



# HIKING WEEK 2024



Please read through this information pack for full details of the Hiking Week 2024 before making your booking. **Please note the programme in this event differs from the Walking Week 2024 event, which takes place over the same dates.**

This Hiking Week event is aimed at those who have some experience of full-day hiking in hills or mountains and a good level of fitness. If you are new to hiking or prefer a gentler pace we recommend you consider our Walking Week event instead.

**This event takes place 7-14 September 2024 and is open to individuals and groups of all ages and genders. Participants are not required to be members of Guiding/Scouting.**

Option	Age 16+	Age 14-15
Indoor fully catered	CHF 931	CHF 868
Camping fully catered	CHF 735	CHF 672
Camping self-catered	CHF 441	CHF 378
Squirrel House self-catered	CHF 434*	CHF 371*
Baby Chalet self-catered	CHF 602*	CHF 539*

\*Prices for Squirrel House = min of 10 people sharing. Prices for Baby Chalet for 2 or 3 people sharing, single booking possible for additional fee. Families/groups may book some participants on Hiking Week and some on Walking Week.

**Children/youth:** If you would like to bring children aged 10-13 with mountain hiking experience, please make this clear when making your booking enquiry so we can discuss this prior to confirming your booking.

**Important:** Our Chalet staff **may refuse to allow any person to participate in a hike if they do not believe that person can complete the hike safely. Do not book on to this event if you have no hiking experience.** If you are not sure if this event is for you, please ask us prior to booking. This event requires participants to bring their own equipment including hiking boots with good grip and ankle support.

When you are ready to book you can send a booking enquiry [here](#).

If after reading the information pack you have questions about the event, please e-mail [info@ourchalet.waggs.org](mailto:info@ourchalet.waggs.org).



# PROGRAMME



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

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

## Important information about programme:

- Leaders or parents/guardians must accompany any participant under age 18 on all programme activities at all times.
- It is the responsibility of the individual participant or group leader to check that all activities are covered by their travel insurance.
- Participants are responsible for any costs associated with additional transport, e.g. taxis in lieu of walking.
- The hikes are listed here in no particular order, you will be given a schedule for the week on arrival at Our Chalet.

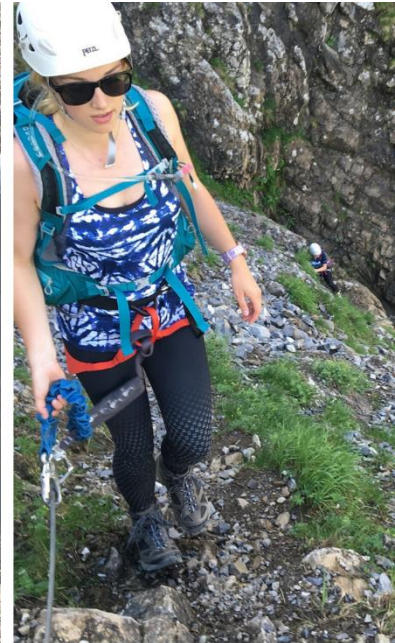
## Opting out:

- All programme is optional, however, please note Hiking Week is a package event and refunds cannot be given for any programme activity that a participant chooses not to participate in.

## This programme is NOT suitable for:

- Those with a phobia of heights.
- Those with little or no experience of hiking in hills or mountains.
- Those with a low level of physical fitness.
- Those who are not able to carry a backpack weighing up to 10kg. All participants must carry their own equipment, including for the overnight hut hike.
- Those who have a medical condition which does not allow them to safely experience altitudes of up to 2,900m.
- Children who do not have experience hiking for full days in mountains. To book children aged 10-13 on this event please contact us prior to booking explaining the child's hiking experience.





## ENGSTLIGENALP KLETTERSTEIG

Engstligenalp Klettersteig offers a mix of hiking and climbing in a stunning setting with the route leading up to the alp alongside Switzerland's second highest waterfall.

With beautiful views across the valley below to admire as you climb you will ascend 560m (1,837 feet) to the alpine pasture of Engstligenalp where flowers and cows abound! You will have time to explore the alp before descending the mountain either on foot, via a different route, or by cable car (at extra cost).

