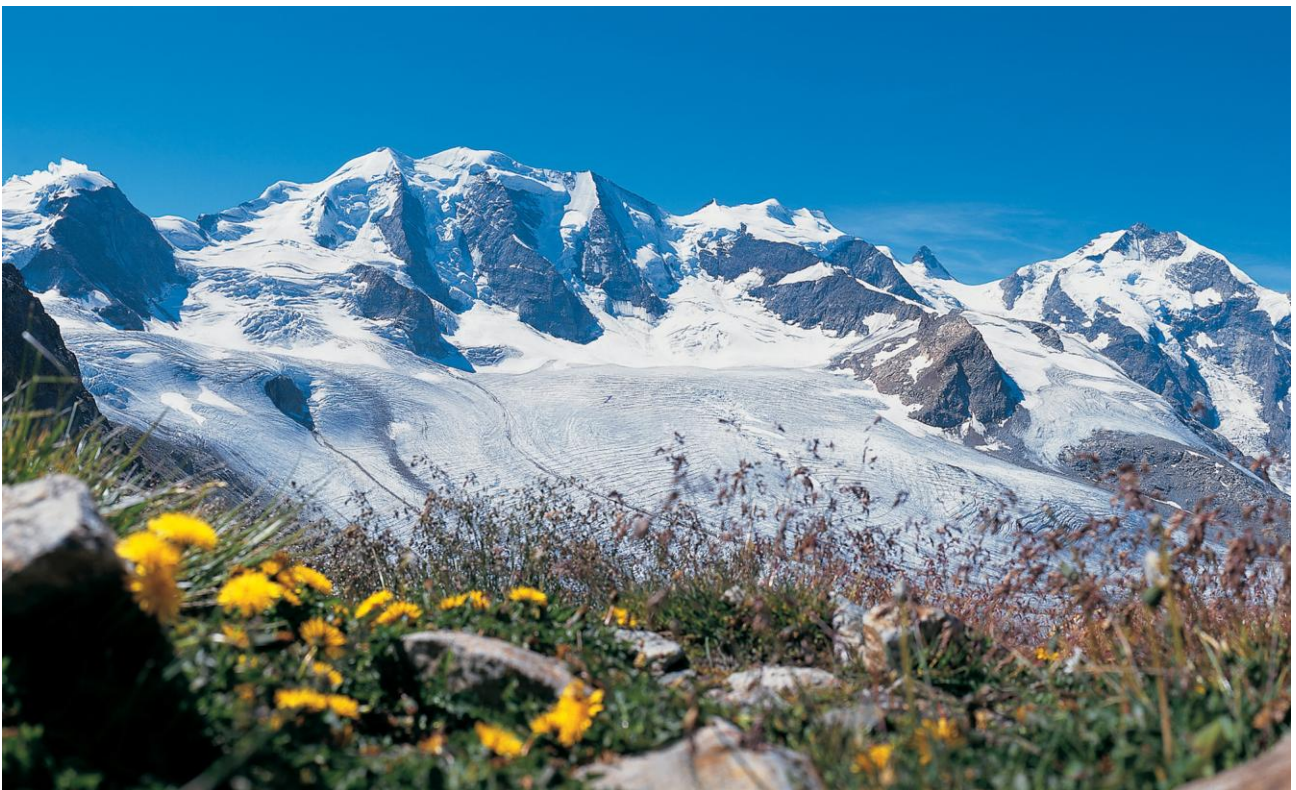


Pontresina

piz bernina  engadin

Exquisite pleasure high up in the Alps: Pontresina

A breathtaking setting, with exclusive sports opportunities in summer and winter alike, resplendent in the sunshine and served by Michelin-starred chefs.



Some facts and figures about a place that offers its guests only the very best of everything

The village – fascinating history

Guests will be enchanted by the charm of the historical mountain village: lovingly restored Engadine houses from the 17th and 18th centuries, palatial belle époque hotels and other architectural gems from earlier times, including the Begräbniskirche Sta. Maria (Church of the Holy Sepulchre of St Mary, dating back to the 11th century) with its impressive frescoes from the 13th and 15th centuries. Other sights include the pentagonal Spaniola tower (12th/13th century) and the Punt Veglia Roseg and Punt Veglia Bernina bridges. The historical village of Pontresina is divided into four settlements: Laret, San Spiert, Giarsun and Carlihof. Towards Samedan, there is also the more modern part of Muragl. With a total of 1,911 residents, the village welcomes up to 116,000 guests every year.

