

UNIQUE BAL

Sat 27 september 2025

Del Castillo Hall, Vevey, Switzerland

10h-20h	workshops, family ball, yoga, conference, nursery, restaurant, bar, rest area, aperitif
20h30	Bal with No&Mi (FR)
22h	Bal with Snaamaarwaar (BE)
00h	Bal with Le Mange bal (FR)

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> HOME

1 day balfolk festival

A unique Belle Epoque hall built in 1907 !

300 tickets

1st balfolk in this hall

Top-quality parquet flooring

Right by the lake



> PROGRAM

10:00-12:00 Dance workshop 1 « Variations in the balfolk »

With Debora

Place : Great Hall Del Castillo

Price : CHF 15.00 --> Ticketing page

Level : Beginner and intermediate

Course description: We'll explore how to diversify and develop our dances. Debora will cover a few common ballroom, couple and group dances, and suggest different tools and variations for you to integrate. The course is aimed at anyone with any dance experience. The basics of each dance covered will be quickly reviewed, and the following exercises can be used the same evening!

Debora is a dance and art mediator. She trained as a self-taught dancer in folk ball dances and techniques, while continually developing my dance teaching business since 2016. I am an active member of the balfolk scene in Switzerland and Europe, as well as co-founder of the Basel-based organisation BaselFolk and the "FolkLabor" format.

10:00-12:00 Yoga 1

With Noémie Ulrich

Place : Foyer Cuénod or outside (weather permitting)

Price : Free, on registration --> Ticketing page (you can « buy » this free ticket while buying tickets for balls or other activities)

Opening the heart - meeting yourself and others through the door of the heart. Start by unburdening yourself and freeing yourself from too much, and then open up the space inside to shine and laugh together!

Noémie Ulrich

She went from being an interior designer to an interior architect. Yoga crossed her path 20 years ago when she was searching for meaning. One of the messages of yoga is that the answers always lie within. By teaching kundalini yoga, she hopes to inspire and invite everyone to explore their inner selves and their physicality. She teaches at the Adi Shakti centre in Vevey, which she co-founded - www.adishakti.ch. Noémie will guide you with joy and kindness as you encounter all the dimensions of your being during this dynamic workshop set to music!

11:00-12:00 Conference on the history of balfolk

With Solène Derbal

Place : La Loge

Price : Free / Without registration

Description: In this talk, Solène will look at the history of trad dances from the point of view of their cultural evolution and the relationship between music, dance and the social representation of these practices.

Solène Derbal is conductor of the Artichaud choir (Geneva) and a rhythmicist (music and movement teacher). Originally from France, she trained in Quebec (Université de Sherbrooke) and Switzerland (Haute école de musique), as well as with the many

inspirations that have crossed her path. Her approach weaves together the expression of the heart, the voice and the body. She is particularly interested in the link between music and movement in the field of traditional and folk dance, and has focused her research dissertation on this subject.

12:00-14:00 Meal + nap

Places : Restaurant + Bar (ground floor) and rest room in the Ansermet Auditorium (-1)

Menu : rice with lentils and spices, aubergine and tajin sauce, cucumber salad

Price : CHF 13.00 adult portion / CHF 7.00 half portion

Registration : --> Ticketing page, where you can book your plates but pay for them on the spot

Intolerances : -

Info :

- The bar is available throughout the day and evening : apple juice, coffee, herbal teas, beers and bottles of wine.
- The relaxation room has mattresses, deckchairs and cushions.

14:00-16:00 Instrumental workshop 1 Guitare

With Jeroen Geerinck (Snaarmaarwaar)

Place : Auditoire Ansermet

Price : CHF 25.00 --> Ticketing page

Level : From 1-2 years of regular practice

Cancelled if less than 6 participants (in the event of cancellation, you will receive a text message 24-48 hours before the course + information on this page the days before).

Description : In this workshop, we'll delve into the world of DADGAD tuning, a rich and inspiring playground for accompanying dance music. We'll start by discovering the basic chords in this open tuning, then explore how to use them to accompany balfolk tunes.

