

Summits on the Air (SOTA) – Summit and activation report

HB/NW-019 – Bürgenstock – 1128 m.a.s.l. – 2 points

December 3, 2017

by Markus, HB9DIZ

Paul, HB9DST, reported construction work on the Bürgenstock Resort in 2013. Most of this work is over now, and the resort has been reopened in September 2017. My partner and I have been there today for a nice winter activation of the summit called Hametschwand or Hammetschwand.

How to get to the trail head

There are several options.

By car: Parking lot/trail head: [46.993742, 8.399757](#)

We used the free official parking lot at Honegg. The mountain road towards Honegg starts in Ennetbürgen in front of the post office.

The car can be parked at Bürgenstock Resort, too, of course. Be aware however that the access road to the resort starts in Stansstad and that the parking fare is expensive.

By public transports:

There are two possibilities.

One is to take postbus #60.321 at the railway station of Stansstad. Be aware that due to street construction work this bus temporarily at the station "Obbürgen, Abzw. Trogen". After that period, postbus station "Bürgenstock, Zentrum" is the best choice. Check the timetable via www.sbb.ch.

The touristic alternative, especially in the summer season, is to take the public boat or the boat of the resort from the central landing place in Lucerne to station "Kehrsiten-Bürgenstock" and to switch there to the new cable car bringing you up directly to the centre of the resort.

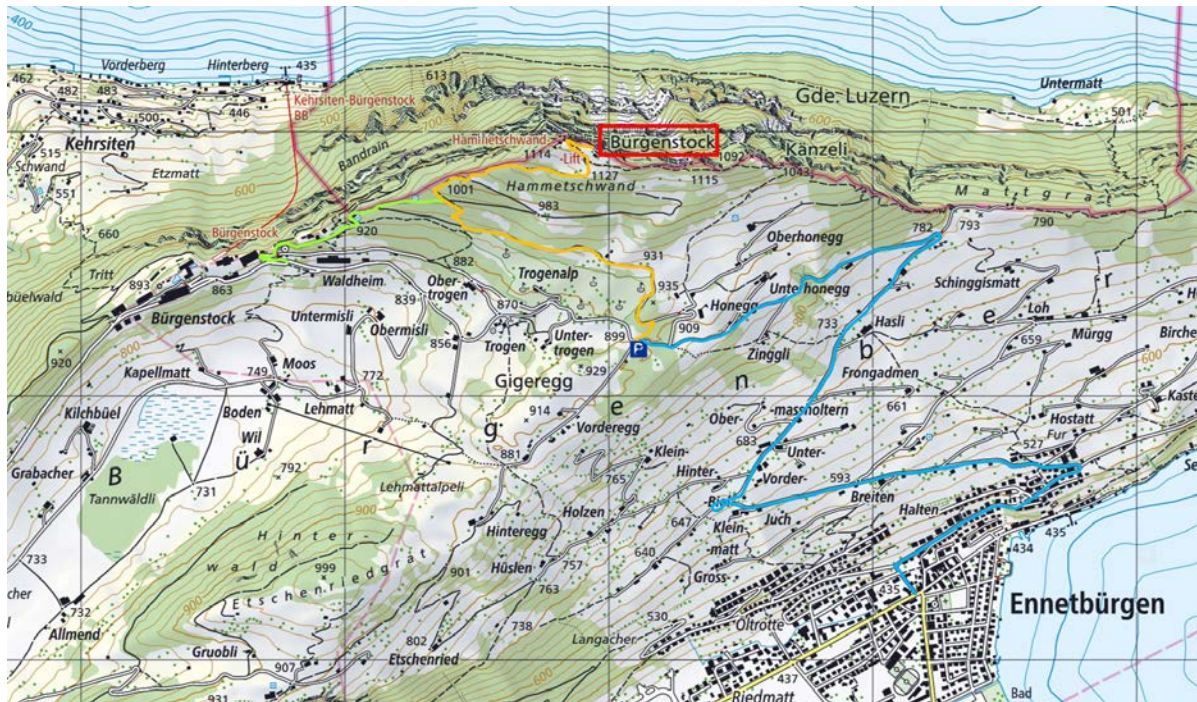
Be aware that the travel fare for both options differ like day and night. An all-day ticket from Lucerne to Bürgenstock-Zentrum and back costs CHF 8.60 (2017, with half fare card), whereas the cable car alone costs a multiple – the Bürgenstock Resort is a place for affluent people!

