

ZERMATT INSIDE

February 2024, 22nd Year, No. 1



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

Municipality of Zermatt

Goodbye schoolhouse

After 52 years, the school
haus Walka 3 history and the school
children are now in
the «Niww Walka» teaches.

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Zermatt Citizens' Community

Forgotten World

Excerpt from the book by Klaus Julen
and Oswald Perren on the
transformation of mountain farming in
Zermatt.

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Zermatt Tourism

Destination evenings

«Zermatt meets Lucerne» –
Under this motto, Zermatt Tourism
presented itself at two
Evenings in Central Switzerland.

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Zermatt cable cars

3883

Glacier worlds, fresh air,
Flower meadows and forests –
the new fragrance 3883 from Zermatt
Mountain railways.

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Gornergrat Railway

NostalChic Class

Every Wednesday until April
17th, you can take a nostalgic
trip to the Gornergrat –
culinary experiences included.

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Municipality of Zermatt

News in the habitat Zermatt, Täsch, Randa

We and our guests spend a lot of time in the unique mountain world in and around Zermatt. This raises the question: How can we preserve our quality of life for ourselves and future generations while simultaneously protecting the environment? To answer this question, we embark on a sustainability journey for our alpine habitat.

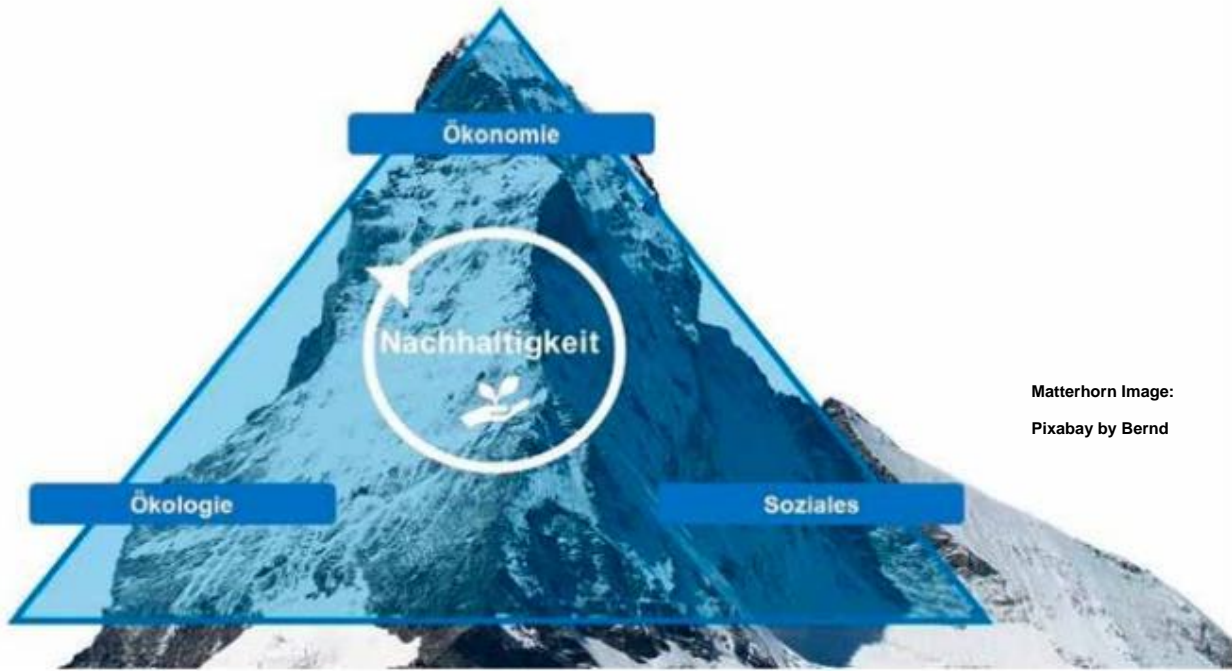
Find out more on pages 2 and 3.

(c) Kurt Müller

Sustainability affects us all: our residents, our businesses, our clubs, our communities, our guests and nature.

Sustainability Strategy We must act responsibly towards our natural environment, our resources, and our society to create a livable environment. With the development of the sustainability strategy for the Zermatt, Täsch, and Randa living space, a foundation has been laid for placing greater emphasis on the sustainable development of the inner Matter Valley . This will ensure that "this area of Zermatt remains livable now and for years to come."

To be able to offer a variety of activities in our living space , create unique experiences, and simultaneously serve as a place for the population, we need intact nature (ecology), a strong economy (economics), and committed people (social). Only when all three areas intertwine and complement each other can our living space be livable. When all three levels converge, we speak of sustainability.



Matterhorn Image: Pixabay by Bernd

sustainability
Sustainability is not a trend for our living space in Zermatt, Täsch, Randa.

"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." (Brundtland Report 1987)

It is a way of life that requires everyone to take responsibility: the communities, our residents, the various organizations, service providers and our guests.

Initial situation
As part of the Zermatt Destination Strategy, the Sustainability Subgroup was launched to advance the topic of sustainability within the Zermatt – Matterhorn destination . In 2019, various service partners of the destination met for a workshop to develop, among other things, the areas of action and the organization of the Sustainability Subgroup .

In July 2021, the Zermatt Strategy Group submitted a request to the Zermatt Municipality (EWG) to advance the topic of sustainability in Zermatt in a coordinated manner. According to the request dated July 30, 2021, Zermatt "can, if it so desires, become a beacon of sustainability—not only as a tourist destination, but also as an alpine habitat for future generations."

The EWG decided to take responsibility for this issue and develop a sustainability strategy for the municipality of Zermatt. The municipalities

Täsch and Randa were invited to participate.
The three communities are closely linked at various levels and the topic of sustainability is also relevant in the promotion and development of the Inner Matter Valley.

To ensure the most holistic approach possible, the EWG has established the Zermatt Sustainability Office and identified organizations and individuals who will participate in a working group to develop the sustainability strategy. This will ensure the broadest possible coverage of stakeholders in the three municipalities and bring the sustainability strategy to life during the implementation phase , ensuring that it does not remain merely a strategy paper.

Development and implementation of the sustainability strategy
Over the past two years, more than 20 people (see working and steering group) have met regularly to develop fields of action, goals, and a basket of measures (as inspiration for the implementation phase) for our living space . Starting in 2024, this committee will meet four times a year to exchange ideas and advance the implementation of the sustainability strategy. The Sustainability Office provides support in this process.

Working and steering group
(Organizations and individuals involved)

- (* Person was only involved in the drafting)
- Municipality of Zermatt (Romy Biner-Hauser)
- Zermatt Municipal Administration (Stefanie Lauber, Reto Graven*)
- Location development and promotion (Manuel Arquint)
- Zermatt Bergbahnen AG (Gabriele Leiggenger*, Chantal Bittel)
- Hoteliers Association Zermatt (Florian Julen*, Corinne Julen, Harald Burgener)
- Trade Association (Philipp Fuchs)
- Zermatt Tourism (Daniel Luggen, Anja Meier, Jana Suter*)
- Zermatters (Beat Wälti)
- Zermatt Living Space (Catalina Fahlman, Katja Noti)
- Integration Office/Parents' Forum/Culture (Eva Jenni)
- Zermatt Electricity Company (Patrick Kronig)
- Youth (Simon Biner)
- Agriculture and livestock farming (Andreas Perren)
- Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn/Gornergrat Bahn (Marco Tacchella)
- Municipality of Täsch and Randa (Mario Fuchs)
- Culture and Hunting (Viktor Perren)
- Citizens' Community (Leo Schuler)

Sustainability Department
The Sustainability Office is the first point of contact within the framework of the developed sustainability strategy. It is responsible for coordinating and networking the various stakeholder groups, providing information and raising awareness, offering strategic advice, project development and management, and assisting with the acquisition of funding. The EWG has awarded the mandate to Swiss Climate.

Swiss Climate is a consulting firm specializing in sustainability, CO₂ management, climate protection projects, and energy. Working with clients, we develop profitable and innovative solutions to shape a sustainable future. (Contact: Gabriele Leiggenger: gabriele.leiggenger@swissclimate.ch / +41 27 343 01 82)

