. The animal has short, slender legs and a bushy, long tail. The tip of the tail is usually white. The head is narrow and tapers sharply toward the nose . This allows it to slip through narrow stomata of only about 10 cm.

A narrow passage, such as a hole in a chicken fence, is therefore no obstacle for the fox . It weighs between 5 and 7 kg. Male animals (dogs) are usually slightly heavier than female animals (females).

Fur and hair

Fox fur is reddish-brown to gray-brown, cuddly soft, and dense. The beauty of fox fur has always fascinated humans . Jackets, caps, and fur collars are made from fox fur. Humans have probably adorned themselves with fox fur ever since they began hunting.

In winter, there are many dense, fine, dark gray woolly hairs under the guard hairs. These warm the fox in the winter cold. The hair on the legs is shorter, so neither dirt nor snow clings to it. The shedding begins in April. The summer fur is redder and shorter, with significantly less undercoat . In addition to guard hair and wool, the fox also has whiskers. These are long and stiff and are especially visible on the snout. They can also be found on the cheeks, above the eyes, and on the paw pads.

The whiskers are connected to the nerves . This allows the fox to sense even the slightest movement when touching . It can detect vibrations, for example, which alert it to prey or danger.

food

The fox is a predator that doesn't only eat meat. It is an omnivore.
In Europe, mice are its main food, as they are found almost everywhere throughout the year and are relatively easy to catch. The fox catches the rodents with a typical mouse pounce. When young foxes begin hunting, their first prey are earthworms and insects, which, especially in years with few mice, are also eaten by adult animals. Wild animals that have been run over on the road or have died of weakness or disease are also eaten by the fox. This additional food source is particularly welcome in winter. When chickens, ducks, and geese cannot spend the night in safe coops , the fox regularly takes its share. In summer and

In autumn, it also eats berries and fallen fruit, which can also be its main food source at times. Even in cities, the fox has a richly laid table: in gardens, it eats unharvested berries, ripe fallen fruit, or waste from compost heaps. In parks, swimming pools, and around schools, it finds the remains of discarded lunchboxes. Garbage bags also contain all sorts of edible items.

Human waste makes up a large part of the fox's diet!

habitat

The fox is a survivor. It can be found in fields and forests, even in regions above the tree line . The fox searches for food in meadows and fields, in orchards and farms. It also finds ideal conditions near villages and on the outskirts of cities. Nearby forest edges, as well as in playgrounds, under garden sheds, in cemeteries, and in parks, there are plenty of opportunities to sleep hidden away during the day and forage for food at night.

Mating season

Mating occurs in winter, between January and February. During mating season, things can get fierce! The female attracts the male with scents secreted through her urine and a tail gland. During this time, the male follows the female wherever she goes , never letting her out of his sight to avoid losing her to a rival. If other males appear, fights are fought to determine who will ultimately mate with the female. After mating, it can take up to 53 days for four to six pups to be born in a dry den.

They weigh only about 100 grams, the equivalent of a bar of chocolate, and have dark fur. Their eyes are closed. The young are kept warm and nursed by the female for the first two to three weeks . During this time, the male brings food, so the mother rarely has to leave the den.

Development of young foxes

About two weeks after birth, the young foxes open their eyes. They soon begin to play. In the evenings, their mother leads them outside to explore their new surroundings . It's now spring, and as soon as the cubs are outside, they practice catching prey and fighting with each other. At about five weeks old, the young foxes stop drinking milk. They stay at their den for about two more months, where they lie in the sun when the weather is nice , but also often play with each other.

The young foxes learn how to catch prey, mate, and fight through play. In early summer, the family leaves the den more often. The young are now quite independent and accompany their mother on her forays. Towards autumn, most young foxes leave their parents' territory. Sometimes they disappear from one day to the next.



The red fox, an omnivorous survivor.

the others. Others undertake increasingly longer nighttime wanderings, until one day they never return. By winter, the young foxes are already adults. They are old enough to find a mate on their own.

