

Exhibition
Geneva

Humanitarian crises
Digital dilemmas

the humani- tarian trail

04–12
dec. 2019

04–12 Dec. 2019
rcrcconference.org/trail

Place
des Nations

Power of humanity
RED CROSS RED CRESCENT STATUTORY MEETINGS



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04-12
dec.2019

The Humanitarian Trail in Geneva

04–12.
12.2019

Take a humanitarian journey through the history of the Red Cross, as you immerse yourself in the city of Geneva.

The Humanitarian Trail is like an open-space museum featuring walking routes between landmarks that are rich in history and symbolism, with temporary exhibitions and events to experience along the way, all based on the themes of the 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

Visitors can choose between two walking trails or they can discover the places and events separately and in any order.

Trail 1: The Humanitarian Legacy Old Town

Discover how a handful of Genevan citizens started the Red Cross story and how it quickly unfolded into humanitarian action and, later, the development of international humanitarian law.

Trail 2: The Humanitarian Journey International Quarter

Explore the fascinating story of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, follow the remarkable development of international humanitarian action and law and learn about emerging and future challenges.



This brochure will guide you through the various stops on the Trail around the city. There will also be videos that you can watch along the way to enrich your visit.

An interactive digital map is accessible via mobile and tablet which you can use as a complement to or instead of the brochure and to help you get around.



Humanitarian Legacy Trail

1. The charismatic visionary
2. International Prisoners-of-War Agency
3. The humanitarian general
4. The consolidating jurist
5. International Conference of 1863
6. The awakening of humanitarianism
7. Printing of words that made history
8. Dunant from youth to adulthood
9. Birth of an Idea
10. Launch of the Red Cross
11. The first humanitarian globalist
12. Philanthropic doctor
13. Expansion of the Movement
14. Launch of the Geneva Conventions



The charismatic visionary

It all began in 1862 with the promotion of an idea. Three years earlier, a young citizen of Geneva, Henry Dunant, was travelling in northern Italy on business when he came upon the aftermath of a bloody battle. On his return to Geneva, he wrote a book entitled *A Memory of Solferino*, calling for improved care for wounded soldiers in wartime. In less than two years, it had led to the creation of the Red Cross and the signing of the Geneva Convention.

Unfortunately, Dunant was not as successful in his business ventures which ended in bankruptcy in 1867, forcing him to leave his home city never to return and eventually leading to his exclusion from the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The bust in front of you by Luc Jaggi was inaugurated in 1980 and represents Dunant in his thirties – a creative communicator and networker who was able to mobilize support for his idea across Europe.

Few will recognize Dunant in his later years as a penniless old man living in Heiden in the canton of Appenzell. He nevertheless managed to resurface in the public conscience, initially thanks to an article written by a journalist. Dunant strived to regain the recognition he felt he deserved and eventually succeeded, obtaining the first Nobel Peace Prize in 1901.

You will get to know Dunant better as you follow the Trail.



► Next stop: turn around and walk to the Rath Museum.

The International Prisoners-of-War Agency (Rath Museum)



You will temporarily fast-forward to a crucial milestone in the Red Cross story: the First World War (1914–1918).

In 1914, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) established the International Prisoners-of-War Agency. It was in this building, the first art museum opened to the Swiss public in 1826, that 3,000 volunteers worked tirelessly until the Agency closed in 1923. Its accomplishments were tremendous, considering the logistical and technical challenges it faced: 7 million index cards keeping track of prisoners registered by detaining authorities

and those being searched for by their families, 20 million messages exchanged and 2 million individual parcels distributed. The majority of the volunteers were women, and some would embark on a career with the ICRC, including as delegates.

The ICRC also innovated with visits to prisoners of war and with interventions over the use of weapons that caused extreme suffering such as mustard gas. The restrictions on warfare stipulated in the Geneva Convention of 1864 would subsequently be expanded.



International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum – Permanent exhibition

Surrounded by the 6 million surviving index cards, visitors can appreciate first-hand the immense and meticulous work of the volunteers through four examples of British, French and German detainees.

► Let's now meet two other important characters in this story.

Next stop: go to the equestrian statue of General Guillaume-Henri Dufour in the middle of the Place de Neuve.

The humanitarian general

This statue from 1884 represents General Guillaume-Henri Dufour, who was highly respected not only for his military career but also as an engineer and topographer. He served under Napoleon I, was four times appointed commander-in-chief of the Swiss Federal Army and founded the Federal Military Academy in Thun (canton of Bern).

Among the officers trained there was Louis-Napoleon Bonaparte, nephew of the former emperor and future Napoleon III of France (1852–1871). This privileged relationship was significant for the Red Cross story.

