



HOTEL SINCE 1907

BELVEDERE

GRINDELWALD SWITZERLAND

HOLIDAY NEWS

News to make your holiday
in Grindelwald even better

4th Alpine Classic
Classical Concerts
with Jack Liebeck in June
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from 7 to 15 October
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Editorial

*D*ear Belvedere Guest

Feelings are running high in Grindelwald right now. The start of construction for the new Männlichen 10-man gondola lift was planned for the spring of 2017 and we were hoping to report on the ground-breaking ceremony in this edition of the News. But despite 70% of voters in the Lütschlenen valleys (Grindelwald and Lauterbrunnen) voting in its favour and despite positive decisions on the part of the authorities and even the Federal Commission for the Protection of Nature and Cultural Heritage, three protesters continue to block the start of construction. The constitutional state of Switzerland enables individuals to delay a regionally important and broadly-supported project for an indefinite time. While the opponents' goal of preventing construction of the cableway is far from realistic, the longer the delay, the greater the frustration and the higher the cost to investors.

Despite this unfortunate situation, we at the Hotel Belvedere believe in the project and in a positive future for Grindelwald. To this end we continue to invest in upgrades, not only in room renovations but also in changes to our infrastructure. For example, we switched from oil heating to a district heating network (tele-heating), and we now plan to install a new heat pump that will provide the heating for the indoor and outdoor pool systems. All these adjustments to the heating system alone call for investments in the region of more than half a million Swiss francs: costly investments that are not directly seen or felt by our guests but must nevertheless be funded. To top it all, the government has now set an annual energy saving target of 3% and requires us to take the necessary steps, i.e. make the requisite investments, to achieve this target. A state-authorized engineer is overseeing the entire project and helping us seek potential ways of saving energy.

New machines and equipment, for example for the kitchen and laundry, are one way of cutting energy costs, as is installing additional insulation and replacing old windows. Besides fitting windows with triple glazing in the rooms, we will be replacing the large window frontage in the lounge in the autumn, as well as the underside and insulation of the indoor pool roof.

Our son Philip is leaving the hotel and Grindelwald in the spring. For the past year he has been responsible for accounting, and during the past winter he took over the post of Head of Reception from Julia Hönig after she became the proud mother of a sweet baby girl. Over the next few months he will be working at various quality hotels to expand his hotel management horizons before returning to our hotel for good. Carole, who completed her internship at a large hotel in Mexico at the beginning of the year, will take over Philip's tasks in the spring.

This is good news for us as we look forward in a few years' time to having more time to devote to our guests and to our various hobbies such as sport, languages and exploring the world. Before all that, however, we are in the process of planning for our 111th anniversary in 2018 and organising more major renovations. For the 111th anniversary we would be grateful if you, our guests, could send us your stories and tell us about your experiences as a Belvedere guest: amusing, moving or exciting experiences that we can share with the readers of the News. We look forward to receiving your stories. Please send them to my daughter Carole, at carole.hauser@belvedere-grindelwald.ch. Many thanks in advance!

The new rooms are proving very popular with our guests. Some rooms on the fourth floor have been fitted with new bathrooms with a shower instead of a bathtub, since more and more guests prefer this to a bathtub. Three of the deluxe corner rooms

have enough room for both a bathtub and a shower. Here, too, the latest bidet toilet seats (washlets) have been installed.

We are also already thinking about the forthcoming autumn. Our regular guest week last October was a hit with everyone, guests and staff alike. We have therefore decided to repeat it but in a slightly different format. More information is provided below.

We are now hoping for a sun-soaked summer and look forward to welcoming many guests. The Hauser family and all our co-hosts all look forward to your next visit, whenever you decide to return.

Urs-B. Hauser

PS: Due to the above-mentioned major renovation work, the hotel will remain closed from the end of October to mid-December.

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Impressum

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Loyal guests also come from Switzerland **Mrs Margrith Hunger – 50th visit to the Belvedere** A regular visitor to the Belvedere and to Mrs Elsi Hauser in summer and in winter

A cordial aperitif was held in February to celebrate the 50th visit of Mrs Margrith Hunger from Greifensee on the shores of the beautiful Lake Greifen, some 15 kilometers outside Zurich, where she has been living ever since she first visited the Belvedere with her husband, Johann-Peter Hunger.

