



SWISSWATCHTOURS

Winter / Summer Tour 2012

Full Itinerary - Two Full Days

Day of arrival in Neuchatel

BEAU-RIVAGE HOTEL - Evening drinks reception with local wines, local Mauler sparkling wine, soft drinks and apero.

Talk by a local watch historian who will present with slides giving a thorough insight into how the Swiss watch industry developed, to what it is now. He or she will then dine at each table roving around between each course.

Day 1 - a Friday

HOTEL - Breakfast 7.30 to 8.45am followed by the presentation by Francoise Tschudin, gemmologist with an initial talk and what the FOUR C's mean. Then a workshop when delegates can use "loupes" (jeweller's eye pieces) to look at actual diamonds.

Talk continues and they will then be told how the watch industry sets diamonds into watch cases. A difficult and time consuming process. Questions and finish.

10.00 Coffee and refreshments

10.30 transport to La Chaux de Fonds to visit the Controlee officiel Suisse des chronometers (COSC) – the Official Swiss Chronometer Testing Institute

11.15 Talk at the COSC

12.00 to 12.15 walk to the Round Tower and view of the City of La Chaux de Fonds

12.45 transport to the restaurant for lunch

13.45 transport to the two watch factories for this afternoon's visits. Guided tour of the first with history and up date of newest types of watches. Refreshments then transport to second factory with same type of agenda.

17.00 transport back to Neuchatel via La Vue des Alps. Stop there for views of the Alps (weather and cloud allowing) and buying of souvenirs at the shop.

18 .15 arrive back at hotel. Free time until dinner 19.45 transport to St Blaise to the restaurant La Bocca *

20.00 Sampler set Swiss dinner (five courses plus Swiss cheese) with variety of local wines, cheese etc

Day 2 - a Saturday

9.00 demonstration of watch assembly

10.00 refreshments

10.15 transport to La Chaux de Fonds to see the outside of the world famous architect Le Corbusier's, La Maison Blanche and Villa Turque

12.00 early lunch at a restaurant for the unmissable cheese fondué !

14.00 Musee de Horlogerie at La Chaux de Fonds with return via Walder's chocolate shop in Neuchatel – the famed artisan chocolate makers !

18.00 return to hotel and time to sample those chocolates !

19.00 walk to the restaurant at Hotel DuPeyrou in Neuchatel an old and historic place, its elegance is well known both locally and anywhere that people live, after a memorable visit to this hotel. Wine tasting in Les Caves de Ville du Neuchatel a unique place to savour the local Swiss wine just behind the Hotel DuPeyrou.

20.00 Dinner served in the elegant garden room downstairs.

22.30 Time to walk off some of that dinner by strolling back to the hotel

23.00 For those who want (!) try a local and unique drink before bed, unique "Absinthe" from Val De Travers, the place of «The Green Fairy».

Final day

Breakfast at leisure and souvenir pack to take away.

" We hope to see you again and bring your friends for a new (itinerary) Swisswatch tour!"

Le Bocca has been awarded a Michelin star, seventeen points from the guide Gault and Millau and five red flowers from the guide Swiss gourmand.