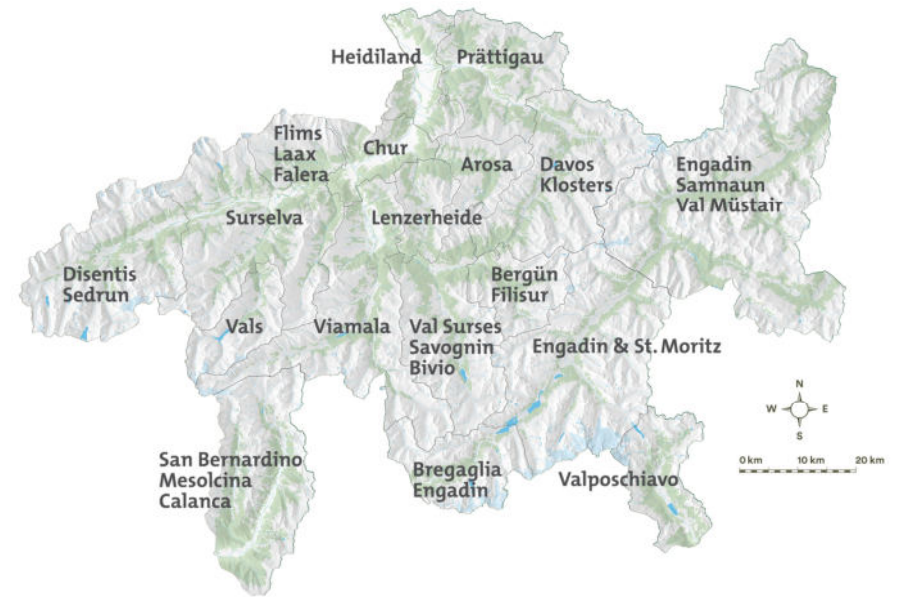


# News & Research Ideas



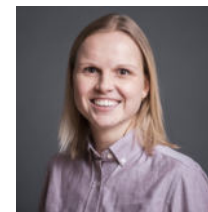
# A Warm Welcome to You



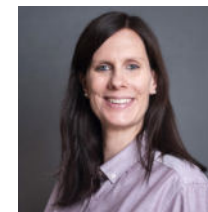
Whether you want to research a specific topic in Graubünden or are still looking for the right story – we are happy to be at your service.



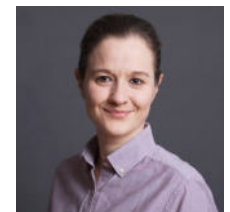
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# New Experiences & Offers

## Disentis: La Pendentia Suspension Bridge



270 metres long and 100 metres above the ground – these dimensions make La Pendentia the longest suspension bridge in Graubünden and one of the most spectacular in Switzerland. The pedestrian bridge, which opened in November, connects Disentis with the hamlet of Mumpé Medel. The bridge is accessible all year round and offers spectacular views down into the gorge. Thanks to the new bridge, the hiking trails on both sides are better connected in summer and winter.

[www.pendentia.ch](http://www.pendentia.ch) (in German)

## Plaun da Lej: Ice Bathing and Sweating at Lake Sils



Ice bathing is on trend. More and more people are looking for a cold kick to test their courage or to get their circulation going. Last winter, two new ice baths opened in the Engadine: one in Lake St. Moritz and one in Lake Sils. The latter is located near Plaun da Lej and is adding a sauna to its facilities this winter. It is located directly on the lakeshore and offers a marvellous view of the frozen lake. [www.engadin.ch/en/ice-sports/ice-bathing](http://www.engadin.ch/en/ice-sports/ice-bathing)

## San Bernardino: Opening of the San Bernardino Sports Arena



The cable cars at San Bernardino have been closed since 2012, except for the drag lifts above the village. There was no money to refurbish them. In August 2023, the mountain railways were acquired by San Bernardino Swiss Alps and the first facilities were renovated and put back into operation. Two more ski lifts are to follow by December 2024. This summer, the Hotel Brocco & Posta was extensively modernised. Further new accommodation is being planned or is under construction.

