






ZERMATT INSIDE

August 2024, 22nd Year, No. 4



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

Municipality of Zermatt  Thanks We thank all helpers and helpers wholeheartedly for their constant commitment and their selfless help during the flood events at the end of June 2024. Page 12	Zermatt cable cars  sightseeing On August 24, the new premises at the Matterhorn Express valley station can be visited - including a ride on the new cable car to the aperitif at the Furi station. Page 20	Zermatt Citizens' Community  National Day The Swiss Association (SVBK) is organizing a national Day of the Citizen Communities and Corporations in Zermatt. Page 22	Matterhorn Gotthard Railway  Storm damage The storms at the end of June the MGBahn section Visp – Täsch particularly badly affected. A look at the damage areas. Page 27	Zermatt Tourism  Folklore Festival For the 54th time, the annual atmospheric Folklore Festival on the second August weekend in our village. Page 28
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Municipality of Zermatt

Here we go again...

The 2024/25 school year begins
on Monday, August 19, 2024
– with good solutions for the entire school region.

Learn more on pages 2 to 10



Municipality of Zermatt

Respect, tolerance and careful interaction

The 2024/25 school year begins on Monday, August 19, 2024 – with good solutions for the entire school region.

But let's first start with a look back. A look back that shows us once again how great our school is and that should express our appreciation for our teachers.

"Our path – truly digital," was the motto in August 2023. Zermatt schools began the new school year with this motto last fall. All students from third grade through secondary school were provided with laptops during the school year. An important investment by the municipality of Zermatt in the future of our children.

In September, Clean-up Day took place again, and at the same time, we received the positive news that the Zermatt schools had been awarded the "Energy School" energy label – our work has borne fruit.

In October our teacher Patricia Truffer received her diploma Plom – heartfelt congratulations! The student council was also busy organizing a lost and found office in the community library for all the things that get left behind in the school buildings and gymnasiums. The school newspaper also enjoyed great popularity again. A big THANK YOU to Editor-in-Chief Leentje.

Children's Rights Day in November was once again very well received by children and young people. Over 115 children and young people participated. Many thanks to Jasmin Perren from the school's social work department and Bianca Ballmann from the youth work department for their commitment.

This year, our kindergarten teachers organized an Advent market with the little ones at the temporary shelter, which was well attended. Another highlight in the pre-Christmas period was the Advent calendar with stories about Listen. This cross-grade project provided the kindergarten children with a wonderful surprise. The students in 11OS wrote Christmas short stories, Julia Graven's 6th grade class set the stories to music, and then presented them to the kindergarten as an Advent calendar.

At the end of January, the «Niww Walka» opened its doors. At this point, a big thank you to the teachers for their help with the move. With great team spirit, classes started on January 22nd in the new premises of the "Niww Walka". It was wonderful to see how

The large building has been filled with so much life. The kindergartens and the two first-grade classes will remain in the temporary building on Obere Matten until "Walka 3" is completed.

In February we were able to welcome Fleur Imesch to Zermatt Fleur completed an internship with our school social worker, Jasmin Perren, until the end of the school year.

Of course, our children were out and about in the ski resort again . The ski and snow sports weeks were, as always, excellently organized. In February, a career day was also held at the school for the 9OS and 10OS grades – Local representatives from seven industries introduced the young people to various professions.

The official opening of the "Niww Walka" took place on April 12, 2024. In addition to numerous speeches, including one by State Councilor Christophe Darbellay, the children entertained us with wonderful performances. It was a very successful and worthy occasion for the new Zermatt school building, the "Niww Walka."

In June, the kindergartens performed the musical "Strawberry Festival." The two royal children found their way home, and thanks to the forest animals, there were even strawberries at the end, as befits a strawberry festival. I am looking forward to many more performances from the young actors.

Shortly before the end of school on June 21, 2024, the situation in Zermatt became critical. After heavy rainfall, the school administration, together with the Zermatt management staff, decided to evacuate the school buildings. We had the primary school children picked up by their parents , as parts of the route to school were already blocked . The students at the orientation school were in constant contact with their class teachers. Thanks to exemplary cooperation between the school and parents, all children were safe by midday.

A big THANK YOU to everyone involved.

The graduation ceremony took place in the Triftbach Hall during the last week of school . It was a celebratory occasion with an interesting supporting program, proud parents, and happy young people. I would like to take this opportunity to wish the 41 school leavers all the best for their future.



School culture concerns us all



And now a look ahead to the new school year: After the summer holidays, Alexandra Mooser will return to teaching MIA (computer science). We will communicate who will be joining our school administration soon. It's great to welcome you back to the teaching team, Alexandra.

Cornelia Pollinger has also left us for the next school year . She organized an impressive Risky Dinner in June, a very nice way to end the school year. Heike Seihn, Sarah Gruber, and Ivo Schuler will be saying goodbye in the secondary school. Our teaching assistant Eliane Schuler will also be leaving us. I would also like to say "thank you" to all of you and wish all the departing teachers much success and satisfaction in their future endeavors.

157 students will attend the Orienteering Zermatt secondary school; there are 370 students in the primary school. Finding teachers remains difficult. In the coming school year, six children from 3H and seventeen children from 5H from Täsch and Randa will be taught in Zermatt. It was simply impossible to find qualified teachers. We are overcoming this challenge as a school region, partly because we can rely on our competent and resilient teachers.

We were able to hire Michelle Biner as a class teacher at the orientation school . Together with Shana Russin and Luca Imboden, we were once again able to recruit local teachers for the Zermatt schools this year – I'm very pleased about that. We are also pleased to welcome intern Julius Frischmuth from Germany .

Belinda Casparis will be joining the primary school team as a fifth-grade teacher. A warm welcome to her.

We will also use the 2024/25 school year to advance and finalize the "Education, Care and Leisure" project (formerly Day School).

I would like to thank the school administration, including Alexandra Henzen-Perren, Pino Mazzone , and Alexandra Mooser, the school committee, and the entire SSFA team for their hard work over the past year, and I look forward to the new challenges together with you.

The school year is ahead of us with the motto: «School culture concerns us all to».

Mutual respect, tolerance, and caring interactions with one another are topics that have long occupied our school. Reason enough to focus on them in the next school year. We are aware of our responsibility and will support parents in teaching their children these values.

Let's get to it. I'm sure it will be a great school year.

Your school president Sonja Sarbach-Schalbetter

«It will certainly a great school year.»

Municipality of Zermatt

School culture concerns us all

Together we are at the beginning of a new school year, a time full of opportunities, challenges and discoveries.

The culture we share and live at our schools plays a central role in our community . Shared beliefs, values, norms, and expectations form a guiding force in our school, which is characterized by enriching diversity . They are the foundation upon which we strive to build. Therefore, the school administration has chosen the theme "School Culture Concerns Us All" for the 2024/25 school year .

Diversity is the norm

630 students between the ages of 4 and 16 from the school districts of Zermatt, Täsch, and Randa will begin the 2024/25 school year. The children and young people come from 26 nations and speak 24 languages. 62 female and 15 male teachers, with an average of ten years of service, teach in the primary and orientation schools. 77% of them are from the region, are either in their first year of school or have been there for 42 years. Children and teachers from a wide range of socioeconomic backgrounds are taught in six different school buildings. Parents, teachers , and students—all of us—are part of our diverse school.

Common values and relationships

Values determine our beliefs, our attitudes, and our actions. Our interactions at school are shaped by shared values.

and consolidated. Values are the irreplaceable glue that holds our everyday lives together. School administrators, teachers, teaching assistants, and parents act as role models, influencing how we interact with one another. They are reflected in everything that is said and done, as well as in what is left undone, left unspoken, or ignored .

Living values in the community

Values such as respect, tolerance, trust, openness , and courage are the pillars of this culture. They are not just words we speak, but principles by which we act. **Respect** means recognizing and appreciating everyone in their uniqueness. **Tolerance** calls us not only to accept differences but to understand them as an enrichment of our coexistence. **Trust**

creates the basis for a safe and supportive

An environment in which everyone has the opportunity to grow and learn. **Openness** encourages us to remain curious, ask questions, and inspire one another. And finally, it takes **courage** to face challenges, see mistakes as learning opportunities, and stand up for what is right.

In this spirit, the school administration encourages each and every student to actively participate, support, and help one another. Our school should be a place where everyone has the opportunity to develop their full potential. A place where we not only impart knowledge but also foster a sense of purpose.

School culture concerns us all

School culture concerns us all: Let us work together to cultivate a school culture that is supported by values and relationships.



Pino Mazzone, Headmaster PS, and Alexandra Henzen-Perren, Headmaster OS

A school where everyone feels valued and where we can grow together. We look forward to an inspiring, successful, and enriching school year with all of you.

