



GSTAAD PALACE
SWITZERLAND

Press Kit



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Gstaad Palace – Fact Sheet

The luxurious five-star superior Gstaad Palace hotel, which opened its doors for the first time in 1913, is owned by the third generation of the Scherz family and is therefore one of Europe's last family-run hotels where VIPs experience a first-class culture of hospitality. The 90 rooms and suites at the seasonal hotel with exceptional panorama over the Bernese Oberland skilfully combine contemporary glamour with alpine cosiness. Gstaad's landmark serves Swiss, Italian and international specialities and gourmet cuisine awarded with 15 Gault Millau points in its five restaurants. The hotel's own GreenGo nightclub is famous for its legendary parties and illustrious clientele. Guests' senses are pampered in the 1,800 square metre Palace Spa. An outdoor Olympic-sized swimming pool and four tennis courts are available in summer. With the Walig Hut, an alpine hut dating back to 1783 at 1700 metres above sea level, Gstaad Palace has a unique refuge where guests can experience the real luxury of the Saanenland, the peace, tranquillity, and authenticity up close.

Address	Gstaad Palace Palacestrasse 28 3780 Gstaad Schweiz
Phone	+41 (33) 748 50 00
Fax	+41 (33) 748 50 01
E-Mail	info@palace.ch
Website	www.palace.ch
Opening	December 1913
General Manager	Andrea Scherz (owner at the same time – the hotel has been owned by the Scherz family for three generations)
Vice Director	Vittorio Di Carlo
Opening hours	Summer: mid-June to mid-September Winter: mid-December to mid-March
Area of grounds	30,000 m ²
Location	Situated on a hill above the village centre in the classiest area called Oberbort, the Gstaad Palace has a privileged location with breathtaking view over the Bernese and Valais Alps
Category	5-Star Superior
Memberships	Leading Hotels of the World Swiss Deluxe Hotels Virtuoso, Signature and Finest Hotels & Resorts Traveller Made



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Journey	Zurich airport approx. 220 km (2½ hours) Geneva airport approx. approx. 160 km (2 hours) Bern airport approx. 91 km (1 hour) Saanen airport approx. 10 km (10 minutes)
Arriving by train	SBB trains run to Gstaad several times a day
Transfer	The collection service (limousine/taxi) can be booked with the concierge
Rooms and Suites	90 rooms, of which: 55 double rooms starting from CHF 660 15 Junior suites starting from CHF 1500 13 suites (5 Alpine, 4 Corner, 4 Deluxe) starting from CHF 1870 2 Tower suites (2 bedrooms and 1 salon) starting from CHF 4770 1 Penthouse suite (3 bedrooms and salon) on the hotel's top floor starting from CHF 8720
Walig Hut	Situated 1700 metres above Gsteig, this authentic alpine hut from 1783 is a peaceful refuge surrounded by stunning nature with the Gstaad Palace's customary comfort and service. Suitable for private lunch or dinner, as well as for accommodation for up to 4 people (can only be booked in summer).
Restaurants	LE GRAND RESTAURANT & LA GRANDE TERRASSE Internationale Küche Le Grand Restaurant: 240 seats La Grande Terrasse: 130 seats LE GRILL, RÔTISSERIE 15 Gault Millau points Gourmet restaurant with show kitchen 35 seats LA FROMAGERIE Typical Swiss dishes in a cosy setting 90 seats (only open in winter) GILDO'S RISTORANTE Authentic Italian cuisine from the Forte Village Sardinia 60 seats (only open in winter) SNACK BAR Perfect of a light lunch outdoors 110 seats (only open in summer)
Culinary Director	Franz W. Faeh (born and raised in Gstaad) Team of 55 in the kitchen
Maître d'Hôtel	Andrea Buschini (at the hotel for 17 years)
Bars	LOBBY BAR « Gstaad's living room » 120 seats LE BAR DU GRILL Elegant atmosphere with live music 60 seats



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GreenGo

The Palace nightclub has been considered the place to be in Gstaad since its opening in 1971. The preserved original interior design by Teo Jakob provides a stylish atmosphere and resident DJ Jim LeBlanc guarantees a thrilling party night for an illustrious clientele.

Palace Spa

The Palace Spa was opened in December 2007 and has an area of 1'800 m². With its exclusive alpine interior design, the spa area blends perfectly into the hotel's overall appearance. The wellness area is available to all guests at the Gstaad Palace, Palace Spa members and day guests with reservation.

SPA & INDOOR POOL OPENING HOURS

Every day from 8.30 am to 8 pm

SPA INFRASTRUCTURE

8 treatment rooms including manicure/pedicure, Thai massage, separate area for men and women with saunas, steam baths and outdoor relaxation area; shared relaxation area for men and women; private spa suite with sauna, steam bath; lounge corner, pool and outdoor pool with Jacuzzi (36°C)

SIGNATURE SPA TREATMENTS

Hammam Experience This two-hour journey of relaxation consists of a harmonious sequence of treatment and rest phases in six different rooms.

