

International Summer Camp Montana Switzerland



Sports – Languages – Fun

International Summer Camp Montana is a private camp in the Swiss Alps for boys and girls from 8 to 17 years of age of all nationalities. For over 50 years, International Summer Camp Montana has employed European traditions in the development of physical and intellectual achievement. The philosophy of the camp is to provide a healthy outdoor living experience through sports in a creative and wholesome environment. Through the wide range of activities offered, our campers develop in both mind and body. Being an international camp, each child has the opportunity to broaden his outlook by meeting people from different countries and varied backgrounds. The combination of recreational, educational and social activities with co-operative living enables each camper to acquire a maturity and independence essential to his own well-being. By respecting others, the camper develops a better understanding of democratic ideals and responsible citizenship. International Summer Camp Montana provides a unique opportunity to understand oneself better by living with others in surroundings of beauty, joy and learning.

Campers

International Summer Camp Montana is co-educational and non-denominational. Every year our campers come from many different cultures representing some 50 nations.

Boys and girls are accommodated on separate floors. Generally, boys and girls groups pursue a program designed by our program Director. Experience has shown that wholesome contact during certain activities such as excursions, hikes, games and entertainment is beneficial to all concerned. The campers are divided into the following sections:

Juniors	8 to 10 years
Pioneers	11 to 13 years
Seniors	14 to 17 years

On average there are eight campers per group. The programs for each section are commensurate with the ability, endurance and resourcefulness of its age level. Activities are directed towards personal and group development and, while they are fun and interesting, they challenge the camper to exercise his intelligence and to promote the emergence of his abilities and insight. English is the main language at Camp with French, Italian, Spanish and German also being spoken.

Staff

The Camp Directors are each in charge of their own department: programming, educational supervision, catering and administration. The Head Counselors are each responsible for one of the three age sections. The program section comprises some 120 counselors, sports instructors and language teachers. Staff members are carefully chosen on the basis of their age, education, experience, emotional maturity and ability to work with children. Three resident nurses and an on-call physician are responsible for the health of campers and staff.

A dietician supervises the preparation of excellent French-style food with an international touch. Special diets for children with food allergies can be catered to. Our own bakery provides homemade bread, pastries and ice cream.

Camp Sessions

International Summer Camp Montana offers three sessions of three weeks each. The dates for 2011 are:

First Session:

Sunday 26 June – Saturday 16 July

Second Session:

Sunday 17 July – Saturday 6 August

Third Session:

Sunday 7 August – Saturday 27 August

Campers may be enrolled for one, two or three sessions. A camper's stay may be extended for one or two more sessions but only on a space-available basis. As the number of places is limited, parents are advised to make their reservations early.

Member of:
Switzerland Tourism
Valais Tourism
Crans-Montana Tourism
Swiss Ski
Certified Horsemanship Association

Accommodation

The International Summer Camp's main building is the solid stone Moubra House, overlooking playing fields, rich forests, a mountain lake and the Rhone Valley. Six additional buildings include a large chalet for Juniors.

Rooms are sunny and well-equipped, most with wide balconies. Each floor has a large number of showers and WC's.

The main building includes a panoramic dining hall, a clubroom, a living room and seven classrooms. Accommodation is available for 360 campers.

Health and Safety

The health, safety and general welfare of the individual camper are meticulously cared for. Every precaution is taken wherever campers eat, play or sleep. No activities take place in which undue risk is involved. Three nurses are in charge of the Camp infirmary and a doctor is available at all times. There is a fully equipped hospital nearby in Sion.

Language Courses (optional)

Language courses in English, French and Spanish as foreign languages are optional programs. Campers may take one language per session. There are five lessons per week, each of a 50 minute duration, taught by teachers in their mother tongue. Teaching is at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels and specifically encourages the student to participate fully in the lessons. Audio-visual aids are also used. Learning documentaries complete the program, giving the students a good insight into the culture and geography of a particular country.

Excursions

In addition to half-day and one-day hikes during which campers explore the neighbouring mountain areas, there are two excursions by coach during each session included in the Camp fee. When planning the excursions, the emphasis is placed on history and culture. One is to a place of interest in Canton Valais, rich in tradition: Zermatt, the mountain village at the foot of the Matterhorn; Saas Fee, the village of the glaciers; the St. Bernard Pass; the Rhone Glacier and Martigny with its Roman amphitheater, art exhibitions and various museums. The second excursion is to a different part of Switzerland such as: Geneva and the Lake Geneva area, Lausanne and the Olympic Museum, Montreux and the Castles of Chillon and of Gruyère; Bern, the medieval town and capital of Switzerland, the Bernese Oberland, Thun and Interlaken.