Can the fox kill humans become dangerous?

Foxes are shy wild animals. They avoid humans and do not attack them . However, foxes can transmit diseases. Both the fox tapeworm and rabies are transmissible diseases that can be dangerous to humans. Rabies is one of the most horrific diseases of all.

If the disease breaks out, it is fatal. It is primarily foxes that have spread rabies in Europe.

Fortunately, Switzerland has been considered rabies-free since 1999. The small fox tapeworm lives in the intestines of animals. Foxes can be infected with various types of tapeworms, but these do not kill the animal. The small fox tapeworm is only about 4 mm long and consists of a head and several body segments. Several hundred eggs are formed in the last of these segments , which are excreted in the fox's feces. If these eggs enter the human mouth via uncooked food such as berries or dirty hands , spherical larvae hatch in the intestine . These larvae then enter the human liver via the bloodstream and destroy the liver for several years. The disease can be fatal, but fortunately, it is very rare.

Protect against fox tapeworm

- Wash fruits and vegetables from the garden and forest thoroughly before eating
- Wash your hands thoroughly after contact with dogs. Dogs like to roll around outdoors, which can cause fox droppings to get on their fur.
- Hands should also be washed after gardening

- Do not feed foxes, as this will attract them to the vicinity of the house
- Fox droppings in the garden with upturned Collect plastic bag and throw it in the garbage dispose

Is the fox a danger for cats, Rabbit or guinea pig?

Encounters between foxes and cats are common in villages and towns . However, the foxes usually leave the cats alone, as the cats are good at defending themselves with their sharp claws.

Pets such as rabbits, guinea pigs , and, of course, chickens are welcome prey for foxes. Therefore, the animals must be well protected – ideally, even during the day. A covered enclosure or a two- meter-high fence, additionally secured with electric wire, is ideal. Caution: Since foxes are good burrowers, the enclosure mesh must be buried about half a meter into the ground. This is the only way to keep the animals truly safe.

Foxes never near houses feed!

Foxes like to come near houses and gardens to scavenge edible waste from garbage bags and compost heaps. They also eat leftover cat or dog food from food bowls. This helps foxes become accustomed to the proximity of humans.

Additional feeding encourages this behavior and can even make the foxes semi-tame . However, this can lead to conflict. Not everyone appreciates being close to these wild animals.

There are also those who react fearfully and insecurely to the presence of foxes.

If the animals lose their fear of humans, they can become a nuisance by carrying material around the garden or tearing open garbage bags. Such "problem foxes" often have to be shot.

Therefore, do not feed foxes!

Bruno Tscherrig, gamekeeper

Alpine Gourmet Prato Borni – the best of Alpine cuisine

GRAND HOTEL ZERMATTERHOF

BC Chef Ralph Busch and the Brigade in Prato

With the "Alpine Gourmet" concept, Borni is putting Valais products in a new light. Gourmets can look forward to **new fantastic taste experiences that awarded 14 points by GaultMillau.**

Fine dining doesn't necessarily have to be French. The gourmet restaurant at the Grand Hotel Zermatterhof presents regional products refined to perfection and combined with sensitivity. Valais is the most culinary region in Switzerland. From the highest peaks of the Alps through the Rhône Valley to Lake Geneva, an incomparable variety of produce grows and thrives.

Lake Geneva, incidentally the second largest lake in Central Europe, is rich in fish. The crystal-clear mountain streams are also full of life. And game has always been part of the Valais's

Menu. Well protected by the high mountains, the Rhône Valley is very warm and dry. The privileged climate allows fruits and vegetables to ripen that are otherwise only found much further south. Not to mention the wide selection of excellent wines that are traditionally produced here. A third of Swiss wine comes from Valais.

At the Alpine Gourmet Prato Borni, we're reminded of the diversity of regional offerings. Chef Ralph Busch sets an ambitious precedent, creating dishes using products from the Valais region.

Traditional dishes are presented in a completely new way, creating regional culinary experiences that will delight your palate.