Through dynamic rhythms and accompaniment tips, you'll learn how to build a solid groove that invites you to dance. We'll also talk about pulse, dynamics, percussive playing and how to enrich a melody without overpowering it. You don't need to be an expert in DADGAD tuning: this course is for all guitarists who already have a certain ease with their instrument and who are curious to discover a new way of playing.

Jeroen Geerinck is a guitarist and producer active on the European folk scene (Snaarmaarwaar, Hot Griselda, Spilar). With his solo project Geronimo, he explores the limits of mixing genres. He is known for his energetic and inventive DADGAD playing, which gives a unique colour to the bands he accompanies. He enjoys sharing his rhythmic and creative approach to the guitar through workshops and concerts all over Europe.

14:00-16:00 Instrumental workshop 2 Diatonic accordion

With Noémie Dessaint (No&Mi)

Place : Foyer Cuénod

Price : CHF 25.00 --> Ticketing page

Level : at least 1 year of practice

Cancelled if less than 6 participants (in the event of cancellation, you will receive a text message 24-48 hours before the course + information on this page the days before).

Description : Learning a mazurka or a waltz or a mazurka/valse from my composition repertoire. I suggest themes for ornamentation of the melody, nuances in the playing and sometimes intentions in the music for dancing.

Choosing a piece to play : on the website www.balunique.ch > Programme, here are 3 pieces proposed by Noémie: it's up to the participants to choose which one is their favourite and the majority piece will be chosen. To do this, when you buy your place on the ticketing service, you will be asked. We'll take the answers 2 weeks before the course, on 17 September, and we'll send you the score of the chosen piece individually to prepare you.

Noémie Dessaint : I've been giving diatonic accordion lessons in music schools and to private individuals for several years now, passing on my passion for this instrument, which combines traditional ballroom music with compositions. Pedagogy, listening and observation are my watchwords. And... Learn to dance before you learn to play.

14:00-16:00 Dance workshop 2 « Folk dancing in a circle: emotions in motion »

With Alessia Losini

Place : Great Hall

Price : CHF 15.00 --> Ticketing page

Level : all levels

Description : During the workshop, we'll take a trip around the world through traditional circle dances, from Europe to the Balkans, to let ourselves be transported by the energy of the group, by the movements linked to the elements of nature found in the dances and which promote relaxation of body and mind. An opportunity to explore the dances of other countries and ourselves from a different angle, through steps that become colourful mandalas, through the body that speaks to us of emotions to be listened to, and finally to develop the harmony of dancing with others while remaining balanced with ourselves.

Alessia Losini, passionate about folk and a trad world dance teacher since 2013, now offers an approach that helps us make the most of every dance to develop the skills of listening to ourselves and others, tools that are effective both inside the dance circle and outside in everyday life.

16:00-17:00 Family ball

With the group Les Etoudyons and Piera Rubbi

Place : Auditoire Ansermet

Price : Free, pay what you want / No registration

Folk dancing is contagious and is happily passed down from generation to generation... Come and enjoy this family-friendly event !

16:00-17:00 Yoga 2

With Mehdi Redzepi

Place : Foyer Cuénod or outdoors

Price : Free / Registration required --> Ticketing page (free ticket, to be taken with any other tickets)

Level : débutant et intermédiaire

Be your own joy - You don't always need an external reason to be joyful. Come and experiment with moving your body and your energy to let the spontaneous joy that lies within each of us emerge at any moment! It's a great way to get your feet wet before the dance ;-)

Mehdi Redzepi

His encounter with kundalini began on 11.11. 2011! This yoga has transformed his life in unexpected ways. The path of initiation took shape over the years until he became a teacher. He was so inspired and touched by this practice that sharing it was an obvious choice. He has given classes in Fribourg and is now part of the team at the Adi Shakti centre in Vevey. Mehdi will take you on a journey to awaken vitality and joy through the breath, the postures and the inner pulse !

16:00-17:00 Conference on the history of balfolk

With Solène Derbal

Place : La Loge

Price : Free / No registration

Description: In this talk, Solène will look at the history of trad dances from the point of view of their cultural evolution and the relationship between music, dance and the social representation of these practices.