Dufour became a national hero after leading the federal army of 100,000 men and ending the civil war that took place in 1847 when the Catholic cantons attempted to form a separate alliance known as the Sonderbund. In addition to his military talent which enabled him to achieve a quick victory in less than a month with fewer than a hundred victims, the General was admired beyond Swiss borders for his consideration of human lives. He had instructed his troops to respect wounded and captured enemy soldiers and to spare and look after children, women and old people.

Follow the trail to find out how the General's experience and prestige helped launch the Red Cross story.



- Next stop: enter the Parc des Bastions and walk down the central path to the bust of Gustave Moynier on your left.

04— The consolidating jurist



Gustave Moynier was born in 1826 into a prosperous bourgeois family. He studied in Paris where he acquired a strong interest in law, although upon returning to Geneva he realized that his calling was to serve a greater cause than the practice of law. He became involved in philanthropic organizations, notably serving as president of the Geneva Society for Public Welfare which addressed local social issues.

Moynier put all his energy into these causes and attended charity conferences in European capitals in an attempt to reach beyond the limits

► You can learn about historical Geneva at the Reformation Wall and discover the Red Cross Monument in the park or head straight to the Palais de l'Athénée (2, rue de l'Athénée).

of the Republic. Upon reading *A Memory of Solferino*, he was immediately convinced by the proposals made by Henry Dunant to ensure aid for wounded soldiers on all sides of the battlefield. The complementary relationship between the two men kick-started a process that would rapidly attract unprecedented interest. However, their relationship quickly deteriorated due to differences in personality and motivation.

Moynier was an efficient organizer with a keen legal mind and is credited with having given a sustainable form to Dunant's ideas and with pioneering international humanitarian law. In recognition of his tremendous contribution as co-founder of the ICRC and its president, a position he held for 46 years (1864–1910), this bust by Otto Bindschedler was inaugurated in 1989.

Pages Exhibition – International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum

In 1869, Gustave Moynier launched an international bulletin that would become the *International Review of the Red Cross*, the oldest international publication devoted to humanitarian law and action. To mark its 150th anniversary, this exhibition invites the visitor to delve into its fascinating pages. It will run to 30 April 2020.



Historical Geneva: The impact of the Calvinist Reformation

You now have before you the International Monument to the Reformation which commemorates the 400th anniversary of Jean Calvin's birth (1509–1564). Construction started in 1909 and was completed in 1917.

In May 1536, Geneva adopted the Reformation and, three months later, a promising young lawyer and reformer travelling through Geneva was persuaded to stay and help structure the new church. His name was Jean Calvin, and he would transform the city which was to become known as the 'Protestant Rome', entirely surrounded by Catholic territory.

Over the next two centuries, the massive arrival of protestant refugees put a strain on the small republic but, more importantly, it brought new prosperous economic sectors – finance, textile and watchmaking – as well as an extensive Huguenot network. Religiously and culturally,

Geneva also became a promotional centre, translating and printing the Bible, teaching its citizens to read and establishing an academy in 1559 to train pastors from different countries. This academy became the University of Geneva in 1873 and is located behind you.

Red Cross Monument

Inaugurated in 1963, this sculpture by Jacques Probst represents an angel protecting a wounded soldier and a refugee mother with her children. It was presented to the city of Geneva by the Geneva Committee for a Henry Dunant Monument in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Red Cross, created at the International Conference of 1863 (see Stop 5).

► Next stop: go to the Palais de l'Athénée (2, rue de l'Athénée).

The International Conference that gave birth to the Red Cross

Following a vote in 1850, the fortification walls surrounding Geneva were finally demolished and progressively replaced by new constructions, including the Palais de l'Athénée built in 1863 by the banker Jean-Gabriel Eynard. That same year, his widow proposed it as the venue for the international conference.

On 26–29 October, a committee consisting of Henry Dunant, General Dufour and Gustave Moynier, together with two physicians, Louis Appia and Théodore Maunoir (see Stops 11 and 12), convened an international conference. This private initiative was attended by 36 people, including official delegates from 14 countries.

Resolutions were adopted for the implementation of one of Henry Dunant's ideas: the creation of national relief committees that would train volunteers and prepare material during peacetime in order to assist medical services during war. A distinctive sign to wear as an armlet or carry as a flag was chosen: a red cross on a white background.



The first national relief committee was established in December in the Kingdom of Württemberg, with others set up in the following months in Belgium, Prussia, Denmark, France, Italy, Spain and Hesse. In less than five years, 22 societies had been created.

This was the beginning of the body that would later be renamed the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

► Next stop: Chapelle de l'Oratoire (7, rue Tabazan).

