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TOURIST NEWS

RHINE CRUISES TO SWITZERLAND

Rhine Cruises from the Netherlands to Basle are again being organised this summer by KD German Rhine Line.

In connection with these services the Hotel Nova-Park in Zürich is offering a supplementary programme including coach transfers between Basle and Zürich.

DISENTIS - PACKAGE ARRANGEMENTS

Tennis

Weekly packages are arranged between 1st May and 10th October. The cost is Sw.Fr. 150 (and includes welcome drink, gymnastics, tennis instruction, training, tests and tournaments. Prices for 7 nights demi-pension start from Sw.Fr. 196.

Walking

From 27th June to 11th July and 29th August to 12th September, weekly packages are offered from Sw.Fr. 238 for 7 nights' full board including daily walking tours.

WALKING AND EMBROIDERY IN THE UPPER ENGADINE

Between 7th and 19th June, two hobby holiday weeks for botanical walking and embroidery have been organised. In the mornings a botanist will lead a small walking tour, and in the afternoons there will be instruction for embroidery.

Accommodation is provided in the Pension Chesa Pool, a 400-year-old converted farm-house above the charming village of Sils-Maria. Full board including instruction costs Sw.Fr. 310.00.

GSTAAD - TENNIS HOLIDAYS WITH ROY EMERSON

Roy Emerson, who twice won the four big tennis championships - Wimbledon, Forest Hills, French and Australian - is inviting tennis players to

join him from 13th to 19th June and 20th to 26th June 1976 for special tennis weeks in the Gstaad Palace Hotel.

The participants will spend approximately six hours daily on one of the seven tennis courts of the hotel and will be taught by Roy Emerson as well as by other tennis instructors.

The tennis lessons will be recorded on video-tape and then discussed. Prices start from Sw.Fr. 1460. per person (Sw.Fr. 690. for accompanying persons who are non-players) including full board and admission to the swimming pools of the Gstaad Palace Hotel.

ALPINE CLIMBING CENTRES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE VALAIS

From 20th June until 11th September weekly mountaineering courses, with basic instruction on rock and ice, are organised in collaboration with the Swiss Alpine Club (Section Monte Rosa) and the official youth service of the Valais. They will be held at Arolla (6,650 ft.) and Fafleralp (6,350 ft.).

Prices start from Sw.Fr. 370 for 7 nights' full board in dormitories and include instruction and hire of equipment such as ice-axe, crampons, rope etc.

BERNE A LA CARTE

Berne is again offering three- and four-day packages valid from 1st May to 30th September. Prices start from Sw.Fr. 107 for two nights and from Sw.Fr. 136 for three nights in twin-bedded rooms. Children from six to 12 years qualify for a reduction of 50%. Included are bed and breakfast, one voucher of Sw.Fr. 10 for a meal in a typical Bernese restaurant, transfer from the Air Terminal to the hotel, excursion ticket to the Gurten (view of the Alps, the Jura and the city of Berne), city sightseeing tour, free bicycle for half a day, documentation and souvenir book of Berne, as well as admissions to museums and nightclubs.

A special leaflet "Berne à la carte" is available from the Swiss National Tourist Office.

INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL 1976

From 11 July to 7 August, the 1976 International Chess Festival will take place in Biel's Convention Centre. The following tournaments are scheduled:

Interzone-Chess Tournament 1976, 11th July - 7th August

9th International Open Chess Tournament, 13th July - 22nd August

10th International Open Chess Tournament, 25th July - 6th August

Youth Chess Tournament, 15th July - 21st July

10th MONTREUX INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

The 1976 Montreux Jazz Festival will be held from 25th June to 11th July and will again be divided in Folk (25th - 27th June), Soul (2nd - 4th July) and Jazz (6th - 11th July).

To mark the Festival's 10th anniversary, Montreux plans to make a true celebration with evening concerts at the Casino and daytime concerts at the Congress Hall, along the lake promenades and in the streets.

Performing groups and stars will include the Chieftains, Country Gazette, Joan Baez, Muddy Waters, Albert and Freddie King, T-Bone Walker, and Aretha Franklin.

MCGOUGH LEAVES JETS FOR JEWELS

Mr. John McGough, Basle-based Senior Sales Representative with British Airways, has left the carrier after seven years' service.