<https://sanbernardino-sportarena.com/en>

## Scuol: La Motta



45 years after the Motta Naluns mountain station was built, Bergbahnen Scuol is investing around 20 million Swiss francs in its complete renovation. The existing restaurant was replaced by a new building made from wood and glass, which is modelled on Engadine architecture. New sun terraces double the size of the dining area. In addition, the entire building was renovated in terms of installation technology and energy efficiency. [www.bergbahnen-scuol.ch](http://www.bergbahnen-scuol.ch) (in German)

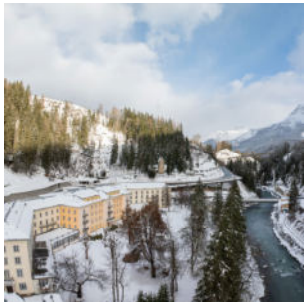
# New Accommodation

## Arosa: BelArosa Chalet



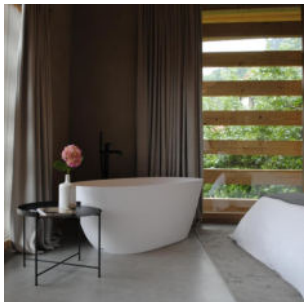
A new type of hotel opens in the centre of Arosa in December. More precisely, ten chalets – half with their own infinity pool – united under one roof. The BelArosa Chalet combines Graubünden architecture with state-of-the-art comfort and 5-star service. The concept of the accommodation is inspired by the elements of water, wood, fire, metal, earth, air and stone. This is reflected in the interior design, the furnishings and the materials used. [www.belarosa-chalet.ch/en](http://www.belarosa-chalet.ch/en)

## Scuol: Hotel Scuol Palace



The Hotel Scuol Palace was opened at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and was once the haunt of Europe's nobility and aristocracy. Most recently, however, the magnificent building stood empty for a long time, as the days of this kind of spa tourism are over. Now five locals want to breathe new life into it by reinterpreting spa tourism and supplementing it with cultural offerings. With their cultural events, they also want to become a meeting place for locals. <https://scuolpalace.ch/en>

## Tomils: Casa Giovanoli



Tomils is a tranquil village in Domleschg. It is far away from the hustle and bustle and the perfect place for a slow tourism accommodation such as the new boutique hotel Casa Giovanoli. In the hotel with eight double rooms, a holiday apartment and the Travers restaurant, a yoga lesson is included with every overnight stay. You won't find a television, instead there are vinyl records. Gastronomically, the focus is on homemade food and vegetables from their own garden. [www.casagiovanoli.com](http://www.casagiovanoli.com)

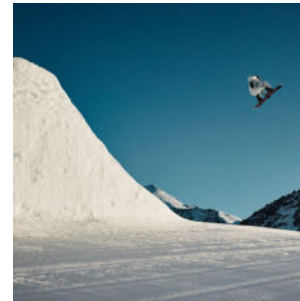
# World Championships

## Lenzerheide: Biathlon World Championships



The Biathlon World Championships will be held in Switzerland for the first time from 12<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025. The venue is the Roland Arena in Lantsch/Lenz in the holiday destination Lenzerheide, the only permanently installed biathlon facility in the country. When no races are taking place, “normal people” can also try out the sport of biathlon there. In taster courses, you can find out what it feels like to have to shoot at and hit a small target with a heart rate of 150. [www.lenzerheide2025.ch/en](http://www.lenzerheide2025.ch/en)

## Engadine: Freestyle World Championships



From 17<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025, the Snowboard, Freestyle and Freeski World Championships will take place for the first time on Corvatsch, Corviglia and in St. Moritz. To create the best possible competition conditions, over 5 million Swiss francs have been invested in the construction of a new superpipe in the Corvatsch ski resort. The new pipe can be used by all winter sports enthusiasts when no competitions or training sessions are taking place. [www.freestylestmoritz2025.ch/en](http://www.freestylestmoritz2025.ch/en)



# Anniversary

## 10 Years: Davos Cover Festival



Adele, Beatles, Nirvana or Tina Turner – this winter, the Davos Cover Festival will be playing the greatest music hits of the past decades for the 10<sup>th</sup> time, interpreted by Europe's best tribute and cover bands. Music is played on stages in the ski resorts, in the village and in hotels. With the exception of the Adele Dinner Show with a 4-course menu at the Hotel AlpenGold and the Beatles concert at the congress hall, all concerts are free of charge. The Cover Festival will take place from 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025. [www.coverfestival.ch/en/home](http://www.coverfestival.ch/en/home)

## 10 Years: LAAX OPEN



From 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> January 2025, the world-renowned freestyle event LAAX OPEN will take place for the 10<sup>th</sup> time. In addition to the Snowboard World Cup in the slopestyle and halfpipe disciplines, the Freeski World Cup has also been held in slopestyle since 2023. Around 300 athletes from all over the world are looking forward to showing off their skills at this prestigious international contest. There is a supporting programme for spectators with live concerts and happenings on the mountain and in the valley. <https://open.laax.com/en>



Europe's first ice minigolf course in Davos © Graubünden Ferien, Marco Hartmann

# Sleep for Less than 100 Francs

Historic hotel, tiny home or youth hostel: we present six special accommodation options where you can stay in a double room for less than 100 Swiss francs per person.

