

TREASURE HUNTS IN VALAIS.

FANTASTIC ADVENTURES
IN THE MOUNTAINS.



SPICK
BOOKS

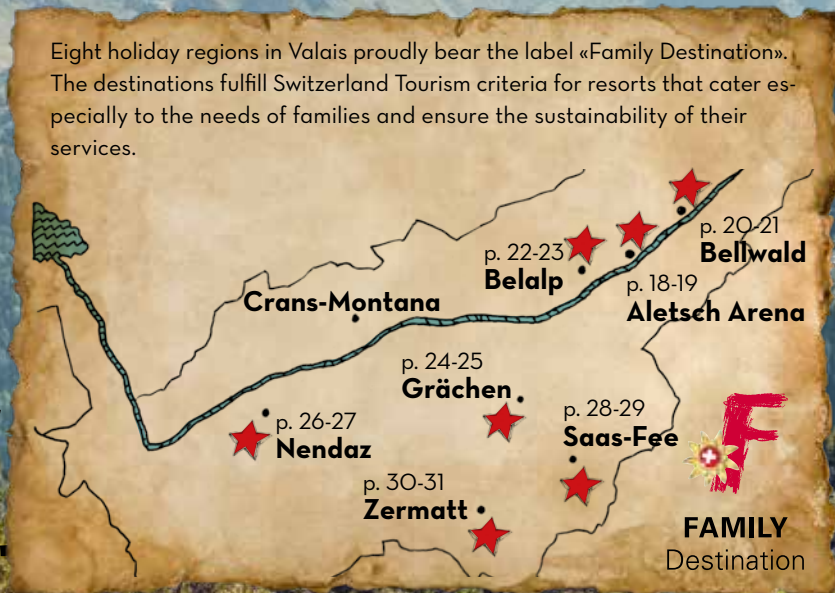
visitvalais.ch/treasure



ENGRAVED ON MY HEART.

TREASURE HUNTS IN VALAIS.

Eight holiday regions in Valais proudly bear the label «Family Destination». The destinations fulfill Switzerland Tourism criteria for resorts that cater especially to the needs of families and ensure the sustainability of their services.



Imprint

This booklet was created jointly by Valais / Wallis Promotion and Künzler Bachmann Verlag.

The booklet is published as a supplement to FamilienSPICK.

Publisher:
KünzlerBachmann Verlag AG,
St. Gallen in conjunction with
Valais / Wallis Promotion

Project organisation:
Roger Hartmann

Design / pre-press:
Felicitas Dünnenberger
Christos Karachristos

Editing: Alexander Volz

Photos: ©Valais / Wallis Promotion –
Pascal Gertschen

Illustrations: Christos Karachristos

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Hello!

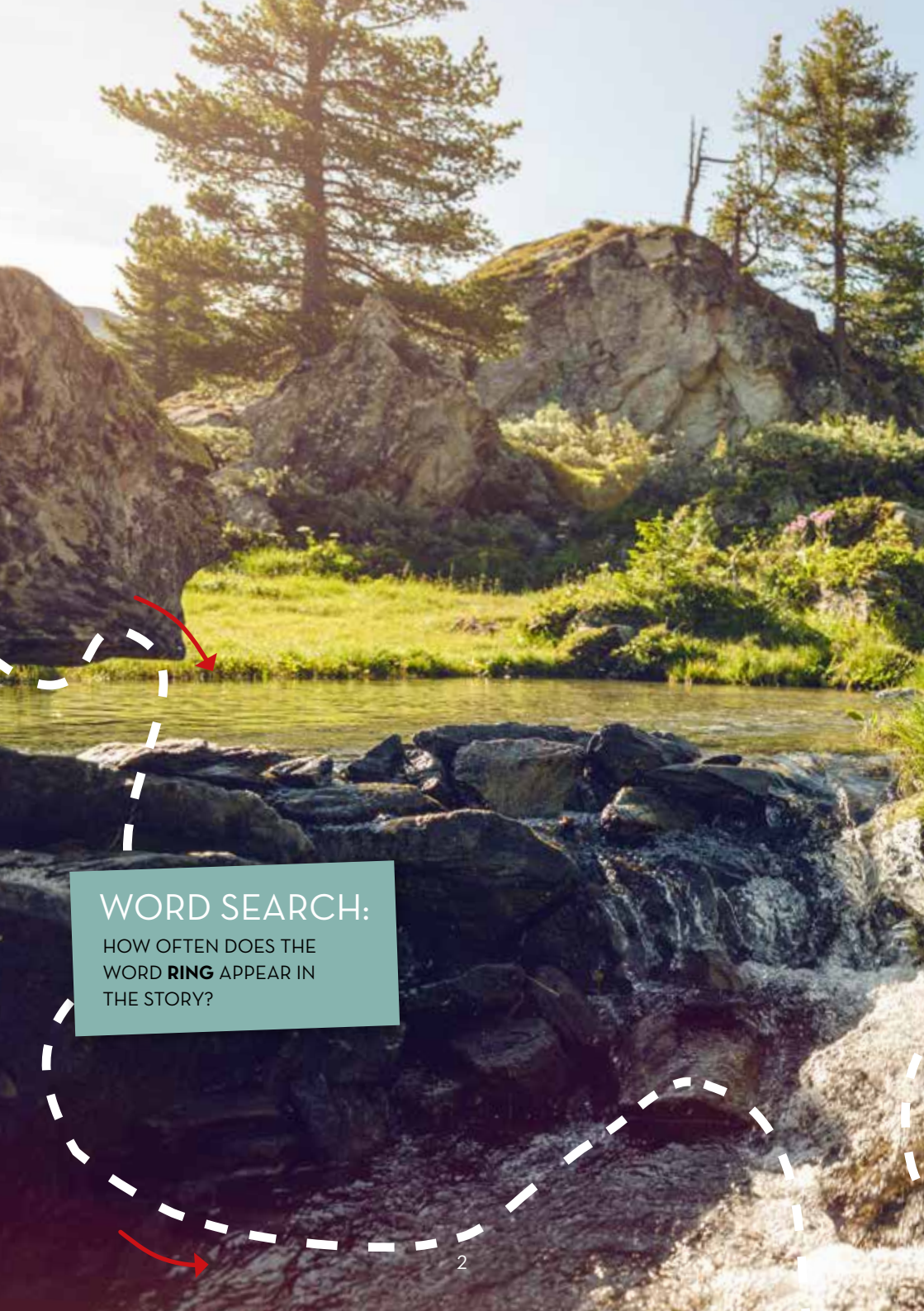
You certainly know that the highest mountain in Switzerland is in Valais. But did you also know that Valais is described as the water castle of Switzerland? And for a good reason. About 80% of Swiss glaciers lie in Valais. With its 285 meters high, the biggest gravity dam in the world - the Grande Dixence - is here too. And into the 20th century, more than 200 *Suonen* with a total length of some 1800 kilometers were still in use. What's a *Suone*? You can find out when you read the story about the siblings Claudia and Stephan who spend their vacation in Valais.

