

HB/NW-019 Bürgenstock

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Summary: It's only 2 points, but I write this up because it is a perfect SOTA if you have "non-athletic" guests or significant others. Part of it is a ride on the Hammetschwand Panoramalift, claimed to be the highest outdoor elevator in Europe.

As I write this (October 2013) there is construction on the luxury Bürgenstock Resort. This has two immediate impacts on activations. First, the cog railway up to Bürgenstock is not yet running (when it is this activation will become almost trivial, perfect for some visitors). Second, buses do not run the whole way up but instead end their route at what would normally be the next to last stop, but later they will run the whole way to the hotels. The resort was originally scheduled for completion in 2014, but this is now looking like it will be pushed back even further.

The route is very well marked. When the weather is nice, the "Felsweg" walk along the cliffside is quite lovely with beautiful views of Lake Lucerne. Then you get to the Hammetschwand Panoramalift, claimed to be the highest outdoor elevator in Europe (153 meters out of the total 294 meters in elevation for the activation). At the top of the elevator is a restaurant and also a party tent that provides shade for visitors in summer. There is also plenty of space on the way to the observation platform (itself very small for antennas) for setting up antennas and fence posts for supporting a mast. Total time to reach the summit from the bus stop was roughly 40 minutes and a distance of 2.3 km. Note that the elevator runs only in the spring and summer, stopping in mid October.

I would have included some nice photos of my own, but the day I was there the summit was encased in thick fog. Here is a photo from the web. I have been there before, and the scenery is quite lovely. So, if you need an easy SOTA that guests will certainly enjoy, this is a good choice.



The outdoor elevator leads to the restaurant. At the bottom of the picture lots of space for antennas.



Felsenweg path to the elevator. It's not all this flat, but it's not bad, either.

