






ZERMATT INSIDE

October 2024, Year 22, No. 5



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

Municipality of Zermatt  Sustainable Zermatt The goal is to repair instead of throwing away, to reuse and share instead of buying new, to refurbish instead of disposing of. Page 8/9	Zermatt Tourism  Bike World Championships in Zermatt The first combined mountain The UCI Track Bike World Championships will take place in September 2025 and Zermatt will be one of the six host cities. Page 18	Zermatt cable cars  TourCert certification With efforts in the areas of economic, ecological and social sustainability, the mountain railways are setting the course for the future. Page 24	Zermatt History  Zmuttnase At this spectacular In 1995, thanks to the Air Zermatt professionals two men- saved lives with the longline and the jelk pole. Page 25	MGBahn/Gornergrat Railway  Thanks Fernando! After 21 years in the service of Fernando Lehner is handing over his position to MGBahn and the Gornergrat Bahn, including 12 years as CEO. Page 26/27
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Municipality of Zermatt

Zermatt chooses ... Election of municipal authorities for the 2025–2028 legislative period

Municipal and city council elections take place every four years – as is the case this autumn.
Which candidates are running for election?
Which electoral systems are used?
How can I choose and what do I need to consider?

Learn more on pages 2–3.



Election material

You will receive the ballot papers, one voting envelope each (labeled with the respective election), one return form each and one transmission envelope each.

If you are eligible to vote for both the Residents' Community and the Citizens' Community, please note:

- that the election materials of both authorities are sent separately;
- that you treat the documents separately and return them separately to the relevant authority.

In addition to a possible second round of voting for President and Vice President, federal and cantonal votes will also take place on November 24, 2024. These documents will be sent in a separate envelope.

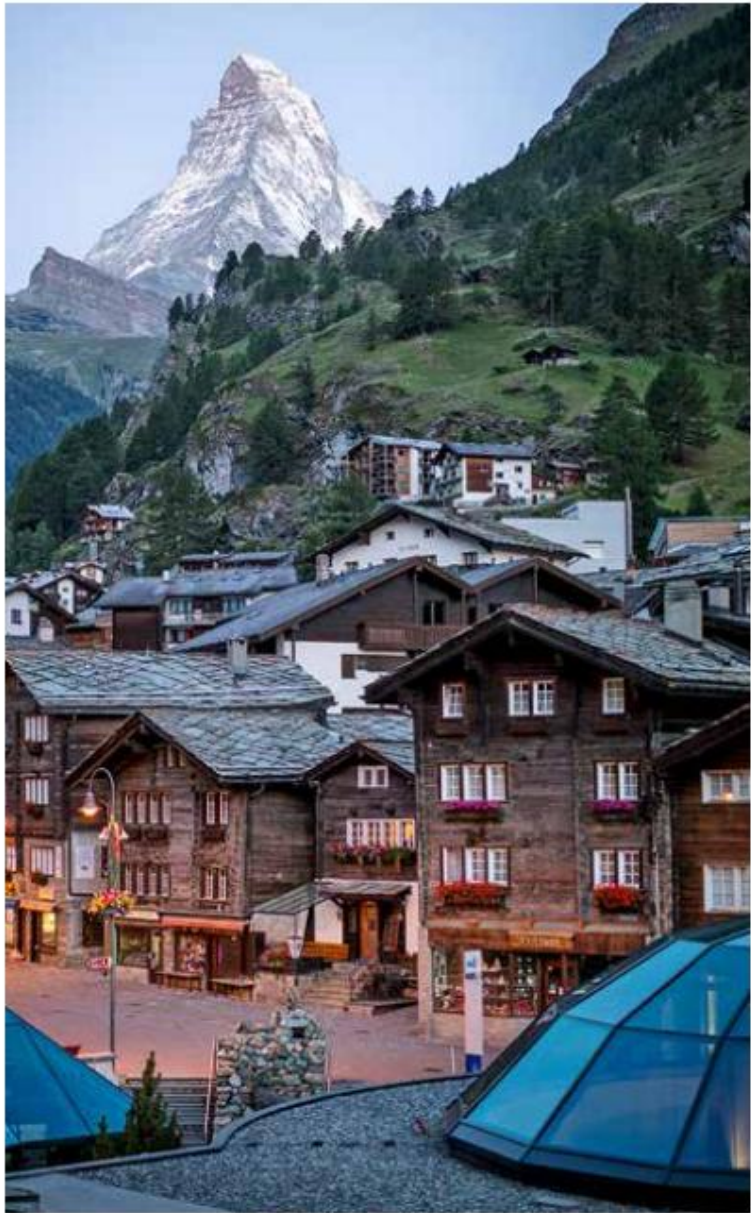
Checklist for a valid vote

- use only official election materials;
- sign your return form;
- submit only one ballot paper for each election;
- only candidacies that appear on pre-printed ballot papers are valid;

- Make changes to the ballot papers by hand and easy to read;
- write the number, surname and first name of the candidate always off;
- list a maximum of as many names as there are seats available;

Quotation marks , "ditto" or similar are not permitted;

- Do not write anything additional (signature, etc.) on the ballot paper;
- the transmission envelope may only contain the voting material contain a person;
- Do not throw your transmission envelope into the community mailbox;
- If you vote by mail, make sure you submit your ballot on time;
- When sending by post, please ensure that you have sufficient postage.



Municipal council elections:
9 candidates for 7 seats

Municipal council elections 2024 Zermatt	Municipal council elections 2024 Zermatt	Municipal council elections 2024 Zermatt
The center of Zermatt List No. 1	FDP.The Liberals Zermatt List No. 2	neo - The social-liberal center Zermatt List No. 3
1.1 Biner Franziska Grand Councilor, Architect	2.1 Sarbach-Schalbeter Sonja Municipal councilor, bank employee	3.1 Julien Emanuel Municipal councilor, Electrical Engineer (BSc), mountain guide
1.2 Imboden Fabian Technical Manager	2.2 Luggen-Jeker Nicole Entrepreneur, President FDPO	3.2 Julien Markus Municipal Councilor, Dipl. Ing. ETH
1.3 Ballmann Bianca Municipal councilor, qualified social worker, youth worker		
1.4 Aufdenblatten Mark Municipal council, lawyer and notary		
1.5 Biner-Hauser Romy Mayor, PR specialist		

Municipal council elections 2024 – implementation
October 13, 2024: Municipal Council

November 10, 2024: Mayor and Vice-President
November 24, 2024: possible second round of elections for Mayor and Vice-President

Proportional electoral system

Proportional elections are elections based on proportional representation—meaning that the seats to be filled are first allocated among the parties based on their party votes. Only after the seats have been allocated are the candidates of each party considered based on the number of seats won.

Candidate votes:
Votes cast for a candidate. Each candidate also carries a party vote.

Additional votes:
If the list contains a party name, the party receives one party vote for each empty line.
Empty voices:
If the list is submitted without a party name, the empty lines cannot be assigned anywhere.

Party votes:
Candidate votes + additional votes = party votes

Election instructions for the municipal council

A pre-printed ballot paper can:

- be used unchanged, ie the party receives as many votes (party votes) as there are names (candidate votes) and empty lines (additional votes).
- be changed by crossing out preprinted candidate names. This means these individuals receive no candidate votes. The now empty line is counted as an additional vote for the party. Or by panachage, i.e., writing candidates from other lists on the ballot. These candidates thus receive one candidate vote each, and their party receives one party vote each.

A blank official ballot paper can:

- be supplemented with the name of a party and candidate. Each supplemented candidate receives one candidate vote. Empty lines (additional votes) are counted as party votes for the listed party.

- Candidates without party designation are added. The added candidates each receive one vote. The empty rows (blank votes) are not assigned to any party and are therefore lost.

Important
Each ballot must contain at least one official candidate name.

- There may not be more names on the ballot paper than there are seats to be allocated (max. 7).
- Cumulative candidate entries (listing an existing candidate twice) are not valid. The subsequently added candidate will be deleted.

Election instructions for mayor and vice-president
see Majority electoral system

Election of judges and deputy judges / Silent election
Only one list of candidates was submitted for both the judge and deputy judge elections. Thus, **Roman Henzen** as judge and **Sonja Perren** as deputy judge were elected by secret ballot.



Burger Council elections:
8 candidates for 7 seats

Burger Council elections 2024 Zermatt	Burger Council elections 2024 Zermatt
Candidates so far	Candidates new
Biner Valérie, Burger Councilor	Julen Aufdenblatten Stefanie, Physio
Schuler Leo, Burger Vice President	Biner Oliver, Member of the Management Board RBMM
Franzen Dominik, Burger Council	Perren Dario, certified tourism manager
Kronig Paul, Burger Council	
Perren Samuel, Burger Council	

Burger Council elections 2024 – implementation
October 13, 2024: Burger Council (1st round of voting)

If all members were elected in the first round of voting:
November 10, 2024: President and Vice President of the Burger
November 24, 2024: possible second round of voting for the Burger President and Vice President

If a second round of voting is required:
November 3, 2024: 2nd ballot for the Burger Council
November 24, 2024: President and Vice President of the Burger
December 8, 2024: possible second round of voting for the Burger President and Vice President

Majority electoral system

Majority elections are majority elections, which means that a person must achieve an absolute majority in the first round of voting to be elected.

Absolute majority = half of the valid ballot papers + 1

In the second round of voting, the person with the most votes is elected, even if they do not receive half of all votes (relative majority).