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10 years of Matterhorn Terminal Täsch and new digital panorama ring

THE FIRST VIEW OF THE MATTERHORN



MC In December 2016 in Täsch the tenth anniversary of the Matterhorn Terminals were duly celebrated. This event provided an opportunity to numerous guests to look back at the beginnings, but also the opportunities and to discuss future possibilities. In addition, the new digital panoramic view of Gornergrat Experience AG inaugurated, where guests can already enjoy first view of the Matterhorn and the spectacular 360-degree panorama .

When Täsch was connected to the cantonal road in 1972, this also marked the birth of the Parking Täsch cooperative. To provide parking for guests arriving in Zermatt by car, several landowners set up parking spaces on their plots near the train station . Until then, it had been difficult for guests to reach car-free Zermatt. Thanks to Täsch's convenient location just six kilometers from the Matterhorn village and the continued growth in visitor numbers, the demand for parking spaces steadily increased.

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Matterhorn Terminal Täsch (MTT), Karim Habli welcomed everyone at the anniversary celebration on 17. December 2016 in Täsch his discussion partners Daniel Luggen, Zermatt Tourism, Fernando Lehner, BVZ Holding AG/Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn, and Christoph Kalbermatter, Matterhorn Terminal Täsch AG. The immense added value that the terminal has brought and continues to bring to Täsch and Zermatt from a tourism, economic, and political perspective was discussed, and last but not least, they praised the unique and visionary history.

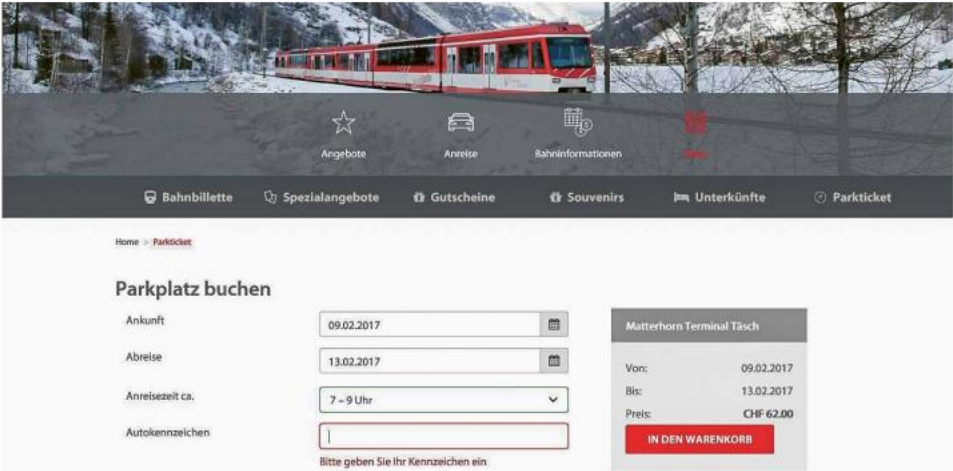
continue to. **Investments of 80 million** It was thanks to the foresight and willingness of the landowners at the time that, after two and a half years of construction and an investment of around CHF 80 million – of which around CHF 33 million was for the parking garage and CHF 47 million for the rail infrastructure – the Matterhorn Terminal Täsch began operations on December 18, 2006. And from the very beginning, it was far more than "just" a parking garage. The concept of integrated transfer

geterminals consistently placed the customer and their needs at the center of attention . The entire offering is designed accordingly – from easy access, the approximately 2,100 covered parking spaces, the wide and spacious aisles in the MTT, ticket purchases at the counters and ticket machines for the shuttle to Zermatt or even to the Gornergrat, convenient access to the trains, storage space for luggage trolleys, and a maximum waiting time of 20 minutes for the next train.

This achievement was celebrated at the anniversary event, which was accompanied by the Täschalp Music Society and the Schlager band "ComBox," who provided the guests with the perfect entertainment for the aperitif and subsequent festive refreshments .

