

# MOLÉSON

## LEISURE PURSUITS AND VIEWS TO THE WEST

Molésion-sur-Gruyères, a small village situated 1,100 metres above sea level, overlooks the small mediaeval town of Gruyères and the “Les Marches” plain. The Molésion itself is the most popular mountain for its panoramic views of the Fribourg Pre-Alps and its convenient funicular and cableway make it accessible to everyone. A breathtaking 360-degree panorama unfolds from the summit at 2,002 m above sea level. From Lake Geneva to the Jura and from Mont-Blanc to the peaks of the Bernese Oberland – according to a popular local saying, everyone can see their house from up here. The mountain, with its wide range of leisure activities, offers winter action in the ski area with its famous black ski slope, on the four-kilometre long sledge run and the lovely snowshoe trails.

In summer, the “balcony of Western Switzerland” is always popular with mountaineers and day trippers alike. Tours with magnificent views, for example

across the Molésion ridge past Alpine pastures to the middle station, are a hit with hikers. Trail runners train on the steepest slopes. Mountain bikers cross the flanks of the Molésion on the national panoramic bike route towards Les Paccots and stop for a well-earned rest in one of the typical Alpine taverns. In addition to traditional activities, more contemporary sports also attract visitors to the mountain, for example two Via Ferrata routes with permanent belays, a summer toboggan run, devalkarts (which are similar to go-karts), scooters, mini-golf and a playground.

On the summit of the Molésion, experts also offer introductions to night-time astronomy and visitors can embark on a fascinating journey across thousands of light years. It is impossible to get any closer to the stars!

[www.la-gruyere.ch/molesion](http://www.la-gruyere.ch/molesion)



## MYTHOLOGY



**Bewitched:** On the Moléson, contemporary reality is inextricably intertwined with ancient mysteries. For example, the huge boulder that is used as a bus stop is not in this place by chance. Over 300 years ago, the witch Catillon, assisted by several demons, had some fun dislodging a gigantic boulder from the summit of the mountain. But then...Martine Bonnet from the La Pierre restaurant in Catillon will tell the whole story:  
Tel. +41 (0)26 921 10 41 or [pac@moleson.ch](mailto:pac@moleson.ch)

## CHEESE-DAIRY WALK



**An experience:** The path between the Alpine cheese-dairy in Moléson village and La Maison du Gruyère in Pringy is an entertaining and educational experience. The walk across meadows and through woods takes around two hours and affords plenty of opportunities to admire Moléson. Visitors who fancy a delicious meal en route, cooked on a wood-fired stove, will plan their walk so that it passes through Les Mongerons Alpine restaurant (open from *May to September*). It's so cosy!

## PEAK FONDUE



**Romantic:** The cableways run to the Moléson in summer, on Friday and Saturday evenings as well. So there is nothing to stop visitors enjoying a fondue "moitié-moitié" in the restaurant on the summit, with a view of a magnificent sunset. Reservation: [www.moleson.ch](http://www.moleson.ch)

## ALPINE DAIRY & TAVERN



**Journey through time:** The shingle-covered Alpine demonstration cheese-dairy dates back to a 17<sup>th</sup> century chalet. It is a historic monument and an institution for visitors from near and far. The perfect way to learn about the daily life of the herdsmen in a bygone age. From May to September, the cheese-maker lifts the cheese out of the copper kettle at 10:00 am and explains their work. Visitors can then dine on the panoramic terrace or stock up on delicious specialities in the typical shop. Folklore is also available if requested. [www.fromagerie-alpage.ch](http://www.fromagerie-alpage.ch)

## KEY DATES

1963 - First winter season in Moléson  
2011 - Opening of the new cable car  
2014 - 50th anniversary of Moléson

## NUMBERS

**Population** 167 inhabitants (village),  
2,136 inhabitants (municipality)  
**Language** French  
**Altitude** 2,002 m above sea level  
(summit)