The awakening of humanitarianism

In the 19th century, charity work was very much a part of religious activities in Geneva, notably among patrician families. It also saw the emergence of a renewed spiritual and social movement called the *Réveil* (awakening), and in 1834 its supporters established the Evangelical Society of Geneva in this chapel.

It was here that a young Henry Dunant became very active in this work, which nourished his sense of social responsibility and compassion. In 1852, at the age of 24, he co-founded the Christian Union in Geneva (already operating in London and Paris) and participated in setting up what would become the World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations (YMCA). His role as secretary-correspondent enabled him to reach out to an extensive network across Europe, enhancing his skills as a communicator and networker.

In 1859, having heard of the bloodbath at Solferino, the Evangelical Society expressed its concern for the fate of the wounded soldiers, calling on parishioners to send a relief mission. Four volunteers went to Lombardy just as Dunant was returning to Geneva from his own journey there. Although not involved in this endeavour, he saw a clear need to distinguish between religious and secular work.

There was a strong sense of responsibility among members of Geneva's elite, who were actively involved in the official Protestant or Evangelical churches, to aid and protect those in need. And this is certainly a factor that explains why this story unfolded in 19th-century Geneva.



1st World YMCA Conference, Paris, 1855, with Dunant standing 3rd from left.

► Next stop: the printing house of Jules-Guillaume Fick (14, rue Etienne Dumont).

The printing of words that made history



This plaque commemorates the 150th anniversary of the first edition of Henry Dunant's book *A Memory of Solferino*. Here stood the printing house of Jules-Guillaume Fick, Geneva's most prestigious printers specializing in limited luxury editions.

It was also the building where General Dufour lived between 1826 and 1845. Before the book went to print, Dunant had sent the manuscript to the General for his approval.

Dunant had wanted to print this book as a high-quality, large-format publication including a map of the battle of Solferino in three colours!



Download the free PDF versions

This was very costly, and Dunant had to foot the bill himself. The book came out in November 1862 for private distribution only. The first 400 copies with 'Not for Sale' on the cover were offered to a select audience in Geneva and the rest to influential personalities across Europe.

The first acknowledgments arrived quickly, and another edition was printed, this time for sale at a price of 5 francs. In February 1863, 3,000 more copies were published but in a different format and for the more affordable price of 1.50 francs. That same year, the book was translated into German, Dutch and Italian.

The Bodmer Museum – War and Peace exhibition

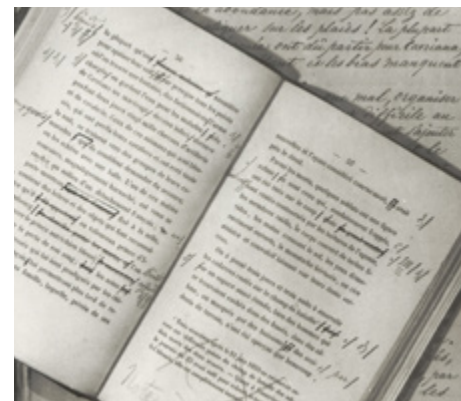
The original edition of *A Memory of Solferino*, as well as an autograph note by Henry Dunant, are on display together with other rare manuscripts in this exhibition until 1 March 2020.

► Learn more about historical Geneva at Place du Bourg-de-Four or continue to the next stop: Henry Dunant's birth place (12, rue Verdaine).

Historical Geneva at the Bourg-de-Four: Destiny at the crossroads

When the glaciers withdrew from the region 20,000 years ago, they left Lake Geneva with a little island (*l'île*) on the Rhône River which flows through the lake. There have been wooden bridges since antiquity on this island, the only passage across the Rhône in a long way.

Geneva became an important stop for travellers and a transportation hub for goods, and a major market place was established at this spot – the Place du Bourg-de-Four.



As part of the Roman Empire since 121 BC, the site first appeared in the writings of Julius Cesar as 'Genua', meaning 'the mouth of the river'. Geneva continued to prosper in the Middle Ages, and the commercial area moved down to the three ports – Fusterie, Molard and Longemalle. Four times a year from the 1200s to the 1400s, Geneva became the financial and commercial centre of Europe when it hosted international trade fairs. At these times, the population would double with the massive arrival of French, German, Dutch, Italian and Swiss merchants and bankers as well as craftsmen, artists and visitors coming to the city for the occasion.

After the decline of these fairs when the King of France decided to favour those held in Lyon, Geneva continued to maintain commercial relations with Bern and Fribourg, and new alliances were progressively formed with these Swiss cantons.

The Place du Bourg-de-Four is still an animated and vibrant square and the heart of the Old Town.

► Next stop: Henry Dunant's birthplace (12, rue Verdaine).

