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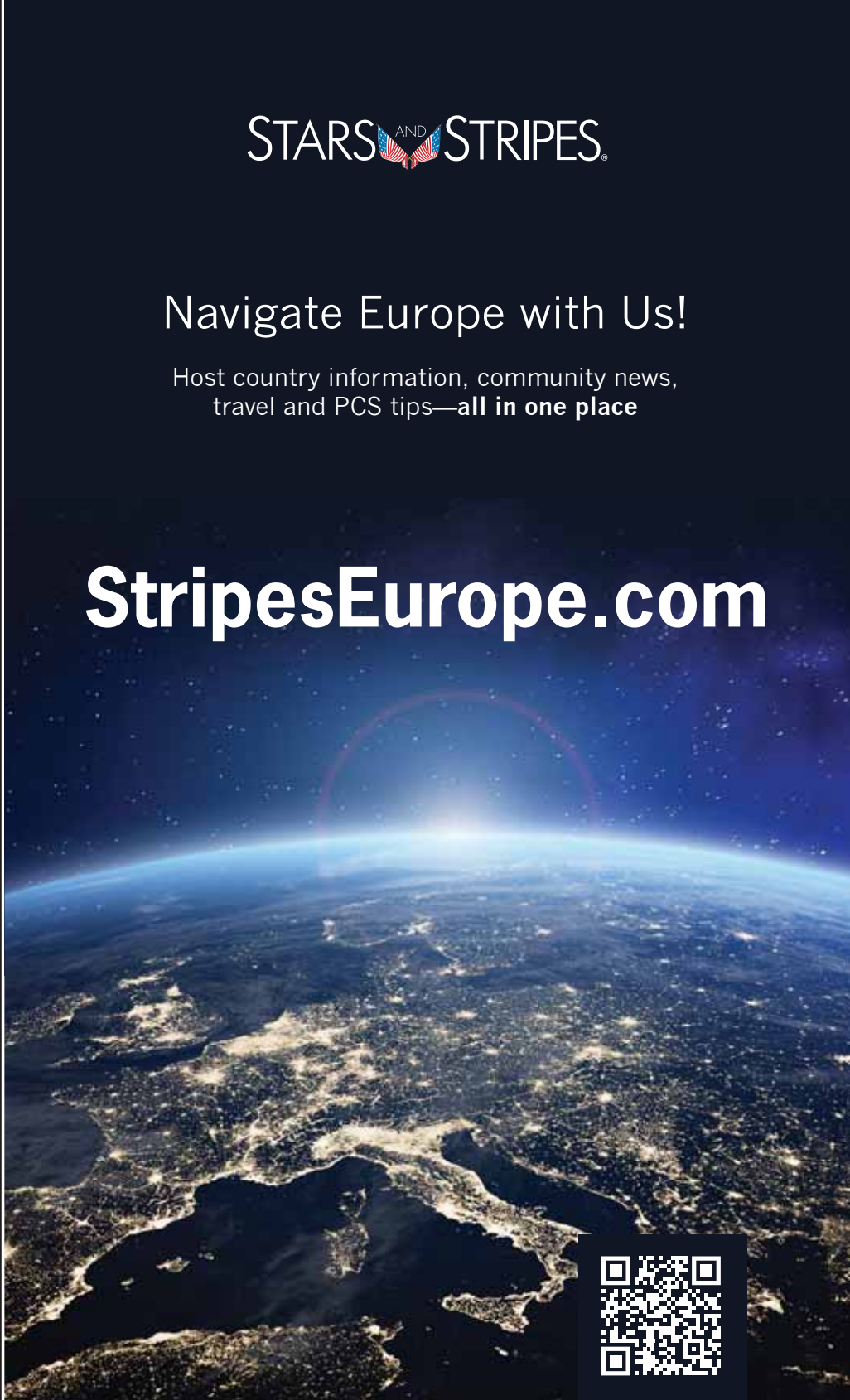


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June Events

By Tamala Malerk

EDITOR'S PICKS

It is June and summer festival season has officially begun in Germany! Get outside and enjoy the sun, eat some great food, dance to some music, play some games and shop until you drop at one of these fantastic fests. Always check the event's website before traveling.



