

OFFICIAL SUMMER NEWSLETTER OF LOVELL INTERNATIONAL CAMPS AG, SUMMER 2013

## **DISCOVER - LEARN - GROW**

Summer Camp at Lovell International Camps provides campers a safe, healthy, wellbalanced program. The combination of developing new skills, interests, hobbies, friendships, cultural experiences and languages - promotes **self-discovery** and the realization of true potential.

We pride ourselves on 'un-plugging' children during their stay at camp. This enables children to **learn** to cooperate and develop new friendships with others from around the world who come together in our beautiful region, to experience our carefully planned programs. These programs are overseen by our Program Director of 17 years, Mr. Brian Bentley and our Camp Leaders, Ms. Denise Baranski (Saanen) and Ms. Erin Causgrove-Carter (Schönried). 2013 was blessed with a fantastic and talented international staff, great campers and beautiful weather, which allowed for an exceptional Lovell Camps summer experience for all.



Lovell Camps provides a natural learning environment for all campers, whether

they are new to camp or returnees. Campers not only **learn** from their counselors and teachers during their language, swimming, interest groups and outdoor education lessons but they also **learn** from each other and from themselves. They become more independent by interacting with one another, by following routines, being prepared, making their own choices, working in a team, leadership training and they **discover** more about what they, as individuals, are capable of.

Although summer camp is only three weeks, we believe this short period is a very important part of every child's year. We see incredible **growth** in all campers from the first few days to the final day when we have to say our sad farewells. We are confidant that campers feel it and that parents recognize this too! Our aim is to provide campers with an environment where they can **discover, learn** and **grow**. Our goal is for the campers to have the 'time of their lives' and our mission is 'to be the leading international camp in helping young individuals realize their full potential.'

Every summer, we try to introduce new and exciting programs and 2014 will be no exception! One important change is to our session dates. **2014** will introduce a **4-week session** in July, our traditional **3-week sessions** in both July and August and **two 2-week sessions** in August. Please go to our website or read our blogs to stay up-to-date.

We hope you enjoy the 2013 edition of the summer newsletter and would like to thank all campers, staff and families for another wonderful summer here at Lovell Camps.



Lovell International Camps AG, Rübeldorfstr. 5, 3792 Saanen, Switzerland - info@lovellcamps.ch



### ADVENTURES

Two challenging and exciting parts of the 3 week Lovell Camps program are the hiking and overnight excursions. This year saw the return of our traditional tent camping experience and all campers in both Saanen and Schönried got to participate in and enjoy both a night in a Swiss Alpine Club Hut (SAC) and a night under the stars in tents.

# Below are some camper reflections on these excursions.

I liked my first hike at Lovell Camps! We had a good time. First we saw other campers and took photos. Second we went near the river and saw many cows. They drank from the water and they had bells on their necks.

#### **\$** \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

The day we went for a hike on the Rellerli was fantastic! We went up the whole mountain and it was so cool! After the hike we went rock climbing and I was able to complete a medium face. After all these cool things we went back to camp.

#### \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

On one of our **overnight trips** we slept in a hut where everybody sleeps in the same room. For dinner we had food at the restaurant and after dinner we played games. The following day we had a cookout and played some games. I love hiking!

#### \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

**Schwarenbach** hike was awesome! It wasn't too short or too long. These two hours of hiking were perfect. While hiking we played some cool games such as "Let me see your gigolo" and ninja. Then we came to the hotel and rested a little. After, we went to the lake. It was so cold but it was also cool to see.



I swam there and felt better after the hard day. The next day we went down and had a barbecue. This hike was awesome!

We woke up to the sound of music really early and we started packing our backpacks. As soon as our pajamas and toothbrushes were packed, Mr. Brian drove us way up the mountain and we went for a hike. The mountain was very steep but Ms. Kelly kept us motivated. When we got to the **camping** site lots of people were literally kissing the ground and I felt like I had just won an Oscar! The same night we had a cookout with fajitas and banana boats and we put up our **tents**. We also had a challenge to invent a song or rap which was fun. Overall, it was entertaining and the view of Glacier 3000 was magnificent!

#### \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

After an exhausting hike we spent the night with our friends in a **tent**. It was a pleasant experience. My **tent** mates were my best friends in camp. The night was the best night in my life! We played cards and other things. I hope I get to go **tent camping** again!





#### Saanen

Group 1:	Tent Camping, La Sarouche and Arnensee
Group 2:	Tent Camping and Schwarenbach
Group 3 & 4:	Geltenhütte and Tent Camping
Schönried	
Group 1 & 2: Schwarenbach and Tent Camping	
Challenge by Choice	

## **2013 INTEREST GROUPS**



This summer I did **rock climbing**. Even though I was the only girl and I didn't like the idea, I still had a lot of fun! Ms. Kirby and Mr. Derrick were amazing teachers! I liked going to different places to try different things like indoors and outdoors. All in all, I had a fantastic time!

We always have fun in my interest group **cooking and baking**. Ms. Vera helps us to prepare the food and I feel like we are one big family! Ms. Vera is very friendly and helpful. Lovell Camp gave us a chance to be polite and kind, speak English and have a lot of fun!

I went **horseback riding** and the horses were beautiful! It was really cool. My horse was called Sunny Boy and he was very kind and patient. It was my first time riding a horse and it was a great experience. In the following lessons, I was able to improve, which made me happy.

I love **mountain biking**. You would love it too! We bike uphill and downhill, we bike to the right and to the left. We speed up – and slow down. And, we love Ms. Kelly!

In **Archery** we learned how to shoot arrows and we experienced **outdoor skills**. We learned how to build a fire for example or how to cut wood. We also did archery competitions and if you were able to hit the bulls' eye you got a treat. Archery is so much fun in Schönried!

