

20-28 JANUARY 2024

PAYS-D'ENHAUT
CHÂTEAU-D'ŒX | ROUGEMONT | ROSSINIÈRE

44TH
FESTIVAL
INTERNATIONAL
DE BALLONS

CHÂTEAU-D'ŒX

PRESS KIT



PAYS-D'ENHAUT
CHÂTEAU-D'ŒX | ROUGEMONT | ROSSINIÈRE

RTS



Commune de
Château-d'Œx

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INTERNATIONAL BALLOON FESTIVAL

Every January, the Alpine hot air ballooning capital, the village of Château-d'Œx in the region of Pays-d'Enhaut, welcomes hot air balloons from all over the world.

For more than 40 years, the Festival has brought together balloonists from some twenty countries. Nearly a hundred hot air balloon pilots come to enjoy the exceptional winter climate of the Alps.

Discover balloons with unusual colours and shapes! Hot air balloons, specially shaped balloons, and other flying machines fill the nine days of the Festival. Tethered flights and air shows are also on the programme, all you need to enjoy the magical atmosphere with friends or family.

The link between Château-d'Œx and hot air balloons is written in history. In 1999, the Breitling Orbiter – piloted by Bertrand Piccard and Brian Jones – took off from Château-d'Œx for the first round-the-world balloon trip. Learn more about the history of this crazy adventure at the “Espace Ballon” in Château-d'Œx.

In order to fully experience the Festival, balloon flights are carried out every day, subject to weather conditions. Sit comfortably in the balloon basket and take off for about an hour's flight into the snowy landscapes of the Pays-d'Enhaut region.

Festival International de Ballons info@festivaldeballons.ch
 Place du Village 6 Weather forecast: + 41 26 924 25 24
 1660 Château-d'Œx Information: +41 26 924 25 25

PASSENGER FLIGHTS* IN A BALLOON

HELICOPTER PASSENGER FLIGHTS*

EXTRA 330 LX STUNT PLANE*

PARAGLIDING*

VISIT TO A HOT AIR BALLOON ENVELOPE (NEW)

SOUVENIR PHOTO IN A BASKET (NEW)

KIDS' ENTERTAINMENT

TREASURE HUNT

SOFT TOY PASSENGER FLIGHTS* (NEW)

OPENING NIGHT (NEW)

CONCERT & KARAOKÉ

"CÉLESTE IN BALLOONLAND"* (NEW)

INFLATION AND TAKE-OFF OF SPECIALLY SHAPED BALLOONS*

SKY CHARIOT AND CLOUDHOPPER DEMONSTRATION*

MINI-BALLOON FLIGHTS*

BAR & RESTAURANT

FOODTRUCKS

VISIT OF "ESPACE BALLON" (NEW)

THERMAL AIRSHIP

Follow the Festival online and on social media:















- #FIBCHAX
- FESTIVALDEBALLONS
- FESTIVAL_DE_BALLONS
- FESTIVALDEBALLONS.CH

*Subject to favourable flight conditions

WEEKEND PROGRAMME

20-21 AND 27-28 JANUARY 2024

 Drones prohibited unless authorised

| | |
|--------------|--|
| 8:30 AM |  Balloon inflation and take-off* |
| |  Bar and restaurant foodtrucks open  |
| 9:30 AM |  Passenger balloon flights* |
| |  Tethered flights* for children aged 5 to 12 (9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. CHF 10.-) |
| | Competitions for pilots |
| FROM 9:30 AM |  Passenger helicopter flights* |
| |  Crafts for children with the Festival au Pays des Enfants (FAPE) and Ballons Pirates. Face-painting for kids and a treasure hunt |
| |  Souvenir photo in a real balloon basket |
| | Discover life in the mountain pastures in Virtual Reality with L'Etivaz AOP |
| 11:30 AM | Inflation and take-off of special shaped balloons* |
| |  Thermal airship* |
| | Mini-balloon flights* |
| | Demonstration of Sky Chariots and Cloudhoppers* |
| 1:30 PM |  Extra 330 LX stunt plane* |
| |  Paragliding* |
| FROM 2:30 PM |  Passenger balloon flights* |
| |  Visit a hot air balloon envelope |
| |  Mini-balloon flights* |

*Subject to favourable flight conditions

i **L'Etivaz Cheese Cellars**
(film, guided visit and cheese tasting): at 10 a.m. and at 2 p.m.

