

FEU AU LAC 2025: SYZYGY



SURVIVAL GUIDE



New burner or simply new to Feu au Lac? This guide exists to teach you everything you need to know. The rest... we will create together.

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HELLO!

Dear Experimentalia members,

Member of Experimentalia? Yes, that's you! By joining Experimentalia, you will be co-creating our annual gathering: Le Feu au Lac 2025. Experimentalia is a Geneva-based association for the promotion of culture and art, inspired by Burning Man's 10+3 principles.

This year's theme is Syzygy. "Syzygy" is the coming together of what is usually disconnected.

In astronomy, a syzygy is the alignment of three celestial bodies, such as the Earth, Moon and Sun during an eclipse. In psychology, syzygy is the union of disparate aspects of the self, such as conscious and unconscious, rational and irrational, or id and ego. In some variants of Gnostic philosophy, syzygies are pairs of creatures called Aeons, the first beings to emanate from the creator of all things. They include: depth and silence; spirit and truth; stillness and mixture; essential nature and pleasure, among others.

What will you bring? How will you combine it with what's not usually aligned? Join us and find out.

The full moon will be on August 9 at 7:55 am, the day of the Man Burn. In addition to the full moon, a planetary alignment will occur on August 11, 2025. Mercury, Jupiter, Venus, Uranus, Neptune and Saturn will be aligned.

Le Feu au Lac is an event of Experimentalia, a non-profit association run entirely by volunteers.

Fees are set freely, covering a minimum amount to guarantee the smooth running of the event. We encourage you to support our artistic projects and the running of our organization by adding the amount of your choice when purchasing your ticket.

Best regards,

La fORGe (Govan, Nityam, Kaitlin, Lionel, Mumbling Frog, Oko, Petra, Alejandro and more..)

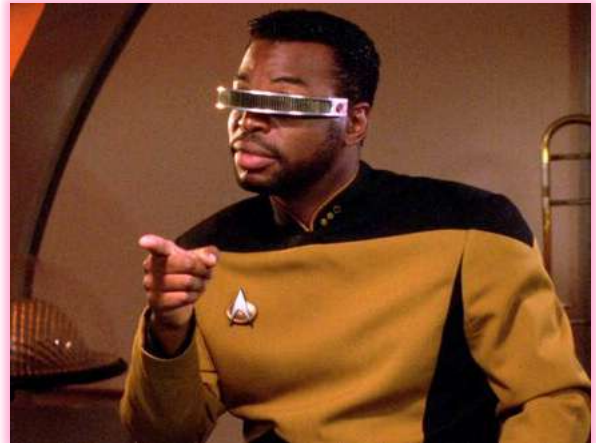
*We had too much fun with this section
(Aka weird names we came up with):*

Okay so we have been having a lot of fun 'naming' things Swiss styles, and there may be some words in this document that are confusing. Here's a brief dictionary:

✦ **Feu au Lac:** That's our burn! "Feu au lac" translates to "the lake is on fire". In Swiss Romande, "The lake is not on fire" is a common phrase which is intended to reassure people that there are no emergencies and there's probably no need to rush. We hope to make things a bit unexpected, so we are the Feu au Lac.

✦ **Experimentalia:** That's our organization! We even have a website: <https://experimentalia.org/>

✦ **La fORGe:** The Feu au Lac **ORG.** Aka the engineers of this starship. Avoid Kaitlin if you don't want to see Star Trek memes.



✦ **La Patrouilles:** Known in other burns as "Rangers" our Patrouilleur.e.s are there to keep everyone safe and help folks that aren't feeling well get to a space where they can find help. To join this team, see "shifts" below.

✦ **La Douane:** Known in other burns as "Gate" this is where we check you in, give you an explanation of what kind of crazy event we're running, and introduce you to our principles.

✦ **Shifts:** It means 'volunteering' but it's so much more. Burns work because there are no spectators – everyone helps us build together. Taking a shift is a great way to meet people, help build the event and the community, and ensure that we have enough people to make the Feu au Lac run.

✦ **Gestionnaire de Papaye:** originated In Afrikaaburns (south African burn). Worn by the person who has to handle any major problem.

