

# RDDM INFO

A JOURNAL FOR RESIDENTS IN THE DENTS DU MIDI REGION



# WHO ARE WE?

Région Dents du Midi SA (RDDM SA) is an independent tourism and services management company, oriented towards the needs and expectations of its partners and customers. Mandated by the Val d'Illiez municipalities and other key local entities, RDDM SA operates throughout the territory, actively promoting the area on the national and international scene.

#### **OUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

- To further **federate** the dynamic forces of our destination
- To raise awareness and consolidate the role of RDDM SA in the valley
- To develop synergies, especially with the lift company, for effective promotion of the region
- To **strengthen** cooperation with the municipalities
  - > Tourism statistics
  - Participation in homologation projects which fall under municipal responsibility (winter & summer hiking trails, road cycling & mountain biking itineraries)
- To collaborate in total confidence with key industry players

#### **OUR MISSION**

- Spearhead and coordinate tourist information and hospitality
- Guarantee an attractive activities calendar and the organization of major events
- Ensure the development, communication and promotion of tourism products throughout the valley
- Set up and manage a website and an online reservation centre for accommodation and products
- Encourage the conditions necessary for continual improvement of the quality of services we provide

central office in Val d'Illiez (direction & marketing) information offices (Champéry, Val d'Illiez, Morgins, 2 of which are open 365 days a year) resort villages

SHAREHOLDERS

3 municipalities
(Champéry, Troistorrents & Val d'Illiez),
Portes du Soleil Suisse SA,
Transports Publics du Chablais,
Société Agricole de la Vallée d'Illiez (SAVI),
the Destination Hosts Association (AHRRDM)
1 new shareholder to come,
as soon as the 3 associations
of second-home owners combine into one entity
(APCACH, Pro Morgins, R2Vi)

"Coming together is the beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."



- > The costs of public infrastructure are financed for the most part by the municipalities.
- The 2018 management report can be found in the 'Who are we' section at the bottom of the home page of our website.

## **EDITORIAL**



Dear Friends and Neighbours,

You are the Dents du Midi region's first ambassadors; your presence and participation in local events and activities helps promote our area and we thank you for that! We also hope you're on the lookout for more adventures... This little brochure is meant to help you stay up to date on what's new in tourism in our beautiful and dynamic region.

You can also sign up to receive our monthly e-newsletter at rddm.ch/newsletter.

For a taste of some upcoming 2019/2020 winter season highlights, you can look forward to improved snow cover in Les Crosets with the optimization of the snow making network and two new chairlifts at La Léchère and Les Cases (Avoriaz sector), which will significantly facilitate links to and from France.

Above and beyond winter sports, our region has clearly earned its stars as a destination for international events. This year's calendar is filling up fast and we look forward to seeing you out and about!

In the meantime, we wish you all a wonderful fall season

Best Regards,

Sébastien Epiney Director Région Dents du Midi SA



# NEWS FROM THE VALLEY



# THE VAL D'ILLIEZ TOURIST OFFICE

Our resolution to maintain a tourist information office in the heart of Val d'Illiez and the creation of an urban meeting point are an integral part of a larger discussion on the future development of the village square. To this end, and in order to provide our guests with the best service possible, we are pleased to announce the opening of a modern, newly renovated office this fall at Place du Village 5.



#### REGION DENTS DU MIDI Central office

In February 2019, Région Dents du Midi SA's administrative personnel moved into a central office at Route de Champéry 22 in Val d'Illiez, bringing the region's marketing and management departments together under one roof. Our teams are happy to welcome you here by appointment.



# INFORMATION POINTS IN CHAMPOUSSIN

In agreement with the Champoussin merchants and the Val d'Illiez Development Company, two new information points were established for summer 2019. Working closely with Région Dents du Midi SA, Alpage Immo Service and GF Immobilier have been providing tourist information since July 1st. At the end of this test period on September 30<sup>th</sup>, we will be able to evaluate the success of the operation and its potential for renewal.



#### THE CAVAGNE

Our valley boasts two cooperatives for the promotion and distribution of local products: Promovi and the Cavagne. This year they have united forces, carrying out significant improvements to the Cavagne shop in Troistorrents. One of these, a brand-new cheese maturing cellar, can hold 18,000 raclette cheeses, carefully watched over by a state-of-the-art robotic system. There will also be a reception area for meetings, food tastings and other events to promote local agriculture. Please note that the Petite Cavagne in Champéry closed permanently on September 15th.