"Espace Ballon": 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (every day)

Exposition philatélique:

Weekend: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesday afternoon: 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

DETAILED PROGRAMME:



SATURDAY
20.1.24

11:30 AM

Official Opening Ceremony of the 44th Festival

FROM 7 PM
Opening Night

BAR & RESTAURANT
FOODTRUCKS

8:30 PM

Concert "Les Waiters"

11 PM

Karaoke

in collaboration with the Mixed Choir of L'Etivaz

SUNDAY
21.1.24

11:15 AM

Friendship flight Bristol^(GB), St-Niklaas^(B), Romorantin^(F) & Château-d'Œx

NEW
FRIDAY
26.1.24

8 PM

"Céleste in Balloonland"

Witness an enchanting show featuring the fairy-like creature Céleste and a tightrope walker. Admire their acrobatic dance to the rhythm of music, surrounded by illuminated hot air balloons!

FRIDAY
26.1.24

SATURDAY
27.1.24

FLYING NIGHT

9 p.m. to 4 a.m.
CHF 10.00 Entry
Theme "Men in Black, the Return."

Pyjama Bus for the Pays d'Enhaut region

21-28.1.24

8:30 AM - 5:30 PM

Visit of "Espace Ballon"

WEEKDAY PROGRAMME

FROM MONDAY 22 TO FRIDAY 26 JANUARY 2024



Drones prohibited unless authorised

| | |
|--------------|---|
| FROM 9:30 AM | Balloon inflation and take-off* |
| | Passenger balloon flights* |
| | Competitions for pilots* |
| | Bar and restaurant foodtrucks open |
| FROM 9:30 AM | All day long: Activities for children with the Festival au Pays des Enfants (FAPE) and Ballons Pirates, (reservations only for groups and schools) |
| | All day long: Visit to the Espace Ballon (NEW), souvenir photo in a real balloon basket and a children's treasure hunt in the village of Château-d'Œx |
| FROM 2:30PM | Passenger balloon flights* |

*Subject to favourable flight conditions



ENTRY TICKETS*

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Saturday and Sunday (from age 16) | CHF 10.- |
| Monday to Friday and Wednesday afternoons | FREE |
| Permanent membership - Badge | CHF 25.- |

Tickets and Badges on sale on site. Included in the price: price preferential admission to the "Espace Ballon" (CHF 13.00 for adults instead of CHF 18.00 and CHF 4.00 for children instead of CHF 9.00) entry to the philatelic exhibition and film about the L'Etivaz Cheese Cellars.

NEW COMBINED TICKET MOBILIS DAY CARD + ENTRY TO THE FESTIVAL

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Adults (from 16 years old) | CHF 18.- |
| Children (6 to 15 years old) | CHF 8.- |
| Children up to 6 years old | FREE |

Available only online at festivaldeballons.ch

PASSENGER BALLOON FLIGHTS

Reservations can be made online at festivaldeballons.ch up to 40 hours before the flight or during the festival at the "Passenger Flights" reception. Daily entry is refunded with the purchase of a flight (Badges excluded).

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Adults (from 16 years old) | CHF 350.- |
| Children (min. 1.25 m) | CHF 210.- |
| Private flight (max. 3 people) | CHF 1'600.- |

KIDS' WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

SUPPORTED BY **RAIFFEISEN**

FROM 1 PM

Tethered flights* for kids (aged 5 to 12)
10.-

NEW Face-painting

Discover life in the mountain pastures in Virtual Reality with L'Etivaz AOP



NEW Clown

NEW Giant Balloon Memory organised by FAPE

NEW Soft toy passenger flights*

NEW Visit to a hot air balloon envelope

Souvenir photo in a basket

Inflation and take-off of special shaped balloons

Mini-balloon flights

Crafts for kids with the Festival au Pays des Enfants and Ballons Pirates

WEDNESDAY 24.1.24

CINÉMA EDEN

8 pm Concert "The Montagnard Choir"

