

# BULLE

## TRADITION, COMMERCE AND FINE DINING

Bulle, situated at the foot of the Fribourg Pre-Alps, is the second largest town in the canton of Fribourg. The modern industrial and commercial centre in La Gruyère has a century-old tradition of cattle markets and fairs. These traditions are continued in contemporary fashion in the Gruyère congress and event centre Espace Gruyère. Connoisseurs and fans of regional products meet in late autumn at the 'Salon Suisse des Goûts et Terroirs'. This national food fair brings together more than 280 producers of specialities from all over Switzerland and abroad. Numerous producers from the canton of Fribourg showcase their cheese, meat, wine and vegetables at the fair. A lively atmosphere, authentic treats as well as arts and crafts await visitors at the traditional weekly market held on Thursday mornings, all year round, on the market square. In July and August, the market is even bigger, with around 270 exhibitors. Cooking demon-

strations, musical entertainment and other artistic performances are a wonderful opportunity to meet locals. The town centre of Bulle is dominated by a fortified castle, which was commissioned by the Bishop of Lausanne in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. It now houses the prefecture. The Musée gruérien, situated at the foot of the castle, presents the history and treasures of a region steeped in tradition in the interactive exhibition 'Gruyère, Footprints and Detours'.

Bulle has a varied culinary heritage and a lively cultural scene, with concerts, plays, festivals and exhibitions. There are also plenty of sites to discover and things to do in the surrounding areas. Mount Moléson, the giant Alpine playground, is nearby and the countryside around Lake Gruyère (dam) is ideal for hiking, cycling and mountain bike tours. La Chia, a family-friendly ski resort with snowshoeing trails, is only five minutes from Bulle. >>



## MUSÉE GRUÉRIEN



**Regional heritage** – The tour of the interactive Musée gruérien in Bulle is an emotional journey through time. Models, scenes, films and sound sequences from the collection of traditional costumes and old tools used by herdsmen, to the traditional farmhouse on a 1:1 scale depict La Gruyère's diverse cultural heritage. Tribute is, of course, paid to the region's most famous ambassador, Gruyère AOP cheese. A wonderful portrait of the region! >>

## FONDUE TRAIN



**Fine dining onboard** – In winter, the historic Fondue Train departs from Bulle for a relaxing and scenic gourmet evening. An aperitif, the traditional, homemade Fribourg 'moitié-moitié' cheese fondue and the famous meringues with double cream are a wholesome reminder of bygone days. The picturesque countryside of La Gruyère is an additional treat, but without the calories! A popular excursion among Swiss and international visitors alike. >>

## RAMBLE



**Poor People's Path** – The seven-kilometre-long circular route starts on the outskirts of Bulle. Created by monks in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, this path was taken by the poor to attend Mass at the Part-Dieu Monastery. Their devotion was rewarded with a bowl of soup. >>

## HISTORIC WALKING TOUR



**Exploring** – Visitors explore the historic centre of Bulle at their own pace on this walking tour. The tour takes you to lots of sites, where not only the buildings, monuments, squares and parks are explained, but their exciting history as well. Churches, indoor markets, a very special instrument, a popular uprising and some outstanding personalities bring this journey through time to life. A brochure is available for this walking tour and can be downloaded on your smartphone. >>

## KEY DATES

- 1239** Construction of Bulle Castle
- 1805** Fire destroys a major part of Bulle
- 1998** Congress and event center Espace Gruyère opens
- 2012** Musée gruérien launches its interactive exhibition
- 2018** Bulle dungeon opens to the public

## IN NUMBERS

- Population:** 25,070 inhabitants
- Language:** French
- Altitude:** 771 m