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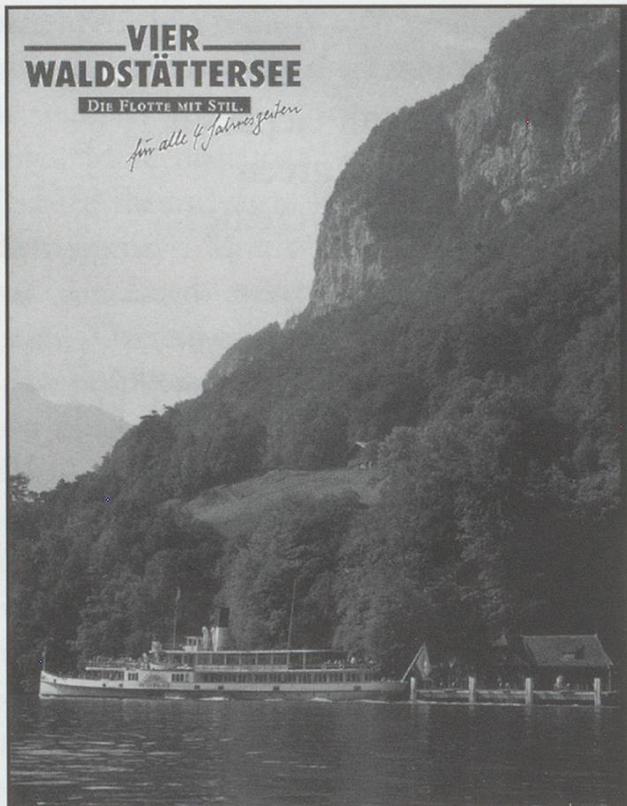
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WHAT TO DO ON YOUR HOLIDAYS

Summer is here, some of us will be going to Switzerland and as usual there are a myriad of things to do. Equally usual is the lack of publicity surrounding many of them, particularly the rail-related specials. It is getting easier with the use of websites but if any of our Swiss friends who are a part of these could let the organisers know about us I would be eternally grateful. I must acknowledge the help of Paul Russenberger, who provided the framework for the Rail Specials and Steve Horobin, Duncan McKay, George Hoekstra and Malcolm Hardy-Randall for their help in preparing the following pot-pourri of ideas to keep you, your loved ones and your families entertained during the summer.



UNTERWALDEN TURNS 100

In 2001, Switzerland's oldest paddle steamer, the *Uri*, celebrated its 100th birthday. This year the 100 year-old *Unterwalden* is in the spotlight. It was built by Escher-Wyss in Zurich in 1902 and was entirely overhauled between 1982 and 1985. The highly attractive salon in the new Italian rococo style was created by Filippo Cassina in Milan. The inlay work in the parquet floor as well as the glass etchings in the doors are particularly noteworthy. Thanks to its chimney, which can be lowered, and its collapsible ventilators and masts, the *Unterwalden* is the only paddle steamer which can pass under the Acheregg Bridge to cruise on Lake Alpnach. (See the letters pages)

Various festivities will take place in 2002 and at the height of summer a roll-piano will lend the salon a lively coffeehouse atmosphere.

THE SWISS PATH

11 years ago, the scenic Swiss Path walking trail was opened. The Swiss Path is a joint cantonal effort in commemoration of Switzerland's 700th anniversary (1291 to 1991). It starts at Rütli Meadow, birthplace of

I recently met up with Peter Rüegger of SGV and he was able to let me know of the special trips and sailings for this year. SGV of course run timetabled boats from all parts of the Vierwaldstättersee in and out of Luzern but the added attractions of the special sailings can make a fantastic day or evening out. For the more romantic amongst us, and there must be some I'm sure the evening cruises in particular could add a new dimension to the holiday.

PADDLERS

In summer 2002, the following main services are normally operated with paddle steamers:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 09.15 to Flüelen | Daily |
| 10.15 to Alpnachstad | Weekdays in July and August |
| 11.15 to Flüelen | On Sundays |
| 11.20 to Flüelen | Daily, 1st May-28th October |
| 13.15 to Flüelen | Daily |
| 14.00 to Alpnachstad | Weekdays in July and August |
| 15.20 to Vitznau | Daily |
| (Schedules are subject to change) | |

the Confederation, and ends at Brunnen. Each canton designed one segment of the trail (there are 5mm of trail for each citizen). The trail is accessible via 8 boat landings, 3 stations, a funicular railway and 4 bus lines.