This day is guided by Our Chalet staff with qualified, English speaking, Alpine Guides leading the klettersteig section. Equipment for the klettersteig is provided.

### **Practical information:**

#### **Walking:**

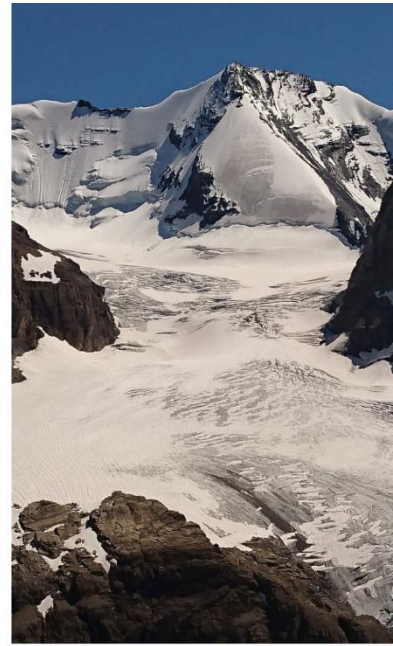
Our Chalet to/from Engstligen base station: 5.5km, 208m (682 ft) ascent (1 ½ hours) + return 4.9 km, 103m (337 ft) ascent (there is a possibility to shorten this with the public bus).

Descent from Engstligenalp to base station: 2.5km, 575m (1,886ft) descent (1 ¼ hours)

Klettersteig: Hiking/climbing – 3 hours, 560m (1,837 feet) ascent, K2 route.

All klettersteig equipment is included in the package cost.





## BLÜEMLISALPHÜTTE OVERNIGHT HIKE

Take on one of the toughest stages of the Via Alpina long-distance trail with this hike from Griesalp to Kandersteg. An overnight stop in the Blüemlisalphütte at 2,840m above sea level makes this a truly unforgettable hike.

Start with a ride on the steepest Post Bus route to get to Griesalp, then hike 1,444m of ascent to reach Blüemlisalphütte. Your overnight stop includes a communal dinner with other hikers and the chance to watch sunset and/or sunrise from high above the surrounding peaks.

The following morning hike down to Kandersteg via the beautiful Oeschinensee before returning by public bus to Our Chalet.

### Practical information:

Day 1:

Hiking: 6km with 1,444m (4,737 ft) ascent.

Note: This hike includes sections using ladders. Snowfields are possible at all times of year.

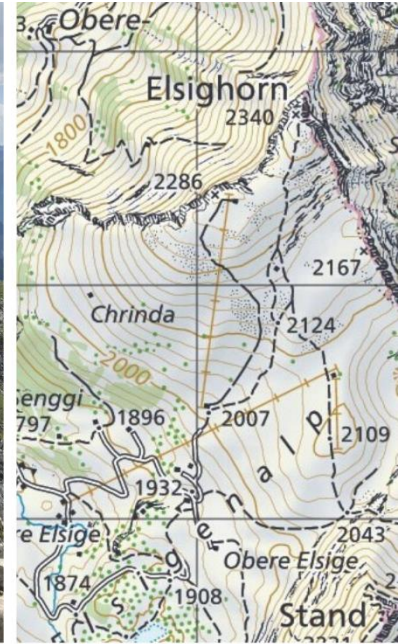
Day 2:

Hiking: 10km with 1,700m (5,577 ft) descent.

Walking: 1.3km with 114 m (374 ft) ascent – return walk to Our Chalet from bus stop.

The overnight hut stay with dinner and breakfast are included in the package cost. No drinks are included with the dinner, participants can choose to bring their own or purchase from the hut at extra cost. The hut does not have drinking water.





## ELSIGHORN PEAK HIKE

Join participants on the Walking Week event to hike to Elsiegnalp, then continue on to the Elsiehorn peak where there is a chance to spot the famous Edelweiss flower.

After admiring the views and flora at the peak you return to Elsiegnalp, from where the gondola (cable car) and bus make your return to Our Chalet easy.

