

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK
Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom
Band: - (1977)
Heft: 1727

Artikel: Come on-get those ski out!
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-689102>

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COME ON - GET THOSE SKIS OUT!

NEWS FROM SWISS WINTER SPORTS RESORTS - WINTER 1976/77

ADELBODEN Bernese Oberland

Two new ski-lifts have been constructed: at Engstligenalp (6,442 ft.) where there is also a new restaurant, and the Hoechsthorn ski-lift starting at Kuonisbergli (5,674 ft.) which has a carrying capacity of 900 persons per hour.

The transport capacity of the Tschentenalp ski-lift has been increased from 500 to 1,000 persons, and of the Geils-Hahnenmoos aerial cableway from 900 to 1,200 persons per hour.

In the Berghotel Hahnenmoos a new self-service restaurant was installed last winter. At the lower station of the Engstligenalp aerial cableway, there will be additional parking for 200 cars.

ALT-ST. JOHANN Eastern Switzerland

A small "self-service" ski-lift is now finally connecting the Sellamatt mountain restaurant with the Ruestel lift which leads to the top of a 2½ mile-long downhill run. This new ski-lift will also be included in the General Season Ticket for the Obertoggenburg, covering 20 different mountain transport facilities.

ANDERMATT Central Switzerland

The new Lutersee ski-lift in the Gemsstock area was inaugurated last winter. With its carrying capacity of 1,000 persons per hour, it solves the problem of long queues at the nearby Guerschenalp ski-lift. Under normal snow conditions, this new area will be open for skiing until May.

AROSA Grisons

This winter a new ski-lift "Ried" comes into service on the Arosa ski school slope Tschuggen. It will have a length of 1,450 ft., a difference in altitude of 200 ft and a carrying capacity of 1,000 persons per hour. This will increase the total capacity of the Arosa transport system to approximately 11,000 persons per hour.

BEATENBERG Bernese Oberland

A new sauna and solarium has been installed in the Hotel Silberhorn (50 beds).

BETTMERALP Valais

Bettmeralp is situated on a large, sunny plateau with ski slopes as far as the Aletsch Glacier. It has at least eight hours of sunshine daily. The area offers ideal facilities for walking and ski touring. This summer saw the start of the construction of a new aerial cableway from Bettmeralp to Bettmerhorn (9,404 ft.). The downhill ski runs from Bettmerhorn will delight experienced skiers.

DAVOS Grisons

A new season ticket for the region Davos/Klosters has been introduced, covering 50 mountain railways, aerial cableways and ski-lifts with a total carrying capacity of 40,000 persons per hour.

Another three miles have been added to the existing Langlauf courses and a special enquiry telephone service introduced.

At the Sunstar-Park Hotel (400 beds) two squash courts were opened at the beginning of December. They are the first squash courts belonging to an hotel in Switzerland and are only available to hotel guests. The cost for the hire of a squash court is Sw.Fr. 10 - for 45 minutes, and for the hire of squash rackets Sw.Fr. 2.50 per day. This season's calendar of events includes the Men's Speed Skating World Championships on 5/6 February.

ENGELBERG Central Switzerland

A new one-day season ticket for all mountain transport will be introduced this winter. It costs Sw.Fr. 32 for adults and Sw.Fr. 22 for children under 16 years of age.

This winter the Engelberg Tourist Office is again issuing meal vouchers which were successfully introduced for the first time last summer. The cost of a booklet of five meal vouchers, valid in 24 different restaurants and hotels, is Sw.Fr. 50.

A new training ski-lift "Feldmoos" was opened at Gerschnialp (4,140 ft.) last winter, as well as a new chair-lift from Engstlenalp to Jochpass (7,291 ft.).

GRINDELWALD Bernese Oberland

A new sports centre is under construction. The indoor swimming pool, restaurant, indoor ice-rink and curling rinks, as well as parking for 180 cars, will be opened this winter.

The Hotel Belvedere (100 beds) has cut its rates by up to 6%.

GSTAAD Bernese Oberland

The vast ski-ing area Zweisimmen - Saanenmoeser - Schoenried - Gstaad - Lauenen - Gsteig - Saanen - Rougemont - Château d'Oex offers no less than 50 mountain railways, aerial cableways and ski-lifts in one single combined season ticket which also includes the MOB railway between Zweisimmen and Rossinière, the local bus, the aerial cableway system Reusch-Diablerets Glacier, as well as admission to the Gstaad indoor swimming-pool.

Gstaad can boast a private airfield, a heliport, a "Delta" kiteflying school, riding school and indoor manège, indoor curling rink, 30 miles of tended walking paths, as well as 13 miles of Langlauf and cross-country ski-ing tracks. A new mountain restaurant with 500 seats and a youth centre have been opened at Wispile.

JUNGFRAU REGION Bernese Oberland

The Railways of the Jungfrau Region have published a new brochure giving details of all winter sports season tickets in the Jungfrau Region. The tariff, valid to 30th April, lists winter excursion season tickets, coupon season tickets, general season tickets, ordinary fares, information for groups, and hints for skiers. It is available from the Swiss National Tourist Office.

New this winter is the *Ski Pass Jungfrau Region* which includes 7 mountain railways, 3 aerial cableways, 7 chair-lifts, 17 ski-lifts, as well as 2 motor coach lines, opening up 120 miles of ski runs in the areas Grindelwald/First, Kleine Scheidegg/Maennlichen and Muerren/Schilthorn.

LEYSIN Lake Geneva Region

A new Sports Centre opened its doors last winter offering an artificial skating rink, two curling rinks and a games room. Easily accessible and beautifully situated at the edge of a forest, the centre complements perfectly the many other sports activities already on offer.

The International Acrobatic Ski School (ESAA), formed in 1976 by a group of international free-stylers, offers tuition in ballet ski-ing, free-style ski-ing and ski acrobatics. There are courses of 5, 7 or 14 days, as well as weekend programmes, often with internationally famous guest instructors.

MORGINS Valais

Morgins was established as a resort just before World War I and has recently been making a strong comeback. It is situated in a broad valley and ringed by magnificent evergreen forests which protect it from strong winds. Morgins now offers skiers an abonnement called "Passe-Porte-du-Soleil" which includes the 162 aerial cableways and ski-lifts serving over 300 miles of ski runs in the 12 resorts of the "Portes-du-Soleil" ("Gates to the Sun") between the Lake of Geneva and Mont-Blanc.

ST. MORITZ Grisons

The new spa centre of St. Moritz will remain open throughout the winter season until the end of April, thus offering the visitor a combination of winter sports and cures.

SAAS-FEE Valais

"The Pearl of the Alps" offers its guests an abundance of pleasure and activity. Cars are not permitted within the village, leaving ample room for shoppers or for viewing the charming old structures, which are protected by the community, as well as the style of the modern houses. The view of the close high mountains of Saas-Fee is always in sight from any part of the village. Taxi services are available with horse-drawn sleighs and small electric cars.