

Press release, 7 May 2021

## **Fresh, modern and right on the lake: Rapperswil-Jona Youth Hostel re-opens to guests after renovation**

**Those who value ultra-modern, yet attractively priced accommodation now have cause for celebration in Rapperswil-Jona. A modern hostel right on Lake Zurich awaits guests with the re-opening of the newly renovated youth hostel. The city of Rapperswil-Jona focused the redesign on renovating the rooms and refurbishing the common areas. For years, families, sports groups and clubs in particular have appreciated the youth hostel's proximity to the lake and the numerous sports facilities.**

After a six-month renovation phase, Rapperswil-Jona Youth Hostel is now re-opening to its guests. Originally built in the 1960s as a retirement home, the building was converted into a youth hostel in 1991. As part of a soft renovation by the architects lehmann springer architekten sia ag, the youth hostel has been modernised, now experiencing its golden years, so to speak. A special focus was placed on the redesign of the rooms. With integrated shower/WC and barrier-free access, they now meet the current needs of the guests. Following the renovation, the youth hostel has a total of 22 rooms to choose from: two double rooms with shower/WC (one of which is barrier-free), four family rooms with shower/WC, two twin rooms with single beds and washbasin, two single rooms with king bed and washbasin, and 12 four-bed rooms with washbasin including two family-friendly four-bed rooms (equipped with double bed and bunk bed).

The public areas such as the restaurant and the seminar room have also been given a facelift. The heart of the lobby is the new foyer with its open and inviting reception desk. Peter and Brigitte Keller, who have been looking after the well-being of guests at Rapperswil-Jona Youth Hostel for 30 years, will continue to run the hostel.

### **Comfortable lodging for sports groups and families**

In 2019, the city of Rapperswil-Jona gave the renovation of the youth hostel the go-ahead by releasing a construction loan totalling CHF 2.5 million. "With the reopening of the youth hostel, we are delighted to once again be able to offer modern accommodation for budget-conscious, young and young-at-heart guests. Families and sports groups in particular will appreciate the proximity to the lake and the various sports facilities," says Christian Leutenegger, city councillor of Rapperswil-Jona.

Janine Bunte, CEO of Swiss Youth Hostels, is also convinced of the potential of the modernised youth hostel: "With the renovation, we have boosted the attractiveness of the accommodation and we are confident that we will be able to draw many new guests to the youth hostel. Groups and schools already made up a significant share of our clientele in Rapperswil-Jona. Especially with regard to school, project and sports camps, we see good opportunities to expand the previous seasonal operation into a year-round operation in future - provided, of course, that the COVID-19 situation allows such camps to be held again."

**Key data for Rapperswil-Jona Youth Hostel:**

Built: 1960  
Start of renovations: 19 October 2020  
Re-opening: 30 April 2021  
Beds: 74  
Room offer: 2 double rooms with shower/WC (one of them barrier-free)  
2 twin rooms with washbasin  
2 single rooms with king-size bed and washbasin (can also be booked for 2 people)  
4 family rooms with shower/WC  
12 four-bed rooms with washbasin (two of which are family-friendly)

Further information about Rapperswil-Jona Youth Hostel can be found at [www.youthhostel.ch/rapperswil-jona](http://www.youthhostel.ch/rapperswil-jona)

**Swiss Youth Hostels**

The Swiss Youth Hostels Association's network comprises 45 own hostels and 5 franchise properties, ranging from romantic castles to urban design locations and wellness hostels. The non-profit organization consists of more than 60,000 members and generates approximately 750,000 overnight stays annually while focusing on quality-conscious, sustainable and affordable youth- and family tourism. [www.youthhostel.ch/en](http://www.youthhostel.ch/en)

**For further information:**

**Swiss Youth Hostels**

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