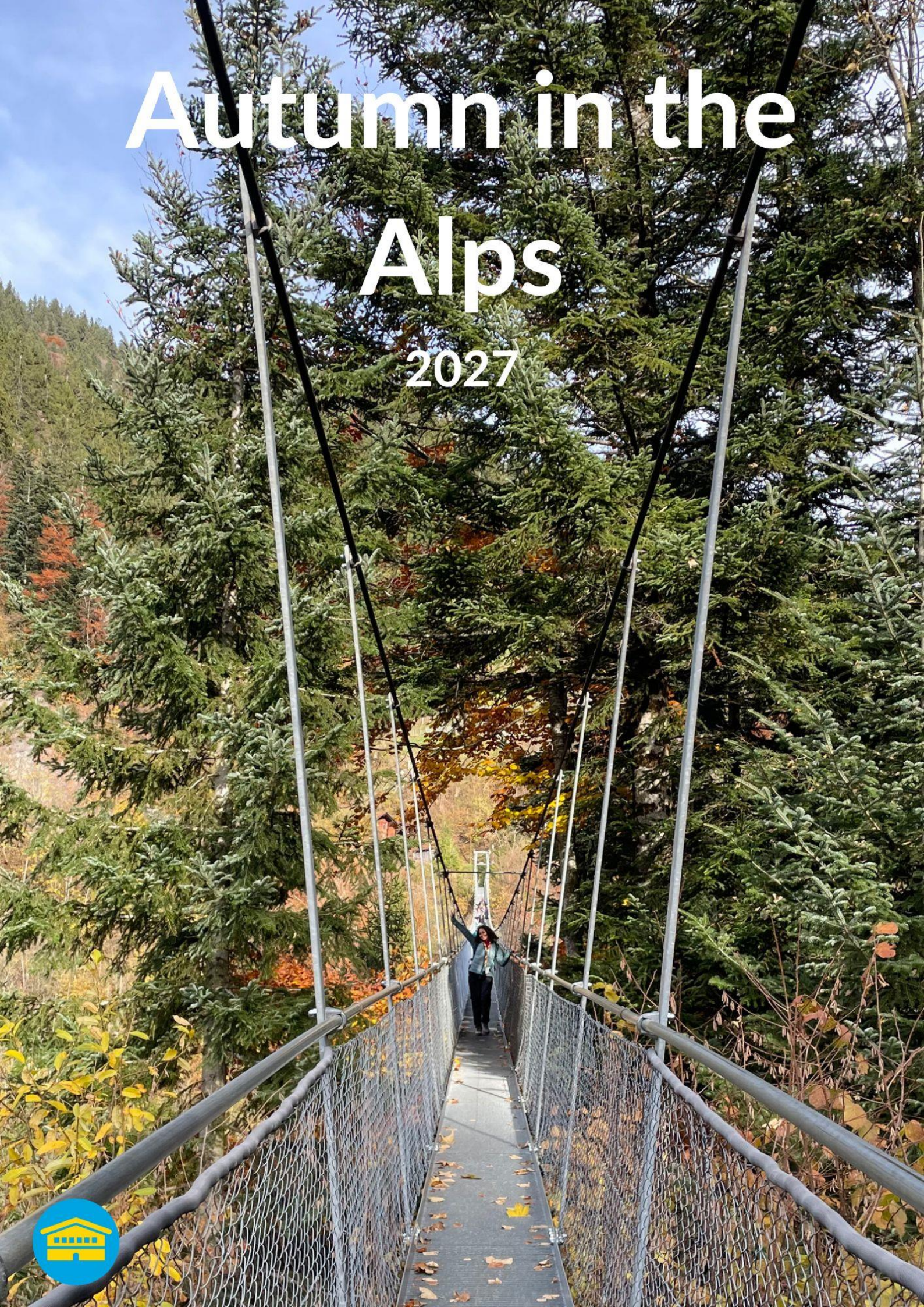
Autumn in the Alps

2027



Please read through this information pack for full details of the Autumn in the Alps event before making your booking. This event is aimed at those who would like a mix of hiking and excursion days, similar to our Summer Youth Events, however, there is no upper age limit or adult:youth ratio for this event.