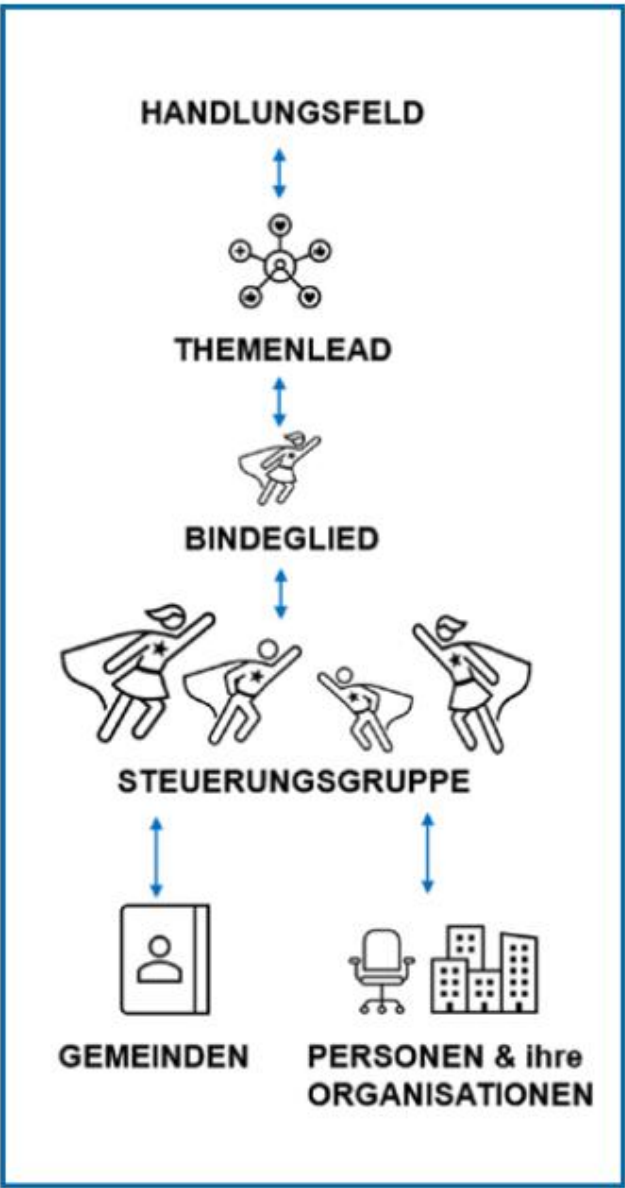
Sustainability Department
(Implementation and coordination of Sustainability Strategy)

- Strategic Management (Romy Biner-Hauser)
- Strategic support (Stefanie Lauber)
- Operational management (Gabriele Leiggenger)
- Expert inputs (Patrizia Imhof, Sarah Klink)

Let us together
our habitat for
shape the future!

Our vision
"Intact habitat, nature and cultural heritage form the basis for establishing Zermatt – Matterhorn as a most sought-after destination."

Our fields of action and goals
Ten fields of action and the overarching goal serve as a framework for decisions and measures in the habitat. They were developed and formulated by the working group so that the various organizations, committees/commissions, and stakeholders in the habitat feel addressed.



Preservation and promotion of biodiversity
Goal: To preserve and promote the diversity of animals and plants in the region.

Resource/water consumption and waste generation
Objective: The habitat relies, where possible, on sustainable and local resources (including water) and promotes the transition to a circular economy.

Credible CO₂ and energy management
Objectives: The habitat promotes and supports the expansion or conversion to renewable energies and reduces energy consumption and the resulting greenhouse gas emissions.
Measurable ecological sustainability in the construction of new buildings and the renovation of existing ones, taking into account economic viability and high living quality as a standard.

mobility
Objective: The living space is well connected and winter-safe and promotes public transport as well as slow traffic and moderate electric vehicle traffic within the city.

Maintaining local culture and the townscape
Objective: The habitat has a vibrant and contemporary village culture and cares for the historical and cultural heritage.

Social coexistence
Objective: The living space offers all people in the region opportunities to participate in economic and social life.

Diversified regional economy and local prosperity
Objective: The habitat has a diversified regional economy and remains innovative.

Health and Safety
Objective: The habitat promotes the health of people in the region and is committed to its safety.

Human resources management
Objective: The living space is an attractive place to work and live, is a magnet and thus gains qualified workers.

Living conditions
Goal: The living space has sufficient affordable housing and ensures good utilization of the existing living space.

Implementation of the sustainability strategy
The ten fields of action, with their respective overarching qualitative objectives, form the framework for orientation. For each field of action, one or more topic leads (committees /commissions) have been defined, each focusing on one or more fields of action. One member of the committee forms
The link between the committee/commission and the steering group. The steering group meets four times a year to discuss progress and gather ideas to advance the implementation of the sustainability strategy . Furthermore, the members of the steering group also serve as the interface to the organizations and stakeholders in the Zermatt, Täsch, and Randa region.

The next steps
Various committees/commissions will be informed and involved over the next few weeks. It is now up to them to implement the defined measures and contribute new ideas within the framework of sustainability. To ensure that the developed sustainability strategy is implemented throughout the entire destination , one goal is to also anchor the topic of sustainability in the destination strategy. The next steering group meeting will take place in March 2024.

In the future, the Sustainability Department will provide information on the current implementation status of the sustainability strategy in "Zermatt Inside."

iischi responsible: Fer iischi nature, fer iischi Liit, fer iischi economy
The future of our living space can, may, and should be shaped by everyone. It is now up to individual communities and organizations to initiate projects, to view collected ideas as inspiration, and to implement them. Because only if everyone participates will we be and remain a living space – for our nature, for our residents, for our guests, preserving the special and unique character of our mountain region for future fer iischi economy –, generations .

Insight into the steering group
What motivates these individuals to get involved in the topic of living space and/or what is their goal? We'll introduce you to some of them.



Eva Jenni (Integration Office OW) and Catalina Fahlman (Lebensraum Zermatt)
"Sustainability – a big word, and everyone can contribute something to it. The exchange among the most important service providers shows that our destination is making progress. Paper is patient: What matters is that the set goals are implemented within the set timeframe. We must persevere in this regard."



Viktor Perren (Culture & Hunting)
«Live your homeland, preserve nature, preserve culture.»



Gabriele Leiggenger, Operational Management Sustainability Department
«Let us together protect our living space shape the future!»



Municipality of Zermatt

Spring and Autumn 2024

As in previous years, the municipal council will set the principles for the excavation period 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).



Permitted excavation times spring 2024

Approved period: **Wednesday, 1 May 2024, from 7:30 a.m. to Tuesday, 4 June 2024, at 6:30 p.m.**

April							
Mon	Tue	Wed	do	Fri	Sat	So	
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	do	Fri	Sat	So	
		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	do	Fri	Sat	So	
					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 2024

Approved period: **Tuesday, 1 October 2024, from 7:30 a.m. to Monday, 28 October 2024, at 6:30 p.m.**

September							
Mon	Tue	Wed	do	Fri	Sat	So	
						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	28	29	30	
30							

October							
Mon	Tue	Wed	do	Fri	Sat	So	
	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	do	Fri	Sat	So	
				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		

Early geothermal drilling / extended geothermal drilling Geothermal drilling AND drilling for investigations as well as foundations/retaining structures
Construction site installation excavation holidays/closed days

The construction times are regulated by:

- the use of motor vehicles (trucks, motor carts and single-axle motor vehicles)
- the use of construction machinery
- carrying out drilling, blasting and excavation 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 Air Zermatt and the EEC apply.

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

The **transport of excavated and demolition material** Construction work with trucks or vehicles with combustion engines requires a **permit**. Construction companies are required to collect the relevant **permit plates** from the **Public Safety Department** and **display them clearly in their vehicles**.

4-axle truck / weight

During the excavation period, 4-axle trucks can also be used for used to transport excavated and demolition material - with a maximum weight of 30 t.

Dumper

The use of dumpers is both subject to approval and subject to authorization. The use of a dumper is only permitted upon a substantiated application.

Operating times

In general, activities and work on mobile or stationary installations are permitted on weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. On Sundays and

Motor vehicle traffic, the use of construction machinery, and drilling , blasting, and excavation work are generally prohibited on public holidays and other restricted days.

The following construction machinery may only be used during excavation periods in spring and fall: pneumatic loaders, excavators, bulldozers, compressors, jackhammers, and other heavy construction equipment. The permitted operating hours for these machines and equipment are: 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Excavators up to 5 t

Excavators with rubber tracks or tires up to 5 t may be used all year round.

Helicopter flights for material transport

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

Holidays

Driveway: Thursday, May 9, 2024
Pentecost: Sunday, May 19, 2024
Corpus Christi: Thursday, May 30, 2024

Blocked days

Bridge access: Friday, May 10, 2024 Saturday, May 11, 2024
Whit Monday: Monday, May 20, 2024
Corpus Christi: Friday, May 31, 2024 Saturday, June 1, 2024

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.

Special driving permits

Any passage of vehicles with combustion engines requires a permit – even during excavation.

An application for a special driving permit must be submitted in a timely manner.

Transport by truck

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

Detailed information can be found in the flyer on the EWG website.

Every passage of
Vehicles with
combustion engine is bewill-
subject to approval – also
during the excavation period.

Advertisement

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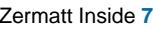


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wir bauen - wir renovieren - wir planen

Zermatt
 1970 Zermatt
 1971 Naxos, St. Moritz

Täsch
 1972 Täsch, St. Moritz
 1973 Naxos, St. Moritz

Visp
 1988 Visp, St. Moritz
 1974 Naxos, St. Moritz

Mehr Infos finden Sie auf unserer Webseite:
www.imboden-elektro.ch

Municipality of Zermatt

Emergency meeting points

Based on a national concept, the Canton of Valais is introducing emergency meeting points (NTP) for disasters or emergencies throughout the canton.

In Zermatt, 6 NTPs were defined: These are for the majority of

Easily accessible to the population on foot or by bike:

- NTP1: Church Square / Community Center
- NTP2: Station Square
- NTP3: Parking Urania
- NTP4: Wiesti (intersection of Wiestistrasse / Gryfelblatte)
- NTP5: Winkelmatten Chapel
- NTP6: Furi / Station ZBAG

The Emergency Meeting Point (NTP) is your point of contact in the event of an incident (such as an earthquake , blackout, or prolonged communication outage).

