



Surfing the past

Set in one of Switzerland's oldest spa towns, the Historisches Museum Baden cross-links history with the here and now by taking it straight into the contemporary world. The beautiful layout of the building complex, consisting of the old bailiwick castle and a modern annex, is set right across the old town by the Limmat river and provides an inviting view for any approaching visitor.

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Once you have crossed the bridge, you will be very surprised by the manifold ways of experiencing history that this museum has to offer. An innovative variety allows a personalised approach to history for every single visitor, with tempting offers for both the young and the grown-ups.

Curious visitors will enjoy gathering multiple impressions during their stay while wandering from one historical object to another; a concept which inspired the artistic interpretation of the unique 'Feldflaschenkleidglocke', best translated as the 'flasky bell-dress'.

The museum's activities include guided tours, an interactive children's programme as well as special evening events and interesting noontime talks for adults.

Director Carol Nater Cartier learnt about the museum during her studies in the '90s and recalls her first encounter with the place as "love at first sight". She knew instantly that she wanted to take on leading the space one day – a wish that became true in 2013, eight years after having entered the museum's organisational team as an intern.

The brand new exhibition *>linked< history* provides an innovative approach using digital technique for a unique museum experience. It allows visitors to surf straight into the past, in this case "moving digitally in the analogue space" - from link to link, from one item to the next, wherever their fancy takes them.

With interactive ideas like treasure chests filled with costumes, drawing utensils

Above left: The 80-square-metre display wall features more than 130 items to be discovered and marvelled at. Photo: Gabi Vogt.

Main image: Historisches Museum Baden: A unique building ensemble set by the Limmat river, consisting of the historic bailiwick castle and a modern annex, created by architects Katharina and Wilfrid Steib (Basel). Photo: HMB.

Middle: In the newly designed museum's foyer all visitors are welcome, even without having seen the exhibitions. They also serve the best coffee in the region. Photo: Gabi Vogt

Right: The new exhibition *>linked< history* allows visitors to 'surf' from object to object – thereby weaving their own pattern of history. Photo: HMB

and games and conceptual approaches like the *>linked< history* exhibition, the Historisches Museum Baden aims at making history an experience to be gathered with all the senses and to render every visit a joyful event.

The work and social life of men and women during past centuries is being transferred into the present and connects the local with the global within the fascinating world that is human history.

www.museum.baden.ch