Municipality of Zermatt

School year 2024/25

Start of school

Classes begin on **Monday, August 19, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.**

Class distribution

Primary school class teachers			
Class	teacher	schoolhouse	Room
1/2H1	Larissa Biner	Upper Mats 8	
1/2H2	Deborah Biner	Upper Mats 3	
1/2H3	Patricia Truffer	Upper mats	1
1/2H4	Linda Zengaffinen	Upper Mats 2	
1/2H5	Rebecca Truffer	Upper Mats 4	
3H A	Vanessa Lomatter/Patricia Truffer	Niww Walka	2C.02
3H B	Stephanie Lauber/Melanie Amacker	Niww Walka	2C.01
4H A	Johannes Terhaar/Daniela Schmid	Upper mats	11
4H B	Fabienne Salzmann	Upper mats	12
5H A	Jasmine Zimmermann	Niww Walka	1C.05
5H B	Yvette Zumtaugwald/Eveline Brantschen	Niww Walka	1C.03
5H C	Lara Brantschen	Niww Walka	1C.04
6H A	Lara Detta/Christine Fux	Niww Walka	2D.02
6H B	Susanne Stampfli/Christine Fux	Niww Walka	2C.03
7H A	Roman Imboden/Elia Imboden	Niww Walka	2E.03
7H B	Belinda Casparis/vacant	Niww Walka	2E.02
8H A	Nicolas Albrecht/Jelena Schmid	Niww Walka	2D.01
8H B	Alois Summermatter	Niww Walka	2E.01

Specialist primary school teachers			
Subject	teacher	schoolhouse	Room
religion	Beata Gazova	Niww Walka	2B.06
religion	Tania Schnidrig	Niww Walka	2B.06
religion	Judith Schuler-Kippel	Niww Walka	2B.06
Textile design	Christine Fux	Niww Walka	1B.14
Textile design	Anja Imboden	Niww Walka	1B.13
Textile design	Manuela Hunziker	Niww Walka	1B.11
Textile design	Sonja Perren	Niww Walka	1B.13
Technical design	Melanie Prodingler	Niww Walka	1B.10
Special education teachers	Lucien Fux	Niww Walka	2B.15
Special education teachers	Regula Guntern	Niww Walka	2B.12
Special education teachers	Ines Zatta	Upper Mats 6	
Special education teachers	Julia Cerri	Niww Walka	2B.13
School assistance	Melanie Prodingler		KLZ
School assistance	Sandra Perren		KLZ
School assistance	Jessica Kronig		KLZ
School assistance	Séverine Huber		KLZ
School assistance	Maysha Stampfli		KLZ
German for foreign speakers	Joëlle Kronig Willisich	NW/OM 2C.10/15	
German for foreign speakers	Andrea Zengaffinen	Upper Mats 14	
German for foreign speakers	Daniela Schmid	Upper Mats 14	
German for foreign speakers	Gaby Fux-Brantschen	NW/OM 2C.09/5	
German for foreign speakers	Katja Herbstrith	NW/OM 2C.08/5	
German intensive			

Class teachers orientation school			
Class	teacher	schoolhouse	Room
9OS1	Michel Biffiger	In the Trift	533
9OS2	Nicolas Eyer	In the Trift	532
9OS3	Carla Ziegler	In the Trift	524
10OS1	Thomas Kronig	In the yard	442
10OS2	Patrick Zumtaugwald	In the yard	441
11OS1	Michelle Biner	In the yard	452
11OS2	Jonas Taugwalder	In the yard	453
11OS3	Nena Schnidrig	In the yard	451

Specialist teachers orientation school		
teacher	schoolhouse	Room
Alexandra Mooser	In the Trift	522
Anne Imboden	In the Trift	523
Fabienne Biffiger	In the Trift	522
Florbela Ferreira	In the yard	411/434
Heike Seihn	In the Trift	534
Judith Schuler	In the yard	434/421
Julius Frischmuth	In the yard	423
Luca Imboden	In the yard	421
Robert Zimmermann	In the Trift	511
Shana Russin	In the Trift	534

Municipality of Zermatt

Changes in the teaching staff

primary school

Resignations

Cornelia Pollinger (5HB)
Eliane Schuler (school assistant)
Fleur Imesch (School Social Work Internship)

Admissions

Belinda Casparis (class teacher 7HB)
Maysha Stampfli (school assistant)
Jessica Kronig (school assistant)
Séverine Huber (school assistant)
Elia Imboden (part-time 7HA)
Jelena Schmid (partial workload 8HA)
Sonja Perren (TG)
Melanie Prodingler (TG)
Beata Gazova (Religion)

Orientation school

Resignations

Sarah Gruber
Ivo Schuler

Admissions

Fabienne Biffiger (school assistant)
Julius Frischmuth
Luca Imboden
Shana Russin

Service anniversary

Julia Graven 10 years
Stephanie Lauber 20 years
Daniela Schmid 20 years
Alois Summermatter 20 years

School commissions

primary school

Sonja Sarbach, municipal councillor
Emanuel Julien, Deputy, Municipal Councillor
Pastor Konrad Rieder

Andreia Filipa Da Silva Bento

Nicole Luggen
Sandra Perren

Judith Bauer

Pino Mazzone, Headmaster PS

Member of the School Board, vacant

Stephanie Lauber, teacher representative Cycle 1
Ines Zatta, teacher representative Cycle 2

Orientation school

Sonja Sarbach, municipal councillor
Emanuel Julien, Deputy, Municipal Councillor
Pastor Konrad Rieder

Annette Fux, Municipality of Täsch

Aldo Brantschen, municipality of Randa
Christa Biner

Bianca Ballmann, Youth Work Office

Alexandra Henzen, Headmaster OS

Member of the School Board, vacant
Carla Ziegler, teacher representative

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Editorial Committee

Oliver Summermatter (EWG, coordinator), Claudia Beaufort (BG), David Taugwalder (ZT), Jenny Imboden (ZBAG), Christoph Anderegg (GGB/MGB)

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rottenedition gmbh

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rottenedition gmbh, Rico Erpen, info@rottenedition.ch, +41 79 344 16 44

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Your opinion is important to us

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Municipality of Zermatt

People for the Homework help wanted!

The primary school will also organize homework help (supervised study) for pupils in the 2024/25 school year.



The homework help is aimed at primary school pupils (3H – 8H) who **need support**

when **completing** homework . However, this is **not** tutoring.

We are looking for people to support the children in completing their homework independently and in learning . They will help the students (groups of 8) understand the tasks and give them tips when they are stuck. The responsible

The final responsibility for determining whether homework **has been completed** rests **with the parents**.

Homework help is provided to registered schoolchildren on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to approximately 5:30 p.m. in small groups at the "Niww Walka." Interested parties can contact the school's principal, Pino Mazzone (027 966 46 29), who will be informed about the terms and conditions and compensation.

Municipality of Zermatt

CBM Adventure Mobile – Visual impairments experience

From June 17th to 20th, 2024, the Christoffel Blindenmission (CBM) experience mobile was a guest in Täsch.

Students in classes 3H to 8H from Täsch and Randa as well as the 6H and 8H from Zermatt had the opportunity to explore the world of visual impairment in a 90-minute experience. David Gooljar led the classes through the program in two groups. The first group started in the adventure bus, where, with special glasses, they could see the world through the eyes of a person with advanced cataracts. Inside the bus, various objects waited to be touched, while the floor had an unusual texture in some places and there were a few additional surprises. Some brave students dared to put on their glasses completely during the first run, while others hesitated a little. By the second run, many were already more courageous. They also practiced using a cane on the street and on the steps in front of the community center in Täsch.

The second group took on the challenge of sharpening their senses at various stations throughout the school building. They smelled, tasted, heard, and touched to experience the world from a new perspective.

Finally, Mr. Gooljar discussed with the students the living situation of blind people in developing countries.

countries and answered their questions. It was an enriching experience that opened the students' eyes to the challenges and daily lives of people with visual impairments.

Municipality of Zermatt

The shortage of teachers calls for pragmatic Solutions

Zermatt and the Täsch/Randa school region are severely affected by the teacher shortage. The school administration, in collaboration with the municipal and school presidents of the three municipalities, the school inspectorate, and the Department of Education, sought pragmatic solutions.

Since January 2024, the school administration has been looking for teachers in Switzerland and abroad. Due to the shortage, the students of the Täsch/

Randa of the classes of 3H and 5H the lessons in Zermatt. With this solution and thanks to the willingness of teachers in Zermatt to teach larger classes, the shortage of teachers can be alleviated to a minimal extent. Especially since people without a student qualification are often required for the smallest teaching positions in the subjects Textiles/Technical Design and Intensive German. suitable diplomas are used.

Pupils of 3H and 5H from the Täsch/Randa school region are taught in Zermatt

In the Täsch/Randa school region, despite great efforts, two vacant positions could not be filled for the upcoming 2024/25 school year, neither with teachers nor with students from the Valais University of Teacher Education. The primary school administration sought suitable solutions. In discussions with the partners involved, a pedagogically and organizationally sensible interim solution for one school year was found for the school region : The six schoolchildren in 3H and seventeen

2024 classes in Zermatt. On the occasion of the At the extraordinary parents' evening on 20 June 2024 in Täsch, the parents concerned were informed and various variants were discussed.

In the coming school year, the six First graders in Vanessa Lomatter's classes and Stephanie Lauber, and seventeen third-graders were integrated into the classes of Jasmin Zimmermann, Lara Brantschen, and Eveline Brantschen/Yvette Zumtaugwald in Zermatt. This solution is only possible because the teachers are willing to teach larger classes. For this additional work

They deserve praise and recognition. The students are accompanied on their way to school from Randa/Täsch to Zermatt, to the "Niww Walka" school building and back by Ms. Andreia Neto.

She was commissioned by the municipalities for this task. Schoolchildren have the option of having lunch in Zermatt, either being cared for and accompanied home for lunch, or being accompanied home for lunch. This solution was implemented for one school year in consultation with the municipalities of Zermatt, Täsch, and Randa.

In recent years, schoolchildren and parents have had consistently positive experiences with transferring to Zermatt.

the 5H from Täsch and Randa will visit from August



Municipality of Zermatt

School and holiday schedule for the 2024/25 school year

School start: Monday, August 19, 2024, morning
End of school: Friday, June 27, 2025, evening

Holidays

Autumn holidays: Friday, October 11, 2024 evening to Monday, October 28, 2024 morning
Christmas holidays: Friday, December 20, 2024 evening to Monday, January 6, 2025 morning
Sports holidays: Friday, February 28, 2025 evening to Monday, March 10, 2025 morning
Easter holidays: Thursday, April 17, 2025 evening to Tuesday, April 22, 2025 morning
May holidays: Friday, 02.05.2025 evening to Monday, 19.05.2025 morning

Holidays

Friday, November 1, 2024 / All Saints' Day
Wednesday, March 19, 2025 / St. Joseph
Thursday, May 29, 2025 / Ascension Day
Monday, 09.06.2025 / Whit Monday
Thursday, 19.06.2025 / Corpus Christi

Compensation days

Wednesday, October 30, 2024 (all day school)
Wednesday, April 16, 2025 (all day school)
Wednesday, June 11, 2025 (all day school)



Municipality of Zermatt

Progress in the project

"Integration of childcare and childcare services into the organizational structure of the municipality of Zermatt"

The municipality of Zermatt is pleased to report on the current developments in the project to integrate childcare services into the municipal structure.



