# SWISS NATURE EXPERIENCE Sales Manual

# WELCONE

**Aletsch Arena – nature as far as the eye can see.** The Aletsch Glacier in the Jungfrau-Aletsch UNESCO World Heritage Site in the Swiss Alps is the biggest and longest glacier in the Alps. Its ice and rock masses stretch over 23km and cover a surface area of 85km² from the north flanks of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau to the Aletsch Arena in Valais. The ice sheet is up to 900m thick. Experience the glacier in all its magnitude and fascination from the lookout points of Moosfluh, Bettmerhorn and Eggishorn.







#### How to reach the Aletsch Arena

The Aletsch Arena is easily accessible by private and public transport. The roads and passes are well developed, and the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn (MGBahn) railway line passes through beautiful and very varied countryside. The famous Glacier Express travels through the Goms region as it plies between St. Moritz/Dayos and Zermatt.

#### Special stopover offers in Basel:

Bookable at: basel.com/aletscharena



**Door-to-door service (travel without luggage):** sbb.ch/baggage

#### How to get there with public transport

#### International rail connections:

Milan-Brig, Paris-Basel-Berne-Brig

#### National rail connections:

By Swiss Federal Railways (SBB) Basel-Berne-Brig, Geneva-Lausanne-Sion-Brig,

Zurich-Berne-Brig.

Connections with the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn (MGBahn) in Visp/Brig and from Göschenen to the Mörel, Betten valley and Fiesch stations.

#### Regional rail connections:

Half-hourly service – Zermatt/Visp/Brig/Mörel/Betten Valley Station/Fiesch

For more information, visit: sbb.ch, mgbahn.ch

#### How to get there by car

**From western Switzerland:** Take the A9 highway from Lake Geneva towards Brig-Furka

From Milan/Italy: Drive through the Simplon Pass, which is open all year round, or use the Brig-Iselle car transport service From Germany: Travel via Basle-Berne-Thun-Kandersteg (Lötschberg car transport service)-Goppenstein-Brigcontinue towards Furka; or via Zurich-towards GotthardFurka car transport service (Realp-Oberwald)-continue through the Goms region towards Brig

#### **Distances**

Airport	Public transport	Car and coach
Milano Malpensa	2h 30min	2h 15min
Berne-Belp	2h 40min	2h 30min
Zurich	3h 15min	3h 20min
Geneva Cointrin	3h 30min	3h 30min
Basel	3h 40min	3h 30min
Zermatt	approx. 2h	1h 35min
Saas-Fee	approx. 2h	1h 20min

#### **General information**

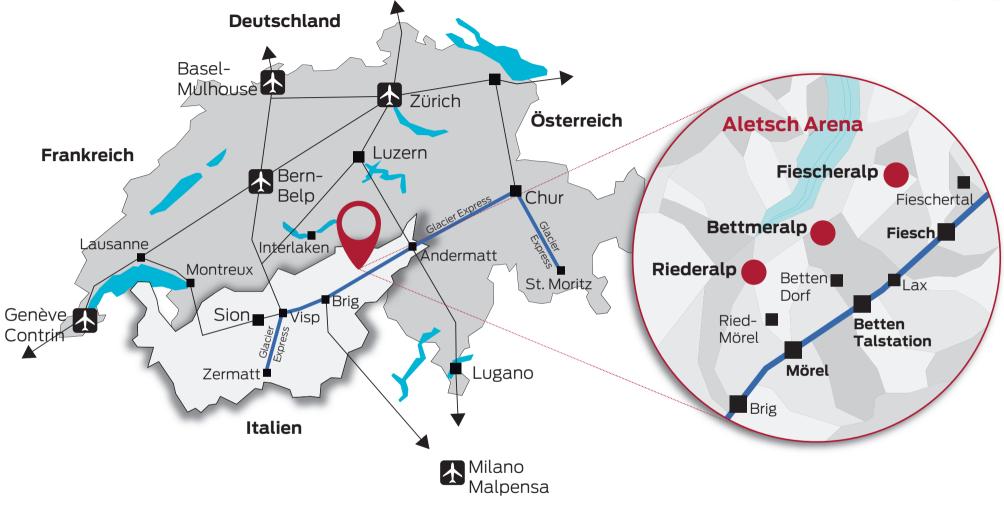
**Language** German

**Currency** Swiss franc (CHF)

**Time zone** Central European Time (CET = UTC +1)

**Swiss public transport ticket finder:** swisstravelsystem.com **Timetables:** sbb.ch

#### aletscharena.ch/gettinghere



The Aletsch Arena with the Aletsch Glacier (the largest glacier in the Alps) is one of the highlights of the Grand Tour of Switzerland and of the Glacier Express Line.