CHAPTER 1 : GET INVOLVED

The magic of burn lies in co-creation. Experience it for yourself by finding a project and getting involved! Here are a few ways to get involved:

Bring art:

Everyone is free to bring whatever art they like. The only limitations are:

Art involving fire must use the designated fire pit north of the chalet in the field. No fires elsewhere unless authorized by the fire warden.

Wood can be found in the surrounding forests.

All projects are welcome ! You can register here:

<https://forms.gle/wssVscNK22cj75to6>

Please don't forget to communicate:

- ✦ the **size** (please let us know about large projects so we can find you a space),
- ✦ the **noise** (please take into account noise levels in different areas for your projects needs... see the section on "noise" below for more detail).

There are several locations available :

- ✦ **The Artefactum:** at the edge of the site, a large (almost) flat space for outdoor artistic projects requiring large surfaces.
- ✦ **Le Refuge:** A magnificent two-storey chalet with a beautiful central wooden staircase. There are plenty of spaces to which you can add magic with a little decoration. There will also be some relaxation areas that could benefit from a little art. Let us know if you have something fun to share!
- ✦ **Outside:** Got something interesting that doesn't require a flat space? There's a wooded area and some space near the campground and La Tanière. Let us know if you'd like to place something so we can reserve a space for you.
- ✦ **La Tanière (Den):** A space designed to be calm and relaxing. If you

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have a project that matches this energy, this is the right place.

- ✦ **La Faille (the Rift) et Solaris:** Two dance floors, one nocturnal and the other for the day. If you're a DJ, musician, VJ or other artist who wants to get people moving, sign up here:
<https://tinyurl.com/ymbawd5m>
- ✦ **The Velvet Void:** If you have an 18+ project... it's in this space dedicated to pleasure that you'll have to settle. Access to the Velvet Void is not permitted to underage participants
- ✦ **Les Lucioles (The Fireflies):** This space is for children's (and older children's) projects.

All participants are also welcome to adopt a space and decorate it to their liking, as much or as little as they wish :) (see section 3. "orphan ideas")

Any question ? We're available at art@experimentalialia.org.

Create a workshop:

Do you have something to teach? Yoga? Coffee-making? Interpretive dance? Dancing with fire? Tea ceremony? TEDtalk ? Composting ? Tarot reading ? Come and share your talents with other burners!

Workshops have to be announced before the **1st of August 2025** via this link:

<https://forms.gle/P9RNfU2vcRc5WqDUA>

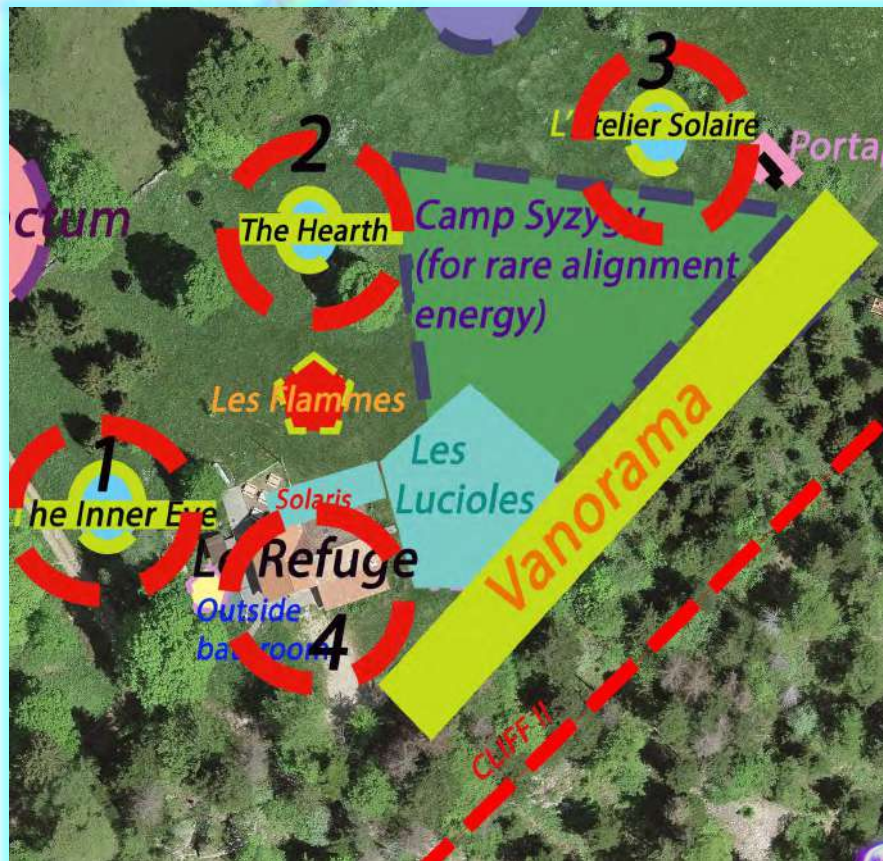
You can also ask questions on our workshop channel on the Discord here:
<https://tinyurl.com/4p2bmab7>