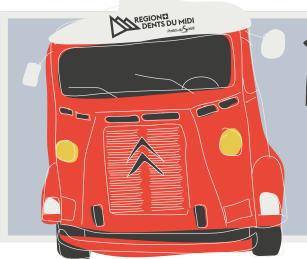
#### THE TROPHÉE DES ALPAGES

Savouring delectable local delicacies, discovering something new, exploring a region's natural wonders; this is the essence of great travel. We call it the *Trophée des Alpages* and, with 30 participating restaurants this year, you can be sure we'll be renewing the activity for summer 2020. For now, you have until the end of September to bring your stamp card back to one of our tourist offices for a chance to win a ski holiday, daily ski passes and vouchers for La Cavagne. #TropheeDesAlpages



#### RDDM ON TOUR

The Info Truck has left the building! We'll be roaming the roads of Romandy until November 19th so stop by for a sweet treat from our valley, check out some special offers on ski passes for next season and try your hand at our exclusive Escape Truck game!



# RIDIDION

Xamax vs FC Sion - Neuchâtel 21.09
Salon des Alpages - Les Diablerets 11-13.10
Absinthe Film Cinema Bubenberg - Berne 17.10
Absinthe Film Cinema Bellevaux - Lausanne 19.11

# **NEWS FROM** THE SKI AREA



#### **GUARANTEED SNOW COVER**

90 000 m3 of water and dramatically reduced production time; with the construction of the Les Crosets reservoir (called Lac du Chaudron) and the extension of the snowmaking network, the lift company will be able to ensure snow cover for the Swiss area from day one right through till the season end party!

#### HURRY, HURRY, HURRY!

You still have time to snap up your discounted season ski pass. Families, students, singles, seniors ... get your Golden Ticket before September 30, 2019!

#### 2 BRAND NEW CHAIRLIFTS IN AVORIAZ

The vintage Léchère 3-seater chairlift will be replaced by a detachable six-seater installation, increasing the hourly transportation rate from 1 800 to 2 700 passengers per hour. Simultaneously, a new 6-seater chairlift (Les Cases) will create a third link between Avoriaz and Les Crosets. The 2 lifts will be operational for winter 2019/2020, providing a welcome addition to the connections by Brochaux and Mossettes. A new red run from the Les Cases chairlift will help decongest the blue Abricotine run.





<b>ADULT</b> (1955-1994)		BORDER PASS -26 YRS (1994-2014)		<b>SENIOR</b> (1945-1954)		
*	non resident	*resident	non resident	*resident	non resident	*resident
until 30.09.19	904	800	440	400	813	721
01.10 > 15.11.19	1 017		531		938	

Resident (until 30.09.2019)

Tax residence in Valais or in the communes of Aigle, Bex, Corbeyrier, Gryon, Lavey, Morcles, Leysin, Ollon, Ormont et Yvorne (must present proof of residence at time of purchase) This category is not applicable for owners of second homes



#### Kids Under 12 Ski Free Offer

A season pass for kids under 12 (born after 01.01.2008) is free with the simultaneous purchase of an adult Portes du Soleil ski pass (the purchasing adult must be one of the two direct parents).

# **Elementary** schoolchildren in Monthey district ski free

If you live in the district of Monthey, you can stop by one of the lift company ticket windows in Champéry, Les Crosets and Morgins to request a season pass for your elementary school-age child. The ski pass is valid for the Champéry - Les Crosets - Champoussin -Morgins ski area.

# NOV-DEC OPENING 1st slopes will open as soon as snow conditions allow

07.12 Champéry cable - car

21.12 Portes du Soleil links



**05** Champoussin (shuttle for Les Crosets)

13 Les Crosets-Champéry-Morgins



# **NOT-TO-BE-MISSED WINTER EVENTS**

2019

# 08 > 10.11

# **Champéry Film Festival**

While you're waiting for the first snows of the season, get your stoke on with the latest mountaineering, skiing, snowboarding and adventure films, plus amazing conferences.



Shredders and mountain lovers unite!

# 07.12

# **Morgins C'est l'Hiver Festival**

Whether you're a skier, snowboarder or bigfooter, the Morgins C'est l'Hiver Festival brings all snow lovers together for a musical kick-off to the winter season!



Do the Snow Dance!

# 27.12

# Skating Show with Stéphane Lam-

This incredible performance by our very own Olympic medallist, accompanied by his talented coaches and students, is a high-octane spectacle where grace, power and acrobatics vie for every second of the audience's awestruck attention.



Fire on ice!

# 2020

# 05.01

## **Grand Prix Migros**

The biggest European ski race for kids aged 8 to 16 offers every participant a chance at a podium and an unforgettable experience. Everyone is welcome at the Migros Grand Prix,



It's the participation that counts!