Solène Derbal is conductor of the Artichaud choir (Geneva) and a rhythmicist (music and movement teacher). Originally from France, she trained in Quebec (Université de Sherbrooke) and Switzerland (Haute école de musique), as well as with the many inspirations that have crossed her path. Her approach weaves together the expression of the heart, the voice and the body. She is particularly interested in the link between music and movement in the field of traditional and folk dance, and has focused her research dissertation on this subject.

17:00-19:00 Instrumental workshop 3 Ensemble music

With Maarten Decombel (Snaarmaarwaar)

Place : Foyer Cuénod

Price : CHF 15.00 --> Ticketing page

Level : for all instruments, from 2 years of regular practice

Cancelled if less than 6 participants (in the event of cancellation, you will receive a text message 24-48 hours before the course + information on this page the days before).

Description : This course enables musicians of all instruments to create a small orchestra and refine their playing through an ensemble.

You'll learn how to play together in a group: we'll talk about colours and contrasts, harmonies and second voices, counter-voices and bass lines. Attention will also be paid to swing, rhythm and ornamentation. We'll see how to incorporate simple improvisations that give character to the music. The aim will be to have fun together by looking for a common groove and finding out how to make a group of different personalities sound like a real group that transcends the sum of its musical individuals.

Two pieces from the Flemish repertoire will be sent to you in advance with score and mp3 audio by e-mail (which will be requested when you buy your ticket for this workshop), so you can prepare them at home if you like.

Maarten Decombel is a guitarist/mandolinist who has been performing on the folk scene for 20 years with Naragonia Quartet, Snaarmaarwaar, MandolinMan and Spilar. He has also played with Evelyne Girardon, Gilles Chabenat and many others. He regularly gives workshops in Belgium and elsewhere.

17:00-19:00 Nursery

Place : Auditoire Ansermet

Price : Free / Registration required --> Ticketing page (free ticket, to be taken with any other tickets)

Description : So that parents and children can take full advantage of suitable activities on their own.

Condition : You leave your children with us as long as you take part in one of the unique ball activities between 5pm and 7pm.

Contact : piera.rubbi@gmail.com

17:00-18:00 Introduction to balfolk

With H       Courbat

Place : Entrance hall or on the Place du March   (in front of the hall)

Price : Free, pay what you want / No registration

Level : beginners

Description : Come and discover balfolk: you'll learn the main dances such as the Cercle circassien, the Chapelloise, the Valse    3 temps or the Scottish. As these dances account for around 1/3 of the dances at a ball, plus another very simple third where you simply have to follow along, this initiation will enable everyone, during the evening, to get into the dance, gain confidence and have fun.

18:00-19:00 Dance workshop 3 | Specific dances covered at evening balls

With Cyril de Vries

Place : Entrance hall or on the Place du March   (in front of the hall)

Price : Free, hats off / No registration required

Level : Intermediate + all those who have forgotten + all those who want to

Info : Your children may be busy at the nursery during this workshop

Description : The aim of this workshop is to work on the specific dances covered during the evening's 3 balls, which are often not covered in the introductory classes. In this way, we can discover or revise less common dances. We have asked the musicians what these dances will be: waltzes in 5,8,11 time, Larid   8 temps, Branle de Noirmoutier, Plinn. Subject to adaptation.

Cyril de Vries offers highly pragmatic workshops so that everyone can not only dance and avoid being left on the bench to stare, but also learn the steps without mumbling bad French. He organises the Grands bals de Lausanne and regularly gives workshops and courses as part of this programme.

19:00

Aperitif

Place : Hall + on the steps of the main entrance

Info : Free snacks + Bar available

To celebrate life and the end of the day's courses, let's have a drink together before dinner. The bar will be open and we'll meet in the entrance hall or outside if the weather is fine.