You will receive emergency support and important information about the situation on site there. If you need help or can offer help yourself, the Emergency Meeting Point serves as a hub. In the event of a prolonged power outage with a loss of telecommunications, you can contact the Emergency

You can also make emergency calls at this meeting point. You can find out which emergency meeting points are open at what time via the radio or the Alertswiss app. The open emergency meeting point is easy to find in the event of an emergency; it is marked with a flag. Further information can be found at www.notfalltreffpunkt.ch

Instructions for behavior

To be prepared in the event of an emergency, the canton has issued various guidelines for action, such as avalanches, floods, or earthquakes. These are available at www.vs.ch/de/web/sscm/documentation



MORE INFO
EMERGENCY MEETING POINT



BEHAVIOURAL
INSTRUCTIONS



How can you prepare?

Certain consumer goods can be purchased before the crisis in order to minimize the inconvenience. These may include (list is not exhaustive):



Non-electric
Stove with fuel
for the kitchen



Sufficient candles or
Lanterns with matches
or lighters



Radio with spare batteries
(some public radio stations
will broadcast)



Lighting with spare
batteries



+ some basic food items such as: at least nine
liters of drinking water per person, non-
perishable food (rice, pasta, oil, salt, sugar, dried
fruit, UHT milk, etc.), a small pharmacy, cash,
pet food, etc.

The municipality continues to provide information via the Zermatt Tourism newsletter

and our danger app gemeinde.zermatt.ch/sicherheit/app.

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Municipality of Zermatt

Department news Resident Services/Chancellery

The changing times

always bring new challenges

be it through changes in
legislation, implementation

of digitalization or process

analyses. In the diverse

areas of responsibility of

the Department of Resident
Services/

Various adjustments are being

made to the law firm.

Introduction of the e-UmzugCH project

Since January 2024, Swiss citizens have been able to process moves within Switzerland, as well as address changes within Zermatt, online . This electronic service complements the in-person registration process at the Residents' Services counter/registry office.



The e-UmzugCH solution was developed by the Association of Swiss Resident Services (VSED) in collaboration with the Canton of Zurich . After a good five years, this online service has also arrived in the Canton of Valais .



LEARN MORE
TO THE E-MOVE

e-Migration Project

The Cantonal Department for Population and Migration (DBM) introduced the new "GestStar" software for processing residence permits for migrants in September 2023. In a December 2023 press release, the DBM announced that the chronic backlog in processing applications had been resolved and that new organizational and procedural measures had been put in place.

The second phase of the project envisages opening access to the residents' services.

The following goals are pursued:

- Simplified transfer of the approval dossiers
- Transparency about the current status of
 Dossier processing
- Improving communication between the DBM and the residents' services

Zermatt Resident Services will be open until

May 2024, test the portal as a pilot municipality before it is then definitely rolled out to all municipalities is introduced.

Abolition of adhesive labels in voting
and elections

The Council of State has amended the regulations on postal voting: the requirement that postal voters affix their self-adhesive label to the return form has been abolished. This change will take effect on February 1, 2024, and will apply to the next vote on March 3, 2024.

Due to electoral fraud in the cantonal elections of March 2017, the State Council took an additional measure to increase the security of mail-in voting : it introduced the personal self- adhesive label. Each eligible voter received a set of personal, self- adhesive labels. During a ballot, the mail-in voter had to affix their label to the return form in the designated box; otherwise, their vote was invalid.

This measure began with the vote on June 13, 2021.

On the occasion of the November 2023 session of the An urgent motion was submitted to the Grand Council requesting an amendment to the Ordinance on Postal Voting (VbS-tA) – specifically, the immediate abolition of the self-adhesive label . The State Council endorsed the arguments of the motion, especially since the self-adhesive label may have contributed to the decline in voter turnout.

Following this urgent request, the State Council amended the regulations on postal voting and abolished the requirement that postal voters must affix their self-adhesive label to the return form.

This change will take effect on February 1, 2024.

As of the vote on March 3, 2024, voters voting by mail will no longer be required to affix their personal, self-adhesive label to the return form . **The self- adhesive label will simply be abolished.**

For the next ballots, the Voters therefore have to return a new ballot with the voting material.
ation sheet (without the field for affixing the label). This change allows voters to easily destroy their set of personal, self-adhesive labels.

old:

with self-adhesive label



new:

Return form without self-adhesive label



Municipality of Zermatt

Goodbye Walka 3 schoolhouse «Niww Walka» – here we come!

After 52 years, the Walka 3 school building is now history —abandoned and empty, the classrooms cleared out, and the children and their teachers gone. The school building continued to operate during the phased construction of the new building. 200 students in Cycle 2 (5H–8H) attended classes there.

The last day of school at "Walka 3" took place on January 22, 2024. The students have moved and are now being taught at "Niww Walka."

Walka 3: The school building of the orientation school
Classes were held in the parish hall until 1959. In the autumn of -

In the same year, Zermatt schoolchildren moved into the newly built Walka 1 and 2 school buildings, accompanied by a new feature: a gymnasium! 184 students attended primary school, 17 attended home economics school, and 14 attended secondary school. Class sizes were 37-40 children, and classes lasted eight months.

The secondary school had to be closed temporarily, and the six students attended in St. Niklaus. In 1963, the community ventured Zermatt, Täsch and Randa the reopening of a secondary - school, the home economics school, and the final classes continued. At the beginning of the 1970s, student numbers continued to rise. ter. In 1972, the third school building (Walka 3) was completed and occupied. Studios for the teachers were set up on the top two floors. In 1974, the Orientie -

It replaced the previous secondary school types - school, final year and home economics school. With the move into the third wing, teachers and young people had access to modern facilities such as a workshop, physics room, kitchen, music - sik rooms and enough classrooms are available. The under - The school developed rapidly, and in the 1980s, computer science classes were introduced in the secondary school and a computer room was set up. In 1994, a regional school library was integrated into the "Walka 3" school. In the "secondary school building," the year groups have sen of the 60s, 70s and 80s experienced their exciting school years. Many interesting lessons or even «pranks» were This house was also legendary. The schoolroom ceilings, in which many a set square was stuck, were probably also legendary. In 2021, the Zermatt Orientation School celebrated its 75th anniversary - What began in 1946 with a single teacher, Mr. Alban Lingg, is now an orientation school with 187 students - Students from Zermatt, Täsch and Randa, who are taught by 19 teachers.

The schoolchildren and the
Teachers are happy
to the new school building.

The «unbundling»
Zermatt's schools have grown steadily. 650 schoolchildren were which was taught in the Walka 1 – 3 school buildings, in the Im Hof school building, and in the Trift school building. A huge and sometimes confusing coexistence developed: 120 kindergarten children and 40 primary school students attended classes in the Im Hof school building. In addition, there were many secondary school students who studied technology in the same school building. or textile design, sports, and home economics . The different break and lesson times, the division of school classes into different buildings and the «through- The "mixing of children" in the individual school buildings created problems over time. Already in the school year 2010/2011, the school administration was looking for possi- opportunities to unbundle the school operations, especially since various rooms were to be converted with interactive whiteboards and, as part of the introduction of the new timetable for orientation - suitable premises for the subject of science and technology had to be made available to the school. Furthermore, there was also the opportunity to renovate rooms that had accumulated over the years - to dispose of waste material and to use and utilize the premises more efficiently.

In June 2012, the big move began: The orientation school moved from wings 2 and 3 (Walka school building) to the Trift and Im Hof school buildings , the kindergarten moved into the seven rooms in wing 2 (Walka school building), the 3rd, 5th and 6th grades were taught in wing 3 (Walka school building) and the 1st, 2nd and 4th grades in wing 1 (Walka school building). The move at the end of school went well, with 67 school rooms and their contents were moved, 60 desks and 100 PCs were moved, 23 in - interactive wall panels were installed and 7 tons of material were disposed of.

Temporary Walka 3
From 2012 to 2021, Cycle 2 students attended classes in Walka 3. In the Walka 1 and 2, the children of Cycle 1 learned. In February 2021, with the new building of Niww Walka (Phase 1) in the starting blocks, the classes in Walka 3 moved closer together and all rooms were occupied to their maximum capacity. The playground was no longer available, and a new building was built between the school building "Im Hof" and the Brunner-Lauber-Haus. additional space was created. The 11 classes of Cycle 1 moved into the school provisional in the Oberen Matten.

January 2024: Move to d'Niww Walka
On January 22, 2024, the time had come – the classes of 4H – 8H moved into the "Niww Walka." This allowed preparations for the demolition of Walka 3 to begin on time. The children in grades 1H/2H and 3H will remain in the temporary building until the third building is ready for occupancy in August 2025. The ground floor will house a daycare center, while the kindergarten and grade 3H will occupy the upper floors.

For weeks, teachers and their assistants have been disposing of their materials, moving, and setting up the new classrooms. On January 22, 2024, teachers and children, the library team, and the school administration cleared out the remaining rooms of "Walka 3" and packed books and school supplies into boxes.

The classrooms and specialist rooms were cleared out, timetables were moderately adjusted. Teachers were instructed on how to use the new "blackboards," and school operations are picking up speed: "Bye Walka 3 – Hello Niww Walka!".

Save the date
The first section of the "Niww Walka" will be inaugurated at 2:00 PM on April 12, 2024, and an open day for the public will take place on Saturday, April 13, 2024. Further information will follow.