# 09 > 22.01

# Lausanne 2020 (Youth Olympic Games)

26 years after being awarded the coveted title of Olympic Capital, Lausanne will finally become an Olympic City, hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Youth Olympic Games. Champéry will have the honour of hosting the curling competitions.



## 25.01

## Rallye du Goût

The epicurean event of the season, this is a gourmet night out snowshoeing and sampling delicious local delicacies in the idyllic They Valley.



Note to all Valaisans; put down your keys, this is not an automobile race!





# 01.02

# Famigros Ski D

The Famigros Ski Day is at an unbeatable price! S activities, food, prizes an



Family time v

# 01.02

# Junior Slow Me

This competition gives chance to show off their to friendly and supportive en



Support youn

# 01 > 02.02

#### Karembeu Ind

Famous footballer Christi the Val d'Illiez! Lucky fo loves to invite his favouri friendly tournament.



# 29.02 > 07.03

# Camp Freestyl Slopestyle Cho

Brand new this year, a S to stir up the action at th which take place every ye



★ And you tho good at rugby

# 29.02 > 01.03

#### La Grande Dér

The craziest team race in here, you might be unfan all you need to know is





#### ay

a day of skiing for the whole family ki passes, a race, a mountain of fun d more.

vas never so much fun!

## elody

some 500 young participants the alent and challenge themselves in a vironment.

g musicians!

## oor Trophy

an Karembeu has a secret crush on r us, it's not really a secret and he te players and colleagues over for a

s with football stars!

# e Welsh ımpionships

lopestyle Championship is coming e Welsh Alpine Ski Championships, ar in January.

ught the Welsh were only

### upe

he Valais! If you aren't from around: niliar with this colloquial term, but

veeeery steep slope!

# 15 > 21.03

#### **Rock the Pistes Festival**

This year, the 10th annual edition of this totally unique, high-altitude open-air music festival will be even more fabulous, with Morgins as host village.



15 | Les Crosets - TBA

16 | Châtel - Deluxe

18 | Les Gets-Morzine - TBA

**20** | Avoriaz 1800 – **IAM** 

**21** I Morgins — TBA

# 27 > 28.03

## **7Peaks Riverstyle**

The 7Peaks Riverstyle is world-class freestyle skiing at its most spectacular as the best freestylers on the planet vie for the biggest air and the most jaw-dropping stunts on a massive, 23-meter jump spanning the Vièze River. According to local legend, in 2019 a biker, a skier and a snowboarder jumped at the same time!



For the 5th annual edition we have a special surprise in store for you...

# 04 > 05.04

#### Waterslide

The traditional season-end party scene here is our famous waterslide. Are you brave enough to face the icy waters in a mad dash for the other side?



Start thinking about your costume today; waterslides are more fun in fancy dress!



# **RDDM SUPPORT** FOR ACTIVITES

We've made it even easier to ask for help from RDDM SA, with a handy booklet that outlines the conditions for receiving support from Région Dents du Midi SA for the organization of an event.

Région Dents du Midi SA will analyse your request, reserving the right to participate or not, depending on human and financial resources available and taking into account previously scheduled events.



This document can be consulted by anyone; the request must be made by email to tleparmentier@rddm.ch

#### REQUIRED OBJECTIVES FOR AN EVENT

- Must provide added value and be coherent with the destination's tourist offer (ex: ski touring, skiing, snow sports, cycling, culture & tradition, relaxation ...)
- Must have a tourist promotion goal which extends outside the geographic limits of the Vallée d'Illiez
- Must generate overnight stays and tangible local economic benefits



## **KEY FIGURES 2018**



activities, gatherings, events & Top Events organized within the destination

events and events organized entirely by Région Dents du Midi SA





activities and events in which Région Dents du Midi SA was a partner at the organizational level

A detailed bi-monthly program is available at the tourist offices and in most shops in the Val d'Illiez.





# A BACKWARDS GLANCE



98TH HÉRENS COWS NATIONAL FINALS

5 & 6 MAY 2019 IN APROZ

530

volunteers

4h17

broadcast TV time

by the Swiss channel RTS

11000

spectators & visitors

present on-site

500 m

Région Dents du Midi banners

inside the event area

700 kg

cheese consumed

CRITÉRIUM DU DAUPHINÉ ROAD CYCLING RACE 14 & 16 JUNE 2019 IN CHAMPÉRY

1.710 MM

TV viewers on Eurosport

105 000

TV viewers on Eurosport

4 551

people reached by social media

3500

spectators present in the arrival area

1800

flags distributed in the arrival area

311

children present for the schools' day on Friday



LAND'ART OPEN AIR FRESCO SUMMER 2019 LES CROSETS

1000 litres

of biodegradable paint used

63

press articles (national & international) as of August 19th, 2019

4200

video views on our YouTube channel

9300

video views on our Facebook page

+15%

passenger increase recorded at the Mossettes chairlift as of August 15th, 2019 (mountain bikes & hikers)





# **Exclusive to Region Dents** du Midi

All second-home owners in our destination were entitled to free Multi Passes this summer. Guests staying with us for at least 1 night were also entitled to use of the Multi Pass for the duration of their visit, regardless of the type of accommodation.