8:45 pm: Screening of film "Beyond tradition: the Power of Natural Singing"

HELICOPTER FLIGHTS with Air Glacier
Length 5 minutes. Payment in cash, on site.
No reservations.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Children (2 to 12 years old) | CHF 55.- |
| Adults | CHF 65.- |

TETHERED FLIGHTS

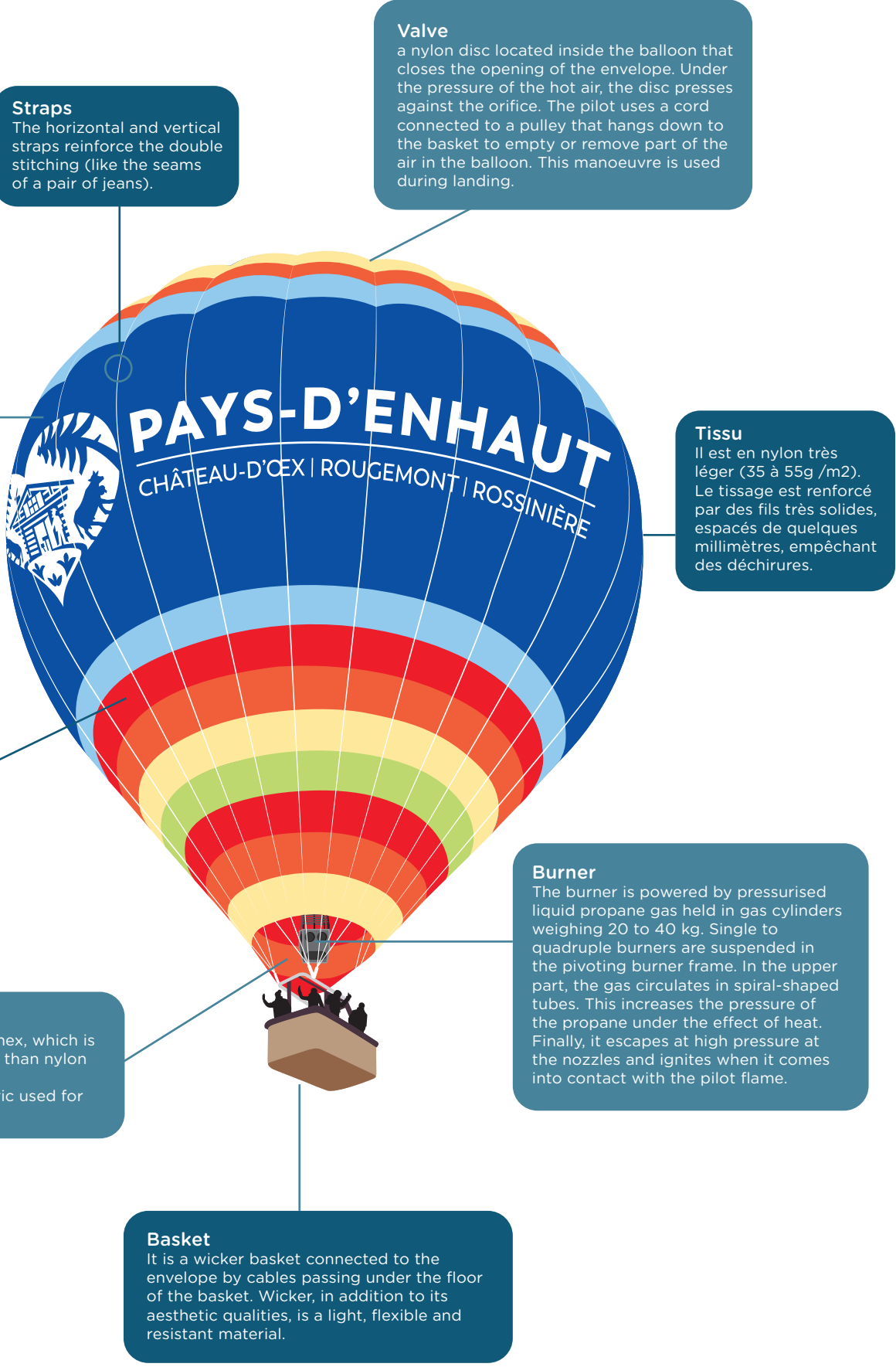
Saturday and Sunday from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm and Wednesday afternoon from 1:00 pm.
Children (5 to 12 years old) **CHF 10.-**
Tickets on sale on site (limited places)
Subject to favourable flight conditions.

