

**COVID-19, Security concept for the Mont Terri visitor centre
Hygiene measures for the Mont Terri Visitors Centre and
Mont Terri Rock Laboratory
Version 3 of April 19th 2021**

1. Introduction

- On 19 April 2021, the Mont Terri Visitor Centre (CCV) reopened after being closed since the beginning of November 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As operator of the visitor centre, swisstopo (Consortium CCV with the partners Nagra, ENSI and swisstopo) has established a security concept.
- The Federal Council and the Canton of Jura have announced relaxation measures that come into force on 19 April 2021. This allows the resumption of visits under certain conditions. These are listed below (group size, reception, transport, disinfection measures).
- The security concept will be adapted according to the evolution of the pandemic. The orders and recommendations of the Swiss federal office for health will be applied in any case.

2. Group size

- The general conditions fixed by the Swiss federal council are:
 1. Drawing up a security plan
 2. Keep a visitors' list
 3. Follow the hygiene and behaviour rules
- The size of the CCV visitor groups is determined by the directives imposed by the Confederation and the Canton of Jura in its relaxation measures coming into force on 19 April 2021. According to the above mentioned criteria, **group size was set at a maximum of 30 people in the main conference hall of the Visitor Centre and 15 people in the laboratory (including guide and security person).**
- For each group a list of participants will be taken in advance. The person responsible for the group will give his/her phone number. This will allow the traceability of each visitor if needed (Contact Tracing).
- For bigger groups and after consultation with the CCV visit coordinator, visits can be organized in separating the group in smaller groups or in doing the visit at different times.

3. Reception in the Mont Terri visitor centre

- It will be made sure that the 1.5 m social distancing is respected in the visitors' pavilion. Every visitor has to wear a FFP2 mask. Until further notice drinks (coffee and mineral water) cannot be served anymore.
 1. The guide or the security person informs the group at the visitor centre entrance about the hygiene and behavior rules and demands the respect of the social distancing principle.
 2. Disinfection means are installed at each entrance of the visitor centre, as well as in the toilets.
 3. FFP2 masks, which are mandatory for the entire visit and provided by the CCV, are distributed to each visitor.
 4. The guides and the security person take care that the high tables and the repartition of the visitors are placed so that the social distancing is respected.
 5. Groups of up to 15 people may visit the exhibition, including CCV staff. For groups of more than 15 people, visitors are asked to take their seats directly in the main hall of the CCV.

4. Exhibition in the visitor pavilion & main conference hall

- **Foyer - exhibition:** the room has a 126 m² surface (except kitchen corner and exhibition blocs). A maximum of 15 people standing can be accommodated, including CCV staff. FFP2 masks are mandatory. *Museum-like situation.*
- **Main conference hall: the conference hall has to be set in its bigger configuration:** the room is 108 m². A maximum of 30 people can be seated (1/3 of the maximum capacity of 99 seats), leaving 2 empty chairs between each person and sufficient space between each row. The FFP2 mask is mandatory. *Situation similar to a classroom.* (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Visitor centre floor plan. Orange: foyer-exhibition. Yellow: main conference hall.

5. Transfer in the rock laboratory with minibus

- Since the group size is 13 people plus 2 people (driver / security person and guide), for a total of 15 people, the transfer with one or two minibuses is as follows :

	Visitor	Driver-security person	Guide	Total
Bus 1	13	1	1	15

- Hygiene measures in minibuses: each visitor wears a FFP2 mask, this is obligatory. In addition the minibuses are disinfected by the drivers after every visit.
- A plastic sheet is placed behind the driver's seat and the guide's seat. This is to maximize the protection of the visitor centre staff (2 persons per minibus).

6. Laboratory visit

- New: each visitor, guide and security person has to wear a FFP2 mask in the laboratory. This has to be also applied when the 1.5 m social distancing can be respected.
- Maximum group size is 15 people, including guide and security person.
- When getting off the minibus the guide reminds the visitors to keep the social distancing to 1.5 m during the visit. The guide speaks louder than usual in order to be heard clearly from all visitors. The security person controls that the social distancing is applied.

- Disinfection means are installed in the P3 and P4 parking (places reserved for minibuses).
- Smartphone-Tracking-App: Visitors can be asked to use the Smartphone-Tracking-App developed by the ETH/EPFL, which is available. This app can only be used on a voluntary basis, the visitors cannot be forced to use it.
- The 8 spots mentioned below allow the guide to explain the experiences under good conditions. These spots have space enough for the social distancing of 1.5 m.

1. **Emplacement model (Gallery 2008)** - Model scale 1:1 (Figure 2)
2. **Diffusion experiment (Gallery 2008)** – Diffusion experiment
3. **Experiment FE (Gallery 2008)** – 1 to 1 Heater experiment
4. **TS Experiment (Gallery 2004/2018)** – Geotechnique in opalinus clay (Figure 3 and 4)
5. **Experiment HC (Gallery 2018)** - Hydraulic characterisation of the transition Opalinus clay/Passwang Formation
6. **Experiment CD-A (Gallery 2018)** – Influence of air humidity on long term deformation of clay
7. **Experiment MB-A (Gallery 2004/2018)** Mine-by experiment
8. **Experiment PS (Gallery 1998)** – Geology, tectonic fault



Figure 2: Spot « Emplacement model » with a group of 15 people (red traffic cones)



Figure 3: Entrance TS Gallery, Geotechnique. Simulation with 5 People.



Figure 4: Entrance TS Gallery, Geotechnique. Simulation with 10 people

7. Disinfection measures

- Return of equipment, helmets, badges and yellow jackets: visitors have to put back their equipment in boxes specially set out at the entrance outside the visitor centre. The equipment will then be disinfected.
- Exhibition in visitor centre: all surfaces of the exhibition blocs, high tables, door handles and toilets have to be cleaned with a disinfection lotion.
- Big conference room: the conference room will be well aired regularly. If the temperature allows it, windows can be opened during the presentation.
- Minibus: disinfection of the surfaces which are touched (handles, steering wheel, window sides, etc.). Minibus windows should be left open as often as possible.
- Implementation of the measures: driver, visitor centre personnel according to the size of the group.

8. Implementation of the security and hygiene plan

- Disinfection means for hands placed in the selected areas (entrance, coffee corner, toilets, P3 and P4).
- Disinfection means for cleaning of door handles, various surfaces, helmets, badges, minibuses are available.

- The CCV is responsible for providing FFP2 masks to visitors.
- Layout of the chairs in the conference room in order to respect the social distancing.
- Installation of plastic sheets behind the driver's and the guide's seat in the minibuses.
- In case a visitor is tested positive for Covid-19, all members of the group, including drivers, guides and security person have to be put in quarantine. In that case the Contact Tracing procedure will be applied.
- The CCV partners, who represent the three organization swisstopo, ENSI and Nagra in the Consortium are responsible for the internal communication and the implementation of the security concept measures, as well as their staff training before they operate in the Mont Terri.
- These measures are published on the website www.mont-terri.ch. This information is equally distributed to the CCV partners (swisstopo, Nagra, ENSI).

St-Ursanne, 19th April 2021



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