

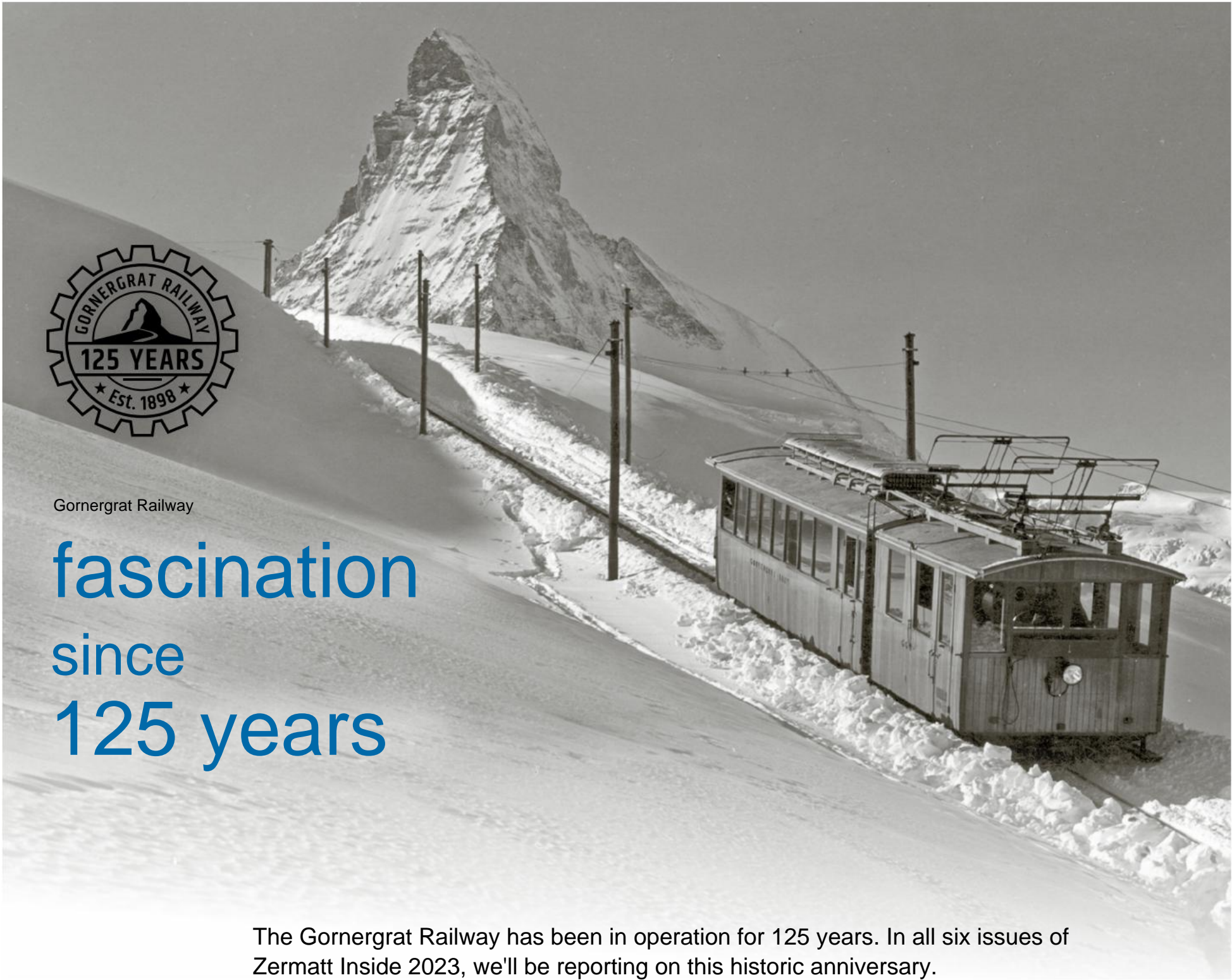
ZERMATT INSIDE

February 2023, 21st Year, No. 1



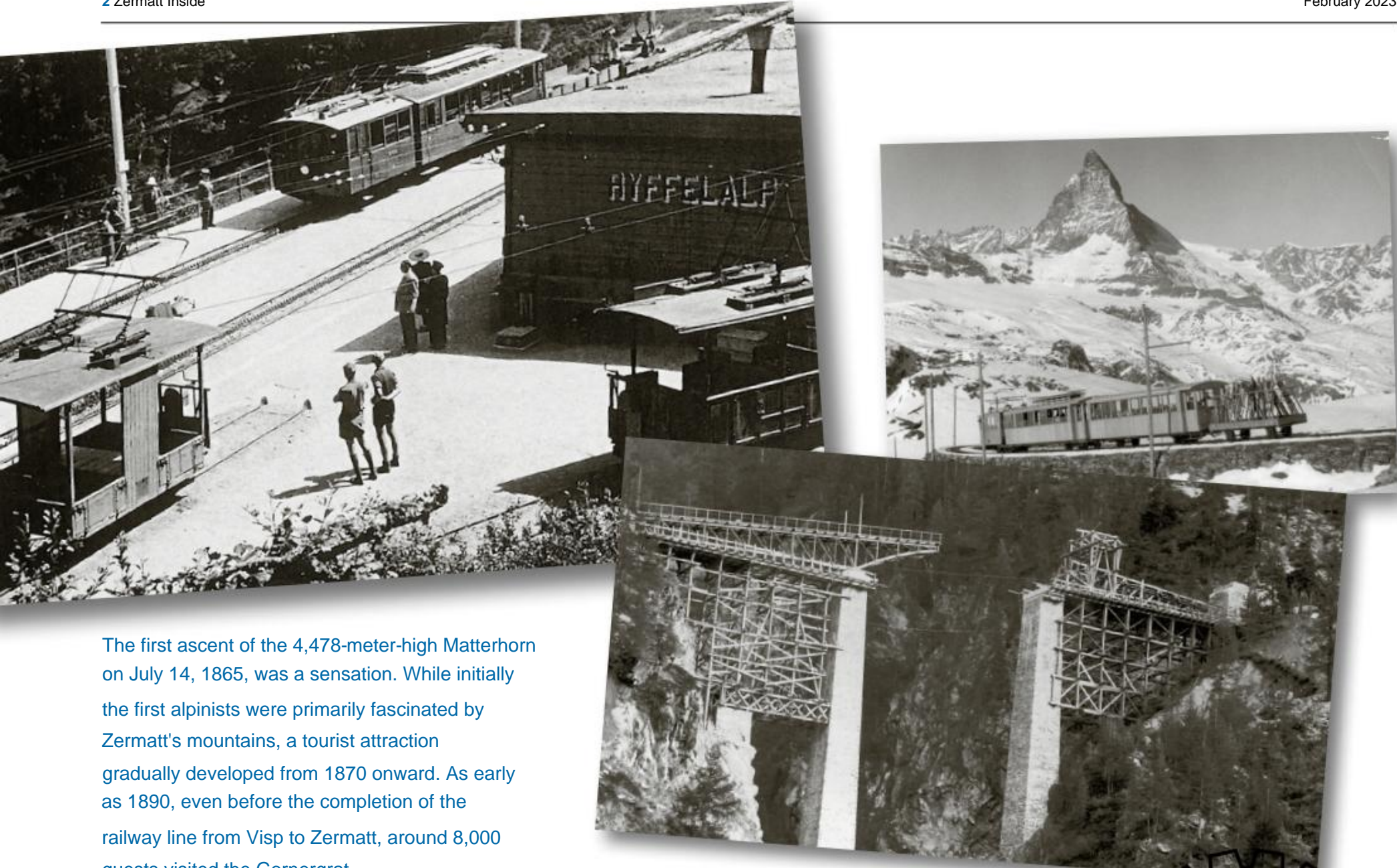
Municipality of Zermatt, Citizens' Community of Zermatt, Zermatt Tourism, Zermatt Bergbahnen AG, Gornergrat Railway/Matterhorn Gotthard Railway

Municipality of Zermatt	Zermatt Citizens' Community	Zermatt cable cars	Zermatt History	Zermatt Tourism
Taxes 2022	Bedbug detection dog	Moonlight descent	Emil Aufdenblatten	partnership
What is changing or new? When do you file your tax return? Where do you send it? The local municipality explains how it works.	After three years of training, Christine Huber and her dog Reena have been July 2022 full of energy on the trail of bed bugs.	From the Rothorn back to the village. An impressive extra trip with a beautiful view on the moonlit Zermatt mountains.	He was known as an artist and He painted landscapes such as the Matterhorn and its surrounding hamlets, but also portraits.	Zermatt Tourism and the Swiss outdoor equipment specialist Mammut has been a successful partner for 20 years.
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The Gornergrat Railway has been in operation for 125 years. In all six issues of Zermatt Inside 2023, we'll be reporting on this historic anniversary. We begin with a look back at the history of its creation.

[Read more on page 2](#)



The first ascent of the 4,478-meter-high Matterhorn on July 14, 1865, was a sensation. While initially the first alpinists were primarily fascinated by Zermatt's mountains, a tourist attraction gradually developed from 1870 onward. As early as 1890, even before the completion of the railway line from Visp to Zermatt, around 8,000 guests visited the Gornergrat.

The municipality of Zermatt, the Grand Council, and the Canton of Valais initially opposed the construction of the Gornergrat Railway (GGB) , fearing competition for mountain guides and porters . The Federal Council refuted these fears in a letter from 1895, pointing out that the same concerns had proven unfounded in the Bernese Oberland. News of the mountaineering conquests and the opening of the Visp-Zermatt Railway in 1891 made Zermatt world famous.

Two years of construction

Construction of the excursion railway, gigantic for the time, began in 1896. Because the Gornergrat lies at an altitude of 3,000 meters above sea level, the construction period between the snowmelt and the onset of winter was extremely short. Over 1,000 workers were deployed simultaneously , and a total of around 2,400 workers were employed during the construction period, which lasted just two years (!) .

The books of the first directors and project managers note that the workload of the workers at Rotenboden (2,700 m above sea level) was only half that of those in the valley – on the Gornergrat, it was even lower. The construction management therefore ensured exceptionally good medical care and support for the workers to ensure that construction work at these unusually high altitudes was uninterrupted . The most difficult part of the route construction was between Zermatt and Riffelalp. In addition to the Getwing Bridge over the Vispa River, a 93-meter-long bridge over the Findelbach Gorge had to be built.

Due to time constraints, the planned stone arches were abandoned and an iron framework was stretched across the pillars. The structure has been supported by two 48-meter-high pillars since its inception. Within the first four kilometers, four tunnels, each 25 m, 45 m, 60 m, and 200 m long, adorn the line. The rack railway used the rack system designed by engineer Roman Abt, a system still in use today.