@FOTO: STEFAN BRENDING

Rock am Ring June 2-4, Nürnberg

Popular American bands such as Evanescence, Sum 41, Machine Gun Kelly, Bring Me the Horizon, Tenacious D, Incubus, Halestorm and more are performing at this three-day festival.



Bachfest June 8-18, Leipzig

This year's theme is "Bach for Future" at this festival dedicated to classical musician Johann Sebastian Bach that is filled with concerts, special exhibitions, guided tours and more. June 11 marks the 300th anniversary of this monumental event.



SUCUK Festival June 9-11, Dortmund

If you love sausage, Dortmund has a three-day festival for you. From French to Jamaican, German and Turkish, you can sample many types of sausages and say you've been to the inaugural event.



Kieler Woche (Kiel Week) June 17-25, Kiel

Cheer on your favorite sailor at one of the largest sailing events in the world. The week begins with Olympic competitions in preparation for the Paris 2024 Summer Olympics.



Elbhang Festival June 23-25, Dresden

The towns of Loschwitz and Pillnitz combine to create one fantastically large fairy tale themed festival area filled with music, dancing and wine.



Kessel Festival June 24-25, Stuttgart

This two-day festival celebrates music, markets, gastronomy and sports. Children will love the circus and getting air-brushed tattoos while adults will love shopping at the sustainability-themed market.



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Panama Open Air June 30- July 1, Bonn

This is a two-day festival for those 16+. What began as an illegal rave is now one of the rising multi-genre music festivals in Europe. Enjoy various types of music across four stages.



Cultural Summer Festival June-September, Berlin

Enjoy three months of special events across Berlin including ballets on ships, readings at the zoo, theater in the streets and so much more. Another event is the Special Olympics World Games occurring between June 17-25.

Tell Your Story!

Editor's Pick Call Out:

Did you attend one of previous Editor's Picks events? We want to hear all about it! Please share something memorable about your experience in about 50-70 words and you could be featured here. Send your submissions to contentteam@stripes.com. ■

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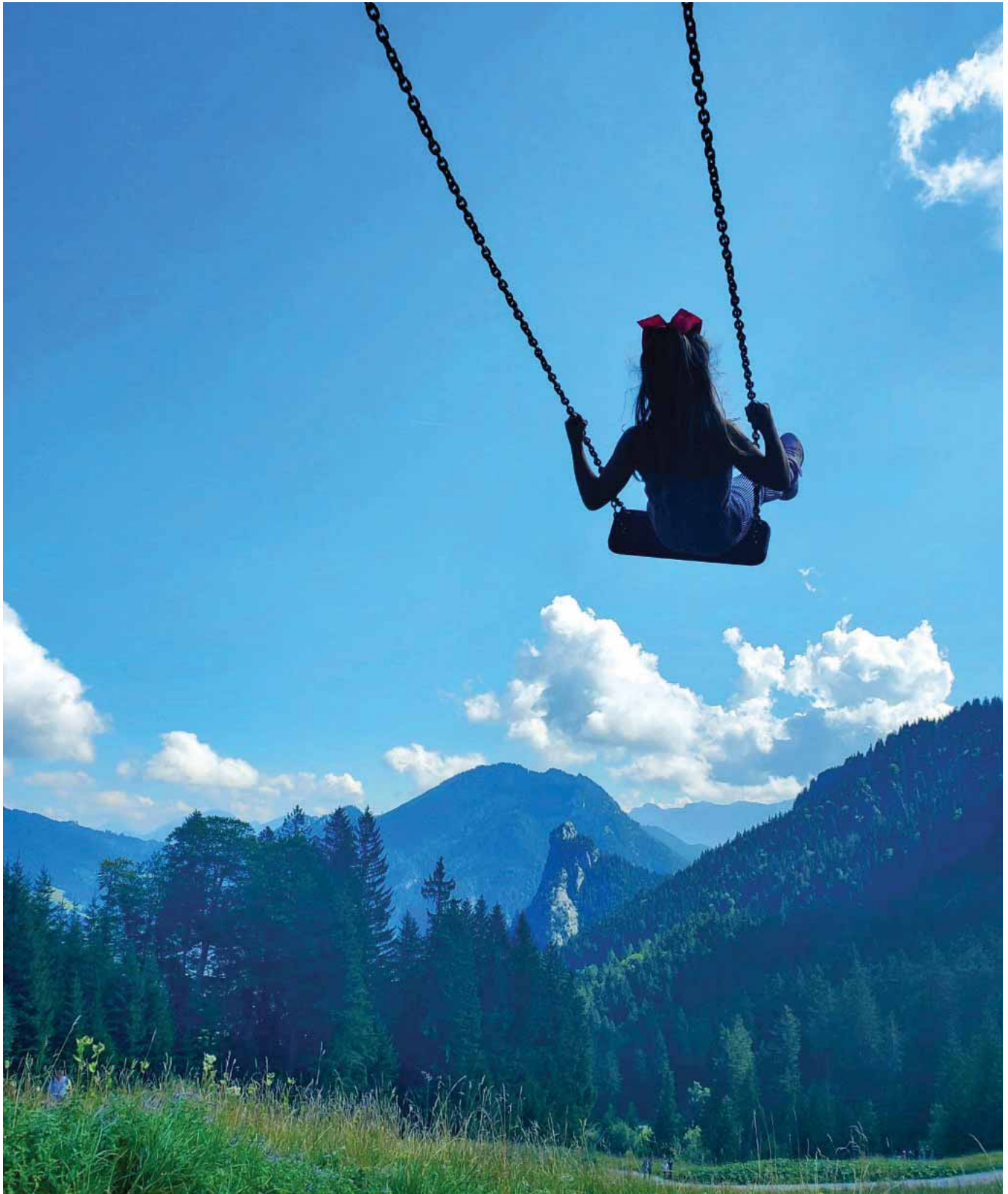