#### Season dates for cableways

View Points – Moosfluh, Bettmerhorn, Eggishorn:
Winter December until Mid-April MidSummer June until end of October

#### ${\bf Feeder\ cableways\ (Riederalp, Bettmeralp, Fiescheralp):}$

Operate all year round. aletscharena.ch/timetable

For groups: trips to the view points with prior reservation can be booked all year round!

#### Travel times to vantage points

Moosfluh40 minutesBettmerhorn40 minutesEggishorn25 minutes

These journey times include the travel time from the Mörel valley stations (Moosfluh), Betten valley station (Bettmerhorn) and Fiesch (Eggishorn) to the respective viewing point.

#### **Transport capacities**

5'300 pers./h
2'400 pers./h
2'400 pers./h
500 pers./h

#### Parking

For details & prices, see: aletscharena.ch/cableways









# 👃 fiesch





#### Tranquil/away from it all

#### Facts

At an altitude of between 718m and 2.333m 1'230 inhabitants (Riederalp-Mörel-Breiten) 14 hotels, 650 holiday apartments, 1 group accommodation facility 300'000 overnight stays per year

Highlights View point/new Gletscherbahn Moosfluh lift New lift middle station at Blausee platform & energy spot Moosfluh Switzerland's first nature conservation centre established in 1933 Protected Aletsch Forest Aletsch Pro Natura Centre/villa Cassel Suspension bridge Alpine Museum Salina Maris, the only Swiss-accredited

#### Childrens entertainment programme Celebrities

Art Furrer: the inventor of acrobatic (freestyle) skiing

Alpine therapeutic brine bath

Skiing by night

#### **Authentic/vivacious**

#### Facts

At an altitude of between 1,200m and 2,647m 412 inhabitants (Bettmeralp) 10 hotels, 843 holiday apartments, 3 group accommodation facilities 350'000 overnight stays per year

#### **Highlights**

Bettmerhorn view point Energy spot Bettmerhorn Glacier World exhibition at Bettmerhorn viewing point Sports centre Rope park Landmark: the "Maria zum Schnee" (Mary of the Snows) chapel Bettmersee Lake Skiing by night Snowpark/halfpipe Bars and night spots Childrens entertainment programme

#### Celebrities

Bernhard Stucky: former Spa Director at Bettmeralp

#### Passionate about sports/easy to reach

#### **Facts**

At an altitude of between 1.050m and 2.869m 1'607 inhabitants (Fiesch Eggishorn) 18 hotels, 369 holiday apartments, 13 group accommodation facilities 370'000 overnight stays per year

#### **Highlights**

Eggishorn view point Energy spot Eggishorn Circular trail Eggishorn (from summer 2016) Fiesch sports and holiday resort, certified Swiss Olympic training base Via ferrata & ropes park Mecca for hang gliders and paragliders 14 km sledding run Obergoms cross-country paradise with over 100 kilometres of ski runs Villages own bell founder Childrens entertainment programme

#### Celebrities

Kilian Volken: extreme mountaineer

#### **Overview Hotels**

Category	Beds
4 stars ****	244
3 stars ***	892
2 stars **	118
No category	320

Accommodation	Quantity
Group accommodation	2'356
Pensions	28
Youth hostel	1
Swiss Olympic Training Base	1
Camp sites/tent parks	3

#### **Holiday apartments**

Category	Beds
5 stars *****	252
4 stars ****	1'075
3 stars ***	3'791
2 stars **	550
l star *	92



#### **Historic milestones**

1203

1243 First mention of Bettmeralp as a locality 1314 First mention of Riederalp as a locality 1697 Construction of the Maria zum Schnee chapel, the Bettmeralp landmark 1812 First ascent of the Finsteraarhorn 1856 Hotel Jungfrau was built on the Fiescheralp 1884 Construction of the Riederfurka – the oldest hostelry in the Aletsch region 1902 Villa Cassel was built by Sir Ernest Cassel, the banker Aletsch Forest became a nature conservation area 1933 (Bettmeralp); 20 huts, inhabited in summer only 1949 Construction of the first railway on the Bettmeralp 1974 Switzerland's first Nature Conservation Centre opened

First mention of Fiesch as a locality















#### Group experiences / Available tours

#### Relax

Viewing points (Moosfluh, Bettmerhorn, Eggishorn) Glacier World exhibition at Bettmerhorn viewing point