Election instructions for the Burger Council

A pre-printed ballot paper can:

- be used unchanged
- be changed by deleting pre-printed names of candidates. Or by panachage, i.e. by writing candidates from other lists on the ballot paper.

A blank official ballot paper can:

- be supplemented with official candidates

Important
Each ballot must contain at least one official candidate name.

- There may not be more names on the ballot paper than there are seats to be allocated (max. 7).
- Cumulative candidate entries (listing an existing candidate twice) are not valid. The subsequently added candidate will be deleted.

Election instructions for the mayor and vice-president, the mayor and vice-president
If only one list per ballot is submitted within the statutory period, the candidate on this list is elected without a ballot – a silent ballot.

Otherwise, you will receive preprinted ballots for the elections and an official blank ballot for each election. You can use the ballot with a preprinted candidate 's name or use an official blank ballot and add an official candidate's name to it.

Choose -
and have your say!

Postal voting

For the vote to be valid, the return form must be signed!

Delivery by post
Please observe the current postal rates—otherwise, your vote will be invalid. Mail-in ballots must reach the municipality or town council in a timely manner, no later than the Friday before the election .

Deposit with the municipality
You can place the envelope in the designated, sealed ballot box at the local municipality or the town hall during office hours from the time you receive the voting materials until the Friday before the election at the latest.

Voting by dropping the ballot into the mailbox of the respective municipality is invalid!

Opening hours of the municipality
Monday and Wednesday: 8:30–11:00 and 14:00–16:00
Tuesday and Friday: 8:30–16:00
Thursday: 8:30–11:00 and 14:00–17:30

Opening hours of the Burgergemeinde
Monday to Friday: 9:00–11:00 and 14:00–16:00

Voting at the ballot box

Please use the voting materials provided to you. If you do not have them, you will be given the voting material upon presentation of an identification document. material was provided. Voting by proxy is prohibited.

Voting at the ballot box must be done in person!

Any conversation between voters, any deliberations other than those of the office, any distribution of ballot papers, any actions aimed at catching votes or hindering the free exercise of the right to vote are prohibited in the polling station.

polling station municipality
Municipal Hall: Resident Services Office/Chancellery
Sunday, 13 October 2024, 9:00–10:00 a.m. – Municipal Council
Sunday, 10 November 2024, 9:00–10:00 a.m. – Mayor/ Vice President
Sunday, 24 November 2024, 9:00–10:00 a.m. – possible second round of voting for mayor/vice-president

Polling station Burgergemeinde
Municipal Hall: Meeting Room Resident Services/Chancellery
Sunday, 13 October 2024, 9:00–10:00 a.m. – Burger Council (first round of voting)
Sunday, 10 November 2024, 9:00–10:00 a.m. – President/Vice President

Sunday, 24 November 2024, 9:00–10:00 a.m. – possible second round of voting for Burger President/Vice President

If a second round of voting is required
Polling station: Burgerkanzlei
Sunday, 3 November 2024, 9:00–10:00 a.m. – 2nd ballot for the Burger Council
Sunday, 24 November 2024, 9:00–10:00 a.m. – President/Vice President

Sunday, 8 December 2024, 9:00–10:00 a.m. – possibly 2nd round of voting for Burger President/Vice President

Legal basis

Cantonal Law on Political Rights (kGPR) 160.1
Cantonal Ordinance on Postal Voting (kVbStA) 160,102
Cantonal Law on Incompatibilities (kGU) 160.5
· Council of State Resolution of 27 March 2024 concerning the election of municipal authorities for the 2025-2028 legislative period

Zermatt Citizens' Community

To the citizens of Zermatt

Dear fellow citizens

The Citizens' Council elections for the 2025-2028 term are scheduled for October 2024. According to an agreement between the candidates, we will not be mailing election brochures. Nevertheless, we would like to use this letter to inform you about the candidates for the upcoming elections.

After many years of service, Andreas Biner and Silvo Perren are stepping down from the Burger Council. We would like to sincerely thank our colleagues for their excellent and constructive cooperation over the past few years.

The upcoming election for the Citizens' Council will be conducted using a majority system. Five existing and three new candidates are running for the seven Citizens' Council seats.

Together we want

- ensure the continued existence of the civic community and preserve the civic assets for future generations.
- the depoliticization and professionalization of the civic community continue.
- Create trust and acceptance through open, honest and transparent communication.
- Work closely with other key personnel and decision-makers and maintain regular and constructive contact with them.

As a strong and reliable partner, the town council should contribute to positive tourism development and to strengthening Zermatt as a cosmopolitan destination offering a wide range of opportunities.

For your support
and thank you for your trust
we warmly welcome you.

Leo Schuler

Burger Vice President (previously)
born March 2, 1958
married to Roswitha Schmid
3 children



Dominik Franzen

Burger Council (previously)
born June 19, 1984
hotelier
single



Paul Kronig

Burger Council (previously)
born December 15, 1956
hotelier

married to Mirja Aufdenblatten



Sämi Perren

Burger Council (previously)
born September 23, 1980
hotelier

married to Melanie Kronig
3 children



Stefanie Julen Aufdenblatten

(new)
born February 6, 1985
physiotherapist
married to Gabriel Julen
1 child



Oliver Biner

(new)
born February 16, 1975
Member of the Management Board of Raiffeisenbank Mischabel-Matterhorn
married to Diana Metzner
1 child



Dario Perren

(new)
born April 12, 1986
qualified tourism manager, ski and golf instructor
single



Valérie Biner

Burger Councilor (previously)
born October 22, 1990
Dipl. Tourism Specialist HF
single



IMPRINT

editor
Municipality of Zermatt (EWG), Citizens' Community of Zermatt (BG), Zermatt Tourism (ZT), Zermatt Bergbahnen AG (ZBAG), Gornergrat Railway / Matterhorn Gotthard Railway (GGB/MGB)

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Your opinion is important to us
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Candidates for the election of the civic authorities for 2025–2028

Show





Municipality of Zermatt

Digitalization and Optimization of Permits for the Road Täsch – Zermatt

The traffic concept for car travel between Täsch and Zermatt is being adjusted. According to a working group, the permitting process is to be digitalized and is expected to be introduced this winter.

The working group, consisting of various cantonal departments, the police, and the municipalities of Täsch and Zermatt, has developed various measures, including the introduction of a digital application available on smartphones. This is currently in the crucial testing phase. The exact launch date, as well as further information and the contact details, will be communicated soon.

Further measures support the new concept, such as the construction of a new roundabout at the Täsch exit to make it easier for unauthorized persons to turn around. Likewise, improved signage along the road will be implemented to make drivers aware that access to Zermatt by motorized vehicles is only possible with a permit.

The new licensing procedure is also intended to significantly reduce the workload of the cantonal police. There, well over 10,000 permits were issued annually by the local police at the counter.

It will also be possible to apply for special travel permits within Zermatt via the digital application. Further information will follow by mid- November.

Municipality of Zermatt

Lost and Found Office Updates

The Lost and Found Office of the Zermatt Municipality (EWG) is an important contact point not only for guests but also for locals.

To optimize this contact point, various adjustments have been made since spring 2024. The goal is to make the Lost and Found office more standardized and customer-friendly. The most significant changes include the collaboration with Zermatt Tourism (ZT) and Zermatt Bergbahnen AG (ZBAG), as well as the conversion of the Lost and Found office to an online platform.

Changes

Lost and found items from the EWG, ZT, and ZBAG will be recorded on the [easyfind.ch](#) platform in the future . Lost items can be entered on the [easyfind.ch](#) website . After registering the lost item and providing contact information , you can view and review related lost and found reports. This is possible at any time, including weekends. If the item has already been found, you can report it to the relevant lost and found office. If not, the lost and found office will contact the owner of a subsequent discovery using the contact details provided. There are some lost and found items that are not recorded on the [easyfind.ch](#) platform. These include gloves, credit cards, and cash. A list of unrecorded items is available on the EWG lost and found office website.

Found something – where to drop it off?

Items found on public property must be handed in to the EWG Lost and Found office. Lost and Found items are handed in to the owner , operator, or caretaker if they were found in shops, restaurants, or houses . If an item is found on public transport, the correct place to go is the Lost and Found office of the respective operator.

The table below serves as an illustration:

Where was something lost?	Who has to manage the items?
· Streets, paths, public places, Hiking trails (winter and summer)	EEC Lost and Found Office
· Residential building, hotel, holiday apartment · Shops (e.g. Migros) · Public building (ZT counter hall, post office, etc.)	· Owner · Operator Caretaker /supervisor
· Station area (platform area) Public transport (train/bus etc.) · Valley/mountain stations ZBAG/GGB	· Responsible department of the operator: counter, lost property office, etc.
· Ski slope	· Piste operator

Official identification documents and loss reports

The discovery of official identification documents must be reported to the cantonal police. Loss reports are prepared by the cantonal police. These are necessary, for example, in the case of loss of official identification documents or, in some cases, in the case of insurance claims.



Municipality of Zermatt

E-bus – new route Winkelmat

The red line of the electric bus service connects the

Winkelmat

the current timetable for this bus line, we achieve a frequency of 40 trips per day on the

Winkelmat – Bahnhof – Spiss – Winkelmat circular route during the winter.



Capacity bottlenecks

At full capacity with three buses of 34 passengers each, this results in a maximum transport capacity of 4,080 people per day to Winkelmat (the fourth bus on the Winkelmat line runs in support during peak hours and can transport 29 people per round).