Henry Dunant from youth to adulthood

Jean-Henri Dunant was born on 8 May 1828 into a bourgeois family in this property that they owned. His parents were known for their engagement in social work, and he would often accompany his mother when she visited the poor and ill. His father was particularly concerned with criminals, and during a family trip to the south one summer he visited prisoners in Toulon accompanied by six-year-old Henry – an experience that left a strong impression on the little boy.

As an adolescent, Henry attended secondary school at the Collège de Genève (today Collège Calvin). Although he was strong in religious studies and even won prizes, he was a poor student in other subjects and was finally dismissed at the age of 14. He completed his schooling with a private tutor who lived in this building which still belonged to the family. At lunchtime, he often went to eat with his Aunt Sophie who was a member of the Evangelical Society in which he became actively involved. Throughout his formative years, he was driven by a motivation and responsibility to bring relief to those in need. As a young adult, for example, he spent his Sunday afternoons reading the Bible with condemned prisoners.

- Discover historical Geneva at the Old Arsenal or continue to the next stop: Henry Dunant's house (4, rue du Puits-Saint-Pierre).

In his early twenties, Dunant was sent by his employer, the Lullin & Sauter Bank, on a trip to Algeria where he decided to launch his own enterprise called Les Moulins de Mons-Djémila. Although his optimism and enthusiasm drew Genevan investors, the business was beset by problems, and it was with the intention of resolving them that Dunant set off to northern Italy in June 1859 for an audience with Napoleon III. He did not succeed and was finally declared bankrupt and convicted by the Geneva Tribunal of Commerce. Instead, this journey channelled his energy in a totally new direction.



Historical Geneva: The independent identity of the Republic

You are now at the ancient arsenal where you can admire three mosaics depicting the first chapters of Geneva's story: the arrival of Julius Caesar in 58 BC, prosperity thanks to the trade fairs of the Middle Ages and the impact of the Reformation and Huguenot refuge.

Throughout its history, Geneva managed to stay independent and maintain its identity. In 1602, the Duke of Savoy, whose dominions surrounded Geneva, attempted a final attack on the Republic using extended ladders to climb over the walls in the middle of the night. And this is when, according to legend, a local woman known as *Mère Royaume* raised the alert by throwing a cauldron of hot soup out the window onto a passing Savoyard soldier. Every 12 December, Genevans celebrate this victory with the *Fête de l'Escalade*, enjoying chocolate cauldrons filled with marzipan vegetables with great relish.

Nevertheless, Geneva did lose its independence once – it was annexed by France from 1798 to 1813. After Napoleon Bonaparte's defeat, the victorious Austrian troops stayed for a few months in Geneva and then took the Republic's cannons with them when they left! Geneva managed to negotiate their return, and the five remaining cannons are proudly displayed here.

In 1815, after Geneva's citizens voted to join Switzerland, it became the 22nd canton. At the same time, Swiss neutrality was officially recognized by the European powers. Elsewhere in Europe, nationalistic desires to redefine borders triggered an increasing number of new wars.

- Next stop: 4, rue du Puits-Saint-Pierre where Henry Dunant lived.

09— The birth of an idea



In 1856, Henry Dunant inherited his Aunt Sophie's apartment where he lived until his departure from Geneva in 1867.

On 24 June 1859, Dunant went to Lombardy seeking an audience with Napoleon III to discuss his business ventures in Algeria. Late that afternoon, he arrived in the village of Castiglione where he witnessed with horror the sight of thousands of bloodied and dreadfully wounded soldiers slowly arriving from a battle that had just taken place between the Austrian and Franco-Piedmontese troops. On the battlefield of nearby Solferino, 40,000 men were left dead or left to their fate due to the lack of medical care. Dunant took immediate action to help the villagers attempting to provide care and relief as best they could with no distinction of nationality. But this was not enough for Dunant – how could such abominable suffering be prevented in future battles?

Regarding himself as a man of letters, a man of rigour and precision, he spent a year writing *A Memory of Solferino* in this apartment. Dunant used shock and emotion effectively to communicate his two ideas: to establish relief committees with trained volunteers and to have governments agree to an international principle of caring for all wounded soldiers on the battlefield.

In November 1862, the book was printed and distributed at Dunant's own expense to personalities in Geneva and to leading European figures. It instantly received a very positive response, including from 13 heads of state who expressed their interest. Dunant was elated and immediately started planning how to push forward his ideas, turning first to Paris with its powerful influence. However, events were to take a different turn.



► Next stop: Casino de Saint-Pierre (3, rue de l'Evêché).