Jardin des Monts Energizing Massage Therapeutic massage using a special beechwood massage stick to energise muscles optimally. Jardin des Monts is a natural mountain herb garden in Pays-d'Enhaut above the Rossinière municipality. It is laid out on small terraces that run along Mont Dessous' steep southern slope. The precious herbs, dried, fresh or as an extract, develop their full potential in cosmetics products, teas and syrups.

Sports on offer

Gstaad Palace puts together various workout options for its guests, both in summer and winter. The infrastructure includes a gym, activity room for Yoga, Pilates and Fitbox courses as well as personal training, four sand tennis courts (only open in summer / legendary training camps are held every year with the tennis stars Roy Emerson, multiple Grand Slam winner from Australia, and Marc Rosset, Olympic Champion 1992 and former Top Ten player from Switzerland), a squash court, indoor pool and heated Olympic-sized outdoor pool (only in summer).

Seminar Rooms

5 event rooms for up to 300 people, including the legendary Salle Baccarat (named after the original crystal chandeliers from France), Salle Chez Maxim's which provided space in the 1960s for magnificent soirées with stars of the stage from Mireille Mathieu and Maurice Chevalier to Gilbert Bécaud, Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald.

Boutiques

Gioelliarte, Maison Lorenz Bach, Phillips Perpetual Bacs & Russo, SilverSport

Internet

Internet corner, free WiFi throughout the hotel

Children

Two playrooms, outdoor playground and a special children's programme during the peak season



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The history of Gstaad Palace

1904

The opening of the railway line from Montreux to Gstaad on 20 December. 6 months later it is accessible all the way through to Zweisimmen. Heralding the start of tourism in Gstaad.

1905

Local secondary school teacher **Robert Steffen** (1878 -1923) recognises the potential for a grand hotel on the Oberbort and purchases the first plots of land. He receives the majority of the required funds from his future father-in-law.

1911

With Steffen having been able to make contacts in his search for investors in western Switzerland, the “Royal-Hôtel & Winter Palace Gstaad” **public limited company** is founded in Lausanne on 15 December 1911. Steffen transfers the land to this in exchange for 18% of the shares.

1912

The construction of the Palace Hotel starts on the Oberbort in April. The project by the architects Adrien van Dorsser (1866–1957) and Charles-François Bonjour (1870–1961) earmarks a very high investment sum for that time of 2.5 million Swiss francs.

1913

The **Palace Hotel opens** on 8 December 1913 under the management of the Directors Albert Steudler and Hans Pünter. The hotel has 250 beds in 165 rooms, 70 of them have their own bathroom. The investors set the highest standards of luxury with 20 more shared bathrooms, central heating and the hotel’s own telegrapher.

1914

The first winter season is so successful that the decision to build an extension is already made in spring 1914. **A ballroom** (Salle Baccarat today) is added on the ground floor and opened in autumn 1916.

1915

The number of guests drops during the First World War. The costs for heating coal increase so drastically that the annual accounts finish in the red during the war years. A **tennis tournament** is held for the first time in summer 1915. It is supposed to attract additional guests. This evolves into the Tennis Open Gstaad.

1918

The Board of Directors dismisses the two directors Steudler and Pünter given the losses made. **Wilhelm Michel** (1867–1945), previously employed at Hotel des Bergues in Geneva, takes over the management at the start of the 1918/19 winter season.

1923

With the Palace-AG having been renovated in 1921 thanks to an increase in the share capital, the 1923 annual account shows a **profit again** for the first time since the First World War.

1927

The Palace and hotel industry as a whole in Switzerland experience their **heyday** in the second half of the 1920s. The hotel is regularly fully booked over Christmas and the New Year. More investments are made in summer activities to use the Palace to capacity more consistently.



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1928

The construction of a large outdoor pool and creation of the first golf course are joint projects by the Gstaad hotelier and the tourist office. Both are opened in July 1928. The driving force is Wilhelm Michel who is the Chair of the tourist office from 1925 to 1931.

1931/32

The economic crisis starts to take hold: the number of overnight stays drops at the Palace because the Swiss franc's exchange rate rises drastically against foreign currencies. New attractions are supposed to attract more guests. The first **sleigh lift cable** car on the Wispile called the "Funi" is opened in the 1934/35 winter season.

1936

The Palace-AG's share capital is reduced in 1936 to cover losses. The situation eases but only once the Swiss franc depreciates in September 1936. This has an immediate impact: **guest numbers rise again**.

1938/39

Director Wilhelm Michel retires in spring 1939. **Ernst and Silvia Scherz-Bezzola** start working as his successors in autumn 1938, so that there is a smooth changeover in management.

