



Lovell International Camps Summer Camp - Switzerland

BACKGROUND

In 1971, Canadian born William and Sandra Lovell reestablished the Chalet Pfrundacker Children's home as the John F. Kennedy International School. In 1973, with the help of William's sister Catherine - the John F. Kennedy International Summer Camp was born.

The Camp aimed to provide a safe, healthy, fun summer learning environment for children in the beautiful Saanenland region. The founders brought with them an enthusiasm and knowledge of how summer camps work and should be run. As Canada is steeped in summer camp tradition the Lovell's were familiar and experienced camp leaders and were naturally enthusiastic at the prospect of sharing these wonderful summer experiences with children from around the world who otherwise may not have had the opportunity to experience summer camp at its best.

In 2009 the John F. Kennedy International Camp opened a new campus in Schönried allowing the camp to offer a modified and more challenging program for campers aged 11 - 15.

In March of 2011 the management of the John F. Kennedy International School and Camp decided to separate the two entities and create **Lovell International Camps AG** under the direction of the Lovell family thus continuing the long standing summer camp tradition.

THE PROGRAM

In a superb Swiss alpine setting, the children enjoy a well-balanced, happy and safe holiday experience which introduces them to a variety of sports and exciting outdoor activities. At the same time, the summer camp offers children the opportunity to learn or to practise English. Daily lessons are combined with a total immersion program. Not only are all camp activities conducted in English, but the children are constantly encouraged to develop their vocabulary and to use new skills. Children already proficient in English have the opportunity to take daily French lessons.

THE BOARDING STUDENTS

Summer camp welcomes up to 50 boarding students between the ages of 6 and 15, representing 18 to 22 nationalities. Four children share a bedroom and there is one counsellor assigned to each room to supervise daily routines and to ensure that each camper maximizes the benefits of his or her summer experience.

The camp is divided into 2 sections - one for boys and girls aged 6 to 10 and the other for children aged 11 to 15. All campers are housed at the Mountain Lodge just above Schönried and about 5 km from Gstaad.

THE DAY STUDENTS

There are usually between 15 and 30 day students aged 6 to 15 who attend camp on Mondays to Fridays from 08.45 until 17.45. There are 3 to 4 counsellors who supervise and counsel the day students whenever necessary.

THE STAFF MEMBERS

Our English-speaking staff members are either professional teachers or experienced camp counsellors. Our staff training program emphasizes the need for close supervision, safety and awareness of the needs of each individual child.

THE REGULAR DAY SCHEDULE (Junior and Senior)

07.20	Wake-up (supervised by room counsellors)		
07.50	Breakfast		
08.15	Brush teeth and complete room chores		
08.45	Language Classes - Junior <i>The campers have language lessons in English or French from Mondays to Fridays in small instructional groups according to age, ability and experience.</i>		
	Morning Program - Senior <i>A variety of sports, games and local excursions.</i>		
10.30 - 11.45	Groups 1 and 2 Morning Program	-	Junior
10.30 - 12.15	Groups 3 to 5 Swimming Lessons	-	Junior
	<i>After pre-testing, the children are assigned to their swimming groups (5 to 8 students per class). Lessons are aimed at improving strokes, increasing endurance and developing good water safety habits.</i>		
10.45 - 12.15	Language Classes - Senior <i>(See above for brief description)</i>		
11.45 - 13.15	Lunch <i>Junior and Senior campers are divided into 2 separate lunch sittings</i>		
13.15 - 13.30	Supervised Free Time	-	Junior
13.30 - 13.45	Camper-Counsellor Time	-	Junior
13.15 - 13.40	Supervised Free Time	-	Senior
13.45 - 15.15	Swimming Lessons <i>(See above for brief description)</i>	-	Senior
14.00 - 16.00	Interest Groups or Special Activities <i>Each child chooses two interest groups per camp session. Usually offered are tennis, horse riding, archery, mountain biking, cooking and baking, arts and crafts, sports and games, rock-climbing, etc. The outdoor education program is a combination of fitness training, team sports and lessons in outdoor living including hiking procedures, camping skills, nature study, first aid, etc.</i>	-	Junior
16.00 - 18.00	Interest Groups or Special Activities <i>(See above for brief description)</i>	-	Senior
16.15 - 17.45	Groups 1 to 2 Swimming Lesson Groups 3 to 5 Afternoon Program <i>(See above 'Morning Program' for brief description)</i>	-	Junior
17.45 - 18.00	Day students depart	-	Senior
18.15 - 18.30	Day students depart	-	Senior
18.00 - 18.45	Dinner		
19.00	Evening Program		
21.00 - 21.45	Lights Out		