Alpine therapeutic brine bath

Bettmersee Lake (lake for bathing & boat rental) Lake Blausee

Energy spots on the viewing peaks of Moosfluh, Bettmerhorn and Eggishorn

Aletsch forest

Wellbeing- lucky stones and energy spots Eggishorn sunrise trips incl. breakfast

#### Active

Hiking (summer) & winter hiking
Guided hiking and glacier tours
Glacier panorama trail
Via ferrata and rope parks
Culinary tour for gourmets
Paraglider and tandem flights
Mountain bikes, scooters
Marked snowshoe tours
Marked walking routes
skiing

Guided herb-gathering excursions

#### Culture

Alpine Museum with cheesemaking dairy, butter production
Aletsch Pro Natura Centre
Alphitta (mountain inn)
Guided tour of the locality
(circular tour of Fiesch village)
Bettmerhorn and Eggishorn
art exhibition

#### Aletsch Arena Inside

#### For groups and tour operators

The Aletsch Arena provides individual tour guides for groups on request. The guides are local, authoritative and extremely knowledgeable about the landscape, people and history of Riederalp, Bettmeralp and Fiesch-Eggishorn. Aletsch Arena Inside: a big plus for all group and excursion operators. aletscharena.ch/groups









Create your own customised experience. We will be delighted to assist you, so please don't hesitate to get in touch:

#### Contact:

+41 27 928 58 64 sales@aletscharena.ch









#### Summer/winter infrastructure

- 1 Alpine thermal brine bath
- 3 pharmacies
- 13 bars
- 4 discos
- 10 ATMs
- 21 mountain guides
- 9 luggage transport services
- 1 golf course
- 3 creches (winter)
- 12 grocery shops
- 3 rental services for children's requisites
- 69 restaurants
- 8 sports shops
- 5 tourism offices
- 6 laundries

- 2 sports centres
- 9 tennis courts
- 12 wellness facilities
- 10 coach parking areas
- 2'300 parking spaces for passenger cars
  - passenger cars
- 1 multimedia exhibition on Bettmerhorn Glacier World
- 1 circular trail on Eggishorn viewing point (from summer 2016)
- 3 energy spots on Moosfluh, Bettmerhorn and Eggishorn viewing points
- 13 children's playgrounds
- 6 exhibitions

#### Summer activities

- 1 lake bathing area with boat rentals
- 1 suspension bridge
- 2 entertainment programmes for children
- 2 rope parks
- 3 beach volleyball pitches Guided glacier tours
- 2 eBike rental services
- 1 fishing area
- 3 fitness centres
- 1 golf course
- 9 barbecue sites
- 3 indoor swimming pools
- 1 climbing wall

- 4 minigolf courses
- 4 mountain bike rental services
- 7 Nordic walking trails
- 13 playgrounds
- 9 tennis courts
- 1 scooter ("trottinette") rental service
- 6 locations with table football
- 1 Vita Parcours fitness trail
- 4 museums
- 1 animal park
- 1 fun park
- 11 themed trails

#### General information summer

**Hiking trails** 317 kilometers

1,5 h Moosfluh

(Moosfluh - Riederfurka - Riederalp)

3 h Unesco high-altitude trail (Bettmerhorn - Eggishorn)

5 h suspension bridge (Belalp - Riederalp)

For more hiking recommendations, see:

aletscharena.ch/wandern

Mountain bike routes 100 kilometers

**Mountains with views** Moosfluh 2'333 m

Bettmerhorn 2'647 m Eggishorn 2'869 m

**Transport facilities** 7 aerial cableways

2 gondola lifts 2 chair lifts



#### Top Events at Aletsch Arena

June	Aletsch Half Marathon, Bettmeralp
Jone	· · ·
	Eggishorn sunrise trips
July	Mythos Aletsch Hiking Night, Riederalp
	Harlekin Circus, Riederalp
	Lake Weekend, Bettmeralp
	Eggishorn sunrise trips
	Guided glacier & hiking tours
August	Cultural Festival, Riederalp
	Grand Alpine Dairymens Gala with Procession
	Gratzug, Fiesch-Eggishorn
	Aletsch Golf Tournament Week, Riederalp
	Cassel Festival at the Aletsch Pro Natura Centre
	Eggishorn sunrise trips
	Guided glacier & hiking tours
September	Folklore music festival, Riederalp
	Gilihusine (traditional game), Bettmeralp
	Aletsch Arena Trophy (classic car round-up),
	Fiesch-Eggishorn
	Eggishorn sunrise trips
	Guided glacier & hiking tours
October	Full moon campfire stories, Bettmeralp
	Eggishorn sunrise trips
November	Gommer Advent market, Fiesch
December	Winter openings, Aletsch Arena
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#### **Guest programme** (for individual guests and groups)

