

Winter 2026/2027

News, Anniversaries & Research Ideas



We're Here to Help!

Whether you'd like to research a specific topic in Graubünden or are still looking for the right story – we're happy to help.



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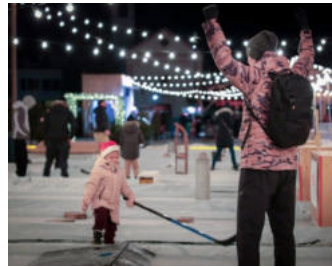
New Experiences

Ice Mini-Golf

📍 Arosa & Lenzerheide

Following the opening of the world's first ice mini-golf course in Davos, you can now also try out this new sport in Arosa and Lenzerheide. In Arosa, the facility is situated right on the Obersee, with views of the surrounding peaks. When it gets dark, the ice on the 18 rinks is lit up so you can also play at night. In Lenzerheide, the ice mini-golf course is part of the new W.O.W. Plaza with an ice rink, curling lanes, a kiosk and food trucks.

<https://graubuenden-erleben.ch/eisminigolfen> (in German)



Snowshoe Walks on the Segnesböden

📍 Flims

Thanks to the FleMx gondola lift, the Sardona Tectonic Arena is also accessible in winter from the Segnes and Cassons mountain stations. Two new, signposted snowshoe trails invite you to discover this peaceful winter paradise at its very best: the longer trail goes via Oberer Segnesboden, whilst the shorter one goes via Unterer Segnesboden. The latter can be combined with a stop on the terrace of the Segneshütte.

<https://www.flimslaax.com/en/winter/unesco-winter>



Pink Mirror Carousel

📍 St. Moritz

A light pink, mirrored carousel has recently been spinning on the ice rink in front of the Kulm Hotel in St. Moritz. It is an outdoor installation by the German artist Carsten Höller. Anyone can ride on it and become part of the performance. One revolution takes exactly two minutes. Because of its slow pace, it deliberately defies expectations of the carousel as a form of amusement. Instead of action, it offers contemplation. It is precisely this lack of excitement that interests him, explains Carsten Höller.

<https://graubuenden-erleben.ch/pink-carousel>



New Accommodation

Savognin Youth Hostel

♀ Savognin

After standing empty for four years, the former Hotel Cube in Savognin is being given a new lease of life: in the spring, the municipality of Surses took over the property. After nine months of extensive refurbishment, it will reopen in December as a Swiss youth hostel with 178 beds – comprising single, twin, family and four-bed rooms. A night's stay in a shared room costs from CHF 47, including breakfast. The three-course dinner menu is available for CHF 19.50. The spacious lobby forms the heart of the building, where non-resident guests are also made to feel very welcome.

<https://www.youthhostel.ch/en/hostels/savognin-youth-hostel>



Hotel Alpenstadt

♀ Chur

Right in the heart of Chur's old town, there is a new four-star hotel with 90 beds. Set in a property steeped in culinary history, the 'Alpenstadt' welcomes guests to rooms offering single to triple accommodation. The décor is elegant and understated, with wooden features adding a touch of character; the walls are adorned with paintings by artists from Graubünden. The owner and Chur-based restaurateur Jakob Wyss took charge of the planning himself – right down to the choice of furniture.

<https://alpenstadthotelchur.com>



Hotel Concordia

♀ Zuoz

First opened in 1876, the Hotel Concordia was once an icon of its time. Under the name Hotel Engiadina, it had, for a time, fallen into a deep slumber. Now, with respect for its long history, it is being given a new lease of life, meticulously restored and reopened under its former, yet new name. A local architectural practice was commissioned for the construction. The interior design bears the personal touch of the owners, Sandra and Franklin Schatzmann.

<https://hotelconcordia.swiss/en>



Anniversaries

Alexander Spengler

🍰 200 years

Alexander Spengler spearheaded Davos' rise to become a leading international spa, holiday and conference destination. Around 150 years ago, his discovery of the healing effects of mountain air on tuberculosis patients sparked the social, cultural and tourist development of the mountain resort. 2027 will mark the second centenary of Alexander Spengler's birth. To mark this anniversary, Davos is honouring its pioneer.