The aim of the project is to offer comprehensive family and school-based care as a separate service within the Department of Education, Care, and Social Affairs starting in the 2025/2026 school year . The project is proceeding according to plan, and significant progress has been made in the three central subprojects:

Structure & Organization

The sub-project focuses on the structural , organizational, and administrative integration of the existing childcare services into the municipal administration. After an informative kick-off event with the officials of the municipality of Zermatt and

In an intensive exchange with the FEA Zermatt, key information was gathered

In collaboration, a corresponding concept was developed that describes the complete integration of the childcare department. This draft was presented to the FEA Zermatt officials in July 2024 to consider any concerns or suggestions and to sensitively support the change process.

Daycare (preschool)

In the daycare (preschool) area, the future direction of the offering was discussed intensively . Based on feedback from parents and employees, as well as an analysis of the existing childcare offerings at two locations, a unified concept was developed. A sub-project group, consisting of specialists and managers from FEA Zermatt, parent representatives, and the external project management, developed proposals for the reorganization of the preschool area. These were positively received and further expanded. The concept will now be finally reviewed by the overall project management and aims to optimize childcare in the new facilities and harmonize the previous differences in organization and parental contributions.

Education, care and leisure (formerly day school)

The project group, consisting of the school administration, the executive board and management of FEA Zermatt as well as the project management, has defined basic expectations and requirements for the day school.

A workshop with representatives of the need and interest groups in February of this year emphasized the importance of flexibility and voluntariness. Based on this feedback, initial joint ideas were developed, which will be presented to interested representatives in September . The goal is to further refine the proposals through this exchange and best consider the needs of all stakeholders.

The municipality of Zermatt attaches great importance to transparency and open communication and will continue to provide regular updates on the project's progress. Together, we are shaping the future of our municipality and improving childcare and education options for our children.

We attach great importance on transparency and open communication.

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Municipality of Zermatt

«Risky Dinner» at the Niww Walka



On Wednesday, May 22, 2024, a "risky" dinner took place in the cafeteria of the Niww Walka school building.

Lottery decided who would be served a four-course meal for the upper class, a two-course meal for the middle class, or a simple main course for the lower class.

The students of 5H and

Students from other classes put in a great effort to entertain the guests with a colorful supporting program. Juggling and skipping artists, cowboys, a rock band, bandits, dancers , a card magician, and singers took to the stage. A group of students also recited poems they had composed themselves . The audience was captivated, clapping, filming , and following the acts attentively.

40 students from 5H and four helping children from other classes served the guests at their tables with great skill and a friendly smile .

eight to ten-year-old children have actually managed to eat snacks, salad, soup, Main course, water bottles, soft drinks,



Risky Dinner – Concept

Risky Dinners have already been held in over 20 locations: in parishes, schools, and privately. All guests are randomly assigned to a social class.

These social classes correspond proportionally to the real distribution of rich and poor worldwide. Risky Dinners has been around for about eight years. It was invented by Mary's Meals Switzerland. Mary's Meals operates as a school feeding program in 18 countries. Every child receives one meal a day at school. CHF 24.50 is enough to feed a child for an entire school year.

An amount that is often insufficient for a single meal in a restaurant in our country. A Risky Dinner aims to raise awareness of the unequal distribution of goods in the world and simultaneously contributes to poverty reduction.

Delivering beer and wine to the tables without any slips or collisions . Denner, Coop, and Matterhorn Beer kindly offered all the drinks.

We rounded off the evening with a varied dessert buffet, lovingly prepared by the parents. All shifts were welcome to help themselves. The evening's protagonists weren't left out either. The children enjoyed the atmosphere, the stage, the excitement, the company, and the delicious dessert, as they recounted in the classroom the following day.

The two cooks Petra and Evi with eight other

Assistants in the kitchen ensured that the dinner ran smoothly. The team of helpers was located in the

newly built kitchen and demonstrated dedication and perseverance.

Two donation tables in the spacious atrium of the new school building provided detailed information about the donation purposes.

During the main course, Thomas Julien presented the children's center in Bocsia, Romania, and Cornelia Pollinger gave a brief introduction to the school nutrition program "Mary's Meals." A total collection of CHF 4,200 was transferred to the two aid organizations.

The Risky Dinner with its joyfully excited children, 133 enthusiastic guests, and dedicated helpers will remain a fond memory for us!

The teachers of 5H

Lara Delta, Christine Fux, Cornelia Pollinger



Municipality of Zermatt

International Walk to School Day

European Mobility Week takes place every year in September. This year's theme is "Shared Public Space," and it aims to encourage people to rethink the place and space that each mode of transport, each activity, and each person should occupy in public spaces, with a view to quality of life.

Medium (26%), followed by scooters/kickboards/rollerboards (16%) and bus lines (7%). A positive aspect is that many lower school children who ride bicycles or scooters wear helmets.

In winter, only 7% of children use their bicycles 82% walk to school. The proportion of those who take the bus in winter is higher, at 11%.

It is striking that in Cycle 1 (1st KG - 2nd grade), around 70 of the 200 children are accompanied by adults almost daily to the temporary school in Obere Matten. In kindergarten alone, this figure amounts to 82%. Several children are driven to school with a trailer attached to their bicycle, thus acting as "parent taxis." It is encouraging that 46% of the children walk to school with their friends – after all, the journey to school is an important social factor. Walking to school helps children acquire many social skills, and it is also an important step on the path to independence.



INFRASTRUCTURE

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Vapevents
- Vapevents
- Beginner park
- Park for beginners
- Mountain restaurants
- Mountain restaurants
- Ignio Village
- Ignio Village
- Matterhorn Ski Test Center Trockener Steg
- Peak experience
- Iceberg run
- Toboggan run
- Snow park
- Tourist office
- Tourist office
- Sledge & snowshoe rental
- Sledge and snowshoe rental
- Wildlife and forest conservation area
- Wildlife and forest reserve

CERVINIA HIGHLIGHTS

- 1. Ice risk
- 2. Day-long rides
- 3. Snowmobile trail / snowmobile trail

Timetables & live map

Timetables & live map

www.matterhornparadise.ch

The Canton of Valais and the Valais municipalities are participating in Mobility Week this year by organizing various activities related to the topic of "mobility" and supporting their organization.

International Walk to School Day

On Friday, September 20, 2024, Zermatt schools will participate in the "Walking to School" campaign with small projects. The goal is to raise awareness among children and young people on the streets of Zermatt about the importance of visibility, especially on their way to school. Four times a day, 550 students between the ages of four and fifteen will be walking to or from school.

On the day of action, pupils, parents and all drivers – from electric vehicles to e-bike riders – should ensure the safety of children and

Finally, it is also about raising awareness among young people about the importance of walking to school with friends and schoolmates.

with regard to independence and cooperation.

How do children and young people travel on their way to school in Zermatt?

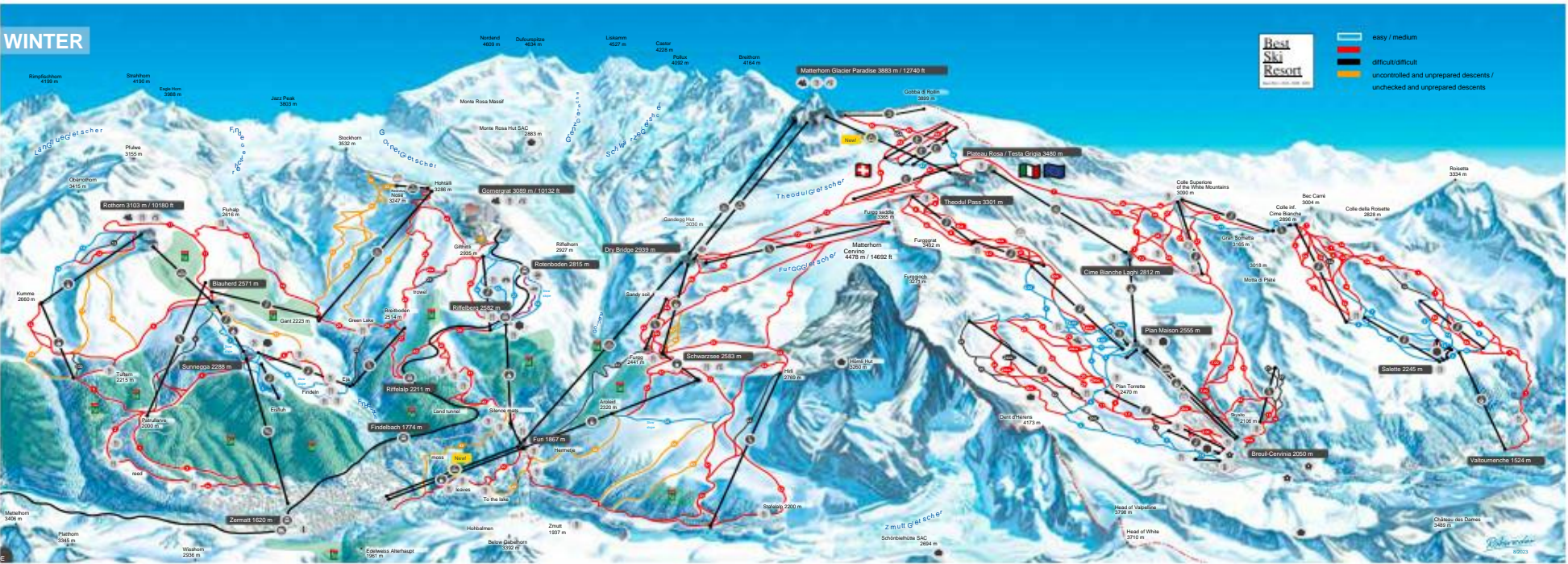
The 2022 Zermatt Schools survey showed that, on average, 51% of children and young people travel on foot and 49% on bicycles in summer. The bicycle is the most popular means of transport.

