

Winter highlights 2024/25

The Bern holiday region shows off its best side at any time of year, but the coming winter season has a very special charm. Whether it's snow-covered landscapes, festive markets or cosy evenings in rustic mountain huts – the choice of activities and experiences is plentiful. We invite you to be inspired by the following tips and discover what the Region of Bern has to offer in the coming months.

Hotel news

Anyone longing for a longer break will find what they are looking for in the Region of Bern. Numerous charming hotels await you here, each with their own unique atmosphere and innovative concept. Time and again, new and established hotels impress and surprise with fresh ideas and splendid design.

Wengen: Grand Hotel Belvedere and Hotel Braunbär

NEW

Two hotels in Wengen are reopening this winter after extensive renovations. One is the [Grand Hotel Belvedere](#) of the renowned French hotel group Beaumier. 90 rooms and suites as well as the spa designed using natural materials will enchant guests, as will the panoramic views over the valley and the mountains. The [Hotel Braunbär](#) is also welcoming you this upcoming 2024/25 winter season. The charming mountain hotel is the perfect base for winter sports enthusiasts who want to benefit from access to the slopes of the Jungfrau Ski Region. Guests often enjoy staying a little longer in the cosy interiors and modern spa area of the Hotel Braunbär.

Grindelwald: Grindellodge and its restaurant UMAMI

NEW

The former Hotel Lauberhorn in Grindelwald is not only getting a new name, but also a completely new interior. After extensive renovation work, the hotel opens under the name [Grindellodge](#) with a modern, fresh look. A special highlight is the newly added Japanese restaurant UMAMI, which gives the Grindellodge a unique flair. It is the first Japanese restaurant in Grindelwald.

Mürren: Hotel Mürren Palace

NEW



Switzerland's oldest [Palace](#) hotel, perched on the mountain terrace in Mürren, is a real gem – and after extensive renovation, it will soon be the country's most modern. The extensive remodelling will ensure that this traditional hotel remains the "place to be". With a total of 49 rooms and 120 beds, the hotel welcomes its guests to the unique and car-free village of Mürren.

From Seeing to Experiencing

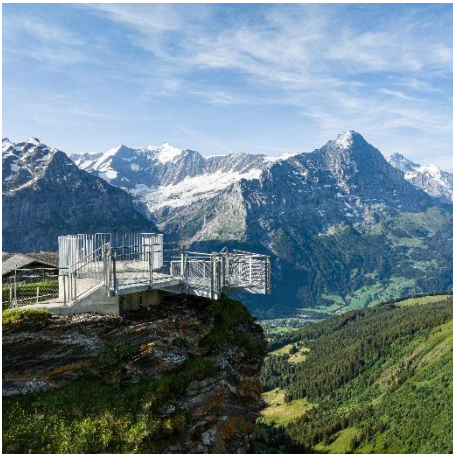
Opening of the new Schilthornbahn – the world's steepest aerial cableway

NEW



The [Schilthornbahn 20XX](#) project is coming to an end: The new cable car guarantees direct and modern access between Stechelberg and Mürren, with a transport capacity of 800 people per hour. With a gradient of 159,4 %, it will not only be the steepest, but also one of the most spectacular aerial cableways in the world. The new Stechelberg-Mürren and Mürren-Birg connection will open on 13 December 2024, giving all snow sports enthusiasts an early start to this year's winter season. The final section of the route between Birg and Schilthorn will be opened on 15 March 2025. The modern transport option will reduce the journey time from Stechelberg to Schilthorn from 32 minutes to 22 minutes, thus doubling the transport capacity.

First View Plattform



The ["First View"](#) viewing platform at the top of the First summit offers a breathtaking all-round view of the Bernese Alps. After reaching the mountain station at 2168 metres above sea level, a short walk takes you to the slightly higher metal viewing platform. Seven different and breathtaking perspectives of the diverse Alpine wreath of the Bernese Oberland open up as soon as you reach the top. If you are looking for a thrill in addition to the panorama, you will find it right next door on the First Cliff Walk presented by Tissot or on the "flying fox" variants "First Flieger" and "First Glider".