When Mr and Mrs Hunger first decided to get to know the Jungfrau region, they chose Grindelwald as a base. They wanted a hotel with a sauna, and since the Belvedere had not only a sauna but also an indoor pool, they booked their holiday there.

At the aperitif, Mrs Hunger recalled a hike on past visits in the company of Fritz Hauser. Fritz thoroughly enjoyed this excursion as Mr Hunger, a geologist, had so many interesting facts to relate about rock strata, water courses etc.

A week of friendly encounters with well-known faces

Regular guest week from 7 to 15 October 2017

Autumn is the season for walking

Last year's «30-60-30» celebrations were highly enjoyable and proved great fun. For the Hauser family, the highlight was the opportunity to be able to welcome many loyal guests. So this prompted the Hausers to ask themselves: «Why not organise a special week for regular guests every year?»



Photo: Jungfrau Region Tourismus

Golden autumn in Grindelwald

Mr and Mrs Hunger enjoyed extremely active holidays, hiking and touring for hours on end. As Mrs Hunger was not so keen on walks that featured ladders and narrow paths clinging to cliff faces - such as the Bonern trail on the Eiger - they always had to avoid hikes that involved such passages.



Elsi Hauser and Margrith Hunger

Sadly, Mr Hunger passed away in 2010, but Mrs Hunger continues to come to her «eyrie», as she calls her room (the corner room on the 4th floor). Since her first visit, her room has been renovated twice - the second time last autumn, when it was completely refitted with new floors, walls, windows, bathroom and furniture. Mrs Hunger is now often accompanied by her daughter or her son. She is still in close contact with Mrs Elsi Hauser, and the two ladies enjoy a warm reunion twice a year.

A week in autumn or perhaps even in spring, in which long-standing regular guests and those who want to become long-term regulars can meet and do something together with the Hauser family. Depending on individual preferences, this can be limited to a light-hearted discussion in the foyer, a gentle hike or an interesting excursion somewhere close by.

The idea is not to draw up a fixed programme in advance; rather, depending on the wishes of our guests and the weather, a member of the Hauser family will organise something suitable and anyone who wants to join in can do so. Besides bed and breakfast, half-board will also be offered for the week.

The following events are planned for the week:

- Dinner for all on 8 October
- A relaxed round of discussion in the bar on 9 October
- A wine tasting session on 12 October
- Tartar night for tartar fans on 13 October
- A fondue evening in the Spycher on 14 October

The offer:

25% discount on bed and breakfast or half-board
Book your favourite room now! The minimum stay is 3 nights. The Hauser family looks forward to your registration.

Entertaining Belvedere guests for years with their music

Bogdan and Michal Sobkowiak from Warsaw

Father and son, both in a class of their own

Belvedere guests have been enjoying the music of the Sobkowiak family for at least 28 years. It started off with father Bogdan and his two sons, Michal and Matthias alternating at the Belvedere on a monthly basis. After a few years, the trio was reduced to Bogdan and his son Michal, and for the past few years Bogdan alone has been the regular pianist.

Around 35 years ago the first attempt to engage a pianist proved unsuccessful, and guests were anything but enthusiastic. But the next attempt, around seven years later, hit the bulls-eye. By a stroke of good fortune the Hausers got to know the Sobkowiak family and hired them immediately. Up to then, Bogdan and Matthias had been playing in Switzerland's leading 5-star hotels, and before Bogdan started playing in Switzerland he had performed on stage around the world. One of the three Sobkowiaks was always at the piano in the Belvedere throughout the summer and winter seasons.



Bogdan Sobkowiak

Very soon, Matthias decided to pursue another career in Poland, leaving father Bogdan and son Michal behind.

