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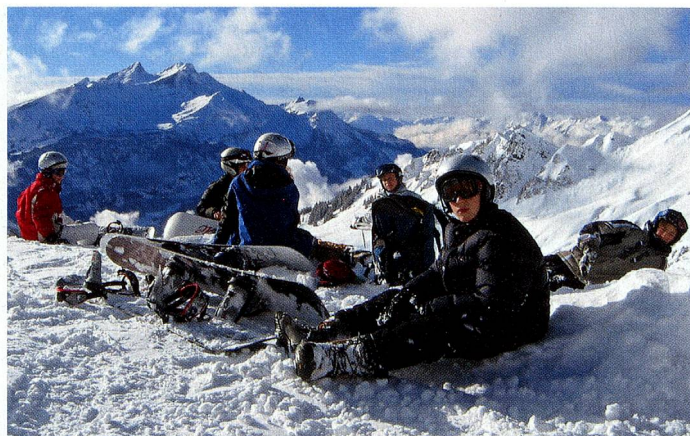
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Ski camps, past and present: Engelberg 1942



Hasliberg 2006

## Swiss Ski

### Free Juskila trip for 13 and 14-year-old Swiss and Swiss living abroad

280 Swiss children and 20 Swiss children living abroad born in 1994 and 1995 can take part in the Swiss Ski Association's big ski camp in Lenk free of charge. This will take place from 2 to 9 January 2009. To take part in the Juskila trip, Swiss children abroad must be able to communicate in at least one of the three Swiss national languages (German, French or Italian). The participants will be decided by a draw in mid-October.

## Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad

### Winter camp 2008/2009 for 8 to 14-years-old

Whether they are skiers or snowboarders, beginners or at an advanced level, Swiss children living abroad aged 8 to 14 will have a great time at our winter camps.

#### Winter camps Sedrun (Grisons)

**Date:** Friday, 26 December 2008 to Sunday, 4 January 2009  
**No. of participants:** 48  
**Cost:** CHF 900 (contribution to the camp)

#### *Ski or snowboard hire:*

Approx. CHF 150

#### *Registration deadline:*

15 October 2008

#### **Winter camps**

##### **Unterwasser (St. Gallen)**

#### *Date:*

Saturday, 31 January 2009 to Saturday, 7 February 2009

#### *No. of participants:* 24

#### *Cost:* CHF 700

#### *Ski or snowboard hire:*

Approx. CHF 140

#### *Registration deadline:*

15 December 2008

#### **Registration**

More information on the winter camps and the registration form will be available from 15 September 2008 at [www.aso.ch](http://www.aso.ch).

ch (rubric: Offers / Offers for Children and Young People / Camps and offers / Holiday camps and travel). Reduced contribution rates are granted in just cases. We are also happy to send you our information brochure by post, on request.

## Contacts around the world

Lots of young Swiss people abroad get to know each other through the events organised by the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA). They have spent their holidays together in Switzerland. Having met on skiing trips, at summer camp, on a language course or in the same host family, they become friends and keep in touch over thousands of miles. Some of them will meet up again at the events being organised by OSA this year. Young Swiss abroad taking part for the first time will be welcomed with open arms. So, what is there to look forward to?

### Swiss young people's session (17.11.08 – 23.11.08)

The meeting of the young people's parliament in Switzerland is organised exclusively by young people. A

#### REGISTRATION FORM TO TAKE PART IN THE DRAW:

First name:	Surname:		
No., street:	Town/city, postcode:		
Country:	Date of birth:		
Name of parent(s)/guardian(s):			
<input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male		Telephone:	
Commune of origin in Switzerland (see passport/ID):			
E-mail address of parent(s)/guardian(s):			
Type of sport:	<input type="checkbox"/> Alpine skiing	<input type="checkbox"/> Cross-country skiing	<input type="checkbox"/> Snowboarding
Language of child:	<input type="checkbox"/> German	<input type="checkbox"/> French	<input type="checkbox"/> Italian
Please only tick one box. The type of sport cannot be changed after the draw.			
Signature of parent(s)/guardian(s):			
Signature of child:			

Please send the form by 15 October 2008 to: Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad, Alpenstrasse 26, CH-3006 Berne, Tel. +41 31 356 61 16, Fax +41 31 356 61 01, E-mail: [sjas@aso.ch](mailto:sjas@aso.ch), [www.aso.ch](http://www.aso.ch)  
(rubric: Offers / Offers for Children and Young People / Camps and offers / Holiday camps and travel)



session is held every year in the Swiss Federal House, where young people can put their views and demands to Switzerland's decision-makers. Taking part in the young people's session is a unique opportunity to take a look behind the scenes of politics. OSA gives the young people an introduction to the Swiss political system and looks at the issues involved in the young people's session in advance with the participants so that they are able to take an active part in the debates. Do you want to change the world? Everyone's opinion counts.