The launch of the Red Cross – a private initiative

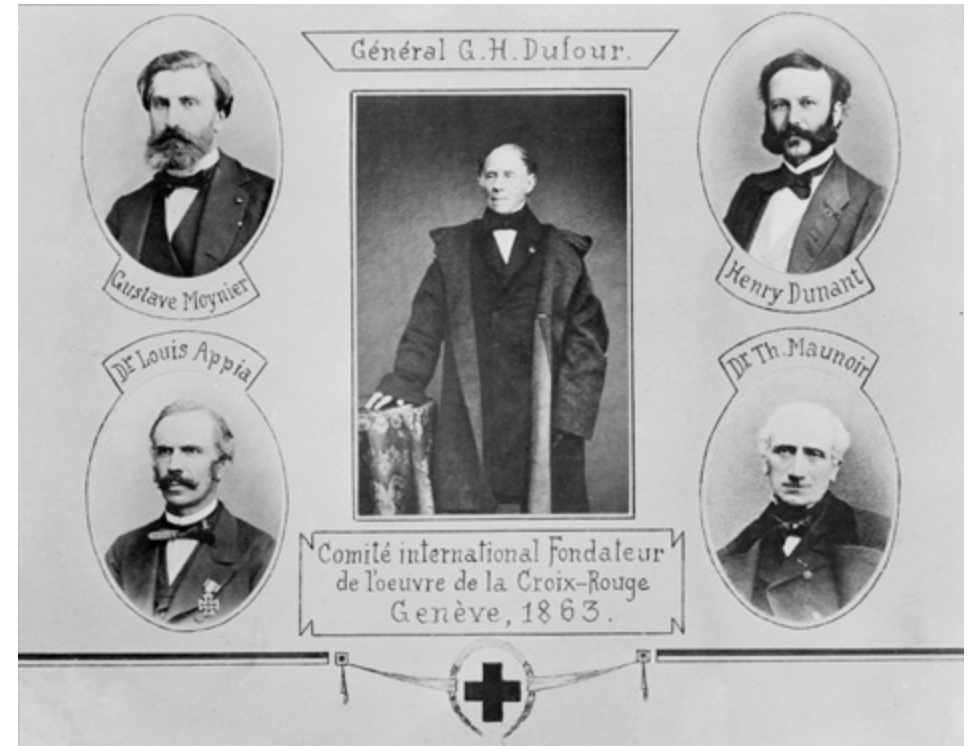


One of the Genevan citizens who received *A Memory of Solferino* was Gustave Moynier, president of the Geneva Society for Public Welfare. He was so enthusiastic that he rushed to Dunant's house to congratulate him on this 'brilliant idea'.

Moynier had found his philanthropic calling and planned to use the Society to implement Dunant's ideas although he realized there would be some hesitation from members who wanted to focus on traditional social activities. Therefore, at their assembly on 9 February 1863, he skillfully proposed presenting Dunant's ideas at an international Charity Congress to take place in Berlin in September. Reassured, the assembly members appointed a committee to examine the project.

The energizing complementarity between Dunant and Moynier infused enthusiasm into the others to make it a dynamic team. At its first meeting, it spontaneously self-proclaimed itself an 'International Permanent Committee'. And when the Berlin Congress was suddenly cancelled, it decided to convene its own international conference which took place from 26 to 29 October at the Palais de l'Athénée. This was the beginning of what would become the different National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) based in Geneva (see Stop 5).

And what about Dunant's second idea for governments to commit to this solution? You will soon find out, after meeting the two medical members.



The 'Committee of Five' comprising General Dufour (76 years old) as president, Moynier (37) as vice-president and Dunant (35) as secretary, together with two surgeons appointed for their medical expertise, Dr Théodore Maunoir (56) and Dr Louis Appia (45)

► Next stop: Louis Appia's house
(10, rue Guillaume Farel).

The first humanitarian globalist



Louis Appia was born in Hanau, northern Germany, in 1818 and arrived in Geneva after studying medicine in Heidelberg and Paris. A member of the Evangelical Church in Geneva, he was strongly motivated by his faith to improve the plight of vulnerable human beings. He gave lectures promoting public hygiene, childcare, first aid and efforts to combat alcoholism.

When the Italian war broke out in 1859, Appia appealed to the people of Geneva in the *Journal de Genève* 13 May issue, asking for lint and cloth to be sent to Turin for the wounded soldiers from both sides. Nine weeks before Dunant arrived in Solferino, Appia had already understood the effectiveness of striking a chord with the general public. In early July, he went to Turin and travelled around the region visiting hospitalized wounded soldiers and helped develop military medicine. He also advised Dunant on *A Memory of Solferino*.

It is therefore not surprising that Appia became very active in the International Committee and was sent by the newly established 'Geneva Red Cross' to the Schleswig-Holstein war in the spring of 1864. He and Dutch naval captain Charles van de Velde (delegate at the 1863 Conference) were given the task of acting as neutral observers in both camps – they had just become the first ICRC delegates, creating a new role in conflict zones.