After a hotel guest from Japan «discovered» Michal and persuaded him to come to Japan, that left only Bogdan, with his son Michal playing at the Belvedere at most for



Michal Sobkowiak



The 4th Alpine Classic, for all fans of high-quality classical music
World-famous musicians perform at the Belvedere on 16 and 17 June 2017

In what is now an established tradition, under the direction of star violinist and regular guest Jack Liebeck

Classical music of the highest calibre, performed by Jack Liebeck and his musicians: once more it's well worth attending this year. Don't miss this opportunity to hear world-class musicians perform in such an intimate setting.

only two or three weeks over Christmas and New Year. Michal has won international Chopin competitions, given major concerts in Japan, and now works as a professor of music in Tokyo.

Belvedere guests and the Hauser family are delighted that the head of the family, Bogdan, will be with them again for about two months over the winter, when he will be joined from time to time by his wife Maria, a gifted artist who paints wonderful pictures.



Matthias Sobkowiak



Maria Sobkowiak

Jack Liebeck enjoys a worldwide reputation and normally performs in famous big orchestras as well as recording film soundtracks, and this year he has brought out a new album. His long-held dream of performing classical concerts in his beloved Grindelwald, in a completely different environment, will become true for the fourth time in June.

Sponsors of the event as well as guests of the Hotel Belvedere will be able to enjoy classical music at the highest



Jack Liebeck

level in a familiar setting, accompanied by a first-class gourmet dinner. Another highlight of the Alpine Classic Weekend is the friendly get-together of audience and performers after the concert.

This is more than just an opportunity to listen to performances of the highest calibre: every time the Hauser family speaks to those who attended these concerts, they express their surprise and delight at being able to experience a world-class concert in such a small and intimate setting.

The programme of the 4th Alpine Classic:

Friday, 16 June 2017

21:00 Classical concert in the hotel after dinner

Saturday, 17 June 2017

18:30 Aperitif on the hotel terrace or in the lounge

19:15 3-Course gourmet dinner interspersed with classical music, followed by an after-dinner get-together with the artistes

More information is available on the hotel website, for example details of the 2-day Alpine Classic package, available from CHF 468 per person in a Standard double room (double occupancy). Naturally it is also possible to stay only on the Friday or Saturday night.

www.belvedere-grindelwald.ch/en/alpine-classic

The early bird catches the worm

Early Bird instead of Last Minute

Early-bird offer with 20% discount on room and much more

More and more reservations are being made only one or two days before the planned arrival date. This makes planning increasingly difficult for the hotel. The Hauser family is hoping to counteract this trend with an Early Bird discount. The Jungfrau Railways have the same idea, and are planning to offer Early Bird ski passes next year.

In future, guests who book their stay at the Hotel Belvedere in Grindelwald early will benefit from a special «Early Bird» price. The attractive offer features a generous discount of no less than 20%.

But there are restrictions. To receive this discount, the following conditions must be met: The reservation must be made at least 42 days before the arrival date and be paid immediately. Reservations cannot be subsequently cancelled, so it is very important to take out a cancellation insurance. Any additional services such as ski pass, hiking pass or massages are not subject to the discount. And, as always, the Early Bird discount cannot be combined with other discounts or special offers.

By the way, the Jungfrau Railways also offer a 20% discount on ski passes provided they are reserved and paid for directly on the Jungfrau Railways website.

And last but not least, availability is limited: as with airlines, the hotel and the Jungfrau Railways offer only a limited number of rooms or ski passes at this special rate. It may be that, even 60 days before arrival, no more rooms or ski passes will be available at the special discount. So the earlier you book, the greater your chance of benefiting from the offer.