Or by writing to art@experimentalialia.org



Workshop spaces

We have 4 dedicated workshop spaces, open to all but requiring making a reservation in advance for planning and announcing the workshop schedule



Workshop area 4 is located in the chalet's main hall.

Interior view of the workshop area :



Adopt an orphan idea!

Would you like to contribute, but don't quite know how?
Adopt an orphan idea!

Adopt a room: many rooms/bathrooms/hallways still need burnering. If you've got a room you'd like to decorate, we'd love to hear from you. Any ideas?

CostumeCAMP / Le costume CAMP is a space where everyone can experiment, change costumes and make themselves beautiful. We're still looking for contributors to help decorate, and everyone is welcome to lend costumes/accessories/make-up!

Your talents and knowledge deserve to be shared, as do your most unexpected ideas. Here's some of ours that we don't have time to create:

Shiny stickers and Make-up, bring your make-up and stickers for face and body, to decorate your new playa best-friend.

Room full of Balloons, all in the name... max 40% human 60% balloons. We're still looking for balloons, but we need someone to blow them up.

Glory Nail, put your hand in the hole and come out with new nail art that you didn't choose.

Your idea here! Whatever you'd like to bring is welcome!



Music

All DJs and musicians are welcome! We're sorely lacking in DJs and musicians, so we'd like to establish a generous and diversified line-up.

There are currently two stages:

- ✦ **La Faille [The Rift]** : Located in the forest, this stage is dedicated to electronic music artists of the full BPM scale.
- ✦ **Solaris [Dayfloor]** : Dancefloor by the chalet, open only until 11pm. Playing all styles up to and including electronic music. During the day, slots can be reserved for playlists for amateurs who want to share their mood. You can contact Nityam directly (+41) 77 211 2588.

The music concept is explained in more detail in the chapter Security: Noise.

Link to add yourself to the DJ lineup: <https://tinyurl.com/bp82tjbj>

Le QuoiQuandOu (WhatWhereWhen)

Le QuoiQuandOu (in English WhatWhereWhen) will be published before the event. **The final date to send in your workshops if you want them included in the guide is August 1st 2025.**

Shifts: Help us run the burn

For this event to take place, the various shift positions must be filled by the participants. We should sign up for approximately 2 shifts per person.

You can sign up by following this link: <https://tinyurl.com/yc4dnuny>

More info about how shifts work is here :

<https://experimentalia.org/when/rebirth/shifts/> or you can always write to us at etincelle@experimentalia.org.