Like Claudia and Stephan, who find and learn new things on their little adventure in Valais, you can do the same on the hikes and treasure hunts that we'll introduce you to on the following pages.

Have fun in Valais!



Damian Constantin,
Director of Valais / Wallis Promotion



WORD SEARCH:

HOW OFTEN DOES THE
WORD **RING** APPEAR IN
THE STORY?

THE LOST RING.

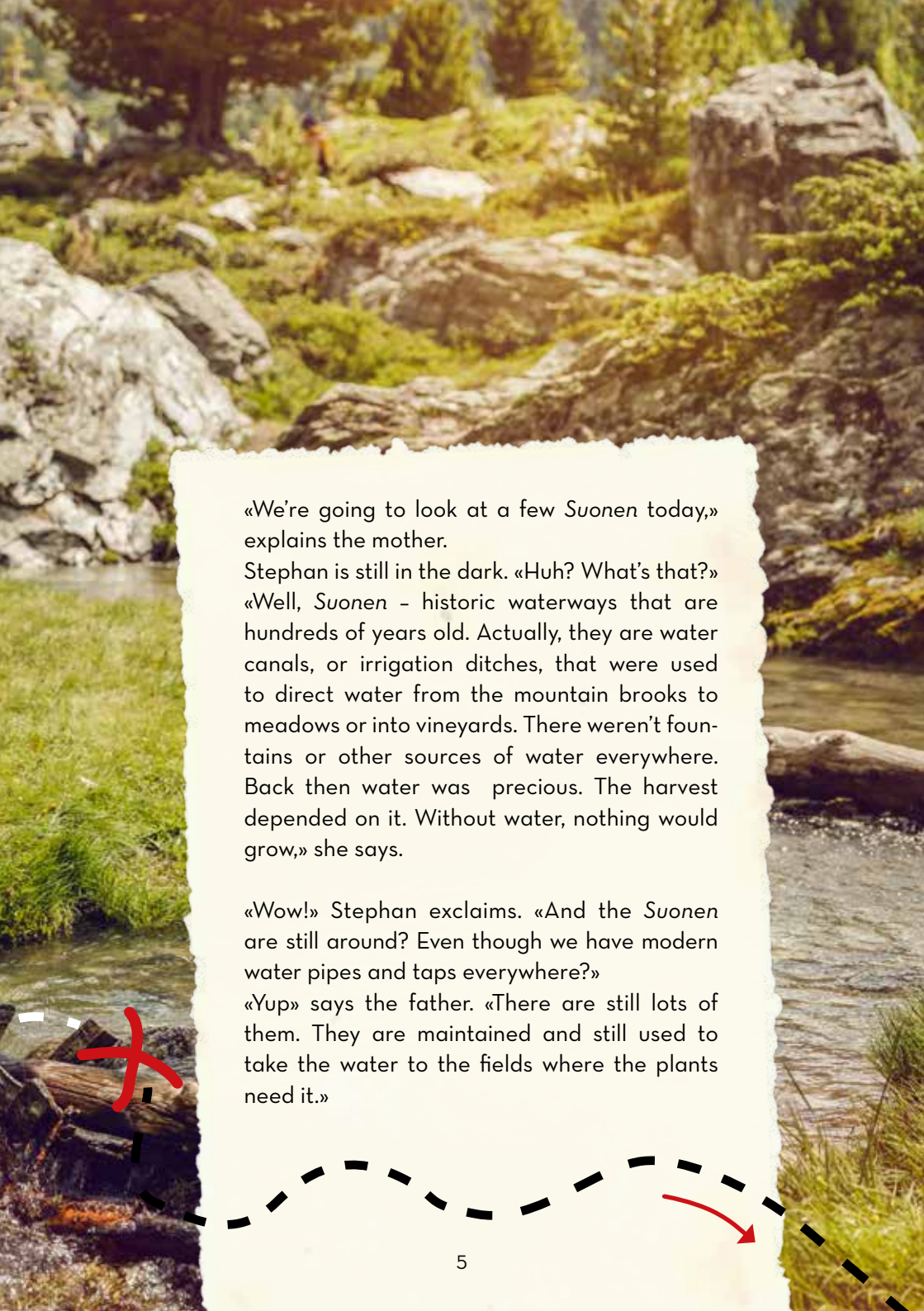
«Claudia! Stephan!» their father calls from the next room.
«Have you filled up your water bottles?»