From March 29 to September 27, 2002, SGV considerably increases the number of its Luzern – Lake Uri trips. The Hike-Express "Swiss Path" leaves Luzern at 8.32 in the morning in order to bring the hikers to the trail in good time. On Sundays and public holidays, the stopovers Rütli, Bauen, Isleten-Isenthal and Flüelen are also served twice a day in both directions. A special brochure featuring all details about the trail and its sights can be ordered at SGV for SFr1.

THE NEW *Titlis*

In 1951 the motorship *Titlis*, with a capacity of 400 passengers, was built in the Navigation Company's own shipyard. Since the launching of MS Waldstätter in 1998, the *Titlis* has been used primarily for special occasions. The last day of service was April 29, 2000, following which reconstruction at the SGV shipyard in Luzern began. The passenger capacity was reduced from 400 to 250 passengers. On the main deck the 2nd class salon contains 62 restaurant seats and 70 outdoor seats. The 1st class salon holds 28 restaurant seats. An elegant glass staircase leads to the upper deck, seating 60 persons outdoors. Since August 2001 the revamped ship has been employed for chartered and special cruises departing from its home marina in Brunnen.

WINING AND DINING ON BOARD

On all the main routes, SGV offer breakfast, lunch, coffee/cakes, and dinner depending on the time of day. There are also specific cruises offering special meals.

Breakfast cruise (Zmorge-Schiff): Every Sunday morning, as well as on official holidays, passengers can enjoy a breakfast buffet. Spring, summer and autumn: Departures from Luzern to Lake Küssnacht at 10.20; in winter: Departure at 9.15 to Vitznau (Rigi) and Beckenried (Klewenalp). Breakfast is also available daily on all other ships leaving Luzern or Flüelen before 10.20.

Year-round lunch cruise: Daily departures from Luzern at 12.03, arrival at 13.44. The trip leads to Weggis and Vitznau along the Rigi.

SUSHIP - the Sushi-Ship: Saturday evenings from August 17 to September 14. Roundtrips, departing from Luzern at 21.00, returning at 22.40, featuring a large fish and vegetarian buffet.

Cruise with a Chinese fondue: Friday evenings from March 29 to May 17 and from September 27 to October 25. Evening cruise featuring salad buffet, Chinese fondue and other fine dishes. Luzern, departure 19.15, roundtrip on panoramic motor ship, arrival 21.44.

Sunset dinner cruise: Daily, from 19th May to 22nd September. A saloon motor ship leaves Luzern at 19.15 and returns at 21.44 (on Tuesdays in July and Tuesdays and Wednesdays in August operated by paddle steamer). Various fish and meat dishes with a salad buffet.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY CRUISES

The Junior Card issued by the public transport authorities (SFr. 20.00) under the motto "Accompanied children up to 16 years travel free" is, of course, also valid on Lake Luzern. In addition, SGV does not apply a steamer surcharge, which could otherwise be expensive for families. With the travel guide "Walking trails for Baby Carriages" the SGV demonstrates how family-friendly it is.

EVENING CRUISES

Evening cruises with music and food: Special tickets starting SFr. 24.00 to SFr. 30.00. Guests celebrating their birthday travel for free!

Every Friday in July and August with paddle steamer. Departures from Luzern (19.20), Kastanienbaum, Hergiswil and Stansstad. Dixieland, standards or folk, according to the special program. Further cruises Tuesdays or Wednesdays from Buochs, Beckenried, Vitznau, Weggis, Brunnen, Seelisberg, Gersau and Flüelen. Music according to special program.

Night Boat (Swiss folklore): With music, dancing, and folklore. From May to September, departure at 20.45, arrival at 22.15.

SPECIALS IN SWITZERLAND 2002

The companies and groups shown below have published their intention to run steam and other special trains and details are shown as far as they are known. Obviously, it is wise to contact the organisation to be absolutely certain of the arrangements; the usual disclaimer that no responsibility is taken as to the accuracy of the data applies. The telephone numbers given are those applicable from within Switzerland, and remember that you have to use the area codes at all times, even from within the local area.