www.belvedere-grindelwald.ch/en/booking

Echo von Grindelwald

HAUSZEITUNG DES HOTELS BELVEDERE GRINDELWALD

REDAKTION: GEMSE DRUCK UND VERLAG: BUCHDRUCKEREI GRINDELWALD

„L'Echo de Grindelwald“

Il est admis, une fois pour toutes, que tout nouveau journal doit être présenté. En raison de quoi je me suis creusé la tête, pour découvrir tout ce qu'on peut, au fond, faire avec un journal. Ces recherches approfondies (dame, quand on creuse...) m'ont révélé trois possibilités: prime — ai-je conclu — on peut employer un journal pour bourrer des chaussures mouillées; on peut encore, secundo, en entourer une pièce d'habillement, pour la préserver des mites; enfin, tertio — pensai-je encore — on peut se résoudre à le lire. Que ce journal soit lu et conservé — et même qu'il ne soit que ça — cela saute aux yeux (c'est, n'est-ce pas, le cas de le dire). Car „L'Echo de Grindelwald“, que nous avons devant nous et qui, dès maintenant, paraîtra régulièrement, ne s'occupe pas de politique, d'accidents et autres désastres: il a l'agréable mission d'être un organe de liaison entre vous, chers lecteurs, et votre station de séjour — Grindelwald — et, naturellement, votre hôtel préféré, le Belvédère. Nous voudrions, par conséquent, dans chacun de ses numéros, évoquer les belles heures du Belvédère, à Grindelwald, et nous voudrions aussi devancer le plaisir, que vous aurez d'y revenir. Certes, la famille Hauser eût préféré écrire personnellement à chacun d'entre vous. Mais c'est devenu impossible, car la „famille du Belvédère“ a pris de telles dimensions, que les propriétaires préfèrent se consacrer à vous offrir un bon service et des soins attentifs quand vous êtes chez eux, que négliger leur tâche pour écrire. Notre journal offre ainsi les meilleures garanties de longue et de joyeuse vie, puisque, comme un cadran solaire, il ne marquera que les heures claires.

PS. Un bon conseil: ne jetez pas „L'Echo de Grindelwald“. Il se pourrait qu'il serve un jour à un concours. (Le typographe.)

„Echo von Grindelwald“

Es gehört sich nun einmal, daß zu jeder neuen Zeitung ein Vorwort geschrieben werden muß. Nun, ich habe mir den Kopf darüber zerbrochen, was eigentlich mit einer Zeitung alles gemacht werden kann. Ich kam dabei auf drei Verwendungszwecke: Erstens — so sagte ich mir — kann man eine Zeitung zum Ausstopfen nasser Schuhe verwenden; man kann auch irgendeinen Gegenstand, der zum Einmotten bestimmt ist, einwickeln und drittens kann man eine Zeitung auch lesen. Daß diese Zeitung nur gelesen und aufbewahrt wird, ist uns ganz klar, denn das „Echo von Grindelwald“, das vor uns liegt und das nun regelmäßig erscheinen wird, berichtet nicht über Politik, Unfälle und Verbrechen, sondern es hat die schöne Aufgabe, Sie mit Ihrem Ferienort — Grindelwald — und natürlich mit Ihrem Lieblingshotel, dem Belvédère, zu verbinden. Mit jeder Nummer möchten wir Ihnen also die schönen Stunden im Belvédère zu Grindelwald in Erinnerung rufen, und auch möchten wir Ihre Freude für den nächsten Aufenthalt erhöhen. Am liebsten hätte die Familie Hauser an alle persönlich geschrieben, doch das ginge zu weit, denn die Belvédère-Familie wird immer größer und die Besitzer möchten sich lieber auf die gute und persönliche Betreuung während Ihres Hierseins konzentrieren, als die Zeit mit Schreiben zu vertun. Die Zeitung hat also die besten Voraussetzungen für ein langes Leben, erinnert sie doch wie die Sonnenuhr an die heitern Stunden nur.

PS. Ein guter Rat: Werfen Sie das „Echo von Grindelwald“ nicht weg, es könnte nämlich einmal einen Wettbewerb enthalten. (Der Setzer.)

„Grindelwald Echo“

It is in the nature of things that a new newspaper should carry a word of introduction. I gave serious thought to the various things one could do with a newspaper, and worked out three possible uses: one might, I told myself, stuff one's wet shoes with it, one could also wrap something up in it to guard against moth; equally, of course, a newspaper can be read. There can be no doubt that this particular newspaper will only be read and carefully kept, for the „Grindelwald Echo“, which now lies before us and is to appear regularly, contains no reports on politics, accidents or crime, but has the happy aim of keeping you in touch with your favourite holiday resort, Grindelwald, and, of course, with your favourite hotel, the Belvédère. In each number we hope to recall to you the happy days spent at the Belvédère, and to set you thinking of your next visit. The Hauser family would really have liked to write to everyone personally, but that would have been a little too much, for the Bel-