BIG PRIZE DRAW

2 BALLOON FLIGHTS AND 2 HELICOPTER FLIGHTS TO WIN!

*Each entry ticket, purchased on Saturday or Sunday flight mornings, entitles you to participation in the draw. Flights won must be taken on the same day (no postponement in the event of cancellation).

THE HOT-AIR BALLOON



PRESS SERVICES

Whether it's access to the take-off field, the opportunity to fly in a hot air balloon, or interviewing a pilot, as a media representative, you have the opportunity to get to the heart of our event!

Our Services:

Field

With the festival's press badge, you have access to the take-off field. You can film and photograph crews and pilots in the midst of the action!

Interviews

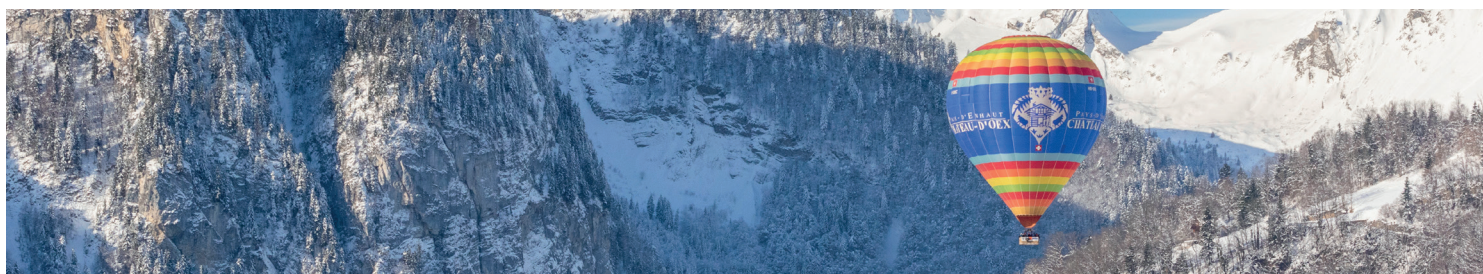
Do you want to conduct an interview with a pilot or a member of the organization? We will help you find the ideal person for your report!

Flights

Balloon flights as well as helicopter flights are possible every day of the festival! Take a seat in the gondola and share this unique moment through your media.

Drones

For safety reasons, special zones for drone flights are designated around the take-off field. Once the flight is approved by the organization, fly alongside the hot air balloons!



Sky Event SA

Sky Event SA-Ballons Château-d'Œx is the local company for commercial balloon flights. It is a festival partner and launches balloon flights all year round..

The pilots at the festival are:
Max Duncomb, Xavier Féal, Simon Drake et François Chappuis

SKY EVENT HB-00C



SKY EVENT HB-00E



SKY EVENT SA HB-0XC



CAIBAC PILOTS

The International Alpine Hot Air Balloon Centre, CAIBAC, is located in Château-d'Œx. Made up of hot air balloon enthusiasts, CAIBAC is active in promoting both balloon flights and the image of Château-d'Œx. CAIBAC possesses a number of hot air balloons.

The pilots at the festival are:
François Chappuis, Frédéric Favre, Pierre Galley, Tristan Henchoz, Raphaël Liégeois, Adrian Kriesi