Municipality of Zermatt

Adjustments to the 2023 tax period and tax payments in installments in 2024

Changes and adjustments in 2023: The 2023 tax period brings few changes compared to the previous year, with the exception of the adjustment of the maximum deductions due to the increase in consumer prices.



The most important adjustments at a glance:

- Health insurance premium deduction
- Child deduction
- External care and self-care costs of Children
- Costs for boarding school or host family and deduction of tertiary level
- Maximum deduction for tied self-provision (Pillar 3a)
- Second earner deduction and spouse discount
- Voluntary care of elderly people
- Training costs
- Apprentice deduction
- Donate
- Deduction for modest income

In addition, the federal government will make the following adjustments:

- Travel expenses
- Firefighter salary allowance

Details and all adjustments can be found in the guidelines on the Cantonal Tax Administration's website : www.vs.ch/de/web/scc/formulare-2023

Changes to communities of heirs from the 2023 tax period

Starting with the 2023 tax period, the heirs of the deceased taxpayer must file an inheritance tax return for undistributed inheritances . This is only possible using the VSTax software solution. This affects all inheritance communities of single persons who died in 2022 and 2023. Existing inheritance communities from 2021 and earlier will also be converted in stages over the next few years .

Taxing the community of heirs as a single taxable entity until dissolution will no longer be possible in the future. A detailed breakdown of income from undistributed inheritances or other assets must be attached to the tax return.

Allocation of income and assets: Please note that the executor should inform the members of the undistributed estate of the allocation (page 3 of the new inheritance tax return) of the income and assets, which each member must declare in their tax return.

Income from securities of an undistributed estate

Each heir must therefore be listed individually in the list of securities (Appendix 3 of the tax return) ; the same applies to movable assets. Both must be declared individually and pro rata to the heir. Upon declaration to the heir, an application for a refund of withholding taxes is automatically submitted.

Furthermore, income from the rental of holiday apartments

Anyone who makes their own or rented property available for payment must declare the resulting income for tax purposes. This includes, in particular , income from online platforms such as Airbnb, Booking.com, etc.

Records of income and expenditure must be attached to the tax return and declared under heading 1110 , even if the tenants are permanent tenants.

VSTax 2023

We recommend that everyone use the free VSTax 2023 software at www.vs.ch/vstax to complete their 2023 tax return. This software has been adapted and improved for the 2023 tax period. The download will be available from the beginning of February 2024. If you have any questions about using the program, please contact us at www.vs.ch/vstax-kontakte .



Use the free VSTax software and the Tell Tax smartphone app to manage your tax receipts. Further 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 Cantonal Tax Administration will begin sending out the 2023 tax returns at the beginning of February 2024 .

The deadline for filing the 2023 tax return is March 31, 2024.

The form "Application for subsequent ordinary assessment" (NOV) for persons with a B permit must also be submitted by March 31, 2024!

It is important to note that these individuals must subsequently file a tax return every year . Once a tax return has been applied for, it cannot be withdrawn.

Installment tax payments 2024

The 2024 installment payments were sent at the end of January or beginning of February 2024 and are intended for the payment of taxes in installments 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, 2024
- 2nd installment April 10, 2024
- 3rd installment June 10, 2024
- 4th installment August 10, 2024
- 5th installment October 10, 2024

In the final tax settlement for 2024, the amounts paid will be credited to the corresponding tax year. Interest will be calculated as follows:

- Any amounts overcharged and paid 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 2024 .

- 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, 2025, and charged at 3.5% if the interest amount exceeds CHF 500.



Taxpayers who have made insufficient advance payments are advised to make a supplementary payment in order to avoid the compensatory interest.

Taxpayers who have not received any invoices for advance payments in 2024 but have an annual income of more than CHF 35,000 are requested to contact the Tax Office.

Filing tax return 2023

We now thank you very much for submitting around 80% of tax returns online. Tax returns for residents and second home owners that are not submitted electronically must be sent to the following address:

Cantonal Tax Administration
Scanning center
Bahnhofstrasse 35
1951 Sion

The municipality of Zermatt does not accept tax returns.

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)

Outlook for the 2024 tax period

At the Grand Council meeting on December 14, 2023, it was decided to increase the indexation of cantonal taxes from 164% to 165%. This means that cantonal taxes will be slightly lower starting with the 2024 tax period.

In March 2024, the Grand Council will again discuss a revision of the tax law. Any changes would also result in a further reduction in taxes.

The 2023 tax period brings few changes demands with them.

Municipality of Zermatt

Waste management – disposal of kitchen waste

Waste is full of valuable materials and energy. They are the raw materials of the future. This resources must be used optimally and in clean to keep them in clean cycles. Municipal waste regulations govern the disposal of various recyclable materials.

For example, kitchen waste is collected separately and processed into fertilizer or to generate electricity at the local biogas plant in Zen Stecken.



Incorrect disposal from private households

In recent months, it has become increasingly apparent that a large number of improper disposals are taking place in the containers provided for kitchen waste disposal. In addition to plastic, PET bottles, and cutlery, glass, cardboard, and other waste are also being disposed of in them.

Problem

In the local biogas plant, such foreign bodies then enter the processing process and sometimes even damage the plant, leading to downtime and high repair costs.

Effects

Due to the high number of improper disposals, Zermatt Waste Management is currently examining various measures to improve the quality of kitchen waste collected at public collection points. In addition to a communication campaign, more frequent inspections and subsequent reports are being implemented.

We hope that we will be able to continue to offer the collection of kitchen waste at public waste disposal sites in the future.

offer – but to do so we depend on the support of the population.

information

Further information on the correct disposal of household waste and the various recyclable materials can be found at: www.zermatt-disposal.ch

We thank you for your contribution and are happy to provide any additional information.



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Municipality of Zermatt

Finance Department

LOOK BEHIND THE SCENES

The finance department of the municipality of Zermatt was reorganized as of 1 March 2023.

With the appointment of Daniel Feuz as Head of Administration, the position of Head of the Finance Department was also filled.



Back, from left: Diego Kronig, Corinne Schuler, Natalie Julen, Simona Stojanovic, Gerhard Karlen
Front, from left: Thomas Graven, Rita Stojanovic, Patrizia Sarbach, Esther Walker

The Finance Department has proposed a reorganization to the municipal council that redefines the department's responsibilities. Diego Kronig has taken over as head of the Finance Department, and Corinne Schuler, registrar, has been appointed as his deputy. The Finance Department has its offices on the first floor of the municipal building and is staffed by nine employees.

Head of Finance

Diego Kronig is the contact person for budgeting , annual financial statements, and financial planning. Liquidity planning and all payments are also handled by him. He is responsible for managing the event pool and the infrastructure fund. In addition to managing the department's personnel, his responsibilities also include social services and acting as deputy to the Registrar's Office .

Registrar / Deputy Head of Finance Department

Corinne Schuler works as a registrar and as deputy head of finance. The registrar's office encompasses an exciting and varied range of responsibilities. Here , transfers of ownership are recorded, changes are recorded, cadastral extracts are prepared, information is provided by telephone and in writing , and much more. In her role as registrar, she is a member of the Valuation and Surveying Commission.

Head of Accounting

Thomas Graven is responsible for financial accounting and payroll accounting. His core responsibilities include managing the general ledger, including closing procedures, managing payroll accounting, responsibility for personnel and social security contributions, managing the main cash register and postal and bank accounts, processing VAT returns, and providing support with budgeting and financial planning.

Accounting clerks

Simona Stojanovic works as a finance clerk and also serves as the deputy head of the accounting department. She is responsible for accounts payable and accounts receivable management for the municipality of Zermatt (EWG), debt collection and dunning, as well as providing support with the annual financial statements and budgeting. Her deputy role also includes assisting with maintaining the general ledger.

Rita Stojanovic works part-time (50%), and Patrizia Sarbach works part-time (40%). Rita is primarily responsible for accounts receivable management and assisting with accounts payable administration. Patrizia's responsibilities include processing accounts payable invoices, preparing accounts receivable invoices, and supporting payroll accounting . Telephone and counter service, as well as supervising trainees, are also part of her daily work.

Finance department clerk / AHV branch manager

Gerhard Karlen is responsible for the registration, monitoring, changes, and invoicing of fee-paying subscribers in the waste, water, and wastewater sectors. He is also responsible for the AHV branch office. Advising the public at the counter and by phone is time-consuming and highly valued. This also includes processing and monitoring AHV applications.

Head of Tax Department

Natalie Julen is primarily responsible for municipal tax collection. This includes the timely dispatch of advance payments, as well as the invoicing of provisional and final statements and special taxes such as capital gains and liquidation gains.

Tax budgeting and the annual financial statements are prepared in cooperation with the Head of Finance. She is also responsible for the insurance system of the municipality of Zermatt.

Tax / Accounting Clerk

As a clerk, Esther Walker is responsible for assisting with tax collection, tax changes, and municipal tax invoicing. Her responsibilities also include assisting with accounts payable and acting as a deputy for garbage and water billing .

There's a great team spirit throughout the Finance department . The team has remained unchanged for many years and is considered a hub for many tasks at EWG.

Everything that happens in the EEC is somehow connected to the

Finance Department. The tasks in our

Departments are very varied and demanding.

