

Château de Prangins. MUSEE NATIONAL SUISSE. SCHWEIZERISCHES NATIONALMUSEUM. MUSEO NAZIONALE SVIZERO. MUSEUM NAZIUNAL

**PRÊTS À PARTIR ?**  
**EXPO JEU**  
DÈS LE 11.10.20



**à toi de jouer !**



# Château de Prangins.

## MEDIA KIT

### **Let the Journey Begin! A Fun Exhibition for Families**

From 11 October 2020

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This media kit, as well as illustrations of the exhibition, can be downloaded from our website [www.chateaudeprangins.ch](http://www.chateaudeprangins.ch).

## Let the Journey Begin! A Fun Exhibition for Families

from 11.10.2020

### 1 MEDIA RELEASE

## Let the Journey Begin! A Fun Exhibition for Families

from 11.10.2020

**Château de Prangins has cleared out its basement to make way for a completely new exhibition for families, in the form of a role play focusing on travel in Switzerland and means of transport from the 18th to the 20th century. It is an innovative way for visitors to immerse themselves in the Switzerland of days gone by and take a trip through a wide variety of landscapes. The exhibition will be inaugurated on 11 October from 14:00 with a festive event for families featuring lots of games and entertainments (admission free).**

Are museums really boring, dusty, serious places? Far from it! For the first time in Switzerland, a museum is launching a permanent exhibition in the form of a role play specially designed for very young visitors, with two levels to choose from in four languages (French, English, German, Italian): one for children aged 4 to 10 and the other for ages 11 and above.

The exhibition puts the visitor centre stage to create an immersive experience that is different each time, depending on the choices players make as they go along. It can take anything from 5 to 20 minutes to play through each scenario.

Surrounded by authentic objects from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries – from spectacular exhibits such as Pictet's coach to striking items such as a cardboard model of a boat and the poignancy of children's patched-up shoes as well as parlour games and souvenir plates – visitors can pretend to be a nobleman surveying his estate in a carriage, a young Englishwoman passing through Switzerland on the way back from the Grand Tour (the educational trip undertaken by young people from wealthy families), or a child from Ticino setting off to sweep chimneys in Milan, and experience a journey through Switzerland motivated by either pleasure or necessity.

Each visitor can play the parts of nine individuals in total from three eras – the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries – travelling around using means of transport from the time, starting with a stage coach and a boat before moving on to a train and a paddle steamer.

A railway station platform with a music box and clock, a landing stage with a souvenir kiosk and a funicular station are just some of the sets that bring to life the places where people wait before continuing their journey.

For the youngest visitors, there are items to play with: a stereoscope – the ancestor of 3D glasses – an interactive model funicular and a revolving postcard stand full of useful advice on how to complete the game!

Exhibition curators: Marie-Hélène Pellet and Ana Vulić

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## 2 ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

In a novel approach, this exhibition was designed jointly from the outset by the museum's curators and its cultural mediation staff. It places visitors centre stage, inviting them not only to experience a unique role play but also to learn more about key topics in Swiss history, such as the development of tourism and the economic emigration of many children from poor families in Ticino and Graubünden.

Evocative set designs showcase a wide variety of original objects, the majority drawn from the collections of the Swiss National Museum. They combine to heighten the players' experience as they take on the identity of one of the nine historically inspired characters: nobles from Vaud in the 18th century, British tourists in the 19th, young children from French-speaking Switzerland, Ticino and Graubünden setting off to work abroad in the early 20th.

As Gwen, a young English girl ascending the Rigi in 1890 to take part in a Heidi competition; Pierre, a young boy from a working-class family weeding the railway tracks to earn a few pennies at the start of the 20th century; or Harry, an English tourist in his 30s travelling in 1895 to Brienz, a centre of wood carving, you will find various means of transport that were innovative at the time, including funicular railways, trains and steam boats. On the station platform and landing stage or in the funicular railway waiting room, players will meet other travellers as well as a stationmaster who can help out with the railway timetable if needed.