Again this year the family of four is vacationing in Valais and staying in a small hotel starting point for their day trips in the region. Mostly they hike and picnic on the trail. Of course it's important to take along enough to drink and something to eat. After all, Nature is the destination. Claudia, Stephan and their parents enjoy the majestic mountains and fresh air. They also like learning about the world of plants and the native animals. When on a hike, they often stop for a picnic at a barbecue site at one of the many playgrounds in the area.

«Have you filled your bottles? Can we get going?» their father calls again after hearing no answer. «Yes!» Claudia finally answers. «We're coming. I couldn't find Grandma's ring. That's what took me so long,» she says. «Do you have the ring now?» her mother asks. «Yeah. It's on my finger,» Claudia replies. Together they leave the hotel, get into the car and drive off.

«Where are we going today?» asks Stephan. «Today we're going to see something really special,» their father says. «Great. I don't know much more than I did a minute ago,» Stephan says and tries again. «Come on. Tell us what's so special.»






«We're going to look at a few *Suonen* today,» explains the mother.

Stephan is still in the dark. «Huh? What's that?»
«Well, *Suonen* - historic waterways that are hundreds of years old. Actually, they are water canals, or irrigation ditches, that were used to direct water from the mountain brooks to meadows or into vineyards. There weren't fountains or other sources of water everywhere. Back then water was precious. The harvest depended on it. Without water, nothing would grow,» she says.

«Wow!» Stephan exclaims. «And the *Suonen* are still around? Even though we have modern water pipes and taps everywhere?»

«Yup» says the father. «There are still lots of them. They are maintained and still used to take the water to the fields where the plants need it.»




After a while they reach the parking lot where they want to start their hike. They all grab jackets, backpacks and caps and head off. When they come to the first *Suone*, they stare, fascinated. «There have been *Suonen* for more than one thousand years,» the mother says.

Before the hike she had read about the *Suonen* and now proudly shows off her newfound knowledge. Impressed by the mountains and the *Suonen*, the family follows the trail to a playground where they can relax and grill the sausage they've brought along.

While their parents light the fire and get the food ready, Claudia and Stephan go to the little brook that runs along the edge of the playground. They take off their shoes and step into the ankle-deep water.





«Ahhh. That feels good!» says Stephan, a broad smile on his face. Claudia happily plunges her feet into the cool water too. She picks up little stones lying at the bottom of the brook and admires their different colors in the daylight.


All of a sudden Claudia shouts, «Oh no! I don't believe it!»

«What's the matter?» Stephan asks as he watches his sister stirring up the waters with her hands. «I think I lost Grandma's ring. I just had it and now it's gone.» «Wait a sec. I'll help you,» Stephan says and, like Claudia, he begins searching the water for the ring.

«What are you looking for?» a young girl asks Claudia.







Claudia looks up briefly and tells her, «I lost my ring.»

«Oh. A ring. That'll be tough to find in the water,» she says and smiles at Claudia. «Can I help? We can find it if we work together.»

«Thanks. That'd be great,» says Claudia. «I'm Claudia and that's my brother Stephan.»

«I'm Lara,» says the girl as she joins them to look for the lost piece of jewelry.

The three of them search the brook, lifting stones they think the ring could have slipped under. While they search, Stephan asks Lara, «Are you from here?»