Various events and activities are planned for the anniversary year 2023. These can always be found on the anniversary website (www.gornergrat.ch/125).

Opening August 20, 1898

On August 20, 1898, the GGB finally began operations – as the first electric rack railway in Switzerland and the second in the world (the first began operating in 1892 on Mont Salève in France, near Geneva). The current mountain station at 3,089 m above sea level was originally 71 m lower and was relocated to its current location between 1907 and 1909. Thanks to innovative pioneering spirit, a top-class tourist attraction was created . The mysterious world of the mountains was now accessible to everyone.

First winter season from 1928

During the first 30 years of its existence, the GGB was unable to operate in winter and, until 1927, operated only on approximately 120 operating days during the summer months of June to September. In 1928/29, trains ran from Visp to Zermatt for the first time in winter, and the GGB ran to Riffelalp. The first winter sports season in Zermatt – made possible thanks to the two cable cars – lasted from December 21, 1928, to February 28, 1929. In the winter of 1938/39, trains ran to Riffelberg for the first time, opening up another new ski area.

The biggest problem for the GGB to start year-round operations was the steep slope above Riffelboden. The Riffelboden was exposed to avalanches in the lower part and severe flooding in the upper part. Exposed to snow drifts, the clearing work here was particularly arduous, dangerous, and costly. Construction of the 800-meter-long protective gallery began in 1939 and was completed by the end of the war. Only then was regular, safe winter operations possible, even in the higher regions.

Operating year-round since 1942

In 1942, the GGB was able to travel to Gornergrat-Kulm in winter for the first time. Thanks to the start of winter operations by the then VZ and the Gornergrat Railway, winter tourism in Zermatt steadily increased, along with prosperity in the Matterhorn village. The "Gornergrat Derby," a ski race from Gornergrat to the Moos above Zermatt, was held from 1946 to 1967 and was one of the most famous ski events in Europe.



Reporting in the "Walliser Boten" of 27 August 1898 on the opening of the GGB

"Soon the whole world will be talking about the Gornergrat. (...) And now it's really starting to take off and escalate; because now all the cripples and obese people can, for a few pennies, say five francs, be pulled comfortably up onto cushions and armchairs behind glass and curtains to the incomparable spectacle at the heights, arguably the most magnificent in Switzerland. Yes, that's how it is."

Municipality of Zermatt

Kitchen waste – incorrect disposal

Private households can dispose of their kitchen waste in the containers provided for kitchen waste at public waste sheds. However, it is increasingly being observed that plastic and other waste from third parties are being disposed of in these containers.

The municipal waste regulations regulate the disposal of various recyclable materials. For example, kitchen waste

In these cases, the waste is collected separately and processed into fertilizer or electricity at the local biogas plant in Zen Stecken.

What doesn't belong in there?

- Plastic bags or compost bags
- Green waste
- Mussels
- Raw bones

What can be disposed of as kitchen waste?

- Fruit and vegetable peelings
- Leftovers
- Eggshells
- Meat and fish products
- Cooked bones
- Coffee grounds and tea leaves without bags or capsules
- Fruit peels
- Frying fat
- Small animal manure with hay
- Straw and sawdust

plastic bag

Often the kitchen waste is disposed of in the containers in

These plastic bags must then be manually sorted out and properly disposed of at the biogas plant , as they cannot be processed in the biogas plant.

Tip: You can empty the kitchen waste collected in plastic bags into the kitchen waste containers and then legally dispose of the empty plastic bag in the household waste compactor.



Such improper disposal should be a thing of the past.

Further information on proper disposal can be found at: www.zermatt-entsorgung.ch
We thank the public for their support in ensuring proper disposal of recyclable materials.

Show



Regulations and specifications for construction times

Construction periods spring and autumn 2023

As in previous years, the municipal council will set the construction schedule for the current year. In doing so, it will follow the provisions and guidelines of the municipal noise abatement regulations (LBR) and the traffic regulations (VR) of the municipality of Zermatt (EWG).

The construction times are regulated by:

- the use of motor vehicles (trucks, Motor carts and single-axle motor vehicles)
- the use of construction machinery
- the execution of drilling, blasting and Pointed work
- the removal of excavated and demolition material

For **helicopter flights** , the provisions of **federal legislation** and those of the **agreement of 13 April 2004** between the EEC and Air Zermatt apply.

Permitted construction periods spring 2023

Approved period: **Monday, May 1st at 7:30 a.m. to Wednesday, May 31st at 6:30 p.m.**

April

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
						1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		

May

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
29	30	31						

June

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
				1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30				

Permitted construction periods in autumn 2023

Approved period: **Monday, October 2nd morning to Friday, October 27th evening**

September

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
				1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29	30			

October

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
						1		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
30	31							

November

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
		1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30					

■ premature geothermal drilling/extended geothermal drilling site installation excavation crane dismantling holidays■ closed days

General provisions

1. Application

Applications must be submitted to the Public Security Department **no later** than the following date:

Special driving permit

24 hours before departure

Overflight permit

24 hours before the flight

Premature or extended geothermal drilling

72 hours before

Premature or extended excavation times

2 weeks before

Premature or extended slope stabilization work

2 weeks before

Drilling/blasting work in private development tunnels

2 weeks before

Use of public land

2 weeks before

Applications submitted late will not be processed on time.

2. Weight limit

Excavated material transports must not exceed the maximum permissible total weight (vehicle and load) of **26 tonnes** .

3. Site installation plan

A site installation plan must be submitted to the EEC Construction Department no later than **10 working days before the start of construction** .

4. Transport by truck

To avoid empty runs, trucks authorized to transport excavation and demolition material (sign) are permitted to carry the necessary materials to other construction sites along the route, provided space permits (no public land).

5. Transport with tracked vehicles

Tracked vehicles, except those with rubber tracks, may only be transported on low-loaders. The tracks must be cleaned beforehand. A written application (for a special driving permit) must be submitted to the EEC Public Safety Department before transit .

6. Street cleaning

Appropriate measures such as asphaltting or concreting the construction site access road must be taken to ensure that **no dirt is thrown onto the road** when leaving the site.

If excessive pollution of public roads is nevertheless caused, the additional expenses incurred for cleaning the road will be billed to the client at the contractor's external rates. The violation will also result in an additional fine.

In special cases, the building inspectorate may require additional measures, including a halt to construction, until the legal condition is restored.

7. Penal provisions

Violations of the above provisions will result in a fine of CHF 50.– to CHF 5 000.–

punishable unless the penal provisions of federal or cantonal laws apply.

Special transports in connection with **early construction site installation** require **approval**.

The transport of excavated and demolition material by truck or vehicle with combustion engine is permitted subject to a permit. Construction companies are required to collect the relevant permit signs from the Public Safety Department by mid-April 2023 or mid-September 2023, and before the start of excavation on Friday, April 28, 2023, or Friday, September 29, 2023, upon notification of the construction sites to be served. The signs must be returned to the Public Safety Department after the excavation period on the morning of Thursday, June 1, 2023, or the morning of Monday, October 30 , 2023 .

The use of dumpers is prohibited by the VR, but can be authorized. A permit for the use of a dumper can be issued upon a substantiated application.

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.** (Monday – Saturday)

The following construction machinery may **only** be used during the construction periods in spring and autumn:
Trax, excavators, bulldozers, compressors, jackhammers, other heavy construction machinery.

Helicopter flights for material transport

Helicopter transport of materials within the village is only permitted during the construction periods in spring and fall. For overflights within the village, an application for an overflight permit must be submitted to the Public Safety Department.

Blocked days

Bridge driveway

Friday, May 19 and Saturday, May 20

Whit Monday

Monday, May 29

Corpus Christi

Friday, June 9 and Saturday, June 10

Restrictions 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 – not even with electric vehicles.

Starting work and Joining the firm

We are pleased to announce that he has commenced his professional career and joined the Andreas S. Biner law firm.

Michael Julen

Lawyer & Notary

michael.julen@zermatt-law.ch

Brantschenhaus 18

3920 Zermatt

027 968 15 15



Municipality of Zermatt

Interesting facts from the municipality

This section provides an insight into various topics of the municipality of Zermatt (EWG).

Detailed information about ongoing projects is provided at the general assembly, and decisions made by the municipal council are posted on the website www.gemeinde-zermatt.ch under the News section.

Budget 2023

At the last general meeting on December 7, 2022, the state unanimously approved the budget. Net investments of CHF 31.5 million are planned. The largest investment in 2023, approximately CHF 15 million, will go toward the construction of the new Walka school building.

Construction of the Blatten reservoir will also begin, triggering a major investment of CHF 2.4 million in the water supply. Investments in the municipal road network will focus on resurfacing and maintaining the value of Staldenstrasse. Planning will primarily focus on implementing the Spiss district plan and the construction of Tuftrastrasse, including a bus turnaround. A total of CHF 2.9 million is planned for the municipal road network.

Approximately CHF 1.3 million has been reserved for the hiking and biking trails. Among other things, the flow trail between Blauherd and Sunnegga is to be created. Construction of the new sports pavilion at Obere Matten will begin in May. CHF 2.7 million has been earmarked for its construction .

The budget report and the annual financial report detail investments and finances and can also be found on the EEC website.

New Head of Administration

On February 1, 2023, Daniel Feuz took over the role of Head of Administration. Daniel Feuz is 54 years old and originally from Bern. He holds a federal diploma in business administration (HWV) and a federal certificate in public accounting. Before coming to Zermatt, he worked for various companies in Bern, Dublin, and Basel. For ten years, he has held the position of Head of Finance at EWG. During this time, he has acquired in-depth knowledge of all administrative processes. His calm and considered manner makes him a convincing choice.

Community Apéro:

The community aperitif was held again this year. The theater group, led by Hanspeter Perren, reviewed the past year in a humorous way. The young citizens of the class of 2005 were honored, and the municipal council, together with the Zermatterhof, took care of the catering. Speaking of costs: The costs of this event are covered by the income from the representation in private companies in which the municipal council members are represented.

New building d'niww Walka

The renovation of the Walka school building is on track. Due to supply bottlenecks and rising material costs, delays and additional costs are to be expected. Currently, the additional costs amount to approximately +2.27%. The occupancy date for the "niww Walka" has not yet been finalized.

Power shortage

The Public Safety Department and the municipal management team are also working on how to deal with a potential power shortage or blackout. Various scenarios are being developed in collaboration with Elektrizitätswerk Zermatt AG. A discussion with the This includes service partners as well as the challenge of communication when nothing works anymore.



