



14TH E3S ANNUAL ASSEMBLY & SYMPOSIUM

SENSEATIONAL SWITZERLAND

FROM TRADITION TO INNOVATION



**26 - 27 MARCH 2026
ZURICH, SWITZERLAND**

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INTRODUCTION

The Swiss Sensory Group – IG Sensorik is delighted to host the 14th Annual Assembly and Symposium of the European Sensory Science Society (E3S) on March 26 & 27, 2026 at ETH Zurich, Switzerland.

As our food systems face increasing complexity — from global supply chain disruptions to evolving consumer preferences and the rise of alternative proteins — the role of sensory perception in understanding and shaping food quality has never been more crucial. Sensory science stands at the intersection of innovation, sustainability and consumer trust, making it an essential tool in tackling today's food-related challenges.

The two-day event will bring together researchers, students, industry professionals, and E3S members for a vibrant mix of strategic discussions, scientific exchange, and inspiration:

- On Thursday, 26 March, the E3S General Assembly and Working Group Meetings will take place – an internal forum for reflection, alignment, and strategic planning among E3S members.
- On Friday, 27 March, the public symposium invites the wider sensory and consumer science community to explore current trends, research, and innovation through keynotes, presentations, start-up spotlights, tastings, and a poster session.

Attendees can expect thought-provoking content, valuable networking opportunities, and the unique atmosphere of ETH Zurich, one of Europe's leading science and technology institutions.

Join us in Switzerland — where tradition meets innovation — to connect, exchange ideas, and explore the science of the senses.

The Organising Committee



Annette
Bongartz



Martina
Galler



Barbara
Guggenbühl



Jeannette
Nuessli Guth



Martin
Popp



Jana
Schenk

Any questions? Please contact us: IG-Sensorik@sglwt.ch

PROGRAM DAY 1

Working Groups & General Assembly Optional: Guided City Tour

Thursday 26 March 2026

11.30

Arrival / Registration & Sandwich Lunch
Room: Alumni Pavillon (MM)

12.00 - 13.00

Working Groups Round I

Working Groups Round I	
Taste Sensitivity & Children Room: Alumni Pavillon (MM)	Next Generation Room: LFO F25.1

13.00 - 13.15

Break & Room Transfer

13.15 - 14.15

Working Groups Round II

Working Groups Round II		
Education Room: Alumni Pavillon (MM)	PDO Room: LEE E126	Texture Perception Room: LFO F25.1

14.15

Break & Room Transfer

Only for E3S country delegates

14.30 - 17.00

E3S General Assembly
Room: Alumni Pavillon (MM)

Open to public

14.45 - 16.45

Guided city tour on foot
Meeting Point: ETH-Polyterrasse

19.00

Apéro & Dinner
Restaurant Uto Kulm - Top of Zurich

PROGRAM DAY 2

Symposium

Room: Audimax (HG F30), ETH Main Building

Friday 27 March 2026

08.30

Arrival and Registration

09.00

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Jeannette Nuessli Guth, Sara Spinelli

09.30

A physicist's Perspective on Food structure and Sensory Perception

Thomas Michaels, ETH Zürich

10.15

Tailoring texture and sweetness in chocolate through additive manufacturing

Johannes Burkard, ChoNova

10.35

Coffee Break & Poster Session

11.05

Sensational Microbes: How Microorganisms Shape the Flavour of Cheese

Remo Schmidt, Agroscope

11.25

Sensory and Consumer Science in Industry: Decoding flavour icons in salty snacks

Laurence Minisini, Givaudan

11.55

Sensory Analysis in the Food Industry: Everyday Practices at Migros

Judith Stalder & Mirco Bollhalder, Migros

12.15

Lunch Break & Poster Session

13.45

Rethinking Chocolate: Flavour Experiences without Traditional Beans

Micha Lussi, Food Brewer

14.05

Plant-based cheese (r)evolution: at the cross-road of innovation and consumer acceptance

Rebecca Grunder, New Roots

14.25

Kokumi receptor modulators: from receptor pharmacology to sensory studies

Daniel Batora, Tasteomics & University Bern

14.45

Coffee Break & Poster Session

15.15

Microalgae as more sustainable and affordable Food Sources for Human Nutrition and Health

Fengzheng Gao, ETH Zürich

15.35

Valorisation of food side streams and their effect on the sensory quality of end products

