

Zeitschrift: Swiss express : the Swiss Railways Society journal
Band: - (2013)
Heft: 115

Artikel: This train takes the biscuit
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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-854229>

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THIS TRAIN TAKES THE BISCUIT

Kälti




The rural setting for the factory is obvious in this panoramic shot that also shows the 'Kambly train'.

Photo: Kambly

For an excursion with a difference next time you are in Switzerland how about a visit to a biscuit factory? Once you've walked the 200m from Trubschachen station it's all under cover and so suitable for one of those rare (?) wet days in the Alps. Oscar Kambly's rags to riches story began in 1910 when he set up his Swiss baking business, using the best local produce from Emmental farms. Oscar Kambly III now presides over a company employing 435 people and distributing speciality biscuits all over the world.

Export sales exceed CHF160 million/year. When the company celebrated its centenary Kambly teamed up with BLS who currently operate the Bern-Langnau-Luzern line that passes the factory. They sponsored not only a loco (465 0004-0) in advertising livery but a whole rake of coaches as well. If you catch this train set on Wednesday afternoons and Sundays you will be offered biscuits to sample en route. The Kambly-liveried train is scheduled to leave Bern Hbf at 09.36 and 13.36 (with a 35 minute journey to Trubschachen), and to depart from Luzern at 07.57, 11.57 and 15.57 (a 45 minute trip to Trubschachen). You can visit the 'Kambly Experience' exhibition at the Trubschachen factory to learn more about the growth of the Kambly family's business in an animated kitchen. Visitors can try their hand at decorating biscuits (a very popular pastime for the children) before moving on to the inevitable factory shop where you can try each type of confection before you buy. One of the souvenirs comes in a tin shaped like the Kambly loco. If you are feeling energetic you can load up a free app on your phone and try the 'Kambly Experience Trail', a 30km, two and a half hour, cycle ride, passing many of the local suppliers

of the ingredients that go into Kambly biscuits. You book your cycle, including e-cycles, with the BLS at Langnau station where the trail begins and ends. The free exhibition at Trubschachen opens from 08.30-18.30 on weekdays, 08.30-17.00 on Saturdays and Sundays. Visit www.kambly.ch for more information. 

Some children sample the delights of the products.

Photo: Kambly

For rail enthusiasts these are the obvious tins to buy.

Photo: Bremgarten