During peak times in winter, it is increasingly the case that passengers are unable to board at certain stops (including Vispa, Kirchbrücke and subsequent stops up to Wichje) because the buses are already full and arrive at these stops – particularly due to the loading of passengers at the Bahnhof and Spiss stops.

The experiences of recent years clearly show that:

· skiers are repeatedly boarding the Winkelmat line to get to the Matterhorn Glacier Paradise stop, even though the green line is intended for this purpose;

· that the e-bus is often used as "hotel guest transport" for arrival and departure , even though the hotel vehicles are intended for this purpose and additional space is lost with the luggage transport.

Bottleneck Getwingstrasse

The Getwingstrasse is a very busy street in Zermatt. Countless electric vehicles, electric buses, and a large number of pedestrians use this section of road. Dangerous situations arise repeatedly due to the vehicles crossing pedestrians on this narrow stretch of road . The drivers of the electric buses, in particular, are faced with considerable challenges due to the width of the vehicles.

Possible solutions

Based on this current situation, various options, each with its own advantages and disadvantages, have been developed to better address current challenges . In principle, the Winkelmat electric buses will no longer travel via the train station, with the exception of the last three trips in the evening. However, passengers from the Winkelmat area would have to transfer to the Bergbahnen bus (green line) at Kirchbrücke, Zum Steg Bridge, or Getwingbrücke to reach the train station .

The following alternatives were examined:

- Variant 1: Winkelmat circuit – Getwing Bridge – Winkelmat
- Variant 2: Winkelmat circuit – bridge to the footbridge – Winkelmat
- Variant 3: Circular route Winkelmat – Kirchbrücke – Winkelmat

Getwing Bridge – Winkelmat circuit

After weighing all the pros and cons, **Variant 1 (circular route Winkelmat – Getwing Bridge – Winkelmat) will be introduced starting December 8, 2024** (start of the winter timetable) . This is primarily for safety reasons, as the curve radii or T-turns in Variants 2 and 3 are very tight and dangerous in some places. Passengers, especially skiers from the Winkelmat region, can disembark at the Getwing Bridge "East" until 12:46 p.m. After the turn on the Getwing Bridge, the bus then travels to the Vispa stop, where passengers are picked up (important: **no passengers** are picked up at the Getwing Bridge).

Advantages

A major, and especially safety-related, advantage of this new regulation is the traffic calming on the very busy Getwingstrasse. Getwingstrasse, Spissstrasse, and Matterstrasse will experience a total of 11,670 fewer trips per year!

The e-buses will also travel 9,360 fewer kilometers annually, as the circuit will be 1.6 kilometers shorter. This will also be reflected in the maintenance costs of the e-buses . At the same time, the existing infrastructure will allow for 1,920 additional circuits to be offered annually , transporting more than 65,000 passengers to or from Winkelmat.

Reconstruction of the Vispa stop

In a further step, the Brücke zum Steg stop on the green line (direction Zen Stecken) will be relocated to the Vispa stop on the Winkelmat line. This new "double stop" will simplify transfers for Winkelmat residents and significantly increase safety on the Brücke zum Steg bridge with its seven-street intersection.

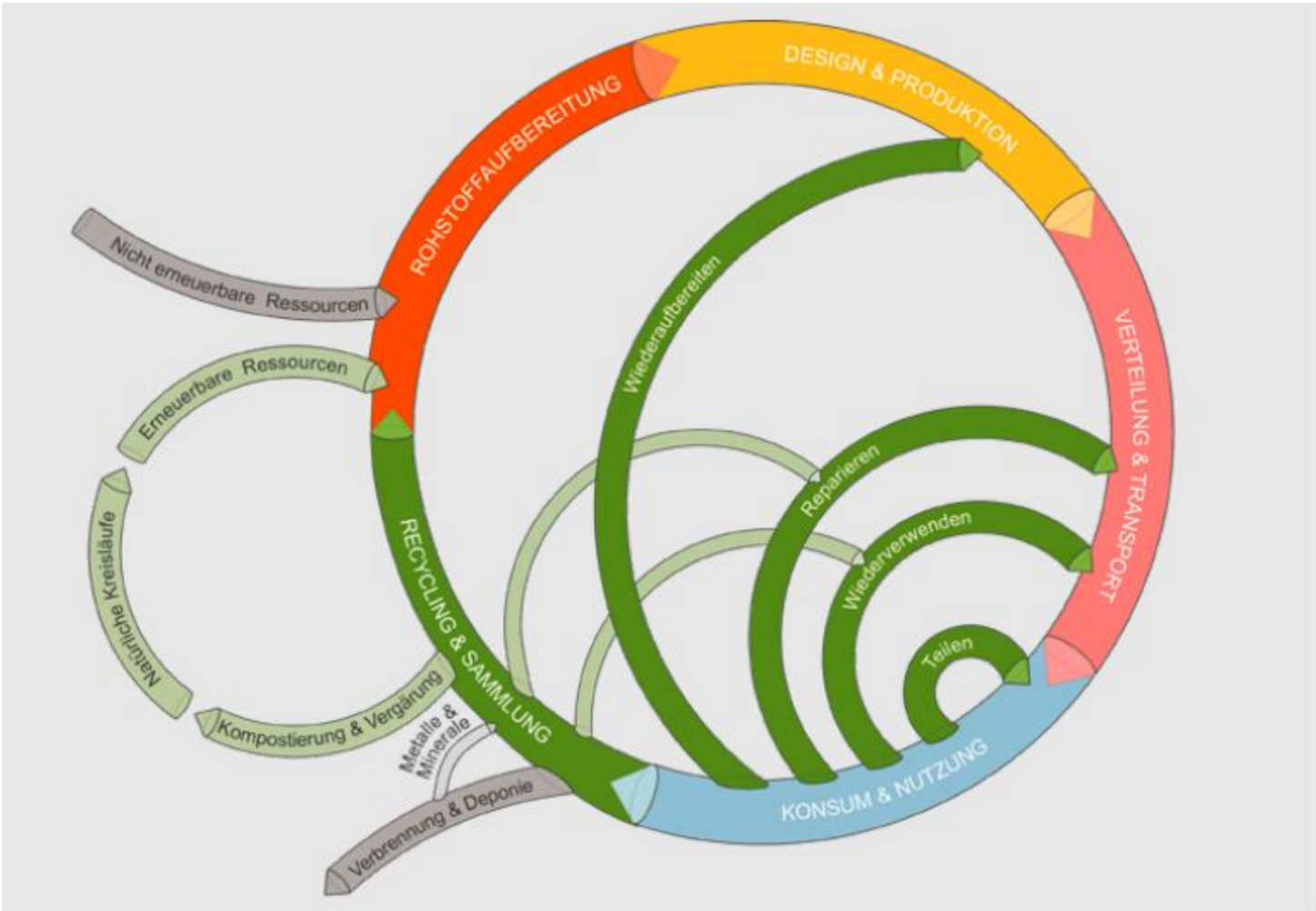
Every change brings opportunities and new challenges. The Winkelmat residential area has developed significantly since the introduction of the Winkelmat bus, and traffic flow in the area has Wingstrasse has also seen a significant increase since then. With the Winkelmat bus route adjustment, we want to accommodate these circumstances using the existing infrastructure. We are convinced that the advantages outweigh the disadvantages, and that the results after one year will underline this.

We thank you for your understanding and support.

Municipality of Zermatt

Sustainability Department / Circular economy

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



Unsere Lebensräume – nachhaltig und lebenswürdig in die Zukunft
The municipalities of Zermatt, Randa, and Täsch are actively committed to making their living environments livable for years to come. As part of their sustainability strategy, ten areas of action have been identified to help expand efforts toward a sustainable future.

One of these areas of action includes resource and water consumption as well as waste generation. The focus here is on the use of sustainable and local resources and promote the transition to a circular economy. This transition from linear to circular economic models is necessary in the long term to conserve resources, minimize waste, protect the environment, and maintain a livable living environment.

Workshop on promoting the circular economy
To advance this important area of action, the Sustainability Steering Group met on September 3, 2024, for a 2.5-hour workshop focused on the circular economy. At the beginning of the workshop, participants received an introduction to the basic principles and significance of the circular economy. The focus here is on the use of sustainable and local resources and the promotion of the circular economy.

What is circular economy?
Our current economic system largely follows a linear model – the so-called “take-make-waste” approach. This model is unsustainable in the long term, neither for the environment nor for people. The circular economy, however, offers a promising alternative and is a necessary prerequisite for sustainable economic growth.

The circular economy is about shifting from linear to circular thinking. It views the entire value chain as a cycle – from raw material extraction to product design, production, distribution, and use, all the way to recycling. The goals are to keep products and materials in circulation for as long as possible, reduce the consumption of primary raw materials, and preserve the value of products for longer.

Sustainability concerns all of us!

Together for a sustainable future
A circular economy requires a shift from the actions of individual actors to collaborative action. In Zermatt and within the steering group, this is already being actively promoted and practiced: All participants play different roles, and every individual contribution is important.

The circular economy has two main cycles: the biological cycle (degradable materials) and the technical cycle (non-degradable materials). In the biological cycle, organic substances are broken down through natural processes and reintegrated into the cycle. The technical cycle is about using non-degradable materials for as long as possible and preserving their value.

There are various ways to preserve the value of products and move from a throwaway society to a circular economy.