**New Year ski camp  
in Lantsch (Grisons)  
(26.12.2008 – 04.01.2009)**

The popular ski resort of Lenzerheide in the mountains of Grisons is just four kilometres from Lantsch. We are based in spacious accommodation and practise winter sports every day on the Lenzerheide. Qualified skiing and snowboarding instructors help the young

people to improve their technique on the snow. The corks will be popping at the New Year's Eve party to start 2009 in style.

**Educational programmes**

Young Swiss abroad benefit from our language programmes in Switzerland. We provide them with an insight into the Swiss education system. Our affable host families welcome the young people and they can explore Switzerland independently using the Swiss rail pass. Enjoy a dream holiday in Switzerland.

*Youth Service*

*Telephone: +41 31 356 61 00*

*youth@aso.ch*

*www.aso.ch*

**Exercising  
political rights for  
Swiss abroad**

**On 22 May, OSA representatives informed the  
National Council's Political  
Institutions Committee  
of problems encountered**

**by Swiss people living  
abroad with regard to exercising  
their political rights.  
Jacques-Simon Eggly  
and Rudolf Wyder, President  
and Director of OSA  
respectively, informed  
the Committee of various  
complaints received following  
the federal elections  
in 2007.**

The OSA representatives explained the various problems concerned with sending voting documentation to Swiss people living abroad, which made their participation in the democratic process difficult or even impossible. Problems included late delivery, documentation in the wrong language or incomplete, and the deletion of citizens from the electoral registers.

As the problem concerns the application of legislation, Eggly and Wyder called for the introduction of e-voting as quickly as possible. They also asked for the votes of Swiss abroad to be recorded separately.

The Committee refused, by 8 votes to 7, to table a recommendation conferring on the Confederation the task of sending voting documents to Swiss people living abroad, on the grounds that the action taken by the Fed-

eral Chancellery, which sent a circular to the cantons and communes currently responsible for sending documentation, was sufficient.

OSA believes the current situation is untenable. Swiss citizens abroad should be able to exercise their political rights in the same way as Swiss nationals resident in Switzerland. OSA will therefore continue to draw the attention of members of Parliament to the need to establish a viable system so as to ensure good quality of service for our compatriots abroad.

The more general issue, which underlies these demands, remains the recognition of the political, economic and cultural power of the Swiss abroad.

The decision to hear the OSA representatives had been made during debates on the Sommaruga parliamentary initiative concerning the direct representation of Swiss abroad in the federal chambers. This provided Eggly and Wyder with the opportunity to point out that there is currently no general law governing the application of Article 40 of the Federal Constitution which would constitute a solid legal basis for federal policy on Swiss citizens domiciled abroad.

*Resolution of the Swiss abroad in support of  
"Swiss Review"*

Swiss people living abroad are moving to support "Swiss Review". Meeting at annual congresses in their countries of residence, Swiss citizens living in France, Germany, Italy and the UK voiced their concerns about plans to reduce the circulation of "Swiss Review" in its current form.

They emphasised the importance of this means of communication, which is the only medium to reach all Swiss living abroad. They believe it is important for the publication to be sent to all registered Swiss expatriates so that they maintain strong ties with their home country. The resolutions call on the head of the DFA, Micheline Calmy-Rey, to take all steps necessary to ensure that "Swiss Review" continues to exist in its current form and be sent to all registered Swiss abroad.

**ORGANISATION OF THE SWISS ABROAD**

*Our services:*

- Legal Department
- Youth Service
- Association for the Promotion of Education for Young Swiss Abroad (AJAS)
- Committee for Swiss Schools Abroad (CSSA)
- Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad (FYSA)

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