

## **Festivals, advent wonder and winter fun**

### **Winter in the Lucerne-Lake Lucerne Region**

**Geographically, it lies in the heart of Switzerland; historically, it is the birthplace of Switzerland: the Lake Lucerne Region is one of the most diverse vacation and excursion regions in all of Switzerland. Its landscape is shaped by the spectacular world of the Alps, covered in a magical blanket of fluffy snow in winter. The Lake Lucerne Region is the “pocket-size version” of Switzerland. No other region offers so many memorable Swiss vacation moments in such a small amount of space: be it while enjoying raclette on a winter boat ride on Lake Lucerne, spending a day in the snow in the foothills of the Alps with a panoramic view of the mountains or taking a winter stroll through Lucerne, the “Festival City” and “Christmas City” in the heart of Switzerland.**

### **Pure culture at the Festival City**

Lucerne – the Festival City – awaits you with a wide range of events throughout the entire year. Lucerne plays host to first-class cultural events, particularly during the winter season: enjoy international festivals such as the Lucerne Festival at the Piano, the Lucerne Blues Festival or the Fumetto International Comics Festival. And in February, winter is traditionally ushered out every year with Carnival, which begins with a loud boom at 5 o'clock on Thursday morning. Comical characters in colorful costumes and masks parade through the streets and squares of the Old Town – an exhilarating festival, where chaos and the zest for life turn the city upside down for almost a week.

### **City of Lights and the wonder of Advent**

During Advent the Lake Lucerne Region presents unforgettable events and plenty of Christmas spirit. Since 27<sup>th</sup> of November, Lucerne presents itself again in a blaze of Christmas lights. With the festive switching on of Lucerne's Christmas lights by the Lucerne Christmas Lights Association, the City of Lights started to shine in a blaze of lights. Christmas markets spread a festive mood and make the weeks before Christmas pass more quickly: various markets with lovingly decorated Christmas market booths in the city of Lucerne, the Christkindlimarkt on the airy heights of Mount Pilatus or the big market in the monastery village of Einsiedeln. Enjoy the run-up to Christmas with traditional events such as the “Samichlaus” St. Nicolas' Procession, the Nicholas Chase, the Carol Singers or atmospheric festive trips on the lake. Especially the Christmas hotel Seeburg is well known far beyond the Swiss border for its annual display of Christmas decorations and diverse Christmas program. During advent Lucerne welcomes its guest with its popular Christmas City Tours.

### **Fun in a winter wonderland**

In the heart of Switzerland, fun in the snow shows its most beautiful side. Here, where it is even possible to arrive by boat, the snow sport areas show their true variety: ski and snowboard slopes, sledging runs, cross-country skiing runs, snowshoe trails and walking routes at the unique winter sport destinations in the Lucerne-Lake Lucerne Region.

In winter the Pilatus Snow & Fun Park offers snow enthusiasts a wide variety of winter sports on Fränküntegg. Try out the different items of snow sports equipment and watch the fabulous winter landscape glide by. The natural snow-covered slopes in varying lengths and degrees of difficulty let you really get some speed up downhill. As of spring 2015 Mount Pilatus expects you with the new cable car "Dragon Ride". On Mount Titlis, situated at more than 10.000feet above sea level, stands Europe's highest suspension bridge. From the safety of one-metre-wide suspended cable construction visitors are able to enjoy breathtaking views 1650 feet down into the abyss of the Titlis south wall. Freestyle hearts are guaranteed to leap higher for joy at the Frutt Park on Melchsee-Frutt: ready and waiting at the largest fun park in the Lake Lucerne Region are kickers, rails, boxes, spins, drop-ins, tree rides and much more. The Husky Camp in Muotathal promises particularly unique winter fun. Drive a dogsled as a musher and stay at Switzerland's only husky camp with the huskies. A visit to the Lucerne-Lake Lucerne Region is definitely worth it – especially during the winter.

### **Festivals and events in winter 2014/2015**

#### **"Live on Ice" Luzern**

November 27, 2014 – January 4, 2015  
[www.luzern.com/liveonice](http://www.luzern.com/liveonice)

#### **Advent and Christmas Events**

[www.luzern.com/xmas](http://www.luzern.com/xmas)

#### **Carnival in Lucerne**

February 12-17, 2015  
[www.luzerner-fasnacht.ch](http://www.luzerner-fasnacht.ch)

#### **Fumetto, International Comic Festival**

March 7-15, 2015  
[www.fumetto.ch](http://www.fumetto.ch)

#### **Lucerne Festival at Easter**

March 21-29, 2015  
[www.lucernefestival.ch](http://www.lucernefestival.ch)

## Highlights and News: Lucerne and the Lake Lucerne Region



### **New gondolas for the TITLIS Rotair**

The TITLIS Rotair – the world's first revolving gondola – got new gondolas for the winter season 2014/2015. Not only the floor is turning 360 degrees now – the whole cabin is turning and is designed with panorama windows for the best possible view of the mountain scenery.

[www.titlis.ch](http://www.titlis.ch)



### **Snow Card**

During the day, experience the slopes in one of 13 selected winter sports areas and at night enjoy the advantages of the city of Lucerne with its festivals, shops and the culinary highlights: The SnowCard is available in combination with a hotel booking only and save up to 30%

[www.luzern.com/winter](http://www.luzern.com/winter)



### **Carnival in Lucerne**

Strange characters in fantastic masks and costumes make their way through the alleyways, while carnival musicians (Guuggenmusigen) blow their instruments in joyful cacophony and thousands of bizarrely clad people sing and dance away the winter (February 12th – 17th, 2015)

[www.luzern.com/carnival](http://www.luzern.com/carnival)



### **Pilatus – new aerial cableway**

Pilatus Railways is investing 18 million Swiss francs in a new aerial cableway (Fräkmüntegg – Pilatus Kulm). The centrepiece consists of two modern cabins which give passengers the impression of flying thanks to their spacious interior, cockpit-like design and large windows – a mountain experience that gets the adrenalin pumping. Completion is scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015.

<http://events.pilatus.ch/aerial-cableway/>

### **Information about the Lucerne-Lake Lucerne Region, images and film footage:**

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