

explore

Our Chalet Summer Youth Event



2024



Please read this information pack for full details of the Explore event before making your booking. We recommend you look at details for all three of our summer events – Discover, Explore and Adventure – and choose the one that best suits your group’s interests and physical abilities.

When you have decided which event and which dates you would like to book you can send a booking enquiry [here](#).

If after reading the information packs you have questions about any of the events, please e-mail info@ourchalet.wagggs.org.

The table below gives a brief comparison of the three events to help you decide which events may be suitable for your group. It is important that you read the information pack for your chosen event carefully BEFORE you make a booking.

	Discover	Explore	Adventure
Age range	11-18	12-18	12-18
Kayaking	✓	X	X
Adventure park	X	✓	✓
Town excursion	✓	✓	X
Rock climbing	X	X	✓
Cable car ride	✓	✓	✓*
Pinning ceremony	✓	✓	✓
Suspension bridge	X	✓	X
Adelboden village	✓	✓	✓
Onsite day	Swiss culture + service	X	Survival
Climbing tower	X	✓	X
Woodcarver	✓	X	X

*Descent only, after Oschinensee hike.

Dates and prices for Explore events 2024:

Explore 1 – 23-29 June

Explore 2 – 27 July- 2 August

Explore 3 – 11-17 August

Explore 4 – 19-25 August

Package Option	Leaders* and youth age 16+	Youth age 12-15
Indoor fully catered	CHF 783	CHF 741
Squirrel House self-catered	CHF 492	CHF 450
Camping self-catered	CHF 387	CHF 345

*This price is for leaders within the adult:youth ratio of two leaders per eight youth participants. If places for additional leaders are available, there may be an additional cost for extra leaders. See our Summer Youth Event FAQ for details of the adult:youth ratio requirement.



Explore
Our Chalet Youth Event for Guides & Scouts Age 12-18





The next few pages give an overview of the programme activities included in this event. If you are unsure if any activity is suitable for your group, please contact programme@ourchalet.waggggs.org before making your booking.

NOTE: All programme activities are subject to change depending on availability of suppliers and weather conditions.

Important information about programme:

- This event is open to Guides and Scouts aged 12-18. All participants must be socially and emotionally capable of taking part in an active week with peers of this age group.
- Leaders must accompany their youth participants on all programme activities and are responsible for first aid for their group at all times.
- It is the responsibility of the group to check that activities meet their Member Organisation's rules and are covered by their travel insurance.
- The transport options listed in the 'adaptations' are only available for participants with a permanent disability or medical condition that affects their mobility.
- In all other cases groups are responsible for any costs associated with additional transport for their participants, e.g. taxis in lieu of walking.



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Cross one of Europe's longest pedestrian suspension bridges (153 metres long and 38 metres high!) before following the river to Frutigen. The riverside trail has many woodcarved creatures waiting to greet you along the way.

Once we reach Frutigen, there's time for picnic lunch before you take on the climbing tower. With three levels and 64 different challenge stations, the climbing tower offers a challenge for everyone! Optional extra activities (at additional cost) include mini golf and a ride on the miniature train.

At the end of the day we return to Adelboden Oey by bus.

This day is guided by Our Chalet staff. Climbing Tower is supervised by trained staff.

Practical information:

Walking: 1 km downhill (20 mins) + 4.5km mostly flat (1¼ hour) + 2.5km steep downhill and steep uphill (45 to 60 mins)

Special considerations: The riverside trail is a gravel path and uneven in places. The bridge is high and sways and is therefore unsuitable for those with a severe phobia of heights.

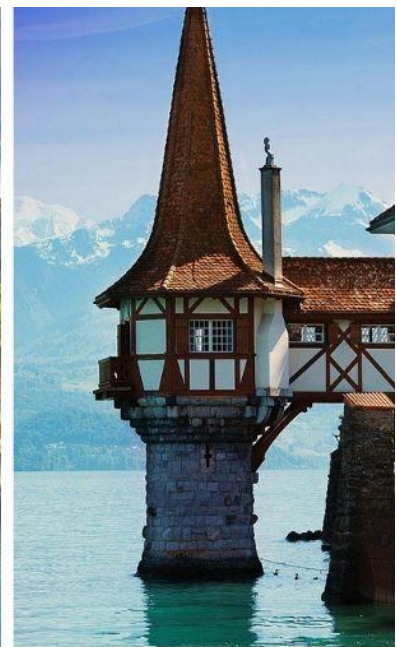
Adaptation: For participants with physical disabilities transport, including wheelchair-accessible transport, can be arranged. The public bus from Frutigen to Adelboden is wheelchair accessible. The bridge is suitable for crossing for users of smaller manual wheelchairs. Those who use crutches or walking sticks may need assistance to cross. The Climbing Tower involves stairs to access each level.



