

VULLY

GOURMET COUNTRY ON LAKE MURTEN

Situated opposite the small town of Murten, Vully is the sunny riviera of Lake Murten. Mont Vully is only 653 m high, but has magnificent views. The view from its ridge extends over the vineyards and lake to the snow-covered peaks of the Bernese Alps. The villages on the southern slope, from Môtier, Praz and Lugnorre to Gévaux, are traditionally characterised by wine growing. Where the Romans planted the first vines 2,000 years ago, winegrowers from Fribourg and Vaud now produce excellent wines. The whole of Vully, with 150 hectares of vines or 1% of the cultivated area in Switzerland, is a small, but excellent wine region. At the same time, excellent restaurants await visitors in search of culinary delights. The nearby Grosses Moos is regarded as the vegetable-growing area of Switzerland. Fertile land was created after the course of the inshore waters was corrected twice (1868-1891 and 1962-1972). Around 60 types of vegetables are now grown here. Regional wine, fish and vegetables:

no wonder Vully is reputed to be gourmet country. It is best to approach Vully slowly. The journey from Murten with the scheduled boat is particularly relaxing. Trails with spectacular views as well as the vineyard path await walkers and hikers in Vully. Historians and families can visit the Vully sandstone caves above Môtier. During the 1st World War, the Swiss army was defeated in the sandstone caves, which are now a fascinating area to explore. Remember to bring a torch! And last but not least, the Lake Murten Region is also the birthplace of Veloland Switzerland, the best network of cycling paths in the world, and other innovative cycling projects such as the slowUp event days. A circular tour around the lake, 34 kilometres on predominantly flat terrain, is an enjoyable way to spend the day, or the scheduled boat can be used to shorten the tour. Bicycles are transported free of charge.

www.levully.ch



VULLY WINES



Tasting: “Sunday in the wine cellar” means that from April onwards, at least one wine cellar is open on Sundays. All winegrowers open their cellars to visitors during the Whitsun weekend. Gourmets can explore the “Route gourmande du Vully” at the end of June or the “Balade gourmande” at the end of July. In September, the Vully winegrowers festival, a major event in the calendar, takes place in Praz. A visit to a winery, booked in advance, is also an interesting experience. www.levully.ch

CULINARY HERITAGE



Regional speciality: Vully Tart is part of the culinary heritage of Switzerland. This delicious tart is a must at regional festivals and it is extremely popular with a glass of white wine. Anni Simonet from Le Petit Château winery in Môtier, for example, serves freshly baked Vully Tart with a wine tasting or with an aperitif, with bacon and caraway seeds or with caramelised sugar in the hand-made “love wells”. Visitors can buy Vully Tart at the Guillaume bakery in Sugiez.

TRAFFIC FREE



SlowUp Lake Murten This is a joyous public event with 34 kilometres around Lake Murten for cyclists, inline skaters and pedestrians only. Very little effort, a lot of fun and adventure, always on the last Sunday in April: www.slowUp.ch/murtensee

GUIDED TOURS IN VULLY



À la carte: In just under two hours, knowledgeable guides impart a lot of knowledge interspersed with anecdotes. There is something for everyone, whether it is the architectural heritage of the Vully villages, the vineyard path, the botanical trail or the historical trail, and there is an opportunity to visit the Celtic oppidum as well as the Vully sandstone caves and the infantry base. The adventure should ideally end with a wine or beer-tasting session or in a typical restaurant on Mont Vully. Visitors can decide the latter, to be discussed with the guide. www.levully.ch

KEY DATES

- 583 B.C.** First mention of Vistilius for Vully and the first vines are cultivated by the Romans
- 1868** First correction of the Jura inshore waters
- 1914** Construction of the Mont Vully sandstone caves by the army
- 2011** First inter-cantonal AOC wine-growing region (FR & VD cantons)

NUMBERS

- Population** 3,600 inhabitants
- Language** French 65%, German 30%
- Altitude** 431 m above sea level