How to get to the activation zone

The trail is a nice ascent of 225 m from the car park at Honegg. It leads westwards first at a comfortable ascent. Don't overlook the signpost "Hametschwand 35 min." after 15 minutes. The second part in the woods is slightly steeper but no problem for a regular SOTA activist. The hike to the summit took us 45 minutes for 2.25 km.

The activation zone is quite large and starts below the summit. It's easy to find a suitable place.

See the map for all details: blue for the access road to the car park, yellow for our trail from the car park at Honegg and green for the alternative access from Bürgenstock-Zentrum.



Today's activation

We did a winter activation, there was a dust of snow in the valley, but the car park and the trail were covered in snow. The road to Honegg is maintained well, since it provides access to an exquisite hotel, too. The trail in the steeper part in the woods requires some caution in winter, since there are frozen parts. I recommend hiking poles in the winter period.

The summit restaurant is closed in winter. We set up the antenna in front of the self-service area and the operator in a corner of their buffet, protected there from the fresh breeze.

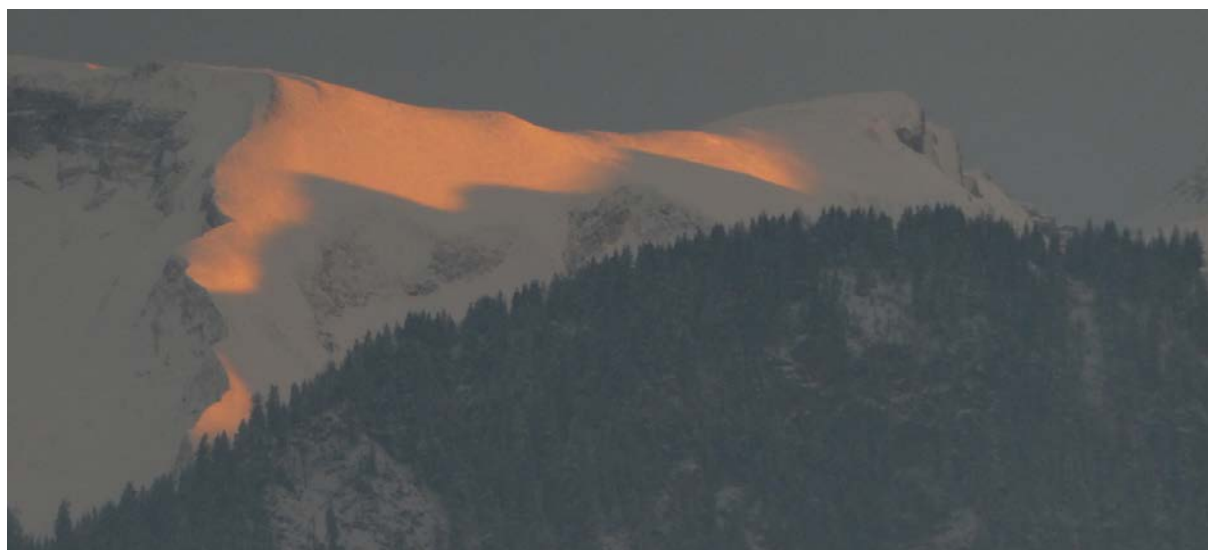
I've bought just yesterday a pair of specialized gloves with exposed fingertips, with a flap to cover them quickly, like a mitten. This was a good buy for me, although quite expensive. The left hand with the flap in front operated the microphone and the right hand operated VK port-a-log on a tablet.

No problems at all with the batteries. I had charged the transceiver, the tablet, the camera and the phone at home, and the phone was connected additionally to a battery block for USB devices. The phone by the way made a cold start when back at the car park after the activation – huh, I should have worn it back on the body to prevent that.

Hammetschwand is a special place: a part of the summit belongs as an exclave to the city of Lucerne, the city that you can see far away at the end of the Lake of Lucerne. There are signposts to illustrate this mix of the two cantons of Nidwalden and Lucerne.



Finally, there was a superb sunset after the activation – enjoy!



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