Christmas in the Region of Bern

NEW



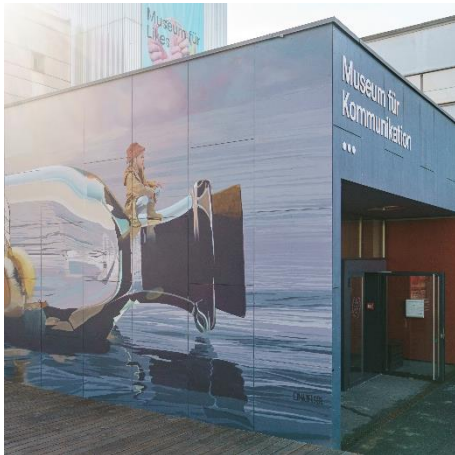
Anticipation is the greatest joy – and that includes the Advent season, which brings the spirit of Christmas to life. In the federal city of Bern, a variety of [Christmas markets](#) invite you to stroll and socialise. If you want to get active before digging into Christmas treats, you can do a few laps on the ice on the Bundesplatz in Bern. From 12 December, the [artificial ice rink](#) invites you to skate and relax in the chalet next to it. Outside the city, various Christmas trails promise peaceful evening hours in the fresh air. On the [Aeschi Christmas Path](#) and the [Heiligenschwendi Christmas Trail](#), the historical Christmas story is told in a variety of ways and sets the mood for the upcoming festive season. A special highlight is the new Christmas experience [“Winterheart-Interlaken” The Home of Winterfeel-](#)

[ing](#). In collaboration with Montreux Noël, the Kursaal Park in Interlaken will be transformed into a fairytale winter wonderland. With up to 50 stalls and a magnificent 8-metre-high Christmas tree, visitors can look forward to a wonderful Christmas market. In addition, Father Christmas flies up to the Höhematte by paraglider every day and collects creative wish lists from young visitors at the “Santa Post Office”.

You can find more information about the Christmas markets in the Region of Bern at madeinbern.com.

Museums in the city of Bern

New exhibitions When the temperatures drop and winter cloaks the landscape in white, the museums in Bern are an ideal destination for enjoying art and culture. Here are some of the highlights awaiting you this winter:



- [«Louisiana visits Franz Gertsch»](#)
Museum Franz Gertsch, 21.09.2024 – 02.03.2025
- [«Brasil! Brasil! The Birth of Modernism»](#)
Zentrum Paul Klee, 07.09.2024 – 05.01.2025
- [«Amy Sillman. Oh, Clock!»](#)
Kunstmuseum Bern, 20.09.2024 – 02.02.2025
- [«Dance!»](#)
Museum of Communication, 08.11.2024 – 20.07.2025
- [«Grönland»](#)
ALPS museum, ab 25.10.2024

Museum Beer Fancy a cultural treat and a refreshing hoppy drink? Then the traditional “Museum Beer” event series, organised by the Verein Museen Bern, is just the thing for you. From January to March 2025, various museums in Bern will be hosting “Fübi” (after-work beer) events every Thursday from 5 to 8 pm. The first drink comes with a small surcharge of five francs, which gives you discounted entry to selected exhibitions.

Guided tours through the federal city



It is also possible to get to know the city of Bern better during the winter months. Guided city tours provide insights into the various nooks and crannies of Bern. One tour, for example, accompanies the [“Night Watchman”](#) through the dark alleyways, telling spooky stories from the Middle Ages. On the [“Spooky Bern”](#) tour, visitors immerse themselves in the mysterious ghost stories of the city. The [“UNESCO Stroll through the old city”](#) in turn offers a classic tour through the winding streets and sights, while the [“Tour of the Clock Tower \(Zytglogge\)”](#) provides an exclusive look behind the famous clockwork and a marvellous view over the city. These city tours present the exciting side of the federal city and are both entertaining and informative.

You can find more information about the city tours at bern.com.

Wellness in the Interlaken holiday region



When the nights get longer and the temperatures slowly drop outside, it’s good to relax and warm up. In the [Interlaken holiday region](#) in particular, there are countless opportunities to do this in cosy and calming surroundings. Wellness oases beckon with bubbling pools, gentle massages and tempting cuisine. For example, in the [Spa Nescens at the Victoria-Jungfrau Grand Hotel & SPA](#) – here, those seeking relaxation can enjoy a luxurious wellness experience in the Alps, with an elegant indoor pool and spacious sauna area. Another highlight is the salt room with Himalayan salt stones in the [Eden Spa](#), which brings the feeling of the sea to Spiez with its high humidity and pleasant temperatures. Those who don’t want to miss out on outdoor bathing fun despite the cold should not

miss out on a trip to the picturesque Lake Brienz. Guests can escape the icy temperatures of the lake and spend cosy evenings in heated [HotPots](#) (hot tubs) right on the lakeshore. Whether alone or in a group – it’s worth combining a visit to the HotPot with a tasty fondue and an overnight stay. However, it is not only possible to spend a cosy evening by the lake, but also on the lake. This is made possible by the so-called [HotTug](#) – a floating hot tub with water heated to 38 degrees Celsius, which chugs leisurely across the water thanks to its electric motor.

