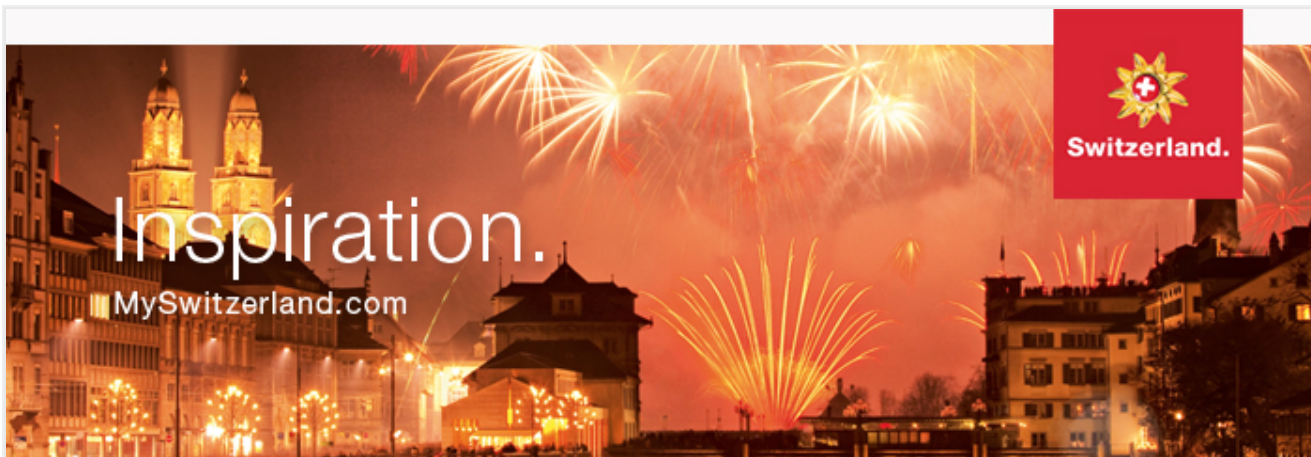


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## Swiss dates to take note of in 2019.

One last happy new year to everyone before we somehow find ourselves halfway through 2019. Time to plan the year and put some of the unique events happening in Switzerland on the To Do List for 2019.

So get your agenda, sharpen your pencils and get ready - we celebrate on a variety of levels this year and there are loads of different stories waiting.

Best wishes,

Sara Roloff & Harry White  
Your UK Media team



### Sports: Snow Bike Festival Gstaad.

As of today, and until 27 January, Gstaad is welcoming the best and most ambitious snow bikers for the Snow Bike Festival. Over 4 days, the mountain bikes tackle the snow-covered trails and slopes to compete in one of the most unique mountain biking environments in the world. The Snow Bike Festival is the world's first UCI (Union Cycliste Internationale) race of this kind. The event allows mountain bikers, fatbikers and all other cycling enthusiasts to experience four incredible days of biking in the snow.

[➤ Snow Bike Festival](#)



### Music: Zermatt Unplugged.

Imagine sunshine, snow, amazing mountain scenery and live acoustic music... it sounds like heaven but it's much closer - the Zermatt Unplugged is a legendary part of the Swiss music scene. From 9-13 April, stars like Tom Odell, Boy George, Passenger and many more will gather in Zermatt to perform around 80 concerts unplugged on 13 different locations in the

village and 3 in the mountains. The musicians from Ronnie Scott's London jazz club perform in the open at the Gandegghütte (3,030 m). This means that the guests arrive as winter hikers or wearing ski suits and boots while they dance in the snow.

➤ **Zermatt Unplugged**



## Lifestyle: Zurich Festival.

Every three years, Zurich becomes one big party on the first weekend in July. From 5-7 July 2019, it's time again for the famous 'Züri Fäscht' - the Zurich Festival, that attracts around two million visitors. The area around the River Limmat and the lake basin turns into a giant festival ground with music and food stands serving culinary delights from all over the world. The festival doesn't only happen on the ground - but also in the skies. The two musical fireworks displays on Friday and Saturday evenings are the absolute highlights of this mega-event.

➤ **Züri Fäscht**



## Art: Turner exhibition in Lucerne.

To celebrate the 200th anniversary of the art association of Lucerne, the Kunstmuseum Lucerne is hosting an extensive Turner exhibition in collaboration with the Tate. From 6 July - 13 October, the art museum of Lucerne is showing 'Turner - the Sea and the Alps'. The world-famous English painter often travelled to Switzerland to study and paint the unique interplay of light and weather on the lake and mountains around Lucerne. Between 1802 and 1844 he visited the country six times and captured its beauty in many sketches and watercolours.

➤ **Turner exhibition**



## Wine: Fête des Vignerons, once a generation.

This is THE must see in 2019. The Fête des Vignerons, the wine growers' festival, only happens once in a generation and is a completely unique festival. So unique, that it was recently listed as UNESCO World Intangible Heritage. From 18 July to 11 August this year, Vevey in the Lake Geneva Region will be the mecca for wine and culture lovers worldwide. Around 20'000 spectators are expected to see the unique show. In an area which was built especially for the festival, around 5000 actors, singers and dancers will perform 20 shows which tell the story of the wine growers of the region.

➤ **Fête des Vignerons**



## Tradition: Swiss mountain wrestling.

Did you know that 'Schwingen' is the national sport of Switzerland? NO? Then it's time to learn more about this great tradition. Schwingen can be best described as a cross between wrestling and sumo and is a gentlemen's sport of the farmers in Switzerland. The two competitors fight each other in a circle of sawdust with the aim to get the opponent's shoulders to touch the ground. The winner dusts the back of the loser and can expect to get presented a living calf as winner's prize. Every

three years, the major Schwingen championships are staged. In 2019, the Swiss Wrestling and Alpine Festival is taking place from 23 -25 August in Zug and will attract around 250,000 visitors.

[➤ Swiss Wrestling and Alpine Festival](#)

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