

**INFORMATION - OCCUPANCY TAX**

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# HEY!

ALL ABOUT THE  
**OCCUPANCY TAX.**





## 1. PRINCIPLE

An occupancy tax is collected from visitors who stay overnight within the territory of the Anniviers municipality, regardless of the type of accommodation. This tax is payable in accordance with the provisions of the municipal regulations on occupancy taxes.

The revenue produced by the tax is used to benefit those who pay it, helping to finance things such as:

- Information services (4 tourist information offices and provision of information via various media)
- Local coordination (from weekly activities to single major events)
- The creation and operation of visitor, cultural and sports facilities (snowshoe trails, cross-country skiing routes, swimming pools, public transport, footpaths, etc.)

## 2. PER-NIGHT OCCUPANCY TAX FOR COMMERCIAL ACCOMMODATION

Hotels and any other form of accommodation for commercial rental (mountain hostels and huts, holiday centres, group accommodation, campsites, inns, etc.) collect an occupancy tax that amounts to:

*CHF 4 per adult per night  
CHF 2 per child per night*

## 3. FIXED-RATE OCCUPANCY TAX FOR OWNERS OF HOLIDAY HOMES

Anyone owning a holiday home in Anniviers pays a fixed-rate occupancy tax, which replaces the per-night occupancy tax. All overnight stays are included in the annual tax, including occasional rentals.

The annual tax is fixed for each house or apartment and depends on the size of the accommodation. It is based on the figure for the occupancy tax, in accordance with the municipal regulations.

## 1 annual tax unit = CHF 200

A number of tax units is payable for each house or apartment, as follows:

- 1-2 room accommodation  
--> 2 tax units
- 3-room accommodation  
--> 3 tax units
- 4-room accommodation  
--> 4 tax units
- 5-room accommodation  
--> 5 tax units
- Accommodation with 6+ rooms  
--> 6 tax units

## 4. EXEMPTIONS/SPECIAL CASES

The following persons are exempted from payment of the per-night occupancy tax:

- People permanently resident within the territory of the municipality where the tax is levied
- People visiting a family member who is not liable for the tax. "Family member" means grandparents, anyone descended from these grandparents and spouses of these descendants
- Children under 6 years of age (tax is payable at half-rate for children from 6 to 16 years)
- School pupils, apprentices, and students attending educational establishments recognised and supported financially by the Valais canton, during term time

The exemptions from the fixed-rate occupancy tax also include:

- Accommodation rented to people who are permanently resident or to seasonal staff whose income is taxed at source is exempt from the fixed-rate occupancy tax provided that the rental period is more than 4 months
- Accommodation situated outside the development zone and more than 300 metres from a road open to traffic throughout the year is allowed a 50% exemption

## 5. ANNIVIERS LIBERTÉ PASS (SUMMER SEASON)



The Anniviers Liberté Pass offers around 20 benefits free of charge during the summer season (from May to November). Payment of the per-night occupancy tax, for commercial accommodation, gives entitlement to the Anniviers Liberté Pass. Payment of the fixed-rate occupancy tax gives entitlement to the Anniviers Liberté Pass that is calculated according to the number of tax units (see section 3).

## 6. HOW IS THE OCCUPANCY TAX SPENT?

Development/maintenance of visitor infrastructure:

- 490km of waymarked hiking trails with 4900 signposts
- 150km of mountain bike trails
- 180km of winter trails (hiking and snowshoeing)
- 25km of alpine skiing pistes
- 19km of cross-country skiing routes
- 13.5km of measured routes
- Picnic areas
- Children's playgrounds
- Shuttle bus services

Operation of activities:

- Anniviers-Liberté
- 5 skating rinks
- 2 toboggan runs
- 2 swimming pools
- 2 mini-golf courses
- 1 outdoor gym
- 1 pump track
- 3 tennis facilities
- 3 climbing walls
- 3 museums
- The Planetarium
- François-Xavier Bagnoud Observatory

A visitor information service:

- 5 reception and information points
- Publication of brochures and flyers
- Website
- Social media



Organisation of events (through the work of the Tourist Boards), such as:

- St Nicholas' day, Christmas, New Year/Anniviers
- Epiphany /Chandolin
- Carnival in Anniviers
- Raquettissima /Grimentz
- Treasure hunt /Anniviers
- Children's bingo /Zinal
- Wine festivals /Anniviers
- Disco on ice /St-Luc-Grimentz
- Easter in Anniviers
- Swiss Mills Day /Anniviers
- Mountain Life /Anniviers
- Heritage weekend /Anniviers
- Swiss National Day in Anniviers
- Craft market /St-Luc
- Food market /Chandolin
- Sierre-Zinal running race
- Grand Raid mountain bike race/Grimentz
- The Anniviers Désalpes etc.



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#### IT initiatives:

- A new, more interactive and functional website
- Live status reports on the condition of winter visitor facilities (skating rinks, toboggan/ski runs, swimming pools, ski-touring and snowshoeing routes). Besides indicating whether a facility is open or closed, this list gives the day and time of the last maintenance operation

*Completion:*  
Anniviers Tourisme website --> winter 2018 (list) then --> autumn 2019 (interactive map)

#### Outdoor activities:

- Anniviers Trail Hot Spot: several trail running routes with sections that vary in difficulty

*Completion:*  
St-Luc/Chandolin --> spring 2017  
Zinal area --> spring 2019  
Grimentz area --> spring 2020

- Rando Parc Anniviers: several ski touring routes for different ability levels, created to provide safe off-piste skiing, with the option of descending on groomed pistes

*Completion:*  
St-Luc/Chandolin sector --> winter 18/19  
Grimentz/Zinal sector --> winter 19/20

#### Welcome and services:

- Welcome boards at the entrance to each resort, with illustrations indicating its attractive features

*Completion: Grimentz, Zinal, St-Luc, Chandolin --> spring 2019*

### 7. TPT

The aim of the TPT (Tourism Promotion Tax) is to finance initiatives to promote our valley. It provides funding for various activities including:

- Advertising campaigns, social networks, newsletter
- Relations with Swiss and international media organisations
- Website and tourism destination marketing
- Direct booking service and sending out documentation
- Marketing consultancy services, etc.

Any legal person and also any natural person who has an independent for-profit activity and is resident in Valais for tax purposes is liable to pay the tax, insofar as the activity in which they engage is related to local tourism.

Depending on the nature of their activities, local businesses therefore have to pay a basic tax and an additional amount based on the turnover of their business (see TPT regulations).