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SPIEZ, LAKE THUN, & CASTLE

Alpine Lake Thun is 17.5 km long and 3.5 km wide with a stunning mountain backdrop. Explore the harbour area at Spiez with a view of the 2,362m pyramid shaped mountain, Niesen, then enjoy a boat ride on the turquoise waters of Lake Thun to visit one of the 12th and 13th century castles on its shores.

This day is guided by Our Chalet staff.

Practical information:

Walking: 200m steep downhill (5 mins) + walking around Spiez harbour and the castle + 200m steep uphill (10 mins)

Special considerations: The castle has lots of stairs and is not recommended for those with very limited mobility.

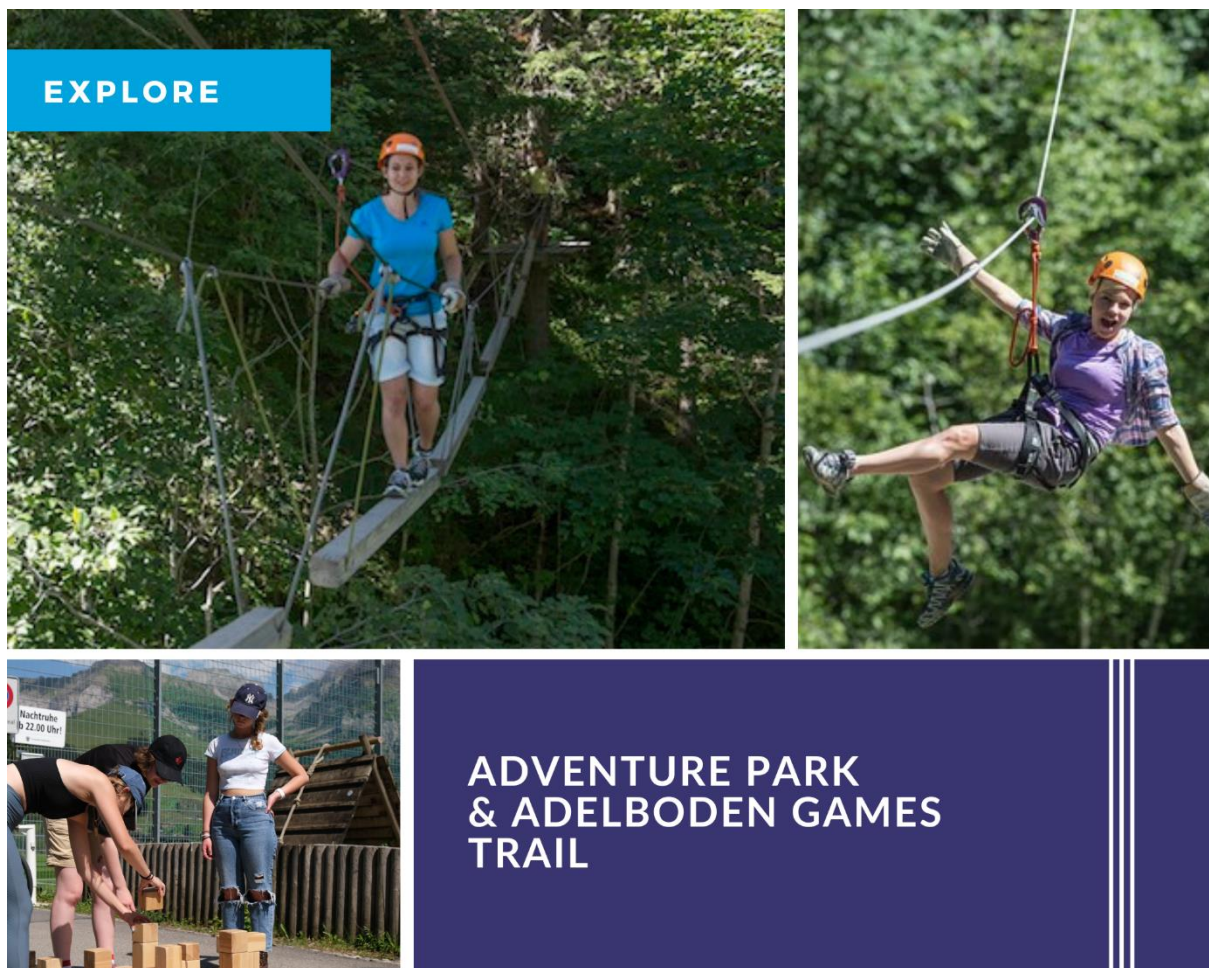
Adaptations: For participants with physical disabilities transport, including wheelchair-accessible transport, can be arranged. The boat is wheelchair accessible. An excursion to Thun town can be offered in place of a visit to the castle.