1939/40

The number of overnight stays drops to half during the Second World War. The Schweizerische Bankgesellschaft has a solid **vault and emergency shelter** built under the Palace terrace as a precaution in 1939/40. If any business premises close to borders would had to have been abandoned, the bank management would have set up at the Palace. Gold is stored there, among other things. The cosy Fromagerie restaurant is accommodated in this room today.

1946

After the war, the **number of guests rises** rapidly and already reaches the same level as before the war in 1947. The central heating is completely modernised and changed from coal to oil firing. This allows for heating costs to be halved in one fell swoop.

1947

The **Union parlementaire européenne foundation congress**, one of the European Council's most important predecessor organisations, is held at the hotel in September 1947. The congress is organised by Count Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi. Due to him reaching retirement age, the long-standing President of the Board of Directors **Joseph Diémand** (1876–1952) sells his 45 percent share in the Palace-AG to the infamous speculator Kurt von Jahn, former owner of the Schlosshotel Hertenstein near Weggis. There are fears in Gstaad that the Palace will close. With the support of the village doctor Fritz Kaufmann, (1892–1958) Ernst Scherz manages to come up with the necessary capital to buy back the shares. Over the following years he pays off all the investors in order to take over all the shares.

1954

Following modernisation, the ballroom is renamed **Chez Maxim's**. Several investments are made in the first half of the 1950s: the hotel hall, foyer, bar and grill room are redesigned.

1956

Henri Jolidon is appointed as the chef. Together with **Otto Schlegel**, who has already been a chef here since the 1947/48 winter season, he ensures a considerable improvement in the quality of the catering.

1957

The first **Menuhin Festival** starts on 4 August 1957 in the Mauritius Church in Saanen. It picks up on the tradition of the summer music concerts that were held at the Palace from 1942 to 1947, which had to be given up for financial reasons though.



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1964

Gala dinners with international stars are the glamorous highlights of the winter season in the 1960s. Marlene Dietrich performs on 15 February 1964. One of the most glamorous occasions in the Palace's history is documented in the annual report. The list of star guests is long: it includes Louis Armstrong, Benny Goodman and Ella Fitzgerald as well as Maurice Chevalier, Gilbert Bécaud, Dionne Warwick and Petula Clark.

1968

Ernst Andrea Scherz starts working at the hotel in 1968 and takes over the management from his father in 1969.

1969/70

The **indoor pool** is built with an outdoor area, sauna and health centre, its contemporary name. A nightclub is also planned in the same part of the building, whose concept is to strengthen the Palace's position as the centre of everything that is happening in Gstaad.

1971

The **GreenGo** Nightclub is opened on 22 January 1971. The original interior design was by Teo Jakob and has remained the same to this day even after several gentle renovations.

1974

The share capital is restructured at a Palace-AG extraordinary general meeting on 21 January 1974. In view of the **succession planning for Ernst Scherz**, voting stock is introduced that strengthens the character of a family business. Ernst Andrea Scherz takes over as President of **The Leading Hotels of the World** alliance. The alliance of leading luxury hotels grows with the addition of several hotels outside Europe under his auspices (until 1989).

1975

The former vault and emergency shelter from the Second World war is converted. The historical **bowling alley** where royalty once tried their luck, so enthusiastically once that Princess Soraya of Persia even broke her finger, is demolished. **La Fromagerie** opens here at the start of the 1975/76 winter season. "The Return of the **Pink Panther**" with Peter Sellers, part of which was filmed at the Palace, celebrates its European premiere in Gstaad on 12 September 1975.

1977

The long-standing chefs Henri Jolidon and Otto Schlegel retire in 1977. Once again, a duo succeeds them: **Peter Wyss** and **Hugo Weibel**.

1979

The Le sans cravate restaurant opens at the end of 1979 as a casual alternative to Le Grill. **A strict dress code** no longer applies here for the first time. The indoor pool is renovated in the same year and connected to the GreenGo more so that pool parties are possible.

1979/80

The **Résidence** with 21 apartments is moved into at the start of the 1979/80 winter season. The new building has gone through a longer than ten-year planning period. The first project in 1969 had to be buried as a consequence of the urgent federal decrees to slow down the economy in 1972. It was finally implemented on a different scale from 1976.

1986

A great deal of modernisation work is carried out in the second half of the 1980s, which starts in 1986 with the extension of the **Grande Terrasse** and the new **Salle Piero** conference room.

1990/91

The conversions are finished in 1990 with the redesign of the drive and extension of the **underground garage**. Chez Maxim's ballroom is renovated at the start of the 1991/92 winter season and renamed **Salle Baccarat**.

1996

Andrea Scherz starts working at the Palace in the 1996 summer season, as a Chef de Réception first of all. The third generation is therefore joining the business. **Les Chalets du Palace** are completed in the same year.



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2000

The first Gstaad symposium allows for informal meetings with VIPs such as Margaret Thatcher and Peter Ustinov. After the end of the Cold War, they look back at the 20th century in a series of talks, inspired by the Spectator columnist Taki Theodoracopulos. The series is still continued today under the title “Les Rendez-Vous de Gstaad”.