► Continue to Théodore Maunoir's house to meet our least-known character (rue du Soleil-Levant).

The philanthropic doctor

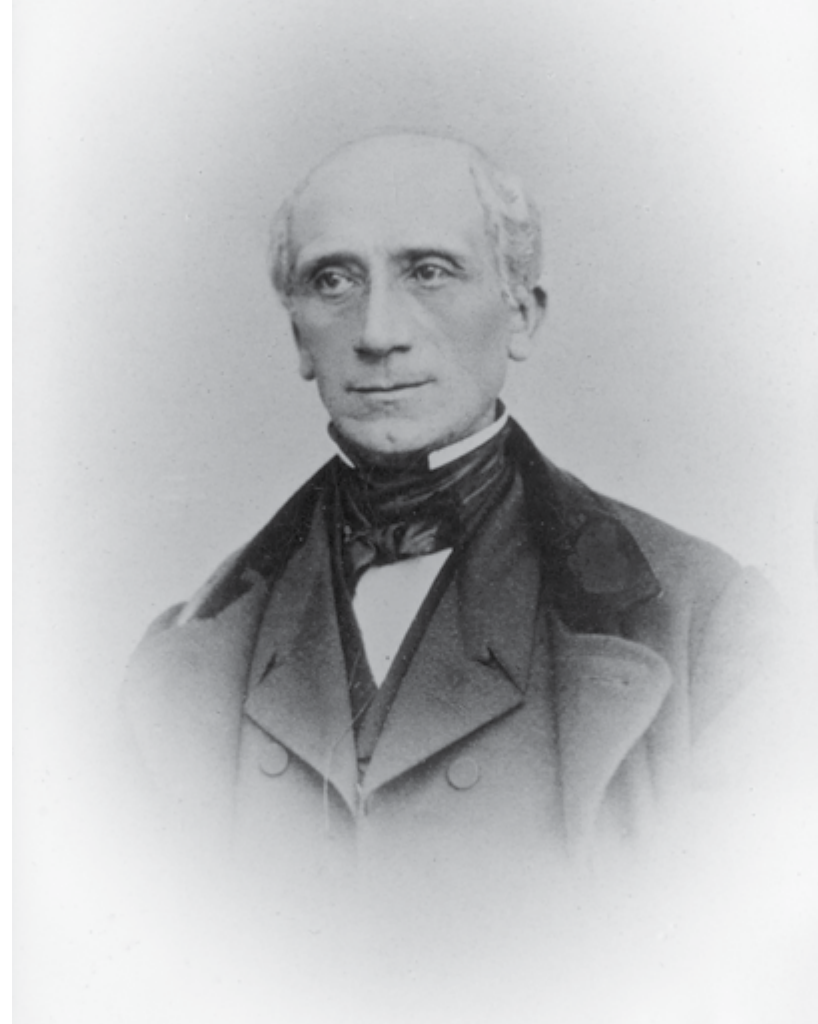


Théodore Maunoir was born in 1806 into a family of doctors. After studying medicine in Paris, he returned to Geneva when he was 28 and became a surgeon. Thanks to his internship in England and his second wife who was American, he was well acquainted with the English-speaking world. He was particularly interested in medical care and the role of volunteers during the American Civil War.

When appointed to the International Committee in 1863, the nature of his relationship with the other members was not clear except for his friendship with Appia whom he had introduced into Genevan society. Unlike the other members who preferred to focus their attention on the elite, Maunoir believed in popular support and hence in the importance of reaching out to the whole population.

He played a particularly active part in the discussions during the International Conference of 26–29 October 1863, especially when medical delegates such as Boudier, the French representative sent by Napoleon III, were hostile to the project. By way of example, when asked from what social class the volunteers would be chosen, Maunoir replied: 'From all classes, as long as soldiers are also taken from all segments of the population.' This systematic response to the imperial delegate's objections would direct the course of the debates and result in acknowledgment of the need for civilian support to second the insufficient medical services.

Although he died suddenly just six years after the founding of the Red Cross, Maunoir was nevertheless recognized by the other members of the Committee as having played a significantly influential role.



► Next stop: Office of the League of Red Cross Societies (9, cour de Saint-Pierre).

The expansion of the Red Cross Movement



Originally called relief committees for the war-wounded, they were renamed National Red Cross Societies from 1892. There were also Red Crescent Societies after this alternative symbol was introduced later on. Fifty years after the foundation of the Red Cross, there were already 45 National Societies across Europe and beyond.

During the First World War (1914–1918), the Societies gained tremendous experience and attracted millions of volunteers. Women became especially active, including in tasks that had previously been the preserve of men.