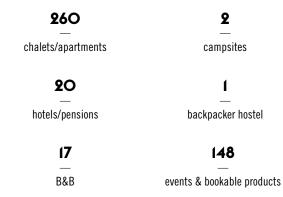


season Multi Passes were distributed in 2019, a 15% increase as compared to 12 644 distributed in 2018.

# RESERVATIONS CENTRE

Our booking centre offers a multitude of online services 24h a day, 7 days a week

- Accommodation (chalets/apartments, hotels, B&B, etc.)
- Package products
- Ticket sales (shows, concerts)
- Activities (theme outings, guided hikes, farm activities)
- Useful articles (hiking maps, guidebooks)
- Gifts and souvenirs (posters, books)



# INVESTING IN EDUCATION

Région Dents du Midi SA is proud to be an *Entreprise Formatrice*. With 4 employees trained to supervise apprentices, we are committed to supporting the unique Swiss vocational training system. We regard this as an important social responsibility, in addition to being smart business practice. While our employees' competence is vital to our company's success, training the next generation of qualified employees, starting with the kids growing up in our valley, will safeguard our future. We extend our warmest congratulations to:



**COLINE DUBOSSON** (VAL D'ILLIEZ) for her CFC (Federal Certificate of Capacity), awarded in June of this year



MALIA VOIDEY (MORGINS)
beginning her 1st year of apprenticeship



**CHARLOTTE AVANTHEY** (CHAMPÉRY) beginning her 2nd year of apprenticeship

# OUR COMMITMENT TO ECOLOGY



CLEANLINESS

- WASTE!

Duly certified **ISO 14 001** and eager to apply the engagements outlined in the Swiss Tourism Charter for Durable Development, we have implemented various projects to reduce the environmental impact of our activities, particularly during major events. One example of this effort is Région Dents du Midi SA's recent investment in washable and reusable cups and plates.

# VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The secret of our success is hardly a secret; with a host of major events held throughout the year, it all comes down to the invaluable assistance of an army of dedicated volunteers. We believe that this is one of the best and most unique characteristics of our valley, where solidarity and community activism is a way of life. If you aren't already one of our valued *bénévoles*, we invite you to join our Facebook group

« Bénévoles – Région Dents du Midi » or contact one of our 3 tourist offices. We can't thank you enough!





# ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACTS



RAPHAËL BRANDOU **Relations/Products Quality Manager** 

rbrandou@rddm.ch



THIERRY MONAY Marketing/ Communications Manager & Deputy Director

tmonay@rddm.ch

SÉBASTIEN EPINEY Director





**SONJA COLLET** Hospitality/Information Manager scollet@rddm.ch



THOMAS LEPARMENTIER

**Events** Manager tleparmentier@rddm.ch



# **TOURIST OFFICE OPENING HOURS**

With 3 local tourist offices, we are at your disposition **365** days a year!

# CHAMPÉRY +41 24 479 05 50

Season	Monday to Saturday	Sunday
Low	08h30 - 12h00 13h30 - 18h00	08h30 - 12h00 13h30 - 18h00
Mid	08h30 - 12h00 13h30 - 18h00	08h30 - 12h00 13h30 - 18h00
High	08h30 — 18h00 non-stop	08h30 — 18h00 non-stop

## MORGINS +41 24 477 23 61

Season	Monday to Saturday	Sunday
Low	08h30 - 12h00 13h30 - 18h00	08h30 — 12h00
Mid	08h30 - 12h00 13h30 - 18h00	08h30 - 12h00 13h30 - 18h00
High	08h30 — 18h00 non-stop	08h30 — 18h00 non-stop

#### VAL-D'ILLIEZ +41 24 477 20 77

Season	Monday to Saturday	Sunday
Low	08h30 - 12h00 13h30 - 18h00	closed
Mid	08h30 - 12h00 13h30 - 18h00	08h30 — 12h00
High	08h30 - 12h00 13h30 - 18h00	08h30 - 12h00 13h30 - 18h00

