

JAUN

AT THE FOOT OF THE GASTLOSEN

Jaun, and its district Im Fang, is the only German-speaking commune in La Gruyère. The village is situated on the road that goes over the Jaun Pass to the Simmental in the Bernese Oberland. Many of its 640 or so inhabitants speak the specific Jaun Valley Swiss German dialect. The waterfall in the centre of the village and the vicinity of the Old Church are situated in a force field with a remarkable amount of positive energy. The Old Church is now a concert hall and houses the Cantorama, the home of Fribourg choral music (open *July and August*, Sundays from 2 to 5 pm). The cemetery of the Catholic Church, with its hand-carved wooden crosses, is worth a visit. Jaun is surrounded by majestic peaks such as the Gastlosen mountain range, and offers unspoiled nature and wonderful leisure activities. The Gastlosen Express brings hikers to the Musersbergli. This is where the Gastlosen tour starts with rest stops in the legendary mountain restaurant Chalet du

Soldat and the family-friendly Alpine tavern Chalet Grat. With over 800 routes, the Gastlosen mountain range is a first-rate destination for climbers. The well-known mountaineer Erhard Loretan climbed here, virtually on the doorstep. Walkers have also come to the right place here: a panoramic path leads from the top station to the vantage point with a view of the Gastlosen. The spectacular 'Grossmutterloch', a 15-metre-high and five-metre-wide window in the rock, is legendary. The two-hour 'Erlebnisweg' (interactive adventure trail) and the Gastlosen geological path are enjoyable activities for families. In winter, Jaun is a family-friendly skiing area and offers magnificent routes for ski and snowshoeing tours. The cross-country ski runs are among those in the region with a virtual guarantee for snow and the six-kilometre-long sled run is renowned far and wide. >>



WINTER WONDERLAND



Winter sports – The Gastlosen mountain range is the site of a natural phenomenon during winter and fall when the low sun glistens through a hole in the rock face. The best observation point is a spot a few minutes away from the top station. This is also where the six-kilometre-long sled run to Jaun begins. Cross-country skiers can get some training thanks to the 2 × 10 km groomed tracks that run between Charmey and Jaun. Every evening, a four-kilometre-long loop is illuminated. >>

HIKING TRAIL



Gastlosen – The Gastlosen circular route is regarded by many as the best mountain hiking trail in the canton of Fribourg. It takes five hours from/to the Gastlosen Express chairlift station and has an elevation gain of more than 855 metres. You can also rent a scooter for the six-kilometre descent to Jaun. Information about the mountain restaurants along the route – the Chalet du Soldat and the Chalet Grat – is available online. >>

CASCADE



Natural force field – The source of the water lies 15 km away in the Les Morteys Valley. From there, it embarks on a 10-day-long subterranean journey before gushing out of the rockface in Jaun, crystal clear and teeming with precious minerals. >>

CROIX EN BOIS



Hand carved – The cemetery of St. Stephen's Catholic Church in the centre of Jaun is unique. In 1948, local artist Walter Cottier carved the first cross for his grandfather's grave. The inhabitants of Jaun liked his work and many other wooden crosses were carved. The carvings, which are each protected by a shingle-covered roof, depict the profession or favourite activities of the deceased, and tell the story of their lives. Since Cottier's death, Reynold Boschung has been keeping the tradition alive. >>

KEY DATES

- 1945** The Alpine hut Chalet du Soldat opens
- 1992** Cantorama opens
- 2011** Gastlosen Express chairlift opens
- 2014** Jaun sled run opens
- 2017** Renovation of the Hotel Wasserfall in Jaun

IN NUMBERS

- Population:** 647 inhabitants
- Language:** German
- Altitude:** 1,050 m