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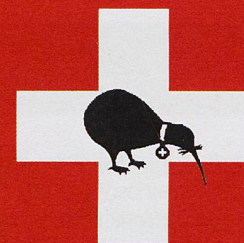
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# HELVETIA



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## Highlights

- Swiss Army Band in New Zealand
- Ambassador's speech on National Day
- Patrouille des Glaciers

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## Morges Tulip Festival



*More than a park in bloom, the Parc de l'Indépendance commemorates an important event in the region's history. On 24 January 1898, locals celebrated the 100 year anniversary of their independence wrested from the Bernese and this is when the famous Morges gardens took the name of Parc de l'Indépendance.*

Morges, a pretty town on Lake Geneva near Lausanne, is first mentioned in 1288 as Morgia. It was known by its German name Morsee though that name is no longer used. It has a rich history. It is home to the Les Roseaux and Stations de Morges prehistoric pile-dwelling (or stilt house) settlements that are part of the Prehistoric Pile dwellings around the Alps UNESCO World Heritage Site. The De La Croix Blanche Inn, the buildings at Grand-Rue 54 and Grand-Rue 94, Morges Castle along with the Military Museum of Vaud, the City Hall, the Bronze Age shore front settlement Les Roseaux/La Grande Cité and the Temple are all listed as Swiss heritage sites of national significance. The entire old city of Morges is part of the Inventory of Swiss Heritage.

Since 1971 it hosts one of the most beautiful spring events on Lake Geneva, the annual Fête de la Tulipe. The Festival was created to mark 50 years of the Lake Geneva Horticultural Society. The horticulture apprentices of the Morges Centre for Professional Studies create several banks of flowers every year. Around 150,000

tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths are planted in the Parc de l'Indépendance à Morges over a surface area of 30'000 square meters

The weather, of course, determines when the tulip displays are at their best but from mid-April on some flowers can be found blooming, heralding spring. With the power to rival roses in their red variety and the sweet charm to express simple joy when yellow, it's no wonder that in addition to all its other symbolism, in the language of flowers, a tulip bouquet represents elegance and grace.

The Parc de l'Indépendance in Morges is also a lovely shady park with more than 50 different species of trees. The oldest trees are chestnuts from the mid-eighteenth century. Apart from the flowers and trees, visitors can enjoy the beautiful Lake Geneva views, which include lovely panoramic views of the Alps. Morges is famous for providing some of the best views of Mt Blanc from the shores of Lake Geneva.

March 27, 2017 By Henk Bekker/<https://luxeadventuretraveler.com/morges-tulip-festival/wikipedia>