



# Media NEWS

## THE THOUSAND AND ONE FACETS OF WINTER IN THE CANTON OF VAUD

Whether you are hungry for breathtaking sceneries, anxious to speed down great slopes or looking for vast spaces to recharge your batteries, the region has something for everyone.

In the canton of Vaud, no need to choose: an hours drive is enough to radically change the ambiance! In the Alps, the ski area Villars/Les Diablerets awaits the sportsmen and women. Whether skiing beginners or snowboarders in search of new thrills, there is something for everyone thanks to a wide variety of slopes. The ski area of Leysin is a must for fun lovers with a wide choice of tobogganing and snow-tubing slopes as well as a snowpark designed to host international competitions. Something to let off steam in a magical setting, facing some of the most majestic alpine peaks. Snow sports enthusiasts will meet up at Glacier 3000, the highest point in the canton located in Les Diablerets. It is easily accessible and definitely worth a visit for its alpine panorama which includes some famous names such as the Eiger, the Jungfrau and the Matterhorn. Adventure seekers will be thrilled by the Peak Walk by Tissot, the only suspension bridge in the world to link two peaks. Epicureans won't miss out either: at the Botta 3000 restaurant, designed by the famous architect Mario Botta, they enjoy both culinary and visual delights. No need to go very far in order to immerse in an alpine atmosphere. Right on the doorstep of the towns of Montreux and Vevey, the Rochers-de-Naye and the Pléiades offer a glimpse of the joys of winter in their white attire, as well

as a breathtaking view of lake Geneva, to be enjoyed on foot or with snowshoes. As a matter of course, relaxation is also part of the programme with numerous thermal baths on offer. At higher altitudes, Villars boasts a wellness area and a swimming pool. In Lavey, a true thermal paradise, bathers can relax surrounded by the impressive scenery of the Dent de Morcles and the Dents du Midi. Thermal bath can be found as well on the shores of lake Neuchâtel, where the visitors find themselves in a completely different atmosphere of Yverdon-les-Bains. This region is especially popular with families and people needing to recharge their batteries. In the Jura, while climbing up to Sainte-Croix/Les Rasses, travellers immerse themselves in the calm of vast virgin spaces that are not unlike the Far North. This area is best explored on foot, on cross-country skis or on snowshoes, always with a sublime view of lake Geneva and the alpine peaks. Finally, about twenty minutes from Nyon, the St-Cergue/La Dôle skiing area will enchant all snow sports enthusiasts alike: night skiing, snowshoe walks and dog sleigh rides to be tried out. Another hidden gem is the Lac de Joux in the heart of the Vallée de Joux. This lake turns into a gigantic natural ice rink in winter, a truly unique experience.

[region-du-leman.ch/en/Z6604](https://region-du-leman.ch/en/Z6604)



### News in brief

☆ **Second stage of the opening of the VIU**  
Inaugurated last year after a refurbishment of the rooms and restaurant, the latest 4-star hotel in the alpine resort of Villars reopens this winter with a brand new spa. An opportunity to enjoy the breathtaking views from the largest terrace in the resort.  
[hotellviu.ch/en](https://hotellviu.ch/en)

☆ **Cleanliness guaranteed with the Clean & Safe label**  
Created by Switzerland Tourism, the «Clean & Safe» label informs the guests that their host has put into place the necessary procedures to respect the sanitary concepts which are part of the protection measures against Covid-19.  
[clean-and-safe.ch](https://clean-and-safe.ch)

☆ **New three-star hotel at Château-d'Œx**  
Cozy and welcoming, the Ermitage offers a choice of 12 bedrooms – 8 doubles and 4 family suites – with balconies and mountain views. Also on site: an arts and crafts gallery, a café-restaurant with terrace, and a lounge with library.  
[region-du-leman.ch/en/P8727](https://region-du-leman.ch/en/P8727)

## NEW MUSÉE ATELIER AUDEMARS PIGUET IN THE VALLÉE DE JOUX

Retracing over 145 years of watchmaking history, the Musée Atelier Audemars Piguet opened its doors to the public on 25 June 2020.