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Adelboden Adventure Park offers a half day of thrills with zip lines, high ropes course, and abseiling. Challenge yourself to try new things and conquer your fears!

Then head into Adelboden village to get competitive on the games trail. Play in teams at a variety of games from Ladder Golf to Tennis Star to Mountain Stack, you'll need everyone to bring their skills and talents to win at these challenges! Of course, there's also time to souvenir shop or grab an ice cream from one of Adelboden's many cafes.

This day is guided by Our Chalet staff. All activities at the Adventure Park are led by qualified, English speaking instructors.

Practical information:

Walking: 3.5 km mix of downhill, flat, and uphill (60 mins) + 1.5km short, steep uphill then flat (30 mins) + walking around Adelboden village + 1.2km uphill (30 mins)

Special considerations: These activities take place in all weather, except lightning.

Adaptations: For participants with physical disabilities transport, including wheelchair-accessible transport, can be arranged from Our Chalet to the Adventure Park and between the Park and the village. Some activities at the Adventure Park can be adapted depending on ability level. The games trail is wheelchair accessible.



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ENGSTLIGENALP & CHEESEMAKER

Engstligenalp is located at 1,964m and offers spectacular views of the valley and the surrounding mountains, as well as Switzerland's second highest waterfall. The gondola (cable car) whisks participants up to the alp in 7 minutes with views of the waterfall below.

Hike to the waterfall, then ride the gondola to the alp, where staff will lead you on a 5km hike around the alp with stops for games and a picnic lunch along the way.

A visit to the cheesemaker and/or one of the mountain huts finishes the day before descending on the gondola. **Note: It is not possible to watch cheese being made.**

This day is guided by Our Chalet staff.

Practical information:

Walking: 2 km, mostly downhill (30 mins) + 2.1 km mostly flat (1 hour) + 4.5 km flat (1 hour plus breaks) + 2km mostly uphill (40 mins).

Special considerations: The trail to the waterfall (2.1 km return) is a wide trail over unpaved ground with tree roots, stones and one short steep section.

Adaptations: For participants with physical disabilities transport, including wheelchair-accessible transport, can be arranged from Our Chalet to Engstligen base gondola station. The gondola is wheelchair accessible. The hike on the alp is wheelchair accessible on a gravel path.



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Pinning Ceremony, Tour, & Evening Programmes

After dinner on your arrival evening we will welcome you to Our Chalet with an opening ceremony for your event. Everyone taking part in the opening ceremony will receive a special Our Chalet pin only available to those who have visited the Centre. The ceremony is followed by a guided tour to help you learn your way around.

Throughout the week, we also run four evening programmes, one on each day when there is day programme. Each of these lasts approximately 1.5 hours and give participants more opportunities to learn new skills and develop friendships.

Our Chalet's Birthday and Swiss National Day

During Explore 2 we will run two special evening programmes, one on 31 July to celebrate Our Chalet's birthday and one on 1 August to celebrate Swiss National Day. These take place instead of the normal evening programmes.

Free Day

Free Day is your opportunity to organise your own activity for your group and it is completely up to you what you choose to do! Perhaps your group want to spend more time exploring the Adelboden area or trying out the panoramic swimming pool, or maybe there is a destination further afield you don't want to miss. Once you have booked your event we will provide a Free Day Guide, which gives ideas, hints, and tips for planning your free day.




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ACCOMMODATION



We offer three different accommodation packages: indoor, Squirrel House and tent camping. These are the same for all three summer event packages. The table below gives an overview of the accommodation options.

	Indoor	Squirrel House	Camping
Fully catered	✓	X	X
Self-catered w/ kitchen facilities	X	✓	✓
Grocery delivery available*	X	✓	✓
Plates/cutlery provided	✓	✓	✓
Luggage transfer – 8am-6pm	✓	✓	✓
Bed linen included	✓	✓	X
Mattresses included	✓	✓	✓
Towels included	✓	✓	X
Wheelchair accessible**	✓	X	✓
Showers in same building	✓	X	In Camp House
Access to laundry facilities*	✓	✓	✓
Event price (CHF) per person 16+/12-15	783/741	492/450	387/345

*Extra cost

**For full details of wheelchair accessibility, please e-mail info@ourchalet.wagggg.org

Important information about accommodation:

- Our Chalet is open to Guides and Scouts of all genders. We are not able to guarantee single-gender hallways or buildings.
- Rooms/tents are allocated by Our Chalet and it is up to group leaders to allocate their participants to each room/tent.
- Rooms/tents are not shared between groups, unless multiple groups request to share with each other.
- Bed linen and towels are provided for indoor accommodation. Sleeping bags are not permitted in indoor accommodation.
- For fire safety reasons it is not possible to add extra beds or mattresses to any of our rooms.
- No vehicles or camper vans are permitted on our campsite.