Camp Kit

At the beginning of March, all enrolled campers will be sent a Camp Kit which includes specific information about the summer season such as clothing and equipment list, invoice, health form, personal information form, Camp stickers, luggage tags and laundry labels. Laundry labels must be sewn into all items of clothing and the number clearly marked on all equipment. The forms are to be completed and returned to the Camp at least three weeks before the arrival of the camper.

Geneva Airport Transfer

Members of our staff meet and escort campers to and from Geneva Airport on arrival and departure days. On departure, campers are helped with check-in and customs formalities and are accompanied to the aircraft if travelling as unaccompanied minors. The cost is CHF 150.– (US\$ 145.–/€ 115.–)* one way and CHF 300.– (US\$ 290.–/€ 230.–)* return, by car or deluxe bus and includes a snack or meal as well as confirmation of the return flight. As the organization of collective travel requires time, parents must confirm arrival and departure arrangements in writing to us at least two weeks before the date of travel. Individual arrangements as well as last minute changes are subject to extra billing.

Arrivals and Departures by Train

Campers who arrive by train in Sierre (or Sion for trains not stopping in Sierre) will be met at the station and driven to Camp. The cost is CHF 50.– (US\$ 48.–/€ 40.–)*, Sierre-Montana return. There are direct trains from Geneva, Geneva Airport, Zurich, Basel, Rome and Milan. For campers arriving in Lausanne from Paris by TGV, the cost is CHF 160.– (US\$ 153.–/€ 120.–)*, Lausanne-Montana return.

Crans-Montana

Crans-Montana is an internationally known health and sports resort in the heart of the Alps, 1'500 meters above sea level in the French-speaking part of Switzerland. It is easily accessible by road and rail. The nearest airport is Geneva, a journey of approximately two hours. Crans-Montana is known as the 'Sun Terrace of Switzerland', set on a sun-drenched plateau high above the vineyards and orchards of the Rhone Valley, surrounded by magnificent pine forests and a snow-capped mountain range.

General Information

Acceptance and Conduct

International Summer Camp Montana only accepts boys and girls of outstanding character. A letter of recommendation from a teacher or tutor is required for new campers. It is understood that all campers will conduct themselves in a correct manner and abide by the regulations. The Camp Directors reserve the right to send home any camper whose behavior is, in their opinion, incompatible with the general well-being of the Camp and no refund will be made. Any additional costs incurred will be at the parents' expense. Health being one of the Camp's main concerns, campers are not permitted to smoke or drink alcohol.

Camp Fee and Financial Conditions

The Camp fee is CHF 6'400.– (US\$ 6'100.–/€ 4'920.–)* per child per session and includes full board, sports and instruction, excursions, hikes and all other activities. The use of sports equipment such as tennis rackets, balls, mountain bikes, safety helmets, etc. is also included in the Camp fee. Bed linen is provided by the Camp. Also included are: regular laundry service and basic infirmary care. Not included are: travel to and from Camp, pocket money, accident and illness insurance (proof of insurance must be provided), medical treatment, prescriptions and language courses.

Applications are only accepted upon receipt of the signed application form/general terms and conditions as well as payment of a non-refundable and non-transferable deposit of CHF 1'500.– (US\$ 1'430.–/€ 1'150.–)* per child per session. The balance of the Camp Fee and any extra costs must be received in full before 30th April 2011. For applications received after 30th April 2011, the balance is due upon confirmation of the reservation.

We strongly recommend that parents take out a private cancellation insurance policy as no refunds or transfers will be made for shortened stays or cancellations.

Language Course Fee

Language courses in English, French and Spanish as a foreign language are available for an additional fee of CHF 300.– (US\$ 285.–/€ 230.–)* per session. Every student receives a textbook and certificate of attendance. There is no refund for unattended classes or cancelled courses. Campers may take one language course per session.

Payments

Payments may be made in the form of bank transfer or cheques made out to ISCM SA. Bank transfers are to be made to: UBS SA, CH-3900 Brig-Glis. Account No. 263-602009.01R, bank clearing 0263
IBAN: CH18-0026-3263-6020-0901R

SWIFT: UBSWCHZH39A

Please note that we do not accept credit card payments.