Traffic education

All children and young people at Zermatt schools receive two traffic education lessons per year. While the first cycle focuses on practicing road manners and crossing, the third and fourth grades focus on bicycles and traffic signs. Bicycle skills and obeying traffic rules are developed.

Traffic rules are practiced on a special course in grades 5 and 6. In secondary school, topics such as blind spots, braking behavior, and obtaining a driver's license are important.

Despite all the rules, it's important that children be careful on the streets of Zermatt, whether on bikes or on foot. The streets in Matterhorn Village are not a playground, and respectful and attentive interaction is essential for all road users. International Walk to School Day on September 24, 2024, aims to contribute to this.



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Municipality of Zermatt

Flood Zermatt – June 2024

In June 2024, severe flooding occurred in the village of Zermatt. The sudden flooding caused by the storm on June 21.

June 2024 posed major challenges for the authorities and protection organizations of the municipality of Zermatt. The expected extent of precipitation was never fully foreseeable, as the temperatures caused a large amount of meltwater in addition to the precipitation.

, which is why bus service on both lines had to be suspended for a week . Even in July, certain areas in Zermatt were closed for asphalt work to repair storm damage.

The green line of the e-bus service has been operating normally again since July 7, 2024. On 11 July 2024, work on the Pipeline break in Schluhmattstrasse was stopped and since then it has been for the Red line buses are allowed to operate in a circular route. The red line operates until further notice. teres between Haus Kümme, Staldenstrasse, Kapelle and Schluhmattstrasse.

THANK YOU for all helping hands

The municipality of Zermatt sincerely thanks all helpers for their constant dedication and selfless assistance during the flood events at the end of June 2024. Your bravery, compassion, and determination helped countless residents and tourists in need and prevented greater damage.

You showed your commitment even in the pouring rain . You transported sandbags.

Around 9 a.m., the first streets in Zermatt had to be closed due to flooding. Just under an hour later, the Vispa River overflowed its banks for the first time.

The children from the orientation school were able to go home independently before lunchtime – the children from the primary school had to be picked up by their parents.



Due to mudslides, Zermatt was cut off shortly after noon for over 24 hours. Civil defense was called in that afternoon. Several bridges were destroyed by debris.

People were asked to stay in their homes, and those living near the stream te, should go to higher floors.

In the late afternoon, the Triftbach stream also overflowed its banks and the Triftbach alarm siren was triggered. Big bags had to be placed to prevent the water from the Trift stream from reaching the church square. Shortly before midnight, a fire broke out on Schluhmattstrasse. A pipe burst. Around 25 buildings were left without water. The

The Lügelti dumping ground was undermined by the large amounts of water. Interim storage was not possible at this time or later . The Triftbach road had to be closed to heavy traffic due to the flooding. Cleanup work was carried out at various infrastructure facilities.

ted, basements pumped out, and broken bridges cleared. Your efforts were simply impressive.

Through your quick reaction and your With your support, many people were brought to safety. Your solidarity and cohesion during this difficult time has shown how much can be achieved when we help one another. Even weeks after the events, you continue to make an important contribution to the cleanup effort. Your efforts make you true heroes, and your help is greatly appreciated by the entire community. We would like to express our sincere thanks to all volunteers, emergency services, organizations, and those behind the scenes .

An article by Anina Lauber, trainee in the 3rd year of her apprenticeship

Municipality of Zermatt

Permanent leash requirement on the AHV route

Since the opening of the new "Wolli Adventure Trail," there has been a lot of activity on the AHV Trail. For this reason, the municipal council has decided to introduce a year-round leash requirement for dogs on the AHV trail. This will take effect on August 30, 2024.

Families, tourists, pensioners, leisure joggers and four-legged friends: all of them and many more can be found on the AHV trail. Until now, dog owners were only required to keep their four-legged friends on a leash on the AHV trail during the winter. To protect the animals and Out of consideration for people who fear dogs, a permanent leash requirement will be introduced on the AHV trail as of August 30, 2024, and extended to the "Riedje/Howete" area. Dog owners will be made aware of the changes via signs on site.

General dog leash requirement

As a general rule, dogs must be kept on a leash within populated areas (yellow on the map). Therefore, dogs must always be kept on a leash in the yellow zone, even if they follow and obey you at every step.

Free-running zone

On the banks of the Vispa River, dog owners have access to an off-leash area for their four-legged friends. This section begins at the lift near the Church Bridge and continues to the next wooden bridge to the south (House Maryland). Dogs can run freely in this section (marked green on the map).

Prohibited zone

The "Chrome" sports field, the "Obere Matten" sports field, all school playgrounds and parks, as well as cemeteries and children's playgrounds, are prohibited zones. Dogs are not allowed in these areas out of consideration for playing children and for hygiene reasons (marked in red on the map).

cleanliness

The municipality of Zermatt provides plastic bags for collecting dog waste in special containers designed exclusively for this purpose . Every dog owner is required to pick up and dispose of their four-legged friend's waste. Such containers are generously distributed throughout the village, as are the necessary waste disposal sites.



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Municipality of Zermatt

Clean-up Day 2024

The national Clean-Up Day, a joint project for a clean Zermatt, will take place on September 13 and 14, 2024. In addition to service partners and individuals, clubs, schools, and businesses are also committed to maintaining a clean townscape.



The Clean-Up Day has been held in Zermatt for eleven years and receives support from various organizations such as Air Zermatt AG, Zermatt Bergbahnen AG, the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn, the Burgergemeinde, Zermatt Tourism, the Zermatt Municipality, and many others.

The effort is worth it! Thanks to the volunteers Thanks to the help of our volunteers, around two tons of waste have been collected and properly disposed of each year in recent years .

Join in

Join us for Clean-Up Day in Zermatt on September 13, 2024 , and take a stand against waste and for sustainability. Support us as an association, business, or individual and actively contribute to a clean and sustainable Zermatt.

information

For further information and to For support of the Clean-up Day in Zermatt, please contact Oliver Summermatter from the Zermatt Municipality (027 966 22 93 or oliver.summermatter@zermatt.net).

Thank you for your support!



MARKET DAYS

in Zermatt

16th & 17th
September 2024
Seilerwiesenstrasse
and village square

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...come over!

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Zermatt Municipality – Club Presentation

Yodeling project choir «Inneres Mattertal»

"Yodeling is a worldwide cultural phenomenon. It can be found in the Scottish Highlands, the Pyrenees, the Carpathians, and the Caucasus, in Africa and Papua New Guinea, as well as in North and South America. Originally a signaling device, it is found wherever communication over a great distance is necessary in mountainous and forested regions or in vast, confusing, flat landscapes. Ideal for this is textless singing on vocalization syllables (e.g., La-hu-dü) with frequent rapid shifts between chest and falsetto voice (register changes) and its far-reaching high pitches."

Lutz Wille, «Saxony-Anhalt Journal»

So much for the explanation. The fact is that yodeling is widespread and extremely popular in Switzerland, in the individual cantons and regions . If you take a look at the Swiss countryside,

map, you quickly realize that there is almost no place in Switzerland where yodeling, Juuz, Naturjuuz , Zäuerli, or Ruggusseli is not practiced and loved. The variations of this fascinating form of singing are as numerous as they are enchanting. But one thing is clear: yodeling connects people! It turns strangers into friends.

freed from everyday burdens and after a proper Juuz you often feel like you have just completed an hour-long meditation.

Origin

In the inner Matter Valley, a blank spot appears on the map . One could almost call it untouched nature. Here, where the mountains are higher than anywhere else in our homeland, there is no living tradition of yodeling. We would now like to change this.

Last year, together with my brother-in-law , Viktor Perren (Altes Zermatt Association), the idea of a project choir called "Inneres Mattertal" was born. We began searching for a suitable choir director. We soon agreed to ask my singing teacher. At the time, however, she was in the final year of her master's degree, majoring in yodeling. After successfully completing her major in instrumental and vocal pedagogy with a focus on yodeling, she received her diploma with distinction.

choir director

After another inquiry, Dayana Pfammatter (www.klangwaerch.ch) agreed to embark on this exciting journey with us and launch a choir project. Our joy was as great as the rock walls that towered into the sky around us.

We are looking for you

And now it's all your turn. A choir ca n't function without singers, not even a project choir. We'd like to encourage you to join us in large numbers if you'd like to revive the tradition together . We'd like to start our experiment in the fall of 2024. You don't have to be trained singers, and your dialect doesn't matter. Those who know me know that I'm also an "Uhiessche" (Ore Mountains dialect for "not born here"). Let's yodel, cheer, shout, sing together, and have fun.

Registration

Contact details for registration (non-binding):
Nadine Perren
Furi 56, PF 811
3920 Zermatt
nadineperren@gmx.ch

We look forward to seeing you! Sincerely, Nadine Perren

This year's destination trip took us to Sexten in South Tyrol and then to Venice.

A delegation from Zermatt first participated in the multi-day celebrations commemorating the 150th anniversary of the first ascent of the Zwölferkofel. The trip then continued to Venice, where they discussed overtourism and the testing measures introduced in Venice and the resulting results with the city administration.



In mid-July, a nine-person delegation from Zermatt set off on a journey to Sexten, Zermatt's sister town. A Taxi Fredy transfer bus took them from Zermatt via Venice to Sexten on a one-day trip. There, the delegation received a warm welcome and was personally greeted by tourism and municipal officials.