Bäckerei Fuchs: Reusable instead of disposable cups



Zermatt Bergbahnen AG: Merchandise made from tarpaulins

Why do we want to move away from a linear economic system?
In a linear economic system, raw materials are mined, products are designed and manufactured, distributed and transported, consumed and used, and discarded at the end of their useful life. Ultimately, the materials end up incinerated or landfilled. This leads to resource scarcity, greenhouse gas emissions, large amounts of waste, and associated environmental pollution.

Where can we start?
We can start in different places to keep materials in the technical cycle for as long as possible. A look at the graphic shows that **sharing, repairing, reusing, and reprocessing** are possible. Much of this is already being implemented in our living space.

Repair instead of throwing away. Many products today are often difficult and expensive to repair, making new purchases seem more cost-effective. To counteract this trend, product design should consider easy reparability. In Zermatt, the Repair Café, where citizens can repair their broken items together instead of throwing them away, has already taken place several times.

Reuse and share instead of buying new
Products and materials that are still in good condition and fulfill their original function should be reused wherever possible. This can be supported by sharing economy models where items are shared or borrowed.

One example is the Fuchs bakery, which has been offering reusable packaging for its coffee2go service with the reCIRCLE system since autumn 2023, an alternative to disposable cups. Another example is the children's flea market for secondhand clothing/ Sports equipment/toys from the Zermatt Living Space Association.

Reprocess instead of dispose
Remanufacturing products or their components allows them to be reintroduced into the production process instead of being discarded or recycled. This reduces the material and energy required to produce new products. One example of this is the Matterhorn Gotthard Railway, which professionally remanufactures and reuses spare parts to conserve resources. In addition, a local construction company uses concrete demolition waste to produce recycled building materials.

Recycling waste materials
Recycling is about reprocessing waste materials so that they can fulfill their original purpose or be used for other purposes. An internal recycling system requires detailed knowledge of the materials used,

effective separation, appropriate logistics solutions, employee training and monitoring systems. During the legendary apple break, which has been running since 1968, Zermatt primary school students receive around 400 kg of apples every spring and fall. The leftovers are collected in the organic waste container, processed in the local biogas plant, and the fertilizer is brought back to the farmer's apple orchard to grow new, delicious apples.

The old tarpaulins on which the Zermatt Bergbahnen AG panoramic maps are printed are recycled into new cases. The product is prepared and sewn by a social foundation, providing employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

What happens next?
The ideas and possibilities for preserving the value of products developed in the circular economy workshop are now being discussed and further developed within the organizations and committees. The steering group will continue to work together to develop and discuss innovative solutions to further make the living environments of Zermatt, Randa, and Täsch more sustainable.

Do you have any questions? The Sustainability Office is your contact for all questions concerning sustainability in life. space.

contact
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Circular economy: This is what you can contribute!

Each and every one of us can do something to support the circular economy and thus protect the environment. Here are some simple tips that you can implement in your everyday life:

- 1. Separate waste correctly:** Make sure Separate your waste correctly—paper, glass, plastic, organic waste, and residual waste. This allows for better recycling and reuse of valuable materials.
- 2. Borrow, swap and share instead of Buy:** Consider whether it would be better to borrow or share things you rarely use. Exchange among friends can be a good idea!
- 3. Repair instead of throwing away:** Before you throw away broken items, consider whether they can be repaired. Often, electrical appliances, clothing, or furniture can be restored with little effort.
- 4. Secondhand shopping:** Use Secondhand shops or online platforms to buy used clothing, furniture, and other items. This gives things a second life and reduces the demand for new products.

5. Use resources consciously:
Save energy and water in your home: Turn off electrical appliances when you don't need them and use water-saving fixtures.

6. Get informed and discuss the topic in your environment: Inform yourself and talk to your family, friends and acquaintances about the topic Circular economy. So you can raise awareness of a sustainable lifestyle among others.

Every little action counts – join us and help us create a sustainable better habitat!



Municipality of Zermatt

RIO – Regional Integration Office Upper Valais – launches two new integration offers in Zermatt

With “village tours for newcomers” and the “Zermatt language café,” the Integration Office aims to provide people with a migration background with easier access to local life and the German language.

Since last year, Eva Jenni, as the integration officer, has been organizing “village tours for newcomers” in Zermatt as part of the initial information program. She is actively supported by local guide Beat Summermatter, who grew up in Zermatt, who shares his knowledge and experience. The village tours for newcomers take place three to four times a year on selected dates. Participants are guided to various historic sites and receive interesting information about life in and around Zermatt.

The goal of the village tours for newcomers is to help them develop a better understanding of the place and its culture and traditions.

A very important part of the conversation during the village tours is providing information about local clubs. Networking is of immense importance in integration work.

Participants report

It was an opportunity to visit places and walk paths familiar to locals and less frequented by tourists . It was a chance to truly get to know Zermatt. Through the exchange and Eva's input, we gained insight into life and the various offerings here in Zermatt. The resulting contact among the participants led to

to a later joint hike, which will certainly be followed by further joint activities.

Petra Bouren, Germany

After moving to Zermatt, the village tour with the knowledge of Ms. Jenni and Mr. Summermatter helped me get started in my job as a receptionist. This allows me to give guests authentic tips about the resort of Zermatt.

Larissa Koy, Germany

The Integration Commissioner has just launched the “Zermatt Language Café .” This event takes place on the last Wednesday of each month from 10 to 11 a.m. in the premises of the Zermatt municipal library.

The aim of the course is to offer participants a low-threshold opportunity to exchange ideas in German on various topics. The Language Café isn't about perfection. Through informal interaction, German is practiced and new words and expressions can be learned.

Why is this offer even necessary? There are some people with a migration background who have already attended a German course one or more times. However, they rarely come into contact with the German language at work or in everyday life, preventing them from improving their skills. This program was created to reflect the need to practice their newly learned language and to engage in simple, informal conversation. Regular attendance at the language café helps participants deepen and consolidate their German language skills.

Both programs are free for Zermatt residents. To register, please contact Eva Jenni, Integration Officer, at eva.jenni@integration-ow.ch .



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Municipality of Zermatt

Eastern Europe Clothes – Christmas – Donations

This autumn, the association “Hand in Hand – Your Neighbor” is conducting another clothing collection and Christmas parcel campaign for Eastern Europe, particularly for Ukraine and Romania.

The “Hand in Hand – Your Neighbor” association aims to provide financial and material support to the needy in Eastern Europe, especially children, the elderly, the frail, and those living alone . Collections are held in Zermatt and Täsch.

Groupage

The association collects well-maintained and clean clothes, coats, jackets, trousers, sweaters, and shoes, as well as well-maintained and clean bed linen and terry cloths. These can be dropped off in boxes or garbage bags (grocery stores sell black garbage bags) as follows:

Collection points Zermatt

Saturday, 26 October 2024, at the following locations: 8:30 – 11:00 a.m.: Entrance to the funicular railway workshop
8:30 – 11:00 a.m.: Entrance to Winkelmatten Chapel (please keep to the time!)

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.: Entrance to the parish center

Collection points Täsch

Saturday 26 October 2024
8:30 – 10:30 a.m.: in front of the Hotel Walliserhof (Contact person: Lydia Lauber)

Christmas packages

On Saturday, November 9, 2024, a Christmas campaign will take place in Zermatt and Täsch to benefit poor children in Eastern Europe. Collection points: the same as for the clothes. Further information will follow later in a separate flyer.

Call for donations

Children's center in Bocsă/Romania

The “Bocsă” social and children's center provides daytime care for around 130 children. They come from large and poor families. In addition to hot meals, they receive tutoring in various subjects from qualified caregivers and teachers. The center distributes aid packages to needy mothers with small children, as well as food parcels to day laborers, the unemployed, and harvest workers.

We hope for your donations to the account at Raiffeisenbank Mischabel-Matterhorn, Zermatt/St. Niklaus: IBAN CH93 8080 8009 8262 1832 2
Donations can be deducted from taxes within the legal framework.



Thank you very much for your support

Association «Hand in Hand – Your Neighbor»

Show

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Municipality of Zermatt

Candle making in Zermatt: Creative fun for everyone

The popular candle-making event for the local population will soon take place again in Zermatt.

The event is organized by the Mattertal Youth Office in cooperation with the Zermatt Women's Association. Anyone interested has the opportunity to make their own candles and then decorate them as they please.

Candle-making offers a wonderful opportunity for young and old to get creative and create unique, handmade items. The event promises a convivial gathering and a pre-Christmas atmosphere—a wonderful activity for the whole family.



The poster for the 'ÖFFENTLICHES KERZENZIEHEN' event features a top section with images of colorful wax in metal pots and finished, decorated candles. The main text is in bold German, providing dates (Saturday 23.11.2024 and Sunday 24.11.2024), time (14:00 - 18:00 Uhr), and location (Im Grünen Saal, Zermatt). It lists requirements: children under 5 need parental supervision, aprons must be brought, and clothing/shoes must be clean. Pricing is listed as 3.- for the first 100g and 0.30 for additional 10g. The event is organized by the Zermatt Women's Association and the Mattertal Youth Office. Contact information is provided at the bottom.

Everyone is cordially invited,
stop by and look forward to
to get in the mood for Christmas.



The advertisement features a close-up of a surprised-looking black cow's face on the left. To the right, the text 'Regionaler geht nicht!' is written in large white letters, followed by 'Dein Oberwalliser Partner für Telekommunikation.' in red. The Valaiscom logo and the slogan 'Hüere güet!' are at the bottom right. Three red stars are positioned above the main text. At the bottom left, there are three red buttons labeled 'Internet', 'TV', and 'Telefonie' with corresponding icons.

