

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 81 (2015)
Heft: [4]

Titelseiten

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: 20.08.2025

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

HELVETIA

MAGAZINE OF THE SWISS SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND



AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2015

YEAR 81

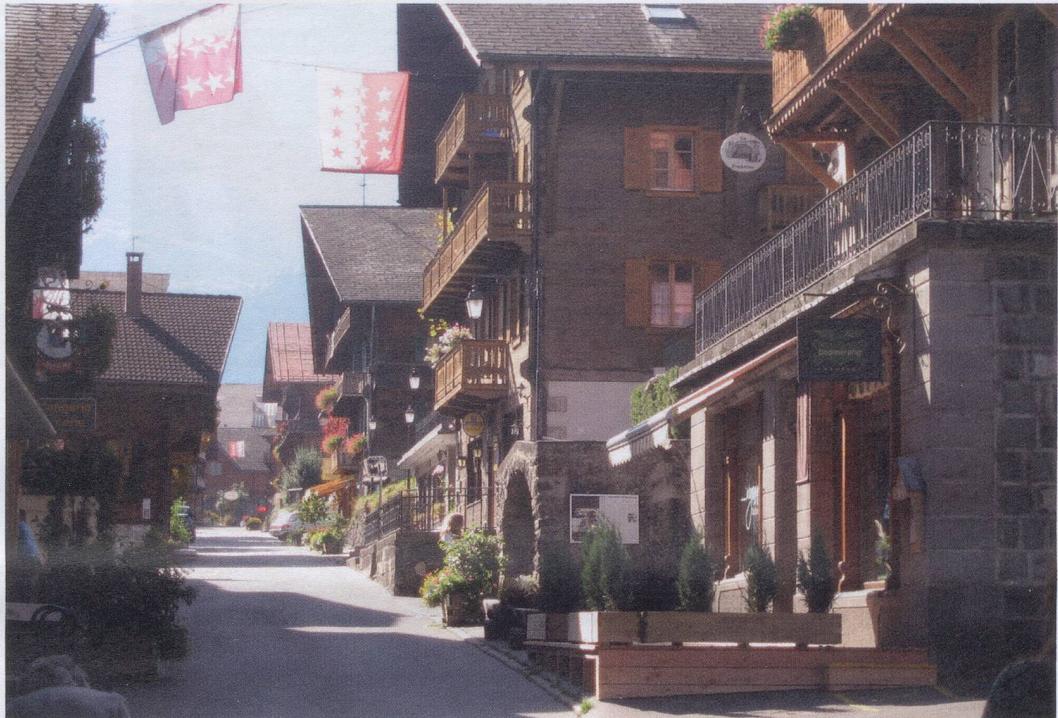
Highlights

- Hidden treasures in French speaking Switzerland
- 1st August message from Ambassador
- Japan - from the eyes of a Swiss
- Fun facts of Switzerland

Inside

President's report	3
Facts of Switzerland	4
Japan from Swiss perspective	5
Funtips	6
Health corner	7
Christania skirace	8
1st of August speech by the Ambassador	9
Swiss club news	10-18
Photo gallery	19
Kids' corner	20
Chuchichäschtli and garden diary	21
The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad	22-23
Financial statement of Swiss Society	23
Romainmôtier	24
plus poems, Chuderwälsch and Consigli della Nonna	

Treasures along the Swiss-French Border



Switzerland shares its borders with quite a number of countries: typically, these are cross-border regions with a common history, language and trade. In this Helvetia issue, we explore a couple of very special places along the Swiss-French border: Champéry and Romainmôtier.

Champéry is a small village located at the top of the Val d'Illiez in the lower canton of Valais, some 20 km south of Lake Geneva as the crow flies. It is tucked away at 1050m in the Chablais Alps, at the foot of the towering limestone "teeth" of the Dents-du-Midi (3,257 m) and the Dents Blanches massives (2,759 m) in the south. The French border swings around it as close as 4 km away.

Much like St. Moritz which we presented in the last issue of the Helvetia, Champéry is one of Switzerland's oldest tourist destinations, with the Grand Hotel Dent-du-Midi dating to 1857. Surely one of Champéry's greatest attractions are the beautiful, traditional chalets that remain the main building form of the village, with more modern development carefully integrated and adapted. Champéry even has one of the last remaining bell foundries in Switzerland.

The village is one of the gateways to the "Ports

de Soleil" – a vast skiing area encompassing an area of about 1036 square km between the Mont Blanc in France and Lake Geneva in Switzerland. With more than 650 km of marked pistes and 200 lifts in total, this is one of the largest skiing areas of the world. In summer, the village provides access to an amazing local alpine world, with over 800 km of walks to choose from across the Ports de Soleil. Of particular note is the 40 km long circuit around the Dents-du-Midi which takes three to four days to complete, well away from all roads and villages. There is also a bike park with over 300 km of marked tracks to suit all abilities. The via ferrata, a fixed cable climb between Champéry and the village of Val d'Illiez further down the valley provides an exciting but secure climb up from the wild River Tièvre via iron rungs and rickety foot bridges. All in all, Champéry has something on offer for anyone, and all levels of activity and interest.

Susie Wood