Planned public steam trains on 23rd June & 1st August between Herisau and Wasserauen. For those that don't know the loco used is an ex-RhB Ge 3/4. Also every Sunday from the 7th July an historic train between Gossau and Wasserauen using one of the AB's three historic Triebwagen, one of which dates from 1911.
 Tel: 071 354 50 60
 Email: info@appenzellerbahnen.ch
 Website: www.appenzellerbahnen.ch

DAMPFBAHN BERN

Trip round the Ballenbühl:

Sunday 27 October. From Bern HB

Steam to Samichlous:

Sunday 8 December. No details available

Stephanstag-Fahrt

Thursday 26 December:

Laupen–Flamatt–Thörishaus–Gümmenen–Laupen

Tel: 033 336 35 11

Email: reisedienst@dbb.ch

Website: www.dbb.ch



Dampfbahn Ballenberg

| Interlaken Ost | ab | 09.52 | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| Oberried | an | 10.03 | ab | 10.19 |
| Brienz | an | 10.28 | ab | 10.30 |
| Brienzwiler | an | 10.37 | ab | 11.07 |
| Meiringen | an | 11.18 | ab | 11.24 |
| Brünig-Hasliberg | an | 11.57 | ab | 12.22 |
| Lungern | an | 12.43 | ab | 12.44 |
| Giswil | an | 13.01 | ab | 14.44 |
| Lungern | an | 15.05 | ab | 15.08 |
| Brünig-Hasliberg | an | 15.32 | ab | 15.55 |
| Meiringen | an | 16.27 | ab | 16.32 |
| Brienzwiler | an | 16.42 | ab | 16.42 |
| Brienz | an | 16.48 | ab | 16.50 |
| Oberried | an | 16.59 | ab | 16.59 |
| Interlaken Ost | an | 17.13 | | |

Interlaken Ost - Grindelwald - Interlaken Ost

| | | | | |
|----------------|----|-------|----|-------|
| Interlaken Ost | an | 12.19 | ab | 09.25 |
| Wilderswil | | | ab | 09.31 |
| Zweilütschinen | an | 09.41 | ab | 09.54 |
| Grindelwald | an | 10.50 | ab | 11.20 |
| Zweilütschinen | an | 12.00 | ab | 12.03 |
| Wilderswil | | | ab | 12.13 |
| Interlaken Ost | an | 12.19 | | |

Interlaken Ost - Lauterbrunnen - Interlaken Ost

| | | | |
|----------------|----|-------|-------|
| Interlaken Ost | | ab | 15.00 |
| Zweilütschinen | an | 15.20 | ab |
| Lauterbrunnen | an | 15.45 | ab |
| Zweilütschinen | | | ab |
| Interlaken Ost | an | 16.46 | |

HISTORISCHE SEETALBAHN

Steam on Sunday 27 October.

Timing not yet settled.

Address: Postfach, 5712-CH, Beinwil am See

Fax: 041 370 26 67

PACIFIC GROUP 01 202

Saturday 31 August: A day tour starting in Lyss

Tel: 031 751 25 72

Saturday 5 October:

A day tour to eastern Switzerland from Basel

Tel: 061 363 35 32

Website: www.dampflok.ch

COMPAGNIE DU TRAIN À VAPEUR DE LA VALLÉE DE JOUX

30 June, 14 & 28 July, 11 & 25 August, 8 & 22 September and 6 October.

From Le Pont at 13.50 returning from Le Brassus at 15.37

Tel: 021 845 47 18/55 15
 079 675 28 38



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 Viafier retica

See page 53 in the
 March 2002 Swiss
 Express for details
 of all the specials this year in Graubünden.



DAMPFBAHN FURKA-BERGSTRECKE

Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays 22 June to 6 October, daily 15 July to 25 August.

Kursbuch number 615

Tel: 084 800 01 44

Email: reisedienst@fu-be.ch

Website: www.furka-bergstrecke.ch

EUROVAPOR NOSTALGIE RHEIN EXPRESS

Sunday 25 August: Electrically hauled special from Basel to Göschenen/Airolo for the DFB via Post Bus.

Saturday 5 October: Tour with 01 202, route to be decided.