Municipality of Zermatt

Zermatt Youth Fund – financial support

Applications must be submitted by 31 October 2024

The Zermatt Youth Fund aims to support clubs, groups, and events that significantly promote the interests of young people. The target group is defined as children of preschool age up to young adults up to the age of 25.



Youth Fund Income The Youth Fund was established in 2011 by the Zermatt Business Association , which annually credits the proceeds from the Folklore Festival to the Youth Fund. Additional sources of income include residual amounts from club dissolutions or other donations . The Youth Fund Committee would like to sincerely thank all donors. Only through these revenues is it possible to support the many wonderful offerings in Zermatt.

Active Support: The Youth Fund's funds are generated through the proceeds of the Folklore Festival. The accounts for the 2024 Folklore Festival are currently being processed; the donation amount will be mentioned in the Youth Fund article from April 2025. To ensure the smooth running of the event, the Folklore Festival's organizing committee needs many hard-working volunteers every year . Clubs and groups that have received a contribution from the Youth Fund are also invited to actively help with the Folklore Festival.

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

The applications already submitted are currently being reviewed by the Commission for completeness and accuracy.

Applications must be submitted by October 31, 2024. Decisions regarding financial support are made in April and November of each year. Applications for the current year can be submitted until October 31, 2024.

Available online The application form, guidelines, and regulations are available on the website www.jastow.ch/jugendfonds-der-gemeinde-zermatt/. If you have any questions, you can also contact the Youth Services Office.

Submission of applications and any questions All applications must be submitted to the following address: Youth Employment Office Mattertal Attn: Bianca Ballmann English Quarter 8 3920 Zermatt

or via email mattertal@jastow.ch Phone: 079 303 45 04



notice

Introduction of the federal land register in the municipality of Zermatt

According to Article 211 of the Introductory Act to the Swiss Civil Code, all documents relating to the land register are available for public inspection in the above-mentioned municipality.

The documents will be available at the Brig Land Registry, Nordstrasse 20, from **October 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024** , and can be inspected there from Monday to Friday, between **8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**

(Appointment requested: Tel. No. 027 / 607 80 88)

Further information can be found in the Official Gazette of the Canton of Valais.



Municipality of Zermatt

News from the school library

Since its opening in January 2024, the library at the "Niww Wal-ka" has been actively visited and appreciated by the children. At this point, we would like to point out that the school library is also used by parents during school hours.

Opening hours can be visited. Children can also spend time with us after school.

Opening hours of the School library

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00 – 11:45 a.m. and 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday: 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
Friday: 9:00 – 11:45 a.m. and 2:30 – 3:15 p.m.



Class visits and new employees

Starting with the new school year, all students from Zermatt, Täsch, and Randa will visit the library regularly.

Each school class visits the library once a month with or without reading animation. A reading animation means that the library team prepares a task on the topic of library or reading and carries it out with the class. The animations are intended

to facilitate students' access to reading and to help them find their way around the library. Since its opening, 71 animations have been prepared and carried out. This aligns the school library with the new

Valais Library Master Plan 2024-2028, which provides for regular class visits for all students. Due to regular class visits, increased demand, and the school library being open every day, the library team was

In addition to Karin Biner (library director) and Silvia Burgener Bächler, Andrea Ruppen and Angela Wohleser have also been part of the team since this summer.

Review

In addition to the animations in the school library, competitions are also held for the Children and events such as readings for all ages were organized. In March, in cooperation with the Zermatt Culture Association, the reading with Wilfried Meichtry was the first event in the new cafeteria and library. During the summer holidays, motivating

A reading bingo game encouraged the children to read. Great prizes awaited the diligent readers, which were drawn after the summer holidays. The lucky winner of a Brigerbad voucher was Théo Gonzales, and Chia-

A delicious crêpe awaits Maria Julen and Letizia Casile at Crêperie Stefanie. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Stefanie for the prize and her support.

Another highlight was the visit of the reading dog «Csabos» at the Swiss Reading Day in May in the school library. The reading dog supports children with reading difficulties. Some children often have little motivation

to reading and low self-confidence. Reading dogs help overcome fears. The reading dog listens patiently without correcting. This helps children lose their fear of being read to, improve their reading skills, and discover the joy of books.

This has a positive impact on their academic performance. The dog visit was a success and brought the children a lot of joy. Have fun trying it out with your own pet.

A little look into the future

On 6 November, at 2 p.m., the Wimmelbuch event will take place in the school library

"Fairy Tales" with Celine Geser will take place, followed by a cozy afternoon snack. A reading with Ursula Liechti is planned for December 16 at the municipal library. Further information will follow on our website at the appropriate time.

We look forward to numerous visits in the two libraries and thank all parents who encourage their children to read.

"Of all the worlds created by man, that of books is the most powerful." What Heinrich Heine already knew is now lived every day by our motivated library team in the Niww Walka school library and the community library. Whenever I am in Niww Walka

I see children in the new school library and I am very happy about it. The fact that our children feel so comfortable here deserves a big THANK YOU to these four women! The joy of reading is also the joy of life. The art of Reading, immersing yourself in a book, sinking into it, barely able to emerge, that is a piece of the art of living. Come visit the libraries of the Zermatt community and dive in. Karin, Silvia, Andrea, Angela, and I look forward to your visit.

Sonja Sarbach-Schalbetter
Municipal Councillor for Education



Csabos



Chiara



Theo



Letizia



Municipality of Zermatt

Day of Children's rights

November 20, 2024, is International Children's Rights Day. Over the past two years, the school social work department of Inner Mattertal, in cooperation with the Mattertal Youth Work Center, has been able to raise awareness of the importance of the rights of all children worldwide.

Children have a fundamental right to protection, care, and healthy development. This includes the right to education, health, protection from violence, and a say in matters that affect their lives. Despite international agreements such as the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, many challenges remain. This makes it all the more important that we work together to advocate for children's rights, give them a voice, and focus on their needs – because children are our future.

For this reason, various workshops on children's rights are being offered for the third year running. All children and young people from 3H upwards are invited to participate on November 23, 2024. There's something for everyone.



MORE INFO

Do you know children's rights

and what they mean?

feel-ok.ch



1989

Adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by the UN



1997

Entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Switzerland



54

Articles define the individual Children's rights

Show

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Zermatt Tourism

Event highlight in summer 2025: «The Matterhorn Story» is being revived

Joy reigns: Exactly ten years after the huge success of "The Matterhorn Story," the Zermatt Open Air Theater will celebrate a comeback of this true work, written especially for Zermatt, in the summer of 2025.

Who doesn't remember? High-quality theater, embedded in harmonious musical accompaniment and against the backdrop of the legendary Matterhorn. 26,000 visitors were entertained on the Riffelberg from «The Matterhorn Story». Thanks to this work, the 150th anniversary of the first ascent of the Matterhorn in summer 2015 will remain with guests from near and far. as well as locals still remember it today.

The production generated a media response that reached far beyond Switzerland's borders.

"The Matterhorn Story" recounts this defining milestone in Zermatt's history in a moving way, immersing the audience in the story. The first ascent of the Matterhorn on July 14, 1865, is still considered the – albeit dramatic – launch of tourism in Zermatt.

Bernese author and director Livia Anne Richard was once again able to be won over for the production. Richard wrote and directed for the Riffelberg, in addition to "The Matterhorn Story" in 2015, "Romeo and Juliet on the Gornergrat" in 2017 and "Matterhorn - No Ladies Please" in 2019. For Zermatt Tourism approached Richard this spring about the resumption of "The Matterhorn Story 2025." Together with the municipality of Zermatt, the Matterhorn Group, and the Gornergrat Railway, productive negotiations on the project's guidelines have taken place over the past few months.

The basic statements and core messages of «The Matterhorn Story» will not be shaken for the resumption next summer. However, Richard reserves the right to use her artistic freedom and to change individual narrative threads in the play or to make small

To refine the nuances. The experienced author and director follows the

The aim is to set new accents, even for people who have already seen the production ten years ago.

"The Matterhorn Story" will be performed from July 10 to August 29, 2025, at the proven and unique Riffelberg venue. Performances will take place Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday will be used as an alternative date throughout the season in case of weather-related postponements. A total of 30 performances are planned, with a capacity of 500 per performance.



Author and director
Livia Anne Richard



The information event at the Grand Hotel Zermatterhof on the revival of the open-air theater on 7 September attracted great interest.



"The Matterhorn Story" is set to once again touch thousands of people on the Riffelberg.

The theatre ensemble will consist of individual professional figures and many experienced and some new amateurs.



Helpers wanted!

Would you like to become part of the theater family next summer and participate in a play about a historic event? From ticket sales at the box office to audience support on the stage, to program distribution and admission control, we are looking for energetic support for our production of "The Matterhorn Story." Would you like to get involved in this fantastic new project?

Then we look forward to receiving your registration as a helper at Peter.kaufmann@freilichtspielezermatt.ch.

Local creation

A theatre ensemble of around 30 actors is responsible for the stage production. As usual, Richard works alongside individual

Professional characters with many experienced and some new amateurs. As usual, she will bring these to a professional level. A large number of the roles have already been cast. To mark the occasion, a well-attended information event was held at the Zermatterhof on Saturday, September 7. The project team behind the Zermatt Open-Air Theatre presented the key facts about the open-air theatre.