Municipality of Zermatt

Municipal judges and municipal deputy judges

The law governing the organization of judicial authorities provides for the election of a municipal judge and his deputy for each municipality – this also applies to the municipality of Zermatt. In the current legislative period (2021-2024), Roman

Henzen serves as municipal judge and Fabian Imboden as deputy municipal judge.

According to legal provisions, civil proceedings are initiated by holding a reconciliation session before the municipal judge. If no conciliation can be reached, the powers of the municipal judge are limited . At the request of the plaintiff, the municipal judge can instruct and decide on property disputes with a value in dispute of up to CHF 2,000. In property disputes with a value in dispute of up to CHF 5,000, the municipal judge can issue a preliminary ruling.

propose a proposal, which the parties do not have to accept.

Further tasks and competencies

In addition, the municipal judge has several powers in the area of voluntary jurisdiction . In particular, they are responsible for pronouncing wills and inheritance contracts, taking measures to secure the inheritance (inventory and sealing of the inheritance assets), and issuing certificates of inheritance.

However, the municipal judge is not responsible for, among other things, rental disputes (responsibility: Cantonal Arbitration Commission for Tenancies) or disputes relating to an employment relationship (responsibility: Cantonal Office for Employee Protection and Employment Relationships).



Municipal judges and their deputies are not professional magistrates. Their election is governed by the cantonal constitution and the law on elections and referendums. However, it is possible for two or more municipalities to have the same municipal judge and/or deputy municipal judge.

swearing-in

The municipal judges and their deputies are sworn in by the district judge, who serves as their supervisory authority. The municipal judge is assisted by a court clerk who has legal training and serves in an advisory capacity.

Arbitration

Conciliation is the most important activity of the municipal judge. Subject to differing legal

Municipality of Zermatt

Annual program 2024 – Jubla Zermatt

January 20	Recording + Pizza chat	May 18 – 19	Pentecost camp	September 14	Jubla Day
February 24	Snow Castle Battle	May 30	Corpus Christi	October 31	Halloween
March 16	Sledging chocolate Fondue cup	June 15	Sea Festival	November 23	Casino evening
April 20	Jubla Championship	August 30	Camp review	December 14	Advent Adventure
July 20 – 27 Summer Camp					

Municipality of Zermatt

Mattertal Youth Work Centre – Club Apéro

Clubs and organizing committees don't have it easy – even in the Matter Valley. Board members are just as difficult to find as club members, and helping hands for events are also becoming increasingly difficult to find.

Due to this difficult situation, it is important that the clubs and organizing committees stand together and seek solutions together.

With this goal in mind, the Mattertal Youth Office is launching the club aperitif – for clubs in the Randa, Täsch and Zermatt regions.

Friday, February 23, 2024, at 7:00 PM Triftbach Hall Zermatt

Meaning and purpose

Last year, the Mattertal Youth Office and the Inner Mattertal Regional Development Agency conducted a survey on leisure activities among residents in the Randa, Täsch, and Zermatt regions . It became clear that while there are many clubs and events in the region, many are not well known or have difficulty finding members, board members, or volunteers.

The idea

The club aperitif is intended to take place annually and provide a platform for the club boards and the organizing committees of various events in the region to exchange information and ideas. Many topics

These issues affect most club boards and organizing committees, so they should be brought together. Another goal is to perhaps even create and utilize shared resources , allowing the various groups to support each other.

Program 23 February 2024

18.45	Door opening
7 p.m.	Start of the event
	Information about the survey
	Information about the Youth Fund
	Information about the club platform
19.15	Workshop on various topics
	· Member recruitment
	· Board work
	Use shared resources
	· Collection of ideas for the future
20.00	Short summary of the workshops by the table moderator
	Feedback on the club aperitif and further implementation
8.30 p.m.	Time for aperitif and exchange
10 p.m.	the last ones go home

Registration

We look forward to receiving your registration by Friday, February 9 , 2024. Register at the following link or via QR code: www.jastow.ch/vereins-apero



SCAN ME

Contact and questions

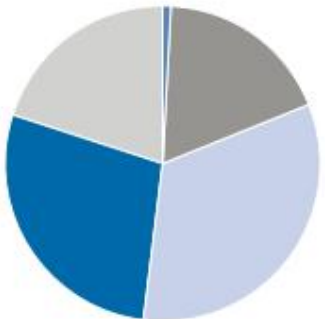
Mattertal Youth Work Center
Bianca Ballmann
079 303 45 04 · mattertal@jastow.ch
www.jastow.ch/vereins-apero

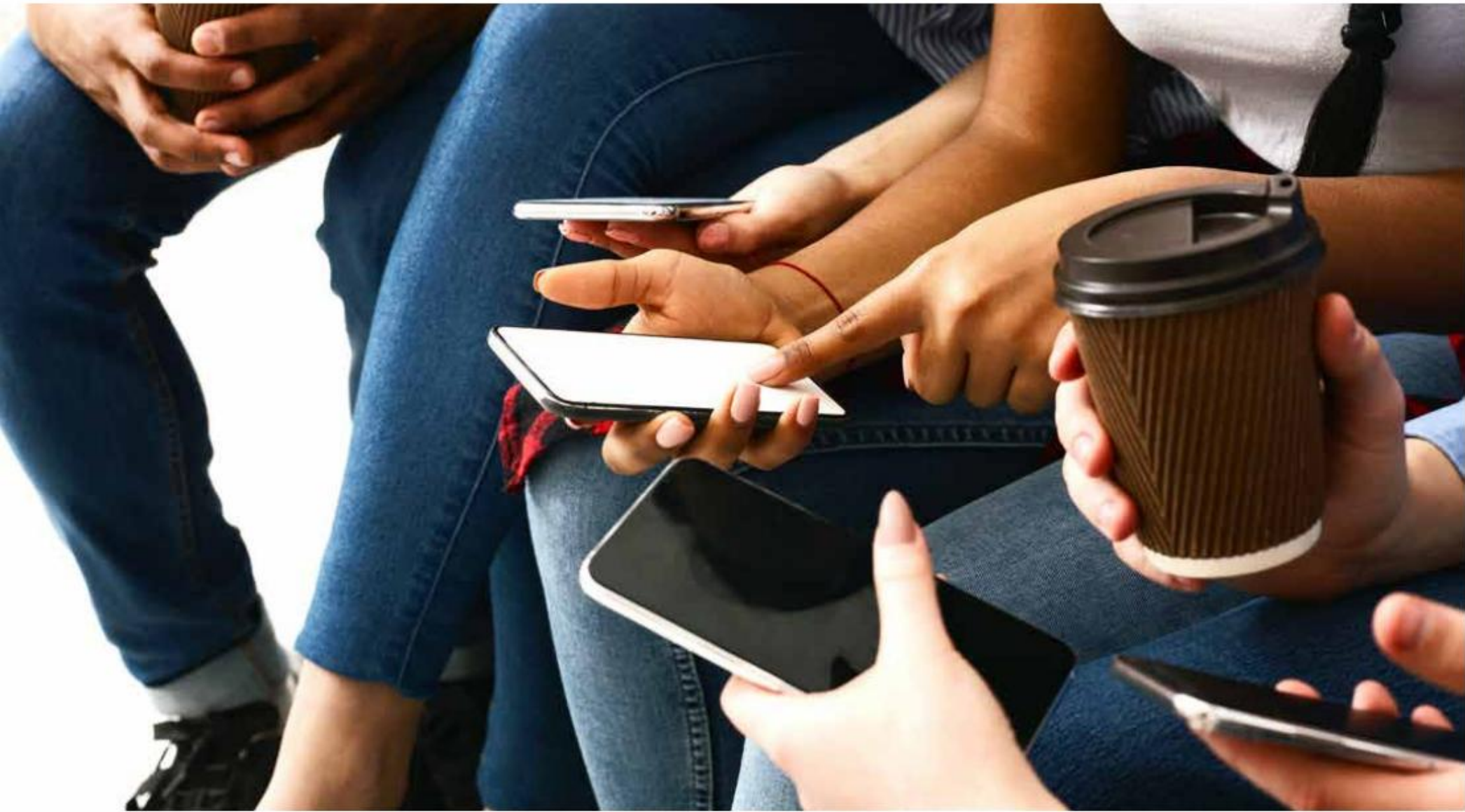


From the survey

The survey was conducted last year in the Randa, Täsch, and Zermatt regions . 138 people of all ages participated. 51% of participants were between 0 and 15 years old. 20% were between 36 and 50 years old. The survey also asked about the popularity of the clubs; some clubs were known to half of the respondents. Unfortunately, the majority of the 94 clubs were known to less than half of the respondents. The respondents' willingness to travel was also assessed: 81% could imagine a travel time of more than 16 minutes, and 48% could even imagine a travel time of more than 30 minutes. Further details from the survey will be presented at the club reception.

0 minutes	1%
1–15 minutes	18%
16–30 minutes	33%
31–60 minutes	28%
60+ minutes	20%





Municipality of Zermatt

Media education for children and young people

School social work Inneres Mattertal promotes a responsible use of media

In an increasingly digitalized world, competent media skills are crucial for children and young people. The school district and school social work department of the Inner Matter Valley are actively committed to strengthening the media skills of children and young people and teaching them the skills to use media responsibly.

conscious use of social media, rights in the digital space, respectful interaction even in virtual worlds, and the promotion of creative possibilities on the Internet.