Further information can be found on page 14.

<https://graubuenden-erleben.ch/spengler>



Muottas Muragl Toboggan Run

🍰 30 years

20 bends, 718 metres of elevation gain and 4 kilometres long – the toboggan run from Muottas Muragl to Punt Muragl is one of the fastest and most challenging in the whole of Graubünden. You can get to the starting point easily by cable car. Before hurtling down into the valley, you should take a moment to enjoy the view of the frozen Engadine lakes from the terrace of the mountain hotel. Sledges can be hired at the valley station of the cable car railway.

<https://graubuenden-erleben.ch/toboggan-run>



Therme Vals

🍰 30 years

Since its opening on December 14, 1996, the spa – designed by Peter Zumthor – has been one of the most influential examples of contemporary architecture in Graubünden. Approximately 60,000 slabs of local Vals quartzite give it an archaic presence. The pools are fed with 30° C highly mineralized water from the St. Peters Spring, which lies directly beneath the thermal baths.

<https://7132.com/therme>



Culture takes Centre Stage

The 'Kulturhotels Graubünden' initiative brings together hotels in the Graubünden mountains that make culture a central focus of what they have to offer. They provide artists and cultural practitioners with a platform for concerts, readings, exhibitions, discussions and arts and crafts. These events enrich their guests' stays and broaden the range of activities on offer for local residents.

Kurhaus Bergün

📍 Bergün

This iconic hotel in Bergün exudes Art Nouveau charm. At the spa, you can relax in the whirlpool, the sauna or the wooden relaxation pavilion. In culinary terms, the kitchen team makes use of regional ingredients, whilst cultural events and weekly cinema screenings provide food for the soul.

<https://kurhausberguen.ch>

Medelina

📍 Curaglia

The Medelina is situated on the upper edge of the village of Curaglia and welcomes its guests into rooms crafted from natural materials. Here, the Medelina team celebrates uncompromising regional cuisine – all dishes are certified by alpinavera – and a wide variety of fresh vegetables come from their own garden. And the carefully curated cultural programme and arts and crafts courses on offer are just as important.

<https://medelina.ch> (in German)



Berghotel Bergalga

📍 Avers

From this well-maintained house in Avers, there is a view of the Bergalga Valley, from which the house takes its name. The rooms in the timber-framed building are a haven of cosiness. Here the clocks tick more slowly, and even come to a complete standstill now and then. On selected evenings, the co-operatively run hotel hosts cultural evenings that are light-hearted, wistful or thought-provoking.

<https://bergalga.ch>

Waldhaus Sils

📍 Sils-Maria

The Grand Hotel stands majestically overlooking Lake Sils, like something out of a fairy tale. Set in historic surroundings, this family-run five-star hotel offers a wealth of space and comfort. The various dining rooms serve high-quality regional and international cuisine. Cultural awareness runs in the blood of the Dietrich family of hoteliers: consequently, in 2026 it was awarded the Recognition Prize by the Grison Office for Culture.

<https://www.waldhaus-sils.ch/en>

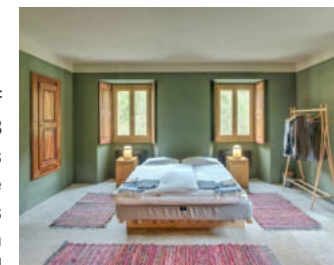


Bed & Breakfast Pontisella

📍 Stampa

In the Val Bregaglia valley in the south of Graubünden, this small but charming B&B welcomes its guests. The house enchants visitors with rooms full of art and a boutique selling all manner of beautiful and ingenious items. Attentive guests will find design classics and a large, carefully curated collection of books in the stylish, historic surroundings. The dreamy garden is idyllic, the regional breakfast is delicious, and the regular cultural events are full of atmosphere.