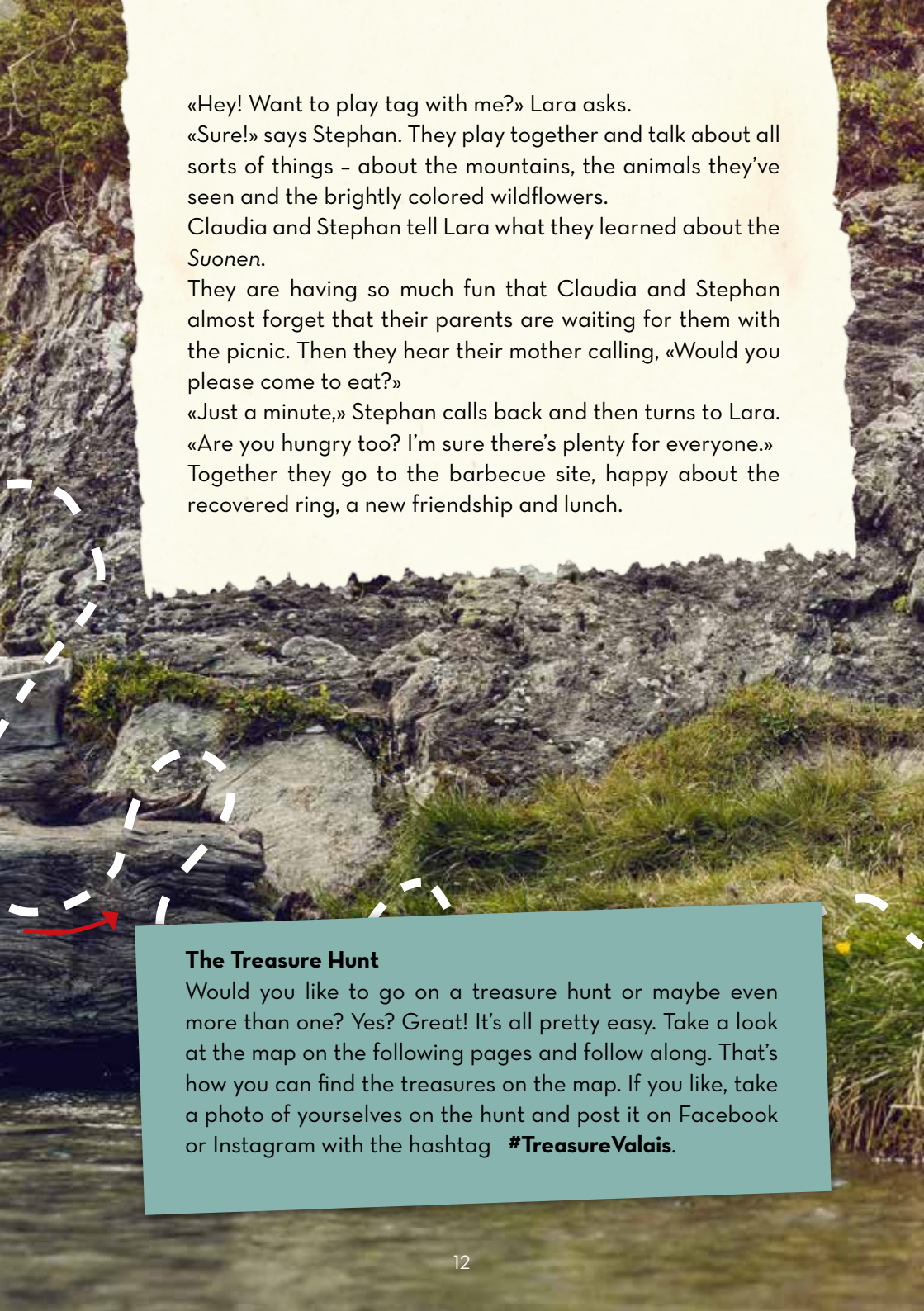
«Yeah, I live close by. And you?»

«We're here on vacation,» says Stephan.

At that moment Lara raises her fist over her head. «I've got it! I found the ring!»

Then she opens her fist and shows the ring to Claudia.

«Fantastic!» says Claudia, who takes the ring and happily slips it onto her finger.



«Hey! Want to play tag with me?» Lara asks.

«Sure!» says Stephan. They play together and talk about all sorts of things - about the mountains, the animals they've seen and the brightly colored wildflowers.

Claudia and Stephan tell Lara what they learned about the *Suonen*.

They are having so much fun that Claudia and Stephan almost forget that their parents are waiting for them with the picnic. Then they hear their mother calling, «Would you please come to eat?»

«Just a minute,» Stephan calls back and then turns to Lara.

«Are you hungry too? I'm sure there's plenty for everyone.»

Together they go to the barbecue site, happy about the recovered ring, a new friendship and lunch.

The Treasure Hunt

Would you like to go on a treasure hunt or maybe even more than one? Yes? Great! It's all pretty easy. Take a look at the map on the following pages and follow along. That's how you can find the treasures on the map. If you like, take a photo of yourselves on the hunt and post it on Facebook or Instagram with the hashtag **#TreasureValais**.



Find the 10 differences.



Find the way to the fish.



Solutions:



Jokes.

«Why are you crying?» the mother asked her child.
«Dad banged his finger with the hammer.»
«But you don't have to cry over that!» she said.
«Ha! First I laughed!»

The proud father was bragging to guests about how great his one-year-old son could already talk. «Hey champ! Say 'rhinoceros'!» The little boy crawled to the table, pulled himself up on the edge, looked skeptically at the group and asked, «To whom?»

The six-year-old Katja lost two baby teeth at one time. She ran to her mother and exclaimed:
«Mummy! I've got a bald spot in my mouth!»

Kevin said to his teacher: «Should someone be punished for something he hasn't done?»
Teacher: «Of course not, Kevin. That would be really unfair.»
Kevin: «Good. I haven't done my homework.»

Two boys standing in front of City Hall look at a bridal couple with interest.
«Listen,» said one, «you wanna scare those two?»
«Sure,» said the other, ran to the groom and called:
«Hi, Dad!»

A dog walks into a job center. «Wow, a talking dog,» says the clerk. «With your talent I'm sure we can find you a gig in the circus.»
«The circus?» says the dog.
«What does a circus want with a plumber?»

The father was reading a fairy tale aloud so his son would fall asleep. Thirty minutes later the mother quietly opened the door and whispered: «Is he finally asleep?»
The son answered: «Yeah, finally. . . »

100 % PAPIER - 100 %



Mr. Elbow says ...

... for a real environmental care  and protection, after enjoying, bring the packaging into the waste paper collection!



Now available in retail trading and in our online-shop:
Bschüssig packed in the new packaging of 100 % paper!
Information: www.bschüssig.ch and www.pastaplus-shop.ch



TREASURE HUNT.

Here's how it works:

For your treasure, simply solve the eight puzzles on a hike and write the answers in the boxes. The red-framed boxes are important.

- A number you see in a red box will have to be used later.
- Convert each letter in a red box into a number.

Like this:

A = 1	N = 4	O = 7	R = 0
B = 2	I = 5	S = 8	
E = 3	L = 6	T = 9	

On each treasure map you will find the location of the treasure chest. Other treasure maps are available in tourist offices. You can open it with the help of the eight numbers, which you have to enter in the correct order. Have a good time on the treasure hunt!