CAIBAC HB-0PB



CAIBAC HB-0UD



BALLON DU LÉMAN HB-000



BESNARD JACQUES-ANTOINE
HB-0VS



BRUGGEMAN ALEXIS
F-60CO



CARAIL PAUL-HENRY F-HPCP



CASSI ALAIN HB-BGE



DEHANDSCHUTTER EVERT
00-BWY



DELEU HENDRIK BE F-HLBV



DELEU HENDRIK 00-BLA



DEMELENNE VINCENT 00-BGM



DROZ FABIEN HB-0SJ



SKY EVENT HB-000



ARMSTRONG JOHN G-HHPM



AUDENAERT FILIP N346LJ



AUDENAERT FILIP 00-BCA



BECKER JONATHAN F-GTIN



BECKER JEAN F-HKJB



BÉJAT ALEXIS F-HCBO



BÉJAT ALEX F-HLUL



BÉJAT ALEX F-HTPL



COHEN ELIAV OK-7673



COLLÉ CHRISTIAN F-HFCC



DAVIES GARY G-CKVI



DAVIES GARY G-SATL



DEHANDSCHUTTER EVERT 00-BKU



DUNNINGTON NICK G-CMND



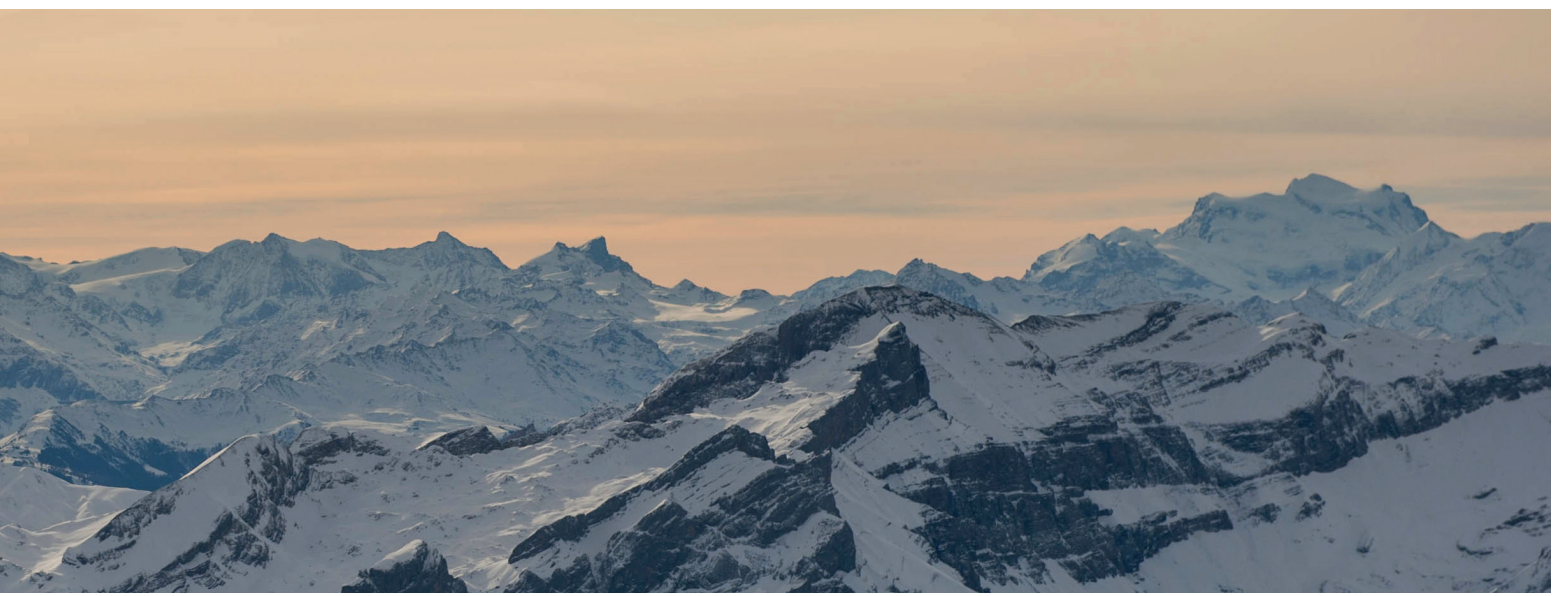
DUNSTAN MARK G-TORK



GÉNON GUILLAUME F-HIBO



HEIRMAN SVEN 00-BOY



HELD ADRIAN D-OKUB



JUNG JOACHIM, HESS STAN D-00TS



KUBICEK PETR OK778Z



LEFRANC NICOLAS F-HONS



LLADO COSTA JOSEF EC-MBZ



MICELI FEDERICO F-HCVL



MÜLLER ROMAN HB-000



MÜLLER ROMAN HB-0VI



NASH RICHARD G-CEJ1



PASQUIER SIMON, FAVRE ARNAUD

FAVRE FRÉDÉRIC HB-0WC



RYLANDER CHRISTIAN HB-0UO



SAUBER CLAUDE LX-BIL



SAUBER CLAUDE LX-BKU



SAX NICOLAS 00-BMO



SEREX YANNICK & SCIBOZ

LAURENT HB-0RN



VAN DER VEKENS TOM 00-BFX



VAN DER VEKENS TOM 00-BWB



VAN LIEROP MATHIAS 00-BEQ



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MENSIK TOMAS OK-1209



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PICCARD BERTRAND HB-QOJ



ROSSENEU MARIE ELISABETH

OO-BSA



ROSSEMEU MARIE ELISABETH

OO-BSN



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G-TUTU + G-CLPW



SEVRIN SYDNEY F-HOTA



TAKE-OFF BALLOON HB-QWM



THEFAUT-SUBERY F-HCSS



TILLY CHRISTOPHE F-HBBO



VONLANTHEN PIERRE-ANDRÉ

HB-QXV



WÄLCHLI STEFAN

HB-QWX



WÄLCHLI STEFAN BLÜMELI

HB-QUU



WALLACE MARILYN

NO99UM



THE FESTIVAL IN FIGURES



44

editions, lots of joy, laughter, encounters, and flights



4

types of aerostats (balloon, airship, single-seat, mini-balloon)



15'000

copies of the official program printed and distributed at each edition



60

pilots



15

represented countries