Daniel Feuz, Head of Administration

Living situation

The housing situation in Zermatt and Täsch continues to worsen, and all apartment/ house owners are asked to consider this issue. The cooperative for affordable housing has been founded and is looking for homeowners willing to make their apartments available to the cooperative (www.wohnraum-mattertal.ch). See also the following article.

sustainability

The topic of sustainability is being addressed in a broad-based working group led by Swiss Climate, and qualitative goals and measures for the social, ecological, and economic areas are being developed. We will report again as soon as these goals and measures have been formulated .

Site developer

Manuel Arquít has been appointed to the position of site developer . His responsibilities focus on meeting the needs of the local population . The aim is to make Zermatt and Täsch more attractive and expand the living environment. It is important to recognize the needs of the times and find solutions.

artificial ice rink

The Zermatt Unplugged team and the head of the school, sports, and leisure facilities at Obere Matten were tasked with keeping the artificial ice rink open longer. We are currently well on our way to achieving this target and being able to significantly shorten the ice rink's closure time by 2023.

lischers Zermatt

Interesting facts about Zermatt can also be found at «lischers Zermatt» The platform stands for open dialogue culture, healthy discussions and exciting debates under the leadership of David Taugwalder. Every two weeks, a podcast appears on various topics related to Zermatt.

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The board of the cooperative for the promotion of affordable housing in the inner Mattertal (from left): Bianca Ballmann (President - dentin), Mario Fuchs, Enzo Scognamiglio (Managing Director), Leo Schuler, Alice Kalbermatter (Vice President), Nicolai Blasic.

Municipality of Zermatt

Living space Mattertal

Cooperative goes into operation

With the hiring of real estate expert Enzo Scognamiglio, the new cooperative has launched its business. Now, property owners We are looking for people who would like to lease their properties to the cooperative for a fixed fee for management and subletting to local residents via let.

The Valais media have reported extensively on this: End

In June of this year, nine public and private in - institutions after intensive preparatory work, the «Cooperative for

Promoting affordable housing in the inner Matter - valley». The founding members include the residents - municipalities of Täsch and Zermatt, the BVZ Sammelstiftung Matterhorn, the BVZ Asset Management AG / MGBahn, the Ge - advertising association and the Zermatt Hoteliers Association, the Cultural and Social Foundation of the Zermatt Citizens' Community as well as Zermatt Bergbahnen AG and Zermatt Tourism.

The cooperative with the abbreviation «Wohnraum Mat - tertal» is therefore broadly supported and pursues the clear goal of increasing the supply of affordable first homes in the inner Matter - tal gradually. With Enzo Scognamiglio, the cooperative's board recently appointed a real estate pro - fi as managing director. The 56-year-old is a trained structural draftsman and also a property manager with a federal professional certificate. His skills as a real estate - He has worked as a property manager for various institutional real estate companies over the past twenty years .

The core task of the managing director now consists of setting up the office, publicizing the cooperative's offerings among local property owners, and negotiating with interested parties. In the near future, a sufficient number of properties will be added to the cooperative's long-term portfolio, which will then be made available to households with limited incomes.

There are currently no rental properties available – they will be communicated in due course. Until then, we ask that you refrain from making any rental inquiries to the cooperative.

The Managing Director will work on a 50% basis during the initial phase and will have a workplace in Zermatt. He will be supported by the Board in setting up the office and in communication and maintaining contacts. The board and management are pleased when property owners - de to clarify a possible cooperation with the cooperative and many within the framework of their Opportunities for mobilizing affordable housing space participate.

The cooperative can rent, acquire, manage, and administer properties and apartments . It is also authorized to acquire suitable land and building rights, or to build their own buildings. The cooperative can therefore support property owners in their projects – depending on the con - specific starting situations and needs – and provide them with the necessary professionalism in the long-term management of their properties. (see also «Call» on the right)

At the founding meeting at the end of June, the Sta - and a rental regulation were approved, and the cooperative's board was elected. The statutes enshrine the important principle of non-profit status and allow the cooperative to gradually broaden its support and further develop its to develop.

The new corporation receives its starting capital through the subscribed registered shares of the members as well as two non-interest-bearing loans of CHF 50,000 each from the local community - Täsch and Zermatt. According to the business plan, at least 12 to 18 apartments are to be contracted in the initial years to ensure the cooperative model proves financially viable in the long term.

According to the rental regulations , the cooperative apartments to households with limited income - In addition, tenants must live and work in the inner Matter Valley. A leasing committee decides on the allocation of properties . In the interest of a balanced population structure, two-thirds of the areas to be managed apartments in the municipality of Zermatt - The goal there is to be able to offer the entrusted apartments at approximately 15 percent below the usual market value .

The problem of the lack of supply of affordable The shortage of affordable housing has become even more acute in the inner Matter Valley due to the pandemic and the general labor shortage. For many households, housing costs exceed the generally accepted pain threshold of 30 percent of disposable income. The unemployment rate is also rising. Companies complain about disadvantages in retaining and new employees - Recruiting the scarce staff. The need for action remains undiminished.



APPEAL to apartment, house and building land owners in Zermatt, Täsch and Randa

We ask you specifically: –

Are you considering making better use of poorly or unused living space in the future?

– Do you hardly need your second home anymore? But you don't want to part with it completely?

– Is it possible for you to make your property available for to provide useful residential purposes?

– Would you like to be relieved of the burden of renting and managing your property in the future?

– Do you not live in the Mattertal yourself, but want to know that your property there is in good hands?

– Do you own building land and are you considering using it to build affordable first homes?

– Do you want for your construction project and the renting afterwards professional support?

We offer you specifically:

– Contractually guaranteed minimum return for long temporary transfer of the property in question

– Significant workload reduction in administration, maintenance - maintenance and valorization of real estate

– Tailor-made solutions for rental, Management and renovation of your property

– Participation in the mobilization of building land and the creation of affordable first homes

– Sympathetic form of investment and wealth - administration for the benefit of the inner Matter Valley

– Competent and independent counterpart in Liegen - business issues without any profit motive

– Serious clarifications with confidential handling of your information and intentions.

Interested? Then please contact:

Cooperative for the promotion of affordable Living space in the inner Mattertal

Enzo Scognamiglio, Managing Director

Phone +41 78 508 52 53

Email: enzo.scognamiglio@wohnraum-mattertal.ch

www.wohnraum-mattertal.ch

Municipality of Zermatt

Construction work in Zermatt

This year, too, numerous works must be carried out on bridges, roads and paths.

Staldenstrasse

Between 1 May and 30 June 2023, another stage -

pe of Staldenstrasse was renovated. In addition to replacing the drinking water In addition to the water line, a new storm sewer line will be laid, cable systems will be added, and the entire street casing will be replaced.

A closure for vehicle traffic cannot be avoided - A detour will be provided for pedestrians.

Bridge to the jetty

The water supply must replace a defective connecting pipe located in the bridge deck. The exact timing of the repair cannot currently be determined and will depend on the ongoing construction work and transport.

Any disruptions and diversions will be announced in advance.

Steinmattstrasse

The drinking water pipeline north of Riedstrasse is being replaced. Work will begin on May 1 and last until June 9.

This area is mostly accessible for electric vehicles. In short - timely disruptions, waiting times or even closures - cannot be avoided.

Steel bridge at the Sunnegga funicular

The existing steel elements need to be repaired and the corrosion protection renewed. At the same time, stronger decking plates will be installed and the abutments replaced.

This will take place in two stages. In May, half of the Ele - elements will be removed and reassembled in the autumn after the renovation . To comply with flood protection requirements, the elements will be arranged so that they can be dismantled from the south in the event of a flood. The renovation of the remaining bridge elements - will take place in summer 2024.

Riedweg

North of the Hotel Bellavista, the curve will be changed in the autumn - For this, the rock must be secured and partially The road will be closed from 16.

October to October 27, 2023, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Lower Wiestistrasse

The first renovation phase is scheduled for October 2nd to November 17th, 2023. This includes the demolition Section from the staircase to the turning area at the Mazzone House. Pedestrians can pass through this area continuously.

Freight handling Lügelti

In the area of the former landfill, contaminated sites were identified - In order to remove these properly, the entire area between the cantonal road and the Bö - The connection to the Vispa will be dug out to a depth of about two meters. The individual material layers are then examined and

The contaminated material is transported away for processing. To minimize disruption to cargo handling, The remediation will take place in several stages. Part of the area will also be used as an interim storage facility for the uncontaminated material. In order to maintain operations as much as possible, In order to preserve the site and not hinder other users, no material may be stored temporarily. All parties involved are required to plan their deliveries of goods and the necessary logistics in such a way that reloading and removal take place within a very short time.

Realization of long construction phases from the year 2024

The official construction windows in May and October lead to - because of the high traffic volume and high workload of the companies. In addition to the many private construction projects, maintenance, various renovations and renovations and the expansion of public infrastructure are to be accomplished simultaneously. The many short construction phases lead not only to higher costs but also to repeated disruptions for residents. A further aggravating factor is that the municipal road network is not designed for a large number of vehicles. While adhering to the existing For example, the ongoing complete renovation of Staldenstrasse over many years.

The local council has in principle opted for longer construction periods - cuts in construction work on public infrastructure facilities -

This means that public construction projects are given greater weight than private interests. So that those affected can prepare accordingly -

In order to prepare for this, early information will be provided in "Zermatt Inside" and on the homepage.

The financial planning already includes several construction projects in the village area, with work scheduled to take place between May and November. These include:

- Moosweg (wall renovation between Schluhmattstrasse and the wooden bridge over the Findelbach)
- Riedweg (section between the Hotel Schöneegg and the House Lyskamm)
- Vispastrasse (bridge to the footbridge to Spiss – first stage)
- In 2025, the following will follow:
- Untere Wiestistrasse (Sunneggastasse to the turning point)
- Vispastrasse (further stage)
- Riedweg (Gryfelblatte to Howette)
- Wiestistrasse (Sunneggastasse to Hotel Christiania)

We ask all those affected for their understanding and thank for the active support.



Municipality of Zermatt

Solar obligation for New buildings of over 300 m2

As of 1 January 2023, a new regulation requiring the use of solar energy in new buildings with a building area of more than 300 m2 came into force.