Enjoy the winter season

Raclette rafting and chocolate fondue float

NEW



Enjoy a raclette or chocolate fondue on the water? This is possible on the unique [raclette](#) and [chocolate fondue rafts](#). Wrapped up warm and with dry feet, you can experience the winter evening atmosphere in a cosy atmosphere. The guides paddle along the mysterious shores of Lake Brienz while you enjoy a cosy raclette or chocolate fondue and the view of the mountains. The tour leads from Bönigen down the Aare canal to Interlaken.

Winter wonderland Kemmeriboden-Bad



The Hotel Landgasthof Kemmeriboden-Bad is an oasis of relaxation in the Emmental. The legendary [“Kemmeriboden Merängge”](#) is a must-try when you visit. As with so many good dishes, this delicacy is a classic utilisation of leftovers – it would have been a real shame if no use had been found for the surplus cream from the farm. To take the cosy atmosphere to the next level, the Kemmeriboden-Bad is transformed into a snowy paradise during the winter season: A restaurant in an igloo and a food truck in the middle of the snowy landscape promise magical experiences in a [winter wonderland](#).

Fun with cheese on the Engstligenalp



The Engstligenalp offers several unique experiences for all cheese lovers. Alpine chic meets tradition in the [raclette hut](#) as visitors can enjoy raclette à discrétion in a rustic setting. But fondue fans are also catered to – the [fondue igloo](#) guarantees a unique opportunity to savour the melted cheese in an unusually icy atmosphere. The easiest way to reach the Engstligenalp is by cable car, and once at the top, the igloo and raclette hut are just a few minutes' walk away.

Stay active during the winter

A paradise for skiing enthusiasts



The Region of Bern offers great winter sports fun for young and old. Whether it's wide, glistening pistes, challenging steep slopes or action-packed fun parks – the possibilities are endless. Thanks to the excellent accessibility of the ski areas, the region is ideal for spontaneous day trips as well as extended skiing holidays. And best of all: it will be comfortable.

The Big Four The region's [top 4 ski](#) resorts are the flagship of the Bernese winter and impress with their extensive pistes. The four first-class regions include Adelboden-Lenk, Gstaad, the Jungfrau Ski Region and Meiringen-Hasliberg – all of which are top ski resorts in terms of surface area. Here, the hearts of all winter sports enthusiasts beat faster, whether young or old, beginner or professional. The variety is impressive: gentle

hills, rapid descents, creative freestyle and fun parks and untouched powder snow alternate.

Small and charming ski resorts The smaller ski resorts in the Region of Bern await with their own unique charm – the perfect choice for all those who want to escape the crowds and enjoy a relaxed day's skiing in a family atmosphere. [Axalp](#), for example, is an idyllic ski area on a sunny terrace with a unique view of Lake Brienz. This manageable ski area is particularly popular with families. The Bernese Jura also offers smaller, but by no means less attractive ski areas. In [Bugnenets-Savagnières – Saint-Imier](#), there are 30 kilometres of wide pistes that provide skiers of all levels with unforgettable winter moments. The blue, red and black pistes on the northern slope of the Chasseral guarantee excitement and fun in the snow. As part of the Adelboden-Lenk ski region, [Elsigen-Metsch](#) also enjoys the advantages of the Top4 areas and is known for its family atmosphere. With four T-bar lifts and wide, flat pistes, it is the ideal place for your first turns in the snow. A special highlight are the [torchlight descents](#) organised by the Frutigen ski school every Thursday in February.

Test your skill on the World Cup pistes



At the beginning of January, the World Cup elite compete on the [Chuenisbärgli in Adelboden](#). Of course, simply being a spectator in the stands is not the worst option. After the international ski circus, ambitious amateurs can also try out the World Cup course for themselves. From the Kanonenrohr via Wintertal to Chäla and the Giisbrunni finish slope: anyone who takes the giant slalom key sections under their skis will immediately feel like Odermatt, Kristoffersen & Co. Still got reserves in your calves? The Jungfrau Ski Region also offers a unique opportunity, after the official [Lauberhorn race](#), to set a personal best. With plenty of speed over Hundschoopf, along the Alpweg to the "Wasserstation" subway to the Hanneggschuss and finally to the finish slope via Silberhornsprung – who can

keep up with the big names?

