

Information on the 2022 holiday camps

Stand am 13.12.2021

Dear participants, Dear parents,

The coronavirus remains a concern all over the world and will probably be an issue for some time to come. In addition, the national measures used to combat it will continue to change on a regular basis. This makes it more difficult for us to plan the camps scheduled for 2022. To help counter this uncertainty, the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA), SwissCommunity, has decided on the following measures:

- Any cancellations of individual holiday camps will take place at least six weeks before the start date.
 - The OSA will provide notification if a holiday camp is cancelled and the cancellation fees will not be applied (see our General Terms and Conditions).
- The OSA reserves the right to apply any escalated measures which are ordered by the federal government/canton/federal office for sport (BASPO), also at short notice, and implement them in the camps.
 - As a result, young people may need to provide a valid Covid certificate for the duration of the camp or undergo coronavirus testing to obtain a valid Covid certificate during this time as well. The coronavirus tests stipulated by the federal government/canton/BASPO must be paid by the participants/parents.
- The Swiss Challenge Camp is a big challenge for us. The participants currently require a Covid certificate that is valid in Switzerland for the duration of this camp. Due to the type of programme, it is not feasible for us to regularly go for tests. Therefore, we will only accept certificates of vaccinated participants and those who have recovered from Covid that are valid for the duration of the camp.
 - The programme for the Swiss Challenge camp requires us to change location every one to four days. A valid certificate for this camp is required for the duration of the camp. This is because we often spend the night in youth hostels and need a certificate for the excursions. We are also dependent on the certificate because we travel all over Switzerland and different cantonal measures may apply at times.



Further information and recommendations that are important for planning the trip

ENTERING SWITZERLAND

Currently, it is not possible to predict which regulations will apply in Switzerland next summer and winter. The Youth Service of the OSA will most certainly follow the prescribed regulations in any case.

Early, careful travel planning is essential. It is the parents' responsibility to request information on Covid-related entry and exit regulations. Please consider the regulations of the transit countries as well. Please be aware that your child must follow the applicable rules of the federal government/canton/BASPO and the OSA's protection concept for youth camps during the camp.

- You can find detailed information on the "list of countries with a variant of concern" and information on the quarantine [here](#).
- Quarantine is regulated at the cantonal level in Switzerland. That means the applicable conditions are those stipulated in the canton where your child is in quarantine. Make sure you check with the [cantonal authorities](#) about the quarantine procedure and other conditions.
- Further information about entering Switzerland is available from the [State Secretariat for Migration SEM](#).

For current information on the [entry requirements](#) during the coronavirus pandemic, please refer to the linked page. The [Travelcheck](#) also lets you check the conditions and coronavirus regulations under which you may enter Switzerland.

To determine whether your Covid certificate is valid in Switzerland or to request a Swiss Covid certificate, click [here](#). The [OSA](#) also provides current information about the coronavirus regulations.

COVID CERTIFICATE

The OSA will not cover any costs related to obtaining a valid Covid certificate.

Please take note of the following during the registration and planning process:

- Find out whether your Covid certificate is recognised and valid in Switzerland.
- The Covid certificate is only valid if you have an ID card with you. **Participants must therefore take their ID card to the camp** (a copy is not sufficient).
- Participants who have to take a test in Switzerland after they enter the country (depending on the entry requirements) may do so during the camp. The OSA will set aside time for this test. The OSA will **not** cover the costs.
- In order to take part in all camp activities, your children may have to be **tested during the camp** to obtain a valid Covid certificate. This testing will be organised



and scheduled by the OSA. The costs will **not** be covered by the OSA as long as the coronavirus tests are requested by the federal government/canton/BASPO.

- Participants who require a negative test result for their return trip may be tested in the camp on the last or second-to-last day. Any possible tests will be organised by the OSA and the requisite time will be scheduled. The OSA will **not** cover the costs.
- Please note that not all coronavirus tests come with a certificate. If participants require a Covid certificate in the camp, they will need to undertake one of the following tests:
 - PCR test: costs between CHF 50 and CHF 150.
 - Rapid antigen test: costs approx. CHF 36.
 - Please be aware that participants may need to undergo several of these coronavirus tests during the two-week camp. Further information on the testing costs is available [here](#). The OSA will **not** cover the costs.
 - Further information on testing in Switzerland is available [here](#).
- The OSA reserves the right to enforce the regulations of the federal government, cantons and BASPO more strictly as part of the protective measures for the camps and to test all camp participants (also those under 16 years of age) in grouped Covid tests. The health and safety of our participants and leaders come first. Coronavirus tests that are requested by the OSA are also paid by the OSA.
- The OSA recommends that families only register their children for the camp if the child is immunised, has recovered, or is prepared to be tested regularly (i.e. to cover the testing costs themselves).