In September 2022, the National Council and the Council of States adopted various urgent measures to ensure a secure electricity supply in winter. One of these measures was the introduction of a mandatory use of solar energy for new buildings with an eligible building area of over 300 m². This can be in the form of photovoltaics (PV) or solar thermal systems on the roof or facade of the building. The cantons are responsible for the precise provisions for implementation and the definition of exceptions . For this reason, the Canton of Valais also had to amend its Ordinance on the Rational Use of Energy in Buildings and Facilities (ORF) accordingly . At its session on December 14, 2022, the State Council therefore decided to add the following Article 28a to the above ordinance:

Article 28a
Obligation to use solar energy in new buildings
¹ When constructing new buildings with a qualifying building area of more than 300 m², a solar system must be installed on the roof or facade. The qualifying building area is defined as the area within the projected facade line.
² The area of the solar panels or solar collectors must be at least 40 percent of the eligible building area.
³ Applications for exemptions are governed by Article 7 of this regulation. A solar power system whose production costs, calculated with a payback period of 25 years, are less than 20 cents/kWh is not considered economically disproportionate.

This regulation entered into force on January 1, 2023, and must be considered for all building permit applications with immediate effect. However, it only applies to new buildings whose building permit application was submitted after January 1, 2023. If the building permit application was submitted before the deadline, the requirement to use solar energy does not apply. Furthermore, subsequent changes to the building permit application are not affected, provided they were submitted before January 1, 2023. Construction does not necessarily have to have begun yet; only the date of the building permit application is decisive. Further information about the new practice can be found on the Cantonal website <https://www.vs.ch/de/web/energie/solar-energie/obligation> and at the Oberwallis Energy Advisory Service www.energieberatung-oberwallis.ch.

Municipality of Zermatt

Cultural award winner

The Cultural Prize is awarded once per legislative term and is presented at the annual community reception. Following a recommendation from the Cultural Commission, the municipal council voted in favor of Edy Schmid.

Anyone who has ever visited the Matterhorn Museum has certainly had contact with Edy Schmid. Edy has been president of the Matterhorn Museum for 15 years, and he has dedicated himself to it with heart and soul.

In 1968, Edy came to Zermatt from Ausserberg as a young teacher, found his love, and stayed. He always showed a great interest in Zermatt's history, its traditions, and the Matterhorn. After retiring as a teacher, he was able to indulge this passion in the museum.

In addition to his daily tasks, he also manages countless old pictures of Zermatt to preserve its history. Through his dedication, he has made a significant and valuable contribution to the museum and thus to the Matterhorn village.

For his cultural achievement and as a token of appreciation, Edy Schmid received the Cultural Prize at the community reception on January 27, 2023.



From left: Othmar Perren (Cultural Commission), Edy Schmid (award winner), Romy Biner (Mayor)

Show



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Municipality of Zermatt

Tax period 2022 changes and news

Changes to the 2022 tax period and the 2023 tax collection in installments, with the adjustment of the indexation to 173% and the introduction of a municipal property transfer tax as of February 1, 2023.

Most important changes

- Starting with the 2022 tax period, diabetics under medical treatment will **no** longer be able to deduct a flat rate of CHF 2,500.
- It is worth mentioning that the withholding tax reform was implemented on 1 January 2021.
- The withholding tax rates for 2023 have been changed compared to 2022 and need to be adjusted.

Further information can be found at: www.vs.ch/quellensteuer

Home office, tax period 2022

For the 2022 tax period, employees who have worked remotely and/or on short-time work during the year and occasionally traveled to their usual place of work can **only claim the travel and meal expenses actually incurred**.

The employee must indicate the number of teleworking days in the designated section of Appendix 5 of their tax return. This means that travel expenses, costs for meals away from home, and weekly stays away from home are reduced.

The tax deduction for the use of bicycles/scooters (CHF 700 per year) will not be reduced. For journeys on public transport, general and route season tickets are accepted in full upon presentation of receipts; otherwise, the actual costs will be covered.

VSTax 2022

We recommend that everyone use the free VSTax 2022 software at www.vs.ch/vstax to complete their 2022 tax return .

This software has been adapted and improved for the 2022 tax period . The download will be available from the beginning of February 2023. If you have any questions about using the program, please visit www.vs.ch/vstax-kontakte Contact persons are available.



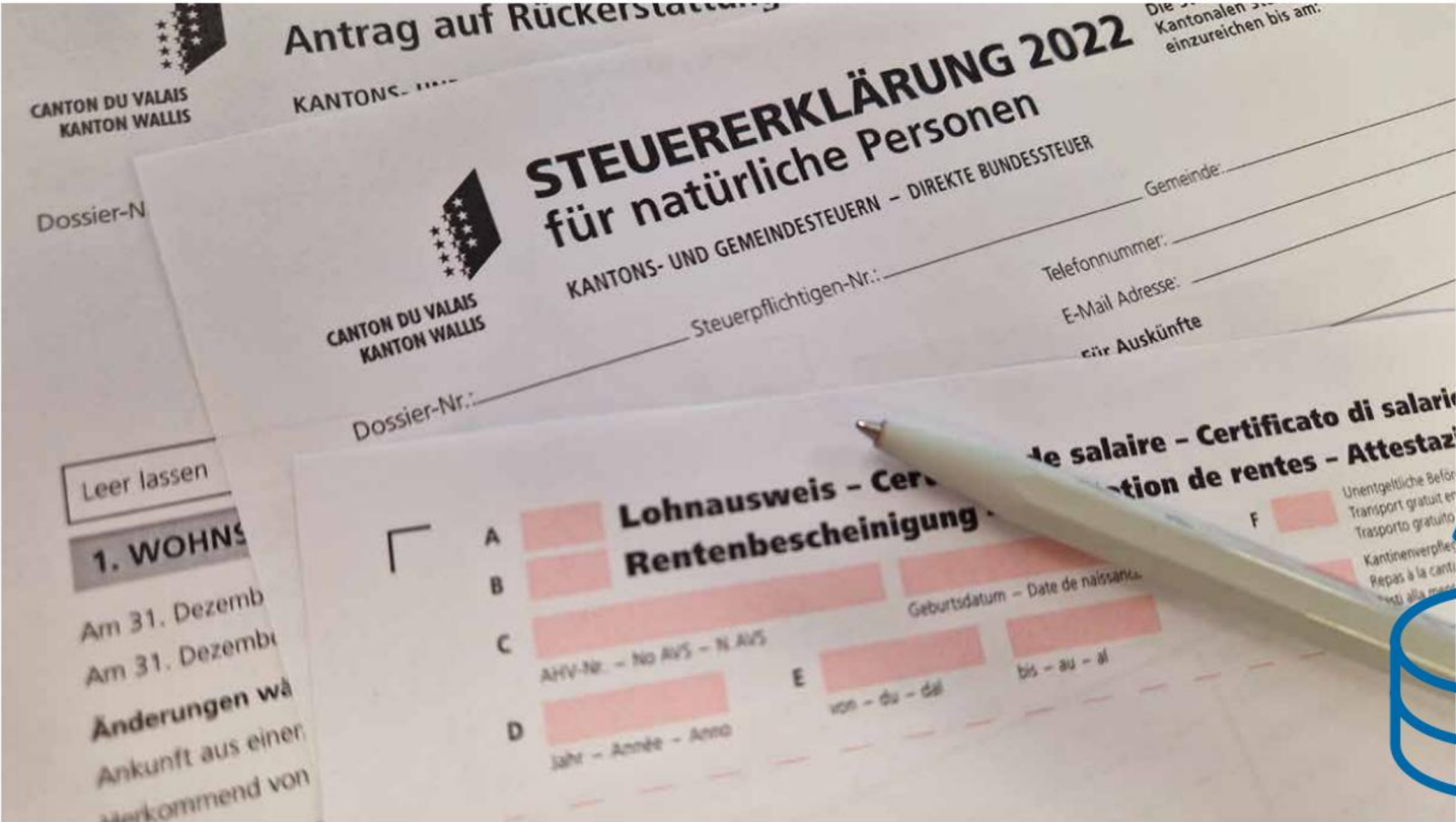
Use the free VSTax software and the Tell Tax smartphone app to manage your receipts. Information is available at www.vs.ch/telltax.

The website www.vs.ch/steuern contains the "Online Assessment Guide " with all instructions and content on assessment practices, the tax calculator for calculating all types of taxes, and much other information on taxation.

The 2022 tax returns will be sent out starting in February 2023.

The deadline for filing the 2022 tax return is December 31. March 2023.

The "Application for Subsequent Regular Assessment " (NOV) form for Permis B must also be submitted by March 31, 2023 ! It is important to note that Permis B holders must subsequently file a tax return every year . A NOV cannot be withdrawn.



Tax payment in installments 2023

The 2023 advance payments and municipal taxes were indexed from 170% to 173%. Accordingly, individuals can expect tax relief of approximately 1.70% on their income tax.

The 2023 installment payments were delivered towards the end of January or the beginning of February 2023 and serve as advance tax payments in installments, levied in accordance with Article 193 of the Tax Act. These advance payments are due within 30 days of the due dates listed below:

- 1st installment February 10, 2023
- 2nd installment April 10, 2023
- 3rd installment June 10, 2023
- 4th installment August 10, 2023
- 5th installment October 10, 2023

In the final tax settlement for 2023, 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 a rate of 3.5% in the final settlement.
- The default interest for unpaid or late payments is also 3.5%.
- As in previous years, no interest credits can be granted for advance payments of tax withholdings in 2023.
- 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 tax due date, 31 March 2024, and charged at a rate of 3.5% if the interest amount exceeds CHF 500.

Taxpayers who have made insufficient advance payments are advised to make a supplementary payment to avoid the compensatory interest. Those who have not received any 2023 advance payment invoices are asked to contact the Tax Office.

Filing your 2022 tax return

The 2022 tax returns of residents and second home owners may no longer be sent or submitted to the municipality of Zermatt by taxpayers or their tax representatives.

Tax returns not submitted electronically must be submitted exclusively to the following address:

**Cantonal Tax Administration
Scan Center
Bahnhofstrasse 35
1951 Sion**

Electronically submitted tax returns can be submitted unchanged via the tax software VSTax.

Changes to inheritances from Tax period 2023

Taxation of community inheritances in Valais

For several years, the Federal Tax Administration has been intervening with the Cantonal Tax Administration to tax communities of heirs in the Canton of Valais in accordance with the Federal Act on Direct Federal Taxation. For the 2023 tax assessment, all still active communities of heirs will be subject to the same rule and will receive a tax return for communities of heirs to complete.

New procedures from the 2023 assessment

The refund of withholding tax on undistributed inheritances

Until the end of 2022, the last option for undistributed inheritances was The canton of residence of the testator is responsible for refunding the withholding tax to the heirs.