At the same time, Richard took the opportunity to gain a more detailed understanding of the potential actors interested in the project and thus further refine the cast of roles in the play. It is already clear that David Taugwalder, a direct descendant of the Taugwalder family—as in 2015—will play the role of Peter Taugwalder's son, a fact Richard is particularly pleased about.

The rehearsal period for the ensemble will begin in March, April and May in the village, continue in June on the original stage on the Riffelberg and last until the premiere on June 10th.

July. As in 2015, the experienced costume designer Katrin Schilt, who worked for many years at the Bern City Theater, will be responsible for the actors' costumes.

In keeping with the piece, the music will also be local. The Zermatt band Wintershome will create a musical concept for the performances in advance, together with the director and the Bernese pianist Elia Gasser. Gasser specializes in piano improvisations. He will accompany each performance live, drawing on the action on stage from the playing on stage, the interaction of nature, and the overall mood of the moment, thus providing improvisational accompaniment in the moment.

Show



wir bauen - wir renovieren - wir planen

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Täsch
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Zermatt Tourism

Bike World Cup: “One year to go” until the sports highlight in Zermatt in 2025

The first combined Mountain Bike World Championships will take place from August 30 to September 14, 2025, and will span the entire canton of Valais. Zermatt will be one of the six host cities and will provide the stage for the short track discipline.

This is a race in which the world's best men and women cross-country riders compete. "Short Track" stands for spectacular overtaking maneuvers, high speeds, and an exciting spectator perspective. However, the discipline is clearly different from the downhill-oriented enduro scene and is described as "gentle

th» mountain bike variant, in which physical abilities take precedence over riding technique. The circuit in Zermatt will be located within walking distance of the village in the "Zen Stecken" area (see visualization) and will run almost exclusively on existing paths. Only a few structural measures are planned, which will be immediately removed after the races.

The world's best athletes compete directly in front of the Matterhorn, covering a distance of about 1.2 kilometers and gaining around 80 meters of elevation per lap. The total



The race lasts 20 to 25 minutes, so there are multiple laps , which noticeably enhances the spectator experience. The race will take place on Tuesday, September 9th. Training and any qualifying will take place the day before. In addition to the professional categories, the so-called elite categories, there will also be competition for men and women at the U23 level.

The Bike World Championships being held in one region and spread across multiple locations is a first in the history of mountain biking and will premiere in Valais next year. In addition to Zermatt, another organizer from Upper Valais, the Aletsch Arena/Bellwald, will be participating. Medals will also be competed for in Verbier and the Val d'Anniviers, Champéry, Monthey, and Crans-Montana . The opening weekend of the two-week World Championships will take place in the cantonal capital of Sion.

Swiss television on board

With the Bike World Championships, the Canton of Valais aims to strengthen the value chain surrounding the mountain bike product and to promote mountain to promote bike sports at various levels.

VENUE PLAN (Draft 13.08.2024)



The route network, events, youth development, advertising, coordination, accommodation, shops, clubs , schools, bookable offers, and transport companies will be covered. Zermatt also sees the Bike World Championships as an opportunity to further strengthen the positioning of the bike segment and, above all, to use the event for its own communications purposes . Up to 20 media representatives will be present.

for the major event in the Matterhorn village . As one of three disciplines, the elite races in Zermatt will also be broadcast live on Swiss television, thus broadcasting the Matterhorn and the region around the world.

Nevertheless, Cornelius Schreck, Product Manager Bike at Zermatt Tourism, emphasizes: "Our focus continues to be on the pleasure- oriented mountain bike audience." The Bike World Championships in Zermatt are operationally organized by a local organizing committee, which is primarily composed of experts from Zermatt Tourism and the municipality of Zermatt in the respective areas . Both are responsible for the track construction.

For example, Ami Fux, Paddy Markwalder and Michel Wipf are three people who are responsible for the bike trails in Zermatt and the surrounding area throughout the entire season .

For specific requirements, external expertise is also called upon. For example, in the area of race operations, the two experienced cross-country specialists Philipp Waldis and Andy Wirth from Lenzerheide were hired. The two professionals are responsible for the sporting events and race schedule and have extensive experience in organizing world championships and World Cup races in the short track discipline.

Involvement of the local population

The Mountain Bike World Championships in Zermatt are also intended to be an event where the local biking community and the village population in general can meet. There will be a supporting program and various activities surrounding the races , which will be continuously announced through Zermatt Tour's various information channels leading up to the event.

rism will be presented. Anyone who would like to actively participate in organizing the Bike World Championships in Zermatt can register as a volunteer in various areas.

Further information will follow.

Let's get ready for a real bike festival in Zermatt and present our destination to the world in the best light!

Zermatt Tourism – Column

This borders on blackmail



Dear insiders

The Gornerli project is a benefit to our destination in several respects. In addition to generating energy, it also serves as a water reservoir, contributes to improved safety , drinking water supplies, agricultural irrigation, and increased resources for artificial snowmaking.

Especially in terms of flood protection, we have A few weeks ago, we once again experienced what it means when heavy rainfall coincides with snowmelt . It's unthinkable what would have happened if the water already pumped out today by the Grande Dixence reservoir system – around 30% more – had also flowed through Zermatt and the Matter Valley. The damage to the infrastructure was also noticeable for the population and tourism. Guest bookings promptly plummeted, and even today we are struggling with the image that Zermatt's safety has suffered.

The local population was relieved that the Swiss electorate approved the new electricity law with a large majority of almost 70% . This law includes the "project

Gornerli" is explicitly mentioned as one of 15 hydropower projects. One might think that this would be sufficient for rapid implementation of the project and thus also for early security.

It is all the more disturbing that in one of the last Issues of the Neue Zürcher Zeitung that the Landscape Protection Foundation

plans to lodge an objection against the project when it is submitted as a planning application. And further, in the NZZ interview with Kurt Fluri, President of the Landscape Protection Foundation, it can be read that the appeal, or rather the legal remedies, would be exhausted until the compensatory measures are met to the satisfaction of the Landscape Protection Foundation.

The instrument used by the Landscape Protection Foundation here is called the " right of collective complaint."

So now the Landscape Protection Foundation wants to block a project that was supported by the people and is enormously important to us in various areas until it receives whatever replacement measure it hopes to achieve. If this were to happen, I feel it borders on blackmail.

Fortunately, others share this view: The two Council of States members Beat Rieder and Thierry Burkart advocate for restricting the right of association to file complaints, because it is unacceptable that decisions made by Parliament and the people are delayed, blocked, or even made impossible by NGOs. We fully support this proposal. It is a contradiction in terms that an NGO like Landscape Protection Switzerland calls for sustainable energy while simultaneously opposing projects that could satisfy precisely this need in the future.

Sincerely,
Daniel Luggen

Zermatt Tourism

More personalization, more precision

The new annual campaign for the Zermatt – Matterhorn destination has been live since October 1, 2024!



The basic idea of the annual campaign launched in 2023 is once again at the forefront of this further developed version: Zermatt. Puts a spell on you. Different aspects of Zermatt are illuminated in a mystical way. The focus is on selected offers from the hiking, biking, skiing, family, culinary, and sightseeing segments that can be experienced in the destination:

from culinary highlights to unique outdoor experiences.

As in previous campaigns, the focus is on digital channels such as META, display advertising, Google Ads, and Microsoft, but many other marketing activities are also planned. Stay tuned for more information in the next issue of "Zermatt Inside."

Zermatt Tourism

Marketplace: Major digital Milestone shortly before launch

As a premium destination, Zermatt aims to continue to be at the forefront of digitalization.

The digital marketplace is in the starting blocks.



Offer the guest the best digital experience

A unique UX-optimized digital experience maximizes the incentive to book via zermatt.swiss and conversion.

More guests are receiving a broader range of services via the marketplace.



Bring many service partners into the same shopping cart

Zermatt brings all service partners into one shopping cart. This increases the total shopping cart value. Differentiation as the first destination that makes all services in the region easily bookable online.



Taxes on Online Travel Reduce agencies (OTAs)

By pooling resources within the Destination Zermatt – Matterhorn and its joint strategy, shares of booking.com will be drawn to the marketplace.



Increase liquidity and consolidate IT landscape

By reducing fees to OTAs, more liquidity remains in the destination, which can be reinvested in customer experiences (online and offline).

Zermatt is moving with the times and embracing digitalization: With the new digital marketplace for the Zermatt – Matterhorn destination, an innovative project is being implemented that aims to sustainably transform tourism in the region . The goal of the project is to improve the guest experience while simultaneously offering local service partners new business opportunities .

The destination Zermatt – Matterhorn can and must take a pioneering role in this regard. With the digital marketplace, we are making an investment in the future: The younger generation will only book digitally, and we don't want to miss out on this development.

Offer the guest the best digital experience

In the future, the customer journey will begin even before arrival. With a platform that provides guests with greater convenience by providing them with all the offers for their stay from a single source. With a single visit to the marketplace, guests can compile their vacation itinerary, book it, and pay simultaneously .

Thanks to personalized offers and ease of use, travelers can plan their vacations to their full potential without having to access multiple booking systems. A single booking confirmation will be provided, allowing guests to plan their vacations directly from a single source.

In addition, an innovative cancellation model ensures that guests remain flexible while simultaneously protecting service providers from high cancellation costs.

It should be easier for service partners in the future

The digital marketplace also offers clear advantages for local service partners such as hotels, restaurants, and leisure activity providers . They benefit from improved visibility and can market their services Market products more efficiently. By integrating a split payment system, payments are automatically split, simplifying billing and administration for everyone involved. In addition, the marketplace enables partners to target their target groups with customized offers, thereby strengthening customer loyalty.

