



## NEWSLETTER – AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2009

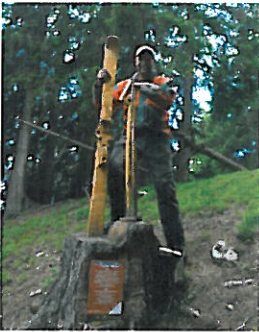
### Grand Concours Hippique



Come and watch the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the Grand Concours Hippique, to be held on the car park of the Verbier Sports Centre from August 8<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>. This annual competition features show-jumping specialists from Switzerland and Europe competing within a unique setting featuring a splendid view over the Combins mountains. Since this site is open to the public free of charge, you can enjoy the show and savour the distinctive atmosphere of this event. Both adults and children will have fun in the activity village.

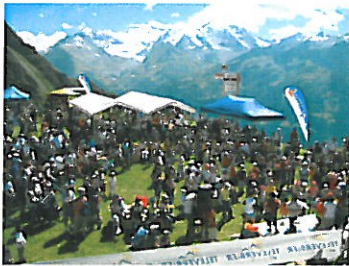
Additional information and the complete event programme are available from the Tourist Office or on the dedicated website: [www.verbier-cso.com](http://www.verbier-cso.com).

### Sculptures



The Bisse du Levron path is both a pleasant family stroll and an educational experience thanks to its wooden chainsaw sculptures by former international downhill skier William Besse. Eight new pieces are on show in the area above Les Prétaires. This addition to the existing series of 40 pieces translates the Verbier Development Society's determination to enrich this greatly appreciated route.

### August 15<sup>th</sup> activities



On the occasion of the Family Festival on August 15<sup>th</sup>, several activities will be available in Verbier and the Val de Bagnes.

In Fionnay, you will find a large hand-craft market featuring artisans from the region who will be presenting wood sculptures, jewellery, as well as paintings on canvas or on wood... You can also sample local specialities on the spot. Children will be offered a number of different activities throughout the day. The Train de Combins leaving from Le Châble will take you to the village, thereby making it easy to get around. For further information, check the [www.verbier.ch](http://www.verbier.ch) website or phone: +41 (0)27 776 16 82

In and around Verbier itself, don't miss the big party in La Chaux, including a performance of Peer Gynt by the arTpenteurs dance troupe on Friday evening and Saturday and Sunday at 5.30pm. On Saturday, in addition to the traditional morning mass, be sure to attend the free concert given by Henri Dès at 2 pm, which is sure to delight children. More information: [www.verbierbooking.com](http://www.verbierbooking.com).

### Grand Raid



On August 20<sup>th</sup>, the Grand Raid mountainbike race will set off from Verbier at dawn for a 121-kilometre stretch running through Hérémente and Evolène before reaching the finish in Grimetz. For this 20<sup>th</sup> edition, no less than 1000 competitors from over 20 countries will be lining up at the start on the Place Centrale. For further information, check out the dedicated website at: [www.grand-raid-cristalp.ch](http://www.grand-raid-cristalp.ch).

## Bonafiesta



At the foot of the Mauvoisin dam, the small Bonatchiesse hamlet will provide a bucolic setting for the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the Bonafiesta. This year, the entirely free festival is offering a varied programme including a rock-themed evening on Friday with various Swiss and international bands. From 2 pm on the Saturday, children will also have a chance to enjoy various activities such as a clown show and a make-up workshop. In the evening, music will take over again with well-known Swiss artists such as Mark Kelly and Anach Cuan.

For further information, check out the dedicated website at

[www.bonafiesta.ch](http://www.bonafiesta.ch)

## Bagnes : the raclette cheese capital



As part of the *Semaine du Goût* (Flavour Week), the whole village of Le Châble will be transformed into a giant tasting area. This event will provide an opportunity to taste the difference between the various Bagnes cheeses from various regional producers. Other booths will give you a chance to sample other cheeses such as the Berner Alpkäse AOC, the Berner Hobelkäse AOC, as well as cheeses from the Bozerou mountain pasture made by Jean-Henri Filliez. Accompanying these varieties will be a selection of wines from vineyard owners of the town of Salquenen. Special trains with reduced-price tickets will be organised by RegionAlps to take people to and from the event.

For further information, check out the dedicated website at: [www.bagnesraclette.ch](http://www.bagnesraclette.ch)

## Upcoming events

### 8 – 16.08 – Grand Concours Hippique

On the Sports Centre car park, come and admire Swiss and international show-jumping specialists competing within an exceptional setting. The detailed programme and further information are available at: [www.verbier-cso.com](http://www.verbier-cso.com)

### 14-16.08 – Family Festival

Over these three days, younger and older guests are invited to this big party in La Chaux, including an exceptional performance by Henri Dès.

The detailed programme and further information are available at: [www.verbierbooking.com](http://www.verbierbooking.com)

### 15.08 – Patron saint day and craft market in Fionnay

Come and wander through booths presented by various regional artisans.

Further information is available at: [www.verbier.ch](http://www.verbier.ch)

### 16.08 – Botza regional, organic and fair-trade market

Come and discover some regional flavours and a range of organic products

Further information is available at: [www.botza.org](http://www.botza.org)

### 21-22.08 - Bonafiesta

Held in Boatchiesse, this small bucolic festival invites you to discover a range of artists from both near and far!

The detailed programme and further information are available at: [www.bonafiesta.ch](http://www.bonafiesta.ch)

### 22.08 – Grand Raid

Setting off from Verbier, competitors in this demanding race will pedal all the way to Grimentz.

The detailed programme and further information are available at: [www.grand-raid-cristalp.ch](http://www.grand-raid-cristalp.ch)

### 28-30.08 – Coupe Suisse IXS downhill mountainbike race

The third stage of the Swiss Cup and the last leg before the grand final in Bellwald. Over 250 mountainbikers are expected for an adrenalin-packed show

For further information and registrations: [www.verbierbikepark.ch](http://www.verbierbikepark.ch)

**28-30.08 – Fenky**

In Verbier, for its 1st edition, this event gather together all the flying and climbing enthusiasts. Concerts, animations, games and equipment test will also happen during this weekend. Informations and registration : [www.enky.ch](http://www.enky.ch)

**29.08 – Mountain pilots meeting**

Come and try a tandem parachute jump from a helicopter, taking off from La Croix de Coeur. For further information and registrations: Restaurant le Carrefour, either by phone: 027 771 70 10 or by e-mail: [lecarrefour@verbier.ch](mailto:lecarrefour@verbier.ch)

**20.09 – Day pass for 15 Swiss francs**

The Verbier and 4 Vallées ski lifts are yours to enjoy for an entire day at the special price of 15 Swiss francs!

For further information: [www.verbierbooking.com](http://www.verbierbooking.com)

**26-27.09 – Bagnes : raclette cheese capital**

Large popular event in Le Châble as part of the *Semaine du Goût* (Flavour Week). A chance to sample regional products to the sound of typical local music.

For the detailed programme and further information: [www.bagnesraclette.ch](http://www.bagnesraclette.ch)