On the first day, the official delegation spent the morning choosing between a visit to a farm cheese dairy or an e-bike tour to explore the area and gain an impression of the destination. The official anniversary ascent of the Zwölferkofel (the main peak of the Sexten sundial) was also on the agenda. A delegation from Zermatt was also present. The anniversary ascent was led by mountain guides from ZERMATTERS and the Young Mountain Guides Foundation from Zermatt. Four mountain guides and two guests from Sexten also participated. In perfect weather, everyone completed the climb in about five hours and returned safely to the valley.

In the valley, the anniversary climbers were warmly welcomed and celebrated with a culinary feast by around 50 people from the village, representatives of the municipality and tourism, and the official delegation from Zermatt. Romy Biner-Hauser, Mayor of Zermatt, and Fabrizio Gull, Head of Destination Services at Zermatt Tourism, who also participated in the anniversary climb, presented the organizers with gifts from Zermatt. The ZERMATTERS were also thrilled by the celebrations and received appropriate gifts from the Sesto Alpine School.



Sexten is a small mountain community in the middle of the Three Peaks Nature Park in the Sexten Dolomites, located at 1,340 m above sea level, with just under 2,000 inhabitants, 4,000 guest beds and a very active agricultural sector.

At the ceremony, Romy Biner-Hauser and Fabrizio Gull also presented a brass plaque to Thomas Summerer, the mayor of Sexten. This plaque will later be mounted on a stone from the Matterhorn in front of the Haus der Berge (House of the Mountains) and is intended to symbolize the friendship and twinning between the two mountain villages. A similar monument (similar to the existing monuments in the other sister towns) will also be erected and dedicated in Zermatt's Friendship Garden next year.

In the afternoon, the tour continued to the Sexten excursion mountain "Helm", where an exciting and informative mountain tour by the Drei Zinnen Dolomites cable cars and a rich aperitif awaited the Zermatt delegation and the ZERMATTERS.

Three Peaks Hike On Saturday, it was time to finally admire the Three Peaks up close. Led by the mayor of Sesto and the tourism director, the group from Zermatt was led on a three-hour hike to the foot of the Three Peaks. Sepp Tschurtschenthaler, 85 years old, set a sporty pace for the group. Sepp was born in Sesto and emigrated to Zermatt at the age of 19, where he still lives today. He was the perfect ambassador for both destinations and conveyed the two

Cultures were perfect. In the evening, the Zermatters were invited to a delightful dinner, where the Sesto delegation was joined by other members from the restaurant and hotel industry.

Venice

On Sunday, it was time for a change of scenery. From Sexten, the group returned to Venice, but this time into the city center. The delegation from Zermatt grew slightly on Sunday and was then received by the tourism officials of the Venice city administration at the city hall on Monday afternoon. First, there was an informative presentation about the pilot project and exciting figures. The second half was an open exchange about

The topic was overtourism, its consequences, and measures. Afterwards, the tour returned to Valais, where all participants arrived tired but happy.

Creation of a sister city connection between Zermatt and Sexten

The connection between Zermatt and Sexten has grown over the years. In the 1980s, at the international Interski Congress, the then President of Sesto Tourism, Willi Rainer, and the former Zermatt ski school director and lift director, Robi Biner, met. Both immediately recognized the aforementioned similarities and thus the potential of a

Partnership between Zermatt (Switzerland) and Sexten (South Tyrol/ Dolomites).

The idea of twinning was pursued and supported by various actors on both sides in the following years (Robert Guntern, former mayor, Romy Biner-Hauser, current mayor) and strengthened through mutual visits and friendly relations.

Sexten is a small mountain community in the heart of the Three Peaks Nature Park in the Sexten Dolomites, situated at 1,340 m above sea level, with just under 2,000 inhabitants, 4,000 guest beds, and a very active agricultural sector.

At first glance, the small town of Sexten may seem to have little in common with the internationally renowned Zermatt, yet two important parallels are evident: First, there is the mountain that has shaped the lives, actions, and thoughts of people on both sides, and has done so for over 150 years. In Zermatt, it's the legendary Matterhorn, with the world-famous story of its first ascent. In Sexten, it's the mystical Three Peaks, where mountain guide history was also written and where alpinism originated in the Dolomites. These world-famous mountains were and are the guarantors of a bright, secure future for the people of both villages.

Ceremonial Exhibition Opening On the second day, the exhibition "Mountain Reflections - Sexten and Zermatt Through the Ages" and the new mountaineering mile in front of the Haus der Berge (Tourist Office in Sexten) were ceremoniously opened together with the delegation from Zermatt. The "Mountain Reflections" exhibition juxtaposes various nostalgic photo pairs from Sexten and Zermatt, thus illustrating the development of the two tourist mountain villages. These include, for example, the first ski lift, the oldest mountaineers, and tourist advertisements from days gone by. The pairs of images are printed on a mirrored background in a specially manufactured mirror frame, offering the viewer a stunning visual effect. In preparing this exhibition, the Zermatt side, led by Beat Truffer from the Matterhorn Museum, compiled over 700 images from the Matterhorn Museum archive, Zermatt Tourism, and Beat Truffer's private collections. The Sexten side was curated by local historian Hugo Reider. The exhibition was then implemented by a South Tyrolean communications and design agency.

The entire project was ceremoniously inaugurated and presented to approximately 80 attendees. The high-quality exhibition will then be moved to Zermatt at a later date and made accessible to interested parties there.

The Mountaineering Mile was also inaugurated, featuring mountain stories told by local mountain guides. The Mountaineering Mile connects the Haus der Berge and the Sesto Time Stone, from which one can admire the Sesto sundial, and honors local mountaineers and their achievements. The Mountaineering Mile can be compared to an Alpine Walk of Fame (similar to the one in Zermatt).

Municipality of Zermatt

Magic Matterhorn – Home between cliché and reality

Almost 30 years after the release of her documentary film “Magic Matterhorn,” director Anka Schmid will present her film again – in Zermatt itself, the setting of her work.

The film portrays Switzerland's world-famous landmark, the Matterhorn, and Zermatt as home. A look back into the past reveals how the locals perceived their beloved homeland and the Matterhorn, while tourists marveled at the place and the Matterhorn. The film playfully explores contemporary ideas of home, depicting both real and unreal worlds.

The screening of the film was initiated by the Alts Zermatt association, the Zermatt cultural association and the Backstage Hotel Vernissage.



Oswald Perren, Zermatt village historian and shepherd



German Inderbilen, Zermatt farmer and cable car employee



Josi Schuler, Zermatt farmer and carpenter

Interview with director Anka Schmid

How does it feel to show the film again in Zermatt, the famous Matterhorn village, after almost 30 years? What feelings and memories does it evoke?

For me, it's a wonderful feeling to return and present the film . On the one hand, I'm looking forward to seeing the film's protagonists again, even though I'm also sad that some of them are no longer with us. On the other hand, I'm excited about the new encounters with people who will be watching the film for the first time.

What does home mean to you personally and has your idea of it changed over the years?

The concept of home has changed a lot for me over the years. Since I spent a large part of my life abroad and didn't live in Switzerland, I learned a new understanding of the concept of home. For me, home isn't a fatherland or connected to

with a nation. It's about the people who surround you and who give you a sense of home. Language is also a kind of home for me, an emotional home . It means a lot to me to be able to communicate in my native language.

How did the locals react to your film project back then? Did you receive support, or was there some skepticism?

Because I have roots in Valais myself, people could at least relate to me. For example, they knew my uncle, who was a pastor in the college and in Goms. This meant I wasn't a "foreign city dweller," and people were open to my project. The challenge was to put my idea into practice. I had to find the right people and gain their trust .



In the documentary, tourists and locals describe the Matterhorn as breathtaking, indescribable, fantastic, or impressive. Does the Matterhorn still hold the same "magic" for you today as it did when filming?

Yes, it's crazy what an influence the mountain has. The Matterhorn itself is what makes it so special . It's so impressive because of the different moods created by the weather, clouds, and time of day. Even though I've never climbed the Matterhorn myself, the fascination and mystique of this unique mountain remains for me.

Are there themes in the film that concern people both then and now?

Clearly, the question of home. It is a privilege for me to be able to choose where I live. Others are forced to live in one place or have to flee. Back then,

People were affected by the war in Yugoslavia, and today by the war in Ukraine. The question is: Where am I allowed to call home? Tourism has also remained important, especially how to manage tourism and make it sustainable.

What do you hope today's audience will take away from the renewed screening of "Magic Matterhorn"?

I hope that the audience will consider what home means to them. They'll also reflect on what has changed in almost 30 years. So, I'm really curious about the conversations after the screening, and I hope there will be some laughter.

Dates of the Film screening

August 30, 2024 (followed by a panel discussion with director Anka Schmid)

and 1 September 2024. The performances will take place at 8 p.m. in the Backstage Hotel Vernissage.

Municipality of Zermatt

2nd Zermatt Charity March – Schwarzsee from August 31, 2024

The Zermatt-Matterhorn Charity March association will hold the second charity march from Zermatt to Schwarzsee on Saturday, August 31, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. (starting at the church square) as a march/hike/jogging/run (without timekeeping and without ranking).

On Friday, August 30, 2024, a supporting program with musical entertainment and refreshments will take place on Zermatt's church square from 3:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The well-known solo entertainer Walter Keller from Grächen will perform for you .

Everyone is [eligible to participate](#) – young and old, locals, Upper Valais residents, and guests. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Registration

Registration for the fundraising march and distribution of starting numbers on Friday, 30. August 2024, from 3:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the church square.

Fundraising march on Saturday, August 31, 2024

The start is at 10:30 a.m. on the church square. Last registration / handing in of start numbers: 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. on the church square.

Route

The route leads from the church square via blue/ yellow-marked Zermatt hiking trails to "Zum See" and "Hermettje" to "Schwarzsee".