It invites members of the public to enjoy an immersive experience at the heart of the past, present and future cultural universe of the brand. Located in Le Brassus, in the heart of the Jura mountains in canton of Vaud and the cradle of Audemars Piguet, it stands out for innovative museography and contemporary architecture designed to showcase two centuries of watchmaking history. Echoing the blend of tradition and forward thinking at the heart of Audemars Piguet's craftsmanship, the Musée Atelier Audemars Piguet presents some 300 watches, including masterpieces of miniaturisation, technical complexity and avant-garde design. Conceived as a space of live crafts, it also reveals some of the manufacturer's watchmakers and artisans at work in their transparent workshops. By integrating traditional workshops at the centre of the museum, the Brand pays tribute to the passionate craftspeople who have given life to Audemars Piguet, generation after generation. The visitors will discover rare timepieces, such as the Universelle—the most complicated watch crafted by Audemars Piguet in 1899—as well as a wide selection of emblematic models including many Royal Oak, Royal Oak Offshore and Royal Oak Concept. The museum can be visited from Monday to Friday by guided tour only and by reservation. Price: CHF 20.– In 2021, a 4\* hotel is due to open its doors next to the Musée Atelier Audemars Piguet.  
[region-du-leman.ch/en/P62461](https://region-du-leman.ch/en/P62461)

## THE ABBEY OF PAYERNE REOPENS ITS DOORS AFTER A MAKEOVER

Ten years of work were necessary to rejuvenate this venerable monument, the largest Romanesque church in Switzerland.



First built in the 11<sup>th</sup> century, this Mecca of Romanesque art was well worth its thorough restoration. In the same vein, the monument also underwent a complete overhaul of its museography. The result is a circuit which is at the same time amusing and poetic, made up of around twenty immersive and interactive audio-guide posts. During this 1.5 hour fun experience for the whole family, the abbey reveals its secrets. The visitors will discover the architectural details of the monument, its sculpted decorations, murals, organs and of course its history - an opportunity, for example, to witness the different stages of the construction of this impressive building by means of 3D reconstructions. A bronze model shows it in detail from above. It is even said that the ghost of Empress Adelaide is waiting in the shadow of one of its chapels to tell its story to the curious.  
[region-du-leman.ch/en/P12711](https://region-du-leman.ch/en/P12711)

The canton of Vaud is made up of countless facets, just like a diamond. Breathtaking landscapes, to be discovered in a multitude of sometimes unexpected ways: on foot, with snowshoes, on skis, but also on a sled pulled by dogs, across a footbridge between two summits, or in a restaurant perched at an altitude of 3000 metres.

In addition to the beauty of nature, there is also a rich cultural offer with two new museums: the Fort de Chillon plunges its visitors into the daily life of one of these exciting secret fortresses of the Swiss army, while the Musée Atelier Audemars Piguet will delight the lovers of precious timepieces.

Needless to say, the canton of Vaud is also famous for its flavours: great chefs turn their interpretation of local dishes and products into culinary highlights. And the canton's winegrowers are doing their utmost to invent new ways of tasting the noble wines in their cellars. Always maintaining a festive aspect and respecting the safety of the participants, as it is required for all events from now on.

Andreas Banholzer  
CEO, Vaud Tourism Office  
(Lake Geneva Region)



## AN «À LA CARTE» BONUS FOR STAYS IN THE CANTON

Following the success of the summer version of this CHF 100.- prepaid card offered for any stay of more than two nights in the canton, the Vaud Tourism Office is repeating the operation for the winter.

