



RTS

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Final Press Release



45th International Balloon Festival: Nine Unforgettable Days Under a Radiant Sky



The 45th edition of the International Balloon Festival concludes today under a brilliant sun, offering a final day of spectacular flights. Over these nine days of aerial celebration, Château-d'Œx welcomed nearly 50,000 visitors, who came to admire dozens of hot air balloons painting the skies over the Vaud Prealps.



Exceptional Weather and Memorable Highlights

The organizers are delighted with this special anniversary edition. Despite a few rainy days and the cancellation of the anniversary evening, the overall outcome has been extremely positive. Five days of flights allowed pilots and spectators to fully enjoy the show. The festival benefited from six sunny days, covering the weekends and the dedicated children's Wednesday, ensuring a large turnout and a festive atmosphere.



This 45th festival recorded more than 220 flights, amounting to a total of 300 hours in the air.

On Wednesday, nearly 500 children had their eyes lit up by the colors of the balloons. Speaking of children, this Sunday, we were finally able to organize tethered balloon flights, bringing a beautiful conclusion to this edition.

Another standout moment on Saturday was the farewell of the famous "Piper" balloon, shaped like a Scottish bagpiper. Having come specially from England, this iconic balloon was inflated one last time on the field, accompanied by the sound of bagpipes, to celebrate nearly thirty years of loyal service. Its inaugural flight took place here at the festival back in 1996. Today, due to the wear and tear of its fabric, it can no longer fly, but its final appearance deeply moved spectators and added another chapter to the festival's history.



A Confirmed Success for This 45th Edition

With the participation of numerous international teams, activities for all ages, and a warm and welcoming atmosphere, this edition of the festival has once again affirmed its status as a must-attend winter event in Switzerland. The organizers would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the pilots, volunteers, partners, the press—who turned out in great numbers—and the public for their dedication and enthusiasm.



**Join us in 2026, from January 24 to February 1,
for an even more spectacular 46th edition!**



PHOTOS OF THE 2025 EDITION

<https://www.swisstransfer.com/d/356fc09b-f6ca-4cac-b18b-c116b7fe5088>



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