BULLE

TRADITION, COMMERCE AND FINE DINING

Bulle, situated at the foot of the Fribourg Pre-Alps, is the second largest town in the canton of Fribourg. The modern industrial and commercial centre in La Gruyère has a centuries-old tradition of cattle markets and fairs. These traditions are continued in contemporary fashion in the Gruyère Congress and Event Centre "Espace Gruyère". Connoisseurs and fans of regional products meet in late autumn at the "Salon Suisse des Goûts et Terroirs". This national food fair brings together more than 280 producers of specialities from all over Switzerland. Numerous producers from the canton of Fribourg showcase their cheese, meat, wine and vegetables at the fair. A lively atmosphere, authentic treats as well as arts and crafts await visitors at the traditional weekly market held on Thursday mornings, all year round, on the Market Square. In July and August the market is even bigger, with 300 exhibitors. Cheese production by Le Gruyère AOP, musical entertainment and artistic performances provide a wonderful opportunity to meet the people from the region. The town centre of Bulle is dominated by a fortified castle, which was commissioned by the Bishop of Lausanne in the 13th century. It now houses the prefecture. The Musée gruérien, situated at the foot of the castle, presents the history and treasures of a region steeped in tradition in the interactive exhibition "Gruyère, Footprints and Detours". Bulle has a varied culinary heritage and a lively cultural scene, with concerts, plays, festivals and exhibitions. There are also plenty of trips to the countryside. The Mount Moléson recreation area is nearby and the countryside around Lake Gruyère (dam) is ideal for hiking, cycling and mountain bike tours. La Chia, a family-friendly skiing area with snowshoeing trails, is only five minutes from Bulle.
www.la-gruyere.ch/bulle

MUSÉE GRUÉRIEN

Regional heritage: The tour of the interactive Musée gruérien in Bulle is an emotional journey through time. Models, scenes, films and sound sequences, from the collection of traditional costumes and old tools used by herdsmen, to the traditional farmhouse on a 1:1 scale depict the varied cultural heritage. Tribute is, of course, paid to the most famous ambassador for the region, the cheese Le Gruyère AOP. A wonderful portrait of the region! www.musee-gruerien.ch

FONDUE / SUSHI TRAIN

A gourmet trip: In winter the historic "Fondue Train" runs from Bulle for a relaxing gourmet evening on rails. An aperitif, the traditional, home-made Fribourg cheese fondue "moitié-moitié" and the famous meringues with double cream are a wholesome reminder of bygone days. The picturesque countryside of la Gruyère and Châtel-St-Denis is an additional calorie-free treat. In summer, the Fondue Train becomes a Sushi Train. It is a hit with Swiss and foreign tourists alike!

A WALK

Path of the poor: The 7 km circular route starts on the outskirts of the town. It was created by monks in the 14th century. The indigent population used this path once a week to attend the service at the Part-Dieu Monastery and receive a bowl of soup as a reward.

HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

Invitation: Visitors explore the historic centre of Bulle at their own pace on this walking tour. The tour takes you to 15 sites, where not only the buildings, monuments, squares and parks are explained, but their far more exciting history as well. Churches, indoor markets, a very special instrument, a popular uprising and some outstanding personalities bring this journey through time to life. A brochure or link for your smartphone is available for this walking tour: www.la-gruyere.ch/circuit

KEY DATES

1239 - Construction of Bulle Castle
1805 - Fire destroys a major part of Bulle
1998 - Inauguration of the Espace Gruyère Convention Centre
2012 - Inauguration of the interactive exhibition in the Musée gruérien
2013 - Inauguration of the Bulle historic walking tour

NUMBERS

Population 21,941 inhabitants
Language French
Altitude (town) 763 m above sea level