



PROGRAMME

AMMLXXVI

Annual Congress – General Assembly 2026 – Bern
Association of Masonic Museums, Libraries & Archives

2 - 4 July 2026, Bern

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PROGRAMME FOR PARTICIPANTS

AMMLXXVI

Annual Congress – General Assembly 2026 – Bern
Association of Masonic Museums, Libraries & Archives

2 - 4 July 2026, Bern

Bern sandstone is a characteristic building material of the historic architecture of Bern. This relatively soft molasse sandstone was easy to work and hardens after exposure to air; its typical yellowish- to greenish hue is caused by minerals such as glauconite. The warm, slightly green tone continues to shape the distinctive appearance of Bern's Old Town today.

2 July Thursday

Programme for Participants and Partners

Reception at the hotel
Transfer to the museum

Hotels

16:30

Arrival

Haus der Freimaurer – Jupiterstrasse 40 – 3015 Bern

17:00

Reception

Address by

Address by

Address by

Address by

AMMLA President a.i. David Vergauwen

Host Robin Heizmann

Grand Master SGLA Mauro Rossi

President of our museum's Friends' Association Chris Fischer

Roof terrace or lounge

18:00

Museum visit

Free visit (with guides)

Museum

19:30

Get together

Address by

Informal dinner

Deputy City Mayor Alec von Graffenried

Roof terrace or lounge

3 July Friday

Programme for Participants

08:30	Transfer to museum		Hotels
09:00	Doors		Haus der Freimaurer – Jupiterstrasse 40 – 3015 Bern
09:15	Welcome	AMMLA President a.i. David Vergauwen	Lounge
09:30	AMMLA Business	Working groups status presentations Introduction of new members Presentation of the Stockholm Conference 2027 (ff)	Lounge
10:45	Short break	Drinks, refreshments	Lounge
11:00	General Assembly	Finances Resignation of president President and board elections	Lounge
12:00	Lunch		Lounge
13:30	AMMLA Business	Presentation of the new president and board (vision, mission) Discussion	Lounge
14:30	Panels	Slots according to call for papers	Lounge
16:00	Short break	Drinks, refreshments	Lounge
16:15	Continuation of panels	Slots according to call for papers	Lounge
18:00	Wrap Up day 1	Discussion	Lounge
18:15	Transfer to hotels	Return to hotels, individual refreshments	Hotels
19:30	Transfer to dinner		Odd Fellow House, Schwarztorstrasse 31, 3007 Bern
20:00	Gala dinner with partners	Address by Grand Mistress GLFS Nadine Oberhauser Address by Grand Master GOS Pierre Jeronimo Musical entertainment with the trio Musica Nostalgica	Odd Fellow House, Schwarztorstrasse 31, 3007 Bern

4 July Saturday

Programme for Participants

08:30	Transfer to museum		Hotels
09:00	Doors		Haus der Freimaurer – Jupiterstrasse 40 – 3015 Bern
09:15	Panels	Slots according to call for papers	Lounge
10:30	Short break	Drinks, refreshments	Lounge
10:45	Continuation of panels	Slots according to call for papers	Lounge
12:00	Wrap Up day 2	Discussion	Lounge
12:15	Lunch		Lounge
13:30	Transfer to city center		City of Bern

4 July Saturday

Programme for Participants and Partners

14:15	City of Bern	Guided tour of the UNESCO Old Town (90 minutes)	Old Town of Bern
15:45	City of Bern	Guided tour of Bern Minster and Bell Tower (90 minutes)	Minster of Bern
17:30	City of Bern	Short walk to the Lodge ‚Zur Hoffnung‘ in Bern Tour of the lodge premises	Loge Zur Hoffnung, Brunngasse 30, 3011 Bern
18:30	Group dinner	Acclaim for the organizing team Formal conclusion of the congress	Loge Zur Hoffnung, Brunngasse 30, 3011 Bern

All group expenses are covered.

PROGRAMME FOR PARTNERS



2 July

Thursday

Programme for Participants and Partners

Reception at the hotel
Transfer to the museum

Hotels

16:30	Arrival		Haus der Freimaurer – Jupiterstrasse 40 – 3015 Bern
17:00	Reception Address by Address by Address by Address by	AMMLA President a.i. David Vergauwen Host Robin Heizmann Grand Master SGLA Mauro Rossi President of our museum’s Friends’ Association Chris Fischer	Roof terrace or lounge
18:00	Museum visit	Free visit (with guides)	Museum
19:30	Get together Address by	Informal dinner on the roof terrace Deputy City Mayor Alec von Graffenried	Roof terrace or lounge

3 July Friday

Programme for Partners

Good footwear, windbreaker and sun protection are recommended

09:15	Reception at the hotels Bus transfer to the city of Thun (30 minutes)	Hotels
09:45	Old town and Thun Castle Historical tour (90 minutes) Visit to Thun Castle terrace with views over the town and lake	Thun Altstadt
11:40	Boat trip Departure of the cruise ship towards Spiez (45 minutes) Walk to the Seegarten-Marina restaurant (5 minutes)	Thun Schiffände
12:30	Lunch	Seegarten-Marina, Spiez
14:00	Bus transfer to the valley station Niesenbahn	Mülenen
14:30	Funicular railway Mount Niesen Short walk to the viewpoint with a 360° view over Lake Thun, the Kander Valley, Thun, Spiez, Interlaken and the Bernese Alps with panoramic views of the Alps	2,362 metres above sea level
16:45	Bus transfer to the hotels Individual refreshments followed by the gala dinner with participants	Hotels

All group expenses are covered.

Alternative programme in case of bad weather or very poor visibility from Mount Niesen:

Guided tour of Thun. Instead of taking the Niesenbahn railway, we will enjoy lunch on the boat and visit the Beatus Caves after this 90-minute boat trip. On the return journey, we will visit Oberhofen Castle with a guided tour. Then return to Bern.

4 July

Saturday

Programme for Partners

09:00	Reception at the hotels Stroll to the Bear Park (Group A) and the Zytglogge (Group B)	Hotels
09:45	Guided visit to the Bern Bear Park (60 minutes) Group A	Bern Bear Park
09:15	Guided tour of the historic Zytglogge clock tower (60 minutes) Group B	Zytglogge Tower
11:00	Walk to the Schwellenmätteli restaurant (15 minutes)	Schwellenmätteli
11:15	Lunch	Schwellenmätteli
13:45	Walk to the Old town of Bern	Old Town of Bern

4 July

Saturday

Programme for Participants and Partners

14:15	City of Bern	Guided tour of the UNESCO Old Town (90 minutes)	Old Town of Bern
15:45	City of Bern	Guided tour of Bern Minster and Bell Tower (90 minutes)	Bern Minster
17:30	City of Bern	Short walk the Lodge ‚Zur Hoffnung‘ in Bern Tour of the lodge premises	Loge Zur Hoffnung, Brunngasse 30, 3011 Bern
18:30	Group dinner	Acclaim for the organizing team Formal conclusion of the congress	Loge Zur Hoffnung, Brunngasse 30, 3011 Bern

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Bern Citymap

- 1 Museum (congress location)
- 2 Loge Zur Hoffnung (group dinner)
- 3 Odd Fellow House (gala dinner)
- 4 Bern Minster
- 5 Restaurant Schwellenmätteli
- 6 Zytglogge
- 7 Hotel Best Western
- 8 Hotel Kreuz
- 9 Hotel Bristol
- 10 Bear Park