Through age-appropriate, playful, and practical project sessions, students in grades 3H–11 OS are introduced to key topics in the spring and actively involved in working on them. We place particular emphasis on the critical, yet child-friendly use of digital media. To support media use during leisure time and to provide opportunities for media-free leisure time, the youth work center of the Inner Matter Valley is involved in the upper grades.

Not only is school support and guidance in the area of media education important, but parental involvement also plays a crucial role in promoting the media literacy of children and young people. It is important that parents take an active role in promoting responsible and competent use of digital media.

Parents and guardians play a valuable and important role in supporting children and young people in the digital world and helping them to see and understand risks and opportunities.

Parents can explore digital worlds together with their children and combine education with fun. This not only promotes

the bond between parents and children, but also enables the teaching of media skills in a positive way.

Parental involvement in media education is crucial for promoting children's positive development in a digitalized world and enabling them to use media responsibly. Collaboration between parents, the school, and school social workers is crucial to providing the best possible support for children. To also train parents in media education, age- and topic-specific parent evenings are held. Parents will receive more information about this in due course.



Today's youth have grown up in a world where digital media occupy an integral place in everyday life. From social media to online games to online schoolwork – children and young people are constantly surrounded by various media. To prepare them for the challenges of this digital world, the school region and school social work in the inner Matter Valley focus on targeted media education.

In recent years, the prevention project was introduced and successfully implemented. The goal is not only to train children and young people in the use of digital media, but also to promote their media skills. This includes critically questioning information and images.

Zermatt Citizens' Community

Agriculture in Zermatt over time

Zermatt – to the mat/
Prato Borni – has always
been a farming village.
In the Middle Ages it also
served as a small
Transshipment point and
stopover on the trade route
over the Theodul Pass –
then called Matterjoch
or Augst Pass – into the Augst
Valley (Aosta Valley) and
over the Eringer Pass into
the Rhone Valley.

Our ancestors not only settled in the valley floor, but also cleared the slopes and made them suitable for agriculture. The mountain communities of Findeln, Ried, and Aroleit, as well as the Stafel and Rifelalpe, are large areas of clearing. In addition, individual smaller forest patches were converted into meadows, for example, in the areas of Schweigmatten, Moos, Teifumate, Brandbode, Äbi, Riiti, and the remote Arsche.

At the beginning of the 19th century, agriculture was the sole source of income for the population. The importance of owning even a small estate can be seen in the story of Moritz Sigrist, born in 1791, who participated more or less voluntarily in Napoleon's Russian campaign (1810–1812) for another Zermatt resident.

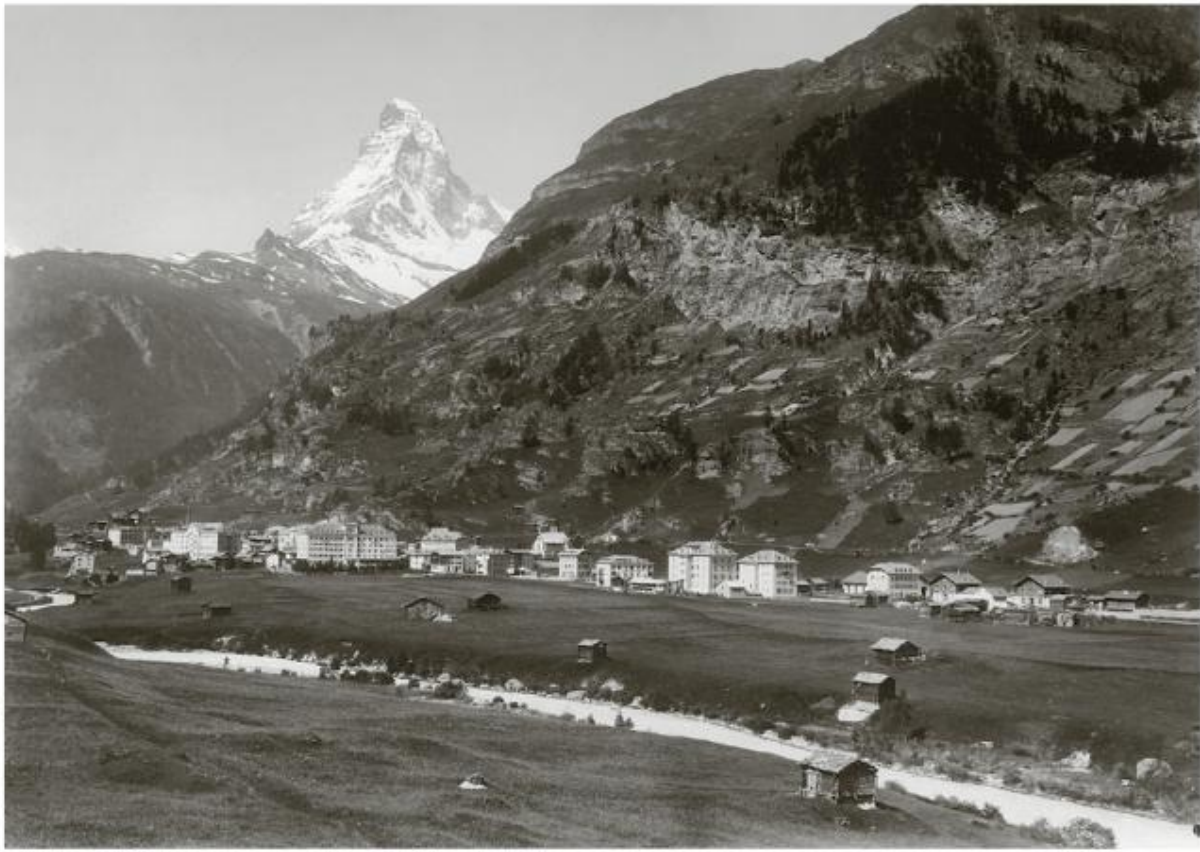
The community promised him a small cornfield on the Pudel, a rocky outcrop above the Bodmen, which he received upon his return after an 18-month absence. A barren field that has now lain fallow for generations. Thus, everyone worked in mountain farming; other sources of income were practically nonexistent. A good hay and grain harvest was the prerequisite for a modest prosperity for large families. Zermatt boasted extensive alpine pastures, a large meadow and pasture area, and numerous grain fields and potato fields, which ensured self-sufficiency. However, farming was not profitable.

Change in the 20th century

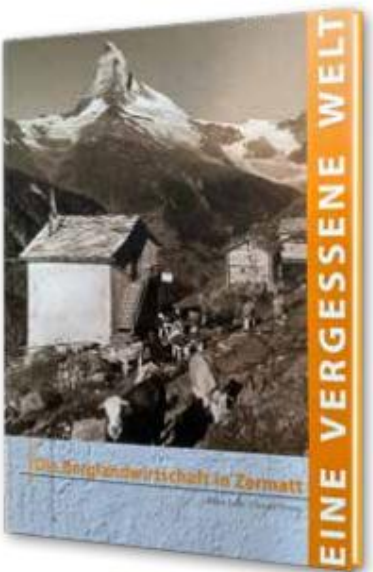
The importance of agriculture has changed fundamentally over the course of this century in Zermatt, as elsewhere in Valais. At the beginning of the 20th century, the population grew again, and providing for families became more difficult, so many men sought work outside the village during the winter. The majority of the village continued to work in agriculture, although Zermatt already had around 600 guest beds at the turn of the century. It wasn't until the Visp-Zermatt railway began year-round operation at the end of the 1920s, and with it the rise of winter sports, that quite a few found tourism as an additional source of income. As a result, several families gave up livestock farming.

Today, farming has become a secondary occupation. Although the number of mountain farmers is small, thanks to them, almost all the meadows in the immediate vicinity of the village are still mown, thus making an important contribution to our environment.

Zermatt around 1895



Livestock farming was essential for the population's self-sufficiency. (ca. 1940)



Excerpt from the book «A Forgotten World» by Klaus Jüden / Oswald Perren, 1998, Rotten Verlag, available from the Burgergemeinde Zermatt



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Zermatt Tourism

Zermatt Unplugged is getting closer!

The 15th Zermatt Unplugged will take place from April 9 to 13, 2024. Over 30,000 guests from all over the world will enjoy Zermatt and the festival's musical diversity for five days. Of course, Zermatt Unplugged is also intended to be an enriching experience for the people of Zermatt. Attempts are being made to minimize some unavoidable restrictions and emissions and to continuously optimize processes.



Zermatt Unplugged – five days of musical diversity

Free access to the Taste Village and foyer tent for the local community
As a thank you to the people of Zermatt, the Taste Village and the foyer tent will be freely accessible to all locals on all five days upon presentation of a Blue Card (Zermatt, Täsch, Randa). This means that an Unplugged Pass will no longer be required for entry to the Taste Village and the foyer tent for the entire duration of the festival .

Unplugged pass for the local population

For all other Unplugged Pass stages and after-parties, you can get the Unplugged Pass at the festival for a special price of CHF 40 instead of 65 upon presentation of your Blue Card (Zermatt, Täsch, Randa or the Staff Card) .