Tel: 061 363 35 32

Website: www.nostalgie-rhein-express.de



DAMPFBAHN-VEREIN ZÜRCHER OBERLAND

Hourly return journeys Bauma – Hinwil start at 09.30; the last return leaves Bauma at 15.30. From Hinwil the service starts at 10.30 and the last train to Bauma leaves at 16.30. This finishes at Bauma. Bauma is on S26 of the Zürich S-Bahn and Hinwil is at the end of S14. Note that Swiss passes etc. are not valid.

Sundays 16 June, 2 & 16 July, 4 & 18 August, 1 & 15 September, 6 & 20 October.

Telephone contact is SBB at Bauma 052 386 12 41

Website: www.dvzo.ch

LA TRACTION



Chemins de fer du Jura

Various specials from Saignelégier, La Chaux-de-Fonds and Tavannes

24th July: Evening trip leaving Pré-Petitjean at 19.40 to La Chaux-de-Fonds for the full moon.

25th July and 15th August: Tavannes and Glovelier leaving Pré-Petitjean at 07.40; the train can be joined anywhere and day tickets are available.

31st July and 14th August: La Chaux-de-Fonds and Glovelier leaving Pré-Petitjean at 08.25; the train can be joined anywhere and day tickets are available.

1st August: The Wild West train, Separate journeys morning and afternoon.

1st September: Glovelier and Tavannes leaving Pré-Petitjean at 08.25; the train can be joined anywhere and day tickets are available.

14th September: Tavannes and La Chaux-de-Fonds leaving Pré-Petitjean at 07.40; the train can be joined anywhere and day tickets are available.

15th September: Double traction using the ex-Douro Mallets leaving Pré-Petitjean at 07.50.

Tel: 032 952 42 90

Email: promotion@cj-transports.ch

Website: www.cj-transports.ch and www.la-traction.ch (PDF timetables can be downloaded from here)

RORSCHACH-HEIDEN-BERGBAHN

Planned steam on (usually) Sundays:

7 July, 4 August, 1,7,8 September, 6 October

Tel: 071 891 18 52

Email: info@ar-bergbahnen.ch

Website: www.ar-bergbahnen.ch

SCHINZNACHER BAUMSCHULBAHN

Saturdays and Sundays until 13 October, except 15 September. Also Thursday 1 August and Saturday 7 December. Diesel trains on Wednesdays.

Tel: 056 463 62 82

Email: info@schbb.ch

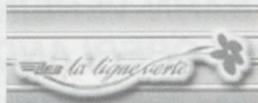
Website: www.schbb.ch

WALDENBURGERBAHN

Steam trains on Sundays 25 August and 22 September; two return journeys from Waldenburg to Liestal at 09.35 and 14.05 with an hour at Liestal. Breakfast is available on the 09.35 if previously booked.

Tel: 061 965 94 94

If you are making a special trip check that the services are running and if you telephone use the full dialling code, even from within the same area. Checking the website, where appropriate, is a good idea.



LAUSANNE-ECHALLENS-BERCHER

Steam specials every Sunday from 18 August to 8 September from Lausanne-Flon at 11.15 and 14.15 to Bercher returning to Cheseaux. Also Echallens to Bercher return at 10.22 on 11, 18 & 25 June.

Tel: 021 886 20 00 Email: admin@urbanet.ch Website: www.leb.ch

SOMETHING A LITTLE DIFFERENT FOR A DAY OUT

New, to me at least, is an initiative from the LEB. Every Sunday from the 23rd of June to the 8th of September they have introduced a trip into the Jorat and Gros-Vaud. From a transport perspective there are many different types of transport from all eras. Added to this is the attraction of a day out in the country at a pace slow enough to appreciate it.

Board a modern LEB or TL train from any station to Lausanne and head for Place du Tunnel in the City Centre. From there take the TL bus, which should be no. 62, to Chalet-à-Gobet. You must take the 12.04 bus from Tunnel as this specifically connects with everything else. On arrival you will be taken by horse-drawn carriage to Etagnières, passing Montheron Abbey. From Etagnières there is a connection to Bercher using either the historic railcar or the steam service mentioned above. You can return home by whatever train you wish. The ticket is called the "Jorat Express".