Tobogganing heaven in the Bernese Oberland

From rapid descents to leisurely slides with wonderful views: [Tobogganing in the Bernese Oberland](#) guarantees fun in the snow for everyone.



Tschentalp toboggan park Adelboden's local mountain, the [Tschentalp](#), is an ideal destination for both connoisseurs and daredevils. After a comfortable gondola ride, four different routes with a total length of 14 kilometres await tobogganists. Whether it's the Skibock, Skigibel, Balancer, Air-board, Bergfink or classic Davos sledge – the generous selection of different sledges makes every descent unique. The chairlift is particularly practical, taking visitors back to the starting point in just a few minutes after each descent. The Tschentalp also scores points with its night sledging offer, which takes place on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Eiger Run by Night In the shadow of the Eiger, heading at speed down into the valley: with a gradient of up to 36 per cent, the [Jungfrau Eiger Run](#) is a spectacular toboggan run even during the day. The 3,5-kilometre run from Alpiglen to Brandegg is even more exciting at night. The Wengernalp Railway also takes tobogganists to the start in the evening, and with the "Jungfrau Eiger Run evening ticket", as often as you like. A fondue in the mountain huts afterwards rounds off the sledging evening perfectly.

Big Pintenfritz The longest toboggan run in the world, the "[Big Pintenfritz](#)", with its 15 kilometres of piste skiing, provides almost endless sledging fun. The starting point is on the First, accessible by cable car from Grindelwald. A two-and-a-half-hour winter hiking trail leads past the Bachalpsee lake to the Faulhorn, where the breathtaking panoramic view rewards you for the exertions of the ascent. The highlight comes at the end, with the descent towards Bussalp and Grindelwald. Incidentally, the name "Big Pintenfritz" can be traced back to the legendary landlord Fritz Bohren, who ran the "Pinte" (Hotel Bellevue) and the Faulhorn mountain hotel in Grindelwald.

Elsigen-Metsch Moonlight adventures and New Year's fun on the [Metschalp](#): In this ski area, sledging fans can also experience special downhill fun, such as [full moon sledging](#). The full moon illuminates the snow-covered mountain landscape and gives the run a magical atmosphere. If you want to celebrate the turn of the year in a different way, you can literally slide into the New Year with [New Year's Eve sledging](#) on the Elsigenalp – an unforgettable experience.

Winter hiking and snowshoeing



The beauty of winter in the Region of Bern can also be experienced from away from the ski slopes – be it while hiking on well-prepared trails or snowshoeing off the beaten track. One wonderful hiking route is the [Lenk-Simmenfalle winter valley hiking trail](#), which traverses the wide valley floor of the Lenk. The [Mad-Schwendallmi-Habkern winter hiking trail](#) also offers a unique backdrop, passing sun-coloured alpine huts and snow-covered fir trees. Thanks to countless routes, snowshoe fans get their money's worth in equal measure. On the [Lombachalp snowshoe tour](#), you can marvel at the unspoilt moorland landscape, while the [Lobhorn Trail](#) leads past the cosy Sulwald-Stübli, always with a view of the famous triumvirate of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau.

You can find many more tours at madeinbern.com.

Top events

- 19 October – 23 November 2024: [Rendez-vous Bundesplatz, Bern](#)
- November 2024 – March 2025: [Giessbach Sessions, Grandhotel Giessbach](#)
- 02 January 2025: [Harder Potschete, Interlaken](#)
- 11 – 12 January 2025: [69th Audi FIS Ski World Cup, Adelboden](#)
- 13 – 18 January 2025: [World Snow Festival, Grindelwald](#)
- 14 – 19 January 2025: [Ski Cross Race, Lenk im Simmental](#)
- 17 – 19 January 2025: [95th International Lauberhorn Race, Wengen](#)
- 19 – 26 January 2025: [Belle Epoque Week on the topic of «Photography & Film», Kandersteg](#)
- 20 – 24 January 2025: [Para Snowboardcross World Cup, Lenk im Simmental](#)
- 22 – 25 January 2025: [81th International Inferno Ski Races, Mürren](#)
- 31 January – 8 February 2025: [Gstaad Sommets Musicaux](#)
- 01 – 02 February 2025: [Kandersteger Nordic Days](#)
- 02 February 2024: [Velogemel World Championships, Grindelwald](#)
- 12 – 15 February 2025: [InterLachen, Interlaken](#)
- 15 – 16 March 2025: [Museumsnacht Bern](#)
- 25 – 31 March 2025: [International Jazz Festival Bern](#)



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