This season, a prepaid card worth CHF 100.- will be presented to anyone booking two or more consecutive nights in the canton of Vaud between 1 December 2020 and 18 April 2021. The gift card can be used at some 650 partners of the operation - hotels, restaurants, cultural or leisure sites, winegrowers, etc. The lucky recipients of this bonus will therefore be spoilt for choice when it comes to using it. Orders can be placed online while stocks last. Please note that in order to benefit from the card, you must be able to prove that you are actually staying in the canton for the minimum required length of time. This is a great opportunity to extend your visit to the canton of Vaud, to discover one of its excellent restaurants or to treat yourself to a few good bottles of wine at a winegrower's, to name just a few options.

[myvaud.ch/alacarte-en](https://myvaud.ch/alacarte-en)

More news on our Media Corner:  
[media.lake-geneva-region.ch](https://media.lake-geneva-region.ch)



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 **Events calendar**

In view of the circumstances relating to the evolution of Covid-19, changes or cancellations beyond our control may occur.

**19 November — 31 December 2020**  
Bô Noël Christmas market  
Lausanne  
region-du-leman.ch/en/P7822

**24 November — 24 December 2020**  
Lausanne Festival of Lights  
Lausanne  
region-du-leman.ch/en/P1142

**25 November to 4 January 2021**  
Winter Fun  
Montreux  
www.region-du-leman.ch/en/P1141

**27 to 29 November 2020**  
Béjart Ballet Lausanne  
Lausanne  
bejart.ch

**2 to 8 December 2020**  
31<sup>st</sup> Montreux Comedy Festival  
Montreux  
montreuxcomedy.com/en

**3 to 5 December 2020**  
Quaint restaurants days (Les Pintes ouvertes)  
Canton de Vaud  
region-du-leman.ch/en/P27215

**1<sup>st</sup> January to 6 March 2021**  
52<sup>nd</sup> Music & Snow Festival  
Les Diablerets  
musique-et-neige.ch

**23 to 31 January 2021**  
43<sup>rd</sup> International Balloon Festival  
Château-d'Œx  
chateau-doex.ch/en/Z4237

**25 to 27 February 2021**  
Les Hivernales Festival (pop-rock music festival)  
Nyon  
region-du-leman.ch/en/P22878

**6 and 7 March 2021**  
51<sup>st</sup> MARA (cross-country ski race)  
Sainte-Croix / Les Rasses  
ski-mara.ch/en

**THE NEW FORT DE CHILLON IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

Carved into the rock in 1941, just opposite the famous castle of the same name, this former military site opens to the public. A unique space that allows visitors to explore one of these constructions which have long remained a mystery.

The army built this site in the middle of the Second World War. The centre-piece of Swiss military strategy until 1995, the place remained classified as a «defence secret» until 2001. Since this autumn, this former military structure will be home to an interactive museum which makes for an interesting visit for the whole family. In its maze of galleries in the heart of the mountain, the

scenographers have created an experience that allows visitors to discover the daily life of the Fort's residents, using period furniture and objects as well as virtual and augmented reality. Thanks to these technologies, visitors can explore Swiss history, geography and reality during this troubled period in a playful and interactive way.

 [region-du-leman.ch/en/P65773](http://region-du-leman.ch/en/P65773)



**DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE ARTS AND CINEMA AT THE HERMITAGE FOUNDATION**

Until 3 January 2021, the famous foundation which nestles in a magnificent park perched on the heights of Lausanne makes a link between the fine arts and the great visual revolution of the 20<sup>th</sup> century called cinema.

This exhibition, an adaptation of a project shown at the Caixa Forum in Madrid and Barcelona and at the Museum of Fine Arts in Rouen, highlights the exchanges and reciprocal influences between filmmakers and visual artists. It suggests links between the very first films of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and the New Wave. On the one hand we have extracts, posters and film models, and on the other hand, sculptures, drawings, photographs and paintings of the highest order. And suddenly, the creations of the Lumière brothers, Fernand Léger, Fritz Lang, Charlie Chaplin, Pablo Picasso, Luis Buñuel, Nicolas de Staël and Jean-Luc Godard begin to converse - that's the magic of cinema! To complete the visit, a stroll on the premises is a must: the view of Lausanne is incomparable. Finally, visitors can enjoy a break at L'Esquisse, the adjoining restaurant,



which deserves a stop for its charm as well as its delicious dishes and snacks.