Starting with the 2023 tax period, heirs of an inheritance not yet distributed will be able to reclaim the withholding tax on inheritance income based on their inheritance quotas in their canton of residence. To do so, the pro rata gross income with withholding tax deducted must be listed and documented in their personal securities register. Gross income without withholding tax deducted, as well as the securities portfolio as of December 31, 2023, must also be declared.

Death of a spouse

The joint tax liability remains in place until the spouse's death. Upon death, the surviving spouse is taxed as a single person with a new tax number.

Death of a single person

Regardless of the deceased's assets and income, a new tax number will be issued in the municipality where they resided at the time of death . The representative of the community of heirs will be sent a tax return for the community of heirs, as well as one valid until death.

We would like to draw everyone's attention to the fact that heirs should have their properties in the Canton of Valais cleared with the help of a notary at the Brig Land Registry . This significantly simplifies the tax situation.

End of the community of heirs

Once all assets have been sold or divided, the community of heirs will no longer receive a tax return.

Required documents

– The contact details of the heirs are listed on the tax return, along with their share of the income and assets of the community of heirs. Each heir must transfer this share to their own tax return.

– The names of the municipalities in which the community of heirs owns real estate must be indicated in the appropriate sections.

- All receipts regarding income and assets
- Certificate of inheritance
- Inventory list (if available)
- Copy of the will or inheritance contract or other written formally established agreements

Invoicing

Starting with the 2022 tax period, the community of heirs will no longer be issued with a separate tax invoice. Invoicing will be handled by the individual heirs. This is why the communities of heirs did not receive any advance payments for the 2023 tax year. The exception to this is for communities of heirs whose heirs are unknown. These will continue to be taxed as a community of heirs.

Introduction of a municipal property transfer tax as of 1 February 2023

On December 7, 2022, the General Assembly approved an additional municipal transfer tax of 50% . The State Council approved the corresponding regulations at its meeting on January 11, 2023. According to Article 4 of the corresponding regulations, they will enter into force the month following their approval.

Accordingly, the additional municipal transfer tax will be levied from 1 February 2023 .

The regulations are available at <https://gemeinde.zermatt.ch/reglement> .

If you have any questions, please contact the Tax Department of the municipality of Zermatt (by email to steuern@zermatt.ch or by phone at 027 966 22 40).

Municipality of Zermatt

A LOOK BEHIND THE SCENES

Zermatt local bus

"Get to your destination in an environmentally friendly way" is the motto of the local bus in Zermatt.

But who ensures that the electric buses actually run?
We provide a glimpse behind the scenes.

Story

In January 1988, electric buses were used for the first time in Zermatt to serve the valley stations of the "Green Line" mountain railway.
In December 1991, additional mini-electric buses "Red Line" were put into operation to serve the Winkelmatten outskirts.

On the total route of approximately 9.7 km, guests and residents are transported in two different types of buses.

A large bus on the "Green Line" can accommodate up to 70 passengers, while a minibus on the "Red Line" can accommodate up to 34 passengers.

During the winter season, depending on the weather and holidays, up to 15,000 people are transported through Zermatt daily using these means of transport. The "Red Line" serves 13 stations, and the "Green Line" twelve of them. During peak season, weather permitting, a total of ten buses are operated daily on both lines.

In the morning, when the light in the garage comes on

Before the first bus leaves the garage in the morning, the charging station is removed from all buses and the ignition is switched on so that the vehicles can build up operating pressure. The vehicles are then checked for operational readiness (including checking the wheel nuts and fluids, and performing a brake test).

Bus service starts at 7:00 a.m. and ends at approximately 8:00 p.m. On the "Green Line," one battery charge is sufficient for a maximum of 28 daily trips under normal road conditions. On the "Red Line," the batteries must be charged during each break.

In recent years, new lithium batteries have been installed in all buses. These have significantly increased the battery life.

Battery charge has been massively reduced and the service life has also been extended.

During the operation

Driving on the sometimes narrow streets with their large number of pedestrians and electric vehicles requires a high level of concentration. In addition to safety, bus drivers always aim to adhere to the schedules.

The "Red Line" has a fixed timetable, supplemented by an additional electric bus during peak times. On the "Green Line," a 10-minute frequency is implemented in winter, with waiting times reduced to five minutes during peak times thanks to the use of additional buses.

The chauffeurs also change their role again and again and become

"Information people." Questions like: "Where is each stop, what will the weather be like, what are the slope conditions like, or where can I find a good meal in Zermatt..." have become almost part of everyday life.

The E-Bus Team

The experienced E-Bus team has a total of 15 employees from different different nations (Portugal, Italy, Croatia, and Switzerland), seven of whom are seasonal drivers who are only employed during the winter months. In the current 2022/2023 winter season, we were proud to welcome a female driver to our team for the first time.

greet.

Maintenance / Garage

The garage owner ensures that all vehicles are always in working order. Accordingly, both major and minor repairs are required. If a bus is out of service due to a technical defect, repairs are sometimes carried out on-site. In the event of a staffing shortage or if an additional bus needs to be deployed, the garage owner can always be relied upon.

In the evening

Once the buses return to the garage in the evening, the drivers thoroughly clean and inspect them inside and out. Any items left behind on the buses are deposited with the lost and found items and reported to the Lost and Found office in the community center. Finally, the batteries are connected for charging so the e-bus operations team can start the next day with renewed energy.

organization

Since 1 October 2022, Marc Grand has been the new e-bus operations manager and together with his 14 drivers, he is responsible for ensuring that passengers are transported safely on the two circuits.

The E-Bus team wishes everyone a safe journey.



Municipality of Zermatt

On the trail of energy



Findelbach power plant

Gamsen waste incineration plant



Energy Day at the Orientation School Zermatt

The students of the Zermatt Orientation School experienced an Energy Day on November 22, 2022. On this day, they visited the Zmutt and Findelbach power plants, the waste incineration plant in Gamsen, and the biogas plant in Zermatt.

A morning at the waste incineration plant

Class 9OS1 spent a morning at the waste incineration plant (WIP) in Gamsen. The WIP incineration plant incinerates waste and generates electricity in the process. Upon our arrival, we were first welcomed by the WIP manager, Kurt Ruppen, and given an introduction to its operation using the control monitors. We were then divided into groups and guided through the entire facility. This provided us with a wealth of important information, such as the fact that it takes three weeks for the bunker to fill up and that the WIP receives 165 tons of waste per day from all over Upper Valais. We even got to operate the grabber, which is used to transfer the waste from the storage area into the hopper.

Garbage that has landed in the hopper is burned, and the slag (the residue) is placed on a conveyor belt and deposited.

The combustion gases are washed and released in huge showers. We found this visit cool and impressive.

Because we learned a lot about waste and electricity. During this time, our two parallel classes visited the biogas plant in Zermatt.

Are there other power sources?

On this day, the 10OS class learned that there isn't just one type of electricity. We were able to experience this using models.

One class constructed a boat, the other a car. While building these models, we learned that there is more than just one source of electricity. For example, you can generate electricity using solar cells or plants.

Generate electricity. The car we built drives using a battery, a motor, and a microphone. We connected the cables of the motor, battery, and microchip, and as soon as a noise was generated, the motor began to rotate and the car started moving. In the boat, the solar cells absorbed the sun's rays.

and the propeller is thereby set in rotation. This creates

Air, and the boat floats forward. This is how we learned that electricity can be generated in more ways than just power plants.

Visit to the power plants in Zermatt

At the same time, the 11OS students visited the Zmutt and Findelbach power plants. We learned a lot about Zermatt's energy supply. Before the tour, Patrick Kronig and Marco Gsponer gave us the most important information about the power plants around the village. Afterwards,

We visited the power plants. We were shown how electricity can be generated from water. The water flows over a turbine, which drives a generator, which then produces electricity. The municipality of Zermatt has

Sufficient electricity available in summer. Our morning was very exciting. We were able to peek behind the scenes and learn a lot of new things.

Written by: Aileen Janneth Janik,
Carline Perren, Jana Perren,
Lionel Perren and Gloria Villano



Zmutt power plant

Municipality of Zermatt

Bicycles on the public roadside

On public roads

In addition to pedestrians, electric vehicles and bicycles also travel. The latter are often parked on the side of the road, making it difficult or even impossible to pass through, and hindering other public works.



Public roads and paths must be accessible to all road users without hindrance. This can only be achieved with mutual consideration.

Public works are being disrupted

According to Article 10 of the municipal traffic regulations, parking on public streets and squares is prohibited. However, in recent months, the Zermatt Regional Police have repeatedly received reports that it has become impossible to pass through various public streets and, in some cases, paths.

Moving the bicycles on site was often not possible because they were chained to the adjacent fence or railing with a bicycle lock.

The result was that the technical service was hindered in its snow clearing, Zermatt Waste Management was hindered in its recycling disposal, the local bus was hindered in its passenger transport, and emergency services were hindered in their emergency response . This cannot be allowed!

Preventive measure

Last year, the Zermatt Regional Police proactively drew cyclists' attention to the illegal parking on public roads by issuing information leaflets.

They were asked to park their bicycles in places that do not obstruct public roads and paths.

Practical tips

- Lead by example and:
- allow enough time to park your bike in a suitable place;
 - use public bicycle stands;
 - use your employer's predefined parking spaces on private property;
 - Alternatively, you can also walk to work.

We thank the cyclists for their consideration and the understanding.

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Municipality of Zermatt

YARK

A horror theater



For everyone aged 7 and over

Yark, a monster, loves to eat small children. But Yark has to be careful to only get the good ones —the naughty ones make him sick. While searching for wholesome food, Yark encounters a not-so-helpful Santa Claus, a cheeky brat, yogurt-cup princes, and Madeleine, a mountain girl. Events unfold rapidly, and Dani Mangisch gallops wildly through Yark's adventures, amid dialects, dolls, and objects. In the end, Madeleine saves the children from the monster, and the monster from itself.

Wednesday, March 15, 2023
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Schoolhouse «in the courtyard»
Free entry
Registration required

Community Library
Bahnhofstrasse 92
Zermatt

gemeindebibliothek-zermatt.ch
or +41 79 488 56 34



Municipality of Zermatt & Zermatt Tourism

Zermatt Unplugged – 5 days of music

The 14th Zermatt Unplugged will take place from April 11 to 15, 2023. During the five days of the festival, over 120 concerts and parties will take place on a total of 17 stages, and over 30,000 visitors are expected.

Artists and guests from all over the world enjoy the festival's musical program alongside Zermatt's mountain scenery, slopes, and hotel and restaurant offerings . Zermatt Unplugged is also intended to provide added value and enrichment for the people of Zermatt . Attempts are made to minimize some unavoidable restrictions and emissions and to continuously optimize processes.