19:00-20:30

Dinner

Place : Restaurant + Bar

Registration required (see below)

Menu : Mixed salad + pasta with tomato and soy sauce

Price : CHF 10.00 adult portion / CHF 6.00 half portion

Registration : --> Ticketing page, where you can reserve your plates but pay for them on the spot

Intolerances : - (gluten-free pasta will be available)

More info :

- The bar is available throughout the day and evening: apple juice, coffee, herbal teas, beers and bottles of wine.
 - A dining room in the basement has mattresses, deckchairs and cushions for those who need a little break.
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19:00-20:00

Conference on the history of balfolk

With Solène Derbal

Place : La Loge

Price : Free / Without registration

Description: In this talk, Solène will look at the history of trad dances from the point of view of their cultural evolution and the relationship between music, dance and the social representation of these practices.

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20:30-22:00

Bal with No&Mi (FR)

With Noémie Dessaint, diatonic accordion

Place : Great Hall

Price : CHF 35.- for the 3 balls (budget prices from CHF 28.-) /

--> Ticketing page

No&Mi has been active in the world of traditional music for over 10 years now, armed with her inseparable diatonic accordion. In the course of her musical encounters, whether at workshops or festivals, she has developed her own distinctive style... one that is instantly recognisable.

Through her keyboard, she takes us on a journey of discovery of couples' dances that are out of the ordinary, set to light, spellbinding music. She knows how to blend sighs and irregular notes, surprising those who dance and moving those who listen.

22:00-23:30 Bal with Snaarmaarwaar (BE)

Avec Jeroen Geerinck (guitare), Maarten Decombel (mandoline), Ward Dhoore (mandole)

Place : Great Hall

Price : CHF 35.- for the 3 balls (budget prices from CHF 28.-)

--> Ticketing page

For almost 20 years, the Belgians in **Snaarmaarwaar** have been relentlessly touring dance halls and stages all over Europe. A guitar, a mandolin and a mandolin. A spare set of strings and a lot of desire to play: that's all they need to light up the magical spark of live performance with their inspiring tunes.

Their latest album is entitled 'LYS', a reference to the fascinating, winding road their music has already taken them down, like the river Lys that meanders delightfully between Ghent and Deinze.

Whereas on their previous album, 'B.L.O.C.K', they were still having the time of their lives with rich arrangements, heavy overdubs and endless layers, on 'LYS' it's austerity and that purified string sound they've long since patented that reign supreme. Take a seat in the lovely acoustic bath with which these gentlemen will fill the room and your heart.

00:00-01:30 Bal with Le Mange bal (FR)

With Théodore Lefevre (composition, accordion, keyboards, machines) and Nils Kassap (clarinette)

Place : Great Hall

Prices : CHF 35.- for the 3 balls (budget prices from CHF 28.-) or CHF 10.- for this ball only

--> Ticketing page

Forget everything you know about accordions, clarinets and folk dances. **LE MANGE BAL** cooks up the folk ball with a spicy BEAT and juicy BASS!

The MANGE BAL's FESTIVE ELECTRO-TRAD is delicious on traditional dances and very tasty on DANCE-FLOOR and in POGOS.

If you dare, come and meet L'OGRE du MANGE BAL for an unforgettable evening somewhere between a folk ball and a free party!

> ARRIVING AND SLEEPING

ARRIVING

Festival place :	Salle Del Castillo, place du Marché 1, 1800 Vevey (Switzerland)
SBB train stop :	Vevey
Nearest bus stop :	"Ronjat" / bus line 201 Vevey-Montreux
Car pooling :	https://togetzer.com/covoiturage-evenement/fgp59q
Parking :	The market square in front of the venue is a huge car park.
Coming by boat :	Yes, it's rare, but it's possible. Del Castillo Hall is in front of the pier.

From Lausanne :

> 10h20 Lausanne Ouchy > 10h30 Pully > 10h38 Lutry > 10h53 Cully > 11h10 Rivaz
> 11h10 **Vevey Marché**

> 18h20 Lausanne Ouchy
> 19h08 **Vevey Marché**

From Villeneuve :

> 08h40 Le Bouveret > 09h05 Montreux
> 09h25 **Vevey Marché**

> 12h50 St-Gingolph > 13h03 Le Bouveret > 13h25 Villeneuve > 13h35 Château de Chillon
> 13h48 Montreux
> 14h08 **Vevey Marché**