2001

Andrea Scherz becomes the General Manager at the start of the year. At the same time, the long-standing Director Hansruedi Schaerer retires after 43 years of service. The spectacular **Penthouse Suite** is set up in December 2000. The **Tower suites** follow in December 2001. Thierry Scherz is the co-founder of the **Sommets Musicaux de Gstaad**, which have been enriching the winter season with concerts every year since.

2003

Le sans cravate restaurant is renamed Gildo's, after the long-standing Maitre d'Hôtel Ermenegildo Bocchini (Gildo). The Palace-AG is turned into a **family holding** in 2003.

2007

The **spa** is redesigned and massively extended. The new wellness area encompasses 1,800 square metres. The **GreenGo club** and its dance floor, which extends as far as the indoor pool, is also modernised.

2008

The Palace is connected to the Saanen-Gstaad **district heating network**. As its largest consumer, the hotel is an important supporter of this project. The hotel and four surrounding buildings are heated with renewable energy from local wood. The entire hotel is also equipped with pioneering LED lighting technology.

2009

The Palace takes over an **alpine hut** on the **Alp Walig**. The accommodation built in 1783 at 1,700 metres above sea level, constructed back then for dairy and cattle farming in the summer, is gently renovated and has been offering guests an authentic mountain experience against the dramatic backdrop of the Les Diablerets mountain range ever since.

2013

Gstaad school groups plant new trees in a forest on the Bortvorsass that was destroyed by Hurricane Lothar in 1999. Andrea Scherz initiated this. The Palace finances the reforestation as a sustainable project for its 100th anniversary.

2014

Thierry Scherz unexpectedly dies in Vienna on 1 July. He leaves behind his wife Martina and his eight-year-old twin girls.

2016

Franz W. Faeh takes over the management of the hotel kitchen together with his sous chef Luca Gatti on 1 October, heralding the start of a whole new culinary chapter.

2017

The end of an era: Executive Chef **Peter Wyss** and **Chef de Cuisine Hugo Weibel** retire in February 2017 after more than 40 years at Gstaad Palace. The experienced duo are available for exclusive catering for regular guests though, on request from now on.

The flying of the flag is rejuvenated: it's a tradition that the Palace hoists the municipality of Saanen's flag and of course the Swiss flag every time the season opens. Hunters usually perform this task and have been doing so for years now. But now it's the turn of school children from the region. They will be hoisting the flags on the Palace's roof above Gstaad from this season onwards.

There are two important changes to the team: **Romuald Bour**, Vice-Director for many years and Director for the last two and a half years, and **Gildo Bocchini** – at the hotel for 49 years and the First Maître d'Hotel – are handing over the batons to their successors. **Vittorio Di Carlo** is taking over the corresponding management tasks as the new Vice-Director and **Andrea Buschini** as the new Maître d'Hôtel.



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Curiosities & special requests

The gold vault at Gstaad Palace

The legend of the large gold vault at Gstaad Palace during the Second World War has stubbornly stood the test of time. Anyone standing in front of the entrance door to the cosy La Fromagerie restaurant, a solid armoured door, inevitably asks why this fortress construction with 1.5 metre thick walls can be found in a hotel cellar.

What lies behind the legendary story of the gold vault? Research has revealed that it was a security vault for the storage of elementary data and valuables, which was built during the early stages of the Second World War. Several major Swiss companies considered withdrawing to the reduit in Saanenland. Including the Schweizerische Bankgesellschaft (UBS today). Shortly after war broke out, at the start of September 1939, its Board of Directors saw itself compelled to take evacuation measures in the event of an enemy invasion of Switzerland. It opted for the Palace Hotel in Gstaad because it proved to be “more favourable than, for example, the Parkhotel in Lungern in terms of location, expansion options and access” and there was also plenty of office space and accommodation.

“The rooms for the French-Swiss office were set up and the boxes were already partly in place” on 1 December 1939. The bank’s Board of Directors decided that as soon as the vault is ready in Gstaad, “the titles and valuables (including gold) previously relocated to Stans and Lungern are to be evacuated to Gstaad.” On 8 May 1940 it happily stated:

“As the vault is an armoured concrete construction that cannot be set on fire by incendiaries, this refuge is to be preferred over any other hotel. We also still have space for sealed deposits (fabrication plans, patents, etc.)” It also found the fact that the Palace Hotel had been approved exclusively for the Schweizerische Bankgesellschaft by both the territorial command and the war welfare office as “very pleasant because there is not any danger of the evacuated public being accommodated at the hotel. We have therefore decided to give business acquaintances their own rooms as far as possible.”

The expansion of the two-storey vault on a scale of 450 square metres was estimated at 300’000 Swiss francs. However, its completion scheduled for March 1940 was delayed slightly due to the cold winter and unfavourable weather in March. A building rights agreement was concluded between the bank and Palace on 19 March 1940 and an annual compensation of 1’000 Swiss francs was agreed.