20'000 - 35'000

spectators per edition



4

types of aircraft (airplane, helicopter, paraglider, parachute)



60

loyal volunteers



20

members in the organizing committee



60

hot air balloons

A BIT OF HISTORY

February 1979, the Tourist Office, in collaboration with Hans Bucker, organizes the 1st International Hot Air Balloon Week, with the participation of 12 balloons from 5 countries. This original activity helps promote Château-d'Œx in Switzerland and abroad. David Niven, the famous actor from «Around the World in 80 Days,» is the patron of this 1st edition.

February 1994, 4th World Championship of Hot Air Airships. It is the first time such an event takes place in Switzerland, in the mountains, and in winter. 16 pilots from 9 countries compete in 12 events spread throughout the Pays-d'Enhaut. Julia Kourotchkina, Miss World 1993, and Roger Moore, alias «James Bond,» are the godmother and godfather of this edition.

March 1999, the Breitling Orbiter III of Bertrand Piccard and Brian Jones takes off from Château-d'Œx on March 1 at 9:05 am. After 19 days, 21 hours, and 47 minutes of flight, it lands on March 21 at 6:57 am in the Egyptian desert. This is the first balloon around-the-world tour, and duration and flight distance records (45,755 km) are broken.

2010: The 32nd edition suffers from gloomy weather conditions. For the first time, the Night Glow has to be canceled. On the positive side, the program has expanded to include other flying devices. Also noteworthy is the magnificent flight celebrating the 10th anniversary of the twinning of the cities of Bristol (GB), Romorantin (FR), Sint-Niklaas (BE), and Château-d'Œx.

2017: From the opening to the closure of the event, all possible flight windows are exploited. Pilots accumulate over 800 hours of flights for 611 take-offs. There is also the launch of the gas balloon piloted by Nicolas Tèche and Laurent Sciboz, who, after 21 hours in the air, land in the French Jura. After 5 years of absence, the Night Glow offers a unique spectacle and constitutes the climax of the event.

