



Rigi

150
JAHRE
BAHN AM BERG
1871-2021



**150th ANNIVERSARY OF
MOUNT RIGI RAILWAYS**

*An “enormous invention” connecting
Vitznau and Mount Rigi*

Overview Information for the Media

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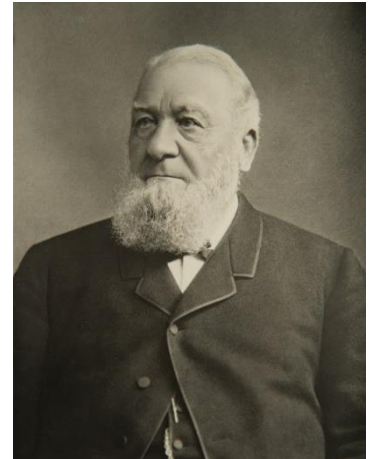
#rigi #rigiliebi

Weblinks Information

- Media → <https://www.rigi.ch/en/press>
- Photo Database → www.picdrop.com/rigi/d5NbQHi7TF
- Video Database → www.picdrop.com/rigi/FpNpPihIGB

1. Europe`s first mountain railways celebrates 150 years

«I want to transport people from far and wide to the top of this mountain so that they too can enjoy the beauty of this great land!» These are the words of Niklaus Rigggenbach: engineer and pioneer of locomotive trains. His idea to build the very first mountain railway in Europe connecting Vitznau and Rigi Kulm was initially met with much skepticism. Many believed that Rigggenbach`s ideas were mad and critics questioned his unconventional approach. But he remained true to his convictions.



Rigggenbach was able to patent his innovative cog-wheel railway invention in France in 1862 and on June 9th, 1869, the Grand Council of the Canton of Lucerne granted him the concession to build the railway. On his birthday, May 21st, 1871, the first mountain railway in Europe hurdled and chugged its way up towards Rigi Kulm. In those days, no one could possibly have predicted how successful and reliable this masterpiece would become and how many people would experience the magic of being transported up to Rigi Kulm and back down to the valley in such style. This fateful day was the first successful step towards establishing the modern-day Mount Rigi Railways.

- ➔ [More about the 150-year history of Mount Rigi Railways](#)
- ➔ [150th Anniversary Magazine](#)

2. A proud and historic train collection – ready for action.

The historical train collection is the pride and joy of Mount Rigi Railways. In addition to the regular train departures, these nostalgic locomotives and carriages can be chartered by guests at any time. Two steam engines (built in 1923 and 1925 respectively), 2 saloon carriages “Belle Epoque” (1873), the ARB-carriage Nr. 6 (1911, oldest cogwheel-railcar in the world), ARB-carriage Nr. 35 (1899), an original Rigi Pullmann-composition (carriages 6 & 35), etc. Most of these witnesses to history are still in service today. In order to maintain them, Mount Rigi Railways collaborates closely with the Rigi Historic Foundation. Its purpose is to ensure that these historically-significant constructions, locomotives, railways cars, and carriages can be maintained and restored for generations to come.

- ➔ [More about Mount Rigi Railways` historical train collection](#)

3. Historical Locomotive No. 7 (s`Sibni)

The steam Locomotive No. 7 was built in 1873 by the Swiss Locomotive and Machine Works SLM in Winterthur. After 64 years the old lady was withdrawn from traffic in 1937 and in 1959 she was transferred to the [Swiss Museum of Transport](#) in Lucerne. To commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Mount Rigi Railways, Locomotive #7 (or «s`Sibni» as she is sometimes referred to as) has been restored with a great deal of expert knowledge and passion and will once again travel the rails on the Queen of the Mountains. From June until September, 2021, guests will be treated to exclusive steam train departures and can experience history up close.



4. The 150th Anniversary Program in 2021

During the anniversary year, there will be a lot for guests to explore and enjoy on Mount Rigi. Here are just some of the highlights that we would like to present to you. **This list will be continually amended and adjusted depending on the current Covid-19 measures. Complete information regarding the anniversary activities can be found online at:**

→ www.rigi.ch/150

THE ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

On the anniversary weekend, there will be loads of activities for young and old including historical railway experiences, live music and art, as well as culinary delights. These open-air festivities will take place, weather permitting, across the entire Mount Rigi region. The vast majority of these events are free-of-charge for our guests.

Major highlights of the anniversary weekend include the historic carriage parade on Saturday, May 22nd, 2021 and the steam-train departures with Locomotive No. 7 on Sunday and Monday, May 23rd and 24th. Tickets can be purchased online at rigi.ch/150

MOUNT RIGI INSTALLATION

Grand Opening at the Swiss Museum of Transport on June 18th, 2021

«PUBLIC STORIES»

Podium discussion at the Vitznau school house on June 18th, 2021

GLIDER DEPARTURES

Rigi Kulm on June 26th - 27th, 2021

«STORIES FROM MOUNT RIGI RAILWAYS STAFF MEMBERS»

Podium discussion at the Vitznau school house on July 16th, 2021

25th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ALPHORN MUSICIANS

Rigi Staffelhöhe on July, 18th, 2021

STRADIVARI FESTIVAL IN GERSAU

Gersau from July 21st-26th, 2021

RIGI MUSIKTAGE – SOMMER CONCERTS

Various locations from July 16th-18th, 2021

KULM CULTURE

Philosophical Summer Talk with Ludwig Hasler at Rigi Kulm-Hotel on August 15th, 2021

205 YEARS RIGI of KULM-HOTEL

Rigi Kulm-Hotel on August 6th, 2021

«PICTURE STORES»

Podium discussion at the Vitznau school house on August 13th, 2021

«STORIES FROM LOCALS»

Podium discussion at the Vitznau school house on September 17th, 2021

NEW RAILWAY CARRIAGES, SEPTEMBER 2021

GOURMET RIGI HIKE

with the Rigi Trade Organization on September 26th, 2021

BOOK PREMIERE, BLANCA IMBODEN

Hotel Rigi Kaltbad, October 17th, 2021

BOOK PREMIERE, RIGI-SONG-BOOK

Rigi Kulm-Hotel, October 24th, 2021

STRADIVARI FESTIVAL RIGI

Rigi Kulm-Hotel from 5-7th of November, 2021

5. Special Experiences with Locomotive No. 7

The special experiences offered in conjunction with the 150th Anniversary will combine the many facets of Mount Rigi's history with culinary, cultural, and traditional experiences on the mountain

→ [Overview of the Special Experiences](#)