Aletsch Arena



Fiesch

This way to the treasure

Gletschi



Aletsch Arena AG
Fieschertalstrasse 1
3983 Mörel
Phone +41 27 928 58 58
www.aletscharena.ch
info@aletscharena.ch

Family Destination Aletsch Arena - Every day you can go swimming in a crystal-clear mountain lake, snack on blueberries or watch marmots. The action-packed program with fun and games for children includes picking your own alpine herbs and making an ointment, playing with four-legged friends in the zoo and so much more. Gletschi, the glacier flea and the hero of the Great Aletsch Glacier, goes along with guests large and small on all their adventures.

The Aletsch Glacier, the longest glacier in the Alps, is also the highlight of the UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site Swiss Alps Jungfrau-Aletsch.

Legend



Stations

Highest point: 1110 meters above sea level
 Lowest point: 1049 meters above sea level



Tourist Office
 Mon.-Fri. 8:30 am - 12 pm,
 1:30 - 5:30 pm
 15 June - 19 October,
 Sat. 9 am - 12:30 pm,
 1 - 4 pm
 Sun. Closed



Treasure chest
 (in the Tourist Office)

Distance and Time
 5.8 km / 1.5 - 2 hours

Gletschi's Tips

On this hike you can get a close look at some animals. Follow the sounds and fairy tale theme trails and have some fun at a playground. Of course, on the treasure hunt you'll have to answer some questions.

Station 1: Do you know all about mar-mots? What do you think - how much does one of these cute animals weigh?

Answer: - kg

Station 2: Now it's time to count: How many wooden chimes play here in the wind?

Answer:

Station 3: How well do you know noises? Which «wet» sound is made in the pipe?

Answer: T H E

Station 4: Are you standing in front of a white house? What's written on it?

Answer: Döttinger ...

Station 5: This dwarf is a keeper of keys. How many keys does he have on his key ring?

Answer:

Station 6: Patron saints help out in difficult situations. What's the name of the patron saint in this little house?

Answer:

Station 7: You'll often see this typical house construction in Valais. How many stilts support this wooden house?

Answer:

Station 8: This dwarf really likes music. Which instrument is he carrying?

Answer:

Code for Aletsch Arena:

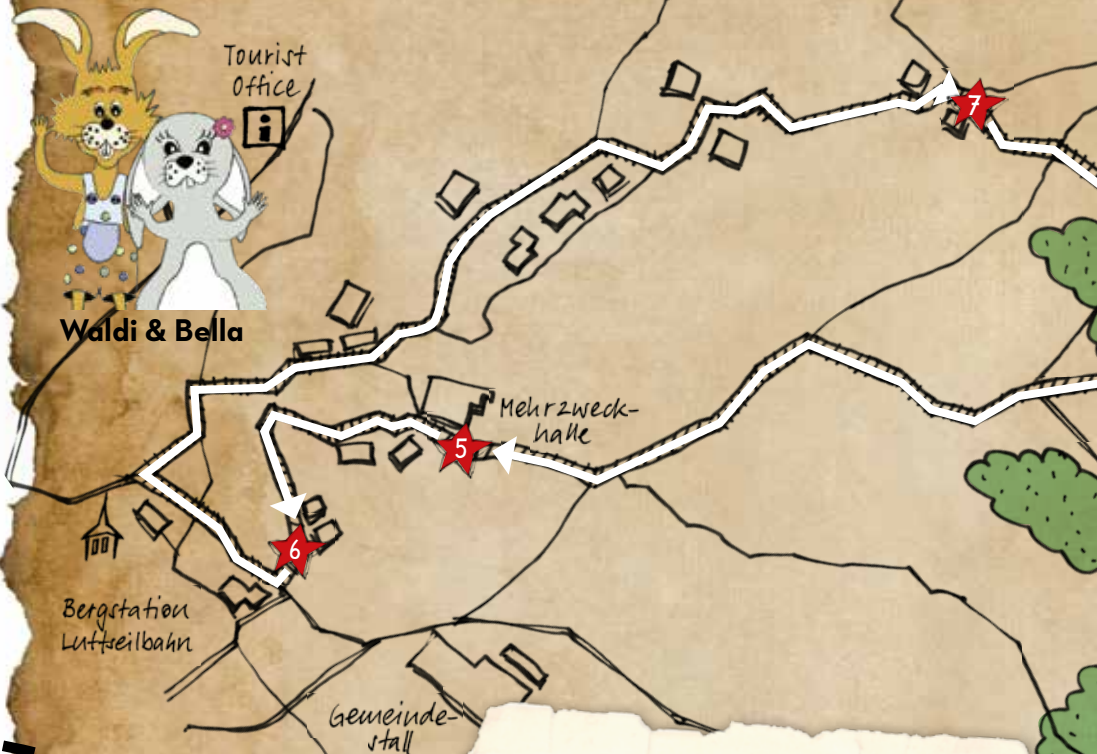


Bellwald

This way to the treasure



Waldi & Bella



Bellwald
TOP OF GOMS

Bellwald Tourismus
3997 Bellwald
Phone +41 27 971 16 84
www.bellwald.ch
info@bellwald.ch

Family Destination Bellwald - In Bellwald you can quickly get an idea of what life was like in earlier times. The car-free village center features the wooden buildings unique to Valais and so many fountains concentrated in such a small space that you can imagine how important the water supply was for daily life way back then. Family-friendly Bellwald offers activities for the whole family. There's lots for you to discover here and plenty of places to play.