CHAPTER II: ARRIVAL

Location: Chalet Scout du Montperreux

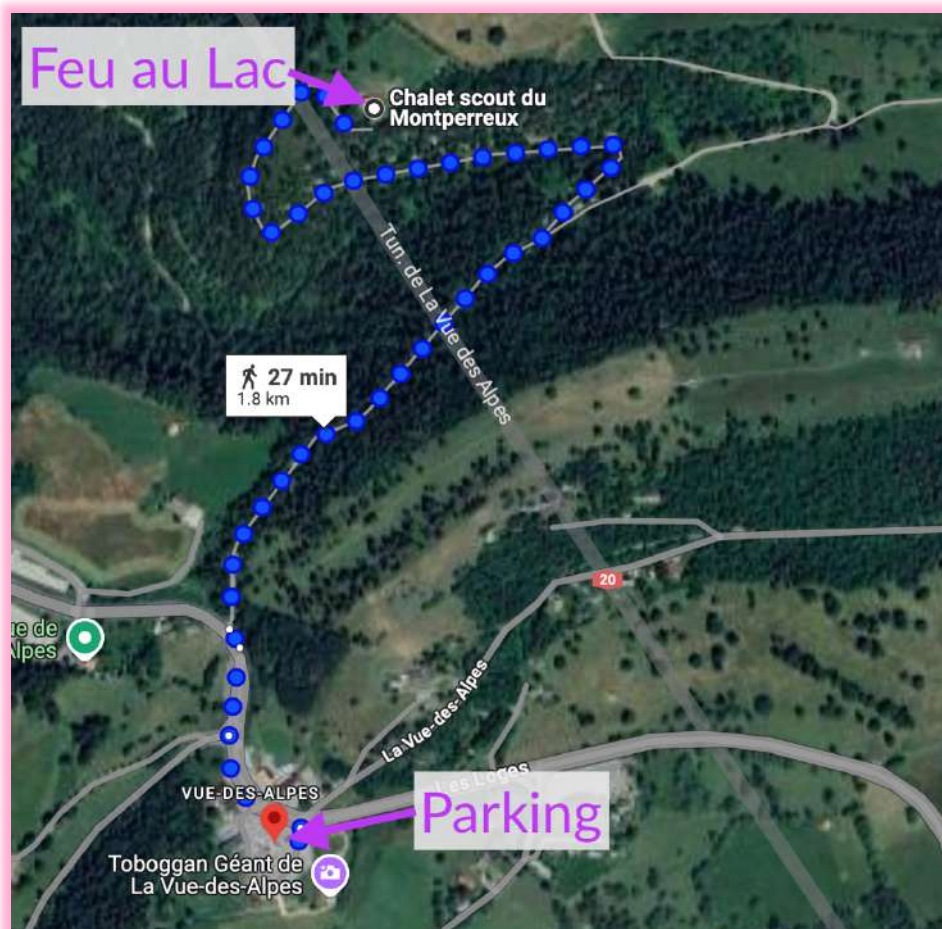
Le Feu au Lac 2025 will take place at **Chalet scout du Montperreux, 2052 Fontaines**. Links to some maps here:

https://urls.fr/e_GWu2

<https://urls.fr/OxV3nY>

The distance from the Vue des Alpes parking lot to the chalet is around 1.7 km. Allow about 25 minutes on foot. We will coordinate hours for people who need to drop things off, or arrange a shuttle. **There is not parking on site.**

Here's a map of the chalet, indicating access to parking :



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Proposed event map/lay-out:



Arrival Times

Arrival times are as follows:

Day		Gate opens at :	Gate closes at :
Monday 4 Aug	Build	14:00. No gate. Please let us know by email if you plan to arrive early for build : etincelle@experimentalialia.org	
Tuesday 5 Aug			
Weds 6 Aug	Burn !	14:00	22:00
Thurs 7 Aug	Burn !	10:00	
Friday 8 Aug	Burn !	10:00	
Saturday 9 Aug	Burn !	10:00	14:00

After 14 :00 on Saturday 9 August : **Site closes !!! No unplanned arrivals.**

Arrival outside these hours is not possible except for exceptions requested by e-mail at least 7 days before the event.

(etincelle@experimentalialia.org).





Private vehicles

Only people with an RV/Van pass can park on the site.
Others are asked to park at the public parking “la Vue des Alpes” (it’s free). Thank you for your understanding.

ci-dessus (coordonnées : 47° 04' 19.39" N 6° 52' 12.64" E)

Unfortunately, there are no parking spaces available on the event site other than for the RV/Van passes. The road leading to the site is quite narrow **and it is nearly impossible to have cars passing each other in 2 directions.** So to ease things for people who want to drop things off we have a little system:

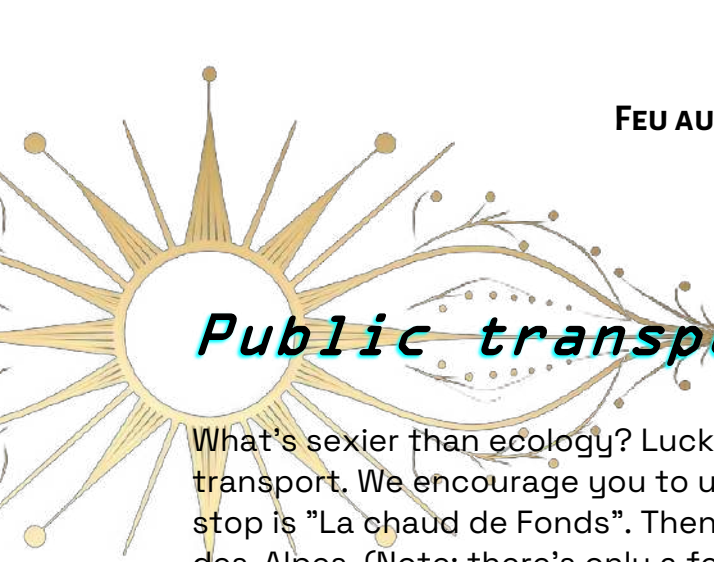
- ✦ 1st half of every hour (e.g. 2-2:30): **IN.** You can come drop things off. No exit from the site permitted.
- ✦ 2nd half of every hour (e.g. 2:30-3): **OUT.** To allow people who dropped things off to leave the site. PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE ROAD IN A CAR AT THIS TIME, IT WILL CAUSE A HUGE MESSY TRAFFIC JAM.

To simplify things, we ask that as much as possible you carpool your stuff that needs to arrive in a car. Fewer cars that need to come and go the better. **Else please use the public parking on la Vue des Alpes.** The public parking is free. We ask you to please not “burnerise” the parking to avoid undue attention. Let’s stay incognito (no music, camping, decorations) in the public parking lot. The parking lot is a 25 minute walk from the Montperreux chalet.

Please note that parking along the forest road leading to the estate is not permitted. You may see a few local vehicles as there’s a fork in the road. But don’t park there. The commune has made it clear that respect for the parking lot was their highest priority.

They warned us of patrols with fines. Please help us keep this event safe, police and trouble-free.

If you have any special requirements for artwork/camp, please don’t hesitate to contact us at etincelle@experimentalia.org.



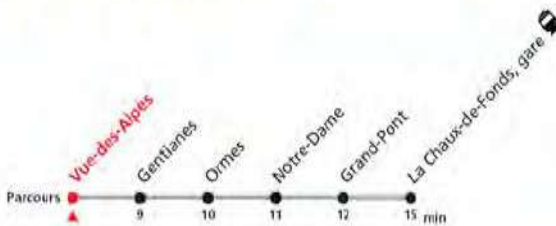
Public transport

What's sexier than ecology? Luckily, Le Feu au Lac is served by public transport. We encourage you to use this mode of transport. The nearest train stop is "La chaud de Fonds". Then take bus 370 La Chaux-de-Fonds - Vue-des-Alpes. (Note: there's only a few 370 bus per day).

The chalet is about a 25-minute walk from this stop. If you have heavy or difficult-to-carry equipment, please write to (etincelle@experimentalia.org) and we will find a solution.



370 Vue-des-Alpes - La Chaux-de-Fonds

Valable du 15.12.2024 au 13.12.2025

Heure	Mercredi	Lu-Ve Vacances	Samedi-Dimanche et fêtes	Renseignements
9		55	55	VACANCES SCOLAIRES : 23.12.-03.01. 24-28.02. 14-25.04. 30.05. 07.07.-15.08. 06.10.-17.10. FÊTES : 25-26.12. 01.02.01. 01.03. 18.04. 21.04. 01.05. 29.05. 09.06. 01.08. 22.09. Informations pour les voyageurs à mobilité réduite sur : transn.ch/voyager-avec-un-handicap . Nombre de places et transport des bagages limités, réservation obligatoire pour groupe dès 10 personnes. Plus d'infos sur www.transn.ch/groupe .
10				
11				
12				
13	55	55	55	
14				
15				
16				
17	05	05	05	





List of things to bring

- ✦ Sun cream
- ✦ Flashlight (it gets dark at night)
- ✦ Earplugs
- ✦ Insect repellent spray
- ✦ Food+ what you need to cook (kitchen available but no cutlery or glasses)
- ✦ Drinks, drinking water (The water available from the taps is not drinkable. It comes from a cistern and is not suitable for drinking. To be consumed, it must be either boiled or treated with "Micropur").
- ✦ If you sleep in a dormitory: sheets or inner sheet or sleeping bag
- ✦ Your own cup + plates, cutlery
- ✦ Costumes, bold outfits :) (think radical self expression)
- ✦ Things to share