The location – uniquely sunny

Pontresina is situated on a sloping, south-facing terrace, 1,800 m above sea level and well-protected from the famous Maloja wind. Located in a triangle between Zürich, Milan and Munich in a side valley of the Upper Engadine, the village is easy to access. Part of Romansh-speaking Switzerland, its official languages are German, Romansh and Italian.

The climate – healthy and invigorating

Pontresina is well-known for the quality of its air, which is classed at "climate level 2". The cool, dry and pure air and countless sunshine hours make for a wonderfully beneficial climate that stimulates the nervous system, respiration, metabolism and stamina. As a result, Pontresina and its surroundings are home to Alpine training resorts for many top athletes.

The countryside – breathtakingly magnificent

The Piz Bernina (4,049 m), the highest peak in the eastern Alps, reigns over the landscape. Together with Palü (3,900 m), Roseg (3,937 m) and the Bellavista mountain chain, the views are breathtakingly beautiful and monumental – meaning you can't help but look up in awe from time to time. The lush natural environment hosts a fascinating world of flora and fauna, with Pontresina's trademark Alpine ibex featuring abundantly in Switzerland's biggest colony. Ibex can be observed in all their majestic glory in the Piz Albris area. Red deer and Alpine marmots also invite you to take an Alpine safari.

The attractions – exclusively Alpine

The Bernina Express stops at Pontresina in both summer and winter alike: a spectacular experience that takes you over the peaks and glaciers of a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In the evening, classical concerts, comedy and theatre events invite you to the Rondo, which, at 1,805 metres above sea level, is Europe's highest Conference and Event Centre. In winter, three of Switzerland's most legendary ski resorts entice you to their 350 km of panoramic pistes: Diavolezza, Corviglia and Corvatsch. They are about to make 150 years of winter sports history at an altitude of 1,800 to 3,303 m, surrounded by a winter wonderland that is also a draw for freeriders and off-piste skiers. Frozen waterfalls and lakes, unparalleled in their beauty, and natural ice rinks entice snowkiters, ice climbers and skaters, as well as curling and ice hockey enthusiasts.

Conquering a 4,000-metre peak in summer with an ice pick and crampons is many a mountaineer's dream. 580 km of hiking routes and 400 km of mountain bike trails that wind past imposing glaciers, romantic mountain lakes, scented Alpine meadows and impressive colonies of Alpine ibex will also get hikers' and mountain bikers' hearts racing. Down in the valley, the Upper Engadine lakes and the Bellavita Pool and Spa invite you to rejuvenate and revitalise with some well-earned relaxation.

The gastronomy – divinely delectable

The village's proximity to Italy and St Moritz are reflected in its Gault Millau status. Chefs at countless high-end establishments and cosy Swiss-style restaurants serve up award-winning cuisine in, around and even above Pontresina. With delicious local, Mediterranean and international specialities, there are plenty of tasty treats for everyone. Engadine delicacies such as pizzoccheri, capuns, maluns, pizokels, plain in pigna and local fondue really cannot be missed. Enjoying simple pleasures with a good bottle of wine on the sun terrace of a cosy Alpine restaurant is enough to make anyone's spirits soar. It's easy to enjoy life in Pontresina – a taste of the high life.

