

# State visit of H.M. Queen Elisabeth II to Switzerland

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and said grace, just as though he were the host. As he did so, they stared at him, then at each other. Was there something familiar in the way he said it, did they see strange marks in his hands, or did some vivid intuition rush in on their minds? At that moment Jesus vanished from their sight.

I cannot imagine the emotions which flooded them as they began to speak excitedly to each other: "Didn't our hearts burn inside us as he talked to us on the road?" The record says that they returned at once—although it was dark—all the way to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples who greeted them with the news that it was indeed true, in fact the Lord had also appeared to Simon called Peter.

Now, my reader, has the risen Lord been walking, unknown perhaps, along the path of your life? If so, he wants to make himself known to you. Will you listen to him? Jesus says: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him and he with me."

Happy Easter!

*Frank Orna-Ornstein*

## STATE VISIT OF H.M. QUEEN ELIZABETH II TO SWITZERLAND

From 29th to 2nd May 1980 the Queen and Prince Philip will pay an official visit to Switzerland. This is the first such event in the history of British-Swiss relations (Queen Victoria privately spent a holiday in Lucerne in 1868). So Switzerland appreciates all the more the honour done it by the Queen as an expression of the long-standing and excellent relations between the two countries.

The Royal couple will stay at the State Mansion "Lohn" in Kehrsatz, a quiet traditional village on the outskirts of Berne in the direction of Belp and Thun. Upon arrival at Zürich Airport the Queen (Prince Philip will, for the most part, follow the same programme) will proceed to Berne to meet the Federal Council and attend a dinner given by her hosts. The next day she will travel by a special 'nostalgic train' through the Bernese Oberland to Gstaad and Montreux. Lunch will be served at the awesome Château de Chillon, which Lord Byron so brilliantly brought to the attention of 19th century Britons in his poem "The Prisoner of Chillon". In the early afternoon Her Majesty will receive members of the British community in Switzerland at a function held at the Palais de Beauvieu, Lausanne.

She will then go on to Geneva to visit the International Committee of the Red Cross. The third day is reserved for a stroll round the spectacular gardening exhibition "Grün 80" in Basle. Back in Berne the Queen will host a dinner for the Swiss Government at the British Ambassador's residence. On her final day in Switzerland she is expected in Lucerne, where a steamer will carry her across the "Vierwaldstättersee" to the "Rütli", that hidden clearing under forbidding cliffs which saw the leaders of the three original Swiss Cantons swear their everlasting covenant in 1291. The State Visit will end in Zürich, on the afternoon of the same day. Subsequently the Queen and Prince Philip will go to the Principality of Liechtenstein for an unofficial stay.

News from Switzerland indicate that the Royal couple can expect a particularly warm welcome from the Swiss population. Already various places have been vying with one another to figure on the itinerary and to get as big a share of it as possible. It can safely be said that Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip occupy a special place in the hearts of the Swiss.

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