PHOTO of the month

If you are starving for the beauty of immense mountains at any time of year, Garmisch-Partenkirchen is the place to venture to. Now nicknamed Ga-Pa, Partenkirchen was once the Roman town of Partanum while the younger Garmisch began as a Teutonic community, combining townships in 1935. Ga-Pa may be known as a premier winter sports resort, but visitors also look forward to attending warm-weather festivals like AlpenFestival every August for fans of the outdoors.

Photo by Richard Crocker.

For a chance for your photo to be featured, email contentteam@stripes.com. ■



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A DAY IN *Trier*

By Tamala Malerk



of the foyer, courtyard and “Baroque Room.” After breakfast, I recommend going to the Landesmuseum itself where you can view exhibits inspired by over 200,000 years of German history and culture.

If you are looking for some indoor educational opportunities, I head to the birthplace of Karl Marx: The Karl Marx Haus. Be warned: This this is an unassuming house museum and my spouse and I walked right past it two or three times before we found it. This museum not only looks at the life of Marx but also the world surrounding Marx. The museum contains personal artifacts and writings/letters from Marx as well as art based on his life, including a captivating hour-glass exhibit. Outside the house, you can walk across the crosswalk to traffic lights shaped in Marx’s image.

Don’t be fooled by the name, there is no need to bring your swimsuit to the Imperial Baths. You can marvel at ancient engineering techniques as you wander through underground tunnels and passages and view the aqueduct system that kept the baths functioning. The baths are one of nine UNESCO World Heritage sites that exist in Trier.

In the heart of Trier is the Hauptmarkt. You can shop till you drop and then refuel at one of the many restaurants, cafes and coffee shops and then shop some more. My spouse and I found an outdoor cafe where we ordered food and drinks and participated in one of our favorite activities of people watching, which included seeing a line of people singing in a foreign language. When the weather is favorable, you may also find yourself in the middle of an outdoor market.

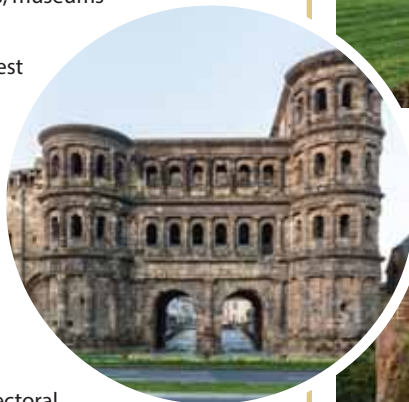
No matter if you want educational activities, shopping experiences or ancient outdoor adventures, Trier has something for singles, couples and families of all ages. ■

Just over an hour’s drive (and less than a two-hour train ride on the RE1) from Kaiserslautern is Germany’s oldest city, Trier. Originally called “Augustus Treverorum,” Trier was founded in 16 B.C.E. by the Roman emperor Augustus and briefly spent time as a capital in the Roman Empire. In its over 2,000-year-old history, it has belonged to the Roman Empire, France, Prussia and Germany. Today, Trier is filled with delicious food, shopping opportunities, museums and history, and makes a great day trip.