Digital panorama ring Gornergrat Experience AG used the anniversary to present and inaugurate its latest installation in the terminal: a six-meter-diameter digital 360° panoramic ring . This immerses arriving guests in Täsch and allows them to catch their first glimpse of the Matterhorn from the very center of the ticket hall . Six laser projectors project 360° panoramic photos and videos onto the ring, transporting viewers directly to the fresh snow or the lush green meadows of the Gornergrat, depending on the season .

The terminal is thus preparing itself and is ready to look to the future for another ten years and beyond – as the heart of Täsch and the gateway to Zermatt.



Wi-Fi and online ticket purchase

The Matterhorn Terminal Täsch has had free Wi-Fi for everyone since December 2016. With the Wi-Fi, shuttle tickets can be purchased conveniently and quickly at www.mgbahn.ch, and the online ticket can be used to pass directly through the turnstile on a mobile phone. In addition, parking tickets for the MTT can now be purchased online in advance. This also works via the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn webshop at www.mgbahn.ch and allows guests to enter and exit the terminal with a code within the prepaid period.

InfoCube on the 3S-Bahn construction

MOUNTAIN RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION TO HANDS ON AND EXPERIENCE

Fo have you set the InfoCube to dry Have you already visited Steg and experienced the cable car ride with virtual reality glasses?

We assure you, in the InfoCube directly below the Matterhorn Express exit, you'll learn a lot about the construction of the superlative tricable gondola. Interactive elements will take you into the construction project, and various screens will provide you with further information about the new mountain and valley stations and the ongoing construction progress. In addition, the most important building materials can be examined in detail!

We look forward to your visit to the Info Cube.



The ride with the VR glasses is the main attraction in the InfoCube.



The cable car of superlatives in length profile.



All information in the InfoCube is in Prepared in German and English.

Fondue on the rope

WINTER EDITION IN APRIL

Fo the first time in summer 2014 by the Swiss Food Festival, the fondue on the rope has become very popular quickly became a popular event for guests from near and far established.

The organizers of this happening, which has now become an integral part of Zermatt's event scene, were quickly convinced that the fondue on the rope had to take place in winter as well, as fondue is a true winter dish. In terms of atmosphere and feeling, it's a completely different experience to enjoy a fondue in a gondola rather than in a restaurant. The view of the mountains is unique , and when it's snowing and you take the gondola ride in the evening, it's something truly special. The offer and the schedule of the winter edition are organized in the same way as in the summer: Before the guests arrive in the

If you take a seat in the covered gondola, there will be an aperitif at the valley station. Appetizers, wine, and bread await guests in the gondola . On Furi, fondue and potatoes will be served, and on Schwarzsee, there will be a follow-up of wine. Dessert will be served on the descent to Furi. served, and there's also a little surprise in the Furi . Finally, coffee is served at the valley station. We promise you and your guests will enjoy this experience!

Dates: April 7 and 14, 2017

Price: CHF 94.– per person

Info & booking: www.matterhornparadise.ch/fondue

By the way, this offer for you and your guests also be bookable on the B2B platform.



B2B platform – “simple and fast”

INTERVIEW WITH SABRINA LERJEN, ONLINE MARKETING & CONTENT MANAGER



FL Since 2014, Sabrina Lerjen has been responsible for the Online presence of the Zermatt Bergbahnen. It manages the website and the app, posts articles and photos Facebook and Instagram and creates packages with various partners. Sabrina is also responsible for online sales B2C («Business to Customer”) and B2B (“Business to Business”).

Without queuing at the ticket office – directly through the turnstile – more and more guests are buying their ski tickets online in advance or prefer to do so at their accommodation. Until now, however, only larger establishments have been able to offer their guests this service via a ticket system provided by the cable cars.

The new web-based B2B platform allows even smaller hotels and vacation rentals to issue tickets to their guests. However, the B2B platform is not just aimed at accommodations, but at all businesses that have contact with guests, such as ski schools or sports shops.