Information and reservations can only be made at Lausanne-Chauderon, telephone 021 624 82 41.

RIGI-BAHNEN



Timetabled steam from Vitznau at 10.16 on Sundays July to September, daily 15 to 31 July. From Goldau at 10.11 from 1 to 15 August.

Tel: 041 399 87 87

Email: rigi@rigi.ch

Website: www.rigi.ch

Note for families: Children under 16 travel FREE from June to October!

ZÜRCHER MUSEUMS-BAHN

Two return steam journeys using the well known "Schnaaggi-Schaaggi" E3/3 built in 1899.

Zürich Wiedikon, platform 3 – Sihlwald.

30th June, 28th July, 25th August, 29th September and 27th October

Refreshments are available on the journey.

Tel: 079 484 59 16 or 01 462 84 61

Email: info@museumsbahn.ch

Website: www.museumsbahn.ch

VAPEUR VAL-DE-TRAVERS

Following the fire, reported in Swiss Express, check before making a journey.

Tel: 032 751 38 07

Email: info@vvt.org

Website: www.vvt.org

SURSEE-TRIENGEN-BAHN

Five return journeys from Triengen (first 09.30, last 16.15) to Sursee (first 10.10, last 16.50) on 29 September

Tel: 041 921 40 30

Website: www.dampfzug.ch



REGIO MITTELLAND

VEREIN DAMPFBAHN BERN

Grill Journey: *Sat. 29th June. From Burgdorf

Special to the Rigi: *Sat. 7th September.

Huttwil – Olten – Arth-Goldau

Public Steam Train: 20th October.

Huttwil – Ramsei

More steam specials had been planned but there is a technical problem with the steam loco and so at the moment services are not operating

* - Reservations necessary; trains will only run if sufficient bookings are made.

Tel: 034 424 50 20

Email: sonderfahrten@rm-rail.ch

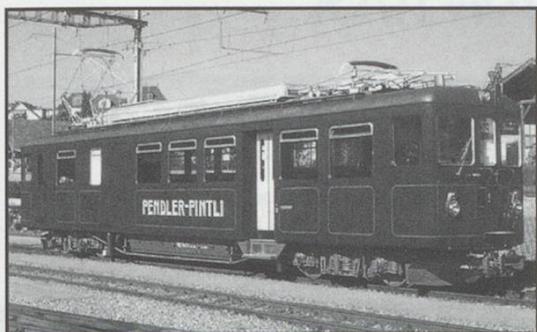
Websites: www.regionalverkehr.ch

www.verein-vdb.ch

St Sulpice – Travers: 6 /7, 11/8, 7/9, 12/10

St Sulpice – Neuchâtel: 7/7, 8/9, 13/10

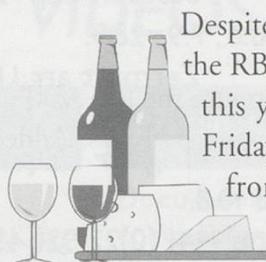
St Sulpice – Pontarlier: 12/8



Despite the problems with the steam services the RBS still has much to offer. The highlight this year is a Wine and Cheese party, every Friday between May 31st and August 30th from Bern using the restored railcar known to the RBS as 'Pendler-Pintli'. Leaving Bern RBS at 19.20 and returning by 21.30 the train runs as far as Jegenstorf where it reverses and then travels to Worb and back to Bern. During the journey there will be at least seven choices of wine, cheese and other delights. Reservations are essential, and must be made at least 24 hours in advance. These can be made at any RBS/asm travel agency or at the RBS counter in Bern Bahnhof or by telephone on 031 310 03 50. Tickets must also be collected at least 24 hours in advance. You can even buy gift vouchers for others to use!