QUARANTINE/ISOLATION

Please keep the following information in mind when you are registering for and planning the camp stay.

- If your child is required to quarantine (upon entering Switzerland or during the camp):
 - **Entering Switzerland:** Your child may be required to quarantine directly after entering Switzerland. Your child may enter Switzerland sufficiently early to complete a required quarantine stay after they arrive until the camp starts.
 - **During the camp:** If your child is required to quarantine or isolate, **the contact person may collect your child within six hours** and bring them to their accommodation where they can quarantine or isolate for the prescribed period.
- **When you register your child, you must specify a contact person who can care for your child if they are required to quarantine or isolate, pick up your child at the campsite within six hours, and is aware of the requirements and health risks connected with their role as contact person if your child is potentially or actually infected with Covid-19.**
- The OSA recommends that families only register their children if they have somewhere to spend quarantine or isolation in Switzerland.



- Parents are responsible for organising the trip and arranging for somewhere to spend quarantine/isolation.

Please note that failure to comply with the mandatory registration and quarantine requirement is a contravention of the Epidemics Act. Should we become aware of such a contravention, it would result in the immediate exclusion of your child from the holiday camp. We would also be obliged to inform the relevant authorities.

LEAVING YOUR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

- Find out from the authorities in your country of origin what you need to do to leave the country and travel to Switzerland.
- Find out from your airline company whether there are any other travel conditions, such as in the case of stopovers in transit countries.

INSURANCE

The participation fee does not include insurance cover. Accident, third-party liability and health insurance are the responsibility of the participant. The OSA does not arrange insurance cover. We expect camp participants to insure themselves against risks. We therefore recommend you arrange for suitable international insurance (see our General Terms and Conditions).

It is imperative to take out private health insurance to cover the eventuality of illness in another country. Costs related to a (potential) case of Covid-19, including Covid tests, medical examinations, etc. are always charged via the health insurance in Switzerland. **As parents, you need to be aware that your child will need to be tested if he or she displays symptoms of Covid during the camp.**

The OSA assumes NO liability and bears NO costs related to insurance or insurance claims.

APPLICATIONS FOR DISCOUNTS ON CAMP COSTS

- It is still possible to apply for discounts on camp costs. You can find the relevant form [here](#).
 - It is not sufficient to simply give the global Covid-19 situation as the main reason. We would need a detailed explanation of your situation so we can apply the discounts fairly among those families in need.

CANCELLATION OF THE PARTICIPATION IN THE HOLIDAY CAMP

In the event that the participant cancels, our general terms and conditions apply and the specified cancellation fees will be charged.



- Cancellation charges: in the event that the participant cancels:
 - Following registration and up to the closing date = 50% of the total cost
 - From the closing date up to 15 days before the start of the camp = 75% of the total cost
 - 14-0 days before the camp start = 100% of the total cost

Should a participant leave the programme early or if the camp is cancelled early they will not be given a refund. No refunds will be provided by the OSA in the event of a last-minute cancellation (regardless of the reason). Please contact your insurance provider or travel agent if you wish to be insured against such an event.

PROTECTIVE MEASURES AND THE HYGIENE REGIME IN THE HOLIDAY CAMP

The OSA will inform the families about the protective measures and hygiene regime during the holiday camp when it sends out detailed information on the camps. The families will receive the detailed information by email during the spring/early summer before the camp starts. We would stress in this connection that the protective measures and hygiene regulations during the camp are for people who are not in a risk group.

We realise that everyone (parents, children, our volunteer leaders and the OSA) will need to show much more flexibility to manage this year's camp season. At the same time, we all need to be on the same page and be prepared to go the extra mile if we are once again to offer an unforgettable camp in Switzerland to our young Swiss Abroad.

We would like to thank you for your openness and cooperation and we look forward to an unforgettable summer and winter in 2022.

