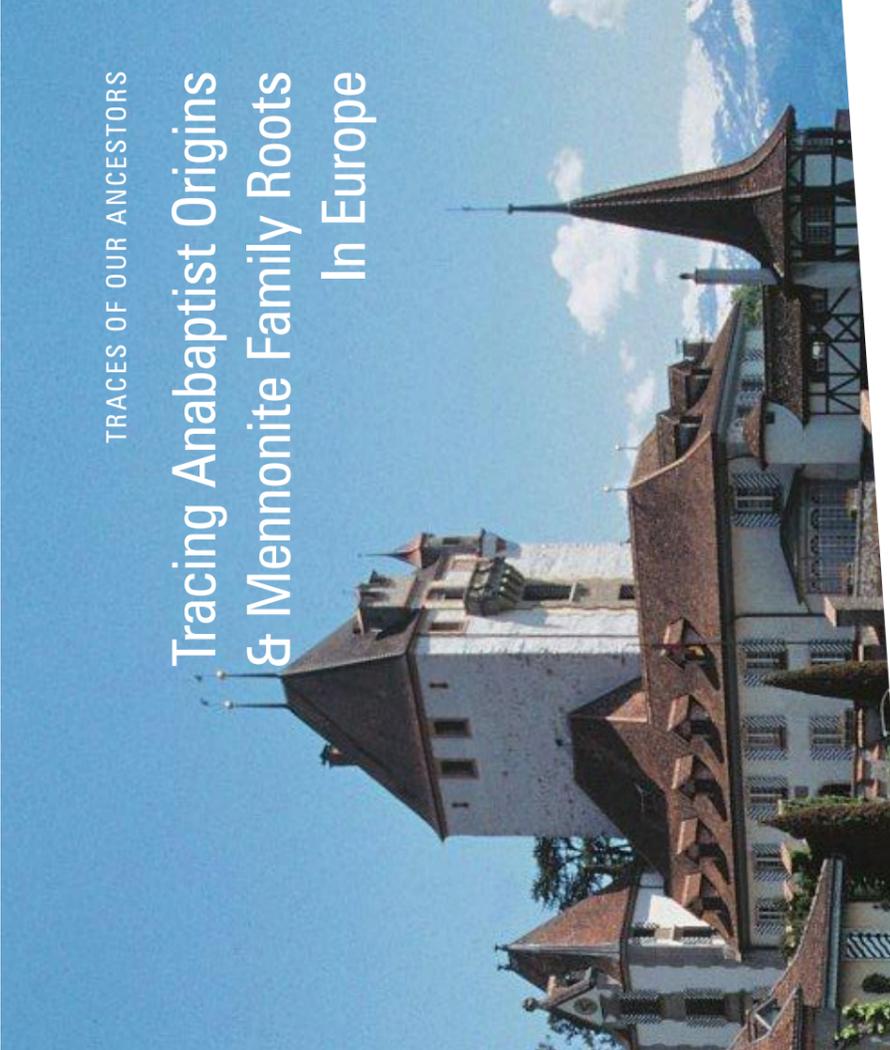




Hotel bienenberg
 Bienenbergstrasse 84
 CH-4410 Liestal

Bienenberg Hotel - your homebase for tours

Switzerland, Alsace/France, Southern Germany



Tracing Anabaptist Origins & Mennonite Family Roots In Europe

TRACES OF OUR ANCESTORS

Welcome to Bienenberg Hotel

A wonderful place to stay

Bienenberg hotel is excellent for outings and field trips in Anabaptist history in the border triangle of Germany-France-Switzerland. The cordial attentive service of our team and our open-minded warm hospitality make us unique. Check us out!

- 37 rooms (with private bathroom, TV, telephone)
- Restaurant open 7 days a week
- 13 seminar/meeting rooms
- Free Wi-Fi
- Shuttle-Service from/to train station Liestal
- free parking



Enjoy homemade food

Full breakfast buffet with homemade breads, grains, fruit, cheeses and meats and a fine variety of beverages.