Marketing and value creation

The 2023 main acts lineup has been announced since mid-December, and tickets are on sale. The majority of

The main concerts are already sold out. Together with national and regional media partners such as radio and television SRF, NZZ, APG, Blue, Kanal9, and others, the festival is implementing a nationwide marketing campaign with a media value of approximately CHF 2.5 million to promote the festival. This brings numerous new guests to Zermatt every year, and the destination benefits from positive effects on its image and perception . An external value creation study conducted in 2019 determined that the festival generates additional added value of approximately CHF 7.5 million in the destination during the five days alone – partly through the overnight stays generated, but also through expenditures by the festival, guests, and partners in local businesses and businesses.

financing

In order to ensure the implementation of the festival, in addition to human resources and a functioning Local infrastructure, especially financial resources necessary. Of the total budget of approximately CHF 6.5 million, only about 25% can be generated from ticket revenue. Revenue from F&B and hospitality during the festival contributes a further share, but the majority (around 40%) must be financed through sponsorship and public funding . The destination contributes to this with the event pool a central base contribution. Sponsorship itself involves a great deal of effort in acquisition and implementation , and sponsors' expectations for a good presence in the Taste Village are very high. Accordingly, achieving a balanced operating result for the festival is a major challenge every year.

Stages and formats 2023

Zermatt Unplugged 2023 will essentially take place in the same way as the 2022 festival, but with one significant adjustment: The concerts and parties in the tennis hall of the Hotel Alex will not take place this year. This is primarily due to the currently very high costs for personnel, services, and infrastructure, and to reduce transport and emissions in the village over the Easter weekend.

Transport and logistics

Audiences, artists and bands, as well as sponsors, place high demands on the infrastructure. Other aspects such as crowd flow and security must also be considered. Transportation to the center of Zermatt is necessary to provide this infrastructure . The first transportation will take place in the week of March 20th, and the last at the end of April. In consultation with the authorities, fixed times have been defined for setup and dismantling, including the Easter weekend, during which transportation may take place. The time windows are planned to ensure quiet hours are observed, children are not on their way to school, and businesses are not disrupted as much as possible. Likewise, all larger transports will be accompanied by the festival's security staff.

The site of the temporary school building was used as a storage and logistics zone until 2019. Due to the new situation, decentralized storage facilities will be required, as was the case in 2022, resulting in more electrical transport within the village. To ensure safety at critical points such as the Hofmattstrasse area, a security service (guides) will also be deployed there. Additional festival staff will now be responsible for consistent security of the construction site and clear signage from the start of construction until its completion.

Assembly and dismantling of upper mats

The School, Sports, and Leisure Facilities (SSFA) and Zermatt Unplugged have jointly defined measures to make dismantling after the festival more efficient and shorten it to two weeks. The main focus, however, is on the setup time. To shorten the setup time, the festival has decided to reduce the construction work in the Taste Village and to deploy additional personnel resources. At least the artificial ice rink should be available to the public for as long as possible . The SSFA and Zermatt Unplugged have jointly developed technical measures to ensure that the artificial ice rink can remain open until the end of the sports holidays on March 12th – temperature conditions permitting. The public will be officially informed via newsletter as soon as possible.

Zermatt Unplugged and the municipality of Zermatt would like to thank the public for their understanding during the setup and dismantling of Zermatt Unplugged 2023. This year, Zermatt will once again be promoted throughout the world through many channels and through the personal experiences of the artists and guests, contributing sustainably to a positive positioning of the Zermatt-Matterhorn destination.



(c) Anja Zurbrügg / Julius Hatt



Unplugged Pass for the local population:

Upon presentation of the Blue Card (Zermatt, Täsch, Randa) or the Staff Card, you can receive the Unplugged Pass for CHF 40 instead of CHF 65. It is available at the Tourist Office or on-site at the festival. On Wednesday, access to the Taste Village and the foyer tent is free for locals (Blue Card and Staff Card holders) until 6:00 PM.

Upper mats and transports

The EWG and Zermatt Unplugged will inform the public via newsletter about the schedules for transport and setup/dismantling in the sports arena (including use of the artificial ice rink until the end of the sports holidays on March 12).

The parents of the schoolchildren are also supported by the School management informed.

Municipality of Zermatt

The Samaritan Association has a new name



The Zermatt Samaritan Association was dissolved on 1 January 2023 [First Aid Zermatt](#).

We also have our own logo. We continue to offer first aid and BLS-AED courses.

We will be on guard duty at various events .

The first first aid course this year begins on Friday, February 10, 2023, and continues on Saturday , February 11, 2023 (all day).

You can register directly via our web-website: [www.first-aid-zermatt.ch](#)

All other courses are also listed on the website.

First Aid Zermatt continues to work with the **event-med GmbH** and now with the **Swiss Medical Corps (SSK)** .

Zermatt Citizens' Community

Bed bug sniffer in Zermatt

The Matterhorn Group employs exciting individuals with diverse interests . One of them is Christine Huber.

Burgerin has been working as a reservations clerk at the Matterhorn Group 's reservation center since 2018. She gained her first experience in the tourism industry during her apprenticeship as a hotel manager at the Grand Hotel Zermatterhof from 1997 to 1999.

"Five years ago, I fulfilled a childhood dream and expanded my family with a Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever named Reena. Reena was warmly welcomed at the Burgerhaus as the new office dog ."

In a hotel hotspot like Zermatt , the most prestigious hotels can become home to oval, flat parasites belonging to the family of flat bugs. These are not

A hygiene problem at the hotel. Various visitors from all over the world give the bugs the opportunity to spread when they travel in luggage. The bed bugs then also spend an indefinite stay in the hotel.

When a guest complains about sudden, itchy bites or pustules on their skin, it often causes a stir for the hotel. "Bed bugs are still a taboo subject that must be handled with great sensitivity," says Christine.

"As bed bug hunters, Reena and I create a balance to our daily office life at the Burgerhaus and help Zermatt hotels rid themselves of bed bugs."

Some of the outstanding characteristics of this breed are their intelligence and friendly nature. Reena's abilities and need for mental stimulation prompted Christine to pursue a meaningful activity with her. Raised in Zermatt, with a wealth of experience in the dazzling world of tourism, Christine is familiar with the topic of bed bugs.

After a three-year training, Christine and Reena have been full-time since July 2022. Enthusiasm for tracking down bed bugs.



Show

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An adult human being is made up of 70% water. Therefore, natural mineral water is the ideal companion for modern everyday life, serving as both a source of strength and a haven of calm.

No other drink is as good for us.

Zermatt Citizens' Community

The original with the Matterhorn

"Valais" is the high-quality mineral water from the heart of Valais. Rich in natural ingredients that are good for you and free from all that can pollute you.

«Valais» – the still mineral water of Switzerland

For millions of years, the cycle of the

Water. "Valais" mineral water originates in the heart of the Valais Alps, in the Nendaz region. There, at over 2,000 meters, raindrops and melting glaciers embark on a long journey.

This can take decades, even centuries , and carries the water through powerful rock layers deep beneath the

Earth. To where the water is purest and richest. Along the way, it is naturally purified and enriched with calcium, potassium, and many other valuable trace elements essential for our metabolism.

The first water brand to use 100% recycled Swiss PET used

In its sustainability management, "Valais" strives to achieve a balanced relationship between the three dimensions of economy, environment, and society. The goals are clear:

Through holistic thinking and forward-looking action, they aim to secure the long-term economic success of their company, preserve the ecosystem , and comprehensively support their employees.

This is achieved, among other things, through the use of 100% recycled Swiss PET, environmentally friendly rail transport , and the use of water and solar energy. Furthermore, the products are produced in a 100% CO2-neutral manner.

The restaurants and retail businesses of the municipality of Zermatt have introduced "Valais" mineral water this winter season, thus contributing to sustainability and value creation in the region.

[valaismineral.ch](#)

Zermatt Tourism

Newsletter of the Destination Zermatt – Matterhorn

The Destinations Newsletter provides around 93,000 subscribers were targeted with news, exciting information, and current offers from the destination. The primary goal: to inspire subscribers and (re)attract them to the destination.

The target group-specific content is appreciated by the recipients. Last year, the open rate (the number of people who open the newsletter) increased by over 10% to around 40% . The typical industry average for email marketing is around 25%. We are also seeing increasing click rates and a consistently low unsubscribe rate.

Due to the importance and strong performance of this marketing tool, we will continue to maintain our high level of activity in the future . We also aim to gain new newsletter subscribers to increase our reach as a destination.

We warmly invite everyone to recommend the newsletter to guests, friends, and acquaintances. You are also welcome to share the links on websites, social media channels, and other platforms.

If you have any questions, the Digital Marketing team at Destination Zermatt – Matterhorn will be happy to help.



JETZT ANMELDEN!

column

Thank you, thank you so much!

Dear insiders

The situation is challenging. The first problem: There's no snow, or very little, and it's far too warm for the time of year. November 2022 will go down in history as the "warmest November" since temperatures began to be regularly recorded. Second problem: It is difficult, if not impossible, to recruit enough qualified staff. On the one hand, many skilled workers have turned their backs on tourism, especially in the hotel and restaurant sector, during the pandemic. On the other hand, due to the age structure, there are fewer and fewer people in employment. On the other hand, there are many who are interested in part-time work. And even if the employer does have an interesting application on the table, it's the accommodation that's falling through. There's a shortage of that, too. Instead of "employee apartments," there are now vacation apartments rented out on Airbnb or to wealthy seasonal guests from German-speaking Switzerland . A third problem: The Federal Council seriously wants to shut down our mountain railways, turn down the heating , and close the wellness facilities. Power shortages are the new specter, which we can apparently only banish by showering together.

With these prerequisites, we started the 2022/23 season. Then the guests arrived. And they came in droves, more than ever before. What they found was a fantastic range of offerings, superb service, and friendly hosts. The slopes were impeccably groomed, even the valley runs open. No one went to bed hungry, and the restaurants were up to the usual Zermatt culinary standards. Every guest found a freshly made bed and could relax in the sauna. How on earth is that possible when everything is against us?

Thank you dear piste workers, thank you dear cooks, thank you dear service staff and receptionists, thank you dear porters, thank you dear chambermaids, thank you dear electricity workers, thank you dear cleaners, thank you dear bakers, butchers and cheese makers, thank you dear MPAs, thank you dear taxi and bus drivers, thank you dear salespeople-

Thank you, dear guest advisors, thank you, dear ski instructors, thank you , dear mountain railway employees, thank you, dear road maintenance workers, thank you, dear train drivers and conductors, thank you, dear waste disposal workers, thank you, dear first responders, thank you, dear cashiers – thank you a thousand times. You made the best of a miserable situation with dedication, hard work, double shifts, and a lot of motivation and passion. I take my hat off to you!

