

Festumzüge

SAMI GALAL — ZIEHT DURCH DIE STRASSEN

Every three years at the beginning of July, the people of Zurich come together to celebrate the Zürifäscht. All tram and bus traffic is halted over the weekend so that the entire old town and mouth of the Limmat can be explored on foot without any great inconvenience. There will be tons of things going on (mostly music and live theatrical performances), culminating in a fireworks show on Saturday evening.

This kind of event is exactly what we need more of! Street celebrations: running around like headless chickens, listening to street music, etc.. Not only will the Zürifäscht be a lot of fun, but you will have to admit it fits in quite nicely with the theme and title of this edition of VISIONen.

We have had to face the facts of our Umzug from IFW to CAB, and in this article I will be dealing with Umzüge of a much more festive nature... namely parades! (Woohoo!) Let us have a look at some larger and some smaller parades taking place in Switzerland this year.

Sännechilbi Sunntig (Küssnacht am Rigi)

Let us start with some bad news... this event has already passed, so we will have to wait till 2016 to visit it. It takes place in Küssnacht at the Vierwaldstättersee (the one which is shared by four Cantons) every six years.

The morning starts off with dancing and yo-deling performances. Throughout the day, the

Alpine horn is sounded. The potentially deadly part of these festivities is a 40 meter high structure which is set up in the city center which the men of the village must climb. In the early afternoon, a procession passes through the city, while the participants don traditional garb.

Olma-Festumzug (St. Gallen)

This festivity always takes place at the beginning of October. Every year another region, Swiss or otherwise, is given a chance to present itself. In 2008, Canton Vaud had the honor, and in 2009, Trentino had the floor. The guest region organizes a procession which snakes through the city.

The whole event is centered on an exhibition at the OLMA Center, where the latest innovations in the field of agriculture and nutrition are presented. This year, the 68th OLMA Conference will take place. The special guests have not yet been announced.



Zürifäscht (Zürich)

What to do, what to do?! Basically, walk around and take part in whatever grabs your fancy on the way. By all means, don't miss the fireworks set to orchestral music. Also, there will be food everywhere, so refrain from eating

breakfast in preparation for the festivities. Just move with the masses and you'll probably see most of what's going on. There will be open air performances at Rote Fabrik, and Seebad Engle will be open for all.



Rutenzug (Brugg)

This is one of four traditional festivals taking place in Canton Aargau every year. Rutenzug takes place at the beginning of July and is only celebrated in the small town of Brugg. The entire school bands together and produces decoration for the week prior to the big day. The students parade around the town and meet at the school yard. The party lasts until early afternoon, when some party games are played. The evening is rounded off with a firework show.

Students from Brugg have been participating in Rutenzug since the early 17th century,

and most of the old traditions associated with this event have been preserved. These traditions are shrouded in mystery...the internet would not divulge their secrets to me.

What have we learned? The smaller the town, the earlier the celebrations take place. The events in Küsnacht and St. Gallen begin wrapping up at 7pm, while Zürich parties on for the entire weekend. Also, everyone loves an umzug!



**TRAGEN SIE GERNE
VERANTWORTUNG?**

NO

YES

**BEI UNS WERDEN SIE NICHT INS KALTE WASSER
GEWORFEN. ABER SIE BEEINFLUSSEN UND
GESTALTEN UNSERE PROJEKTE VON BEGINN WEG MIT.**

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