UBS AG archives, Basel (Dr Urs A. Müller-Lhotska), as well as the Bibliothek am Guisanplatz military library. The information for this text was kindly provided by the Head Group Long-Term Eidg. Departements für Verteidigung, Bevölkerungsschutz und Sport, Bern (Dr Jürg Stüssi-Lauterburg). All quotes have been taken from this.

Anything goes at the Palace – All kinds of special requests

On the occasion of the Olympic Winter Games in Albertville (1992 in Savoyen/France), one guest from the USA wanted to stay at the Palace in Gstaad at all costs. As this was simply the best address for him. However, the rather short gentleman wanted an obstructed view of the valley, the stunning mountains and the village. Namely sitting down, without any annoying railings. The floor in the suite therefore had to be raised by 60 centimetres. Don’t despair, said the former Director to himself, just ask the in-house workmen. And what do you know, a few transport pallets were just the right height. The temporary wooden floor was laid, nice and neatly covered with carpet and the slightly raised suite was ready for the distinguished guest. And as if that’s not enough. He was to be transferred to the Olympic Games by helicopter, more precisely by a Superpuma. In the end, the flying taxi circled in the skies for one and a half hours without any passengers with an hourly transport rate of 25,000 Swiss francs. The reason: the guest was late.



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One regular guest only wanted to be washed with the very best water. The lady ordered 20 to 25 litres of Evian mineral water per day. She used this fine tittle to clean her teeth and wash her hair.

An aristocratic Russian lady's delicate lapdog steadfastly refused to set one paw outside the Palace in winter. So why not simply line one of the showers in the Penthouse Suite with a carpet of grass? Naturally, the hotel workmen sorted out a piece of turf. From then on the dog was able to elegantly do its business in the shower on the green indoor lawn while his mistress was left with the bath for her personal hygiene.

The guests of the Palace also know no limits for their wedding requests. A gentleman wanted to surprise his mistress with a tête-à-tête in Japanese style. He had a clear plan in mind: in the Salle Baccarat, his girlfriend's favourite restaurant was to be rebuilt one-to-one. The Palace team immediately made contact with the interior designer from Geneva. He came, set up and lit up the hall. In the meantime, the food was delivered by a partner restaurant. The scenery was perfect – for intimacy à la japonaise.

Michael Jackson's big dream

Michael Jackson spent quite a bit of time with his muse and good friend Liz Taylor in a chalet. One day the "King of Pop" confidentially approached the Director Hansruedi Schaerer to ask whether he might help him. Jacko was actually looking for a chalet, as a result the Director put him in touch with Ernst Andrea Scherz, who wanted to sell his own Chalet Taty on the Oberbort at the same time. Jacko was very interested. But: Scherz simultaneously had another potential buyer on the hook who had asked for some time to think it over. As a result, Michael Jackson's chances were not that good. To make the best out of the unpleasant situation, Ernst Andrea Scherz tried to interest the pop star in the Penthouse Suite, to rent of course. However, Jacko didn't take up Scherz' offer but went for the whole hotel, as the star suddenly had the Palace in his sights. Scherz, slightly baffled, asked: "Why do you want to buy the hotel?" Jacko replied, short and sweet: "Because I like it."

Side note to the story: Jackson was so taken by the white palace above Gstaad because he had a book of the most beautiful palaces in the world at home, which he probably browsed through quite a bit. The much coveted Gstaad dream palace in question was resplendently emblazoned on the cover. Jacko's dream of living in the suite at the top between the towers forever was not to come true though. Just like in the fairytale.

Three tonnes of luggage in the cellar

It is estimated that three tonnes of luggage are stored in two cellars and on the sixth floor at the Gstaad Palace. These are returning guests' suitcases and bags. And because they don't want to drag the bulky things to Gstaad year after year for their winter holiday, hotel management assists here and stores their things away nice and neatly. However, sometimes stored goods turn into bulky goods. And because discretion is the hotel's greatest asset, its management guarantees free storage for up to 20 years. It reminds owners in faraway countries that they still have belongings in Gstaad by letter. Now and again, a courier turns up to take the belongings home to their owners. But several things are left there for much longer. If the owners don't get in touch, perhaps they've died in the meantime or are no longer interested in their belongings, management takes the liberty of revealing the secret and opening the suitcases.

All sorts come to light then. And now and again a fur coat or other luxury items can be found in the abandoned luggage. There is a happy ending though as they end up in the best hands: namely with the local Salvation Army, which uses them for charitable causes.