**Practical information:**

Hiking: 13.6km with 1,128m (3,700ft) ascent + 670m (2,198ft) descent





# BUNDERSPITZ PEAK HIKE

Climb Our Chalet's 'home mountain', the 2,546m Bunderspitz. For decades Our Chalet's staff and guests have challenged themselves to reach the peak rising up behind the staff house. Start out walking past farms, start climbing through the forest, then leave the trees behind as you climb ever upwards. Cows with their Swiss cowbells graze on the high alpine pastures but by the time you reach the peak, even they will be left behind!

**Practical information:**

Hiking: 12km with 1,250m (4,100ft) ascent + 1,250m (4,100ft) descent



## Pinning Ceremony, Tour, & Evening Programmes


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. You will also have a guided tour to help you learn your way around!

Throughout the week, we also run five evening programmes – one on each evening except the overnight hut hike evening. Each of these lasts approximately 1.5 hours and gives participants more opportunities to learn new skills and develop friendships. The evening programmes will be run jointly with the Walking Week event and open to participants from both events, giving you the opportunity to meet more people during your stay.





# ACCOMMODATION



## Important information about accommodation:

- For this event there are the options of fully catered, indoor accommodation, self-catered camping accommodation, or catered camping accommodation.
- Our Chalet is open to guests of all genders. We are not able to guarantee single-gender hallways or buildings.
- For groups, rooms or tents will be allocated by Our Chalet and it is up to group leaders to allocate their participants to each room.
- A small number of single and twin rooms are available on request for an extra fee.
- Rooms or tents are not shared between groups, unless multiple groups request to share. Individuals booking on to this event will be roomed in a shared dorm, unless requesting a single/twin room and paying the additional fee.
- Bed linen and towels are provided and for hygiene reasons we do not allow the use of sleeping bags in our accommodation, except on the campsite.
- For fire safety reasons it is not possible to add extra beds or mattresses to any of our rooms.
- **For the hut hike a sleeping bag liner is required.** This can be borrowed from Our Chalet, or you can bring your own.

	Indoor	Camping Catered	Camping Self Catered	Squirrel House	Baby Chalet
Fully catered	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
Self-catered w/ kitchen facilities	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Grocery delivery available*	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Plates/cutlery provided	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Luggage transfer – 8am-6pm	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bed linen included	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Mattresses included	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Towels included	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Showers in same building	✓	In Camp House	In Camp House	In Main Chalet*	✓
Access to laundry facilities*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

\* Grocery delivery can be arranged through [Coop@Home](mailto:Coop@Home). Laundry facilities at extra cost. Squirrel House has two toilets and sinks (one on each floor) but no showers, Squirrel House guests may use showers a short walk away in Main Chalet.

For more details of Squirrel House and Baby Chalet see [our website](#).





The indoor package includes seven nights of accommodation, luggage transfers, all meals from dinner on arrival day to packed lunch on departure day, 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 guests. None of the rooms in Main Chalet have bunk beds.

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

For groups, rooms will be assigned by our office 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 guests of all genders.

**Additional self-catered indoor accommodation is available in Squirrel House (minimum 10 people) and Baby Chalet (2-3 people).**





**For this event catered and self-catered camping packages are offered.** The self-catered package includes seven nights of accommodation, luggage transfers, and all event programme activities. The catered package includes the same plus all meals from dinner on arrival day to packed lunch on departure day.

Our campsite can accommodate up to 30 people. **Tents including inflatable mattresses are available to hire for an additional cost.** For hygiene reasons participants must bring their own sleeping bags.

For those on the self-catered camping package Camp House contains a small kitchen for the use of campers. Equipment for outdoor cooking is also available. No meals are included in the self-catered package, except for dinner and breakfast at the mountain hut on the overnight hike.

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.

**Note:** It is not possible to be partly catered. Participants can either book a fully catered camping package where all meals are included, or a self-catered package where no meals are included (except for at the mountain hut on the overnight hike).





All meals from dinner on arrival day to packed lunch on departure day are included in the indoor accommodation and catered camping package costs.

The kitchen at Our Chalet is operated by the Kitchen Manager and a team of volunteer staff. We do our best to accommodate dietary requirements, however, if you have 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 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 include 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.

**Note:** Breakfast and dinner on the overnight hike day are provided by the mountain hut. Dinner is soup, main course, and dessert. **Drinks (of any kind) are not included in the hut stay.** Participants will need to carry extra water or buy drinks from the hut.



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