*** All fees are payable in Swiss Francs. Prices indicated in US Dollars and Euros are calculated at an exchange rate of 1.05 and 1.30 respectively, and are only to be used as a guideline.**

Disclaimer

International Summer Camp Montana assumes full responsibility for the program arrangements made and will do its best to fulfil these. However International Summer Camp Montana is not liable for changes or events outside its direct control, e.g. hired transportation, airline and flight schedules, unforeseen worldwide events or weather conditions. Therefore, International Summer Camp Montana cannot be held responsible for any extra costs, injuries, damage, delays or inconveniences due to negligence of third parties. In the event of litigation, the court of original jurisdiction is in Sierre, Switzerland.

The Directors

The Camp is owned and directed by a family of Swiss professionals:

Philippe Studer is responsible for programming and educational supervision as well as for the house staff and domestic facilities. He is a graduate of the Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne, Switzerland, with a Bachelor of Science in Hotel Management.

Erwin Mathieu, Philippe's uncle, has been the Administrative Director since 1966. He has a solid background in business administration, is an active sportsman and is very much involved in all aspects of the Camp and education.

The Camp was founded in 1961 by Rudy Studer, Philippe's father. He was a graduate of Basel University, Switzerland, and together with his wife Erica Studer-Mathieu, they devoted their lives to recreational education. Now their son Philippe carries on their philosophy that young people will benefit through sports and international friendship.

For further information and reservations please contact the Directors:

Philippe Studer - Erwin Mathieu

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Sports and Activities

All sports and activities at International Summer Camp Montana are aimed towards developing the talents and physical fitness of each camper. They are varied in order to enhance the abilities of the individual as well as those of the group. Campers may also take part in activities of their choice during free-time, always under the supervision and guidance of our staff. The following list indicates the main activities on the Camp's daily program:

Water Sports

International Summer Camp Montana has its own semi-olympic heated swimming pool. All pool activities such as swimming games, swimming tests and water polo are given by qualified instructors. The Camp has its own rowing and sailing boats on Lake Moubra. Seniors take part in river rafting on the Rhone River.

Riding

The Camp has its own riding stables with 18 horses and ponies. A professional riding instructor and his experienced assistants teach English-style riding, dressage, jumping, vaulting and trail riding. Demonstrations, theory classes and horse shows are also part of the program.

Tennis

The tennis program includes instruction, practice and tournaments on our full-sized tennis courts. Additional technique training with the use of ball-throwing machines leads to competence and style.

Hiking

Campers go on gently paced half-day and full-day hikes accompanied by experienced counselors. They follow marked trails through forests and alpine pastures of outstanding natural beauty. Once during their stay, campers hike up to the Camp's alpine outpost where our hut warden introduces them to map reading, camp craft and outdoor cooking. Campers stay overnight at the alpine outpost and hike back to Camp the following day. Sleeping bags are provided.

Mountain Biking

Mountain biking is for campers 11 years and over. An experienced instructor takes campers on designated mountain bike trails through a picturesque countryside.

Golf

The Camp has its own putting green and practice net where our golf instructor coaches players of all levels. Advanced golfers with a handicap have the opportunity to play at the 9 hole Jack Nicklaus course.

Ball Sports

Basketball, volleyball, soccer, baseball, softball, touch-football, cricket, floor hockey, table tennis and petanque.

Fitness Training

The Camp's fitness room is equipped with the finest air-powered machines. Campers work out under careful instruction and supervision.

Fencing

Using safety foils as well as face and body protection, campers are introduced to the basic skills of fencing. Tournaments are organized for advanced fencers.

Arts and Crafts

In our arts and crafts studio, campers enjoy a variety of creative activities under the guidance of a professional arts teacher. This includes drawing, painting, screen printing, nature crafts, weaving, macramé, modeling, nature collections and collage work.

Archery

The Camp has an archery range in a separate area. Campers are taught in small groups with great attention to safety. Every session campers can take part in an archery tournament.

Climbing

On the Camp's artificial climbing wall, which has varying difficulty levels, our instructor ensures that all campers make good progress and gain confidence in the safest conditions.

Circus Skills

A professional circus artist introduces campers to juggling, acrobatics, tightrope walking, tumbling and balancing.

Other Sports

Specialist sports instructors give aerobics and gymnastics classes, coach athletics, trampoline, karate, team games and yoga.

Recreational Activities

Outdoor billiards table, giant chess set and table soccer.

Social Activities

Drama, magic and performing arts classes, photography, stunt nights, campfires, cookouts, shopping trips, parties.

Camp DVD

A DVD of International Summer Camp Montana is available showing the activities and facilities of the Camp. Please contact us if you wish to receive this complementary 20-minute DVD.