 [fondation-hermitage.ch](http://fondation-hermitage.ch)

 **Gastronomy**

**TWO NEW ADDRESSES ARE BANKING ON SWISSNESS TO SEDUCE GOURMETS**


Lionel Rodriguez has settled in Corseaux, and Edgard Bovier in Rougemont. The two famous chefs propose an original concept, highlighting the flavours of the Alps.

After having left the Hotel «Trois Couronnes» in Vevey, Lionel Rodriguez recently inaugurated a «table d'hôtes» at «the Lab» in Corseaux near Vevey. Planned for about a dozen guests, it should be booked 24 hours in advance. Here, the master

chef extends his exploration of alpine flavours which he began in the kitchens of the famous Vevey establishment. A true gustatory journey where the finest flavours are measured against the most rustic tastes, all of this in a quite unusual place.

The restaurant «Le Cerf» in Rougemont in the Pays-d'Enhaut is now Edgar Bovier's domain. Previously, he spent sixteen years at the helm of «La Table d'Edgar» at the Lausanne Palace in the capital of the canton of Vaud, where he was awarded a

score of 18/20 by Gault&Millau. At «Le Cerf», the best regional flavours and produce are always in season, refined with a bistronomic touch. The calf's liver is adorned with mountain herbs, and fir scents tickle the fillets of arctic char. In the cosy decor of a real chalet, surprises for the taste buds are guaranteed, and even without ruining oneself. Last but not least, Franck Pelux and his companion Sarah Benahmed are taking over the torch of the Lausanne Palace's gastronomic restaurant. Perpetuating the heritage of Edgar Bovier and favouring local products throughout, the young couple invite their guests to explore the flavours of the Swiss terroir.

 [lecerfrougemont.ch](http://lecerfrougemont.ch)  
 [hc-lelab.ch](http://hc-lelab.ch)  
 [lausanne-palace.ch](http://lausanne-palace.ch)



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*Package deals*

 **ALL SET TO DISCOVER THE PAYS-D'ENHAUT**

From 19 December 2020 to 11 April 2021, visitors can explore this region of the Vaud pre-alps at an altitude of 1000 m with a package deal.

This exceptional offer, available from CHF 115.- per person, is aimed at sports enthusiasts and gourmets who spend at least one night in a partner establishment in the Pays-d'Enhaut. Needless to say, the programme includes skiing with a pass granting access to 100 km of marked runs in the ski area of La Lécherette-Leysin-Les Mosses, where around a hundred snow cannons provide snow at all times. Also included is the Pass d'Enhaut, which opens the doors to numerous activities between Château-d'Œx, Rougemont and Rossinière, from a visit to a cheese dairy to an ice skating rink. Gourmets will appreciate the tasting plate with regional products and the welcome drink in their 3\* hotel or B&B.

 [region-du-leman.ch/en/P72759](http://region-du-leman.ch/en/P72759)




*Top tip*

 **OPEN WINE CELLARS, SPECIAL EDITION 2020**

This year, which is quite out of the ordinary, the event is planned in an «à la carte» version, scheduled between October 2020 and March 2021.

In order to cope with the health condition, the «Caves Ouvertes Vaudoises» will be presented with a completely new concept this year. The aim of the event remains the same: to enable wine lovers and experienced oenophiles to meet with the winemakers, taste their wine and being able to buy some nice bottles from them. The visitors just have to order the package for CHF 30.- which then allows them to book tastings with the partner winegrowers. The icing on the cake: the package includes a prepaid card worth CHF 30.- to be used for a purchase of bottles of wine.

 [mescavesouvertes.ch](http://mescavesouvertes.ch)