> 15h03 St-Gingolph
> 15h25 **Vevey Marché**

> 16h25 St-Gingolph > 16h38 Le Bouveret > 17h00 Villeneuve > 17h10 Château de Chillon
> 17h23 Montreux
> 17h43 **Vevey Marché**

> 17h03 St-Gingolph
> 17h25 **Vevey Marché**

Campsite location :	Camping de la Maladaire, Route de Saint-Maurice 310, 1814 La Tour-de-Peilz
Campsite train stop :	Burier
Campsite bus stop :	" La Tour de Peilz, Burier " / bus line 201 Vevey-Montreux



Figure 1 Map Vevey and Del Castillo Hall

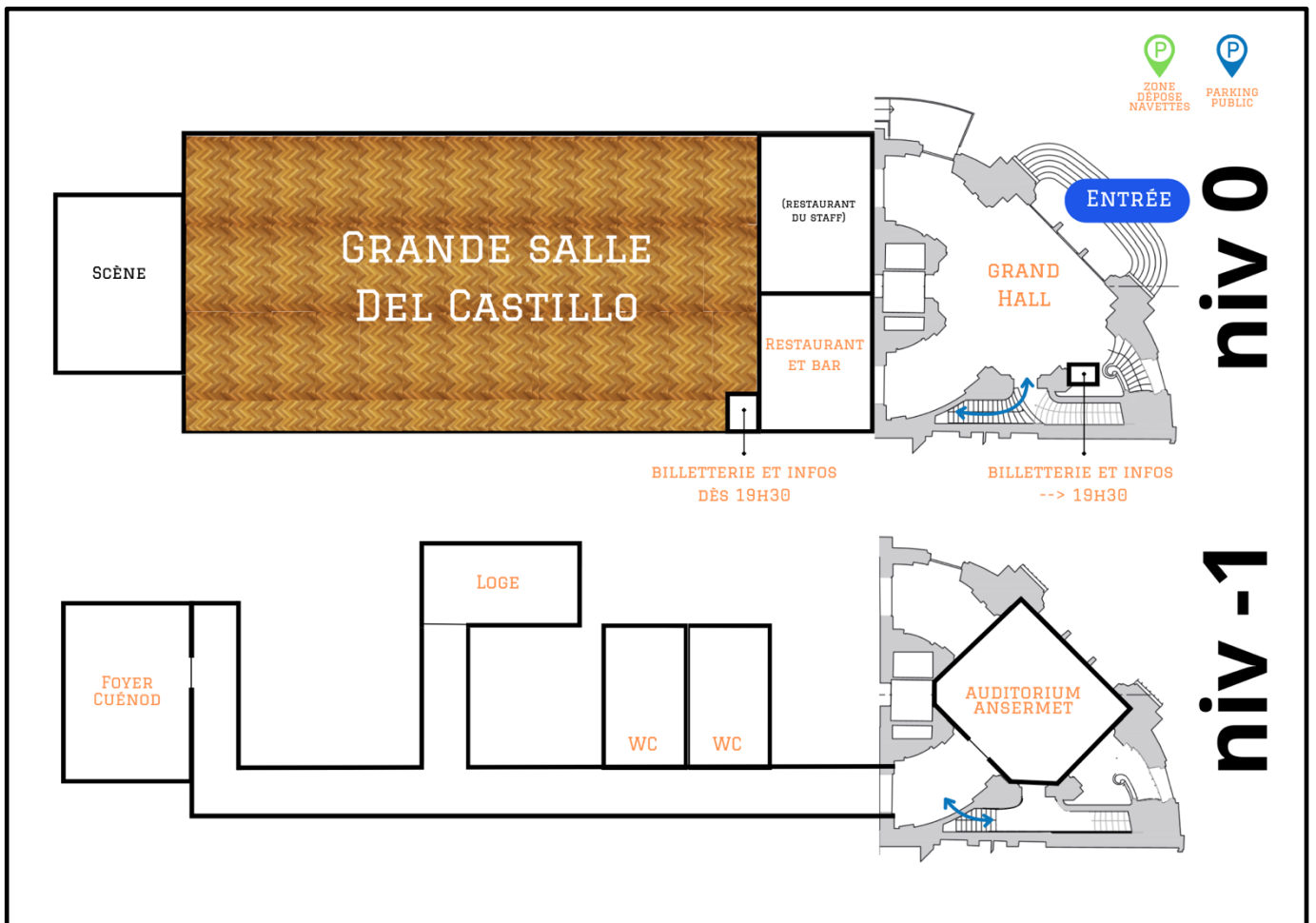


Figure 2 Map Del Castillo Hall inside



Figure 3 Map Vevey-campside location

SLEEPING

- There is a campsite reserved mainly for the Bal Unique, 3-4 kilometres from the centre of Vevey where the ballroom is located (campsite info below).
- As for hotels, ABnBs and other sleeping options, there are plenty around the venue.

Infos campside location "La Maladaire"

Prizes merde

- CHF 6.00 = price per person per night, whether in a tent or in a van/bus/camper
- CHF 10.00 extra for 1 van/bus/camper pitch (not per person but for 1 vehicle)

Example 1) Three people in tents pay 15.00

Example 2) Three people in a van pay 15 + 10 = 25.00

- CHF 15.00 = breakfast per person (full buffet)
- Order bread: croissants, pains au choc, etc.

Riviera Card

When you come to the campsite, you'll receive a card => free public transport and lots of activities. You'll receive information by email when you register.

Register for the campsite

To come and spend one or more nights, you need to register yourself and your friends via the link on www.balunique.ch/venir-et-dormir

Direct link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdkGdnSpNXJDcPcAs-jyiJdyzojQz0zflqh1zDls_TbRf4KpQ/viewform?usp=dialog

1. You can register yourself and the people in your tent or van/bus/camper. Nothing to pay at this stage.
2. You will receive an email within 10 days confirming your registration. You can use this email later to ask questions or change your booking.
3. On the day of your arrival, go to the campsite reception to pay for your booking. Please note: you must arrive before 19:00 on Saturdays (17:00 on Fridays).

The campsite and its services

- Showers-sinks-WCs 24/24