OWING TO A MECHANICAL PROBLEM WITH THE STEAM ENGINE USUALLY USED ON THE SERVICES THE SUNDAY STEAM SPECIALS HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN INDEFINITELY

WINE AND CHEESE ON THE MOVE



Despite the problems with the steam services the RBS still has much to offer. The highlight this year is a Wine and Cheese party, every Friday between May 31st and August 30th from Bern using the restored railcar known to the RBS as 'Pendler-Pintli'. Leaving Bern RBS at 19.20 and returning by 21.30 the train runs as far as Jegenstorf where it reverses and then travels to Worb and back to Bern. During

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RBS WANDERWEG BERN-SOLOTHURN

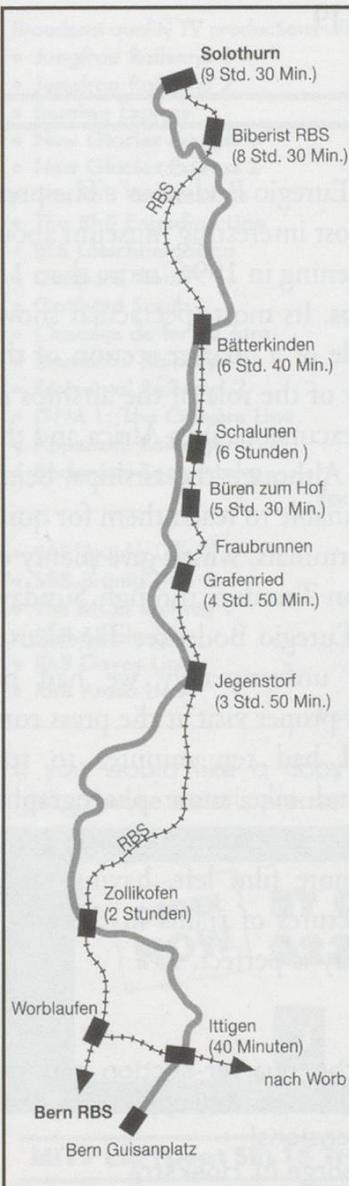
Like many commuter railways the RBS is often ignored by the enthusiast. This is a shame as it crosses some peaceful, picturesque and relatively flat countryside. In turn this means that the area is ideal for walkers who want a gentle stroll with their families rather than the more energetic mountain expeditions favoured by many. To this end the RBS has helped develop a path between Bern and Solothurn.

The RBS Wanderweg Bern-Solothurn is ideal for all ages having easily divided stretches that can be walked as the mood takes one; it is also easily reached with the frequent connections offered by the railway.

If you did want to do it in one day then you should allow 9½ hours, but the four suggested sections take between two and three hours apiece. The leaflet, which is available from the RBS, either via the website or from the Bern RBS counter, gives a brief description of each part together with suggested refreshment halts en route.

Also en route are two local museums well worth a visit; Schloss Jegenstorf which dates from the 17th century and is dedicated to Bern life and culture; Schloss Landshut Utzenstorf on the other hand dates from the 12th century and was once the seat of the Bernese Landvögte. It is now a museum of the outdoors, nature and hunting. Opening times are restricted so it is always best to check before making a visit.

If any of our members do give this walk or museums a try then please send in some pictures and comments. The RBS operates a minimum 30-minute frequency from all its stations almost all day every day, including Sunday. This alone should make the area worth a visit!



SCHLOSS JEGENSTORF

Tel: 031 761 01 59 Fax: 031 761 35 06

email: schloss.jegi@bluewin.ch website: www.schloss-jegenstorf.ch

SCHLOSS LANDSHUT UTZENSTORF

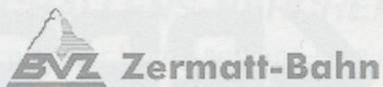
Tel: 032 665 40 27

Website: www.schlosslandshut.ch

FULL STEAM TO THE MATTERHORN

BRIG-VISP-BRIG SHUTTLE TRAIN ON 9 JUNE:

Brig dep: 10.00 a.m., 11.00 a.m., 1.00 p.m., 2.00 p.m. and 3.00 p.m.
Visp dep 10.35 a.m., 11.35 a.m., 1.35 a.m., 2.35 p.m. and 3.35 p.m.



BRIG-STALDEN-BRIG 25 AUGUST:

Brig dep 9.35 a.m. and 1.35 p.m. Stalden dep 11.10 a.m. and 3.10 p.m.

BRIG-ZERMATT: 22.6., 13.7., 27.7., 10.8., 7.9., 28.9.

Brig dep 9.35 a.m. Zermatt arr 1.10 a.m.

ZERMATT-BRIG: 23.6., 14.7., 28.7., 11.8., 8.9., 29.9.

Zermatt dep 10.25 a.m. Brig arr 1.17 p.m.