Ursli Hauser

wünscht Ihnen ein glückliches Neues Jahr
vous souhaite une Bonne Année
wishes you a happy New Year

Wußten Sie schon . . .

daß Grindelwald 3000 Einwohner hat?

daß das Gletscherdorf sieben verschiedene Schulhäuser besitzt, damit die Kinder der einzelnen Gegenden nicht so weit zu gehen haben?

daß das Belvédère 140 Hühner hat, die jährlich 20 000 Frischeier liefern?

daß bei der Erstbegehung des Mittellegigrates am Eiger ein Japaner, namens Yuko Maki, dabei war und der im ver-

gangenen Herbst Grindelwald besuchte, um seine alten Freunde wieder zu sehen?

daß in der Tam-Tam Bar Bündnerfleisch und Würstchen zu jeder Tages-(lies Nacht-)zeit erhältlich sind?

daß die Fondueparties des Belvédères, verbunden mit einer romantischen Schlittenfahrt, ein unvergeßliches Erlebnis sind?

daß der bekannte dänische Dichter H. Chr. Andersen in Grindelwald zu einem seiner schönsten Märchen, der „Eisjungfrau“, inspiriert wurde?



Photo: Jungfrau Region Tourismus

There are lots of very special places in Grindelwald

The favourite spots of the Hauser family and their co-hosts

Whether it's spectacular views or mystical spots you're after, seek and you shall find

The Grindelwald valley boasts many special locations that trigger special feelings in the eyes of the beholder. Depending on the observer and the season, such feelings can range from amazement and wonder to comfort, warmth and well-being.

In this edition of the News, Urs-B. Hauser presents two of his favourite spots. Good hikers can reach them with ease. One is on top of the Burg. The Burg is the mountain you can see from the hotel, and is located behind Bussalp. Viewed from the hotel you would be correct in thinking that only good mountaineers can reach the peak. It takes good climbing skills to get to the top, which looks like a thumb. But just next to the peak, at the same height, there is a platform which can be reached with ease from behind. Even cows graze there.

This uniquely beautiful viewpoint can be reached on foot from Bussalp or even from the Bachalpsee and Faulhorn direction. Up there the observer can enjoy a truly outstanding panorama of the entire alpine chain from the Wetterhorn to the Schreckhorn, Finsteraarhorn, Eiger, Mönch, Jungfrau and even other mountains such as the Breithorn, Schilthorn, Gspaltenhorn etc. The entire valley stretching from Grindelwald to almost as far as Wilderswil lies at your feet, with Schynige Platte almost at eye-level height to the west.

The second place is on the Eiger, just below the tree line. The trail is called «Bonern» and leads steeply upwards from the glacier gorge, crossing over to Alpiglen at the tree line or over the Eiger trail up to the Eiger glacier station. Almost at the end of the steep ascent from the glacier gorge stands a little hut. Called the Bonern Hut, it sits in a mystical forest clearing: a place of stillness and reflection where you can lose yourself in your own thoughts and truly absorb the enormous energy of the mountains and of Nature.

From Alpiglen the trail is relatively easy - unless your knees suffer on lengthy steep descents. Otherwise the ascent can be made from the glacier gorge. Urs-B. Hauser always starts this wonderful hike very early in the morning and enjoys a delicious breakfast at the end in the Alpiglen mountain restaurant. Starting down at the glacier gorge, you ascend to a platform where ice used to be removed from the lower Grindelwald glacier and transported to Paris. Several iron hooks in the area bear witness to these bygone days. From this platform you can now enjoy a splendid view of the village and the First region. At the end of this platform there is an impressive view of the lower Grindelwald glacier and the Fiescherhörner.