The service partner has lower commissions, no longer has to worry about debt collection, and there are no credit card fees for the service partner.



We want to give our guest

provide the best digital experience

Added value for the destination

The digital marketplace brings together various tourism offerings in one central location. Guests can conveniently and easily book not only accommodations but also activities, transportation, and additional services such as ski passes or restaurant reservations via the platform. This increases Zermatt's attractiveness as a travel destination and makes the region future-proof in the face of global competition. Furthermore, the marketplace offers valuable insights into guest booking behavior, enabling the optimization of offers and marketing strategies.

The primary goal of the marketplace is to increase conversion rates and reduce bookings from online travel agencies (OTAs) in favor of bookings via zermatt.swiss. This, in turn, will reduce fees paid to the OTAs. The commissions remain in the destination, resulting in greater added value for the region. The additional money can be reinvested in the destination and benefits the next generation.

The path to the go-live of the marketplace

To implement these new booking processes, we need YOUR support for implementation and launch on the marketplace. This includes adjusting accommodation information in TSmart, as well as details for the payment provider (CashSentinel). We need this information so that all offers can be displayed correctly and the processes can be set up and tested before the marketplace goes live. In addition, service partners must sign a new contract for the sale of offers via zermatt.swiss .

Planned go-live

Go-live is planned for mid-October 2024. From this date, only offers and accommodations that have renewed their contract with Zermatt Tourism and have completed onboarding with CashSentinel, including the payment method, will be bookable. You have completed account validation. The marketplace is intended to continuously evolve and play a pioneering role in the ever-changing world of our time.

Show

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Zermatt Tourism

Unique Biker: The art of respectful two-wheeling



To raise awareness among (e-)bikers and (e-)scooter riders about careful riding, Zermatt Tourism has launched the Unique Biker project.

E-bikes and e-scooters have experienced a veritable boom in recent years. In addition to recreational sports, they are enjoying increasing popularity in everyday life. Furthermore, the industry is enabling access to a wider range of target groups with increasingly new and modern products. This development can also be observed in the Matterhorn village.

With the booklet "Unique Biker – The Art of Respectful Two-Wheel Riding", which sets out eight golden rules, (E)-bikers, (E)-Bikers and e-scooter riders are sensitized to the issue and urged to ride carefully. For example, it states that pedestrians always have the right of way in Zermatt, changes of direction must be signaled with the hand, speed limits may never exceed 20 km/h, even downhill, and that lights are mandatory for all bicycles at night, and for e-bikes and e-scooters during the day as well.

We all know scenes like this: Numerous visitors stroll in the Village, but cyclists don't dismount, but instead make their way through the crowd —"slaloming around the pedestrians," one might say. Or an e-scooter suddenly zips around a blind corner at far too high a speed.

Scenes like these are not only dangerous, but also impair the well-being of pedestrians and tarnish the image of the Zermatt-Matterhorn holiday destination, which prides itself on its low-impact mobility. Therefore, Zermatt Tourism has launched the Unique Biker project, aiming to minimize inappropriate behavior by cyclists.

The trilingual booklet can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.ztnet.ch/uniquebiker>

Eight golden rules for
respectful two-wheeling

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New opening in Zermatt
December 2024

Zermatt cable cars

New, innovative Skidata access system for Zermatt

The Zermatt cable cars, the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn and the Gornergrat Bahn are investing in a future-oriented

oriented and innovative access system that sets new standards in accessibility and digital customer service.



The existing access systems with the familiar rotating stars for customer guidance are being replaced by the innovative sMove technology. The system has been replaced by Skidata's own technology. A new folding mechanism with yellow wave elements will visually open up the entrance completely, allowing guests to enjoy skiing or hiking barrier-free. The new access system also provides the foundation for the future in the area of smartphone ticketing.

The new access control system developed by Skidata The system with a yellow wave folding mechanism enables easy and visually recognizable access in any boarding situation. When the gate is closed , access is blocked by the yellow wave element. When opened with a valid ticket, the yellow element swings flat against the side reading system until the person has passed through the gate. This technology is supported by state-of-the-art sensors and person recognition.

The new system represents a significant advance in barrier-free access, as the new gates can be used flexibly as a double or single system . In the double system, bikes, strollers, or people in wheelchairs will be able to easily access the

Gain access without having to request a special access pass. A total of over 190 new access readers will be installed in the Zermatt-Matterhorn destination on the Matterhorn Gotthard Railway, the Gornergrat Railway, and the Zermatt Bergbahnen between the end of September and December. 40 of these entrances on the main routes will be equipped with barrier-free double entrances.

Basis for digital smartphone ticketing

The technology and sensors of the new, streamlined access systems will also be modernized so that access to the train can also be realized via smartphone in the near future , enabling a completely mobile and digital customer experience.

Thanks to integrated readers for digital ski passes, ski passes can now be purchased online and used as digital smartphone tickets instead of on a keycard . The smartphone's battery is used minimally , even at low temperatures . The digital solution avoids long queues at the checkout and enables a seamless digital customer experience right up until the start of the outdoor activity in the wonderful

beautiful Matterhorn Paradise.

An access system,
which is the basis
for digital smartphone
Ticketing offers.



Access open,
yellow wave element lies flat on
the reader and opens the
access



Access closed, yellow
wave element closes the
access



«Fer iisch and fer iischi sustainable future» with the TourCert seal

Further information on TourCert certification can be found at matterhornparadise.ch/nachhaltigkeit, as well as a comprehensive sustainability report, which was prepared parallel to the evaluation process.

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Zmuttnase – freed from the overhang

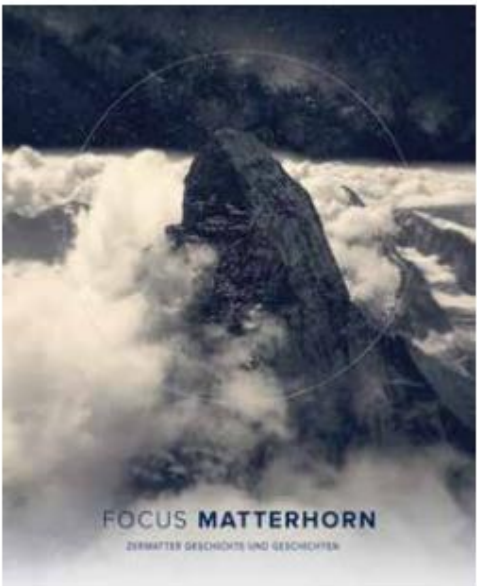
Gerold Biner concentrates solely on the wall. Kurt Lauber, on the longline with the jek pole, is focused on the alpinists.

And Hanspeter Imboden is responsible for monitoring fog and rockfall. If necessary, he has to cut through the cabin security with a knife. Bruno Jek sits in the back of the helicopter and directs the briefing. Gerold flies in, Kurt pulls



Gerold is fully focused and hovers with the helicopter, connected to the Matterhorn – a highly dangerous moment.

Kurt hooks up both alpinists and reports that he's ready. A quick glance up and Kurt sees the helicopter two to three hundred meters from the wall. It's clear to Kurt: If the alpinists release themselves from the wall with the rope, it will be a "giant pendulum." Kurt releases the safety rope, and all three leave the Zmuttnase. A daring feat, like something from Europa Park. With great skill, Gerold sets down the "underload" at the Schönbühl Hut. Thanks to this new technology, the rescue operation was carried out easily and in a very short time.



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



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A photograph of two women smiling and posing in front of a rustic stone wall. The woman on the left has short blonde hair and is wearing a dark jacket. The woman on the right has long dark hair and is wearing a dark top. They are both looking towards the camera.

Matterhorn Gotthard Railway / Gornergrat Railway

An era comes to an end – The Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn and the Gornergrat Bahn say: “Thank you, Fernando Lehner!”

After 21 years of service to the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn (MGBahn) and the Gornergrat Bahn (GGB), CEO Fernando Lehner handed over the leadership to Egon Gsponer at the end of September.

