

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK
Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom
Band: - (1952)
Heft: 1174

Artikel: The Swiss seen by a Swiss : "Dolce Far Niente"
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-686417>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. [Siehe Rechtliche Hinweise.](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. [Voir Informations légales.](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. [See Legal notice.](#)

Download PDF: 16.05.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

The Swiss seen by a Swiss. . .

"DOLCE FAR NIENTE."

Somehow our compatriots on the other side of the Gotthard-Pass have always been a little misunderstood by us who live north of the Alps. We look upon them as keen followers of the famous meridional maxim, but how wrong we are! They work just as hard and achieve just as much, but in a different way. Sometimes I feel that theirs is the true philosophy of life, and that there is more behind "Chi va piano, va sano e lontano" than it actually says.

Ticino, a land of dazzling sunshine, where richness and splendour contrasts with poverty and struggle, where joyful songs mingle with bitter tears! Your sons are happy and yet unhappy, and the fruit of your soil is excellent, but inadequate!

But let us not be melancholic, for the "Ticinesi" are far too realistic to feel sorry for themselves. They are born "débrouillards" and "Lebenskünstler", which accounts for their exceptional adaptability, skill and tolerance. I, personally, have always got on very well with them, perhaps because I was interested in their language and their problems, but more likely because I was an enthusiastic supporter of F.C. Lugano in defiance of all regional considerations.

Yes, they are all great sports fans, as much in picturesque "Sopraceneri" as in cosmopolitan "Sottoceneri", and it is in sport that their excitable southern temperament becomes dangerously evident. Referees must have a rough time down there, and if you want a really good example of Ticinese vocal capacity, then listen to a cup final with Vico Rigassi reporting!

Ticino is one of the last cantons to join the Swiss Confederation, and the fidelity with which they have kept their oath has gained them the friendship and respect of those beyond the snowy mountains. In times of war their patriotism was a lesson to many, and I can still see the face of an American traveller after having asked a lady from Chiasso whether she considered herself an Italian or a Swiss.

You can look at the Ticino from many different view points, but to me it will always be the happy hunting-ground for those in quest of sunshine, melody and romance.

Helveticus.

POPULARIS TOURS

BERNE - BASLE
LONDON

We can make all your
travel arrangements

London Office:

6, Royal Arcade,
Old Bond St. W.1.

Telephone:
REGENT 1352/3

Telegrams:
HELVETOURS, PICCY, LONDON.

Accredited agents of:
BRITISH RAILWAYS
(Continental Section)
FRENCH RAILWAYS
SWISS FEDERAL RAILWAYS
& ALL LEADING AIR LINES
B.E.A. SWISSAIR & C.
COACH SERVICES
INCLUSIVE TOURS TO SWITZERLAND
FRANCE, AUSTRIA,
WINTER SPORTS.

Tickets and reservations supplied at official
fares. No booking fees involved.



"PERFECT" ASSORTMENT
2/10 PER $\frac{1}{2}$ LB.

"CITY" ASSORTMENT
2/2 PER $\frac{1}{2}$ LB.

"CHECK" ASSORTMENT
2/10 PER $\frac{1}{2}$ LB.

"ART DESSERT" ASSORTMENT
6/6 PER 1 LB.

C. KUNZLE LTD. BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND.