

Profile

At home on the shores of Lake Lucerne

Urs Langenegger has been the general manager at the Park Hotel Vitznau since 2011.

Vitznau, April 2021. Urs Langenegger feels very much at home in Central Switzerland and on the shores of Lake Lucerne in particular. He was born and raised in Eastern Switzerland, graduated from the SHL college of hotel management in Lucerne and then worked in Central Switzerland for several years. This included a period of five years as the deputy general manager of the **Grand Hotel National in Lucerne before moving** on to senior management roles at the Astoria hotels, also in Lucerne. He joined Vitznau in 2011, in the midst of the one-hundred-year-old hotel undergoing major renovation works costing 300 million Swiss francs, and - together with his dynamic team – ensured the completely modernised hotel was ready to open its doors again in 2013.



Image 1: Urs Langenegger, general manager at the Park Hotel Vitznau since 2011

You've been at the Park Hotel Vitznau for almost a decade. What are your favourite moments?

Ever since I set foot in this magical place in 1992, I have been spellbound. The breathtaking scenery combined with the hotel's excellent infrastructure make the Park Hotel Vitznau a dream destination.







What fascinates you about the Lake Lucerne region?

I love the diversity of both the landscape and the people. The lake and mountains embrace each other on the shores, and rural life intertwines with the urban villages.



Image 2: The Park Hotel Vitznau directly on the shores of Lake Lucerne

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Which countries do you like to travel to in particular? And which country is on your bucket list?

One of my favourite destinations is Scotland. The countryside is just unique, and I like the north especially. I would also like to visit Bhutan.







Describe your personal leadership style?

I don't follow an explicit but a situational leadership style – a mix.

The Park Hotel Vitznau has many works of art. Are you an art lover?

You could say that!

Which piece of art in the hotel fascinates you the most?

Le Miroir – a monumental piece of work created by Claude Verlinde.

It depicts globalisation as a mixture of reality, vision and dream world. Claude Verlinde created this six-by-twelve-metre painting for our Verlinde hall, a multipurpose room named after him.



Image 3: The work 'Le Miroir' by Claude Verlinde at the Park Hotel Vitznau







The exclusive wine cellar at the Park Hotel Vitznau is one-of-a-kind. Which is your favourite wine?

I don't have a favourite wine – it really depends on my mood. Generally, I love champagne, and I like white wines from the Loire Valley and red wines from the Bordelais regions.



Image 4: The champagne cellar; one of six wine cellars in the Park Hotel Vitznau

Do you prefer Gourmet cuisine or simple home cooking?

Again—it depends on my mood. There's a time and place for both.

What do you do in your spare time?

I like to make my job my hobby too; hotels play a big role in my life and I enjoy learning about new concepts. I love to travel and like to incorporate art and architecture into my trips. My hobbies also include hiking and skiing, and to keep my fitness levels up, I go to the gym several times a week.







Now a few quick-fire questions...

Your favourite tech gadget?

iPhone.

Summer or winter sports?

Both.

Early bird or night owl?

I've become an early riser over the years – I think that's down to old age!

Exotic barista creations or a simple espresso?

Americano.

Urs Langenegger's career highlights	
1991–1996	Graduate of the SHL college of hotel management, Lucerne
1996–2001	Sales and marketing manager, later deputy general manager at the Grand Hotel National, Lucerne
2001–2011	General manager at the Lucerne-based Ateliers Jean Nouvel hotel
2011–date	Urs Langenegger has been the general manager of the Park Hotel Vitznau since 2011. He was responsible for its renovation and, together with his dynamic young team, has successfully managed the five-star hotel – which boasts two award-winning gourmet restaurants – since it reopened in 2013.

Park Hotel Vitznau

Following renovations lasting three and a half years, and a total investment of 300 million Swiss francs, the Park Hotel Vitznau was reopened in 2013. The hotel offers 47 individually styled suites and residences.

Gourmets can choose from two award-winning restaurants: the fine-dining restaurant «focus», lead by Head Chef Patrick Mahler, has been awarded 18 GaultMillau points and 2 Michelin stars and «PRISMA», with Philipp Heid at the reins, has been granted 16 GaultMillau points and 1 Michelin star. Likewise, under the management of Felix Kattchin, the Lakeside Terrace has been given 14 GaultMillau points. The Verlinde bar and exclusive private dining rooms, as well as a 'Chef's Table' complete the wide range of dining experiences available at the Park Hotel Vitznau. The hotel's wine cellar is one of the most exclusive in the world, home to a selection of 32,000 bottles covering 4,000 different varieties and with a purchase value exceeding 26 million Swiss francs.







Conference rooms with state-of-the-art facilities are available for seminars and meetings of up to 140 people. Guests can relax and unwind in the spa. Across 1500 m2 they will find an aquarium, as well as a heated infinity pool, sanarium, ice cave, massages, beauty treatments and a gym. The Park Hotel Vitznau is a member of The Leading Hotels of the World, the Swiss Deluxe Hotels, Virtuoso, American Express Fine Hotels & Resorts as well as the falstaff Hotel Collection. In 2014, the Park Hotel Vitznau was named 'GaultMillau Hotel of the Year 2014' and other awards soon followed: 'The Leading Hotels of the World Leadership Award 2018', 'Tripadvisor Traveller's Choice Award' in 2018 and 2019, as well as being an award winner in the 2019 Kiwi Collection Hotel Awards.

Number of characters: 3'350 characters incl. spaces

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