### SOME EXTRACTS FROM THE ROLE PLAY

Since Château de Prangins is a history museum, when developing the nine characters for the role play, inspiration was drawn from people who really existed. One is Jemima Morell, an Englishwoman who, in 1863, took part in the first tour organised by Thomas Cook in Switzerland and left an account of this amazing journey in her diary.

Others were chosen because they reflect the themes of the exhibition, namely travel in Switzerland and means of transport. Each of them is a traveller, either for pleasure or out of necessity:

- A young, 18th-century baroness called Lucie who decides to take her coach out for a picnic with her three children.
- A girl called Gina from Intragna, one of many young chimney sweeps from Ticino in the 19th century, setting off to find her brother who has been taken to Milan to do the same job.
- A young boy from Graubünden named Kaspar, who, at the age of 10, leaves his village of Vals in 1901 to go and work on the land in Swabia, along with thousands of other children known as *Schwabenkinder*.

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Lausanne-based writer Eugène was specially commissioned to compose the scripts for the exhibition, and came up with a range of stories for all ages based on the lives of these travellers – some famous, some less so. Available in four languages (French, English, German, Italian), they guide visitors through the game as they move from one room to another.

The concept for the role play was created by the museum team in association with the Haute école pédagogique du canton de Vaud (HEP Vaud).

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## Let the Journey Begin! A Fun Exhibition for Families

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### 3 Events

#### Opening Party

**Sunday 11 October**

14:00-17:00 | Free admission

Young and old alike can spend a day at the castle with lots of activities. Between discovering the new exhibition and slipping into the shoes of an English tourist or a young chimney sweep from Ticino and exploring Switzerland on foot or from the landing stage to the station platform.

#### Events

##### INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY

SU 16.05.2021 | Free admission

##### RENDEZ-VOUS AU JARDIN

SU 30.05.2021 | Free admission

The Château de Prangins invites you to discover its historic kitchen garden and park.

##### SWISS NATIONAL DAY

SU 01.08.2021 | Free admission

##### OPENAIR CINEMA

TH 26.08.2021

FR 27.08.2021

SA 28.08.2021

All included | CHF 10.-

In cooperation with Visions du Réel, the museum presents three films relating to its temporary exhibition. The entrance fee comprises the film screening, the entrance to the museum and the guided tour of the exhibition.

##### HERITAGE DAYS

SA 11.09.2021

SU 12.09.2021

Free admission

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## **DÉJEUNER SUR L'HERBE**

SU 26.09.2021 | Free admission

Events for all age groups are once again on the programme. The highlight is the fashion show you can take part in (registration directly on site). At the market stalls, guests can put together a picnic according to their own taste and enjoy it in the idyllic castle surroundings.

## **SWISS CASTLE DAY**

SU 03.10.2021 | Free admission

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## 4 GENERAL INFORMATION

### OPENING HOURS

TU – SU 10:00-17:00

Open on Easter Monday, Ascension Thursday, Pentecost Monday and 1 August.

### ADMISSION

Adults | CHF 10.- | CHF 8.- (AVS, AI, AC, étudiants, militaires et groupes)

Children up to age 16 | Admission free

Schools | Admission free and one activity/day included for each student

Kitchen garden and its Visitor centre, Promenade des Lumières, Sentier historique de la Côte | Admission free

### SERVICES

Room rentals, guided tours on demand, reservation of birthday events and workshops

+41 (0)22 994 88 96

Café du Château

TU – SU 09.30-17.30 | +41 (0)22 363 14 66 | [www.lecafeduchateau.ch](http://www.lecafeduchateau.ch)

### ACCES

Train CFF | to Nyon train station

Bus TPN | 805 ou 811 from Nyon train station, two stops « Prangins, Musée national » ou « Les Abériaux »

Boat CGN | Until Nyon

On foot | Approx. 25 minutes from Nyon train station

Bike | Publibike

Car | Motorway A1 Genève-Lausanne, exit Nyon or Gland, parking next to the lake

For further information

Tatiana Oberson | Head of PR and Communication

+41 22 991 88 68 | [tatiana.oberson@museenational.ch](mailto:tatiana.oberson@museenational.ch)