Sincerely, Daniel Luggen, Spa Director



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Zermatt Tourism

Japan and Zermatt – a close Relationship



The Zermatt-Matterhorn destination is very important to the Japanese, and a travel tradition to Zermatt that has been maintained for over 50 years is now maintained. The Japanese love Zermatt because of the Matterhorn – but not only that: flowers like edelweiss. The alpine roses, the fresh air, and the many hiking trails hold a special appeal for Japanese visitors . Accordingly, there are many photographs taken. The most popular photo subject, however, remains the sunrise and sunset on the Matterhorn.

The good relationship between Zermatt and Japan is already evident on both sides in the form of a twinning agreement with Myoko City in Niigata Province, one of Japan's most popular summer resorts. There is also a friendship agreement with Fuji-Kawaguchiko, a city at the northern foot of Mount Fuji, considered a symbol of Japan.

Before the coronavirus pandemic, Japan was Zermatt 's fifth-most important tourist market, with around 90,000 overnight stays . However, the pandemic caused the market to collapse completely and it is recovering only very slowly. This is primarily due to the strict travel restrictions imposed by the Japanese government. Now, however, the measures in Japan are gradually being relaxed and Zermatt Tourism wants to use this as an opportunity to "restart" the . The goal is not only to attract existing guest segments , but also to specifically target new segments of a younger generation . Stays in Zermatt are to be extended and include outdoor activities .

In order to be ready when the Japanese resume their travel activities and to achieve the above-mentioned goals, Zermatt Tourism is going on the offensive and last November occupied a 70%

Sales position in Japan with Hideki Kaneko. Hideki brings extensive experience in tourism and a large network in Japan. He worked for many years as a guide in Zermatt for Fellow Travel and then spent over ten years as head of Switzerland at Kuoni Japan. His task now is to reactivate Japan as a travel market for Zermatt and reawaken the Japanese population's desire to travel to Zermatt.

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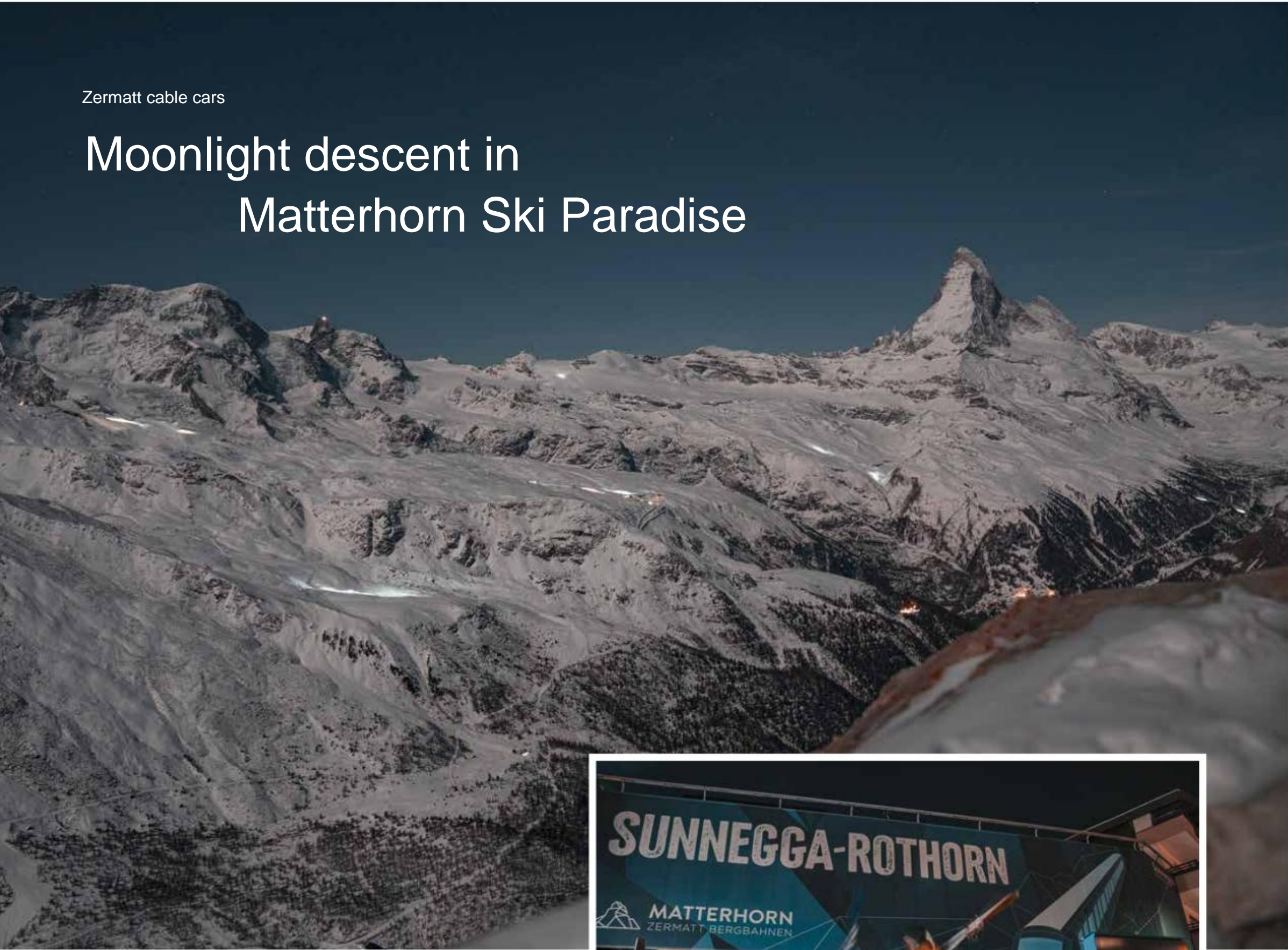
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Building technology that connects.

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Zermatt cable cars

Moonlight descent in Matterhorn Ski Paradise



Due to high demand
will be on Saturday, March 4, 2023
an additional moonlight descent
offered.



The view from the Rothorn is breathtaking

Whether at sunrise, during a day of skiing, or on the last ascent before the slopes close, an even more special atmosphere is created in the evening by moonlight. The winter landscape sparkles in the moonlight, and the Matterhorn appears even more mystical than during the day. The trip departs at 7:00

PM from the Sunnegga-Rothorn valley station. The extra ride up to the Rothorn offers a wonderful view of the Zermatt mountains at dusk.

Getting ready on the Rothorn

Once you reach the top, an aperitif with various drinks and snacks awaits you. The small fire in the fire bowl at the edge of the slope creates a warm atmosphere , and the sparks in the night sky draw your gaze upwards. There's plenty of time to take a souvenir photo and marvel at the Zermatt mountains in the moonlight .

The Rothorn lies at 3,103 meters above sea level and offers a view of the imposing four-thousand-meter peaks all around, such as the Ober Gabelhorn, the Zinalrothorn, the Weisshorn, and, of course, the Matterhorn, which shows off its best side from here. The snow groomers at the Matterhorn Ski Paradise are in full operation during this time and can be observed from a distance.

A descent in a special light

Gradually, it's time to get ready to grab a last drink or take the obligatory selfie with the Matterhorn in the background. The Zermatt Bergbahnen piste and rescue service is on site, ready to guide all guests safely and along the planned route back to the village. A brief explanation from the piste patrollers ensures that everyone stays together during the descent and no one takes the wrong piste.

The route starts via piste number 11 Rotweng to Blauherd. The moonlight is so bright that the slopes and contours are easily recognizable. The piste and rescue services are skillfully waiting at the right places so that no turn-off can be missed. It is always worth stopping briefly to capture the magical atmosphere with the starry sky in a photo. From Blauherd, the route continues on piste number 9 Tufert, past the valley station of the Kummel gondola lift to the station of the

Patrouille chairlift.

The last section is via the slopes Nummer 1 Untere National and number 3 Howette are tackled. The slope in the foreground, the illuminated village, and the mystical Matterhorn in the background provide another "wow" moment and a perfect conclusion to the descent. A short time later, the skis are taken off and the relaxing part of the descent at the CERVO Mountain Resort begins.

Atmospheric conclusion with high enjoyment factor

A warm drink is served on the atmospherically furnished terrace, which is included in the price. Perfect for warming up and recovering from the long descent. Afterwards, the meal continues with a delicious fondue in the Ferdinand by CERVO Mountain Resort restaurant . Here, the

End the evening with appropriate music for as long as you like .

All information about the offer and booking options for the next editions can be found at www.matterhornparadise.ch/mondschein. On the evening of the event , tickets can be picked up from 6:30 p.m. at the ticket office at the Sunnegga-Rothorn valley station upon presentation of the booking confirmation . The receipt for the fondue at the "Ferdinand" will also be issued here and can be handed over to the service staff after the meal .

More information about the moon
Scheinabfahrt is available here:





Emil Aufdenblatten – Artist and village oddity

Emil Aufdenblatten (1910–1958)

Zermatt History

Emil Aufdenblatten was born on March 4, 1910, the second youngest of five children born to Mathias and Veronika Aufdenblatten-Biner in Zermatt, on the Triftbach. In his hometown, he attended the

Elementary school. Even at a young age, he felt a calling to be an artist.

Appreciate and respect Aufdenblatten's cultural heritage

At the age of 18, he had his inheritance. He cashed in on his share of the Hotel du Parc, which his father had built, and went to Rome and Florence for training. He returned to Zermatt as a draftsman and painter.

where he worked until 1955. In the same year, he married Berta Schmid. The couple settled in Bäch, in the canton of Zurich.

The marriage remained childless. Emil Aufdenblatten

He died on August 30, 1958, at the age of just 48, and was buried in Baden. Just one month before his death, he drew his self-portrait in charcoal.

Emil was a talented, sensitive person and artist. In the last two decades of his life, he led a modest

He had a difficult life. To earn a living, he sold his paintings and works. Despite his modest financial circumstances, he always had a kind heart for those in even greater need. In Zermatt, he was valued not least for his sense of humor and was considered a village oddity.

The landscape painter

The most important theme of his painting, which used oil and pencil techniques, was the Matterhorn in various

lighting conditions: in autumn fog, during thunderstorms, in sunshine, often together with the chapel on Schwarzsee. He also created various paintings of

Bergen and the hamlets surrounding Zermatt: Winkelmatten, Blatten, and Findeln. Images of pressing issues of the time, usually in somber colors, were not lacking in his work. He also designed the new coat of arms of the Aufdenblatten family and the memorial commemorating the border occupation of 1939–1945, which stands in front of the town hall.