Not far from this is Grindelwald's old marble quarry, where marble was still being quarried around 100 years ago. Grindelwald marble is extremely attractive, and can be admired in the Houses of Parliament in Berne, among other locations. The ascent becomes very steep after this platform, and it's worthwhile going slowly: on the one hand, to save your breath, but on the other hand because there's simply so much to admire. The landscape to the left and right of the trail is very wild and impressive. For example, you can see interesting rock formations and lots of plants that never see the sun. This is a fantastic hike, especially in the early morning, and a rare opportunity to experience a unique world where Mother Nature reigns supreme.

An attractive book by Grindelwald resident

Katharina Balmer

«Als Gletscher noch aus Eis waren»

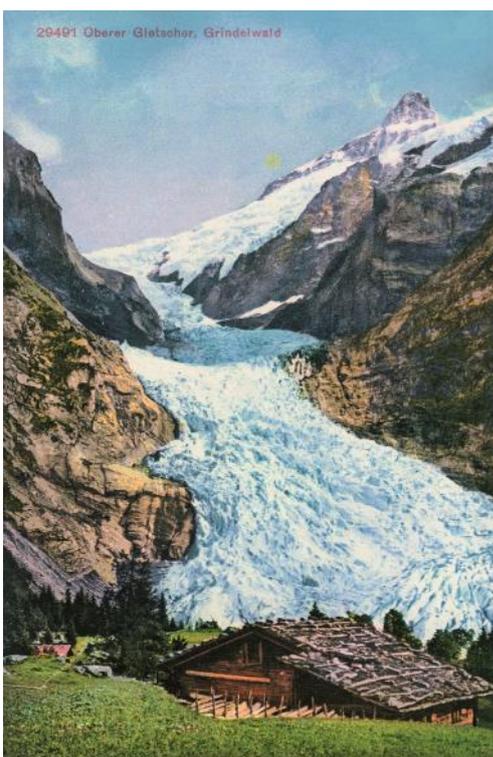
The Jungfrau region then and now

Katharina Balmer, who grew up in Grindelwald, has written a highly informative and interesting book about the development of the glacier village of Grindelwald. The «then and now» pictures provide clear evidence of just how much the environment has changed in the valley over the past 150 years. This book, in German, can also be purchased from the hotel reception desk.

The following text was copied from Katharina Balmer's book with minor amendments by Urs-B. Hauser.

The upper Grindelwald glacier – fascination and menace

The history of the upper Grindelwald glacier is one of multiple advances and retreats. After recording its maximum extent in the mid-19th century, the upper Grindelwald glacier began to melt rapidly at the end of the 1850s, losing much of its mass between then and 1880. Nevertheless, it remained a tourist attraction and, after increasing slightly in mass in the 1880s, another huge advance was recorded between 1911 and 1923. Yet surprisingly, over the same period the lower glacier advanced at a far less rapid rate.



The upper Grindelwald glacier around 1885...

There were times during the first World War when the upper glacier grew by an average of 40 centimetres a day. The rate of advance attracted not only visitors but also numerous glacier experts. But what was a mere attraction for sightseers proved a source of anxiety for the valley inhabitants. The plethora of articles in the local newspaper, «The Grindelwald Echo», shows just how much the residents of Grindelwald were concerned about the upper

glacier's unbridled growth. The minutes of a meeting of Grindelwald's Municipal Water Board bear witness to the threat posed by the fast-growing mass of ice. As the documented incidents of damage show, the population was right to be worried about the glacier's renewed advance:

1918: Tourist barracks destroyed by the glacier advance and trees knocked down.

17 March 1920: The advancing glacier destroyed the concrete Milchbach-weg bridge over the Lütschine.



... and around 2000

Fortunately, nothing worse occurred. The growth of the upper glacier soon slowed down, and from the mid-1920s it began once more to recede. The ice masses melted to such an extent that, in 1949, a stairway of 760 steps had to be built over the rock spur so that visitors could continue to admire the glacier at close quarters. At the beginning of the 1960s, after around 35 years of recession, the upper glacier suddenly began to advance rapidly, allowing the ice cave below the Milchbach chalet to be rebuilt. At the end of the 1980s this growth phase came to an end, and from 1990 the ice masses abruptly began to melt at an alarming rate. Until not so long ago, the glacier had been receding by an average of 50 meters a year and had lost an enormous amount of mass.