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Movies and TV series

1975

The Return of the Pink Panther (Great Britain)

Directed by: Blake Edwards

Leading actors: Peter Sellers, Christopher Plummer, Herbert Lom, Catherine Schell

2003

Snowboarder (France)

Directed by: Olias Barco

Leading actors: Nicolas Duvauchelle, Grégoire Colin, Juliette Goudot

2004

Christmas in Love (Italy)

Directed by: Neri Parenti

Leading actors: Christian De Sica, Danny De Vito, Massimo Boldi, Ronn Moss, Sabrina Ferilli

2011

Archer Animated TV Series (Season 2, Episode 1) "Swiss Miss" (USA)

Story: Mehar Sethi

Screenplay: Adam Reed

2013

Viaggio sola (Italy)

Directed by: Maria Sole Tognazzi

Leading actors: Margherita Buy, Stefano Accorsi, Fabrizia Sacchi, Gianmarco Tognazzi, Alessia Barela, Lesley Manville

2013

The Saint (pilot episode for the new season; not aired)

Directed by: Brad Krevoy

Leading actors: Roger Moore, Adam Rayner

2018

Un nemico che ti vuole bene

Directed by: Denis Rabaglia

Leading actors: Diego Abatantuono



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Documentaries and TV features

2003

Grand Hotel - himmelreichschweiz – Swiss cultural programme, SF

A grand hotel, five stars, tuxedos and ankle-length furs, VIPs from showbiz and business: a world that normally remains closed to mere mortals. Nicole Himmelreich took a look in front of and behind the scenes at the Gstaad Palace. [Cinergy] What's needed to manage a luxurious giant steamer like the Palace with its 104 beds and seven restaurants? 300 employees ensure that guests can be indulged exclusively, leaving no wish unfulfilled. Nicole Himmelreich's tour starts just before Christmas when the Palace is waking up from its long Sleeping Beauty slumber and has to be ramped up to full occupancy within just a few days. More than forty chefs are feverishly making preparations for the opulent New Year's Eve banquet. Meanwhile, an army of porters, chambermaids, Commis de Chasse and Chefs de Service are taking care of the guests' wellbeing. Nicole Himmelreich mingles among the illustrious guests but mainly chats to the service personnel, observes their everyday life and shares their minor and major worries.

2011

L'autre versant de Gstaad

Directed by: Elisabeth Aubert Schlumberger

With Christine and Martin Herrmann, Walter Reuteler, Kläri and Arnold Reuteler, Hans Matti, Arnold Reuteler Jr., Léonie Müller, Andrea Scherz, Cornelia Herrmann

The rural charm of the region around Gstaad has been attracting famous personalities and wealthy people for many decades. Cranes have been a permanent feature of the rural landscape for quite some time and the villages are spreading out. The locals feel threatened by this continuous invasion of "guests" as the longer this goes on the less they're interested in their traditions. Christine, Walter, Andrea, Léonie and their families are farmers, chambermaids, directors at the Palace in Gstaad and ski instructors. The seasons come and go and the families give an insight into their everyday life - authentically and without hiding their mixed feelings towards their "guests" who have become an indispensable source of income.

2013

Poloturnier in Gstaad – hallo deutschland – ZDF (Germany)

<http://www.zdf.de/ZDFmediathek/beitrag/video/1975036/#/beitrag/video/1975036/Poloturnier-in-Gstaad->
(link checked on 25.10.2013)

hallo deutschland mondän – ZDF (Germany) date aired 20.12.2013



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2021

The Pink Panther returns - G&G goes Hollywood - Gesichter & Geschichten, SRF 1

It was a highlight in the 108-year history of the five-star Gstaad Palace when director Blake Edwards had part of the fourth episode of the Pink Panther series filmed at the five-star hotel in 1974. Ernst Scherz, the former director of the hotel, follows in the footsteps of this filming with „G&G“. His son Andrea Scherz, who runs the hotel today and was five years old at the time, also remembers the colourful hustle and bustle around leading actor Peter Sellers with pleasure.
Broadcast on SRF 1 on 13.04.2021

At the Gstaad Palace - +41 - Das Schweizer Reportagemagazin

Three-part report

At Gstaad Place: The wish-fulfilers

At the Gstaad Palace: The Patron

At the Gstaad Palace: Master of Tastes

First broadcast on 9.02.2021 on the following Swiss German channels: Tele Bärn, Tele Züri, Tele 1, Tele M1, TVO

<https://www.telezueri.ch/41-das-schweizer-reportagemagazin/im-gstaad-palace-der-patron-140530253>

(link checked on 19.04.2021)



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Bollywood productions

1991

Sau Crore (India)

Directed by: Dev Anand

Leading actors: Naseeruddin Shah, Anupam Kher, Raman Kapoor, Fatima Sheikh, Kiran Kumar

1995

Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge (India)

Directed by: Aditya Chopra

Leading actors: Shahrukh Khan, Kajol, Amrish Puri, Farida Jalal, Anupam Kher

2000

Kurukshetra (India)

Directed by: Mahesh Manjrekar

Leading actors: Sanjay Dutt, Mahima Chaudhary, Om Puri, Mukesh Rishi



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Famous stars at the Gstaad Palace