2023: This year marks the 43rd edition of the International Balloon Festival after 2 years of absence due to the pandemic! During the 9 days of the festival, 8 days allowed for take-offs and balloon flights, mainly in the mornings. In total, the 60 balloons were able to take off 379 times from Château-d'Œx, totaling 498 hours of flight during the festival.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE



LIONEL BURNAND
Chairman



MICHÈLE PHILIPP
Aerial entertainment



FRANÇOIS CHAPPUIS
Flight management



EMMANUEL ANDREZ
Speaker



NICOLAS CHEVALLEY
Security



PAYS-D'ENHAUT RÉGION
Finance, press, promotion
and sponsors



CÉLINE BAUX
Commercial flights



MAX DUNCOMB
Commercial flights
consultant



NELSON RODRIGUES
Infrastructure assistant



MARTIN BERTHOLET
Infrastructure



SÉBASTIEN GOLAY
Hertzian communication



GINGER SCHOPFER
Coordination, administration,
entertainment and volunteers



ADRIEN BLASER
Land security



DAVID HENCHOZ
Take-off safety



MURIELLE TURRIAN
Landi Restaurant



VIRGILE BOITEL
Parking



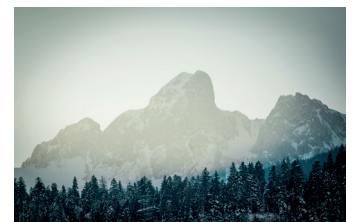
DORINE HENCHOZ
Passenger check-in



PATRICE CANTIN
Competitions



RAPHAËL MORIER
Gas



VIRGIN BALLOON FLIGHT

Experience the unique experience of flying in a balloon! What could be better than doing it during the Festival? Enter the take-off field and let yourself be guided in this new adventure. All around you, the crews are busy, the burners are starting and the many coloured balloon envelopes are swelling up little by little!

It's time to take off! Climb up and take a seat in the balloon basket. Your pilot carries out the final checks and activates the burners. Now you're soaring through the air like a soap bubble! Beneath your feet, the take-off field is becoming smaller and smaller until it resembles a scale model! All around you, the many colourful balloon envelopes decorate the snow-covered landscapes. An incomparable spectacle awaits!

In front of you stand the rocky cliffs of the mountains of Pays-d'Enhaut. If the weather is good, try to spot Mont Blanc, the Jungfrau or even the Matterhorn among these mountain ranges. Let yourself be guided by the winds and discover where you'll land as you fly!

Don't have the chance to fly during the Festival? The village of Château-d'Œx is the ideal place for a balloon flight, all year round! The company Ballons Château-d'Œx offers you the opportunity to enjoy this unique adventure every day of the year.

Ballons Château-d'Œx – Sky Event SA
T: +41 26 924 22 20
M: +41 79 124 47 44
www.ballonschateaudoex.ch



Booking flights during the Festival



Festival International de Ballons
Place du Village 6, 1660 Château-d'Œx
info@festivaldeballons.ch
T: +41 26 924 25 33

**UNE EXPÉRIENCE INOUBLIABLE
DANS L'ESPACE ET DANS LE TEMPS**

ESPACE BALLON

**OUVERTURE
LE 21 JANVIER 2024**

**VOL EN BALLON 4D
ULTRAMAGIC BALLOON FLIGHT SIMULATOR
EXPOSITION INTERACTIVE
PARCOURS ENFANTS AVEC MAESTRO**

**BALLONS
CHATEAU-
D'ŒX**

Horaires d'ouverture pendant le festival:
8h30 – 17h30 tous les jours
Réduction de CHF 5.- par billet adulte ou enfant
aux personnes détentrices du pins FIB
www.ballonschateaudoex.ch

TIME NO LONGER MATTERS; YOU ARE SOMEWHERE ELSE.



Welcome to Pays-d'Enhaut! This little paradise nestled on the heights of Lake Geneva in the heart of the Vaudois Alps has not finished surprising you. Far from external disturbances and urban stress, a symbol of elevation, purity, and self-transcendence, our mountains offer exceptional benefits. Summer or winter, the municipalities of Château-d'Œx, Rougemont, and Rossinière offer you a true change of scenery, fun, cultural and sports activities, as well as original and festive animations.

Regardless of the season, lace up your shoes, hop on your mountain bike, put on your skis or snowshoes before exploring the heights of our beautiful country. Take a break to stop at one of the mountain chalets, appreciate this authenticity, this true culture of hospitality. Time no longer matters; you are somewhere else. Then, let your curiosity guide you during a visit to the maturing cellars of L'Étivaz AOP, the essential cheese of our country that you will find on the tables of connoisseurs.