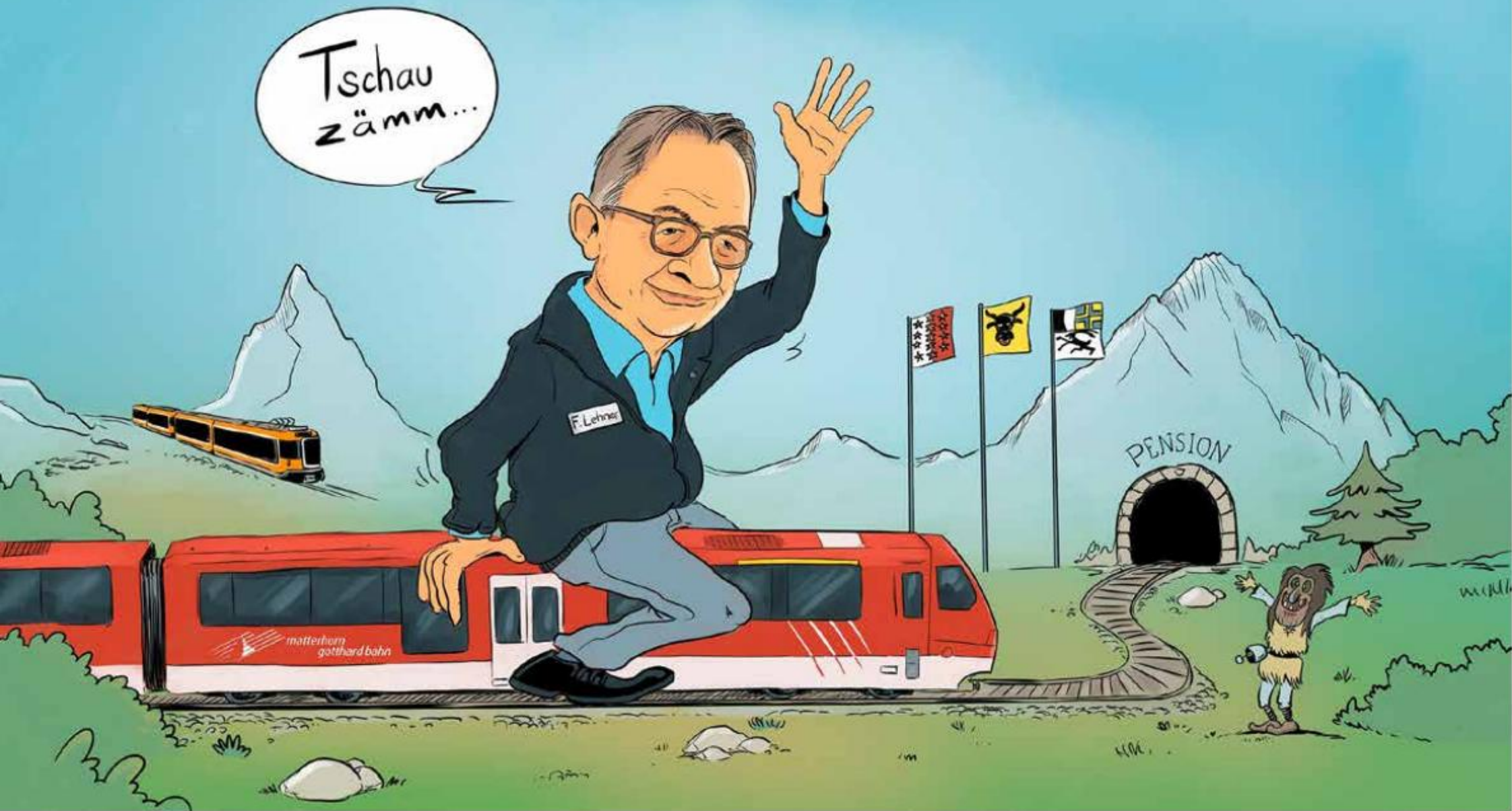
The professional journey at BVZ Holding AG began for Lötschental native Fernando Lehner on 1 January 2003. He took over the position of Head of Rolling Stock

A decade later, in September 2012, he took over the position of CEO from Hans-Rudolf Mooser . Fernando Lehner has supported and shaped MGBahn and GGB for over two decades. He now steps down as captain of a motivated team of over 700 employees and can hand over a great team and modern infrastructure to his successor, Egon Gsponer.

Fernando Lehner's work area from Gornergrat to Disentis was 153 kilometers long and 1 meter wide (track gauge) and extended across the three cantons of Valais, Uri and Graubünden.

Some milestones of his work and commitment to public transport and tourism are documented. We photograph them.

2024 September 30: "I'm off then!"



2012 September 1: Handover of baton by Hans-Rudolf Mooser on the new CEO Fernando Lehner.



2013 Inauguration of the Bockbart freight handling terminal in Visp.



2013 With former Federal Councillor Adolf Ogi at the Guinness World Record with 508 alphorns playing simultaneously on the Gornergrat.



In 2016, 125 years of the Visp-Zermatt railway line were celebrated.



2016 Twinning with Taiwan Railways in Taipei.



2017 Founding of Glacier Express AG with partner railway Rhaetian Railway.



2017 After 119 (!) years in service, inauguration of the new Getwing Bridge.



2022 Maiden voyage of the five Gornergrat POLARIS multiple units.



2022 20th anniversary of the Gornergrat Zermatt Marathon.



2022 Key handover of the 1st of a total of 37 ORION-Multiple units together with the Chairman of the Board Patrick Z'Brun.



Egon Gsponer, the new CEO of MGBahn and GGB

Egon Gsponer has been the new CEO of the BVZ Group, the holding company of MGBahn and GGB, since October 1, 2024. BVZ Holding also holds a 22% stake in Zermatt Bergbahnen AG and a 34% stake in Matterhorn Terminal AG Täsch.

In 2001, Egon Gsponer joined the then BVZ Zermatt Bahn as Head of Surveying. Following the merger of BVZ Zermatt Bahn with Furka-

At Oberalp-Bahn, Egon Gsponer was project manager for strategic projects before being appointed Head of Project Management and a member of the Executive Board in 2011.

Since 2014, he has been responsible for managing the Infrastructure division, which currently has around 115 employees. In 2016, he also took on the role of deputy Representative company manager. The 50-year-old graduate Cultural engineer ETH holds an Executive MBA with a specialization in General Management and a CAS in Business Administration.



2023 125th anniversary of the Gornergrat Railway, the first electric cog railway in Switzerland.



2023 Mattertal Tunnel Täsch-Zermatt: Completion of the preliminary project and handover to the Federal Office of Transport (FOT).

Matterhorn Gotthard Railway / Gornergrat Railway

Closures / construction work Autumn 2024

Interview with Manuel Juon, Head of Infrastructure and member of the management of MGBahn and Gornergrat Bahn.



Zermatt Inside: The MGBahn line from Visp to Täsch will be closed again for four weeks in the fall.
Does it have to be that way?

Manuel Juon: The line closures affect not only the Matter Valley, but also other sections of the MGBahn between Fiesch and Oberwald, as well as Andermatt and Disentis. In addition to the major required work on the railway infrastructure that has been planned for some time, the planned annual outage will be used to finalize work on the flood-damaged areas from June.

As a mountain railway, we have a very demanding and maintenance-intensive route network. Furthermore, all stations must be converted to be barrier-free in accordance with the Disability Equality Act. We spend around CHF 100 million annually. For many of the necessary projects,

a temporary route closure makes absolute sense.

ZI: Why?

MJ: There are several reasons for this. The closures allow the work on the tracks and stations to be completed in one go. The construction companies can

Shift work allows for continuous work for several weeks, seamlessly continuing the previous day's activities, and thus producing work of higher quality. This is partly due to the much better lighting conditions during the day. Furthermore, the necessary construction machinery and materials do not have to be transported to the construction site repeatedly.

All this makes construction work and construction site logistics more efficient and economical.

ZI: You have to explain that to us.

MJ: If we didn't close the line and complete the work in one go, the reconstruction would have to be carried out in small sections over several months of the year, working at night. For safety reasons, this would require the construction sites to be slowed down throughout the entire period. This would lead to delays and dissatisfaction among passengers, because, for example, connecting services in Visp could no longer be maintained.

Renovations during the night near a residential area inevitably lead to noise complaints, which can be minimized by a total closure.

ZI: And why does the closure always occur from mid-October to mid-November?

MJ: There is a reason for that too. Because in these weeks Due to the shoulder season, experience shows that there are fewer guests than usual and the Glacier Express takes a break during this time.

ZI: Finally – what and where are the biggest construction sites in the Mattertal this year?

MJ: There is a complete reconstruction between Herbruggen and Lerch, sealing of the Faulkin Bridge I+II in Stalden, the renovation of the Nassbäumen Tunnel in Stalden and a road renewal between Vispesand and Ackersand.

ZI: Manuel Juon, thank you for the interview.



MGBahn route closure Visp-Täsch

Monday, October 14 – Sunday, November 10, 2024

Replacement buses will operate according to the timetable. All travelers—especially those departing from Zermatt—are therefore advised to allow sufficient time and, if possible, to take earlier connections.

Information (www.mgbahn.ch/verkehrslage), SBB online timetable (www.sbb.ch/de/fahrplan).



SBB TIMETABLE

Gornergrat Railway Total closure Zermatt–Gornergrat

Saturday, 2 – Thursday, 7 November 2024

Due to switch replacement after the Getwing Bridge and switch replacement and road renewal on the Riffelalp, no trains are running and there is **no replacement transport!**

Exploratory drilling Mattertal Tunnel: Zermatt Spiss / Grüebe

Monday, October 14 – Friday, December 6, 2024 / Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Geological surveys are necessary for the Mattertal Tunnel construction project in Zermatt. These surveys serve to ensure safety and environmental protection during subsequent construction. The objective of the ground investigations is to determine in depth the geological, hydrogeological, and geotechnical conditions of the loose rock and bedrock, slope movements, and the groundwater. water.

The necessary temporary rockfall protection nets in the Turmwang and Portal Zermatt areas, as well as the **noise protection devices**, will be **lines** were set up one week before the start of the geological explorations.

You can find information about the current status of the Mattertal Tunnel project at any time here: www.mattertal-tunnel.ch. There you will also find further

Information on the exploratory drilling can be found at: www.mattertal-tunnel.ch/sondierbohrungen-Zermatt



MORE INFO



To person:

Manuel Juon (39) has been responsible for the new Infrastructure Management of the Matterhorn Gotthard Railway and the Gornergrat Railway since September 1, 2024. From his previous professional positions as Project Portfolio Manager at SBB Infrastructure, Project Manager and Head of Network Development Planning at BLS Netz AG, and Head of Small Molecule Technology at Lonza AG Visp, he is well-versed in the railway industry and infrastructure sector. Manuel Juon is a civil and operational engineer from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) and a certified European railway engineer.