## Historic Hotel: Chasa Chalavaina in Müstair



First mentioned as a hostel in 1254, the Chasa Chalavaina now offers 18 rooms, a large garden and a restaurant. The past is present throughout the building – in the historic furniture, the thick walls, the Russian kitchen. In 2024, the Chasa Chalavaina was named the “Historic Hotel of the Year” by the Icomos Foundation.

from CHF 85.– for a single room with WC/shower on the floor incl. breakfast, [www.hotelchalavaina.ch](http://www.hotelchalavaina.ch) (in German)

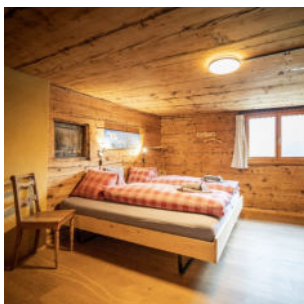
## Hostel: Bogentrakt Hostel in Chur



Until recently, the “Sennhof” was a prison. Today, the building serves as a hostel. Anyone who fears the feeling of being locked in: we can put your mind at rest. Thanks to a clever conversion, guests feel at home in the hostel, but the history of the building remains visible. For example, the cell doors have been retained, while the room layout has been adapted to create larger guest rooms.

CHF 135.– for a double room, [www.bogentrakt.ch/en-gb](http://www.bogentrakt.ch/en-gb)

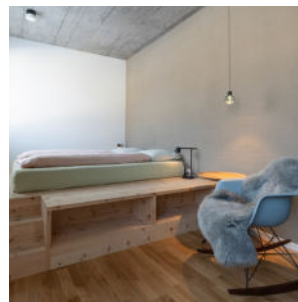
## Agrotourism: Gasslihof in the Safien Valley



Marco Waldburger’s organic farm is located at the far end of the Safien Valley, in Thalkirch. He has set up four double rooms and a small restaurant for guests in an old Walserhaus. The dishes served are made from regional produce and meat from the farm or from the hunt. In winter, the Safien Valley is a peaceful paradise for skiing, snowshoe tours and cross-country skiing.

from CHF 170.– for a double room incl. breakfast, [www.gasslihof.ch](http://www.gasslihof.ch) (in German)

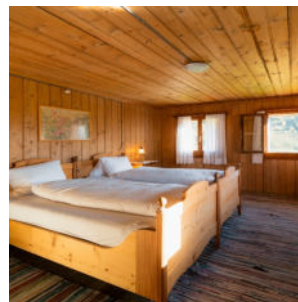
## Youth Hostel: wellnessHostel<sup>3000</sup> in Laax



There are seven youth hostels in Graubünden where you can stay overnight for less than CHF 100.–. The newest and most special accommodation is the wellnessHostel<sup>3000</sup> in Laax. As its name suggests, it offers not only inexpensive accommodation in six-bed, four-bed and double rooms, but also a large wellness area, a swimming pool and a fitness room.

from CHF 156.60 for a double room incl. breakfast, swimming pool, wellness and fitness, [www.youthhostel.ch/en/hostels/wellnesshostel-3000-laax](http://www.youthhostel.ch/en/hostels/wellnesshostel-3000-laax)

## Mountain Inn: Berggasthaus Beverin on the Glas Pass



The cosy mountain inn on the Glas Pass offers 36 beds in single, double and family rooms. In winter, the winter hiking trail starts right on the doorstep and the valley station of the Tschappina ski resort can be reached by car in five minutes. A 3-course dinner can be booked for CHF 27.–.

from CHF 136.– for a double room with shower/WC on the floor incl. breakfast, [www.berggasthaus-beverin.com](http://www.berggasthaus-beverin.com) (in German)

## Winter Glamping: Tiny Homes at Camping Viva in Rueras



Winter glamping is available for all those who are not brave enough for winter camping in a tent. It combines the natural experience of camping with the comfort of heated accommodation. You can experience this, for example, in one of the four Tiny Homes at Camping Viva in Rueras. The glamping accommodation is lovingly furnished and offers space for two to four people. They can be booked for two nights or more. from CHF 133.– for a Tiny Home for two people, [www.campingviva.ch](http://www.campingviva.ch) (in German)



# Graubünden Customs

Graubünden is rich in traditions. Over the centuries, a wide variety of customs have developed in the 150 valleys of Switzerland's largest canton. Many of them serve to drive away the winter.