For a day, a weekend, or much more, come recharge with family, as a couple, or solo, where it is good to live.

Take off in a balloon from Château-d'Œx, the world capital of hot air balloons, admire the architectural riches of our villages, and open the door to a museum, a church, or a chapel, all witnesses to the history and local art of living.

Our mountains offer you their scenery; you just have to live your own experience! Pays-d'Enhaut Region wishes you a pleasant stay among us and remains at your disposal at our three information points in Château-d'Œx, Rougemont, and Rossinière.

Pays-d'Enhaut Région

Place du village 6, 1660 Château-d'Œx

info@pays-denhaut.ch

T: +41 26 924 25 25

www.chateau-doex.ch

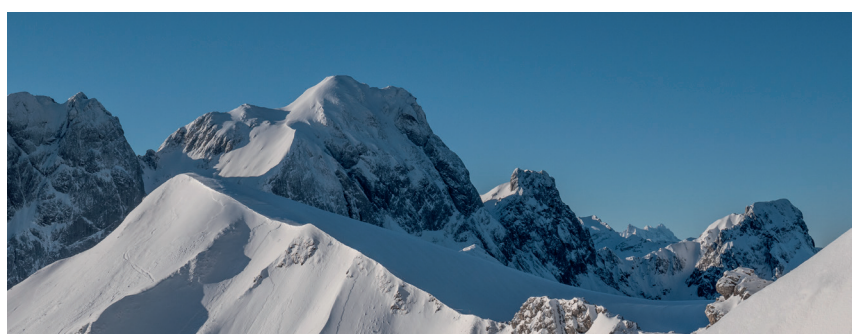
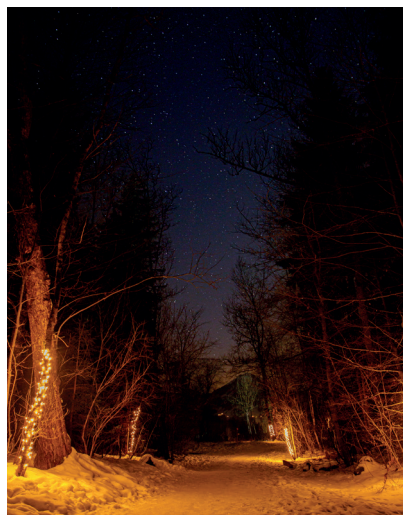
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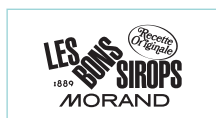
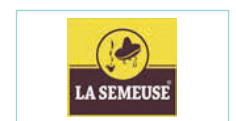
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PARTNERS "DU SAVOIR-FAIRE"

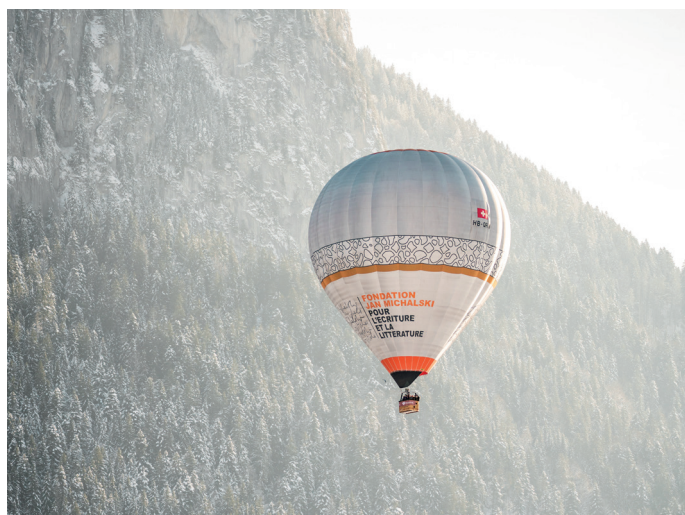


PARTNERS



A BIG THANKS TO

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FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DE BALLONS CHÂTEAU-D'ŒX

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