Nadina Müller, ZHAW

15.55

Lupin-dairy products: Sensory characteristics and consumer acceptance

Lorenzo Belli, ETH Zürich

16.15

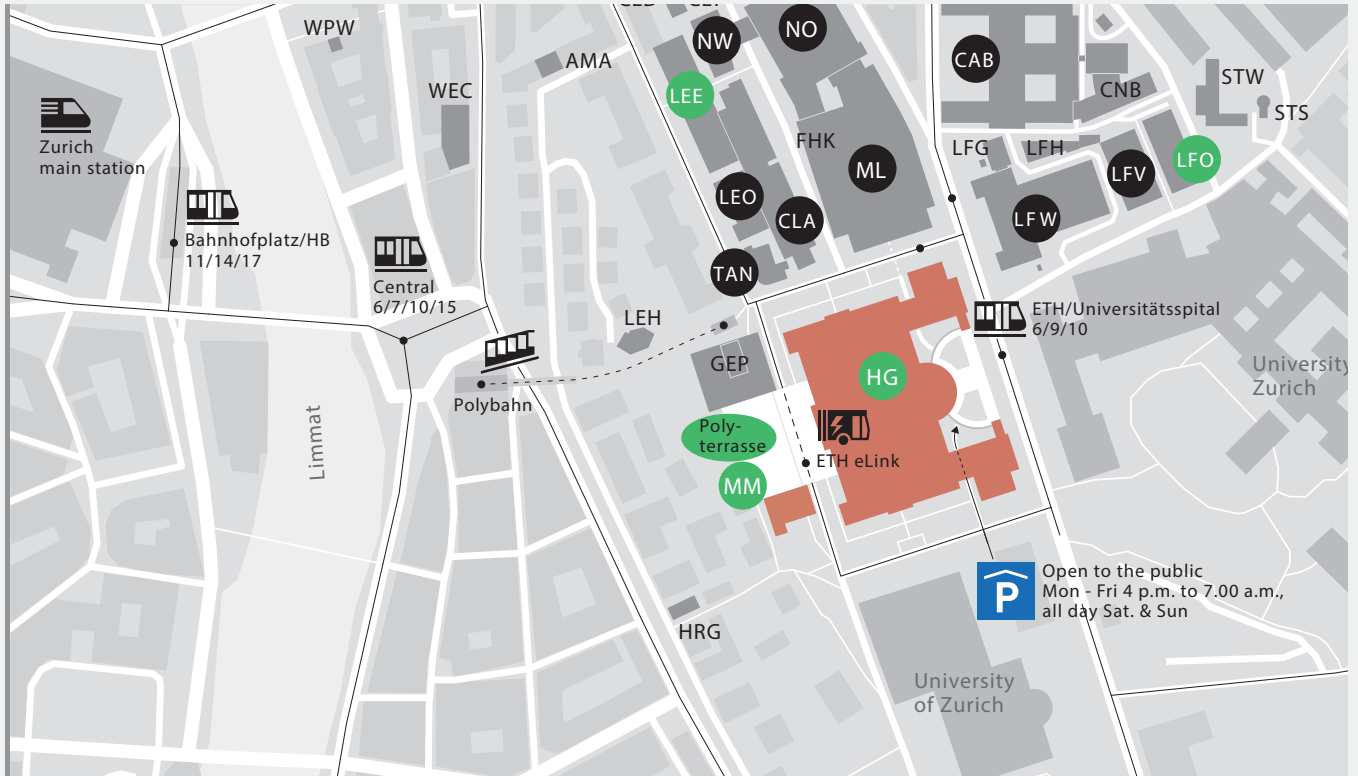
The Hidden Map Behind Our Words: How AI Generates Measurable Meaning

Thorsten Guersch, SAM

16.35

Best Poster Award & Closing

SITE PLAN / ROOMS



Rooms on Day 1 - Thursday, 26 March

Arrival Registration: Alumni Pavillon (MM)

Working Groups Round I:

Taste Sensitivity & Children: Alumni Pavillon (MM)

Next Generation: LFO F25.1

Working Groups Round II:

Education: Alumni Pavillon (MM)

Texture Perception: LFO F25.1

PDO: LEE E126

E3S General Assembly: Alumni Pavillon (MM)

Guided City Tour: ETH Polyterasse

Room on Day 2 - Friday, 27 March

Symposium: Audimax (HG F 30), ETH Main Building

Addresses Day 1

Alumni Pavillon (MM)
Rämistrasse 101, 8092 Zurich

LFO F25.1
Schmelzbergstrasse 9, 8092 Zurich

LEE E126
Leonhardstrasse 21, 8092 Zurich

ETH Polyterasse
Rämistrasse 101, 8092 Zurich

Address Day 2

Audimax (HG F 30)
ETH Main Building, HG
Rämistrasse 101, 8092 Zurich



To help you find your way, we recommend consulting the ETH Campus Map in advance:

GALA DINNER

Restaurant UTO KULM - Top of Zurich



Perched at **871 metres above sea level**, UTO KULM – Top of Zurich is one of the most iconic viewpoints in the region, offering panoramic views over the city, Lake Zurich, and, on clear days, the distant Alps. Located on **Uetliberg, Zurich's local mountain**, the venue has long been a destination for both locals and visitors seeking a unique perspective on the city. The area is part of a protected natural landscape, combining accessibility with a calm, scenic atmosphere just minutes from the urban centre.