## Graubünden: **Chalandamarz**



In the Engadine, in the Val Müstair, in the Val Bregaglia, in the Val Poschiavo and in the region “Mittelbünden” people celebrate an ancient spring tradition to this day: Chalandamarz. On 1<sup>st</sup> March, colourfully costumed schoolchildren parade through the villages to drive out the winter demons with the jingling of bells and the cracking of whips. In the past, only boys were allowed to take part in the parade, but this has changed in recent years. <https://graubuenden-erleben.ch/chalandamarz-en>

## Surselva & Rhine Valley: **Trer Schibettas**



The once widespread custom is still celebrated today in Danis/Tavanasa, Dardin and Untervaz. During Trer Schibettas, young men climb high above the villages, where they make carved wooden discs glow in the fire and hurl them down into the valley. Each disc is accompanied by a loud call with a dedication to a girl. The men do this to drive away the winter and woo their sweethearts. [www.graubuenden.ch/en/graubuenden/general-information/customs-traditions](http://www.graubuenden.ch/en/graubuenden/general-information/customs-traditions)

## Rheinwald: **Pschuuri**



On the morning of Ash Wednesday, costumed children in Splügen go from house to house and beg for sweets, chanting “Pschuuri, Pschuuri Mittwuchä, äs Eischi oder äs Meitschi”. In the afternoon, it's the bachelors' turn. Disguised as fearsome “Pschuurirolli”, they try to track down and catch children and unmarried women, who are hiding from them, in order to blacken their faces. [www.graubuenden.ch/en/graubuenden/general-information/customs-traditions](http://www.graubuenden.ch/en/graubuenden/general-information/customs-traditions)

## Scuol: **Hom Strom**



On the first Saturday in February, schoolchildren in Scuol meet on the village square to make the Hom Strom. They twist self-harvested rye straw into strands up to nine metres high and as thick as an arm. In the evening, the village gathers in Gurlaina to watch the spectacle: boys throw fireballs at the Hom Strom, setting it on fire. From the flames of the Hom Strom, you can tell how the next harvest will turn out. [www.engadin.com/en/hom-strom](http://www.engadin.com/en/hom-strom)

## Upper Engadine: **Schlitteda**



The “Schlitteda” custom has its origins in the time when sleighs and horses were the only means of transport in winter and there were still clear rules for dating. The event offered bachelors an opportunity to invite their beloved for a romantic sleigh ride and spend the day with her. Today, both single and married people take part in the Schlitteda, which is celebrated in numerous Engadine villages in January. What remains from those days: the elaborately decorated wooden sleigh, the richly adorned horses and the intricately embroidered traditional costumes.

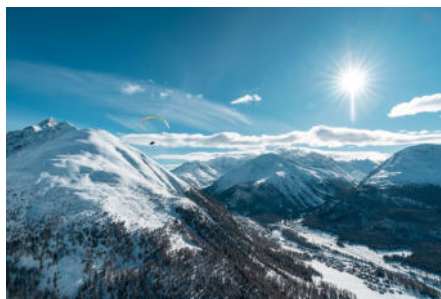
## Research Idea

# Wild, wild valley in the Engadine

The Engadine offers many opportunities to escape from everyday life and enjoy life in harmony with nature – be it with action-packed freestyle sports or in the tranquil expanse of the valley. Under the motto “Wild, wild valley”, two facets of the freestyle lifestyle merge in the Engadine: the adrenaline rush of sport and the feeling of total freedom in unspoilt nature.

Whether on the piste, in the snow park or off-piste: freestylers live here in the moment and enjoy the feeling of freedom and wild nature. Freestyle is not only about acrobatic tricks, but also stands for individuality, creativity and mindfulness. It's about more than top sporting performance – the sense of community as well as mutual support and inspiration characterise the sport. The freestyle highlight of the coming season will be the FIS Freestyle World Championships: two weeks from 17<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> March, 1,200 top athletes, 40 nations and 17 disciplines. The Engadine competition venues Corvatsch, Corviglia and Olympiaschanze will once again be able to present themselves on the international stage.

But freestyle in the Engadine is much more than just sport – it is a way of life that is reflected in many areas. The ‘free spirit’ is also evident in the conscious connection with nature, such as forest bathing, where the tranquillity of the forest harmonises body and mind. This meditative experience allows you to leave your hectic everyday life behind and recharge your batteries. The same applies to sunrise breathing, the conscious experience of the sunrise, in which the body and mind are prepared for the day ahead through breathing techniques. Such activities promote a feeling of freedom and connection with wild, expansive nature – and are an essential part of the holistic lifestyle that is lived in the Engadine.





