

# unfore Seeable Earthquakes in Switzerland

An Exhibition That Makes Earthquakes Visible on the Occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the Swiss Seismological Service.

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September 6  
to November 30  
2014

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At the present time, earthquakes cannot be predicted. Nevertheless, a lot is known about where, why, and how often they occur. To make these aspects visible, the Swiss Seismological Service will present an extensive exhibition on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

Few may remember an earthquake that caused considerable damage in Switzerland. This is not surprising, seeing that the last major event took place nearly 70 years ago: in 1946, an earthquake of magnitude 5.8 shook Valais.

Even though big earthquakes have fortunately failed to occur in recent years, the ground under Switzerland is not lying dormant. This is demonstrated by the 500 to 800 tremors per year caused by local earthquakes that the Swiss Seismological Service at ETH Zurich records. Around ten of those are strong enough to be felt by the population.

These small earthquakes provide valuable information to determine, for example, the seismic hazard in Switzerland as accurately as possible. But the ground beneath our feet still holds many secrets. Discovering them and thus avoiding future damage is one of the main objectives of the Seismological Service. The exhibition *unforeSeeable – Earthquakes in Switzerland* offers insights into the multifaceted work involving the natural hazard with the highest damage potential in Switzerland, and guides visitors through the earthquake history of the country.

**Open House at the Swiss Seismological Service**  
Sunday, September 21, 2014, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

What does the staff of the Swiss Seismological Service get up to during and away from an incident? We will tell you during our Open House. Come and visit us and learn more about our work.

**Exhibition Opening and Zurich's Long Night of Museums**  
Saturday, September 6, 2014, from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m.

During this night, the theme of *Earthquakes and Tsunamis – Japan under the Spell of Nature* will focus on the powerful forces from the Earth's interior. The program includes the earthquake simulator, a scientific presentation, a short film, experiments and a Taiko Japanese drum performance.

#### Further Offers from focusTerra

Fabulous geology:

*The Earth Trembles* – an afternoon of stories with music and experiments (for children five years and older), November 16, 2014, 2 p.m.

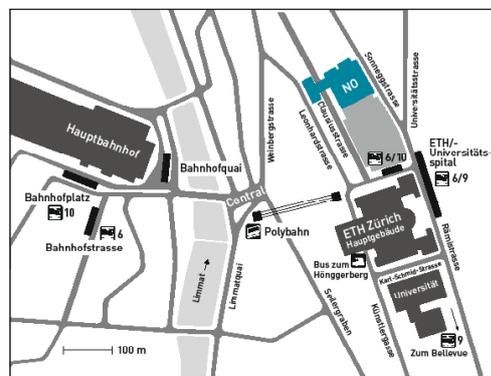
Film night:

*The Story of John Milne* – documentary on the extraordinary career and travels of the founder of modern seismology, October 22, 2014, 6 p.m., in English

Further training for teachers:

Workshop on the subject of earthquakes, September 10, 2014, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
registration:  
info\_focusTerra@erdw.ethz.ch

The exhibition will take place with the kind support of focusTerra in the **focusTerra museum**, Sonneggstrasse 5, in Zurich.



ETH Zurich, Building NO, Sonneggstrasse 5, 8006 Zurich

Admission is free.

The exhibition is in German and English.

The Swiss Seismological Service publishes dates, details, and much more about its **jubilee year** on its website: [www.seismo.ethz.ch/sed/100](http://www.seismo.ethz.ch/sed/100).



#### Opening Times focusTerra museum

Monday to Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Public holidays:  
see [www.focusterra.ethz.ch](http://www.focusterra.ethz.ch)

#### Free Public Tours on Sundays

On the topic of earthquakes, including the earthquake simulator: 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m.

focusTerra museum permanent exhibition: 2 p.m.

For information and booking of additional tours or special events please visit [www.focusterra.ethz.ch](http://www.focusterra.ethz.ch)