In a devastated post-war Europe with famine and epidemics spreading, National Societies decided to engage in peacetime activities in areas such as public health, hygiene and first aid. In 1919, they founded the *League of Red Cross Societies* intended to act as a coordinating and support body, and its office was located here until 1922. In 1991, it was renamed the *International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies*.

The Geneva Red Cross was created in 1864, two years prior to the Swiss Red Cross in Bern. After the swift decision to send two men, who would be the first ICRC delegates, to the Schleswig-Holstein war, its initial momentum soon faded and would only be reactivated in 1889 by Genevan ladies, notably Alice Favre.



Posters Unpacked Exhibition running to 26 January 2020
– International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum

Follow the extraordinary development of National Societies through this collection of posters.

► Last stop: Alabama Room at GenevaCity Hall (Hôtel-de-Ville).

The launch of the Geneva Conventions – a commitment by governments



Following the Conference of 1863 that saw the creation of the Red Cross, the members of the International Committee of Geneva immediately set to work disseminating the resolutions as widely as possible with two objectives: to encourage the creation of national committees and to start preparing a diplomatic conference.



Watch *Rules of War* (in a nutshell)

The organization and drafting tasks were essentially carried out by Gustave Moynier with the support of General Dufour. Henry Dunant meanwhile put great effort into travelling around to promote the Red Cross and the importance of attending the diplomatic conference scheduled for August 1864. His intuitive but impulsive actions undertaken without consulting the Committee would exclude him from further involvement, except in activities associated with public relations and organizing the festivities.

It was in the Alabama Room that the 'Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded in Armies in the Field' was signed by 12 States on 22 August 1864. The original Geneva Convention guaranteed respect for and the neutrality of wounded soldiers on the battlefield as well as ambulances, hospitals and personnel. It also ensured impartial treatment for the wounded on all sides and adopted the distinctive red cross on a white background for personnel and hospitals.

This treaty was revised and expanded into the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, adopted today by 194 States. Two Protocols were added in 1977.



Signing of the Geneva Convention of 1864: Baden, Belgium, Denmark, France, Hesse, Italy, Portugal, Prussia, Spain, Switzerland, The Netherlands and Württemberg on 12 August (joined in December by Norway and Sweden)

The building where the Alabama Room is located is currently closed to the public while undergoing renovation. You can visit it by watching the short film below made by the Geneva Department of Education (only in French).

This was the story of how the Red Cross and the Geneva Conventions came into being in 19th-century Geneva, launching modern humanitarian action and law and putting the city on track to realize its international vocation.

As you cross over to the other bank, don't miss the flags of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement on the Mont-Blanc bridge and the Jet d'Eau fountain illuminated in red!



► To further explore the Humanitarian Trail, you can continue to the following stops on the Left Bank or go to the International Quarter and follow the Humanitarian Journey Trail.

Why is this called the Alabama Room?

In 1872, the United Kingdom was accused by the United States of having armed the vessel CSS Alabama to destroy the Union merchant ships during the US Civil War. An Arbitration Tribunal ended the dispute with the UK paying heavy compensation. Instead of resulting in war, a dispute between two countries had been resolved in a neutral State. The international conferences that established the Red Cross and the Geneva Conventions, and the Arbitration Tribunal mark the beginning of 'International Geneva'.

For the story of the Red Cross and Geneva Convention watch *The Story of an Idea*



Also on the Left Bank



Painted electrical junction box: The story of an idea

Plaine de Plainpalais

Let the painting and animation take you back to 1859 when Henry Dunant witnessed the suffering of wounded soldiers on the battlefield of Solferino and what happened next.



Intercultural Integration Centre

50, rue de Carouge, 1205 Geneva
Monday to Friday, 09:30–11:45, 13:30–18:00
Saturday, 11:00–15:00

The Geneva Red Cross has a library with books in over 280 languages. Its volunteers offer assistance with writing in French to migrants and language courses as well as help with homework and activities for children.

A selection of multilingual books and these activities are also now available at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Chemin des Crêts 17, Tuesday/Thursday, 10:00–13:00 and 14:15–17:30.



Bodmer Museum

19–21, route Martin-Bodmer, 1223 Cologny
Until 1 March 2020, Tuesday to Sunday,
14:00–18:00 – Bus A or 33 from Rive

War and Peace exhibition commissioned in partnership with UN Geneva and the ICRC, featuring the original edition of Henry Dunant's *A Memory of Solferino*.



Humanitarian Journey Trail

1. CICG
2. Place des Nations
3. Marcel Junod Memorial
4. RCRC Museum
5. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)



Journey Trail

CICG



'Trust me'. Stopping Ebola is not just about providing information, vaccine and treatment. It's about gaining the trust of people with good reason to be wary.