He has taken up a new appointment with a leading British jewellery company as Overseas Manager.

LAKE GENEVA PACKAGES

Three- and seven-day arrangements are offered from April to October 1976 by the following resorts: Bex, Château-d'Oex, Les Diablerets, Leysin, Les Mosses, Villars, St. Cergue, Vallée de Joux, Romain-môtier, Yverdon, Concise, Ste-Croix/Les Rasses, Lausanne, Chexbres, Vevey, Montreux, Morges, Rolle and Nyon.

The prices are from Sw.Fr. 129 for 3 nights and from Sw.Fr. 242 for 6 nights. The arrangement includes accommodation in twin-bedded rooms without bath, demi-pension, one excursion, welcome drink and admission to sport installations.

A leaflet is available from the Swiss National Tourist Office.

THE SPANISH ARMADA

Eighteen Spanish travel agents, accompanied by Swiss National Tourist Office and Swissair representatives, paid a weekend visit to Berne recently - and were welcomed by city tourist officials with the news that Spain last year sent a record number of tourists to the Swiss capital.

The city's just-published annual



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tourist statistics show that visitors from Spain spent 13,636 overnights in Berne during 1975 – a 3.6 increase over the previous year.

Spain is now Berne's sixth biggest tourist market after West Germany, the United States, Italy, France and Britain.

IT'S BASLE AGAIN!

From October 23 until November 1, 1976, SNOW, World Exhibition for Ski, Snow and Winter Sports will be taking the stage for the second time in the halls of the Swiss Industries Fair, Basle.

As was learnt at the meeting of the Organization Committee for SNOW 76, the international bodies of the winter sports sector will again be holding their meetings in Basle during this exhibition.

Under the chairmanship of Marc Hodler, President of the FIS, Fédération internationale du Ski, leading personalities in the world of skiing are members of the Committee of Patrons for this year's SNOW.

As organiser of SNOW, the Swiss Industries Fair has produced an attractive audio-visual programme which will be used to inform both the exhibiting circles and sporting associations, as well as the general public. Several special displays and attractions are being prepared and these will supplement the supply of goods and the publicity for tourism.

THE LUCERNE FESTIVAL STRINGS COME OF AGE

The Lucerne Festival Strings, inaugurated on the occasion of the International Festival of Music in 1956 and now an internationally established chamber orchestra, will celebrate its 20th anniversary this year. In addition to extensive concert tours throughout the world, the ensemble has also made a name for itself with numerous records under the direction of its co-founder Rudolf Baumgartner. One of the most recent of these, accompanied by the Lucerne piano virtuoso, Hubert Harry, combines the Concerto for Piano and Orchestra in D minor BWV 1052 by J. S. Bach and the Concerto for Piano and Orchestra in C major K 415 by W. A. Mozart. This record is available under the label ARMIDA HH-133.

THE LUCERNE KURSAAL CASINO TO BE MODERNISED

The Kursaal, built in 1882 during the "Belle Epoque", is to undergo rejuvenation treatment before its 100th anniversary. The renovation includes a new dance hall and night club, reconstruction of the foyer and gaming room (the latter with incorporation of a bar) and renewal of the garden restaurant, in addition to complete renovation of the conference and banqueting rooms on the 1st floor. The façade, under official

protection, is to be restored but not altered. The establishment will remain open during the "treatment" and reconditioning work should be completed by June this year. A modernised Lucerne Kursaal will then be ready in time to welcome guests for the 1976 season.

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS AT THE LUCERNE TRANSPORT MUSEUM

28th April – 27th June

Paintings with astronomical subjects.

April – July:

Caricatures and drawings on the theme of astronautics.

April – Sept. (probable)

Outdoor exhibition by the Swiss Federal Railways of locomotives and rolling stock in addition to existing exhibits.

NEW TUNNEL LINK NEARING COMPLETION

Almost exactly 150 years after the birth of Louis Favre, the man who built the 14.9 km Gotthard railway tunnel in 1880, Italian and Swiss construction workers shook hands again. This time it was to mark the occasion of the meeting of the two teams in the middle of the new Gotthard road tunnel. The 16 km tunnel, which will form part of the N2 Basle-Chiasso highway, is expected to carry its first traffic in about four years from now.

Source – Basler Nachrichten.

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