See our menu for delicious meals at lunch or dinner. We favor locally grown and fairtrade products.

On request we are happy to provide lunch bags for your outings or field trip.



Bienenberg Hotel - your homebase for tours

Switzerland, Alsace/France, Southern Germany



Dennis and Linda Gingerich
 Cape Coral, Florida

"Bienenberg was the ideal place for us to stay while we connected with our families of origin in Switzerland. Dr. Hanspeter Jecker did an extraordinary job of researching our family history with the information we sent ahead to him. Our day with Dr. Jecker driving through the Emmental valley and reconnecting with our family stories and settings is one that we will always deeply treasure!"

Take advantage of the resources Bienenberg offers for your tour and historical searches.

- visit the Anabaptist history sites
- see places of interest related to your family history!
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Come and

- visit the Anabaptist history sites
- see places of interest related to your family history!
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Your Mennonite hotel in a peaceful setting
 Bienenberg is situated on a wooded hill, which is part of the Swiss Jura mountain range. From here one enjoys a beautiful panoramic view of the nearby Black Forest (Germany).



Why rush from hotel to hotel?

Zürich, Schleitheim, Bern, the Emmental, Jura or the Alsace are easy to reach within just one hour. And within 15 minutes ride by public transportation you can experience the culturally and historically significant city of Basel.

Airport distances

From/to Euro airport Basel 20 minutes, Zürich airport 60 minutes, Frankfurt airport a convenient 3 hour train ride

For lodging rates check our website and/or contact

Philip Bühler
 Managing Director
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Resource person
Dr. Hanspeter Jecker is one of the leading researchers of Anabaptist history in Europe and lecturer for church history and ethics at the Bienenberg Theological Seminary, as well as president of the Swiss Society of Anabaptist History.
 hanspeter.jecker@bienenberg.ch



A tip for family historians:
 The hometowns and residences of most Anabaptist families with Swiss roots are in a 1-2 hours reach from Bienenberg: From A for Aeschlimann, Amstutz and Augsburg, to Kräyenbühl (Kraybill), Kauffmann and Kropf to Z for Zaugg (Zook), Zehr and Zürcher (Zercher). Others – like Herberger – even originate from the immediate vicinity of Bienenberg.

Consultancy

General written information on Anabaptist history is free of charge. For research, information and documentation from our archives we expect an appropriate donation which we will indicate. Please contact us for further information and detailed offers.



1 Basel (12 km from Bienenberg)

City: Medieval city, cathedral, first Swiss university (1460), center of book printing and humanism (Erasmus of Rotterdam), 40 museums; Anabaptists since 1525; Place of study in theology and education for many Mennonites from southern Russia. After 1840 Basel became a center of late pietism and revivalism (Basler Mission; Evangelische Predigerschule; St. Chrischona; Beuggen Castle); Mennonite World Conference assemblies in 1925 (I) and 1952 (V); first headquarters of MCC Europe, 1950 onwards

Surroundings: Anabaptist congregations between 1530 and 1700 and after 1780

Origin of the Hershberger, Tschopp/Chupp families, and others

Present-day Mennonite congregations in Basel (Holee), Muttenz (Schänzli) and Münchenstein (Bruggi)



2 Zürich (80 km+ from Bienenberg)

City: Medieval center, cathedral, protestant reformers Ulrich Zwingli and Heinrich Bullinger. Meeting places of first Anabaptists 1525 (Grebel, Mantz, Blaurock, and others), execution sites (Limmat river)

Surroundings: Numerous Anabaptist congregations before 1700; hiding places of the Anabaptists

Origin of the Brubaker, Funck, Gochnauer, Good, Hiestand, Landis, Meili, Schnebeli families, and others



3 Aargau (30 km+ from Bienenberg)

Numerous Anabaptist circles especially around the city of Zofingen until the early 18th century.