Development of tourism in Pontresina

- 1138 Formation of the current parish, own statutes drawn up in 1587
- 1549 Introduction of the Reformation by Pietro Paolo Vergerio, former Bishop of Capo d'Istria
- 1720 A blaze destroys almost the entire part of the village known as Laret and part of the parish archives stored in the attic of San Nicolo Church
- 1842-64 Construction of the Bernina road / opening in 1864
- 1849 Swiss Federal Post travels over the Bernina Pass with its big yellow sleigh for the first time
- 1850 First summer guests in Pontresina
- 1905 First year of winter operation
- 1907 Commissioning of Muottas Muragl Railway
- 1908 Opening of the Samedan-Pontresina Rhaetian Railway line
- 1910 Continuous summer service on the Bernina section of the Rhaetian Railway to Tirano (5 July 1910)
- 1937 Construction of the Chantatsch ski lift
- 1945 The chairlift to Alp Languard is completed
- 1956 Construction of the Diavolezza cable car lift
- 1963 Opening of the Piz Lagalb cable car lift
- 1969-70 Construction of the public swimming pool / opening in 1970
- 1980 Opening of the new Diavolezza cable car lift (125 persons per cable car)
- 1990-92 Construction of the Mulin multi-storey car park / opening in 1992
- 1991 Rebuilding of Alp Languard chairlift
- 1995-97 Construction of the Convention and Event Centre Rondo with multi-storey car park / opening of multi-storey car park in 1996 / opening of Convention Centre in December 1997
- 2001-03 Construction of Pontresina levee at the foot of the Schafberg, inauguration in 2003
- 2002 Completion of the redesigned Via Maistra and opening of shopping mile
- 2003 World Ski Championships in St. Moritz-Pontresina/Engadin
- 2004 Swiss cross-country ski championships
- 2004 100th anniversary of the Bernina Ski Club
- 2004 Acquisition of the Chamanna Segantini by the parish of Pontresina
- 2006 Adoption of new tourism legislation in the Engadin
- 2007 Integration of Pontresina tourist services into the new tourism organisation Engadin St. Moritz / termination of operation of the Pontresina health resort and tourism service
- 2007 Opening of the Bellavita Pool and Spa
- 2009 Opening of La Resgia via ferrata
- 2009 Redesign of Cuntschett sports field with two beach volleyball fields
- 2010 100th anniversary of the resort orchestra and today's Camerata Pontresina
- 2010 100th anniversary of the Bernina Railway Line
- 2010 Opening of High-Rope Challenge Course

Index	Winter 2010/11	Summer 2011
Overnights	255'120	249'012
Arrivals	47'254	65'107
Average length of stay	4.75 days	3.80 days

Origin of nations	Winter 2010/11	Summer 2011
Switzerland	106'051	146'349
Germany	71'813	45'989
Italy	23'276	30'523
Netherlands	2'965	4'895
France	2'544	3'665
Great Britain	2'714	2'910
USA	1'062	3'276
Japan	78	1'077
Belgium	251	587
Div.	14'366	9'741

Accommodation	Number of lodging	Number of beds
Hotels/Guest-houses	22	2,196 beds
Holiday- and second home apartments	ca. 1,000	3,700 beds
Rooms at private houses	14	23 beds
Youth hostel	1	130 beds
Tourist dormitories	2	174 beds
Camping site (summer/winter)	1	250 sites (summer)
	1	150 sites (winter)

Mountain railways in winter in the Engadine

- › 7 cable cars / 1 cable railway / 3 funiculars / 19 chair lifts / 26 ski lifts
- › 65,000 passengers/hour transport capacity
- › 2 mountain hotels
- › 34 mountain restaurants
- › 350 km / 88 runs (70 km artificially snowed)
 - › 20% easy – (70 km / 18 runs)
 - › 70% moderate – (245 km / 61 runs)
 - › 10% difficult (35 km / 9 runs)
- › 1750 – 1850 m. a. s. l. (altitude valley floor)
- › 1750 – 3303 m. a. s. l. (altitude skiing area)
- › 4.2 km night-times runs at Corvatsch
- › 5 km moonlight skiing at Diavolezza
- › 10 km glacier run Diavolezza – Morteratsch
- › 3 Snowparks

Mountain railways in summer in the Engadine

- › 6 cable cars / 1 cable railway / 3 funiculars / 3 chair lifts
- › 2 mountain hotels
- › 18 mountain restaurants
- › Children's playground at Muottas Muragl and Marguns

Winter offer

- › 350 km of skiing runs
- › Extensive free ride- and back-country skiing areas / glacier run
- › 210 km cross-country skiing tracks / 1.2 km flood-light night-time track / artificially snowed circular track at the cross-country skiing centre
- › Snowshoe tours
- › 4.2 km sledging run at Muottas Muragl (during the day)
- › 400 m sledging piste in Pontresina
- › 180 km winter walking trails (Val Roseg, Morteratsch, around Pontresina)
- › 1.5 km winter mountain walking trails (Diavolezza – Saas Queder)
- › 5.5 km philosophers trail at Muottas Muragl
- › Horse-drawn sleigh ride into the Val Roseg
- › Snow kiting below the Bernina pass
- › Ice field Roseg (Ice-skating, Ice-hockey, curling, Bavarian curling)
- › Ice-climbing (Corn Diavolezza, gorge Pontresina)

- › Olympia-Bo brun St. Moritz/Celerina
- › Cresta Run St. Moritz/Celerina
- › Paragliding- and delta flying school in St. Moritz
- › Bellavita Pool and Spa (indoor pool, outdoor pool year round, 75-m Blackhole-slide, Spa and «fell good» massages)
- › Hot tube at Diavolezza (3000 m. a. s. l)
- › Sun terrace Crast'Ota
- › Skittle alley at Grand Hotel Kronenhof
- › Various sports and culture events