ZERMATT-FINDELBACH: 27.7. and 10.8.

Reservations recommended: Phone ++41 (0)27 921 45 10

Fax ++41 (0)27 921 45 19

2002 TO THE MATTERHORN – THE OLDTIMER WAY

We offer nostalgic trips with the BVZ Crocodile and old carriages on the following dates:
21.7., 01.08., 22.9., 10.10.

Brig dep 9.40 a.m. Zermatt arr 11.05 a.m. Zermatt dep 4.52 p.m. Brig arr 6.10 p.m.

Fares – Swiss Travel System; min. 50% of the normal fare. Supplements are payable depending on the distance and type of trip.

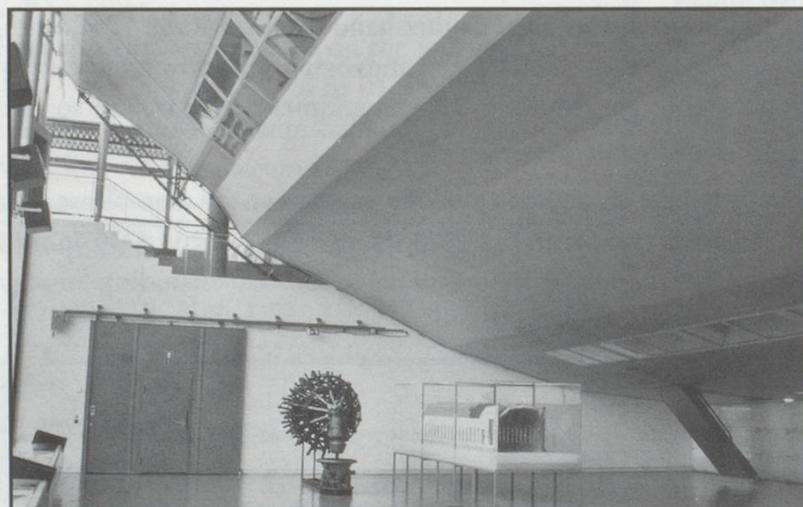
BVZ Zermatt-Bahn, Nordstrasse 20, CH-3900 Brig-Glis

Tel. ++41 (0)27 921 41 11 Fax ++41 (0)27 921 41 19

www.bvz.ch info@bvz.ch

THE ZEPPELIN MUSEUM - GEORGE M HOEKSTRA

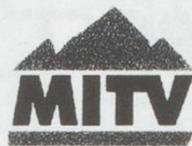
Elsewhere in this issue, you will find an article about the new "Tageskarte Euregio Bodensee". The press conference took place at the Zeppelin Museum in Friedrichshafen. This is a most interesting museum about one of the most spectacular forms of transport the world has seen. Since its opening in 1996, more than 1.5 million visitors have come to this, the world's largest exhibition about airships. Its most spectacular show-piece is a 33-metre (100 ft) long exact replica of both the inside and outside of a quarter section of the famous LZ 129 *Hindenburg*. Numerous films and photographs tell the story of the role of the airships in civil aviation; regular Transatlantic services to New York and South America; excursions into Africa and the Orient. As these were troubled times, the military also took a keen interest. Although the airships, being filled with hydrogen gas were potentially vulnerable, artillery at the time was unable to reach them for quite a few years. When they did, it was all over. The museum has 30 computer terminals, which give plenty of information in English and German. Opening times are: April to October on Tuesdays through Sundays from 10 am till 6 pm (5 pm in April). Entry costs €5.50 for holders of the Euregio Bodensee Tageskarte.



Although unfortunately we had no time for a proper visit at the press conference, I had ten minutes to run around and take some photographs. On my previous visit some time ago, I had no more film left, having taken lots of pictures of trains in the area – yes, nobody is perfect...

Part of the quarter-section replica from which one can appreciate the huge dimensions!

Photo: George M. Hoekstra



The Alpine Railway Specialists

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SIC 2: Glorious Graubünden

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THE IRON WAY - GRANITE ALP SERIES

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- Jungfrau Railways 2 (WAB/JB)
- Bernina Express (St. Moritz-Tirano)
- New Glacier Express 1 (Zermatt-Disentis)
- New Glacier Express 2 (Disentis-St. Moritz)
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