A

Elsa Adams, Isabelle Adjani, Waris Ahluwalia, Countess Albina von Boisrouvray, Michele Alboreto, Princess Alexandra of Hannover, Princess Alexandra of Kent, Julie Andrews, Kofi Annan, Queen Anne-Marie of Greece, Astrid of Liechtenstein

B

Caroll Baker, Thomas Bangalter, King Baudoin of Belgium, Brigitte Bardot, Shirley Bassey, Emanuelle Béart, Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands, Laura Belly Bundy, Ernesto Bertarelli, King Bhumipol and Queen Sirikit of Siam, Christoph Blocher, Ghali Bonteos, Élodie Bouchez-Bangalter, Carole Bouquet, David Bowie, Flavio Briatore, Adrien Brody, Hannah Bronfman, Yaz Bukey

C

Edie Campbell, Princess Caroline of Monaco, Jimmy Carter, Andrea and Tatiana Casiraghi, Charlotte Casiraghi, Pierre Rainier Stefano Casiraghi, Daniele Cavalli, Marc Chagall, Geraldine Chaplin, Kiera Chaplin, Courtney Chet, Margherita Chiarva, Jacques Chirac, Adam Clayton, Cassie Coane, Paulo Coelho, Sean Connery, Mat Collishaw, Joan Crawford, Didier Cuche, François Curiel

D

Marcel Dassault, Godfrey Deeny, Aurelio de Laurentis, Luigi de Laurentis, Christian de Sica, Dominique de Villepin, Danny de Vito, Didier Défago, Christian Defaye, Poppy Delevigne, Novak Đoković

E

Bernie Ecclestone, Tamsin Egerton, Gad Elmaleh, George Embiricos, Roy Emerson, Linda Evangelista

F

Francesc “Cesc” Fàbregas Soler, Emperor of Persia and Empress Farah Diba, Roger Federer, Carola Fekter, Sabrina Ferilli, Amanda Ferry, Otis Ferry, Luis Figo, Valentine Fillol Cordier, the Flick family, Henry Ford, Emilie Fouilloux, Sadie Liza Frost

G

Ava Gardner, Richard Gere, Dr Nahum Goldman, Paula Goldstein, Patrick Grant, Ben Grimes, Nick Grimshaw, Fawaz Gruosi, Mamie Gummer

H

President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia, Jefferson Hack, Geri Halliwell, Johnny Hallyday, Laurence Harvey, Sabine Heller, Jim Henson, Audrey Hepburn, Terence Hill, Katie Hiller, Martina Hingis, Bob Hope, President Félix Houphouët-Boigny, Ivory, Liz Hurley, King Hussein of Jordan

I

Aliyev Ilham, John Ireland

J

Michael Jackson, Marlène Jobert, Janina Joffe, Jessica Joffe, Elton John, Grace Jones, Brian Jones, Tom Jones, Queen Juliana of the Netherlands, Curd Jürgens



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K

Kareena Kapoor, Konstantin Karamanlis, Prince Karim Aga Khan, Saif Ali Khan, Marthe Keller, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Jacqueline Kennedy, Adnan Khashoggi, Natassia Kinski, Bernhard Kornfeld, Brad Krevoy, John Kulukundis, Kyleigh Kuhne, Lily Kwong

L

Miranda Lambert, Andrey Landers, John Latsis, Tali Lennox, Sergio Leone, Chelsea Leyland, Walter Lippmann, Patrick Liotard-Vogt, Sophia Loren

M

Princess Madeleine of Sweden, Madonna, Jeanne Manson, Sergio Marchi, Marie Marot, Angela Martini, Liliana Matthäus, Paul McCartney, Karan Mehra, Todd Meister, Marisa Mell, Pierre Mendès, Yehudi Menuhin, Ex-King Michael of Romania, Nathan Milstein, Francesco Missoni, Theresa Missoni, President of Zaire Mobutu, Sister Moeales, Yves Montand, Craig Morgan, Polly Morgan, Ron Moss, Carey Mulligan, Arizona Muse

N

Ex-Queen of Egypt Nariman Sadek, Günter Netzer, Olivia Newton-John, Stavros Niarchos, David Niven

O

Adolf Ogi, Christina Onassis, Christopher O'Neill, Justin O'Shea

P

Prince Pahlavi, Fabrice Paineau, Lester Pearson, Bertrand Piccard, Freida Pinto, Roman Polanski, Simona Popovic, Prince Alex Postiglione, Victoria Principal, Ameira Punvani, Ben Pundole

R

Prince Rainier and Princess Grace of Monaco, Leven Alice Rambin, Kangana Ranaut, Keanu Reeves, Tara Reid, Jean Reno, Vadim Repim, Christa Rigozzi, LeAnn Rimes, Orazio Rispo, Guy Ritchie, Kenny Rogers, Diana Ross, Arthur Rubinstein

