

# Swiss International Summer School for Alpine Archaeology

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## Part 4

### The Alps as communication zone

The Universities of Bern and Zurich are organising the fourth SISA workshop (2023) in Adelboden and Engstligenalp in the Bernese Alps. The SISA will focus on the Alps as a communication and interaction zone, alpine landscapes, alpine agriculture, prospecting and excavation methods, and social and economic systems in the Alps through time. It comprises invited keynote speakers on specific topics and the teaching of practical fieldwork. The lectures and fieldwork will take place in an archaeologically under-researched but highly promising region in the Bernese Alps at up to 2400 m.a.s.l.. Please note that we are in an alpine setting. Appropriate equipment and fitness are therefore required.

#### Topics:

- Mountain Archaeology
- The Alps as communication, economic and social space
- Alpine setting through time
- Excavation methods in the Alpine region
- Surveying and handling metal detectors

Sponsored by:



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Mit Unterstützung des  
Nachwuchsförderungs-Projekt pools  
der Universität Bern

MITTELBAUVEREINIGUNG  
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# Program



## Monday, 14.08.2023

Arrival of participants

18:00 Welcome

## Tuesday, 15.08.2023

- 09:00 – 09:30 Rouven Turck, Mirco Brunner, Martin Hinz, Caroline Heitz, Cynthia Marti:  
**SISA 2018–2022 – Review of past Alpine Summer Schools and major insights**
- 09:30 – 10:15 Cynthia Marti, Mirco Brunner, Martin Hinz, Caroline Heitz, Rouven Turck:  
**Ammertenpass/Engstlingealp – current archaeological investigations**
- 10:15 – 10:45 Coffee Break
- 10:45 – 11:30 Jakob Pieren: **Some information about a selection of historical sites in and around Adelboden**
- 11:30 – 12:15 Brigitte Andres: **Alpine huts, livestock and cheese. Remains of summer farming activities from medieval and modern times in the Bernese Alps (Switzerland)**
- 12:15 – 13:15 Lunch
- 13:15 – 14:00 Regula Gubler: **The Bernese Alps above 2000 m. Old and new traces of Roman and prehistoric presence**
- 14:00 – 14:45 Albert Hafner: **Schnidejoch and Lötschenpass – Archaeological investigations of ice patches and glaciers**
- 14:45 – 15:15 Coffee Break
- 15:15 – 16:00 Donat Fulda: **Geology of the Adelboden region**
- 16:00 – 17:30 Discussion
- 19:00 Dinner

## Wednesday, 16.08.2023

- 09:00 – 09:45 Christian auf der Mauer: **From microliths to cartridges. Alpine Archaeology in the heart of Switzerland (Canton of Uri)**
- 09:45 – 10:30 Christoph Schwörer: **Using paleoecological tools to reconstruct the impact of human land use in the Alps**
- 10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break
- 11:00 – 11:45 Fabio Wegmüller: **Neanderthals in the mountains. An overview of the Middle Palaeolithic sites in the Alps**
- 11:45 – 12:30 Ebbe Nielsen: **The Palaeolithic in the Steigelfadbalm cave, Mount Rigi (Canton of Lucerne)**
- 12:30 – 13:30 Lunch
- 13:30 – 14:15 Rouven Turck: **New evidence of copper mining in the Alps**
- 14:15 – 15:00 Jessica Keil: **The Alps as a sphere of contact in the Bronze Age. A Tyrolean Perspective**
- 15:00 – 15:30 Coffee Break
- 15:30 – 16:15 Romano Agola: **Methodik Metallprospektion**
- 16:15 – 16:45 Discussion
- 19:00 Dinner

## Thursday, 17.08.2023

Engstligenalp, Ammertepass

- Survey with metal detectors in the Ammertepass area

## Friday, 18.08.2023

Engstligenalp, Ammertepass

- Visit of the current excavation (test trenches) at the rock shelter near the Ammertepass
- Survey in the region

## Saturday, 19.08.2023

Departure of Participants