Glacier tours	
Skiing	
Hikes	
Winter hiking	
Tandem paragliding	
Butter- and cheese-making	
Herb-gathering excursions	
A look behind the scenes of a cable railway	
MTB tours	
Snowshoe tours	

Golf taster courses
Sledging/airboarding
Sensory experiences
Glacier adventures
Gletschi kids' entertainment programme

List not exhaustive







#### **Day-trip packages** (for groups of 10+ persons)

(at least two days in advance booking required, prices incl. 8% VAT, contact details see back page of Sales Manual)

**Aletsch Hiking Pass:** 1–21 days of free travel on all Aletsch Arena lifts and cableways plus Morel – Betten valley station – Fiesch – Furgangen train route (sample price 1 day CHF 49.-, with Swiss Travel Pass CHF 30.-)

#### **Moosfluh Package**

# CHF 51.00/ca. EUR 45.00 per person Included

- Cable car/gondola transfers, Mörel Riederalp Moosfluh and return
- · 3-course lunch in Mörel or Riederalp

#### **Highlights**

- · Viewing platform with view of Aletsch Glacier
- Starting point for various hikes (incl. easy hikes, e.g. Aletsch forest, Villa Cassel)
- Moosfluh energy spot
- · 15 min. walk between Riederalp Mitte Moosfluh station

#### **Bettmerhorn Package**

### CHF 51.00/ca. EUR 45.00 per person Included

- Cable car transfers, Betten Station Bettmeralp Bettmerhorn and return
- · 3-course lunch at the Bettmerhorn Mountain Restaurant
- · Free parking for bus

#### Highlights

- ·Lookout platform with view of Aletsch Glacier
- •Starting point for various hikes (e.g. UNESCO highaltitude trail, glacier panorama trail)
- •Free admission to multimedia exhibition Glacier World
- Bettmerhorn energy point
- •30min. walk between Bettmeralp station -Bettmerhorn station, passing Chapel "Maria zum-Schnee

## CHF 51.00/ca. EUR 45.00 per person Included

- · Cable car transfer. Fiesch Eggishorn and return
- 3-course lunch at the Alpenlodge Restaurant
- Free parking for bus

#### **Highlights**

- · View of entire length of Great Aletsch Glacier
- Starting point for various hikes (e.g. UNESCO high-altitude trail, glacier panorama trail)
- Eggishorn energy spot
- · Quickest way to a view point without walking

**Eggishorn Package** 



Prices subject to change without notice

View points 13





#### **Ski area** – open December to Mid-April

7 aerial cableways

3 gondola lifts

8 chair lifts

14 surface lifts 1 magic carpet

1 halfpipe

4 fun parks

1 snow park

4 children's parks

1 racing trail with

timekeeping

1 photo zone

5 ski huts

video recording

#### **General information**

**Transport facilities** Altitude of ski area Kilometers of ski runs 104 km:

Winter hiking trails 4 snowshoe trails **Sledding trails** 

14 km

**Cross-country trails** 

(classic & skating)

36 (transport capacity: 41'000 pers./h) 1'845 to 2'869 meters above sea level

42 km easy, 50 km moderate,

12 km difficult

86 km 15 km

7 km

1 boardercross (BX)

1 natural ice rink

2 sledding runs

5 ski schools

1 combination lift (gondola/chairlift)

1 funicular railway

3 snowgarden

1 giant slalom with









#### Car-free ski-in-ski-out resorts

Riederalp/Bettmeralp/Fiescheralp











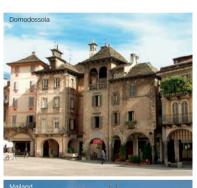


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basel.com/aletscharena

glacierexpress.ch

**Glacier Express:** 







#### **World Nature Forum**

In September 2016 the World Nature Forum in Naters opens its doors. The interactive exhibition in the visitor center of the UNESCO World Heritage Swiss Alps Jungfrau-Aletsch is an exciting indoor adventure for the whole family. One of the highlights is a huge panorama cinema in which you will experience never seen sceneries. In the historical wagon of the Jungfrau Railway you will travel virtually along the never realized railway section from the Valais up to the Jungfraujoch.

worldnatureforum.com









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