

Pontresina. **facts and figures**

Pontresina

piz bernina  engadin



The village



The village – fascinating history

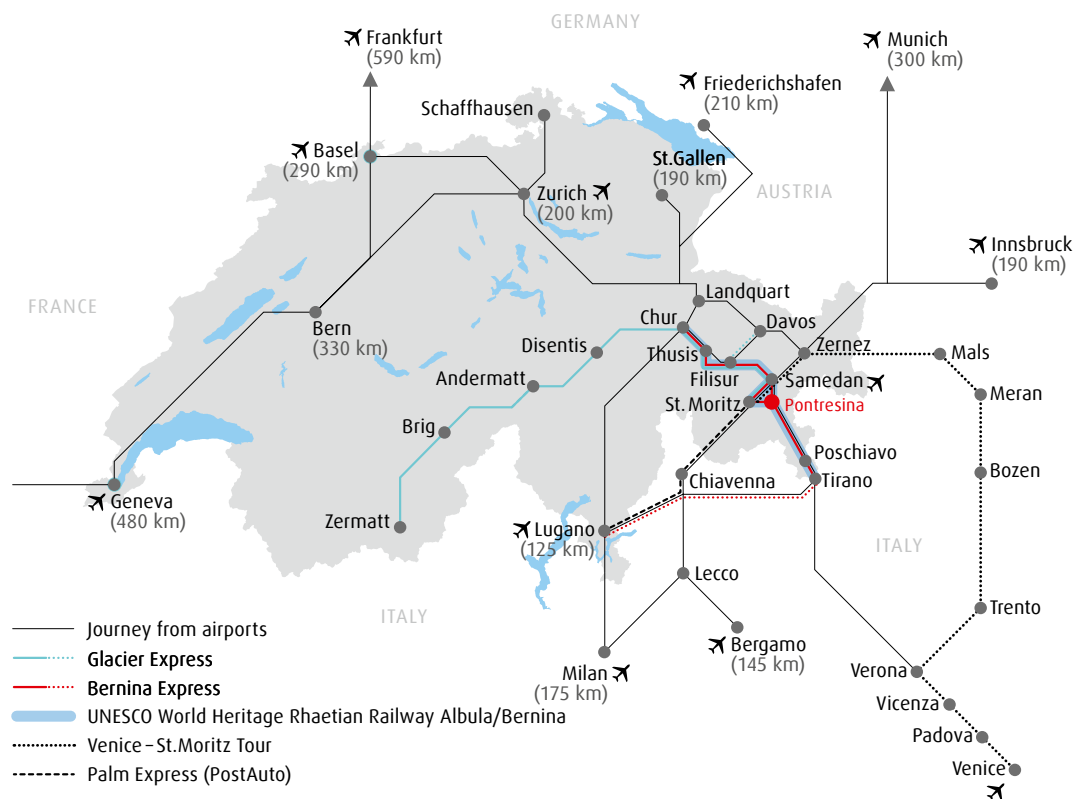
Guests will be enchanted by the charm of the historical mountain village: lovingly restored Engadin houses from the 17th and 18th centuries, palatial belle époque hotels and other architectural gems from earlier times, including the Begräbniskirche Sta. Maria (Church of the Holy Sepulchre of St Mary, dating back to the 11th century) with its impressive frescoes from the 13th and 15th centuries. Other sights include the pentagonal Spaniola tower (12th/13th century) and the Punt Veglia Roseg and Punt Veglia Bernina bridges. The historical village of Pontresina is divided into four settlements: Laret, San Spiert, Giarsun and Carlihof. Towards Samedan, there is also the more modern part of Muragl. With a total of 2,000 residents, the village welcomes up to 116,000 guests every year.

Languages in Pontresina

Languages	Population census 1980		Population census 1990		Population census 2000	
	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Number	Amount
German	990	57,5%	993	61,9%	1264	57,7%
Romansh	250	14,5%	194	12,1%	174	7,9%
Italian	362	21,0%	290	18,1%	353	16,1%
Total citizen	1726		1604		2191	



The surrounding



The location – uniquely sunny

Pontresina is situated on a sloping, south-facing terrace, 1,800 m above sea level and well-protected from the famous Maloja wind. Located in a triangle between Zürich, Milan and Munich in a side valley of the Upper Engadin, the village is easy to access. Part of Romansh-speaking Switzerland, its official languages are German, Romansh and Italian.

The climate – healthy and invigorating

Pontresina is well-known for the quality of its air, which is classed at “climate level 2”. The cool, dry and pure air and countless sunshine hours make for a wonderfully beneficial climate that stimulates the nervous system, respiration, metabolism and stamina. As a result, Pontresina and its surroundings are home to Alpine training resorts for many top athletes.