Drinks/food, clothing, sunscreen , and sunglasses: Each participant is responsible for their own provisions. Sturdy **footwear** (hiking boots/athletic shoes) is mandatory.

Catering

Along the route: Drinks and snacks are available for a fee at the "Zum See" restaurant and the "Schwarzsee" terrace/hotel. At the "Bieltli" (intersection of the path from Zum See and the Furi-Stafel road), the "Silvana" hotel/restaurant will be providing free water, Rivella, and Coca-Cola.

Finish Schwarzsee

Folk music: The well-known Schwyzerörgeli quartet "Örgeli GmbH" from Ried-Brig will be playing. Refreshments are available on the hotel terrace for a fee.

Insurance

The organizer assumes no liability or responsibility in the event of an accident or illness. The appropriate insurance is the responsibility of each participant.

Force majeure / Bad weather

If the fundraising march cannot be held, entry fees and donations will remain for the association's purpose. There will be no refunds.

Entry fees, donations, and proceeds benefit Ukraine and the Bocsa children's home in Romania. Participants pay an entry fee of CHF 50 plus a donation.

Account details

Raiffeisenbank Mischabel-Matterhorn
3924 St. Niklaus
Account: «Hand in Hand – your neighbor»
IBAN no. CH77 8080 8001 9236 9903 2



DIRECT TO PAYMENT



Registration of participants

ÿ I / We will take part in the fundraising march

ÿ Entry fee CHF 50.–

ÿ Donate CHF

ÿ I / we will not participate, but will make a Donation of CHF

ÿ Our company/hotel/restaurant/shop is making a Donation of CHF

Last name, first name, address, city , Email:

Please fill out, tick, cut out and send to:
Zermatt-Matterhorn Charity March Association,
Brantschenhaus 15, 3920 Zermatt
Or: Email spendenmarsch.matterhorn@gmail.com

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Glacier Solar Matterhorn

A visionary Glacier solar Project on foot of the Matterhorn

Zermatt Bergbahnen AG and Elektrizitätswerk Zermatt AG, together with project partner Axpo and in collaboration with the municipality of Zermatt as the landowner, are planning the Matterhorn Glacier Solar project, which is expected to generate up to 17 GWh of climate-friendly energy annually, depending on the usable area. The advantages of the solar project are obvious: the high-alpine terrain near Trockener Steg is already fully developed for solar power production, technically feasible, and offers excellent conditions for an alpine solar power plant with important winter electricity. The partners agree: The solar project at the foot of the Matterhorn is visionary and sustainable.

The idea was born in 2023, when Zermatt Bergbahnen was looking for a location for another high-alpine solar power plant as part of its sustainability strategy. The rocky and scree landscape near Trockener Steg quickly became the focus of consideration, as it offers an ideal infrastructure for the production of climate-friendly solar power. The site is already connected to a medium-voltage line via the railway system . Its high-alpine location also allows for increased solar power production. Furthermore, the site is not visible from Zermatt.

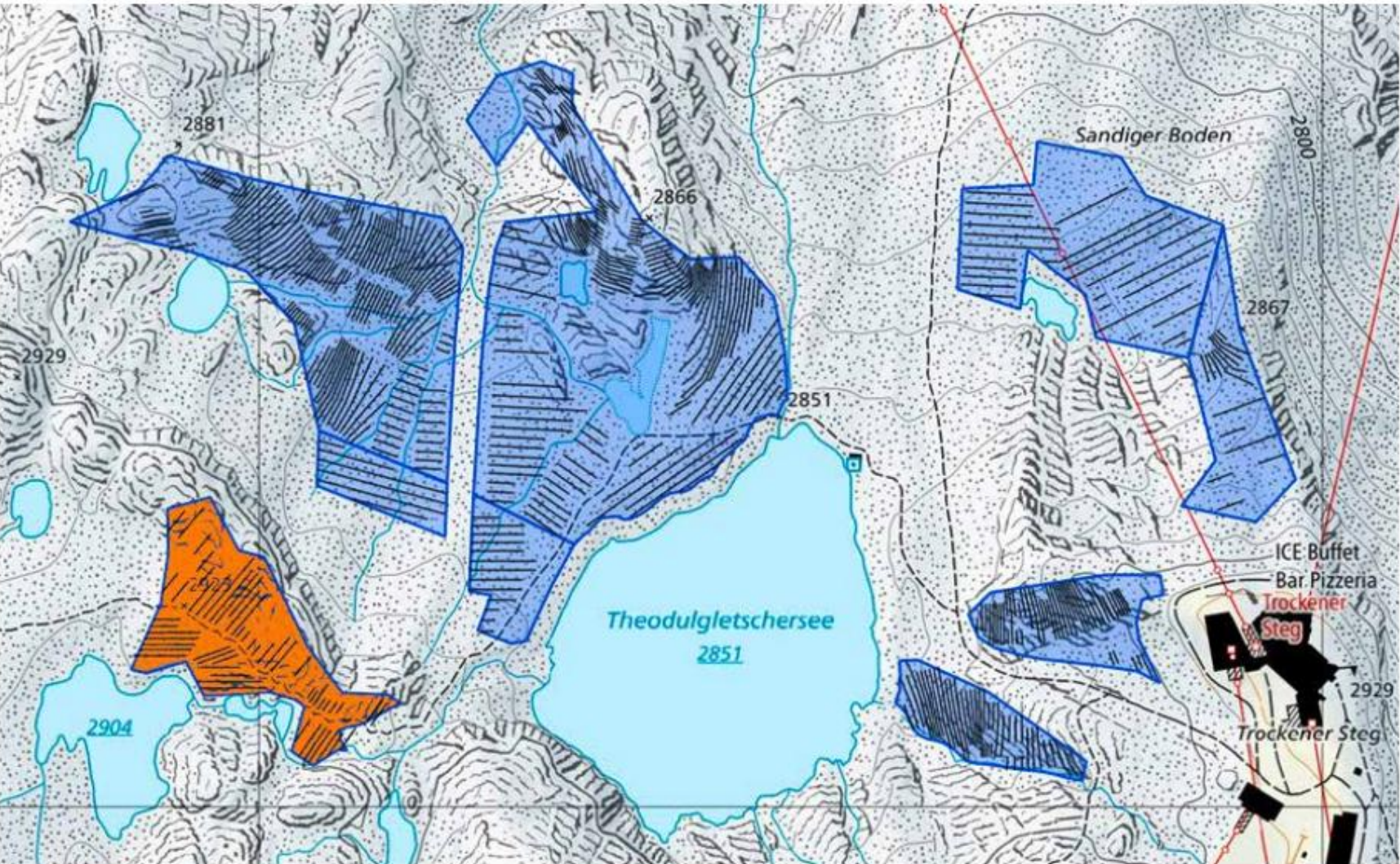
In the collaboration with Zermatt Electricity Works, Axpo was selected as a project partner. Axpo has extensive experience in developing alpine solar power plants, as demonstrated by the AlpinSolar project at the Muttsee Dam at approximately 2,500 meters above sea level. This plant is currently the largest fully operational alpine solar power plant, and further alpine solar power plants are planned.

Using innovations for sustainability
A visionary solution for storing the electricity is also being considered. In addition to a medium-voltage power line, the area is already connected to water from the Zermatt Bergbahnen snowmaking system. This provides the basis for converting excess summer electricity into hydrogen as a natural energy storage medium. Locally produced hydrogen could be used to power snow groomers in the future. It would also make it possible to convert hydrogen back into electricity in the winter.

Markus Hasler, CEO of Zermatt Bergbahnen, says: "All partners to whom we have presented the glacier solar project so far have been fascinated by the ideal location, which takes into account economic, ecological, and social sustainability."

Amédée Kronig, President of the Zermatt Electricity Company, adds: " We would be delighted to realize a showcase project of this size, as it would be an important cornerstone of sustainable energy production for Zermatt."

"The plant is intended to provide important winter electricity, especially during the winter months, when we in Switzerland often have to import electricity. Alpine solar plants can make an important contribution to the Swiss electricity mix," adds Oliver Hugi, Head of Solar Switzerland at Axpo.



Blue: planned area / Orange: reserve area (as of July 31, 2024)



INFORMATION EVENT

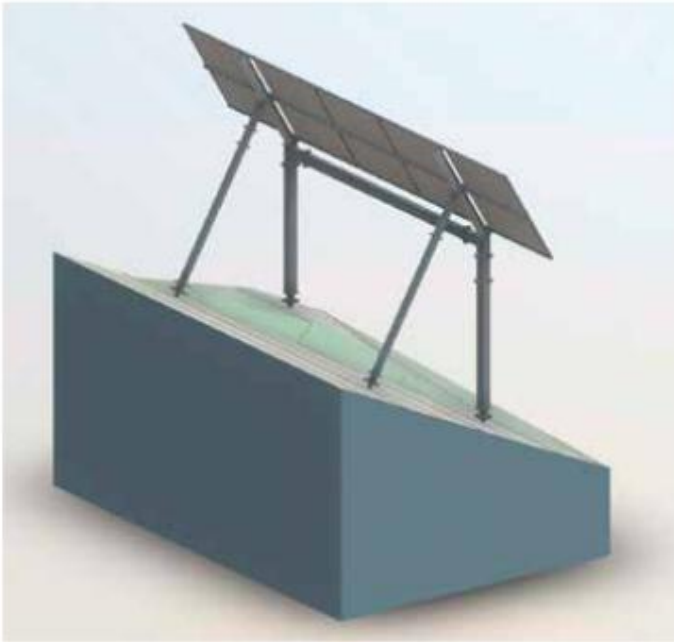
on August 20, 2024, 6 p.m.

The Matterhorn Glacier Solar project team invites

on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, 6 p.m.

to the information event in the Triftbachhalle Zermatt. The project will be presented in detail in preparation for the ballot vote on September 22, 2024.