<https://www.pontisella-stampa.ch> (in German)



Hotel Ucliva

📍 Waltensburg

Hotel Ucliva is nestled in the Alpine landscape between the mountain villages of Brigels, Waltensburg and Andiast. Life is celebrated on the sun terrace and in the cosy dining rooms: at cultural events, over a meal, or whilst enjoying a good book in the reading room. To this end, the hotel is committed to sustainability. It has been awarded the highest possible sustainability labels by Switzerland Tourism and ibex Fairstay.

<https://www.ucliva.ch> (in German)



Caught Out in the Freezing Cold

From ice skating in the winter forest to playing mini-golf on ice and climbing frozen waterfalls – these are the best icy adventures in Graubünden.

Ice Bathing

📍 Arosa, Davos, Engadin, St. Moritz, Val Lumnezia

Ice bathing is all the rage. Some are drawn by the adventure and the challenge, whilst others hope it will have a positive impact on their health. In Graubünden, you can take part in workshops at the 'Eisbadi Arosa' and the 'Atem & Kälte Werkstatt' in Davos to learn what you need to bear in mind. At the ice bathing spots in Plaun da Lej on Lake Sils and in Vella on Lake Davos Munts, you can warm up in the saunas after a cold dip.

<https://graubuenden-erleben.ch/eisbaden> (in German)



Ice Climbing

📍 Avers, Davos, Pontresina

Carabiners rattle, hooks clank, ice shards drip – with one hand, you swing the ice axe over your head and drive it into the wall, then hammer the crampon into the ice. This is how you scale frozen waterfalls when ice climbing. In Graubünden, the best conditions for this winter sport can be found in the Sertig side valley in Davos, in the Ova da Bernina gorge near Pontresina, or in the remote high valley of Avers. For anyone who already goes rock climbing: rope handling and the procedure involved in ice climbing are similar to those used in multi-pitch alpine climbing. The climbing technique isn't much different either. However, you do need some extra materials for this.

<https://graubuenden-erleben.ch/eisklettern> (in German)



Ice Canyoning

📍 Pontresina

Winter canyoning is a combination of a rope park and a via ferrata, and is offered by the Pontresina Mountaineering School in the frozen Ova da Bernina gorge near the village Pontresina. Participants hike, climb and glide along zip lines past ice-covered rock faces and frozen waterfalls without getting wet. Secured and under the expert guidance of a mountain guide, you'll tackle tricky sections and cover a distance of around 500 metres.

<https://graubuenden-erleben.ch/ice-canyoning>



Ice Trails

📍 Madulain, Sur En

Gliding through the winter landscape on ice skates along a frozen footpath? That's only possible in Graubünden; or, to be more precise, in the Engadin. The first ice trail runs from Madulain to Zuoz. On certain dates, you can even go ice-skating here by the light of the full moon. The second ice trail is three kilometres long and winds its way through the winter forest near Sur En.

<https://graubuenden-erleben.ch/ice-trails>



Ice Mini-Golf

📍 Arosa, Davos, Lenzerheide

Ice mini-golf works just like normal mini-golf. The aim is to get the ball or in this case a small puck into the hole in as few strokes as possible while overcoming various obstacles. The difference: the game is played on ice using a hockey stick. The world's first course is located in Davos. There are now two more 18-hole courses: one in Arosa, right by the Obersee, and one in Lenzerheide, at the W.O.W. Plaza.

<https://graubuenden-erleben.ch/eisminigolfen> (in German)



Alexander Spengler, the Founder of Davos

💡 Research idea

On 20 March 2027, Alexander Spengler would have turned 200. To mark the occasion, Davos is celebrating its pioneer and inventor this winter and next summer.

Alexander Spengler came to Switzerland as a political refugee in the mid-19th century. After completing his medical studies, he became a district doctor in Davos in 1853. He recognised the unique potential of Davos's high-altitude climate at an early stage and researched its healing effects on tuberculosis. His therapeutic approach combined medical care with exercise, a balanced diet, time spent in nature, and cultural and intellectual stimulation. Together with Willem Jan Holsboer, who spearheaded the construction of the Rhaetian Railway to Davos, Spengler founded the 'Curhaus', one of the first upmarket sanatoriums. In doing so, he laid an important foundation for Davos's development into an international health resort and holiday destination.