The surrounding



The countryside – breathtakingly magnificent

The Piz Bernina (4,049 m), the highest peak in the eastern Alps, reigns over the landscape. Together with Palü (3,900 m), Roseg (3,937 m) and the Bellavista mountain chain, the views are breathtakingly beautiful and monumental – meaning you can't help but look up in awe from time to time. The lush natural environment hosts a fascinating world of flora and fauna, with Pontresina's trademark Alpine ibex featuring abundantly in Switzerland's biggest colony. Ibex can be observed in all their majestic glory in the Piz Albris area. Red deer and Alpine marmots also invite you to take an Alpine safari.



The hospitality



The gastronomy – divinely delectable

The village's proximity to Italy and St Moritz are reflected in its Gault Millau status. Chefs at countless high-end establishments and cosy Swiss-style restaurants serve up award-winning cuisine in, around and even above Pontresina. With delicious local, Mediterranean and international specialities, there are plenty of tasty treats for everyone. Engadin delicacies such as pizzoccheri, capuns, maluns, pizokels, plain in pigna and local fondue really cannot be missed. Enjoying simple pleasures with a good bottle of wine on the sun terrace of a cosy Alpine restaurant is enough to make anyone's spirits soar. It's easy to enjoy life in Pontresina – a taste of the high life.

Hotels and hospitality – inspiringly diverse

Pontresina boasts a legendary hotel tradition and offers a host of accommodation, from the more basic lodge to the luxurious five-star hotel. There are 23 hotels in total, with around 2,200 beds available in 1,140 rooms.

Hotels in Pontresina	Rooms	Beds
5 star hotels	112	220
4 star hotels	384	817
3 star hotels	502	920
2 star hotels	85	135
Others	33	92
Total	1 116	2 184



The attractions



Pontresina – exclusively Alpine

The elevated Alpine location guarantees thrills and enjoyment that in other places would be an impossible luxury: ice climbing along metre-long icicles, snowkiting on the frozen Lago Bianco, and hiking and biking past stunning glacier termini and mountain massifs, romantic mountain lakes and aromatic Alpine meadows and forests on perfectly maintained and signposted trails. Climb the 4,049-metre Piz Bernina via the Bianco ridge with ice pick and crampons.

Nature sights

- Swiss national park
- Bernina-Massif with its glaciers
- Game observing
- Alp flowers
- Biggest ibex colony in Switzerland

Culture sights

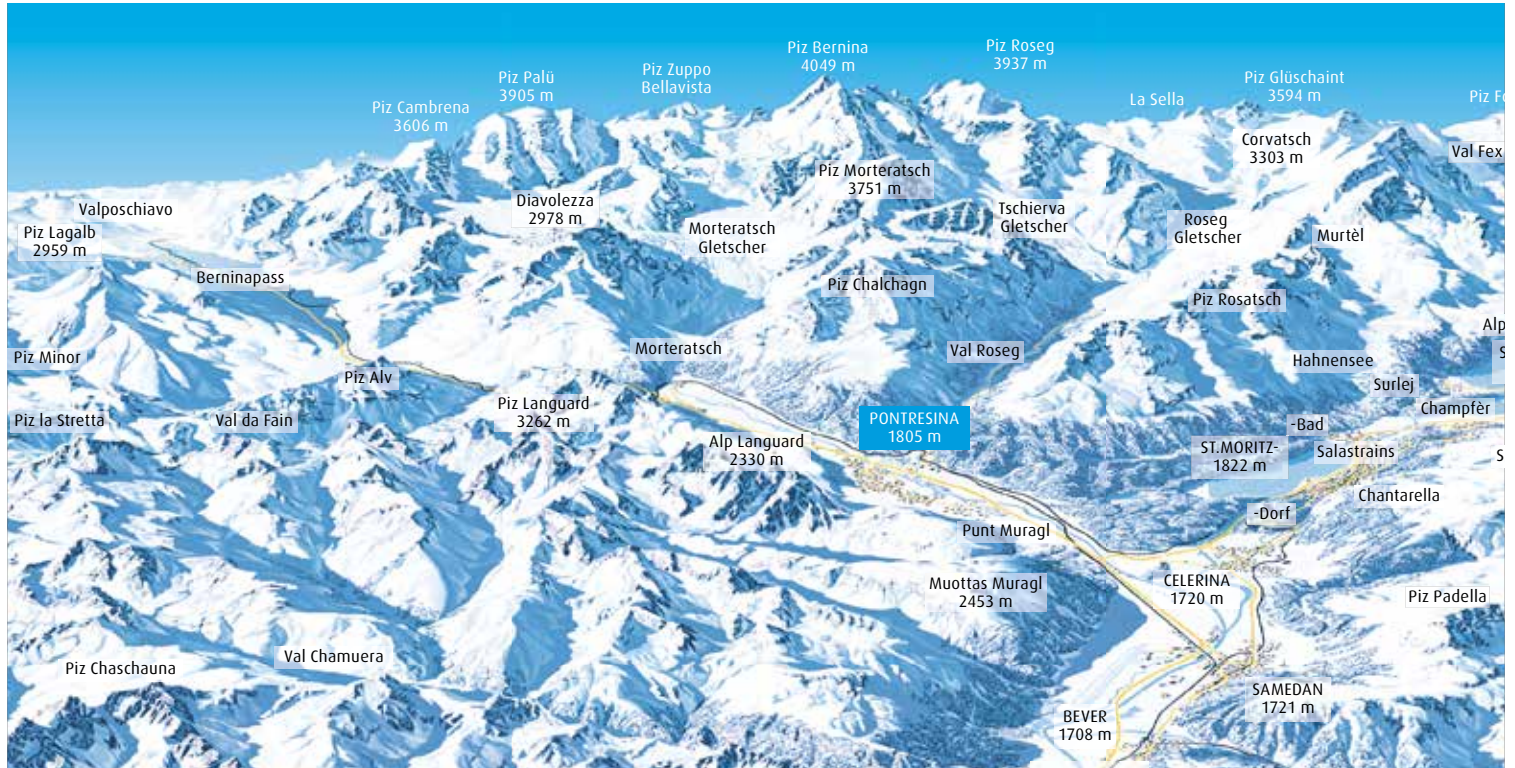
- Showcase alpine cheese dairy
- Museum Alpin
- Church Sta. Maria
- Pentagonal Spaniola tower
- Old Engadin houses from the 17th century with sgraffiti murals
- Classical matinee concerts at the Tais forest