The top of my list for visitors is Porta Nigra, the largest Roman gate north of the Alps. Visitors can walk around the exterior of this 2nd-century gate for free, but I highly recommend paying the admission to walk up and around the interior for some of the best views of the city and mountains.

The ANTIKENCARD Trier card can provide you admission to several Roman artifacts/museums across Trier for as cheap as €12.00 per adult with up to four children under age 18 included in the ticket price.

Across from the Landesmuseum is the gorgeous Electoral Palace. Before getting up close and personal with the palace, we chose to eat a delicious breakfast outside at the museum’s cafe, Café Zeitsprung, and just admire the view of the tiny pond and ducks and the palace’s exterior. Access is restricted, but you can schedule guided tours



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LAKE SIDE

in Switzerland

By Tamala Malerk

Switzerland is known as a world-class skiing destination; however, there is so much for everyone along the many lakes. This month, we are spending time lakeside in Zürich, Luzern and Lugano.



ZÜRICH

Zürich is known as one of the most expensive cities in the world, but that shouldn't keep you from visiting if given the opportunity. Meandering around Zürich is the lovely price of free.

One of the first places you can check out is the Lindenhof. History buffs everywhere will be interested to know that the Lindenhof was used as an ancient fort and then an early medieval royal residence. Everyone else will be interested to know that this is a place where you can get a gorgeous view of Lake Zürich and the city itself.

For those looking for shops, tourist spots and photo opportunities, make your way into the center part of town. We walked down Bahnhofstrasse where all the luxury stores are in Zürich. I marveled at all the watches, designer bags and clothing and also explained to my spouse what people found so special about red-soled shoes. We stumbled upon a farmers market with a multitude of items, from clothes and shoes to vintage military hats and taxidermized

animals. We also perused bookstores, took pictures of beautiful opera houses and churches, and walked around the lake.

Pro-Tip: Pack water and snacks to stay hydrated and fueled in Zürich. There are stunning views of the boats navigating the water and swimming spots. All of this is nestled around green spaces and cute little gardens perfect for a light picnic.

We loved looking at the lake so much we were inspired to go on a 1.5-hour boat tour. This can be quite the people-watching opportunity as residents use it to ferry themselves around Zürich.

LUZERN

Luzern presents another opportunity for lakeside fun. However, in Luzern, we learned about some of the cultural differences between the Swiss and Americans while walking around the lake. We accidentally stumbled upon the "nude-positive" corner of the swimming area. For those visiting, this was off to the side of the swimming area away from the rest of the swimmers, not front-and-center.

Heading into town you can see some of the more popular attractions: Glacier Garden and the Lion Monument. Glacier Garden offers fun for the whole family. What I enjoyed most was the air-conditioned indoor "tour" through the ice ages and time. There is also a house museum on-site where you can see tons of gems and other artifacts. If you get hungry there is a bistro and shop where you can get coffee, water, hot dogs and other treats.

Next to the garden is the Lion Monument. Visited by over 1.4 million people a year, the monument was erected in 1821 to memorialize the Swiss guards who perished in 1792 when the Tuileries were stormed in France. Nowadays, a lion magnet or figure is the "must-have" souvenir of Luzern.

You can end the night eating pizza and watching the sun go down behind the mountains from the appropriately named Sunset Bar which is beautifully situated on the lake. They have a convenient website where you can order directly from your smartphone and be alerted when the food and drinks are ready to pick up.