- 24/24 camping area: library, games, tables, kitchen, crockery, telephone recharging point, fridge, waste separation, microwave, table football.
- Right by the lake, so access to swimming 24/24
- Order breakfast and/or bread via your registration form
- Restaurant on site for Friday, Saturday lunchtime and Sunday lunchtime
- Shop, washing machine, electricity for vans/buses/campers (CHF 3.00/night), table tennis, PRM access
- Riviera Card: you will obtain this in advance and it entitles you to free public transport on the day of your arrival and the following day. You will receive information by email once you have registered.

Please note :

- Arrival must be before 19:00 on Saturday (17:00 on Friday)
- Dogs not allowed
- For vans/buses/campers: the site does not provide drinking water or emptying facilities.
- From 10pm, complete silence at the campsite

How to get to the campsite

- By train SBB < Burier> stop
- By bus, line 201 Vevey-Montreux, stop < La Tour de Peilz, Burier>.
- By car: Route de Saint-Maurice 310, 1814 La Tour-de-Peilz

Parking my car

- If you are in a tent, you cannot park your car on the campsite (except for equipment storage).
- On the map above, you can see where the car parks are (blue parking disc, 5-hour zones).

Roundway campside - Ballroom

A / During the day >>> bus line 201

Informations :

- The bus stops (on the campsite side and on the Vevey side are a 3' walk away, see map above).
- With the Riviera card, this bus line is free, all Saturday and all Sunday.

B / From 00 :00 to 05 :00 >>> Shuttles
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Ballroom --> Campsite, leaving in front of the ballroom at :

- 00:00 / 00:30
- 01:00 / 01:30
- 02:00 / 02:30
- 03:00 / 03:30 (beyond that, see if we can add more times)
- From 05:25, back by bus line 201

Informations :

- Departures from in front of the ballroom
- Subject to availability in the vehicle(s)
- No registration required

> TICKETING

The ticket office is Infomaniak
On Google, type "infomaniak bal unique".

You can buy cards for :

1. **the bals**
2. **workshops**
3. **others** free tickets (yoga, childcare, etc.).

> CONTACT

La Compagnie du sourire
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