The lower Grindelwald glacier then and now

Paths less travelled

Recommended hike in the First region

A highly attractive but somewhat challenging hike

In the First region, everyone knows the walk from First to Grosse Scheidegg and to Bachalpsee. The longer tour to the Faulhorn is also popular and well-known. But this hiking paradise also offers walks that are virtually unknown. Have you ever heard of the «Hexensee» or the «Hühnertäli»?

The proposed hike can start either on First or on Grosse Scheidegg. If you start from Grosse Scheidegg, you can first enjoy a ride on the post bus up to Grosse Scheidegg. The hike begins as a leisurely walk on a mostly flat section towards Scheidegg-Oberläger. Heading north, a well-marked mountain trail leads you through the «Wischbääch» Valley and rapidly grows steeper as you ascend. In early summer the alpine meadows are a splendid sight, bursting with flowers. In the upper section, where only a few years ago the blue glacier could be admired, you cross a snowfield (depending on the season) to reach the «Wart».



Views from Grosse Scheidegg of Grindelwald and the Eiger

Once at the «Wart», you have a choice: Either carry on through the «Hühnertäli», past the small «Hagel» and «Hexen» lakes, or climb up the «Wildgärst», which is almost as high as the Schwarzhorn. The ascent is worth while as you will be rewarded with a wonderful 360° panorama from the top of the Wildgärst. In clear weather, you can see all the way from Titlis in the East to the Wildstrubel in the West. Back on the Wart, the hike continues in the direction of Bachalpsee, from where you once more have a choice of going over towards First or down to the Waldspitz.



The new First Glider

Grindelwald is becoming even more attractive

News from the region

The choice of activities just got even bigger

The range of offerings for tourists is being massively expanded in the First and Männlichen regions. This spring the Jungfrau Railways are building a Glider from First to Schreckfeld, as an addition to the existing Flyer. The Cliff Walk behind the First restaurant enjoys huge popularity throughout the year. Another huge hit with snowboarders in winter is the Fun Park behind the Bärlegg ski lift, which boasts one of the largest half-pipes in Europe. The Männlichen side also has new attractions on offer.

The choice of activities for visitors to the First region is continually growing. Besides the spectacular hiking region (summer and winter), guests can choose from other attractions. For example, the new Cliff Walk on the rock face behind the First restaurant; the zip line Flyer down to Schreckfeld; the mountain carts for a fun-filled descent from Schreckfeld to Bort; and last but not least, the trottibikes on which you can whiz down to the valley.

Since demand for the Flyer is so high, leading to ever-longer queues, the Jungfrau Railways are building a «Glider» right next to the Flyer (see photo). Perhaps you prefer peace and quiet rather than high-tech pursuits? No problem, as the First region also offers this in abundance, for example at the foot of the Schwarzhorn where, with a bit of luck and patience, you can spot marmots and chamois. Beside you will find a special suggestion for a hike.

A themed trail has been added on the Männlichen side. Starting at the top station, it takes you up to the Männlichen peak and is highly recommended by Sylvia and Urs Hauser. Children visiting the Männlichen playground from July onwards will be delighted to find a giant cow climbing frame/slide, and now you can ride down to Hohenstein on the «Summer Gemel», a type of three-wheeled sled (for details, visit www.summergemel.com).

Take advantage of the Belvedere's special offer for these attractions:

- The «Eiger, Mönch and First Adventure» package for the First side:
This includes: 2 nights at the Belvedere and the «First Adventure Card» which includes the trip up by cable car, and the descent into the valley by First Flyer, mountain carts and trottibike.



The Royal Walk on Männlichen

- «Eiger, Mönch and Männlichen»: the package for the Männlichen side includes: 2 nights at the Belvedere including a free return trip on the Männlichen lift.

www.belvedere-grindelwald.ch/en/summer-holiday

Family holidays in summer 2017

A long-standing tradition

At the Hotel Belvedere, children up to age 11 stay free



A separate children's bedroom in a family Suite

Families with children are very welcome to visit the Belvedere in summer 2017. The various family rooms and suites are ideal for families of 3 to 9 persons. Children up to age 11 can share their parents' room or a family suite free of charge, including breakfast.