What is the Zermatt Bergbahnen B2B platform?
"The B2B platform is a free tool that allows for quick and easy ticket issuing for Zermatt Bergbahnen. All the B2B partner needs to sell is an internet-enabled device (PC, tablet, smartphone) and a stack of KeyCards. Guests can then proceed directly through the turnstile with the loaded ticket, eliminating the need to queue at the ticket counter. The B2B partner also benefits from every ticket sold."

What are the differences to the existing OPOS system?
"The B2B platform is entirely web-based and therefore requires no equipment purchase. Furthermore, there is no minimum sales requirement. The product range is also diverse : Mountain experiences, such as moonlight runs or First Track , can be booked on the B2B platform . Discounted promotional tickets can also be issued. This allows for attractive and unique packages to be put together for guests. Thanks to the user-friendly interface, extensive training regarding the system and product range is not necessary for operators."

What are the advantages over the existing system?
“Even smaller companies benefit from the B2B platform. As already mentioned, use is free, and there's no minimum sales requirement. Furthermore, no credit card terminal is required. The contract, which is concluded for an indefinite period, can be terminated annually. Anyone who already has an OPOS device but prefers the B2B platform can terminate their existing OPOS contract early after consultation. Both systems can, of course, also be used in parallel.

What are the disadvantages?
"Issuing takes a little longer than with the OPOS device because the tickets have to be personalized. Thanks to the introduction of the five-digit 'short number' on the KeyCard, the reloading process has already been significantly shortened."

What is your first conclusion after about two months since the introduction of B2B?
"Interest in the B2B platform is high, and numerous service partners have already opted for the new platform. This is a sign that this tool is well on its way to becoming established. Thanks to the input and feedback from our partners, we are already working on the first optimization measures. Interested parties can still register and test the platform without obligation at matterhornparadise.ch/B2B."



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Marko Walther ist seit Frühling 2016 in Zermatt. Seine bisherigen Stationen waren u.a. das Grand Hotel Residencia auf Gran Canaria, die MS Hanseatic auf dem Wasser, das Elements Deli in Dresden und das Parkhotel Zug. Marko selbst geniesst feines Essen am liebsten zusammen mit einem lokalen Zermatt Bier.

Wir freuen uns auf Sie.
Florian und Manfred Julen mit dem Old Zermatt-Team




IMPRINT

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Free tools for your own success

SERVICE PROVIDERS CAN USE TOOLKITS FREE OF CHARGE ON ZTNET.CH

 **The e-Fitness program of Zermatt Tourism offers tools on ztnet that make providers in Zermatt, Täsch and Randa even more efficient. The only requirement: be active, go to ztnet get in and get tools and information.**

"We have offered numerous courses, training sessions, and lectures as part of the e-Fitness program," says e-marketing manager Pascal Gebert of Zermatt Tourism . "What we would also like to promote are our toolkits," he explains, adding with a grin: "They are available, like in a self-service store without a cash register." Unfortunately, far too few service providers are aware of them because: "Some offers are on a "get it" basis." You have to get out there and discover, get to know, and learn to use the toolkits at ztnet.ch .

These tools are all free and help service providers optimize digital communication in their companies.

Photos, videos and more

Members of Zermatt Tourism can integrate photos and videos, which Zermatt Tourism makes available free of charge via ztnet.ch , into their communication channels.



The online image and video databases offer tourist motifs from Zermatt, Täsch, and Randa. They can be integrated into the websites and communication channels of service providers.

To keep guests informed about what's happening in the village and in the mountains, daily tips are available. These can be accessed on the website and printed out daily. They can also be handed out at the establishment, branded with your own logo. There's also the option of presenting the daily tips to guests digitally via e-concierge .

Additional tools include a booking system for hotels and vacation apartments, a detailed guide for online reviews, events in the Zermatt Tourism event calendar, news as an RSS feed, and everything else that can be used on your own website or other communication tools .