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Cost for indoor accommodation package is CHF 777 per leader or youth age 16+ and CHF 738 per youth age 12-15. This includes six nights of accommodation, meals from dinner on arrival day to packed lunch on departure day, luggage transfers, and all event programme activities.

Our indoor accommodation is offered across two buildings:

Main Chalet opened in 1932 and offers dorm rooms, triple rooms, twin rooms and a single room. The largest dorm room can sleep up to 14 participants. None of the rooms in Main Chalet have bunk beds.

Spycher House opened in 1999 and offers one dorm room (sleeping up to eight participants), quad rooms, twin rooms and two single rooms. Some rooms in Spycher House have bunk beds.

Rooms will be assigned to your group by our Guest Services staff based on your needs. To maximise availability, groups may be split across both buildings. Our staff always ensure at least one leader is in the same building as participants from their group.

Participants from different groups do not usually share rooms (unless by request). However, different groups will share the same common facilities such as bathrooms and hallways. Our Chalet is open to Scouts and Guides of all genders.

For details of wheelchair accessibility in our indoor accommodation please e-mail info@ourchalet.wagggg.org. As a broad overview, accommodation suitable for manual wheelchair users is available in Spycher House. Users of powered wheelchairs or mobility scooters who can transfer to a manual chair without the use of a hoist can also access this accommodation.



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Squirrel House



Cost for Squirrel House accommodation package is CHF 486 per leader or youth age 16+ and CHF 447 per youth age 12-15. This includes six nights of accommodation, luggage transfers, and all event programme activities. Please note: there is a minimum group size of eight to book Squirrel House for a Summer Youth Event.

Squirrel House is perfect for smaller groups who would prefer not to camp but do not need the full indoor accommodation package. **In summer Squirrel House is available as self-catering accommodation only.**

Squirrel House sleeps up to six people downstairs on bunk beds and up to ten people upstairs on mattresses. There is a small kitchen in the downstairs sleeping area that can be used for self-catering.

Squirrel House has two toilets – one downstairs and one upstairs – but no showers. Participants staying in Squirrel House can use the showers in Main Chalet.

Squirrel House is not suitable for wheelchair users and is not recommended for those with limited mobility.

Grocery deliveries are available from Coop@Home and can be delivered Monday-Saturday.



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Cost for camping package is CHF 381 per leader or youth age 16+ and CHF 342 per youth age 12-15. This includes six nights of accommodation, luggage transfers, and all event programme activities.

Our campsite can accommodate up to 30 people. Tents including inflatable mattresses are included in the cost. For hygiene reasons participants must bring their own sleeping bags.

Camping is available as a self-catering option only. Camp House contains a small kitchen for the use of campers. Equipment for outdoor cooking is also available.

Grocery deliveries are available from Coop@Home and can be delivered Monday-Saturday.

Toilets and showers are available in Camp House. The upstairs of Camp House can be used for shelter in wet/stormy weather. It is approximately a five-minute walk from the campsite to Main Chalet and Spycher House.

Our campsite is partially wheelchair accessible. For full details please e-mail info@ourchalet.waggs.org.



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The following information applies to the **indoor accommodation package only**. Groups choosing the camping and Squirrel House packages must self-cater for all meals.

For groups booked on to the indoor accommodation package all meals from dinner on arrival day to packed lunch on departure day are included in the cost and provided by Our Chalet. The kitchen at Our Chalet is operated by the Catering Co-ordinator and a team of volunteer staff. We do our best to accommodate dietary requirements, but if your group has a participant with a severe allergy or complex dietary requirement we recommend you discuss your needs prior to booking.

Breakfast

A cold breakfast of cereals, yoghurt, bread, cheese and fruit is available every morning in a self-service buffet style. Hot and cold drinks are also included.

Packed lunch

Participants make a packed lunch (sandwiches, fruit, snacks, etc.) each morning to take with them on programme. All participants are required to bring a lunch box or bag to carry their lunch.

Dinner

Dinner is served at one sitting and offers one option for everyone. Typical dinners include Swiss dishes such as rösti and camp favourites like chilli or pasta. Dinners always include salad or vegetables and consist of two courses with a main meal and dessert.

Special diet meals, including vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free are available only to participants who have notified us in advance of their need for a special meal. Your pre-arrival paperwork will ask you to specify dietary requirements for each participant in your group.



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We look forward to welcoming you to your home in the Swiss Alps!