The restaurant and hotel at UTO KULM blend **Swiss tradition with modern hospitality**, making it an ideal setting for our Social Dinner. Surrounded by nature and elevated above the city, it provides a refreshing contrast to the conference environment and creates the perfect space for informal exchange, networking and reflection.

As the sun sets over Zurich, participants can enjoy a relaxed evening with colleagues from across Europe and beyond — sharing ideas, experiences and perspectives in a truly memorable setting. The combination of **nature, altitude and culinary experience** reflects the spirit of the symposium: bringing together tradition, innovation and sensory experience.



BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Take the **SZU S10** from **Zurich Main Station (HB), Track 22 to Uetliberg**. Trains leave every hour at **:05 and :35**, and the journey takes around **20 minutes**. From Uetliberg station, it is a **10–15 minute walk** uphill to the restaurant.

The **Zurich Card** covers this route. A regular one-way ticket costs CHF 9.40.

Please note that the **last train back to the city leaves at 23:35**.



ON FOOT

For participants who enjoy walking, there is also the option to hike to UTO KULM. Starting point: Triemli – about 1.5 hours

Please note that the route includes uphill walking, so suitable footwear is recommended.

GETTING TO ZURICH

Zurich is well connected internationally and easy to reach by air, train or car.

FROM ZURICH AIRPORT TO THE CITY CENTRE

By Train (recommended)

Direct trains run frequently from Zurich Airport (Flughafen) to Zurich Main Station (HB).
Travel time: approx. 20 minutes

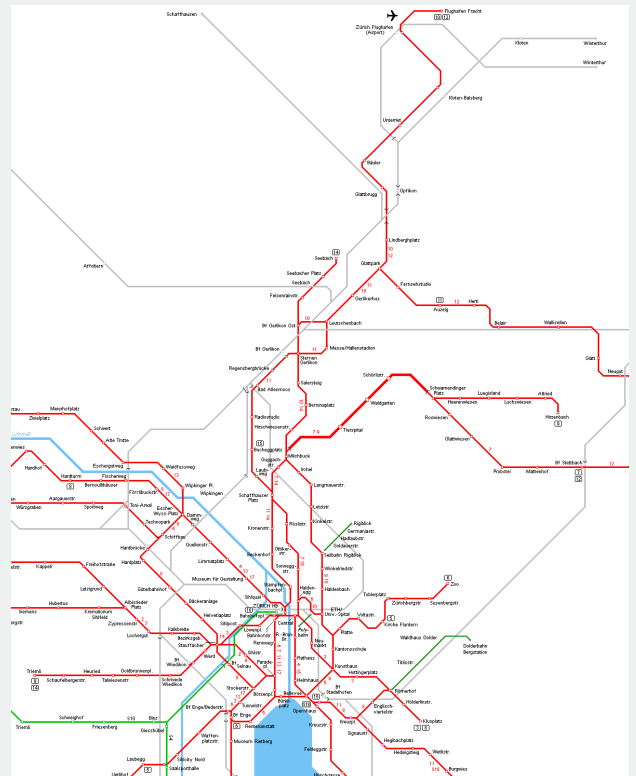
Typical connections include:

- IC / IR (InterCity / InterRegio) – fastest option
- S-Bahn lines S2, S16, S24 – regular commuter trains

Tip: All trains departing from the airport in the direction of Zurich will stop at Zurich HB.

By Tram

Tram lines 10 and 12 connect the airport to the city.
Travel time: approx. 45 minutes



ARRIVING BY CAR

Zurich is well connected via the Swiss motorway network.
Please note:
Parking in the city centre is limited and expensive.

We recommend using:

- Public transport
- Park & Ride facilities outside the city

ARRIVING BY TRAIN

Zurich is a major European railway hub. All long-distance trains arrive at:
Zurich Main Station (HB)



TIP #1

Use public transport whenever possible – it is fast, reliable and well connected throughout Zurich.