New and clear: The ztnet

The revised and redesigned intranet platform ztnet.ch has been online since January. Service providers can click through and be amazed. Five sections lead to information: News, Hotels, Vacation Rentals, Restaurants and Businesses, and Zermatt Tourism. Tiles in the lower section lead to the new "Apartment Long-Term Rental" platform, among other things.

Information: ztnet.ch

authenticity

Hello insiders, hello insiders

Hello, yes, you read that right. We greet about 50% of our guests with "Hello," after all, they come from near and far abroad and usually don't speak the Valais dialect. That actually makes sense, doesn't it? You've probably been to a foreign country yourself where a different language was spoken. And after spending a few days there, you begin to develop an interest in the language – do you feel the same? Yes, you might ask the waiter what "thank you" means, or the taxi driver "good day" or "goodbye." "Have a nice day" or "Where is the train station?" are already for advanced learners; "I love you" is also very popular and can be useful, depending on the situation. At the end of the vacation, you're proud that you can speak a few words of Arabic, Danish, Chinese, or some other language.

How about if we greeted our foreign-language guests – and the Swiss are also part of that here – with a friendly "Tagwohl" or "Güete Tag" on the very first day they meet us? Agreed, many will immediately ask back with "Sorry, what did you say?" "I didn't understand, could you please repeat?" – Voilà, there you have the first icebreaker to start a conversation with the guest and come across as authentic. We don't have to profile ourselves as adaptable, multilingual hosts, but rather give the guest the joy of feeling at home in our tradition-conscious atmosphere. If this guest is greeted with "Tagwohl" by the taxi driver, the waiter, the host, and the ski instructor, then they must find us to be an extremely friendly bunch, right?

By the way, "Tagwohl," "Tagwünscht," "Güeta Tag," or "N'Abend" can also be learned very easily by foreign-language employees from home and abroad.

Farewell! Yours, Daniel Luggen, Spa Director





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The melting pot of delights

THE MUSIC FESTIVAL ZERMATT UNPLUGGED OFFERS A LOT OF NEW FEATURES FOR ITS 10TH EDITION



For the tenth edition of the acoustic music festival Zermatt Unplugged will present even more enjoyment than before. In the new Taste Village in the village center Musicians perform and various chalets and taste stands welcome visitors.

"For the festival's 10th anniversary, we want to consistently improve and further develop the quality of the festival," says Rolf Furrer, Managing Director of Zermatt Unplugged. This includes not only a top-class lineup of stars and exciting new talent. "Now, visitors have access to a true oasis of enjoyment," Rolf Furrer continues. The Taste Village (see box on the right) offers visitors musical and culinary delights.

"In addition to the existing partners Raiffeisen, Westside, and Hublot, the new main partner BKW and the new co-partner Globus also have their platforms in the Taste Village. The Taste Village is presented by 'Schweizer Fleisch', and all content is implemented under the label 'Der feine Differenz'," explains Rolf Furrer.

Top-class for all the senses

The village of Zermatt is a culinary Alpine paradise. The charisma of its approximately 20 restaurants and hotels , which are listed annually in the Gault- Millau and Michelin Guides, offers culinary delights and hospitality of the highest caliber. This will also be reflected in the Taste Village. Festival partner Proviande ("Swiss Meat") and the well-known Zurich entrepreneur Katja Weber have come up with a great deal of inspiration for this.



International stars will perform in the Grand Chapiteau, the big tent: Stephan Eicher.

Katja Weber brings with her successful experience – from Zurich's "Wienachtsdorf" (Christmas Village), street food festivals , and the absolute Zurich scene stronghold "Frau Gerolds Garten." She designed and installed these crowd-pullers.

However, the intention is by no means to import the Zurich event style to Zermatt; instead, the unique character of Zermatt will be reflected: quality over quantity, innovation and conscious consumption, thoughtful aesthetics in dialogue with the landscape, and the small but significant differences in the meat and the snacks presented. Thus, this is by no means a modular festival being created out of thin air, but rather offering new levels of experience for the ear and palate.