Origin of some Dester, Hunziker / Unziker, Hürzeler / Hartzler, Schowalter, Hauri, Suter / Souder families and others



4 Schleithem (80 km from Bienenberg)

Schleithem Confession 1527: formation of the „Swiss Brethren“. Schleithem Museum; „Täufersteg“ (Anabaptist trail)



5 Emmental (75 km+ from Bienenberg)

Numerous Anabaptist circles since 1530. Anabaptist meeting places, many Anabaptist farms and hiding places. Symbols for the persecution of Anabaptists: the castles of Burgdorf and Trachselwald

Origin of the Eby, Bixel, Breckbill, Burkholder, Engle, Funkhouser, Gerber, Habegger, Hershey, Longenecker, Lehman, Liechty, Lugbull, Moser, Newswander, Neukomm, Ramseyer, Röthlisberger, Scheidegger, Schrock, Shenk, Sommer, Widmer, Wissler, Zaugg/ Zook, Zürcher/Zercher families, and others

Present-day Mennonite congregation in Langnau

Other places of interest: cheese dairy in Affoltern; Kambly cookie factory in Trubschachen (founded by „new Anabaptists“). Lookout points: Lüderernalp; Moosegg, Lueg, and many more



6 Thun – Steffisburg – Oberhofen – Oberdiessbach (100 km+ from Bienenberg)

Numerous Anabaptist circles until 1750 (many Amish!). Medieval center of Thun, castles of Thun, Spiez and Oberhofen. Residence of Jakob Amman (until 1679)

Places of origin of many Amish-Mennonite families: Amstutz, Büttschi/Peachey, Gingerich, Gyger, Kaufmann, Kräyenbühl, Kropf, Nafziger, Reusser/Risser, Ritschard, Roth, Rupp, Schlapbach/ Slabough, Stutzman, Tschantz, Yoder, and others



7 Bern (85 km from Bienenberg)

City: Center of the most intense persecution of Anabaptists in Switzerland. Medieval center, cathedral, city hall, prisons and execution sites; docks (starting point for deportations)

Present-day Mennonite congregation in Bern-Ostermundigen



8 Berner Oberland (130 km+ from Bienenberg)

Birth place of Jakob Amman (Erlenbach)

Origin of the Rich/Rychen, Schmocker, Schlunegger families

Center for walking and hiking tours, funicular railway rides, steamboat excursions on Lake Thun, great panoramic views on the Alps; Ballenberg open-air museum near Brienz



9 Schwarzenburg (110 km from Bienenberg)

Numerous Anabaptist circles until 1750 (many Amish!)

Origin of the Beyeler/Beiler, Hostettler, Mast, Mischler families, and others



10 Jura (60 km+ from Bienenberg)

Refuge for persecuted Bernese Anabaptists since 1700. Anabaptist cavern (Souboz); Anabaptist bridge (Courtelary); Anabaptist chapels (Jeangui: includes museum!; Les Mottes; Moron; Perceux, and others), Chemin des Anabaptistes (Anabaptist trail, Sonceboz-Chasseral)

Present-day Mennonite congregations: Les Bulles / La Chaux-de-Fonds; Sonnenberg; Moron-Kleintal; Courgenay, and others

11 Alsace – Vosges – Region Belfort – Montbéliard (50 km+ from Bienenberg)

Place of refuge for many Anabaptists from Zürich and Bern as of 1650. Many Anabaptist chapels, cemeteries, farmsteads etc.

Several present-day Mennonite congregations: St. Louis, Altkirch-Birkenhof, Pfastatt, Montbéliard, Colmar, and others



12 Strasbourg (160 km from Bienenberg)

Medieval city center, cathedral, center of Anabaptism around 1530. Headquarters of Mennonite World Conference, office of MCC Europe.

Present-day Mennonite congregation



13 Kraichgau (beyond Karlsruhe – 240 km+ from Bienenberg)

Place of refuge for many Anabaptists from Zürich and Bern as of 1650. Anabaptist chapels, farms etc.

Several present-day congregations: Karlsruhe-Thomashof, Heidelberg-Bammental, Hasselbach, Sinsheim, Heibronn, Möckmühl