Summer offers

- › 580 km walking and hiking trails
- › 30 km flat walking trails
- › Glacier walk / -trekking
- › 225 km Nordic walking trails
- › Vita-Parcours (marked trail with fitness exercises at the Tais forest)
- › Versatile climbing- and trekking routes at and around the Bernina massif
- › Climbing trail Piz Trovat and La Resgia
- › Climbing park
- › 400 km marked mountain bike- und bicycle trails / Engadin Bike Marathon Trail
- › 4 golf courses (18 hole - Samedan & Zuoz; 9 hole – Kulm Park, St. Moritz; 6 hole - Sils/Margna)
- › 12 km inline skating run
- › Skiken (on and off-road skating)
- › 10 tennis courts
- › Fishing (in small and bigger stretch of water)
- › Kite- / Windsurfing on the lake Silvaplana
- › Rowing / sailing (lake St. Moritz, Silvaplana and Sils)
- › Canyoning excursions
- › Bridle-path
- › Horse-drawn carriages into the Val Roseg
- › Bellavita Pool and Spa (indoor pool, outdoor pool year round, outdoor pool summer, 75-m Blackhole slide, Spa and «fell good» massages)
- › Hot tube at Diavolezza (3,000 m. a. s. l)
- › Skittle alley at Grand Hotel Kronenhof
- › Children play grounds and various sports and culture events

Nature sights

- › Swiss national park

- › Bernina-Massif with its glaciers
- › Game observing
- › Alp flowers
- › Biggest ibex colony in Switzerland

Culture sights

- › Showcase alpine cheese dairy (summer only)
- › Museum Alpin
- › Church Sta. Maria
- › Pentagonal Spaniola tower
- › Old Engadine houses from the 17th century with sgraffiti murals
- › Art gallery Palü, Elisabeth Costa
- › Classical matinee concerts at the Tais forest (summer only)
- › AlpenAkademie Engadin St. Moritz

Educative-and adventure paths

- › Glacial educative-path
- › Historical & educational path
- › forest.protection.population educative-path
- › Ibex educative-path
- › Climate educative-path
- › Guided game observation
- › Marmot and Ibex excursions
- › Ricola herb garden

Congress and Event Center Rondo

Rondo, the cultural and convention center at the heart of Pontresina, is characterized by its refined, timeless architecture. Its spacious rooms and public areas immediately make one feel welcome. Thanks to its structural concept, Rondo is the ideal venue for almost any kind of event. And its technical infrastructure is state-of-the-art – equipped, for example, for simultaneous translation, and offering WLAN as well as projection and lighting systems. The auditorium, „Sela Arabella“, is widely recognized for the excellent acoustics provided by its special ceiling construction. With Rondo's modern auditorium, seven seminar rooms and three foyers, the complex is ideally suited for both smaller gatherings and congresses and concerts for up to 500 persons.

Pontresina Tourist Information is located in the same building, as is the Pontresina Mountaineering School in summer, and Snowsports Pontresina in winter. Rondo's own underground parking garage offers space for 180 cars. Rondo is within easy walking distance of all of Pontresina's hotels. And Rondo even has its own catering team enabling it to fulfill just about any request and culinary desire – from a coffee break or drinks reception to a standing lunch or gala banquet.

Seminar Rooms

Plenary hall Sela Arabella	320 m ² useful surface area
Capacity:	seating: 460 pers. concert, 190 pers. seminar, 252 pers. banquet standing places: up to 1,000 pers.
Twin seminar rooms Muragl-Laret/San Spiert- Giarsun	each room 80m ² useful surface area
Capacity:	Seating: 75 pers. concert, 34 pers. seminar, 30 pers. U-shaped
Seminar rooms Muragl/Laret/San Spiert/Giarsun	each room ca. 40 m ² useful surface area
Capacity:	seating: 30 pers. concert, 12 pers. seminar, 15 pers. U-shaped
Attic room Sela Pulcinella	61 m ² useful surface area
Capacity:	seating: 55 pers. concert, 34 pers. seminar, 34 pers. U-shaped
Foyer EG/1. OG/2. OG	each foyer ca. 100 m ² useful surface area
Capacity:	seating: 100 pers. concert, 90/48 pers. banquet

02/2012