Stages and formats 2024

During five festival days, over 120 concerts and parties will take place on a total of 17 stages on the mountain and in the village . International stars such as Birdy, James Arthur, Michael Patrick Kelly, and Gregory Porter, as well as numerous newcomers, can be seen against the impressive mountain backdrop of Zermatt . Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club no longer requires a separate ticket; only the Unplugged Pass is required.

Assembly, dismantling and transport

The setup and dismantling times as well as the transport lasts from March 18th to the end of April. The artificial ice rink will remain closed until the end of Sports holidays on March 10th – temperature conditions permitting. In consultation with the authorities, set-up and dismantling times have been agreed, including the Easter weekend. Fixed times for transport and construction work are defined so that rest periods are observed, no children are on their way to school and the business is not affected as much as possible.

The municipality and Zermatt Un-plugged will provide information about the exact schedule via newsletter .



Zermatt Tourism column

Many thanks and all the best

Dear Gerold

A few weeks ago, your more than 40-year career as a mechanic, pilot, and ultimately CEO of Air Zermatt came to an end. You can look back on a career rich in events and experiences, filled with many highs, adventures, and also turbulence , which you successfully concluded a few weeks ago .

During this time, you have brought great joy to many thousands of people: whether by rescuing them or their loved ones who had been in accidents, together with your competent team; by showing them the beautiful mountain world from an otherwise unattainable perspective; or by serving as a role model for many young people and perhaps even personally teaching them the art of flying .

Over the years, you have increasingly become a figurehead, not only for Air Zermatt, but also for our tourist destination. In countless media articles, TV reports, and even documentaries, you have appeared as a likeable brand ambassador and have generated a great deal of interest and goodwill for Zermatt and the

Matterhorn provided.

You've always remained true to yourself, never lost your composure, and shown your emotions. That makes you interesting and likeable.

Your radiance extends around the world, thanks to your projects in Nepal, India, and many other places.

I thank you for your commitment to our destination over the years – often- sometimes perhaps even unknowingly . The countless reports in our media mirror in which your name appears are silent testimony to this.

Thank you Gerold! We all wish you for the next phase of life only the Best.

Sincerely,
Dani, Spa Director

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Zermatt Tourism

Successful and atmospheric Destination evenings at Villa Vrony

"Zermatt meets Lucerne" – Under this slogan, Zermatt Tourism, in collaboration with partners from the destination and in cooperation with VILLA Vrony and VILLA Schweizerhof, presented two atmospheric destination evenings. Visitors enjoyed the magical Zermatt atmosphere, the finest cuisine, and musical entertainment in the heart of Central Switzerland.

The Zermatt mountain restaurant Chez Vrony hosted a pop-up restaurant at the VILLA Schweizerhof on Lake Lucerne from November 9, 2023, to February 4, 2024. The collaboration between the two culinary venues allowed guests to breathe in the Zermatt mountain air in the gourmet oasis by the lake and indulge in special creations from the VILLA kitchen using ingredients from the Valais region.

Hostess Vrony Cotting-Julen of "Chez Vrony" in Zermatt says: "We usually welcome our guests to our Zermatt mountain resort. It fills us with great joy to be taking a step closer to our guests in Central Switzerland this winter with VILLA Vrony and to be hosting them in a very exciting environment."

In the context of this unique symbiosis, Zermatt Tourism, together with partners from the destination, hosted two destination evenings at VILLA Vrony on January 10 and 11 for Zermatt regulars and the media. Selina Döringer, Head of Marketing at Zermatt Tourism, says: "In times of digitalization, where much of marketing takes place exclusively on the digital channel, such events that focus on personal encounters are all the more important."

Our regular guests appreciate the personal interaction."

Zermatt Bergbahnen AG, Gornergrat Bahnen, and Zermatt Unplugged presented their current offerings and innovations at VILLA Vrony. The 80 attendees each evening were thrilled by the ambiance and the design of the two destination evenings, which were sold out. Cloé Maria Salzgeber provided the common thread throughout the events. The young event host guided the guests through VILLA Vrony with charm and extensive knowledge of Zermatt, while the Lucerne folk duo Julia Heart provided the appropriate musical accompaniment.



Zermatt presented itself successfully rich in central Switzerland.



Zermatt Tourism

Spectacular hologram: The Matterhorn towered over Lake Lucerne

The Matterhorn visits beautiful Central Switzerland – right in the middle of a lake! "Mountains Displaced" is an audiovisual sculpture on Lake Lucerne that, as part of the 5th Lilo Light Festival in January, made Zermatt and the Matterhorn appear as part of Lucerne for ten days.

At the 5th Lilo Light Festival Lucerne, selected squares, buildings, and sights were lovingly illuminated and brought to life by artists from all over the world every day from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.


In this context, the Matterhorn on Lake Lucerne was one of the largest light installations in Europe and enchanted visitors in a playful way. With around 25 light installations, the "Lilo" impresses with its diversity and

Creativity and can be counted among the most important light festivals in Europe.

The Matterhorn hologram was staged by lighting, stage and video designer Timo Martens from Kilchberg, who captures music in images and stages. Martens developed

Designs for Seede, Peter Fox, Andreas Bourani, Loredana and many other artists and events events such as the Swiss Music Awards.

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Zermatt cable cars

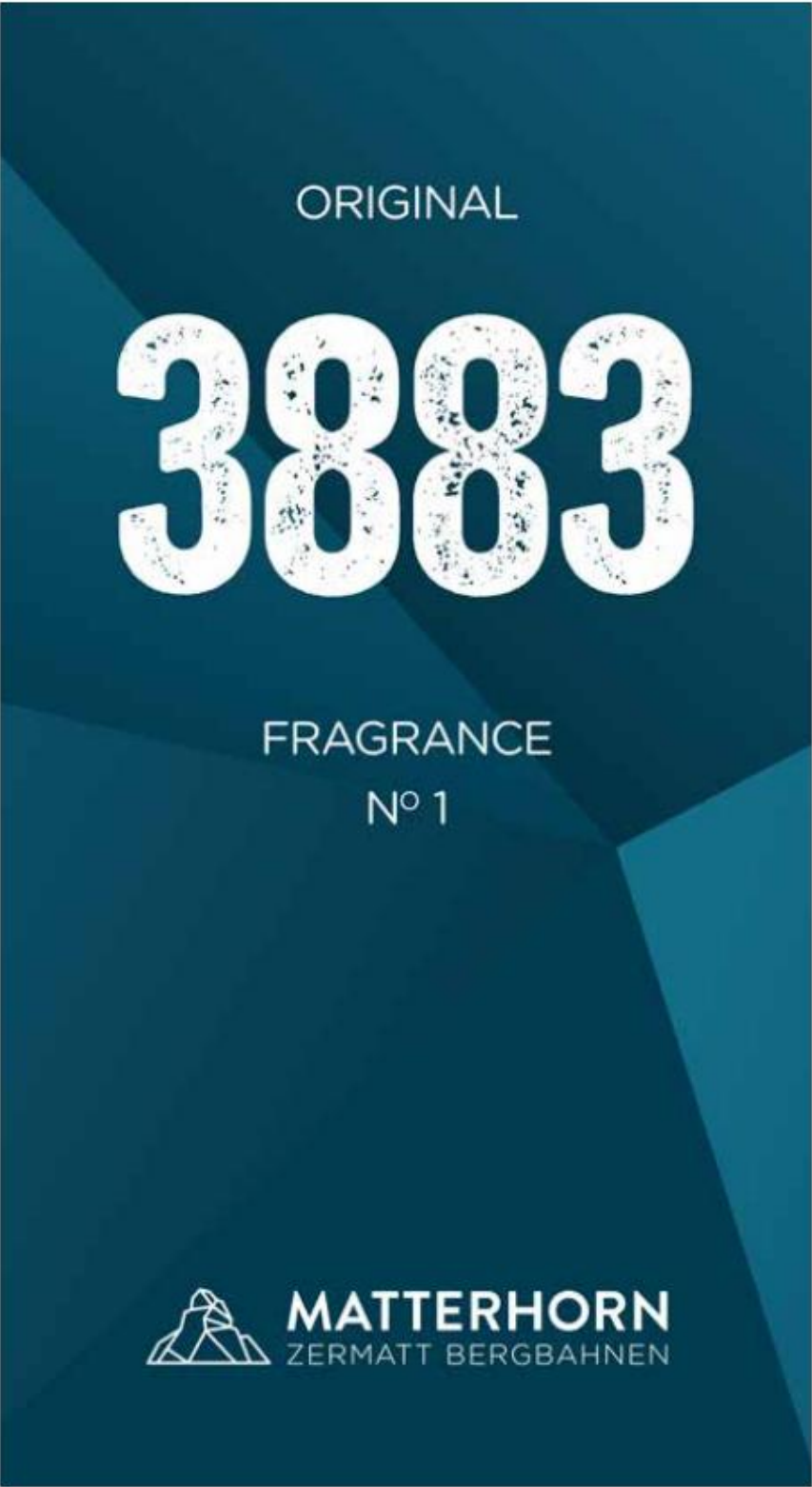
3883 – the new scent of the Zermatt Bergbahnen

Glacier worlds, fresh air, flower meadows, and forests – the Matterhorn Paradise surrounding Zermatt has a lot to offer in terms of natural landscapes. We at Zermatt Bergbahnen asked ourselves how we could capture this magical setting in a single fragrance. The result is refreshing, natural, and inspiring.