Resell your membership

You can resell your membership on Discord. Note that fORGe is not responsible for the resale process, including payment. If you need to find an interested party, there may be some on the discord channel ticket-exchange: <https://tinyurl.com/mrk5a4d7>

Procedure:

- ✦ Agree with the potential buyer on the method of payment (the fORGe is not responsible for guaranteeing payment in the case of resale).
- ✦ Pass on the ticket to the buyer and to tell us the information : etincelle@experimentalia.org (you'll need the buyer's email address, first name and surname).
- ✦ The buyer receives an e-mail from us with the allocation



CHAPTER III: SLEEPING

See site map under 'Chalet de Montperreux, above

Camp Syzygy

The campsite is located in the center of the terrain on its flattest area. You are free to set up as you wish (with due respect for your neighbors).

Dormitories

Dormitories are located inside the chalet. On the second floor, the chalet is equipped with 50 beds divided into five dormitories. Each bed has its own storage shelf (a locker without a door). Chalet guests requested to bring a sleeping bag and, if desired, a mattress cover, pillow and pillowcase.

Sleeping places are distributed as follows:

- ✦ One 10-bed dormitory with bunkbeds
- ✦ Two 8-bed dormitories with bunkbeds (including 1 reserved for families) One 20-bed dormitory with bunkbeds. From this dormitory, access to the outside is possible (with an emergency exit).
- ✦ There is also one 4-bed dormitory with bunkbeds that is planned to be a 'chill space'. Please do not set up your things there.

Blankets/linens are not included in the dormitory, so please be sure to bring your own sheets, /blankets, and inner sheet or sleeping bag.

Vans

The van site is located along the road. Due to high demand, space between vans may be limited. We therefore ask you not to plan for any external structures that take up too much space. (awnings, etc).

Only people with an RV/van pass can park on site. Others are asked to park at the public parking Vue des Alps (it's free).



CHAPTER IV: EATING

Use of the chalet's kitchen is available. It is well-stocked with cooking equipment (pots, pans, knives, etc) but we ask that you bring your own plate/bowl/cup for eating. We suggest that you bring as much food as possible that does not require a refrigerator (due to limited space). We are open to culinary projects to feed a bunch of people and have art grants for this, so please write to us if you would like to do this!

Attention : The tap water is not potable.

If you have a food/drink-related project, please write to us at art@experimentalia.org with details.

We're always looking for volunteers to help with the meal, coffee and tea in the morning. Sign up for a kitchen shift here: <https://tinyurl.com/yc4dnuny>



CHAPTER V: SECURITY

Recognizing the tribe

Each participant will be wearing a wristband that will enable you to recognize them as burners. La Patrouille also patrols for this purpose. If you see someone without a wristband in the space, ask them to leave (this is a private event). If they don't cooperate, call the La Patrouille.

Please note that, as much as we love our bare- assed tribe members, non-sexualized nudity is only permitted in closed spaces (Velvet Void).



Minors will be given a different-colored wristband to prevent them from entering areas reserved for over-18s.

Connecting to electricity

Yes, you can connect to the grid we've installed! However, there are a few rules you should know to stay safe and avoid unpleasant surprises.

Warning: Electricity is just as dangerous at Fire Lake as it is in the real world.

What type of connection?

- ✦ Up to 2300 Watts (10A)? Use a single 3-wire, 1.5mm², type J cable (as in Switzerland).
- ✦ More than 2300 Watts? Use multiple single-phase cables as described above, or a 5-pole CEE



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plug (red socket) rated at 16A, which provides up to 3 x 3700 Watts.

What You Need to Prepare:



- ✦ Main cable---->A sufficient main cable to connect to the network.
- ✦ Internal cables---->Good quality cables for inside your camp.
- ✦ Power requirement---->Let us know how much power you plan to use.

⚠ *Safety & Responsibility*

- ✦ Cable condition---->All cables must be in good condition, with no sketchy DIY fixes.
- ✦ Connection protection---->Properly protect your connections from rain, mud, and wandering feet.
- ✦ Overload---->Don't overload your line – you are responsible for what you plug in.
- ✦ Energy saving---->We have a limited power supply, so only plug in what you really need, and unplug it when you're done.

When in doubt

Ask the electricity team! We're here to help you stay powered – safely. Write to us at etincelle@experimentaliala.org.

Health

In the event of mental or physical health problems, the Patrouille will direct you to the place appropriate according to your needs.