Legend



Stations

Highest point: 1618 meters
above sea level
Lowest point: 1549 meters
above sea level

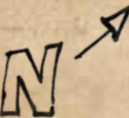


Tourist Office
Mon. - Fri. 8:30 am - 12 pm
1:30 - 5 p.m.
Sat. 8:30 am - 12 pm
Sun. closed



Treasure Chest

Distance and Time
1.5 km / 30 minutes



Treasure Hunt

On this hike you can see houses that people lived in a long time ago. Don't worry - you'll still have plenty of time to have some fun at the playgrounds.

Station 1: Look way at the top of the signpost. What is the altitude of the sports fields?

Answer:

Station 2: Which animal is resting on the sign?

Answer:

Station 3: How many holes does the mini-golf course have?

Answer:

Station 4: Do you see the gate that leads to the sports and leisure facilities? What is the name of the place?

Answer:

Station 5: Which figures can you ride in this play area?

Answer: and

Station 6: What hangs on this building at a slant over the name «Spicher»?

Answer:

Station 7: Who is the famous Englishman after whom this chalet is named?

Answer:

Station 8: What popular game do you play on the track in front of the football pitch?

Answer:

Code for Bellwald:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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Blatten-Belalp

This way to the treasure



Vero



Blatten Belalp Tourismus
Rischinustrasse 5
3914 Blatten bei Naters
Phone +41 27 921 60 40
www.belalp.ch
tourismus@belalp.ch

Family Destination Blatten-Belalp - The Blatten-Belalp region is part of the UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site Swiss Alps Jungfrau-Aletsch. The unique charm of this vacation spot lies in the magnificence of the Great Aletsch Glacier and the residents' thoughtful preservation of customs and traditions. Besides the variety of summer activities and snow-sure winter sports, the area has invested heavily in a family-friendly infrastructure in recent years. In summer and winter visitors of all ages will be enchanted by the witches' world of Belalp.

Legend



Stations

Highest point:
Belalp 2094 meters above
sea level
Lowest point:
Blatten 1327 meters above
sea level



Tourist Office
Mon. - Sun. 7:15 am - 7:45 pm



Treasure Chest

Distance and Time
6.5 km / 3 hrs.



Witches'
cauldron

Treasure Hunt

On this hike in Blatten-Belalp you can experience Nature's diversity and check out the home of the little witch Vero.

Station 1: Information about a historic period is on the blackboard. Which time is it?

Answer:

Station 2: What oversized flying device stands on the cliff, ready for take-off?

Answer:

Station 3: What slips along the foot of the peak and forces itself under bridges?

Answer:

Station 4: Which animals hatch in this pond and later put on really loud concerts?

Answer:

Station 5: The signposts help you to stay on track. What color is the lowest signpost?

Answer:

Station 6: Which saint lives in the little house and helps finding lost things?

Sankt ...

Station 7: According to the signpost, how long does it take to walk from here to Blatten?

Answer: minutes

Station 8: What is hanging in a row way up high in the hodgepodge on the side of the building?

Answer:

Code for Belalp:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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Grächen

This way to the treasure



SiSu



Grächen



GRÄCHEN
St. Niklaus

Touristische Unternehmung Grächen AG
Dorfplatz, 3925 Grächen
Phone +41 27 955 60 60
www.graechen.ch, info@graechen.ch

Family Destination Grächen - Fabulous and worth the trip at any time of the year. Offers *Zauberwasser* «Magic Waters» *Suonen* adventures, children's parks, one-of-a-kind fairy tale gondola, Ravensburg Game Path, wild animal watch, a chance to play Indians.

In the winter visitors of all ages can enjoy the snow at four parks or spend some time in the indoor play paradise at the mountain family restaurant Hannigalp.

Treasure Hunt

On this hike you can see how local residents steered the water on the right course a long time ago.

Station 1: Something is written on the entrance. What word do the first six letters spell?

Answer: *

Station 2: For more than 1000 years the water has been directed over irrigation canals. What is the wood called that diverts the water?

Answer: *

Station 3: What should you raise above your head in the last exercise?

Answer:

Station 4: What can the magic water do with the help of singing bowls?

Answer:

Station 5: Where do your feet land when you sit here?

Answer:

Station 6: What is the rock lounge made of?

Answer:

Station 7: What's playfully shown here was once an important source of power. What's turning here?

Answer:

Station 8: In the Kneipp treatment, what do you tread with your feet?

Answer:

Code for Grächen:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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* The answer is a german word!



Legend

Stations

Highest point:
1790 meters above sea level

Lowest point:
1700 meters above sea level

Tourist Office
Opening hours at:
www.graechen.ch/openingtimes

Treasure Chest

Distance and Time
3 km / 3 hrs.





Cheesy

Nendaz

This way to the treasure



Family Destination Nendaz - Nendaz is an ideal vacation spot for families all year-round. Offering a large number of activities, including snow tubing, sledding, arts & crafts, archery, rock climbing, Alp visits, mountain biking, treasure hunts. Practical services such as day care center, toy library, baby-sitting, children's boutique.

And a very special experience: a walk along the Suonen trails - an easy stroll along the babbling water canals of Nendaz. Altogether 98 kilometers long.



