

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1961)

Heft: 1397

Artikel: The first glacier aerodrome in the World

Autor: [s.n.]

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-692470>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. [Siehe Rechtliche Hinweise.](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. [Voir Informations légales.](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. [See Legal notice.](#)

Download PDF: 01.04.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

11669

The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED IN 1919 BY PAUL F. BOEHRINGER.

The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain

Advisory Council: R. DE CINTRA (Chairman), O. F. BOEHRINGER, J. EUSEBIO, GOTTFRIED KELLER, R. J. KELLER, A. KUNZ, A. STAUFFER, G. E. SUTER.

EDITED BY P. HOFSTETTER WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF MEMBERS OF THE SWISS COLONY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Telephone: CLERKENWELL 2321/2.

Published Twice Monthly at 23, LEONARD STREET, E.C.2.

Telegrams: FREPRINCO, LONDON.

Vol. 47. No. 1397

FRIDAY, 10th NOVEMBER 1961

PRICE 11D.

THE FIRST GLACIER AERODROME IN THE WORLD

The first glacier aerodrome in the world, which is shortly to be completed at an altitude of 10,000 feet on a glacier near the summit of the famous Diablerets mountain, hitherto reserved to hardy mountaineers, will revolutionize Alpine tourism, opening up new slopes to skiers and enabling them to ski all the year round, as well as offering a host of new excursions to tourists, both young and old, sedentary and energetic.

* * *

The glacier is an ideal landing-ground in a natural depression sheltered from the winds by the circle of peaks and walls of granite all round; its natural runways

Tourists will be able to fly here in small sports or commercial planes in a matter of minutes only from nearby Montreux, Lausanne or Geneva airports.

* * *

The aerodrome will be connected to the lower levels by means of a brand-new aerial cableway rising in three sections nearly 5,000 feet from the Col du Pillon to the top station just a few minutes' walk from the glacier. The 2½-mile ride will be an unforgettably beautiful experience through some of the grandest Alpine scenery. The Col du Pillon is easily accessible all the year round by road from the resort of Les Diablerets, with its excellent connections with the plain, and from Gstaad in the next valley, which will also be linked by a new aerial cableway starting from Gsteig. The first section of the new cableway rises in eight minutes from the Col du Pillon at 5,080 feet to Pierres Pointes at 7,220 feet, passengers travelling in comfortable four-seater cabins. The second section, using a large cabin holding thirty passengers, takes five minutes to reach the Tete aux Chamois at an altitude of 8,285 feet. Both these stops are starting points for excellent ski-runs of varying degrees of difficulty and, in summer, for delightful excursions amid glorious mountain scenery. The last section takes visitors in a fifty-passenger cabin to the top station at "Les Diablerets" in just under six minutes.

* * *

The aerodrome a few hundred yards away will be provided with a modern restaurant with sun-terraces and lounges for relaxing and admiring the view. An added attraction will be a fleet of polar track-vehicles taking holiday-makers to the Diablerets peak itself.

* * *

To the snow by plane!

(Photo: Swiss National Tourist Office)

are longer even than those of the international airports of Geneva-Cointrin or Zurich-Kloten. Hermann Geiger has made over a thousand landings on this glacier, and it is here, too, that the glacier pilots do their first training.

A vast number of new slopes will be opened up to experienced skiers and beginners alike, there being an almost infinite variety of runs, long and short, difficult and easy, and most of them suitable for ski-ing the whole year round.