We have an on-call doctor system, available to the Patrouille, to initiate pre-hospital care in life-threatening emergencies, assess complex cases and assist with referral decisions.

In case of a life-threatening emergency, call 144 directly.

At the same time, ask someone to call la Patrouille (h24) . This enables us to activate the doctors on site and ensure that the way is clear for the ambulance (role of the *Gestionnaire de Papaye*). If you need to keep a medicine refrigerated, don't hesitate to contact the organization team in advance (etincelle@experimentalia.org).

Hygiene

WC and sanitary facilities are located in the basement of the chalet. A separate room with a door is available for washing. Although there is no shower as such, a sanitary facility with hot water is available for having a wash.

Two portable toilet cubicles will be installed at the back of the field *just to give the campers a closer toilet*. Thank you once again for respecting nature and leaving no trace by relieving yourself only in the toilets.

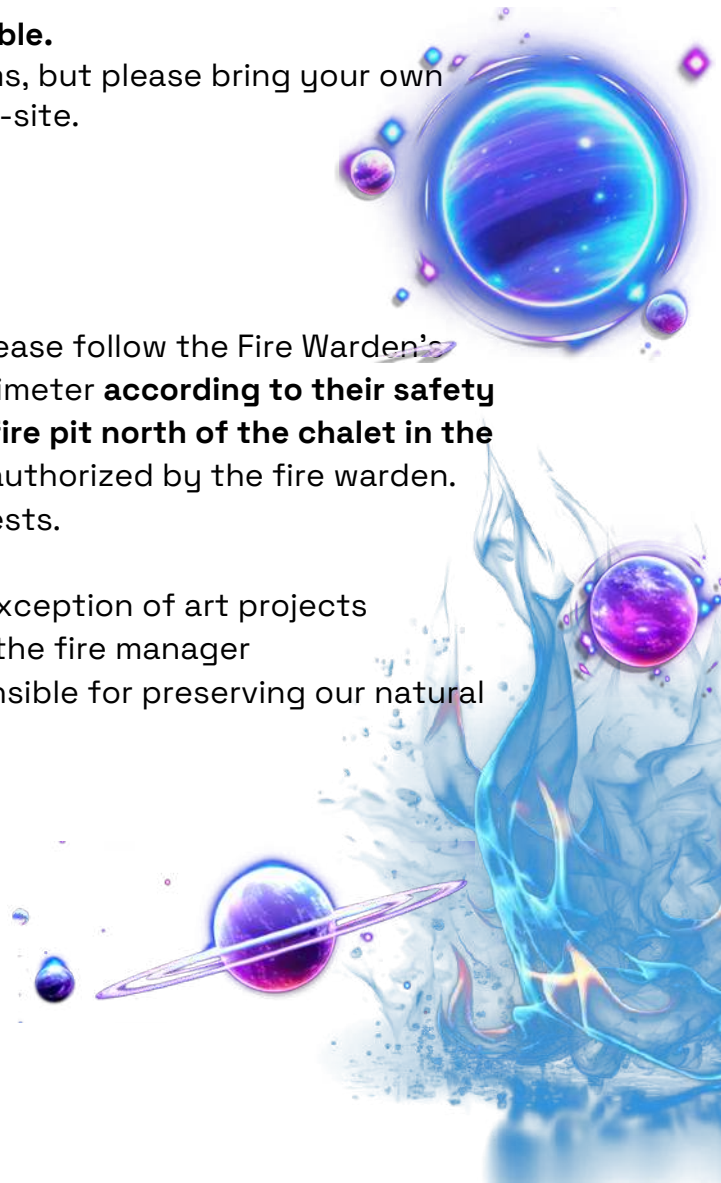
Attention: the water in the taps is not potable.

We will provide toilet paper in the bathrooms, but please bring your own towels and shampoo if you plan to wash on-site.

Fire

The effigy will burn on Saturday at 11pm. Please follow the Fire Warden's instructions and stay within the safety perimeter **according to their safety instructions. For fires, use the designated fire pit north of the chalet in the field. No fires permitted elsewhere**, unless authorized by the fire warden. Wood may be found in the surrounding forests.