If you prefer an excursion focussed event, with less physical activity, our International Friendship Week may be a better fit for you. Information about all our 2027 events can be found here.

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.wagggs.org.

Autumn in the Alps is open to individuals and groups of all ages and genders. Participants are not required to be members of Guiding/Scouting.

Option	Price Age 16+	Price up to age 15
Indoor fully catered	CHF 967.50	CHF 904.50
Camping fully catered	CHF 795	CHF 732
Camping self-catered	CHF 525	CHF 462

Please note: While the event is open to participants of all ages, the activities are most suitable for those aged 11+. If you would like to bring younger children, please make this clear when making your booking enquiry so we can discuss this prior to confirming your booking.

Scholarships may be available to help towards the cost of attending this event for those who would not otherwise be able to afford to attend.

In addition, for leaders aged 60+, with 20+ years of service in Guiding/Scouting, scholarships may be available to cover the accommodation portion of your costs.

For details of all scholarships please e-mail info@ourchalet.wagggs.org

Event dates 2027: 24 October – 30 October
Is your school holiday the week before? If you have a group of at least 10 people contact us to enquire about bespoke programme for your holiday week!

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 your group, please contact programme@ourchalet.wagggs.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:

- Leaders or parents/guardians 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 individual participant or group leader to check that all activities are covered by their travel insurance.

- The transport options listed in the access description are only available for participants with a permanent disability or medical condition that affects their mobility. **Our Chalet must be informed of the transport need prior to arrival.** In all other cases, participants are responsible for any costs associated with additional transport, e.g. taxis in lieu of walking.

Additional information for participants with disabilities:

- Our Chalet aims to make its events inclusive to as many people as possible. Most of our programme can be adapted to be suitable for those with physical disabilities or sensory impairments. To ensure we can meet your needs we ask that you let us know at the time of making a booking enquiry what adaptations you may need.

- Many of our activities are also suitable for those with mild/moderate learning disabilities or autism spectrum disorder. As a general rule, if someone attends mainstream school our activities can likely be adapted to fit their needs. Again, we ask that you discuss adaptations at the time of making a booking enquiry.

- Our Chalet staff are not able to help with any medical or personal care or provide 1:1 support. Participants who need this type of support must bring their own assistant carer with them. Please contact us to discuss options for carer places on this event.

BERN + COMMUNICATIONS MUSEUM

Spend a day in the Swiss capital, visiting the Old Town, the Bear Park, and the Communications Museum.

The museum is interactive with tasks to complete during your visit including making your own stamp and postcard!

Practical information:
We travel to Bern on public transport (bus and train). Total journey time approx. 1.5 hours each way. Cost is included.

Access: Public transport is wheelchair accessible. Transport can be arranged to the bus stop. Public transport may be crowded. The old town of Bern has many cobbled streets. There are public toilets, including wheelchair accessible toilets in Bern centre.

The communication museum is fully wheelchair accessible and has wheelchair accessible toilets. There is no seating in the exhibition areas of museum, but guests are welcome to bring their own folding stool. Some areas have low lighting.

INTERLAKEN & LAKE BRIENZ

Spend a few hours in Interlaken, the adventure sport capital of Switzerland, watching the paragliders land, exploring the old town, or doing some souvenir shopping.

Then follow a riverside path to the beautiful Lake Brienz where you have a go at kayaking. Start out learning how to kayak in the sheltered area by the shore, then move out on to the lake to view the surrounding cliffs and mountains from the calm, blue water. The session includes approximately 2 hours on the water, suitable outer layers to keep you warm on the water are provided.