Nendaz Tourisme
Route de la Télécabine 1
1997 Nendaz
Phone +41 27 289 55 89
www.nendaz.ch, info@nendaz.ch

Legend



Stations

Highest point:
2228 meters above sea level
Lowest point:
1733 meters above sea level



Tourist Office
Mon. - Fri. 9 am - 12 pm
2 - 6 p.m.
Sat. 9 am - 12:30 pm
1:30 - 5:30 pm
Sun. 9 am - 2 pm

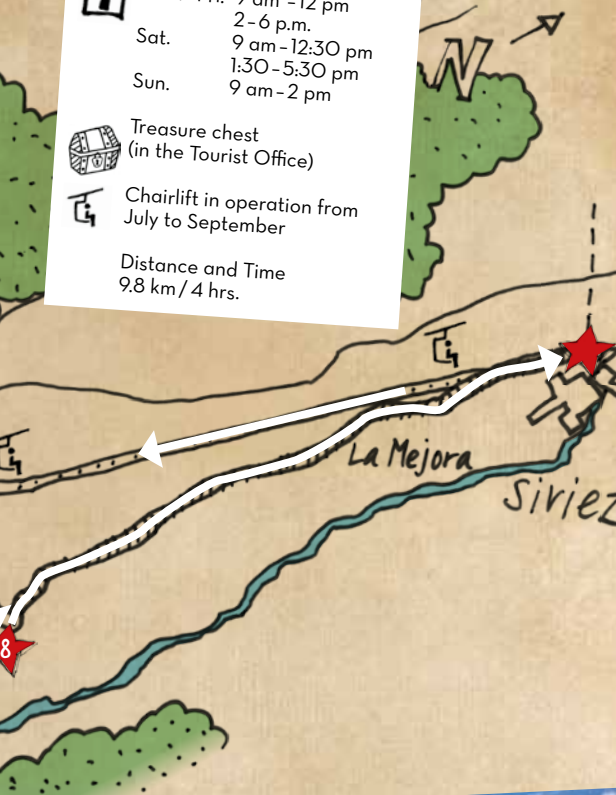


Treasure chest
(in the Tourist Office)



Chairlift in operation from
July to September

Distance and Time
9.8 km / 4 hrs.



Treasure Hunt

The treasure hunt gets off to a spectacular start in the chairlift. Once you've reached the top, you'll have a breathtaking view.

Station 1: At what altitude is the summit station?

Answer: meters

Station 2: What geometric shape does the highest sign on the signpost have?

Answer:

Station 3: Which town appears at the top of the signpost?

Station 4: Now look up. What is the number on the yellow sign atop the cableway tower?

Answer:

Station 5: Do you know our new mascot? What's his name?

Answer:

Station 6: You'll find this answer on the signpost. How much time does it take to hike from here to Ouché ?

Answer: minutes

Station 7: What is the base of the water-wheel made of?

Answer:

Station 8: What is the large concrete wall that you can see in the distance?

Answer:

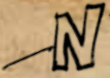
Code for Nendaz:

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Saas-Fee

This way to the treasure



The Family Destination Saas-Fee offers much more than four mountain villages and 360 kilometers of hiking trails for everyone. With several family-friendly outdoor activities like rock climbing, monster scooter driving and the rope park «Abenteuerwald», the Free Republic of Holidays Saas-Fee is one big alpine outdoor playground. Family events such as the Fairy tale week in Saas-Fee and Swiss Glacier World, the children's play area on the Mittelallalin at 3,500 meters above sea level, round out the offerings for our young guests. Awaiting you in the Saas Valley, surrounded by 18 4,000-meter peaks, are the cutest entertainers of the world, our tame marmots. If you're looking for a real (hair-raising) adventure, you can cross the Gorge Alpine with ropes, swaying rope bridges and a chairlift in the company of a mountain guide.



Saastal Tourismus AG
Obere Dorfstrasse 2
3906 Saas-Fee
Phone +41 27 958 18 58
www.saas-fee.ch
support@saas-fee.ch

Legend



Stations

Highest point:
1858 meters above sea level
Lowest point:
1748 meters above sea level



Tourist Office
Mon. - Sat. 8:30 am - 12 pm
2 - 6 pm
Sun. 9 am - 12 pm
3:30 - 6 pm



Treasure Chest

Distance
4 km / 2 - 2.5 hrs.



A Few Tips

On this hike you're invited to join in. You can tread water, balance on logs and climb up a hanging ladder. Of course there is lots more to discover in this beautiful place.

Station 1: The elements of Nature have a great deal of power. Which element is put to work here?

Answer:

Station 2: Get over the water with dry feet. What year is on the top of the brick bridge?

Answer:

Station 3: It might be a bit wobbly here. How many wooden elements does the transition consist of?

Answer:

Station 4: Read the saying on the metal plaque on the bench. According to it, what is human? Answer:

N L L *

Station 5: A well-known type of wellness treatment is named after this man. What is the name of the health-conscious pioneer of water treading?

Answer:

Station 6: It turns and turns. What makes the wheel move?

Answer:

Station 7: The glacier has been here since the Ice Age and with any luck, it'll be here for a lot longer. What is its name? Answer:

Station 8: On the commemorative plaque (bust/head) you'll find a date. Which year is it?

Answer:

Code for Saas-Fee:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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* The answer is a german word!