His family also left their mark on the town: his son Lucius worked as a doctor at the Schatzalp, whilst his son Carl founded the international ice hockey tournament Spengler Cup. Together with his wife Elisabeth, Spengler was also involved in charitable work.

Spengler's work epitomises the bond between medicine, science, culture, sport and social life that continues to characterise Davos to this day. The anniversary year marking the 200th anniversary of his birth, under the theme 'At the Forefront of the Times', commemorates these roots whilst also looking towards Davos' future.



Suggested itinerary

- A stay in Davos, Spengler's home and place of work
- Interviews with Spengler experts
- Accommodation at the Hotel Schatzalp, a former sanatorium, with its own ski resort
- A day's skiing at Parsenn, Jakobshorn or Rinerhorn

Ski Tours for Beginners

💡 Research idea

The Safiental offers the ideal conditions for your first ski tour experiences. Gentle climbs, varied routes and the tranquil mountain scenery make the valley a special destination for beginners.



Here, you can take your first steps on touring skis in a relaxed atmosphere – surrounded by impressive peaks, snow-covered slopes, unspoilt nature and Walser culture. This remote valley in the Grisons has remained untouched by mass tourism and, for that very reason, offers a unique sense of tranquillity that is ideal for learning. Anyone tackling an uphill climb on skins for the first time will find moderate elevation gains here, terrain with

good visibility and short journeys to the starting points – perfect for developing technique, rhythm and stamina at a leisurely pace.

Back in the valley, there is cosy accommodation that's perfect for unwinding, as well as a wide range of winter activities should the weather not be on the ski tourers' side. Ice skating, sledge riding, cross-country skiing, winter walking – you can even use the solar-powered ski lift to go skiing here. It is not without reason that the Safiental is regarded as a best-kept secret for those seeking both tranquillity and active outdoor experiences.



Suggested itinerary

- 3 nights' accommodation at the Gasslihof agritourism guesthouse in Thalkirch
- 2 easy ski tours with a local mountain guide
- 1 further activity, such as cross-country skiing, tobogganing or skiing at the solar ski lift in Tenna



'Builders' of the Olympia Bob Run

💡 Research idea

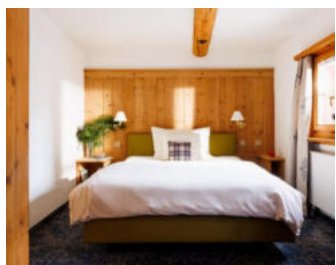
For over forty years, 15 men from Naturns in South Tyrol have been travelling to the Engadin in November – some of them now in the third generation – to build 'their' bobsleigh track.



In three weeks, 21,000 m³ of snow and 15,000 m³ of water will be transformed into the world's only natural bobsleigh run. Turn by turn, Sunny Corner's team makes its way towards the finish line. At the very end, the first section of the route, including the start, is created. Although the snow is transported to the right spot by lorries and trax, the track is built using spades and muscle power. The key factors for success: years of experience

and a little booklet of sketches showing exactly how the curves need to be measured and built. Fire hydrants, trees and a good eye serve as reference points.

After just over three weeks of construction, things get serious: the test run determines whether the track can open as planned. But even then, the South Tyroleans' work is not yet done. During the two-and-a-half months of operation, everyone looks after the bend they have been assigned – with great precision and pride. So that everyone who races down the Olympia Bob Run will find a perfect track.



Suggested itinerary

- Meet the builders of the Olympia Bob Run
- Visit to the Celerina Bobsleigh Museum with Donald Holstein, the museum's founder and the pilot on the test run
- 2 nights' accommodation at the Hotel Chesa Rosatsch in Celerina
- Subject to availability: track tour with Sara Schmied, U20 World Champion in skeleton, or Beat Hefti, Olympic champion and guest bobsleigh pilot



Olympia Bob Run © Engadin Tourism



Ice climber in Pontresina © Fabian Gattlen

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*This offer does not apply to flights booked on the Economy Light fare, codeshare flights, or connecting flights to the USA where one leg of the journey is operated as a codeshare flight.

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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. 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.

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