Educative and adventure paths

- Historical & educational path
- forest.protection.population educative-path
- Philosophers' trail
- Ibex educative-path
- Guided game observation
- Marmot and Ibex excursions
- Ricola herb garden
- Erlebnisweg Fix at Val Roseg
- Waterfalltrail Cascada da Bernina
- Glacier Experience Trail
- Swiss stone pine path



The winter offers



Winter

In winter, three of Switzerland's most legendary ski resorts entice you to their 350 km of panoramic pistes: Diavolezza, Corviglia and Corvatsch. They are about to make 150 years of winter sports history at an altitude of 1,800 to 3,303 m, surrounded by a winter wonderland that is also a draw for freeriders and off-piste skiers. Frozen waterfalls and lakes, unparalleled in their beauty, and natural ice rinks entice snowkiters, ice climbers and skaters, as well as curling and ice hockey enthusiasts.

- 350 km of skiing runs
- Extensive free ride- and back-country skiing areas
- 210 km cross-country skiing tracks / 1.2 km flood-light night-time track / artificially snowed circular track at the cross-country skiing centre
- Snowshoe tours
- 4.2 km sledging run at Muottas Muragl (during the day)
- 400 m sledging piste in Pontresina
- 180 km winter walking trails (Val Roseg, Morteratsch)
- 1.5 km winter mountain walking trails (Diavolezza – Saas Queder)
- Bellavita Pool and Spa (indoor pool, outdoor pool year round, 75-m Blackhole-slide, Spa and «feel good» massages)
Hot tube at Diavolezza (3000 m. a. s. l.)
- Horse-drawn sleigh ride into the Val Roseg
- Snow kiting below the Bernina pass
- Ice field Roseg (Ice-skating, Ice-hockey, curling, Bavarian curling)
- Ice-climbing (Corn Diavolezza, Gorge Pontresina)
- Olympia-Bobrun St. Moritz/Celerina
- Cresta Run St. Moritz/Celerina
- Paragliding- and delta flying school in St. Moritz
- Sun terrace Crast'Ota
- Skittle alley at Grand Hotel Kronenhof
- Various sports and culture events
- Winter Canyoning
- Ice Caves (not in every Winter reachable)