Practical information:
Walking: 1km steep downhill + 3km flat (40 mins) + 1km steep uphill

Special considerations: Non-swimmers can take part in the kayaking. They will be provided with a life jacket specific for non-swimmers. All participants must wear a buoyancy aid, irrelevant of swimming ability.

Access: Transport can be arranged from Our Chalet to the coach pick- up/drop-off point and a public bus can be used in place of the riverside walk. There are public toilets, including wheelchair accessible toilet, in Interlaken. The riverside walk is flat on packed gravel. There are benches along the way.

Kayaking is possible for a range of abilities and specialised adaptive equipment is available. A transfer board is available and staff can help participants enter and exit the kayak. There are toilets at the kayak school. The nearest wheelchair accessible toilet is 300m from the kayak school.

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, as well as visiting Spiez Castle. Then enjoy a boat ride on the turquoise waters of Lake Thun and spend the afternoon exploring the old town of Thun, with it's wooden covered bridges and cobble stone streets. Of course, there a plenty of options for souvenir shopping and ice cream treats too!

This day is guided by Our Chalet staff.

Physical Activity:
Walking: 1km steep downhill (5 mins) + walking around Spiez harbour and the town Thun + 1km steep uphill (10 mins)

Special considerations: The castle has lots of stairs and is not recommended for those with very limited mobility. Group usually spend 45-60 mins in the castle. Those not able to access the castle can spend this extra time in Speiz harbour, or discuss alternative options in advance with our programme team.

Access: For participants with physical disabilities transport, including wheelchair-accessible transport, can be arranged. The boat is wheelchair accessible. There are accessible toilets in both Spiez and Thun. Note: public toilets in Thun charge a fee for entry. Some areas of Thun have cobbled streets – our staff can advise on alternative routes, if needed.

SUSPENSION BRIDGE, RIVER WALK, & CLIMBING TOWER

From one of Europe's longest suspension bridges to a climbing tower with 64 stations to reach, today is all about challenge and teamwork!

Start by crossing Hohstadlen suspension bridge, where cake awaits in the café on the other side. Then follow the river on a gentle walk to Frutigen, keeping an eye out for the woodcarvings dotted along the path. Once in Frutigen tackle the climbing tower as a team, working together to reach as many stations as you can.

Physical activity:
Walking: Walk from Our Chalet to bus stop is 20 minutes (approx. 1 km) steep downhill. From the suspension bridge to Frutigen is 1.5 hours (approx. 6 km) mostly flat on gravel/dirt trail. Walk from the bus stop back to Our Chalet is 30 mins (approx. 1 km) steep uphill.

Special considerations: Minimum height for climbing tower is 140cm. Participants must wear a helmet and harness (provided). Children under 140cm can instead climb on a mini-course underneath the climbing tower.

Access: Public bus can be used in place of river walk. The bridge is narrow and has a bounce/sway when crossing. It has handrails on both sides. There is a toilet at the café, it is down one flight of stairs. The climbing tower requires climbing stairs. Participants can be assisted by their leader or peers on the climbing elements. Alternatively, Mini Golf or Escape Room can be offered in place of climbing. There are toilets, including wheelchair accessible toilet, at the climbing tower.

EVENING PROGRAMME

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 six evening programmes. Each of these lasts approximately 1.5 hours and gives participants more opportunities to learn new skills and develop friendships.

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.

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 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 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 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.
- For fire safety reasons it is not possible to add extra beds or mattresses to any of our rooms.
- For full details of wheelchair accessibility please e-mail info@ourchalet.wagggs.org

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

*At extra cost

The indoor accommodation package includes seven nights of accommodation, luggage transfers on arrival/departure, 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.

For details of wheelchair accessibility in our indoor accommodation please e-mail info@ourchalet.wagggs.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.

For this event we offer catered and self-catered camping packages. 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 40 people. **Tents are not included in the cost**. **We have a limited number of tents (with inflatable mattresses) available for hire at 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.

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.

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

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 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 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.

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

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