## Research Idea

# Cross-country Skiing Stronghold Davos Klosters

Cross-country skiing is one of the healthiest sports in the world – and Davos Klosters offers a wide range of opportunities to practise this sport. With over 100 kilometres of classic trails and 75 kilometres of skating trails, there is a suitable route for every preference – be it classic, skating, at night or with the dog.

Olympic and world champion Dario Cologna is the figurehead of Swiss cross-country skiing and has been promoting the Davos Klosters region since 2012. With four Olympic victories, four overall World Cup victories and 20 podium places in one season, he is regarded as the most successful Swiss cross-country skier.

In winter 2024/25, two major cross-country skiing events will celebrate their anniversary: The 50th edition of Davos Nordic will take place from 13<sup>rd</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024. Davos Nordic, which originally began as a training race in 1974, quickly developed into a prestigious World Cup event where the best cross-country skiers in the world compete every year.

The Sertig Classic celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025. The first Sertig Classic took place in 2016 with 157 participants. After three years on the 13-km course, a half marathon was added in 2019. The Sertig Classic is now a firm fixture in the calendars of many cross-country skiers, including renowned World Cup athletes.

Another highlight of the region is snow farming. What began as an experiment over 15 years ago has developed into a success story. At the end of each winter, a 20,000 cubic metre pile of snow is covered with sawdust to preserve it during the summer months. This preserves approx. 70 to 80 per cent of the snow volume with which a four-kilometre cross-country ski trail can be opened in Davos Klosters at the end of October. Davos is one of the pioneers in snow farming.



Olympic and world champion Dario Cologna cross-country skiing in Sertig  
© Destination Davos Klosters, Marcel Giger

## Swiss International Air Lines

A wonderful country can be discovered in many ways. And on board the leading airline of Switzerland, you immediately notice what makes it so unique. Be it the smile of the crew when boarding or the chocolate before landing: It is this personal and individual service that shows how closely Swiss International Air Lines, as the leading airline of Switzerland, is linked to its values. The special warmth and renowned Swiss quality are evident in every detail of a SWISS flight. In addition to Swiss hospitality paired with little extras, special cabin furnishings and a modern fleet make SWISS a unique product both in the air and on the ground. SWISS' commitment to sustainability and its dedication to sustainable air transport is also unique. SWISS also transports ski or snowboard luggage\* free of charge for the perfect ski holiday. This means that each passenger can check in 1 pair of skis, 1 pair of poles, 1 pair of ski boots (also in a separate bag) and 1 helmet or 1 snowboard, 1 pair of snowboard boots (also in a separate bag) and 1 helmet as luggage free of charge.

\*This offer does not apply to flights booked on Economy Light fares and to codeshare flights, or connecting flights to the USA where one leg is a codeshare flight.

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[www.swiss.com](http://www.swiss.com)



## Travel Switzerland

Switzerland comprises the densest public transport network in the world. It extends over 29,000 captivating kilometres, linking city centres, tiny tucked away villages, mountain resorts and lakes. Especially for travellers from abroad, the Swiss public transport offers visitors the opportunity to discover the many diverse delights by road, rail and waterway. And with just a single all-in-one ticket – the Swiss Travel Pass.

The world-famous panoramic routes through Graubünden, such as the Glacier Express and the Bernina Express, are also included (excl. seat reservation fee) and are a part of the Grand Train Tour of Switzerland ([www.travelswitzerland.com/grandtraintour](http://www.travelswitzerland.com/grandtraintour)). Furthermore, the Swiss Travel Pass offers free admission to more than 500 museums nationwide (of which 29 are in Graubünden) and 50 percent discount off most mountain railways.

[media@travelswitzerland.com](mailto:media@travelswitzerland.com)  
[www.travelswitzerland.com](http://www.travelswitzerland.com)

travel swi<sup>+</sup>zerland

## Mobility

Graubünden Ferien and Mobility are making it easier than ever to explore the beauty of Switzerland's largest canton in an environmentally friendly way. Five new electric car-sharing locations have been created that are easily accessible by public transport. This means that guests can travel by train without stress or traffic jams and have flexibility once they arrive. You get a car when you need one.

The "Graubünden sustainably mobile" project meets the growing need for clean mobility, even on holiday, and is supported by the canton of Graubünden as part of the "Green Deal". Car sharing as part of combined mobility saves space, reduces traffic and helps the environment.

Thanks to Mobility, Switzerland's leading car-sharing provider, 56 vehicles of various categories are available at 26 locations in Graubünden. The system is simple: guests can book a car via app in just a few clicks and enjoy the benefits of stress-free and affordable mobility.

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