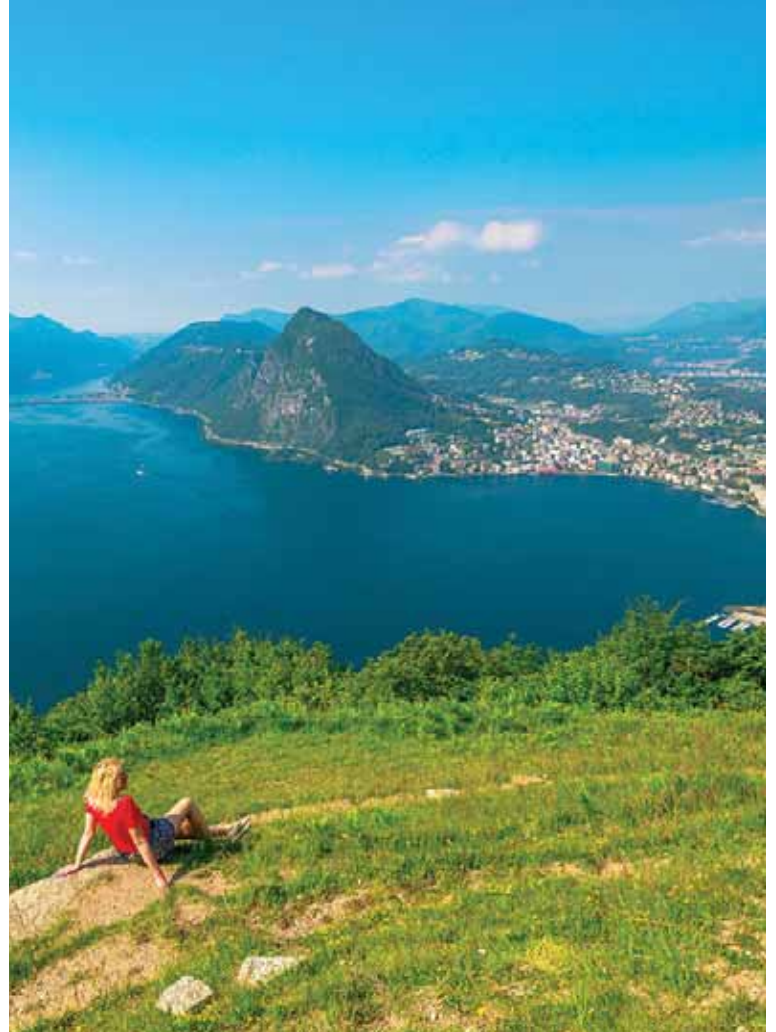
LUGANO

Unlike the rest of Switzerland, which speaks German or French, Lugano is located in the Italian-speaking region of Ticino. Along the lake is a beautiful lakeside promenade and Belvedere Garden. Take in all the gorgeous floral and watery views while the weather is sunny and bright (not to leave out the modern art that is on display).

Just one block away from the lake and under the 270-meter-long ancient city porticoes is Via Nassa, "Lugano's number one shopping destination," according to luganoregion.com. Here you can find department stores, jewelry stores, upscale boutiques, antique shops, food, cafes and more hidden underneath the arches.

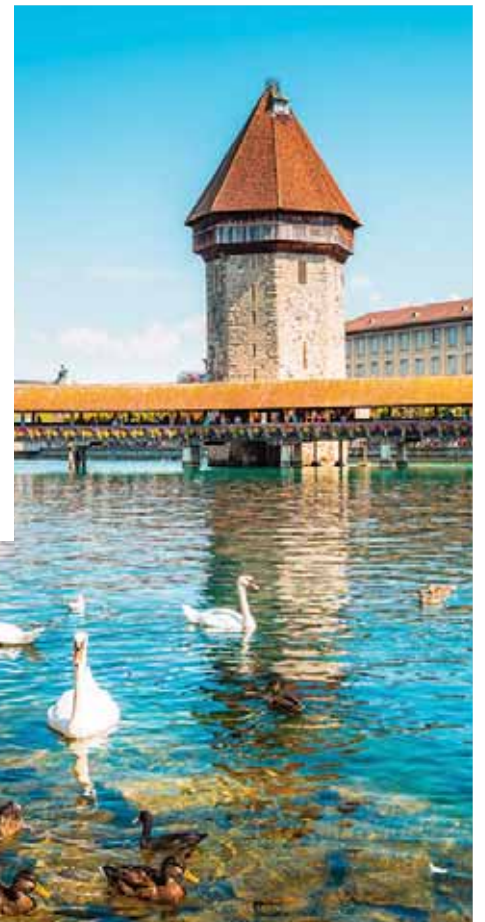
For those who want to take advantage of the gorgeous weather and head out on a boat, Società Navigazione del Lago di Lugano offers a variety of rental boat and boat cruise options, (including my favorite, the night cruise) to create your own adventure. People who want to stay on land can also enjoy the beautiful weather by hiking on the Olive Tree Trail. Along this 3.5-kilometer trail, you will find the remains of old olive groves and 18 informative boards about the history and science of olive oil and trees.