S

Gunter Sachs, Tatiana Santo Domingo, Andrés Schiff, Claudia Schiffer, Arnold Schwarzenegger, William Shatner, Frank Sinatra, Dewi Soekarno, Princess Soraya, Alain Souchon, Rod Stewart, Jackie Stewart, Gordon Sumner, Martin Suter

T

Margaret Thatcher, Taki Theodoracopulos, John Travolta, Ivana Trump, Tina Turner

U

Sir Peter Ustinov

V

Roger Vadim, Harley Viera Newton

W

Harvey Weinstein, Robbie Williams

Y

Sheikh Yamani, Mikhail Youzhny

Shows at Gstaad Palace: End of the 1950s and 60s

Louis Armstrong, Charles Aznavour, Gilbert Bécaud, Jacques Brel, Maurice Chevalier, John Cleese, Chi Coltrane, Joe Dassin, Marlene Dietrich, Jacques Dutronc, Ella Fitzgerald, Benny Goodman, Juliette Gréco, Johnny Hallyday, Lionel Hampton, Françoise Hardy, Elton John, Les Humphreys Singers, Jane Manson, Mireille Mathieu, Sergio Mendes, Edith Piaf, Yvan Rebroff, Nile Rodgers, Frank Sinatra jr., Dionne Warwick



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Awards won by the Gstaad Palace

- 2021** Excellent rating in the category Best Hotels in Europe
Flastaff Travel Awards 2021
- 2021** TOP 7 in the category of The Best Luxury Ski Resort Hotels in Europe
Luxury Lifestyle Awards 2021
- 2021** 8th place in the Top 10 best spas in Switzerland
Handelszeitung Spa Ranking 2021
- 2020** Number 4 of Top 15 Hotels in Central Europe
Condé Nast Traveler, Readers' Choice Awards 2020
- 2020** World's Best Hotel Spa 2020
6th World Spa Awards
- 2020** Number 2 of the best holiday hotels in Switzerland
Bilanz (Swiss economics magazine)
- 2020** Stefano Bertalli, Concierge of the Year 2020
Bilanz (Swiss economics magazine)
- 2020** Number 6 of the best holiday hotels in Switzerland
SonntagsZeitung (Switzerland)
- 2019** Number 1 of the best holiday hotels in Switzerland
Bilanz (Swiss economics magazine)
- 2019** Andrea Scherz, Hotelier of the Year 2019
SonntagsZeitung (Switzerland)
- 2019** Number 4 of the best holiday hotels in Switzerland
SonntagsZeitung (Switzerland)
- 2019** Listed as one of the Top 100 Hotels of the world
Elite Traveler (International travel magazine)
- 2019** Number 2 of the 222 best hotels in Switzerland
Connoisseur Circle Switzerland
- 2018** Number 2 of the best holiday hotels in Switzerland
Bilanz (Swiss economics magazine)
- 2018** Number 6 of the best holiday hotels in Switzerland
SonntagsZeitung (Switzerland)
- 2018** Gold list winner as one of the « World's Top Properties»
Condé Nast Traveler (USA)



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- 2017** Number 1 of the best Ski hotels in Switzerland
Handelszeitung (Switzerland)
- 2017** Number 5 of the 75 best winter hotels in Switzerland
SonntagsZeitung (Switzerland)
- 2017** Gold list winner as one of the «Favorite Ski Lodges Around the World»
Condé Nast Traveler (USA)
- 2016** Number 4 of the 75 best winter hotels in Switzerland
SonntagsZeitung (Switzerland)
- 2016** Mario Guzzetti, bar chef of the Year
Bilanz (Swiss economics magazine)
- 2016** Number 2 of the best holiday hotels in Switzerland
Bilanz (Swiss economics magazine)
- 2015** Second best Corporate Video in Online Media
Cannes Corporate Media & TV Awards
- 2015** Second best Corporate Image Films
Cannes Corporate Media & TV Awards
- 2015** Number 1 of the 50 best holiday hotels in Switzerland
Bilanz (Swiss economics magazine)
- 2015** Yves Hohl, best head porter of the year
Bilanz (Swiss economics magazine)
- 2015** Luxury Mountain Resort of the Year
Luxury travel guide (USA)
- 2014** Number 3 of the best holiday hotels in Switzerland
Bilanz (Swiss economics magazine)
- 2013** Number 1 of the 75 best winter hotels in Switzerland
SonntagsZeitung (Switzerland)
- 2013** «Stays unrivaled the number one in the Bernese Alps»
Number 3 of the 30 best holiday hotels in Switzerland
SonntagsZeitung (Switzerland)
- 2013** Best Spa Hotel
Premium Switzerland Awards 2013
- 2013** Walig Hütte - «Best Wilderness Hotel»
Condé Nast Traveller
- 2013** Michaela Gäng, Executive Housekeeper of the year
Bilanz (Swiss economics magazine)



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Media contact

Gstaad Palace, Public Relations, Phone: +41 33 748 58 07

Email: pr@palace.ch www.palace.ch



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