This generous family arrangement is valid throughout the summer for at least two adults occupying a room or suite.

Unlike beach holidays, family holidays in the mountains offer a great deal of variety. Here are just a few of the activities available:

- «Cliff Walk» and marmot information trail on First
- For adrenalin junkies: the First Flyer or Glider down to Schreckfeld
- For speed lovers: a rapid descent from Schreckfeld to Bort by mountain cart
- Ride down to the valley from Bort on a trottibike
- The summer «mountain coaster» run on Pfingstegg
www.pfingstegg.ch
- Various themed trails from Männlichen
www.maennlichen.ch
- Large, very attractive children's playground on Bort
- Indoor rope park in the Sports Centre, or Jungfrau Park Interlaken (a good rainy-day option)
- Tennis outdoors in Grindelwald or indoors in Wilderswil and Interlaken
- Minigolf and golf in Grindelwald (9 practice holes and driving range), superb 18-hole course (handicap required) in Unterseen
- «Grindelwald4Kids» summer kids' programme
- Attractive bike tours, for example from Grosse Scheidegg to Brienz



Draft of the new playground on Männlichen

Unmissable events

Event calendar, summer 2017

Something for everyone

As in previous summers, Grindelwald and the entire Jungfrau region offer a wide range of sporting and cultural events. For more information, visit the website www.grindelwald.ch.

Here is a selection of events in summer 2017:

June

- LandArt Festival: 12 to 17 June
www.landart-grindelwald.ch
- Alpine Classic: Classical concerts with Jack Liebeck at the Hotel Belvedere: 16 and 17 June
- Oberland Schwingfest (Swiss wrestling) 24 and 25 June

July

- Alpine Spring Festival on Männlichen: 2 July
- Yodelling Festival in Bachläger: 2 July
- Eiger Rock Festival: 7 July

- Eiger Ultra Trail: 15 and 16 July
- Traditional Folk Costume Festival on Männlichen: 30 July

August

- Swiss National Day: 1 August
- Eiger Bike Challenge: 13 August
- Inferno Triathlon: 18 and 19 August

September

- Jungfrau Marathon 8 and 9 September
- Alpine Cheese Festival, Grosse Scheidegg and Farmers' Sunday: 16 and 17 September
- Orienteering World Cup Final: 29 September to 1 October

October

- Country Night: 7 October 2017
- Summer toboggan World Championship: 14 and 15 October

Start of season on Friday, 15 December 2017

Preview of winter 2017/18

Special offers on-line from summer

The 2016/17 winter was very special, at least as far as the weather was concerned. The dominant feature was the sun, which shone for months in cloudless blue skies. Temperatures, on the other hand, were far too high. Interestingly, despite the warm weather skiers were still enjoying very good piste conditions at the end of March.

As early as the beginning of November, a splendid covering of snow coated the valley. Snow conditions were ideal and everyone looked forward to a fantastic winter. Then the warm Föhn wind, Grindelwald's oldest denizen, blew with all its might for 3 days in November, raising the temperatures from below zero to plus 20°C. Small wonder, then, that the valley turned green again. Only in mid-January, just before the Lauberhorn race, did the next snow fall.

Christmas and New Year guests benefited not only from the wonderful weather, but also from special conditions. Thanks to artificial snow, the pistes in the ski region were open and in good condition, and sledging could also be enjoyed on the Grosse Scheidegg. At the same time, many summer hiking trails were open. Special rides on mountain carts were offered on Bussalp instead of sledging. In short, guests profited from a combination of winter and summer activities.



The Belvedere has changed its prices for the forthcoming winter. In addition to the Early Bird offer (see article in this News) there are special prices for the holidays, and prices for weekdays have been adjusted to meet demand. And in a brand-new move, prices remain unchanged from the beginning of January to the end of winter: in other words, high-season prices are no longer charged for February.

Take advantage of the new special prices, and especially the Early Bird discount. The entire Hauser family and all co-hosts look forward to your visit.

www.belvedere-grindelwald.ch/en/winter-holiday