Arts and Crafts is my second interest group and I really enjoy it. Every lesson we did different activities and if we are done early we get to do cool bracelets. Ms. Emily and



Ms. Sarka are really nice and when we need help they always help us out.

**Sports and Fitness** with Mr. Quinn is very fun because he teaches us many new tech-

niques in soccer, balketball and ping pong. We also play lot's games with each other. It's so great! Sports and Fitness is just AWESOME.

**Tennis** is a really good sport. Here in Lovell Camps we take three double-lessons, where we train and play matches so we can get better at the sport.











## **EXCURSIONS, WEEKENDS, PARTIES AND** FUN, FUN, FUN!

A three week session at Lovell Camps is filled with learning both in and outside of camp. There are language lesssons, swimming lessons, interest groups and outdoor and physical education lessons. Having said that, camp just would not be camp if we didn't set aside lots of

time for exciting events and interesting excursions.

#### WEEKEND FUN

Weekends are the best days at camp! For starters, we get to wake up at 8:00 am instead of 7:00 am. After a whole week of sports, education and fun we could really use the extra sleep (especially me!). On Saturday morning, we go shopping in Gstaad and once in Interlaken on our last weekend (shopping spree!). Most of the campers buy a packet of candy

to eat during the movie night. We have a movie night two Saturday evenings and





#### SHOPPING

Every Saturday the camp goes shopping in groups. We went to the Coop and bought candy and other stuff from traditional movie night. We also occasionally went into souvenir shops and many of the boys bought Swiss Army knives - typical boys. Shopping was lots of fun!

#### BOWLING

On a Sunday, we went bowling. My team was very friendly and supported me! It was an unforgettable experience to bowl and we had an amazing time!

#### \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

My favourite experience at Lovell Camps was bowling. It was really fun because the staff put me in an awesome team with awesome people and the place where we went bowling was really cool!



TRADITIONAL SWISS BOWLING



### Saanen

Shopping Lauenensee Cookout Montreux & Thun Excursion **Cailler Chocolate Factory** Gruyère Castle

SHOPPING!

### Barbecue Mini Golf Pool Partv Special Events Day Disco

### Schönried

Shopping Lauenensee Cookout Thun & Interlaken Excursion Special Events Day **High Ropes** Rellerli Bowling

Mini Golf **Pool Party** Disco Rafting Canyoning



FRIENDSHIP



RAFTING



#### POOL PARTY

At the pool party, we had a lot of fun. We went down the slide and we jumped from the trampoline. Everybody enjoyed playing volleyball against each other. Me and my roommates and another friend enjoyed our time singing songs in the water and sun bathing in the grass. I would definitely never miss such a pool party!

#### **\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$**

The pool party was awesome! There was a beach volleyball court and a brilliant slide. It was a nice change to the swimming lessons we do every day and the place was just great.

#### MINI GOLF

We had lots of fun at Mini Golf. We had some holes in one. My Friend Chris was the best player. My favourite obstacle was the one with a net. Overall it was really great!

#### HIGH ROPES

I went to the high ropes course on August 11th. When I first saw it I thought it was really high and scary. But when I started the course, it was really fun, I had a great day!



RELLERLI ROLLER COASTER





FUN IN MONTREUX







HIGH ROPES





FUN IN THE LAKE OF THUN



CHOCOLATE HEAVEN









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#### **BOARDING CAMPER**

Boarding is exciting and fun! We get to do things that day campers don't. We spent time away from home and sometimes our parents will call or visit us so we don't get homesick. I enjoy sharing my room with other people because I get to learn more and make friends. We can win cool treats by keeping our room clean and participating in the "cleanest room competition". In the evenings, we play great games in evening program. We also get great food for breakfast, lunch and dinner. All in all, being a boarder means lots of fun and amazing opportunities!

#### **NEW CAMPER**

To be a new camper was a little bit hard because I didn't know everybody here. Everything was new for me. I didn't know what I should do or what I should say, but then I met new friends. They told me what I should be doing and everything became easier. I understood the system of the camp. I have learned the names of and made so many new friends. I like Lovell Camps very much!

#### **RETURNING CAMPERS**

Being a returning camper feels good! I can see familiar faces every day. Seeing my old friends feels great. Meeting new people is also great! I know the drill but I enjoy trying new experiences like rock climbing and mountain biking.

#### \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

I feel like Lovell Camps is my second home! I can see my friends from last year and we do cool things together!

#### **MY FAVOURITE PART OF CAMP!**

My favorite part of camp so far was going shopping in Interlaken. I bought a dress for the disco! I loved high ropes too. That was great!

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My favorite part of camp so far was going to the high ropes in Zweisimmen. We got a harness and climbed on cables high in the trees. It was very interesting and exciting!

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My favourite part of camp so far was Aquaparc! My favourite slide was the red slide. We had so much fun at the park with the other campers!

### **2013 OUTSTANDING CAMPERS**

All campers are recognized for their achievments in langauge, swimming and interest groups. The campers pictured below went above and beyond in all aspects of the program and thus, were recognized as the 2013 'Outstanding Campers', Congratulations!

JULY SAANEN



LILLY - SWITZERLAND



#### JULY SCHÖNRIED



DIKRAN - SWITZERLAND

#### AUGUST SCHÖNRIED



TIKHON - ESTONIA

JOIA - BELGIUM

## WINTER CAMP

- 1 week sessions begining **15.12.2013**
- 5 days ski/snowboard instruction
- day or boarding options
- 5 day ski pass
- numerous après-ski activities including optional langauge lessons
- full supervision
- optional pick-up and drop-off service
- end-of-week ski race, fondue party and disco!
- **RACE CLINIC** 29.12.13 04.01.14