The summer offers

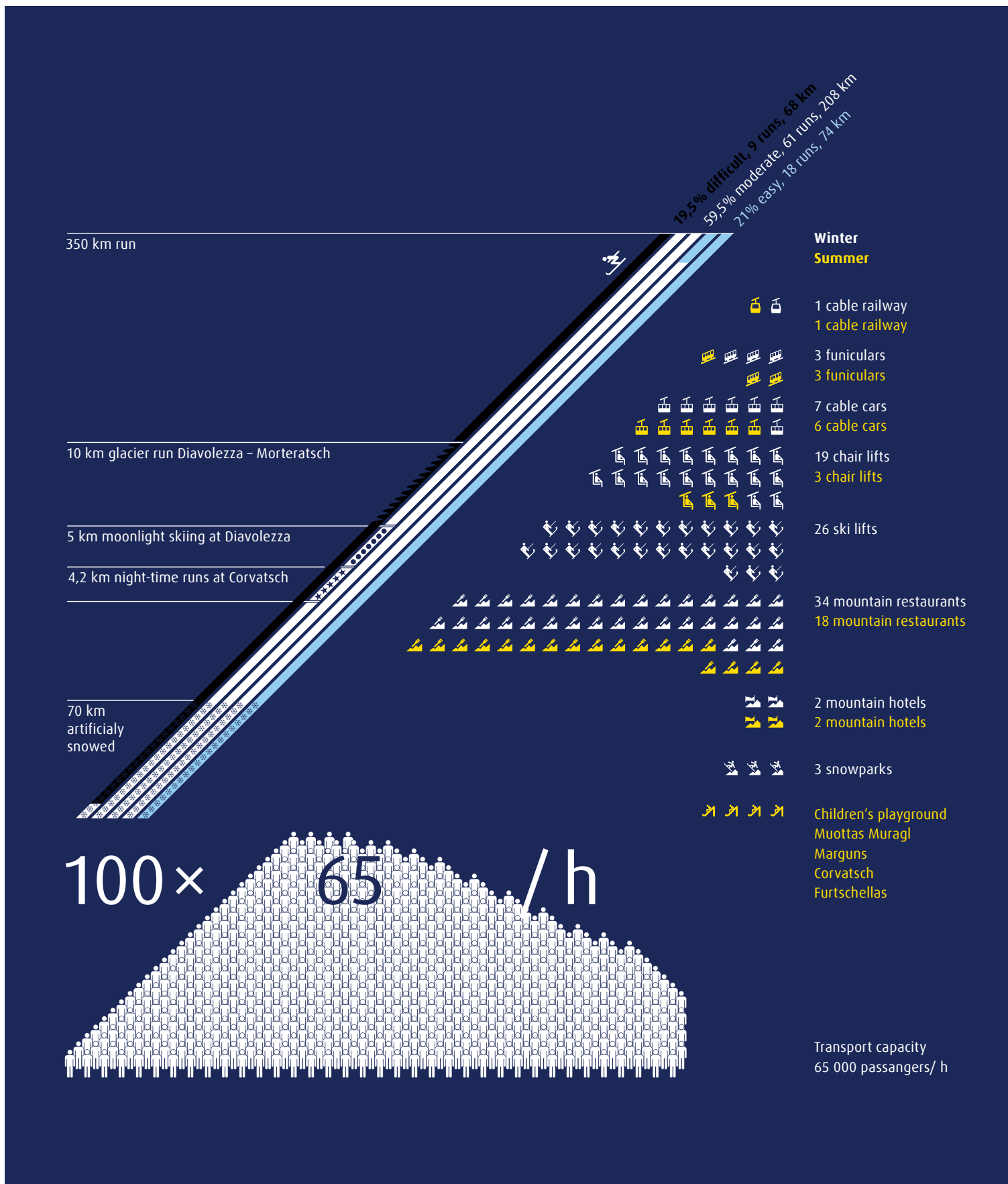


Summer

Conquering a 4,000-metre peak in summer with an ice pick and crampons is many a mountaineer's dream. 580 km of hiking routes and 400 km of mountain bike trails that wind past imposing glaciers, romantic mountain lakes, scented Alpine meadows and impressive colonies of Alpine ibex will also get hikers' and mountain bikers' hearts racing. Down in the valley, the Upper Engadin lakes and the Bellavita Pool and Spa invite you to rejuvenate and revitalise with some well-earned relaxation.