TIP #2

Check connections in advance via SBB – real-time updates and platform information are available at: www.sbb.ch



TIP #3

Buy your ticket before boarding – ticket inspections are frequent and fines apply without a valid ticket.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT



Zurich offers a highly efficient and easy-to-use public transport system, including trams, buses, trains, boats and funiculars. Services run frequently and are well connected throughout the city and surrounding region.

Good to Know:

- Tickets are valid across all transport modes (tram, bus, train) within the selected zones
- No ticket gates – you must have a valid ticket before boarding
- Frequent departures – most connections run every 5–15 minutes
- Clear signage – platforms and stops are well marked in English

Useful Tips:

- Use the SBB Mobile App for real-time schedules, platform information and ticket purchase
 - Check the final destination of the line, not just the line number
 - Press the stop button early when travelling by bus or tram
 - Keep your ticket accessible for inspection at all times

Getting Around:

Zurich is also a very walkable city, especially in the centre. Many destinations (including ETH Zurich) can be reached within 15–20 minutes on foot.



ZURICH CARD

The card is particularly **worthwhile for participants** who need a **transfer from the airport** to the city and/or are **attending the social dinner** at the Uto Kulm.

Includes: unlimited public transport, free or discounted museum entry and discounts in shops and attractions.

Valid zones:

110, 111, 121, 140, 150, 154, 155

Prices:

24 hours: CHF 29

72 hours: CHF 56

Available via:

- ticket machines
- QR-Code



TICKETS & DAY PASSES

<https://ticketshop.zvv.ch/>

Tickets and day passes can be purchased from ticket machines at every stop, at the airport or at Zurich main station.

Price for City (Zone 110) exkl. Uetliberg, airport transfer

Single ticket, 2. class (period of validity r 1 hour)
CHF 4.70

Day ticket, 2. class (period of validity 24 hours)
CHF 9.40

GETTING AROUND ZURICH



The conference venue is located at the ETH Zurich Zentrum Campus.

By Tram

Tram lines 6 or 10

Stop: ETH / Universitätsspital

By Polybahn

Funicular from Central to ETH Polyterrasse

On Foot

Approx. **10–15 minutes uphill walk** from Zurich Main Station

Taxi & Mobility

Taxis are available throughout the city.

Typical travel time:

Zurich Main Station to ETH: 5–10 minutes

Ride-sharing services (e.g. Uber) are also available.

By Car

The ETH Zurich Zentrum campus is located in the city centre and can be reached by car.

Please note:

- Parking spaces in the city centre are very limited
- Public parking garages are available, but often expensive
- Access roads may be busy during peak hours

Getting Around - Tips

- Plan your route in advance using the SBB app or Google Maps for real-time updates
- Allow extra time in the morning – public transport can be busy during peak hours
- ETH Zurich is located on a hill – allow time for a short uphill walk
- For convenience, we recommend using public transport

Walking in Zurich

- Many locations are within walking distance
- The city centre is safe and pedestrian-friendly
- Comfortable shoes are recommended due to slopes and cobblestones

PRACTICAL INFORMATION



Zurich combines a high quality of life with excellent infrastructure, making it an easy and comfortable destination for international visitors. The city is known for its cleanliness, safety and efficiency, and most services are designed to be intuitive and accessible.

Daily life in Zurich runs smoothly, with reliable public transport, clear signage and a strong emphasis on punctuality. Visitors will find that getting around, making payments and communicating is straightforward, even without local language skills.

At the same time, Zurich offers a unique blend of urban life and nature. Within a short distance, you can move from the historic city centre to the lake or surrounding hills. This combination of accessibility, organisation and natural surroundings creates an ideal setting for both professional exchange and personal experience during your stay.



GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Currency:** Swiss Franc (CHF), credit cards widely accepted
- **Language:** German (English widely spoken)
- **Electricity:** Plug type J – adapter required
- **Climate:** Varies by season – check forecast before travelling

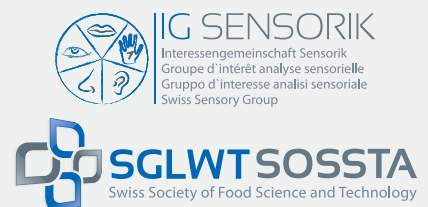


USEFUL INFORMATION

- **Medical assistance (non-life-threatening):** +41 (0)800 33 66 55
- **Emergency number:** 144
- **Tap water is safe to drink** and available at public fountains
- **Smoking is restricted in indoor public spaces**

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**WE CAN ALREADY
TASTE THE EXCITEMENT,
FEEL THE ANTICIPATION
AND SENSE A TRULY
INSPIRING EVENT AHEAD.
SEE YOU IN ZURICH!**



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