Vocal snatches and guitar riffs

Seating areas, wooden roofs, unplugged music from the stage , and even a place to grill sausages make Taste Village a melting pot of delights: people sit together, warm themselves by fire pits, meet for a chat, a snack, the music of a new talent, or just a breather. And then it's on to the concert venues: the Grand Chapiteau, the Vernissage , the Alex, or even up high at Sunnegga. Zermatt in spring is something truly special – towards evening, this absolutely unique combination of scents of snow and mild, spring-like Alpine air emerges. You can hear the laughter of happy people, and every now and then, guitar riffs and snatches of vocals waft over the village from somewhere else. It's Zermatt Unplugged, in a nutshell.



Atmosphere at the New Talent stage at the Mountain Boutique Resort Cervo.

Facts about Zermatt Unplugged 2017

- The acoustic music festival Zermatt Unplugged takes place from April 4th to 8th, 2017 on various stages in the village and in the mountains.
- 13 concert venues in the village
- 3 concert locations in the mountains
- Around 80 concerts, including over 50 free performances the New Talents and other artists.

New in the program

- Artist in Residence: three locations where a musician resides throughout the festival and performs two showcase performances every day.
- Pop-up bands: two bands will play at the festival and perform spontaneous pop-up shows at different, spontaneously chosen locations in the village.

Taste Village

Concerts, culinary delights, and experiences are on the agenda at the village center in the Obere Matten. The Taste Village will be set up for the first time this year. Taste booths, bars, a stage, chalets, terraces, fire bowls, and seating areas will become a new home for festival guests. A total of 10 establishments will offer delicacies.

Food and Drinks: 8 small stands for food and Drinks, culinary focus Valais and national.

Concerts: 1 stage with 3 new talent concerts per day.
1 Restaurant-Chalet Ferdinand, Hotel Cervo.
1 Restaurant Chalet by Tradition Julien.

1 chalet from Globus with lounge.
2 small chalets with bars.

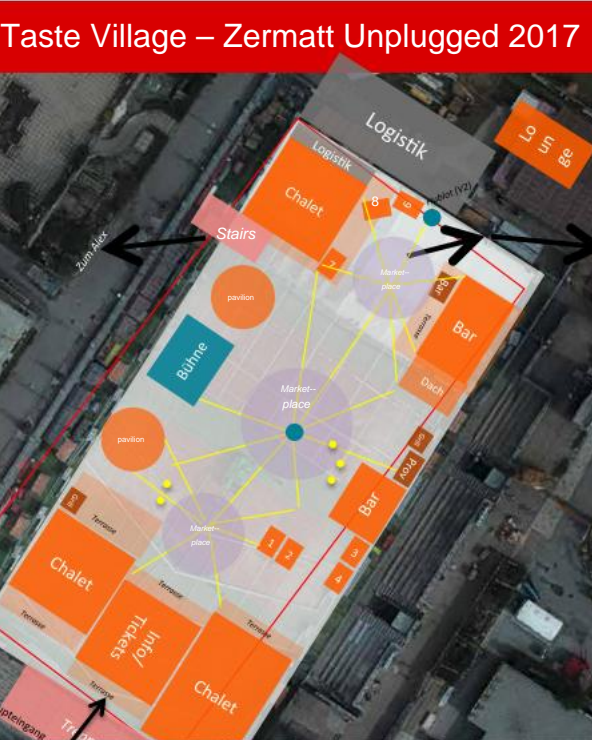
1 village square with 2 pavilions and seating.
1 grilling area for grilling your own sausages.

Various fire bowls for atmosphere and warmth.

Specialties: Swiss meat, Gommer Cholera, Pizza, roast beef sandwich, caviar & oysters and other more.

Admission: With the festival pin or with valid concert tickets. The festival pin (CHF 20) includes a CHF 10 voucher for food and drink at the festival bars.

Taste Village opening hours:
Daily from 12:00 PM to 2:00 AM. Subject to change.



Obere Matten: The Taste Village in the center of Zermatt offers enjoyment for all the senses.