

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 76 (2010)
Heft: [3]

Inhaltsverzeichnis

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 05.04.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

HELVE⁺RIA

Magazine for the members of the Swiss Society of New Zealand Inc
Helvetia is in its 76th year

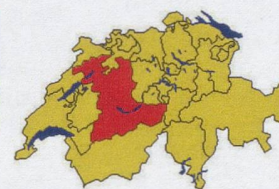
April 2010

The Canton of Bern

The canton of Bern is the second largest of the 26 Swiss cantons by both surface area and population. The canton of Bern has a population of almost one million, of which about 120,000 are foreigners. The cantonal capital, Bern, is also the federal capital of Switzerland.

Bernese Oberland is the mountainous region which lies in the south of the canton.

The area of the canton is 5,959 km². Of this area, 6.4% is occupied with houses, businesses or roads. 43.3% of the canton is agricultural land, and 31.0% is forested. Less than 19.3% is con-



Bern. It consists of 160 representatives, of which 15 seats are guaranteed for the French-speaking part of the canton.

The Bernese are sometimes teased for being slow; an equally valid generalisation is that they are thorough...

from the internet



Adelboden



Bern

The area of the canton of Bern consists of lands acquired by the city of Bern mostly between the 14th and the 16th century, both by conquest and purchase. Some French-speaking portions of the canton of Bern broke away from the canton only in the late 20th century and since 1979 comprise the Canton of Jura. Bern joined the Swiss Confederation in 1353.

The most important river of the canton of Bern is the River Aare and its tributaries. The most populated area is the Bernese Mittelland with the capital city of Bern. The northmost part of the canton is the Bernese Jura bordering the Canton of Jura. The

considered non-productive, which includes glaciers, mountains and lakes.

The canton of Bern is bilingual: both German (22 districts, with 84% of the population) and French (three districts) are spoken. The German-speaking majority speaks Bernese German, a Swiss German dialect. French-speakers live in the western and northern part of the canton. Both German and French are spoken in the bilingual city of Biel/Bienne. In the government and administration, both languages are official languages of equal standing.

The Grand Council of Bern is the parliament of the canton of

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Editorial	2
Carolyn Lane	3
Albert Anker/Paul Klee	4
The various regions of Bern	5
Ernst Gertsch/Jeremias Gotthelf	6
Bears born in Bern/Recipe	7
Top of Europe/Sleeping ammunition	8
Children's Page	9
Felsenputzer-Verein/2010 Olympics	10
New hope in treatment of childhood leukaemia	11
Swiss club news	12-18
Obituary/Poem/Swiss news	19
Brown bear	20