

P.P.A CH-1974 Arbaz <u>LA POSTE</u>

To the owners of accomodation in Ayent

Personal number : XXXX

Arbaz, the 29th of may 2017

Annual tourist tax - Monitoring the Lodging Data

If you wish to have the documents in another language (FR, DE): Please contact the municipal administration – see contact on the reverse side of this document. The DE, EN versions can also be accessed via the following web address: <u>http://www.arbaz.ch/commune/avis-officiels.html</u>

Dear property owner,

In February 2017, following last year's participatory proceedings in cooperation with the municipality of Ayent, the Arbaz municipality adopted new regulations regarding tourist taxes. The document, based on the new tourism laws (LTour 2014), was approved by the Council of State of Valais.

At the end of 2016 this text was presented at an open meeting to all those who are active in the local tourism industry (owners of secondary residence, representatives of corporations and businesses, hosts, citizens of Arbaz and Ayent, etc.). The final version is accessible via the link in the header of this letter.

Within the framework of introducing the annual tourist tax (ATT) as mentioned in the associated regulations, the community of Arbaz would like to review the "apartment" sector data that it has in its possession.

Together with this letter there is:

- A brief explanation regarding the annual tourist taxes
- A guide for filling out the "lodging" form
- The form (or forms) to be filled out about your apartment (or apartments)

The form (or forms) to be filled out already contains (or contain) some data. The community of Arbaz offers you two means for auditing this data:

Option 1 : - For owners of secondary residences who wish to obtain their new "Anzère Liberté" guest cards before June 30, 2017:

Complete / correct the attached printed form and return it to the tourist office of Anzère at the time of the withdrawal of the cards in question

- Option 2 : For owners of main residences, uninhabitable dwellings, commercial dwellings (commerce, offices), or alpine chalets occupied solely by persons domiciled in the municipality of Arbaz
 - For owners of secondary residences who will retrieve their guest cards "Anzère Liberté" after June 30, 2017:

Augmenting or correcting the accompanying printed form (forms) and sending it (them) back to the municipal administration by means of the stamped return envelope **before** June 30, 2017;

If we have not heard from you by June 30, 2017, we shall regard the information on your form (forms) as being correct and approved by you, the owner.

The sent forms refer to **both the main as well as to occasionally used apartments**. The part of the form that refers to how the apartment or domicile is used makes it possible to differentiate between the types of residence. The data audit and confirmation should take place for each domicile, independently of how it is used.

We thank you, dear owner, in advance for your assistance and greet you most cordially.

The Municipal Administration of Arbaz

The President

Vincent REBSTEIN

John TORRENT

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The Secretary

For possible questions, we request that you use the following address:

French

Municipal administration

residents' registration office Tel. +41 27/399.28.28 secretariat@arbaz.ch

FR Mondays and Tuesdays from 8.00 to 11.30 and from 13.30 to 15.00 Thursdays and Fridays from 13.30 to 15.00

German/English

Anzère Tourisme SA

Office of Arbaz Tel. +41 27/398.36.77 arbaz.tourisme@bluewin.ch

DE/EN Mondays from 09.00 to 11.30 and from 15.00 to 17.00 Fridays from 09.00 to 11.30 and from 15.00 to 17.00

INTRODUCTION

The tourist taxes already exist. The new cantonal law concerning tourism (LTour 2014) allows us some new leeway:

- Elimination of the upper limit for the uniform amount of the tourist taxes;
- Mandatory levy of the tourist tax from each owner of a second domicile.

The basic approaches were explained at three (public) workshops within the framework of the "Anzère2025" participatory process and, in addition, the requirements with respect to animation, maintenance of existing facilities and the expansion of new projects were explained throughout the whole year. The message was plain: "We desire that Anzère discovers again its earlier attractiveness with a just and adequate funding of the tourism sector".

For this reason the local authorities of Ayent und Arbaz have decided to introduce the annual tourist tax. This replaces the voluntary reporting of overnight stays (by the owners). For professional lodgings (hotels, hostels, huts, camping places), with the exception of rental agencies, the spa taxes for overnight stays is to be levied as before.

ANNUAL TOURIST TAXES

Every owner of a second domicile within the communities of Ayent and Arbaz is to pay a annual tourist tax that replaces the per-overnight-stay tax. In the yearly amount all overnight stays and occasional rentals are included. The owner who rents out his or her domicile collects the tax per overnight stay from their guests and keeps it (earlier it was to be sent to the TO).

The amount of the annual tourist tax is set separately for each domicile, depending on its **location** (3 sectors, see the map in the attachments) and according to a **tourism coefficient**. This represents the **value of the potential touristic use of the place of residence**. As stipulated by the law (LTour), this quotient is determined by the **number of rooms**, by a statistical analysis of the domicile inventory of the Ayent and Arbaz community according to the living area, the number of rooms and beds and the theoretical capacity (adults and children) of the respective accommodations.

ANNUAL TOURIST TAX EXEMPTIONS

The tourist tax regulations of the Arbaz municipally was approved by the Council of State of Valais. It includes, though, provisions for exemptions. These concern accommodations that are rented to persons who live in the communities or seasonal persons who pay withholding tax if the rent duration exceeds 4 months.

Discounts will also be approved for accommodations that are located outside the building zone and more than 300 meters from the next street that is kept open the whole year.