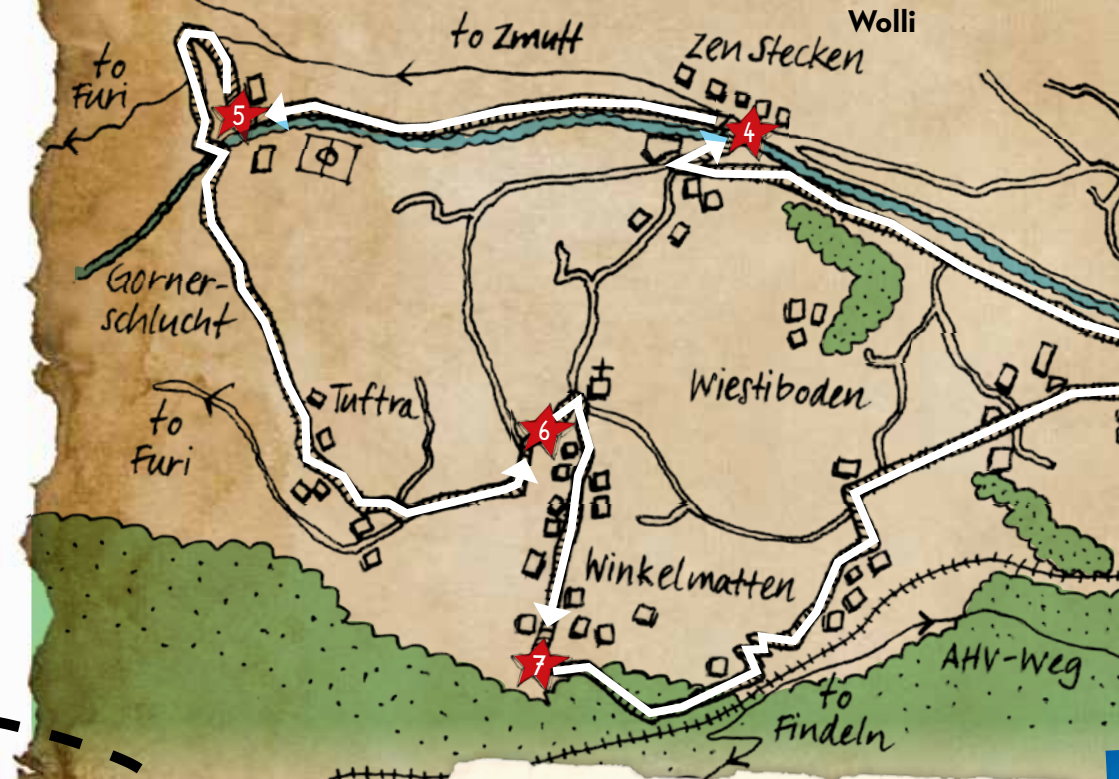


Zermatt

This way to the treasure



Wollli



Zermatt Tourismus
Bahnhofplatz 5, 3920 Zermatt
Phone +41 27 966 81 00
www.zermatt.ch, info@zermatt.ch

Family Destination Zermatt - Matterhorn - Fun and adventure or Funventure® for the whole family. Whether in Wollli's adventure park at Sunnegga, where children can romp in and around Leisee lake, or on the theme paths that have interesting stories to tell. Wherever the adventurous Blacknose sheep Wollli can be found, children play the leading role. The daring types find their way to the via ferrata (fixed-cable climb), test their skills on the high ropes course or zoom into the valley on a kickbike. (Participation per child costs CHF 5.-)

Legend



Stations

Highest point: 1725 meters above sea level
 Lowest point: 1595 meters above sea level



Tourist Office
 Mon. - Sun. 8 am - 8 pm



Treasure chest (in the Tourist Office)

Distance and Time 6 km / 2 hrs.



Wolli's Tips

On this hike you can discover so many things and stare in wonder at the magnificent views. You'll get to know Zermatt from a totally different side. The mountains are the water towers of the world and the region is home to the famous Matterhorn and 37 other 4000-meter peaks. Water in all its forms will be with you along the way.

Station 1: Do you know the mascot of Zermatt already? How many letters are there in his name?

Answer:

Station 2: When fire breaks out, the fire department needs access to water. What is the number on the hydrant?

Answer:

Station 3: Ulrich Inderbinen was the oldest mountain guide in the world.

a) How many times did he climb the Matterhorn?

b) In which year did he last climb the Matterhorn? Answers:

a) b)

Station 4: Bridges can be made of different materials. What is this bridge made of?

Answer:

Station 5: Electricity is generated with water power. In which year was the electric pump station Z'Mutt constructed?

Answer:

Station 6: How many troughs does this fountain have?

Answer:

Station 7: Spring water is processed in the Wichje filtration system for the Zermatt water supply. In which year was the system built?

Answer:

Station 8: Here you'll cross the tracks of the highest open-air cogwheel train in Europe and Switzerland's first railway of this type. What is the railway called?

Answer:

Code for Zermatt:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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Find the way to the treasure.



Solution:



Have you checked off everything?

Did you read our magazine carefully? Then you can answer the following questions for sure. The boxes outlined in red spell out the answer from top to bottom.



What is the name of the girl in the story?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Where does the longest treasure hunt take place?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

How many treasure hunts do we tell you about?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

What is the name of the mascot for the Aletsch Arena?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

What's the name of the family restaurant in Grächen?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

What's the theme of this magazine?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

What's the name of the adventure park in Zermatt?

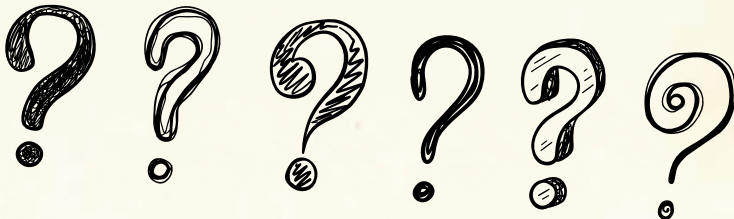
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What's the name of the highest dam?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Blatten-Belalp is part of a World Natural Heritage Site. Which one?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



Answer:

ADVENTURE

BIG THRILLS
FOR LITTLE
EXPLORERS.



visitvalais.ch/family



ENGRAVED ON MY HEART.