

LES PACCOTS – LA VEVEYSE

ENJOY TRADITION AND NATURE

The Veveyse district, on the outskirts of the canton of Fribourg, faces south, towards Vevey and Lake Geneva. Thanks to its ideal location between Fribourg and Lausanne, it attracts visitors all year round, with sporting and leisure activities in the fresh mountain air. Les Paccots and Rathvel are ideal starting points for winter sports. Snowshoe trekkers will find a large network of sign-posted trails and a lot of unspoiled nature in this Pre-Alpine countryside. Winter hikers also flock to the area for the peace and quiet. The indoor ice rink in Les Paccots is also very popular with locals and day trippers. Summer visitors can experience the austere beauty of the region by foot or by mountain bike. Mountain restaurants and Alpine huts attract visitors with their specialities, including 'soupe de chalet', fondues and of course, meringues with double cream. You can even combine feasting and fitness in Les Paccots with one

of the gourmet trails that cross the region. The theme trail 'Le Trésor des bois' in the Corbetta area, which takes you on a treasure hunt with Hugo the ant, is a fun way for a family to discover nature.

The region has several nationally protected landscapes: the Lac des Joncs, a very deep, 5,000-year-old mountain lake, is part of the national amphibian spawning areas and is home to endangered species such as the turtle and the red-eyed dragonfly. The Niremont, a small mountain range, forms part of the moorlands of national significance and provides a habitat for many rare plants and animals. Nature enthusiasts can visit these protected areas on woodchip-covered paths. Illustrated interpretive panels, oversized board games and other outdoor play equipment help to raise awareness of the need to protect these fragile landscapes. >>



BÉNICHON



Autumn – For centuries the canton of Fribourg has celebrated 'Bénéichon', the local patois word for 'blessing'. It was originally a religious festival to give thanks for the harvest gathered during the warmer months. Today, locals and visitors continue to tuck into the delicious regional specialities on the Bénéichon menu. In Châtel- St-Denis, Bénéichon is always held on the third weekend of October. It impresses with its large market with over 100 stalls on Saturday and the colourful parade on Sunday. >>

GOURMET TRAILS



Gourmet hiking – Whichever gourmet trail you choose, calorie counting is definitely off the menu! The 'Little Gourmet Trail' (1.5 hours) is particularly suitable for families with small children and leads along an easy route to the millennia-old Lac des Joncs. On the 'L'épicurien' hiking trail (2 hours), walkers stop at the top of Le Niremont, take out their fondue kit and cook their own lunch. A healthy appetite is a must for the 'Panorama' trail as it takes in several mountain taverns in four hours! Book at the tourist office two days before the hike. >>

PÉTANQUE



Fun – Eisstock is an entertaining mix of pétanque and curling. The ice rink is a great place to end the week with family, friends or colleagues. Group packages are available from the tourist office. >>

FONDUE ON THE GO



Ride with reward – Explore the Fribourg Pre-Alps or enjoy a delicious fondue? In Les Paccots, you can have both! Simply sign up for the fondue-on-the-go offer (at least 48 hours in advance). Collect your fondue set at the information point and follow the signposted trail (walking, snowshoeing or by e-bike), and keep going until you find the perfect picnic spot. Assemble your caquelon, enjoy a celebratory drink, stir the fondue, put some bread on your fork and dip. Bon appétit! >>

KEY DATES

- 1938** The first ski lift in Les Paccots opens
- 2000** Inauguration of the gourmet trails
- 2013** Launch of the Rand'eau theme trail
- 2014** Rando prize for the Rand'eau theme trail

IN NUMBERS

- Population:** 1,200 inhabitants (village Les Paccots),
21,189 inhabitants (Veveyse district)
- Language:** French
- Altitude:** 1,061 m (Les Paccots)