- 580 km walking and hiking trails
- 30 km flat walking trails
- Glacier walk / -trekking
- 225 km Nordic walking trails
- Vita-Parcours (marked trail with fitness exercises at the Tais forest)
- Versatile climbing- and trekking routes at and around the Bernina massif
- Climbing trail Piz Trovat and La Resgia
- Climbing park
- 400 km marked mountain bike- und bicycle trails
- Engadin Bike Marathon Trail
- Bellavita Pool and Spa (indoor pool, outdoor pool year round, outdoor pool summer, 75-m Blackhole slide, Spa and «fell good» massages)
- Hot tube at Diavolezza (3,000 m. a. s. l)
- 4 golf courses (18 hole - Samedan & Zuoz; 9 hole - Kulm Park, St. Moritz; 6 hole - Sils/Margna)
- Horse-drawn carriages into the Val Roseg
- Alpine cheese dairy
- Classical matinee concerts at the Tais forest
- 12 km inline skating run
- Skiken (on and off-road skating)
- 10 tennis courts
- Fishing (in small and bigger stretch of water)
- Kite- / Windsurfing on the lake Silvaplana
- Rowing / sailing (lake St. Moritz, Silvaplana and Sils)
- Canyoning excursions
- Bridle-path
- Skittle alley at Grand Hotel Kronenhof
- Various sports and culture events
- Children play grounds and various sports and culture events

The mountain railways



The history

Timeline

1138	Formation of the current parish, own statutes drawn up in 1587	2004	100 th anniversary of the Bernina Ski Club
1549	Introduction of the Reformation by Pietro Paolo Vergerio, former Bishop of Capo d'Istria	2006	Adoption of new tourism legislation in the Engadin
1718	A blaze destroys almost the entire part of the village known as Laret and part of the parish archives stored in the attic of San Nicolo Church	2007	Opening of the Bellavita Pool and Spa
1842–64	Construction of the Bernina road / opening in 1864	2009	Opening of La Resgia via ferrata Redesign of Cuntschett sports field with two beach volleyball fields
1849	Erste Fahrt der eidgenössischen Post mit dem grossen gelben Schlitten über den Berninapass	2010	100 th anniversary of the resort orchestra and today's Camerata Pontresina 100 th anniversary of the Bernina Railway Line First Voices on Top music festival
1850	First summer guests in Pontresina	2012	30 years anniversary of Laret markets
1905	First year of winter operation	2013	Pontresina joins the Bernina Glaciers association The Cultural Committee and the Giandains protection dam celebrate 10 years of existence, and the Cor Masdo choir its 50 th anniversary Opening of the Pontresina pump track
1907	Commissioning of Muottas Muragl Railway	2015	Opening of the glaciertrail Morteratsch and the Diavolezza observation platform Implementation of the digital Informationsystem Tweebie
1908	Opening of the Samedan-Pontresina Rhaetian Railway line	2016	Pontresina-Online Shop is going live Opening of the first Ice-Stupa Morteratsch
1910	Continuous summer service on the Bernina section of the Rhaetian Railway to Tirano (5 July 1910)	2017	In spring there was the first guided capricorn tour Opening of the Steinbock-Erlebnisweg Languard
1937	Construction of the Chantatsch ski lift	2018	Opening of the Erlebnisweg Fix im Val Roseg
1945	The chairlift to Alp Languard is completed	2019	Fiberglasaccess in Pontresina Camera Obscura on Bernina Ospizio
1956	Construction of the Diavolezza cable car lift	2020	Opening Cascada da Bernina Pontresina main sponsor of Engadin Skimarathon Opening VR Glacier Experience Diavolezza
1963	Opening of the Piz Lagalb cable car lift	2021	Opening Glacier Experience Trail Diavolezza
1969–70	Construction of the public swimming pool / opening in 1970	2022	Engadin Skimarathon Village in Pontresina
1980	Opening of the new Diavolezza cable car lift (125 persons per cable car)	2023	Opening 1 st Stage whitewater gorge
1990–92	Construction of the Mulin multi-storey car park / opening 1992		
1991	Rebuilding of Alp Languard chairlift		
1995–97	Construction of the Convention and Event Centre Rondo with multi-storey car park / opening of multi-storey car park in 1996 / opening of Convention Centre in December 1997		
2001–03	Construction of Pontresina levee at the foot of the Schafberg, inauguration in 2003		
2002	Completion of the redesigned Via Maistra and opening of shopping mile		
2003	World Ski Championships in St. Moritz-Pontresina/Engadin		

The tourism development

Index	2022/23	2023
Overnights	237 381	311 841
Arrivals	59 877	89 029
Average length of stay	3.96	3.5

According to nationality	2022/23
Switzerland	385 093
Germany	86 991
Italy	14 900
USA	10 693
Netherlands	7 400
Great Britain	6 310
France	4 062
Belgium	2 999
Japan	523
Others	30 251

Accommodation	Number of Lodging	Number of beds
Hotels/Guest-houses	22	2 184 beds
Holiday- and second home apartments	ca. 1 060	3 900 beds
Rooms at private houses	3	22 bed
Youth hostel	1	130 beds
Tourist dormitories	2	160 beds
Campings sites	1	250 sides (summer) 150 sides (winter)