WEEKDAY EXCURSIONS

Regular excursions are planned throughout the summer including all-day mountain hikes as well as day trips to places such as to Montreux, Interlaken Bern and the Aquaparc in Le Bouveret. During each session there are 2 overnight adventures - camping out in tents and a two day hiking trip with an overnight stay at one of the fully-equipped Swiss Alpine Club huts. These two outings are very popular with the children and always prove to be highlights of the camp program.

WEEKEND PROGRAM

Saturdays are more relaxed for the boarders who, after completing their morning chores, have free time to play outdoors. They also receive their weekly pocket money to go shopping in Saanen or Gstaad with the counsellors. Weekend activities may include supervised free swim, mini golfing, high ropes course and a DVD movie in the evening.

Sundays are all-day excursions organized to give the children opportunities to see different parts of Switzerland and learn about the alpine environment. These outings have included visits to the Diablerets Glacier, the castle at Gruyères and many of the local mountains, as well as trips to the zoo, the lake of Neuchatel, or the Olympic Museum in Lausanne.

SPECIAL EVENTS DAY

Finally, each camp session ends with a "Special Events Day" in which the children participate in various swimming and field events. Following a special barbecue, the campers are presented with awards and are recognized for their achievements in swimming, language, interest groups, outdoor education and morning or afternoon program.

AWARDS

At the end of camp, campers are recognized for their achievements in language, outdoor and physical education and interest groups and will receive swim badges according to the Swiss National Swimming Association.

LOCATION

The camp is in the sunny and beautiful village of Schönried at the Mountain Lodge. The campus is around 5 km from the famous winter and summer resort of Gstaad.

By car, the camp is easily accessible. They are approximately 1 3/4 hours from Geneva, 1 1/2 hours from Bern, and 2 1/2 hours from Zurich. By train, there are good connections from Geneva to Schönried via Montreux or from Zürich via Bern, Spiez and Zweisimmen.

FACILITIES

The **Mountain Lodge** will be the home to up to 50 children aged 6 to 15 as well as a number of staff members. Junior and senior campers are housed in different wings. Located above the village of Schönried the lodge contains 20 bedrooms, kitchen, large dining, class rooms, room, games rooms, movie room and recreational areas as well as acres of outdoor ground with playground, basketball facilities and a football pitch. A few minutes from the camp are the tennis courts, golf course, the local gymnasium, outdoor and indoor swimming pools, and many mountain cable cars and chairlifts.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The health, safety and general welfare of the individual camper is the first concern of Lovell Camps. Every precaution is taken where campers eat, play and sleep. No activity is undertaken without proper supervision or where undue risk is involved. A qualified physician is available at all times and there is a fully-equipped hospital in Zweisimmen. Full health and accident insurance is available through the camp or can be the responsibility of each family, however, it is compulsory for all campers.

TRAVEL

Upon request, staff members will escort children to and from the Geneva airport and assist them with check-in and customs formalities. The school is prepared to advise parents in all matters concerning travel to and from the school. Parents are reminded that, depending on nationality, some campers may require tourist visas for Switzerland.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR SUMMER CAMP

Lovell International Camps offers **one 4-week session, two 3-week sessions** and **two 2-week sessions** during the months of July and August. Full details concerning application procedures, the dates of the camp sessions and fees are described on a separate page entitled "Terms and Conditions for Summer Camp".

PRE-CAMP INFORMATION

During the second half of April, all families who have registered children will receive a package containing final details about the camp sessions such as a clothing and equipment list, health form, summer questionnaire and fees calculation form.

Due to the fact that the number of places is limited, families are urged to make their applications before January.

For additional details, please write or call:

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