Switzerland isn't just snowboarding and skiing; there is so much to do there when the snow on the ground has melted and the sun is high in the sky. ■



Nowadays, a lion magnet or figure makes for the "must-have" souvenir of Luzern.

“ SWITZERLAND ISN'T JUST SNOWBOARDING AND SKIING; THERE IS SO MUCH TO DO THERE WHEN THE SNOW ON THE GROUND HAS MELTED AND THE SUN IS HIGH IN THE SKY. ”



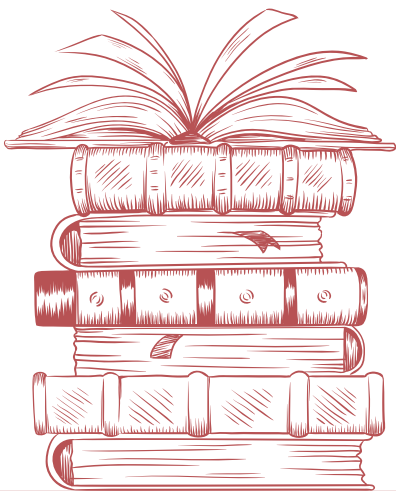


Volunteering at a Used Bookstore

— IN RAMSTEIN —

By Tamala Malerk

Volunteering can be such a fulfilling activity. Every other month, we are highlighting a new organization or event for those who are looking to learn more about the services and resources available to them as well as for those who are looking to give back to the community.



This month, we are featuring Books R Magic on Ramstein Air Base. I interviewed volunteers Sophia M. and Brianna C. and was sent written responses from volunteer Caitlyn J. and store manager Sara. They shared some insights into what it is like to work in the store.

Brianna has been at the bookstore since August 2022. A book lover, she “got off the plane...and on the second day went straight to the bookstore” upon moving to the Ramstein area. Caitlyn, a DoDEA employee, found herself at the bookstore to occupy her free time during summer 2022 as it “would be the perfect place because I could earn store credit to fund my book purchasing addiction.” Sophia has been with the bookstore for almost a year and was drawn to volunteer there because of her “love of books and literature.”

Volunteering with the bookstore allows people to not only give back to their local community but also provides them with a stronger skill set and role to play. The shop provides older teens, such as Sophia and Brianna, a chance to develop job skills including pricing items, putting inventory in the system, shelving items and customer service. Brianna noted that on an average Tuesday, 20 to 40 books come in for the volunteers and employees to sort through and price.

When asked about the most fulfilling aspects of volunteering, Caitlyn wrote, “I loved giving recommendations to customers who were just starting getting back into reading and seeing how excited they seemed about their new books.” Brianna said, “I think it is the community. I love seeing people come in and get excited about talking about books.” Sophia

agreed with Brianna: “You always just find some common interest [with the community].” She added, “I think it’s a really beautiful thing to get to experience.”

When asked about dealing with a constantly changing volunteer base (thanks to military life), Sara wrote, “While it is fantastic that we get to meet so many different individuals from all over the world, it is bittersweet since our beloved volunteers eventually leave us. It makes us cherish the time we get with each person. It also can be difficult at times when we go months without any volunteers when we need the extra help.”

Whether you can be there once a month, once a week or once a day, the bookstore can use your help. Sophia espoused how it’s a “great environment” to work in and wanted to give a shoutout to everyone who works there because of all the hard work that goes into “making it a comfortable environment for all book lovers...I just think it’s a really special place.” Volunteers can earn store credit for every hour they spend volunteering with the store. Teens ages 15 and older receive \$7 an hour and adults receive \$8 an hour. (However, those seeking volunteer hours for an organization/program cannot receive the store credit). Volunteers need to be 15 or older, have transportation to the store and a love for books. Those interested in volunteering can go to the store and speak with an employee, check out their Instagram ([instagram.com/booksmagicramstein](https://www.instagram.com/booksmagicramstein)) or Facebook ([facebook.com/booksRmagic111](https://www.facebook.com/booksRmagic111)) pages or go to their website’s “How to Volunteer” page at sites.google.com/view/booksmagicramstein/how-to-volunteer. ■

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