

OSA news

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Centenary of the Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad

The Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad (FYSA) has existed since 1917. It all began under the name of “Schweizerhilfe” (Swiss Aid), which sought to accommodate Swiss children living in war zones abroad with families in Switzerland to allow them to recover from the events of war. Its main sphere of activity later shifted from host families to holiday camps. The FYSA continues to work on behalf of Swiss children abroad to enable them to maintain their ties with their native country, regardless of their family’s financial situation.

The FYSA has organised a number of surprises to mark its centenary. The “Swiss Trip”, its most popular but also oldest offer, will take place twice as part of the celebrations. Swiss children from abroad will spend 10 days travelling right across the country to discover Switzerland’s diversity in terms of landscape and culture. In addition to these two offers, seven other summer camps will be held at various locations in Switzerland. At these camps participants will visit attractions, discover lakes, mountains, rivers and landscapes on short hikes and explore cities. Some days will be spent at the camp base where we will enjoy games, sporting activities and various workshops. Participants will also have the opportunity to gain fascinating insights into Switzerland.

In cooperation with the Circolino Pipistrello, the FYSA is also organising a circus anniversary camp. At the Circolino Pipistrello interactive circus, Swiss children from home and abroad will jointly put together a circus gala event under the guidance of experienced circus instructors on the theme of “100 years of the FYSA – at home in Switzerland – at home in the world”.

The interaction with participants from other countries and the exchange across linguistic, cultural and national boundaries present a unique opportunity to make new friends and enjoy some unforgettable moments.

There are still places available on these nine summer camps. You can register at <http://sjas.ch/en/camps/>. We would also be pleased to send you our information brochure with an overview of the offers available by post on request.

The Foundation has also set up a fund which provides less well-off families with a financial contribution to the camp costs of their children. The FYSA encourages families to register with it to provide their children with the opportunity to enjoy such a special experience. The relevant form can be ordered on the registration form or downloaded from our website at: <http://sjas.ch/en/camps/reductions/>. We would be pleased to provide you with further information and look forward to a fantastic anniversary summer.



Stiftung für junge Auslandschweizer
Fondation pour les enfants suisses à l'étranger
Fondazione per i giovani svizzeri all'estero
Fundazioni per giuvenis svizzers a l'ester

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Fax: +41 31 356 6104
Email: info@sjas.ch
www.sjas.ch

Education in Switzerland

The educationsuisse team provides advice and support each year for many young Swiss Abroad as well as pupils at Swiss schools abroad who are keen to pursue or complete their education in Switzerland. Our staff provide them with information and advice on education in Switzerland. They give an overview of the possible courses of education and answer questions on, for instance, university admission criteria, linguistic knowledge, the search for apprenticeship places, possible grants, insurance, accommodation and much more besides.

In collaboration with BIZ in Bern-Mittelland, an occupational, educational and career guidance service, educationsuisse provides advice on career choices and courses of study. These discussions take place with qualified BIZ professionals and can be held in various languages via Skype or in Berne. Educationsuisse is also able to award small additional grants or loans thanks to various funds. A new fund provided by the “Gazzetta Svizzera” has also been available since the 2016/17 academic year which is aimed specifically at young Swiss Abroad who have grown up in Italy and are receiving education or training in Switzerland.

Visit our website at www.educationsuisse.ch/en/education-switzerland or contact us directly via email or by telephone. Advisory consultations can also be provided in Berne by prior appointment. Our employees speak German, French, English, Italian and Spanish.



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OSA advice

We plan to move to Switzerland with our beloved pets, a cat and a dog. Where can we find information about whether our two pets can enter Switzerland?

When entering Switzerland, household effects (household items, clothing, paintings, valuables, etc.) can be brought in duty-free if you are transferring your place of residence to Switzerland. Special customs import provisions apply to pets, such as those concerning veterinary examinations, vaccinations and epidemic-prevention measures. Species protection regulations also apply to plants and animals. You will find all the information and factsheets on the Federal Customs Administration's website:

www.customs.admin.ch > information individuals > animals and plants.

If you click on the link "Crossing the border with dogs, cats or ferrets", you will be directed to the website of the Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office. Here you can access the provisions that apply directly to your specific situation by providing individual details (species, age, country from which you are travelling).

We recommend that you contact the information desk of the Federal Customs Administration to find out the exact procedure:

Federal Customs Administration (FCA)

3003 Berne

Tel +41 58 467 15 15

www.customs.admin.ch > contact

OSA LEGAL DEPARTMENT

OSA's Legal Department provides general legal information on Swiss law, in particular in the areas that concern the Swiss Abroad. It does not provide information on foreign law and does not intervene in disputes between private parties.

Offers for young people in summer 2017

Entertainment, outdoor activities, fun and adventure in Switzerland – all this is again on offer at OSA's Youth Service's summer camps this year. You can also improve your language skills in German and/or French or enjoy an educational holiday at the Seminar at the Congress. We offer a diverse and varied programme.

Two recreational camps in Leysin and one in La Punt

The recreational camps now provide an even wider range of activities. They do not focus solely on sport but instead also include lots of cultural activities. The best thing is that you can design part of the itinerary yourself to suit your own interests so that you have even more fun!

18+ sport and recreational camp in Sörenberg

Our sport and recreational camp in Sörenberg this year is aimed at young adults aged 18 and over. The days will be spent in the moorland landscape of the UNESCO Biosphere Entlebuch. The region offers plenty of opportunities to enjoy various types of sport and a rich culture.

Outdoor camp

Do you love the countryside and feel at home out of doors? A two-week adventure awaits you! You will have an unforgettable time and explore the many facets of the Swiss natural environment. Guided by an experienced team of leaders you will learn how to survive in the outdoors without luxury items.

Discover Switzerland extended

Would you like to spend your holidays in Switzerland and visit its cities and mountain regions? Then this is the perfect offer for you. You will spend two weeks as a guest with a host family and discover a different city or region every day. "Discover Switzerland extended" will take you right across Switzerland.

Summer language courses in German and French

Our German and French courses cater for both beginners and advanced learners. In addition to the basic course, you can also register for the focus group (eight additional lessons). We organise a recreational programme every afternoon. Our welcoming host families will make you feel at home and provide you with an insight into everyday Swiss life.

Seminar at the Congress in Basel

This year's Congress in Basel is on the topic of "The Swiss at home and abroad – one world". It will focus on dialogue between Swiss people living in Switzerland and those abroad. A week full of exciting encounters and a programme rich in variety await you.

Register now!

All the information and registration forms can be found at www.aso.ch and www.swisscommunity.org

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