



Ikenobo Swiss Central Chapter

Shunzuen Suzue Rother-Nakaya, President
Brühlstrasse 43
5412 Gebenstorf
Switzerland
www.ikenobo.ch
suzue.rother@ikenobo.ch

Report Spring Seminar 2023 in Brissago

Our wonderful spring seminar took place this year in somewhat mixed weather. However, sun, wind, rain, and storm could not dampen our super mood at all.

Again and again, the garden of the Hotel Brencino surprises us with its enchanting spring flowers. For us, most of us from the German-speaking part of Switzerland, this is a real pleasure and awakens our creativity ...

Already on the first evening, I was allowed to present my Jiyuka to our group. Visibly influenced and infatuated by the fragrant wisteria, I eyed this year's first work a little more critically for a few days ...

The unique thing here is the constant availability of wonderful material. Several of us, armed with apron and scissors, made several pilgrimages to the garden for the same arrangement – a slight smile was noticed among the fence guests.

This year, as a big innovation, there were demonstrations and teaching exercises by us students every day – partially also in English, which was a big challenge for the majority. But in the end, everyone bravely accepted the challenge.

Linguistically, the spring seminar is a challenge every year: at least, some bits of Italian probably stuck with everyone.

We had a good team spirit, which became clear when doing the general work, the cleanliness, the tidying up, etc. Everything went like clockwork.

In loving preparatory work, the ordered plant material was unpacked, sorted, and cut by the sensei herself – in my opinion, a very much to be appreciated tribute to us students ...

In the evening, we enjoyed lively discussions over a glass of Merlot del Ticino and were delighted with the fine cuisine, which clearly emphasised the local flavour.

At the extremely rich and varied breakfast buffet, the topics were naturally of a similar nature. Time is always too short, and the maximum must be extracted. Family members and partners were already discussing excursion possibilities, while we ikebanists only listened with half an ear and were already thinking about the next flower arrangement ...

Hotel guests were always interested in our activities. We were happy to show our work or give short introductions to the basic techniques. One always notices how much of an expert one has become ...

Finally, it should be noted that we have of course realised the family's talent for Ikebana in the form of a seven-year-old grandson. We are relieved to see that the promotion of young people is on the right track ...

Cornelia Anderegg