Portraits

Portrait art takes place in its entirety

He drew a number of portraits of mountain guides for Franz Egger's book "Pioneers of the Alps ." In these drawings, the artistic focus was on the design of the heads and headgear , rather than on the clothing and equipment. In addition to the portrait drawings, he also created numerous portrait paintings of personalities from the circle of

Zermatt. His work was boundless. Emil Aufdenblatten portrayed, among others, Bishop Viktor Bieler and General Henri Guisan.

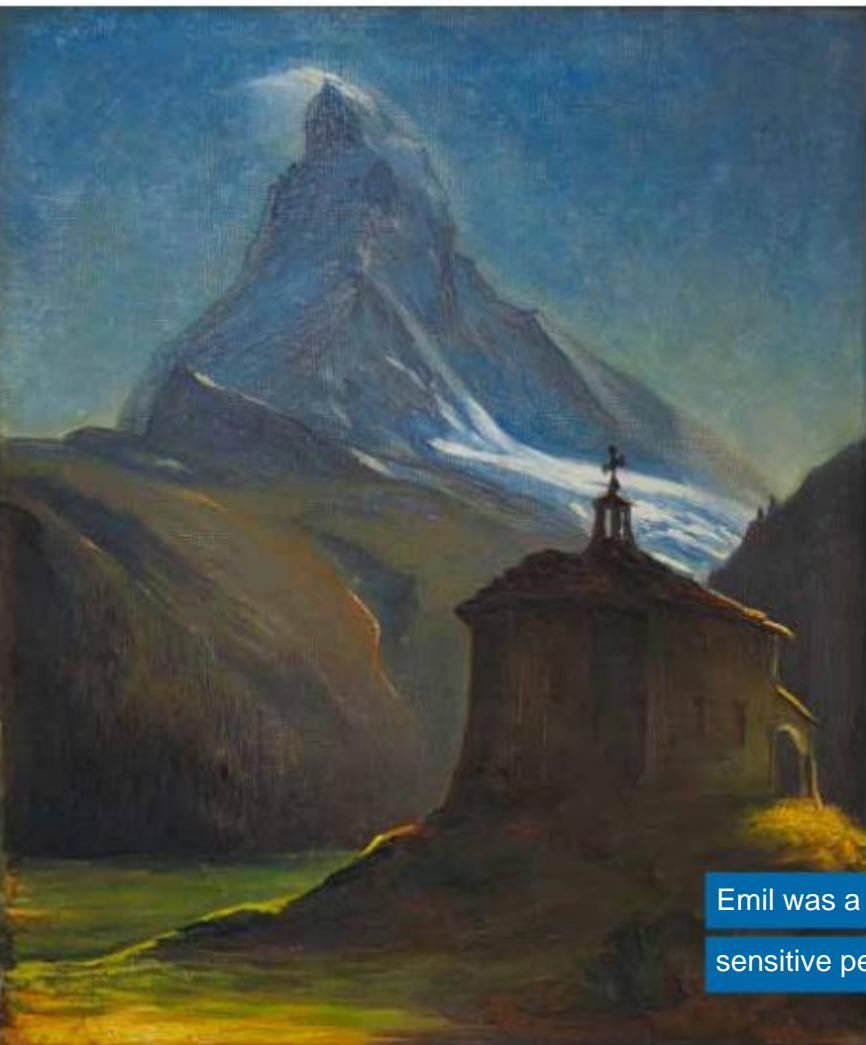
With Emil Aufdenblatten, Zermatt owned a painter whose works are increasingly gaining attention and whose paintings regularly appear at auctions. His artistic talent was passed on to his nephew, Sigisbert Perren (*1928), who lives in the canton of Thurgau. In addition to his work as a secondary school teacher, Sigisbert also devoted himself to painting and copperplate etching/ink drawing.

It is to be hoped that the importance of Emil Aufdenblatten as a local The artist is also increasingly recognized and appreciated by the people of Zermatt .

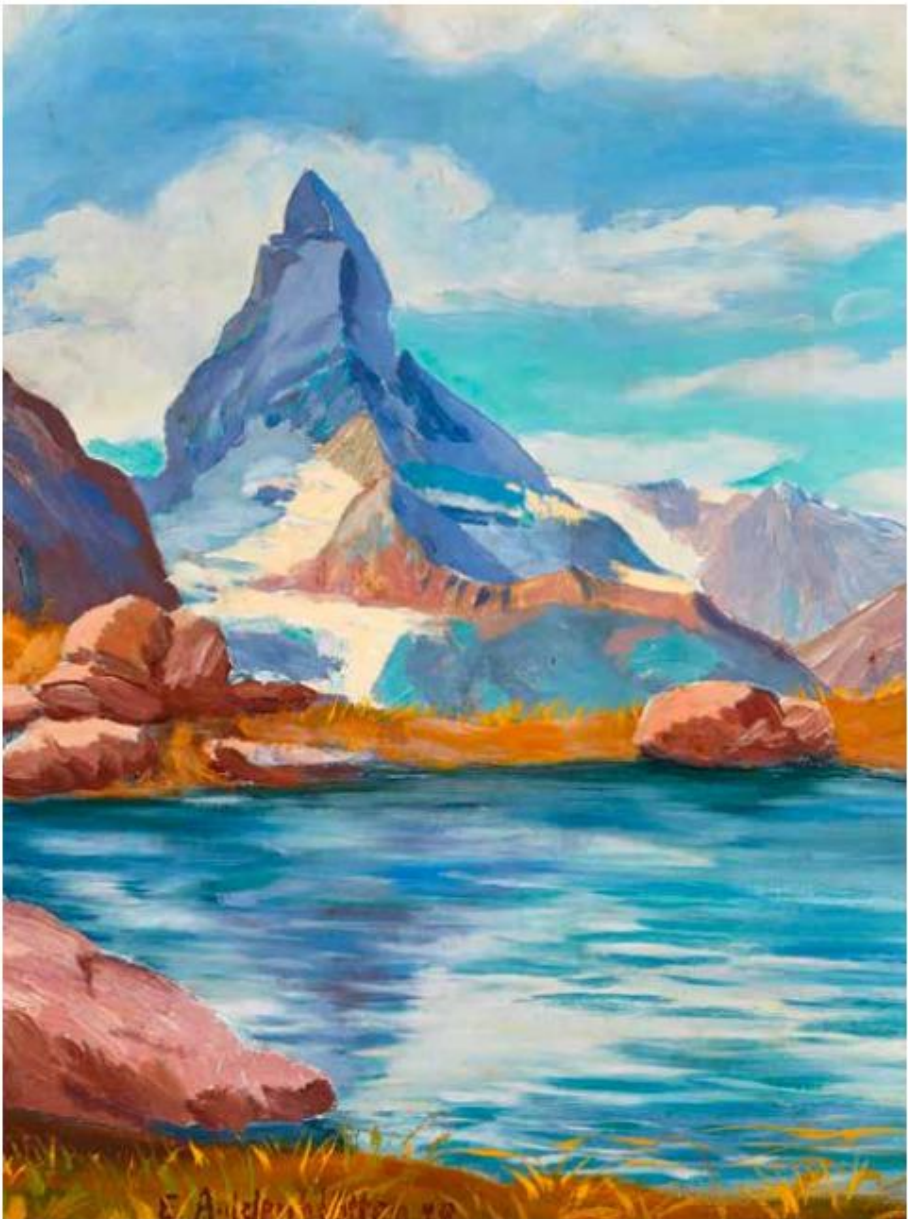
A NOTICE

Text and images are taken from the book «Focus Matterhorn – Zermatt History and Stories», 2015, Rotten Verlag

Matterhorn with
Schwarzsee Chapel in
the moonlight



Emil was a talented,
sensitive person and artist.



The Matterhorn



Valais mountain village

imprint

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Zermatt Tourism

Since 20 years as a rope team on the way

The partnership between Zermatt Tourism and the Swiss outdoor equipment specialist Mammut is a success story.

For 20 years, the two companies have inspired each other , tackled many successful projects together and benefited from a very similar target group.

For both Zermatt Tourism and Mammut, the partnership is a win-win situation and is intensively cultivated. On the one hand, Mammut benefits from access to one of the most successful tourism destinations in the Alps and the Matterhorn. Be it for photo shoots, events, product presentations, employee get-togethers, or similar. Furthermore, Zermatt Tourism repeatedly opens up the mountain sports-loving community for Mammut, giving Mammut a corresponding presentation presence. On the other hand, Zermatt Tourism benefits from favorable conditions for uniform employee clothing, from Mammut's communication campaigns related to Zermatt or the Matterhorn , and also gains access to Mammut's large community . Both partners utilize this existing partnership.

schaft and support each other in communication, product design and network expansion.

Collaboration at different levels

Zermatt – Matterhorn has been supported by Mammut several times in the past for relevant PR projects, such as Linda Fähr's 2012 Matterhorn ascent or Beatrice Egli's 2021. Furthermore, all Zermatt Tourism employees are annually equipped with appropriate team clothing for Mammut public appearances , and models for marketing photo shoots exclusively wear current Mammut clothing.

In return, Zermatt Tourism has already supported Mammut in various infrastructure projects in the Zermatt-Matterhorn destination. For example, the Mammut via ferrata, the Matterhorn training route on Sunnegga, and the Avalanche Training Center on Schwarzsee have been created over the past 20 years.

Highlight Matterhorn anniversary

The highlight of the partnership so far for both sides was the 150th anniversary of the first ascent of the Matterhorn. Mammut used the image of the illuminated Matterhorn route as a key visual throughout the year and disseminated this impressive image around the world. A limited anniversary collection of Mammut products was also jointly produced. Mut clothes were designed and sold all over the world. Furthermore, various PR and communication stories related to the Matterhorn were realized. As part of the overall anniversary activities, the joint campaigns contributed to winning the "Milestone" award in the "Innovation" category.

Future secured

The two companies intend to continue to inspire each other in their activities and plan and implement joint projects. A three-year contract extension was signed for this purpose in 2022. In autumn 2022, a delegation from Zermatt Tourism visited the Mammut HQ in Seon to immerse themselves in the Mammut world and plan projects for the coming years. The first new highlight will be the Mammut Mountain Days, which will take place in Täsch from September 1 to 3, 2023. Around 350 participants are expected to participate over three days of mountain sports activities from Täsch throughout the entire destination, from Randa to Zermatt.