Finally, the handling of alpine huts and other second apartments is also defined for those owners who live locally and which are used exclusively for personal purposes.

REGULATIONS

At the end of 2016 the new tourist tax regulations were presented publicly in a meeting at which all those active in the tourism branch could participate (politicians, owners of second apartments, representatives of companies and commercial enterprises, rental agencies, residents of the Ayent and Arbaz community, etc.). The final version can be accessed via the following web address: http://www.arbaz.ch/commune/avis-officiels.html

Further information via: <u>www.anzere.ch</u> -> Practical info -> ANZERE 2025



FORM REGARDING THE ACCOMMODATION – GUIDE

Personal No. This number cannot be changed. It is a reference number that makes finding items in our files simpler

No. of the parcel of land No. of the owned apartment	The registry entry cannot be modified		
Name of the building / the apartment	Most buildings have names. This is also true for chalets and alpine huts. In many buildings the apartments are numbered. If this is true in your case, please check to see if the data is correct and, when necessary, alter and/or add to it. If this is not true, you can skip the corresponding fields. Examples : Chalet le Refuge Immeuble Bellevue, apartment 3 Bellevue 3		
Address of the accommodation	Examples : Rue du Village 14, 1974 Arbaz		
Floor	This entry is found in the official accommodation registry (RegBL). The floor number can differ considerably from that which the owner normally would use. In case an obvious mistake (floor, apartment number) is present, please correct it. If uncertain, please leave the existing data as is.		
Orientation	ditto, the same remarks as for the floor (see above)		
Number of rooms	(confirmation is obligatory)		
	The number of rooms consists of all the livable spaces within the accommodation, such as living room, bedroom, children's room, office, etc. The following rooms are not to be included: separate kitchen, bathroom, shower, toilets, storage rooms less than 6 m ² , hallways. A mezzanine level, with a ceiling height more than 1.80 m. and an area larger than 6 m ² is considered to be a livable space. Each alteration of the number of livable spaces will be audited.		
	Example: An apartment with two rooms, a living room, a bathroom and a kitchen is considered a three room apartment.		
	<i>Note:</i> Half rooms are thus no longer permitted $=>3 \frac{1}{2}$ rooms		
Living area of the accommodation [m2]	This occasion provides the municipal administration with an opportunity to actualize the federal building and apartment registry data. We ask you to please check the accuracy of the information (+/- 10 m ²). In the case of errors, please provide the source used for the corrections: floor plans, own measurements by the owner, and/or estimates.		
	The associated value is equal to the sum values of all the rooms: living room, other rooms, kitchen, kitchen nook, bathroom, toilets, storage rooms, winter garden, etc.		
	Not to be included in the living area are: open balconies, terraces, cellar and attic spaces that cannot be lived in.		
Heating system	Please choose from among the following categories:		
	 No heating Wood burning oven Domicile with separate central heating Central heating for the entire building Collective central heating for several buildings District heating Other heating systems 		

Part 1: Characterizing and location of your domicile

Energy source	Please choose from among the - No energy source - Heating oil - Coal - Gas - Electricity	<i>following categories:</i> - Wood - Heat pump - Sun collector - District heating - Other	
Sector	Depending on the distance between the accommodation and the touristic services the area of the Ayent and Arbaz communities is divided into 3 sectors, according to which the levied amount is set for the domicile.Sector 1: 100%Sector 2: 50%Sector 3: 25%		
>300 m from snow cleared roads	 No: Accommodation less than 300 m distance from a street from which the snow is removed by the public services. Yes: Domicile outside the building zone and the distance to the next street from which the snow is removed by the public services is greater than 300 meters. For the accommodation in zones 1 and 2 that lies beyond the building zone and its distance to the next street that has its snow removed by the public services some some some some some some some so		

Part 2: How the accommodation is used

Main place of residence or an object rented for the whole year by a person who lives in the community yes/no						
Fo		community	given name of the head of the family or landlord who lives in the			
building or fire police. Among them are also domiciles cou			An unoccupied accommodation is one to which access is den building or fire police. Among them are also domiciles counted undergoing important renovation that make living in them impo	that are		
Hotel op Group ac Commer	ccomn	nodation	Group accommodation: Examples: huts, hostels. The rubric of commercial usage includes rooms that are used fo or serve as offices for service undertakings.	or business		
Seconda	Secondary residence yes/no					
If yes:	If yes: Rented out by the owner			yes/no		
If yes: Rented out through an agency			yes/no			
If yes: Rented out more than 4 months a year to seasonal personnel that are subject to withholding taxes			yes/no			
If yes:	Exclu	sively used	by persons who live in Arbaz	yes/no		
2 7 7 7 8 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7		,	difficulty concerning the alpine huts or additional odations used as second domiciles by persons who reside in the iy:			
		who reside spa tax is c communit persons fo the comm annual too	commodation is used exclusively by the owner or by persons e in the Arbaz community (spouse, children, etc.), no general charged (if the associated persons pay their taxes in the ty themselves). However, if the object is used occasionally by reign to the community (children or friends who do not live in nunity, and/or vacation guests), the owner is obliged to pay the urist tax. Depending on the circumstances, agreements can be ween the municipal administration and the concerned owners.			