Last summer, the project took shape, and we collaborated with a master perfumer from Florence to create the fragrance of the Zermatt Bergbahnen (mountain railways). While it sounds simple, it is actually a complex process. A fragrance has a direct impact on our mood and thoughts. A smell is associated with a specific memory, person, experience, or place. The fragrance of the Zermatt Bergbahnen, with its blend of fresh glacier mint and juniper, provides an inspiring top note and is intended to evoke the unique and diverse natural landscape, snow-covered forests in winter or the flora in summer. The name of the new fragrance, "3883," is also the height of the Matterhorn Glacier Paradise viewing platform, which enchants with its mesmerizing view of the beautiful mountains and glaciers.

The Zermatt mountain railway fragrance is already in use at the new Matterhorn Express valley station , discreetly sprayed as an integral part of the ventilation system. This system will also be used at other stations.

Original 3883 Fragrance No. 1 will also be available as a home fragrance in the various shops at our locations starting in March 2024. Get inspired now!



Zermatt cable cars

Construction progress at the valley station

Matterhorn Express

The first section of the new Matterhorn Express valley station has been in operation for about a month. In addition to the spacious ticket office, the ski depots, restrooms, and ticket machines are spread over two floors. The building is characterized by the typical blue color of Zermatt Bergbahnen, with wooden elements providing a pleasant and modern contrast. The construction project will be fully completed in the coming months.

The winter season is in full swing, and the Zermatt Bergbahnen facilities are running at full speed. Every morning, guests from all over the world pass through the turnstiles at the valley station.

Matterhorn Express and set off— on foot or in ski gear—toward the Matterhorn Glacier Paradise. Behind the scenes, work is still diligently underway to ensure the construction project can be completed in early summer 2024. In the upper two

The new office space for Zermatt Bergbahnen is being built on these floors and is scheduled to be occupied in April 2024.

pursue my work. I encountered a new environment, exciting projects, and a great working atmosphere—what more could you ask for?

To what extent do [the tasks at Zermatt Bergbahnen differ to your previous job?](#)

The difference isn't that great. In my previous position, the focus was on construction work in conjunction with ancillary businesses. Due to the many construction sites and projects, I had also worked with Zermatt Bergbahnen on a regular basis . In my new position with Zermatt Bergbahnen, I see myself more as a coordinator of all the trades involved. As Head of Construction, the focus is still on construction, but now I also have additional responsibilities related to planning, budgeting, and construction management for new projects.

[The first part of the new valley station has been completed – when is the complete completion planned?](#)

The construction work is scheduled to be completed in early summer 2024. We are confident and look forward to completing the construction project on Schluhmattstrasse .

[When will the construction crane on Schluhmattstrasse be dismantled?](#)

Dismantling of the construction crane is scheduled for the end of May 2024. This will require larger vehicles, which will only be permitted to operate in the village of Zermatt during the months of May and October .

[What projects are planned for the construction department next summer?](#)

Several projects are planned for summer 2024. Among other things, the current office space in Haus Kummle will be Housing for our employees will be converted as soon as the Zermatt Bergbahnen administration has moved into the new offices at the valley station. Furthermore, the final work on the new cable car between Zermatt and Furi is underway.

as well as work on the Blauherd-Rothorn snowmaking system. As every summer, various maintenance work will also be carried out on the slopes made.



Sven Sarbach



Anton Lauber



Anton "Toni" Lauber stepped down from his position as Head of Construction at the end of 2023 after more than 25 years to begin his well-deserved retirement. With his great commitment and expertise, he has significantly shaped the period since the merger and creation of Zermatt Bergbahnen. Most recently, he successfully completed the generational Matterhorn Alpine Crossing project and became the railway sponsor of the Matterhorn Glacier Ride II.

appointed.

He is succeeded by Sven Sarbach , who previously worked as Managing Director and Construction Manager at SULAG Hoch- & Tiefbau AG . We spoke with Sven and asked him a few questions about his new challenge and the projects he's working on.

[Sven, how did you start your new role at Zermatt Bergbahnen?](#)

Starting at Zermatt Bergbahnen was made very easy for me thanks to the support of Toni and the entire team. I was able to integrate right away and enjoy

Modern and generously designed –

the new Matterhorn Express valley station

History of Zermatt

Felix Julen – Harem Pants

Felix Julen was a resident of the "St. Mauritius" in Zermatt for some time. He began with great joy to describe the intense events from his life as a mountain guide. Sadly, he passed away before completing his complete account.

With the help of his son Jörg , this impressive report was nevertheless able to be written.

An impressive experience – crash on the Lyskamm
"One of my uncles ran a hotel at the time . He was hosting a guest who wanted to cross Monte Rosa and Lyskamm . We met at the train station and then climbed together to the Monte Rosa Hut. When I saw him, I was startled. He had equipment, but he was wearing mountaineering pants that were much too big. They were 'harem pants,' which we called 'knickerbockers' back then.

At the start of our tour, I told him that I found his pants unsuitable and dangerous.

The next morning, we set off early. It was a beautiful day with a very strong north wind. We climbed the east ridge to the Lyskamm, with me constantly monitoring my guest and leading him on a short rope. We crossed the ridge to reach the east summit from the west summit. The ridge between the two summits consisted of absolutely bare ice on the north side. Since I had to hack steps,

It was no longer possible to use the short rope there. I always went half a rope length ahead. This way, I was about 15 meters ahead of the guest, hacked a step, and then let him follow. I watched him closely and saw how, after the first few steps, he got stuck with his crampons on his "bag pants."

He then fell headfirst down the north face. This happened at a point where the north face was about a thousand

Meters vertically and steeply down to the Grenzgletscher. Fortunately, I was able to stop my guest, who was now swinging over the ice wall. I called to him to use his ice axe, which he had fortunately been able to hold, to hack a step so he could stand on it. However, this was impossible for him at foot level. I was afraid he might damage the rope and fall again. There was no one around who could have helped us. No one was climbing up from the Sella Hut; no one had started from the Marguerita Hut, and no one was coming from the Gnifetti Hut either. I was completely alone.

with the guest in this very dangerous situation. It was very cold and a strong north wind was blowing.

Finally, I gathered all my strength and pulled him up, repeatedly wrapping the rope around my own arm and wrist. After preparing an even larger belay with my ice axe, I handed my adjustable crampons to the guest. The guest hadn't said a single word during this operation. He was probably unaware of the dangerous, life-threatening situation. We then continued to the West Summit, descended to the Felikjoch via the Twin Glacier, then headed back toward the Monte Rosa Hut and Rotenboden. Late in the evening, we reached Zermatt on the last train. The shock set in during the night, and he needed medical attention. Only then did he begin to realize what could have happened and that his "harem pants" had almost cost him and me our lives.

«Finally, I took all
my strength together
and pulled him up by
I keep wrapping the rope around
my own arm and
wrapped the wrist...»



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Every Wednesday: a unique culinary and historical train ride to the Gornergrat.

Gornergrat Railway

By and with guests – Product development at the highest level

Born a few years ago as a vague product idea in a guest survey, the Gornergrat Bahn has been offering a particularly high-quality and exclusive service since last autumn: the NostalChic Class.

The development of new offers and products for the Gornergrat is increasingly taking place through the close involvement of customers throughout the entire process. The most recent example: the NostalChic Class. Initiated and deepened through

A prototype was developed through guest surveys , and various versions of the offer were tested with customers. The aim was to determine whether the offer would generate sufficient interest among potential guests. For this purpose, interviews were conducted, a website with a fictitious offer was created, and the visitors were asked who would book it.

The positive feedback confirmed the idea , and test drives under real-life conditions with a so-called "Minimum Viable Product" (MVP) were conducted in autumn 2020. For this purpose, the interior of a Gornergrat Bahn carriage was specially designed based on customer requirements . Selected guests were able to experience and evaluate the service . Only after these drives could it finally be confirmed that it actually met an existing customer need.

A premium offer of a special kind

Last fall, the NostalChic Class officially premiered: In the restored, nostalgic carriage from 1961 with its comfortable interior, guests have since experienced an unforgettable ride to the Gornergrat. From the guaranteed window seat, they enjoy the best view of the Matterhorn and the magnificent alpine landscape.



A rich aperitif at the GoldenLok Ristorante Pizzeria in the Hotel Tannenhof; in the center: the first locomotive that transported guests to the Gornergrat 125 years ago.

A local guide will ensure that you are Ride for the well-being of visitors and fascinates with interesting stories and anecdotes about nature, culture, and people along the route. Upon reaching the Gornergrat, at 3,089 meters, the interactive exhibition "ZOOOM the Matterhorn – See. Feel. Marvel" invites you to visit.

Culinary experiences

The exclusive culinary experience begins with a welcome aperitif at the Hotel Tannenhof in Zermatt. Afterwards, a four-course meal with matching wine pairing will be served at the Riffelhaus 1853. Coffee and dessert will round off the indulgent program before the visitors begin their unforgettable journey back.



A window seat with a great view is guaranteed for all passengers.

Tickets NostalChic Class

Tickets for the NostalChic Class can be purchased for CHF 320 per person on the Gornergrat Bahn website at gornergrat.ch/nostalchic .

The trips take place every Wednesday until April 17th. In summer 2024, the trips will be offered every Wednesday and Saturday.