More information is available here:
www.matterhornparadise.ch/gletschersolar



Visualization solar table



"We would be delighted to realize a flagship project of this size, as it would be an important cornerstone of sustainable energy production for Zermatt."

Amédée Kronig, President of Zermatt Electricity Works AG

Zermatt cable cars valley station Matterhorn Express

Open House
Saturday, August 24, 2024

Construction work on the Matterhorn
Express valley station is nearing completion.

For this special occasion, everyone is cordially
invited to take a look at the new valley station on
Schluhmattstrasse on Saturday, August 24, 2024,
from 11:30 a.m.

The open day offers the opportunity to tour the new building. The tour starts to the left of Dorsaz Sport and leads directly to the basement of the new valley station. Afterwards, the offices of Zermatt IT, as well as the marketing and administration departments of Zermatt Bergbahnen, can be visited on the 2nd and 3rd floors.

The festivities will then conclude with a relaxed get-together and a refreshment at the Furi mountain station. The return trip on the new cable car is included in the tour. The event will also be accompanied by music and attractive competitions.





The citizen communities and corporations of Switzerland

Switzerland has approximately 1,650 civic communities, burgher communities, corporations, farmers' associations, and guilds, most of which are public corporations and subject to cantonal legislation. In contrast to political communities, membership here is based on ancestry or naturalization, not on place of residence. These bodies assume a variety of tasks, from managing communal resources to maintaining cultural traditions.

Zermatt Citizens' Community

Roots, values, vision: Day of the Civic Communities and Corporations

On the initiative of the Swiss Association of Citizen Communities and Corporations (SVBK), the various Swiss citizens are organizing a national day of citizens' communities and corporations for the first time on September 14th.

to discover the impressive history and diverse commitment of the Zermatt Civic Community . The Zermatt Civic Community invites everyone interested to this special event.

Throughout the day, guests can expect a varied program with presentations and insights into the diverse fields of activity of the civic community.

Highlights and supporting program Presentations and information stands From 11 a.m. visitors can learn more about Learn about the diverse activities and projects of the Zermatt community. A comprehensive overview is provided, from the numerous jobs available, especially in the tourism industry , to strategies for a sustainable Zermatt and various current projects.

Culinary delights Various F&B stands offer a wide range of regional products from Valais. Visitors can enjoy local specialties while contributing to a good cause , as a large portion of the proceeds are donated to a non-profit organization.

Final concert A special highlight awaits guests at 4:30 p.m. with a concert as part of this year's Zermatt Music Festival & Academy; it presents a program of traditional "Müsig" (music) from Zermatt and the region. This cultural event will crown the day and ensure an unforgettable end to the evening.

Under the motto "Roots – Values – Vision", interested parties nationwide can discover the fascinating world explore these historical institutions.

A day dedicated to tradition and the future

The National Day of Civic Communities and Corporations offers a unique opportunity

Zermatt Tourism

The marketplace: New flagship of Zermatt Tourism

Every performance of the Destination Zermatt – Matterhorn should be discoverable and bookable online This late summer, the marketplace, a shop available to guests across multiple platforms, will go online.



To understand the idea of the marketplace, it is necessary to know the background and motivation: The destination Zermatt – Matterhorn loses millions of dollars every year due to fees and commissions paid to online platforms such as Booking, Expedia, Trivago, etc. These fees should be minimized as much as possible, and the market power of these online platforms for the Zermatt-Matterhorn destination should be reduced.

Furthermore, the guest has to laboriously search for the desired offers for his stay on various platforms or book-

For example, he books the hotel via the hotel website or book- They book their tickets at king.com, purchase their ski tickets at the Zermatt Bergbahnen shop , hire a ski instructor at the ski school, and rent their skis from a sports shop. This is very inconvenient and time-consuming for the guest.

In addition, Zermatt Tourism and Zermatt Bergbahnen have been able to demonstrate that online sales have increased massively in recent years and that the Zermatt – Matterhorn destination has

Trend with the best possible solution must say.

Based on the initial situation described, the goal was to create a marketplace for the Zermatt – Matterhorn destination together with the right provider.

that makes as many of the destination's offers as possible bookable. The guest should You can see the various offers at a glance and book them via the online platform .

A first goal is that the guest enjoys his second stay in the destination Zermatt – Matterhorn is booked via the marketplace. The marketplace should reflect the values of the destination : Together Best - in-class Disruptive



The marketplace should be sustainable and future-oriented. This requires that the marketplace can be continuously developed at any time and that it can adapt to market conditions and technology in order to remain best in class even in five to ten years . Furthermore, the marketplace should be as follows:

- Powerful and simple like Booking.com
- Trustworthy like TripAdvisor
- Inspiring like Instagram
- The marketplace should also cover not only the B2C sector, but also B2B.

The marketplace of the Zermatt – Matterhorn destination is THE central place where guests can immerse themselves in a world full of offers and experiences with just a few clicks and book their dream holiday in our destination can be individually assembled. For the guest, it feels like walking through a large market. They can purchase products such as hotel rooms or vacation apartments. gen, ski passes and ski lessons, but also Climbing courses, mountain tours, fondue evenings,

Collect gourmet hikes, various package deals, and much more in a single shopping cart and pay at the checkout. Payment is made directly and easily via the marketplace.

The marketplace offers guests a unique customer journey with a 360-degree view of the Zermatt – Matterhorn world of experience. This journey is intuitive and designed with a modern, appealing design . It invites guests to browse the new website and make vacation plans right away.

Through the interaction of different Cloud solutions allow guests' needs to be mapped on a single platform, which translates into added value for the Zermatt – Matterhorn destination.

The innovative marketplace will go live in just over a month , and the destination will then be able to enjoy a future-oriented tool that meets today's guest and customer needs .

Show

Energy consulting & solar energy



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Show

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Zermatt Tourism – Column

Healthy development



Dear insiders

Venice introduced a trial entry fee of 5 euros this summer.

Barcelona wants to ban the rental of apartments to guests, and Copenhagen offers environmentally conscious visitors the opportunity to help clean the streets or weed gardens. These are all measures designed to help direct tourist crowds through the attractions or even prevent them altogether.

Overtourism – the term that describes the situation when too many tourists visit a popular destination and have a correspondingly negative impact on the local population, natural resources , and fauna and flora – is becoming a fashionable term.

Recently, tourism representatives from Zermatt were able to gain first-hand experience during study trips to Venice and Barcelona and learn first-hand about the measures taken by the affected cities and their impact .

It's absolutely right that Zermatt's tourism officials are giving this issue some thought . Although Zermatt, unlike Barcelona and Copenhagen, relies exclusively on tourism, it makes sense to strive for coordinated growth in our region as well. Therefore, the Zermatt-Matterhorn Strategy Group recently developed a comprehensive sustainability concept as part of the destination strategy and intends to incorporate this into its future direction . Measures in all three areas—for the population, for nature, and for the healthy prosperity of businesses—should be considered.

This approach demonstrates the responsible use of our resources and opportunities by decision-makers and the will to establish Zermatt – Matterhorn as the most desirable high-alpine destination with an intact and attractive living space for residents and guests.

Sincerely,
Daniel Luggen

advertorial

Z'CERVO Summer Festival

Do you remember the traditional village festivals? The Winkelmatten Festival, the Wiesti Festival, the Steinmatten Festival...

Let's revive this wonderful tradition on August 25th at the "Summerfäscht" at CERVO. Immerse yourself in the lively atmosphere, specially designed for locals and friends of Zermatt, and enjoy the company and reunion with old friends.

On **August 25th**, a day full of fun and entertainment awaits the whole family. From exciting activities like a soapbox car race, a zip line, and paintball to select food and drinks, there's something for everyone.

The highlight of the day is a concert by the band Forelle.

We're not just celebrating the festival, but also the 15th anniversary of CERVO. An unforgettable day that will honor the community and create lasting memories .

program

From 12:00 PM, food & drinks, Tyrolienne, flea market and game stands (rifle shooting, painting competition and paintball shooting range)
· 3:00 PM Soapbox racing
· 5:30 pm Live concert by the band Forelle

Admission is free.

Seifuchischturennu

The soapbox race starts at the former Olympiastübli and leads via Riedweg directly to CERVO. Participation in the race costs CHF 30 per driver. Build your own soapbox or customize a used one.

Tips and registration:
www.cervo.swiss/de/kultur/cervo-summerfascht

CERVO looks forward to welcoming you on August 25th.

Chef & Winemaker Night and Fire & Mountains Lunch

"A Love Beyond" will take place for the fourth time from September 20th to 22nd. New this year is the Chef & Winemaker Night on September 20th, where top international chefs and winemakers will delight your senses.

There will also be a unique lunch on Saturday combined with workshops by Soeder & Adam Stamp on the Täschalp.

Both events can be booked individually. Further information can be found at www.cervo.swiss/a-love-beyond.



History of Zermatt

Hermann Geiger First glacier pilot

Nothing can give us the feeling of peace that an Alpine flight can. Under a sky as clear as a spring flowing over our rocks. On this earth, man is always ready for battle; up there, in this space, he is alone, left to himself, quite small. Earth and heaven are his!

Glacier pilot and aviation pioneer Hermann Geiger

«For my part, I was fortunate to grow up in the shadow and wake of a father who was very attentive to his only son. Although he was

Although he was very busy with the numerous tasks assigned to him at the Aero Club , Dad always found time to look after me. He was interested in my own projects. He helped me build my model airplanes.
To stimulate my interest in mechanics, we played together with the steam train he had given me.

Practice makes perfect

At the age of 8, I helped him at the airfield with transport work, cleaning the aircraft, and refueling. Whenever a seat was available, he always took me on board. It was his way of saying thank you.