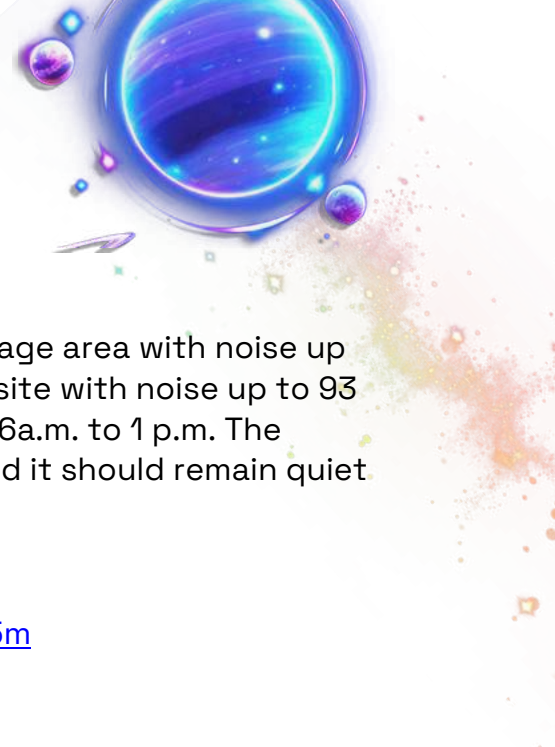
Personal fires are not permitted, with the exception of art projects that have requested prior permission from the fire manager (art@experimentalia.org). We are all responsible for preserving our natural surroundings.



Physical/mental health and safety

- ✦ **Physical safety:** in the event of a breach of consent or verbal or physical aggression, please contact La Patrouille immediately. We are all responsible for the safety of our community.
- ✦ Please do not let anyone from outside Feu au Lac into the event areas. **Each participant has a wristband that you can use to identify burners.** La Patrouille is also there to help control this. If you see someone without a wristband in the spaces, ask them to leave (this is a private event). If they don't cooperate, call La Patrouille.
- ✦ **Police:** if you come across the police, do not interact. Call La Patrouille or a member of the fORGe who will notify le Gestionnaire de Papaye.
- ✦ **Mental health and safety:** during burns, it's normal to sometimes feel negative or overwhelming emotions. If you need help, don't hesitate to call La Patrouille. If you need a moment of calm, the chill space is open 24/24 and you can go there to rest.
- ✦ **Sacred cows:** don't bother the cows or you will have bad karma forever.





Noise

The noisy zone includes the campsite, the Dayfloor stage area with noise up to 80 dB and up to max. 11 p.m. and the Faille (rift) offsite with noise up to 93 dB and max. 6 a.m. Entirely music-free hours are from 6a.m. to 1 p.m. The speakers face away from the campsite at the Faille and it should remain quiet where people are sleeping.

To be a DJ, sign up here. <https://tinyurl.com/ymbawd5m>

	Silent hours	Max decibels	Music style
Solaris	23h-13h	80 dB (chamber orchestra, child's disco)	All styles: hiphop, disco, reggae, jam session, trap, pop, musique live...
La Faille / The Rift	06h-13h	93 dB (dance club)	Electronic music.



Pets

Despite our love for our dogs, cats, chickens and other companions, they are unfortunately not allowed on the site. We share this site with a herd of cows, and it's our duty to make life easy for them.

The field next to the campsite and the paths cross a field of cows, which can end up very close to participants. They're relatively calm and accustomed to humans, but please don't bother them.



Children

As an inclusive event, there are no restrictions on children's participation. That said, as we don't know at this stage what participants will bring and organize at the event, we can't say in advance whether the event is suitable for "not-yet-adults".

Especially as this assessment may also vary from one parent to another. You may not be comfortable with your children witnessing certain things. If you've never been to a burn, we suggest you experience it without your children first, so you can make an informed decision for your next one. You can read this article about children's participation in one of the biggest regional burns, Afrikaburn (bearing in mind that our burn is on a very different scale): <https://www.yahoo.com/news/afrikaburn-safe-kids-095300128.html>

Please note that minors are not allowed in sex positive spaces.

The physical site is unfortunately not totally safe. **There's a cliff** in one corner of the site. We will of course block off this dangerous part and mark it as best we can, but be aware that the danger persists.

Can you guarantee that you'll be able to keep your child away from this area for the duration of the event?





We look forward to seeing you soon and creating this event together.

In the meantime, keep the flame burning!