As a result, I had the opportunity to experience wonderful Alpine flights at an early age. One spring Sunday, when I was 10 years old, he said to me, "Come with me, I have to transport skiers." We flew in the Super Cub from Sion airfield toward Zermatt, where he landed in the snow on Riffelberg. I got out and, wearing shorts and sandals, helped him load

Drivers and skiers, which he flew to Testa Grigia. After an hour and a half in near-freezing temperatures, I was almost frozen solid. Some skiers lent me their anoraks to warm me up.

During the entire flight back to Sion my teeth were chattering – but the whole thing remained a nice memory.

Flying lessons at 17

On my 17th birthday, he offered me the opportunity to start pilot training. On a free afternoon together, we flew three laps of the runway in dual control. After landing, my father jumped out of the plane and, to my utter satisfaction, declared: "You're ready to take off on your own!"

At these words, I felt deeply moved. My heart began to beat faster and faster, sweat dripped from my forehead, my mouth went dry, and I had to make a few faces to keep my father from noticing my nervousness. When I saw his eyes , my courage returned. I realized that the hour for me to give an account had come.

I calmly performed the various approach maneuvers: locating the runway axis, moving the control stick forward, putting the engine in idle, and gently touching down on the ground.
After the plane was parked, I ran to my instructor, who ordered me to take off immediately.
I realized I had made it. Only after I had ascended again over the beautiful Rhône Valley did an indescribable joy seize me, tears rolling down my cheeks. The second landing took place according to my 'professor's' wishes. With his

With a broad smile, he shook my hand and said, 'One day you'll overtake me!' I will never forget that afternoon .

One day, Beat and Stephan Perren visited my father in Sion. They sought advice on opening a helicopter base in Zermatt. One year after his death, the company Air Zermatt was founded.

Hermann Geiger –
rescue pioneer,
Friend and helper.



Note: Text and images are from the book «Focus Matterhorn – Zermatter History and Stories», 2015, Rotten Publishing



Hermann Geiger (*1914)

· Primary school in Sion, apprenticeship as a car mechanic
In 1934, at the age of 18, he built his first Hols Teufel glider.
After 1,800 hours of work, he made the glider's maiden flight from Sion airfield.

· 1946: Groundskeeper of Sion Airport
· 1951: Using a Cessna equipped with a luggage compartment, he drops off mail and medicines for the tourists stranded in Zermatt.
· May 10, 1952: First glacier landing with the Piper Cub on the Kander Glacier
· 1957: Mountain rescue services are expanded with the Bell J 47 helicopter, financed by the Association of Swiss Consumer Cooperatives.
· 1963: He saves people suffering from typhus in Zermatt by landing directly on the roof of the Julien Clinic.

· 26.8.1966: Hermann Geiger dies in an accident in Sitten

Gornergrat Railway

Matterhorn purse and flesh-red man's shield

Zermatt is the municipality with the greatest plant biodiversity in Switzerland. Commissioned by the Gornergrat Railway, Bernese botanist Adrian Möhl spent the last two summers creating Europe's highest alpine garden at Rotenboden, at 2,800 meters above sea level. The plants are now labeled with names and QR codes, inviting visitors to explore.

Mr. Möhl, what is special about the Gornergrat region?

The area is one of the best places to discover the unique Central Alpine flora: research, discovery, and botanization (according to the Duden dictionary: "collecting plants for study purposes") have been taking place here since ancient times . From a floristic perspective, Zermatt is one of the most interesting corners of the Alps.

What did you achieve at Rotenboden?

Three years ago, the Gornergrat Railway approached me with the question of whether a botanical garden at this altitude on Rotenboden would be feasible. My answer was: "It's possible."

"It depends." Now, on 5,000 square meters (for a current reason: a football field is 7,000 square meters), we've created a garden that's dedicated to flowers. That means we present our guests with the plants that nature itself gives us; flowers that are already growing here...

Are there plants that can only be found in alpine gardens?

Currently, there are around 150 different plants in the Alpine Garden. I dare say that the larch, the

Growing here at 2,800 meters above sea level, it sets an altitude record in the Alps. The "Matterhorn purse" is also unique and found only in the stony alpine meadows around Zermatt.

Are there any other "side effects" besides the plants?

With the fenced garden we actively influence the paths of visitors between the Rotenboden train station and the world-famous Riffelsee with its reflection of the Matterhorn. Until now, up to 3,000 tourists a day walked cross- country down the mountain and back up again. Now they are guided along paved paths, everything runs smoothly, and nature and flora are protected.

"Between us" – what is your favorite flower in the alpine garden?

Actually, all 150! If I had to take sides: the "Flesh-red Man's Shield," because it's so small, delicate, and pretty , and can only be found in Valais in Switzerland.



Interview partner
Adrian Möhl
Botanist lic.phil.
nat., lecturer at the
University of Bern,
employee of the
Botanical Garden Bern
and the "InfoFlora" Foundation.

advertorial

Taxi Bolero goes digital simple – fast – sustainable

Need to order a taxi? Now, in an hour, or even for tomorrow? No problem – Taxi Bolero now offers this convenient service to all customers with its new, digital ordering method.

Owner Reinhold Julien introduces the new service.

The next free taxi in the vicinity will receive the Request and can pick up the customers immediately.



Reinhold, is this digital ordering option new in Zermatt?

Yes, as far as I know, we're the only one offering this service digitally. It's a system that works like Uber, but is specifically tailored to Zermatt and the surrounding area.

How can customers order a taxi?

Customers can now easily order a taxi via taxigo.ch . All they need to do is enter the number of passengers, their destination, and the desired departure time . Advance bookings are also possible. If their GPS is activated, the system even automatically detects the customer's location.

And how does this work internally for you?

The new system works autonomously and without the need for our secretariat. It is automatically

The nearest available taxi is searched for. Our drivers have a tablet in their vehicle and can immediately see who has to carry out the corresponding order . They accept it, and from then on, the customer can

Track in real time where your taxi is currently located and when it will arrive.

Is the new system primarily intended for private customers?

No, of course not. We already work with numerous companies, hotels, and restaurants.

people who are already successfully using our system. Customers can conveniently order a taxi at reception and, in bad weather, for example, don't have to go outside until the taxi arrives.

Is the new system also sustainable?

I'm convinced of it. On the one hand, we reduce empty trips and thus generate less traffic on Zermatt's roads. And on the other hand, the system helps us optimize routes (the closest one will always be used). The fact that guests can order the most convenient, straightforward, and effectively ideal vehicle is certainly also a major advantage.

24 hours / 365
days a year for you

- Online ordering
- Digital booking
- Digital payment (Twint and credit card)
- Pre-orders possible
- Real-time tracking



Matterhorn Gotthard Railway

Safe accessibility for Zermatt and the Matter Valley

The entire MGBahn network has been operating continuously for two months following the severe weather at the end of June. Rail replacement buses are operating on the Visp – Täsch section, which was particularly badly affected by the damage. Continuous rail service between Visp and Zermatt is not expected until August 26, 2024* at the earliest. The reasons for this include the limited accessibility of the damaged areas.

Five major damage sites

The severe weather at the end of June caused damage and disruptions across the entire Matterhorn Gotthard Railway network. Even though work has been in full swing for weeks, those responsible in the Matter Valley are faced with major and time-consuming challenges.

There were five major damage sites between Visp and Täsch. However, due to their locations, some of which are off-road, these cannot be repaired simultaneously. In order to access some of the damage sites and transport construction machinery and materials there, the preceding lines must first be reopened for rail traffic. This, along with the number and extent of the damage sites, is the reason for the delay.

Thanks to the use of rail replacement buses, travelers can still reach Zermatt and the Matter Valley reliably and safely. Since road traffic conditions cannot be consistently predicted and bus capacity is sometimes lower than on trains during peak travel times, travelers are advised to allow additional time.

*As of press deadline on July 29, 2024.

Current information is always available at www.mgbahn.ch



Route «Kipfen» before and after the storms.

Mattsand viaduct before and after the flood (note the course of the Vispa river up to/under the viaduct).

Show





Zermatt Tourism

Zermatt Folklore Festival: Tradition that brings locals and guests together

For the 54th time, the annual folklore festival on the second weekend in August will transform our village into a colorful hustle and bustle full of traditional music, joyful laughter, and cozy get-togethers.

The grand parade on Sunday is the highlight of the event, with some 30 clubs taking center stage. They will yodel, dance, play the alphorn, drum, and wave flags to their heart's content, inspiring and bringing together locals and visitors alike .

What began on a small scale in 1969 has developed over the years into an integral part of the destination's top 10 events. Why exactly does this event enjoy such great popularity? It's partly the mix of diverse performances and visitors, and partly the harmonious overall package of a folklore festival in front of Switzerland's most iconic mountain.

The Folklore Festival in Zermatt can be enjoyed in many ways can be described as colorful. The first thing that comes to mind are the colorful costumes of the musical groups that travel from all over Switzerland. But also the varied music in the form of flute sounds, drum rolls, alphorn sounds, yodeling calls, the colorful

Flags of the various clubs and food with typical Swiss dishes offer a variety for every taste.

Proceeds to youth fund

Perhaps the most beautiful, colorful mix, however, is what Zermatt is generally known for: a village of locals that opens its doors to the world to provide insight into the Swiss mountains and their traditions.

The folklore festival is one of the few occasions where locals and guests sit at the same table and toast to life together.

All proceeds from the folklore festival go to the Youth Fund, which supports children and young adults in the school districts of Zermatt, Täsch, and Randa. The money goes to clubs, groups, projects and events that support children and young people.

Come along and enjoy authentic music, delicious festive food, and simply a lively atmosphere in the heart of Zermatt!

Program Sunday 11 August

- 10:00 a.m.
Yodeling Mass with the
Lorenz siblings from Törbel
- 11:00 – 20:00
Canteen operation,
Obere Matten fairground
- 11:00 – 13:00
Performance by the Kloten Brass
Band, Obere Matten Fairgrounds
- 1:30 p.m.
Traditional parade through Zermatt
- from 2:45 p.m.
Performances by clubs,
Obere Matten fairground