Act Now, Shape Tomorrow

2019 marks the 33rd time that the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent has met since its first gathering in 1867. Every four years, this unique international body brings together the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement – the ICRC, the 192 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and their International Federation – and the States party to the Geneva Conventions. It is here that the humanitarian agenda is set.



Trust

There is no greater asset to the work of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement than the trust of the people and communities it serves. In the field, however, humanitarian workers not only face crises but also experience personal dilemmas in their daily decision-making. The humanitarian principles help them with these challenges and guide action intended to provide aid and relief to persons affected by conflicts, disasters or other emergencies. The key principles are Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality and Independence.



Patients, aid and health workers,
hospitals and ambulances are
#NotATarget



Restoring Family Links

In the context of armed conflict, disasters, migration and other situations requiring a humanitarian response, families get separated and people go missing. This leaves a damaging and long-lasting impact on the families and communities concerned and on society as a whole. The Red Cross and Red Crescent Family Links Network provides services to maintain contact between separated family members or re-establish contact with missing family members, supporting affected people throughout the search process and in their efforts to be reunited with their relatives. Despite rapid technological advances and the proliferation of mobile communications, it remains difficult for people to maintain and restore contact with their relatives on their own in crisis situations.



Watch Red Cross and Red Crescent,
Restoring Family Links

Two events and installations

4–12 December 2019 outside the CICG
(International Conference Centre Geneva)

Yurt: #DialoguesOnHumanity

You are invited to look at selected photographs and then slow down the process of reading the image and explore your reaction, thoughts, feelings and point of view. As you are drawn into each one, different questions will come up:

What do you see? What was your first emotional reaction when looking at the picture? You will then be able to discover the stories and dilemmas behind each photograph and discuss them with humanitarian workers.

#DialoguesOnHumanity is part of the project *Humanitarian Principles. Here and Now*. In addition to perusing photographs in the Yurt, you are invited to continue your experience with a selection of short films that can be watched and reflected upon at the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum. This contemporary art installation is the result of a partnership between the Musée de l'Elysée, the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the ICRC.



Mobile van: Restoring Family Links (RFL)

You will have the opportunity to experience how the global Red Cross and Red Crescent network enables separated families to reconnect around the world, including at home. Visit the van that takes the French Red Cross RFL service directly to migrants in locations where they gather.

Journey Trail

Place des Nations



Humanitarian Crises Digital Dilemmas

Place des Nations
5–12 December 2019, 10:00–19:00

The humanitarian sector is being transformed by digital technology offering opportunities as well as raising growing concerns over the possible risks involved.

Placed in a crisis context, visitors will experience first-hand the consequences of these technologies from connectivity and social media to biometrics.



The Broken Chair – humanitarian action leading to law

Commissioned by Handicap International and created by Genevan artist Daniel Berset in 1997, the chair with the amputated leg is still here as a reminder of the global effort to ban and eliminate anti-personnel landmines. Launched by five non-governmental organizations in 1992, the international campaign resulted in the adoption of a treaty five years later.

With its surgeons and orthopaedists documenting increasing numbers of land-mine casualties, the ICRC joined the campaign in 1994 with the active support of National Red Cross and Red Cross Societies which engaged in lobbying their governments and raising public opinion, as well as carrying out mine awareness programmes in affected countries.

Journey Trail

Junod Memorial

The expansion of humanitarian action and law

The pioneers of the ICRC's operational role

The International Committee of the Red Cross took action during warfare for the first time during the Schleswig-Holstein war in 1864 through Swiss surgeon and Red Cross co-founder *Dr Louis Appia* on the Prussian side and Dutch naval captain *Charles van de Velde* on the Danish side.

Their task was not to bring relief to the wounded but to act as neutral observers. This made them the first ICRC delegates – creating a new role that would evolve during the First World War with visits to prisoners.

Renée-Marguerite Frick-Cramer became the first humanitarian diplomat and woman delegate when she participated in missions and conferences for the repatriation of prisoners in 1917 and in the drafting of the Conventions.

During the inter-war period, *Dr Marcel Junod* was to pioneer humanitarian action, often taking initiatives where the existing mandate and legal provisions were insufficient. Between 1935 and 1938, Dr Junod was sent by the ICRC to Ethiopia, at war with Italy at that time, and then to Spain where a civil war was raging. He witnessed heavy casualties among both combatants and civilians as well as bombardments and the use of chemicals.



When the Second World War began in 1939, he was sent to negotiate access to prisoners of war and visited them throughout Europe, before leaving for Japan in June 1945 for the same purpose. Upon his arrival in August, he learnt of the devastation caused by the atomic bombing and was the first foreign doctor to arrive in Hiroshima with all the medication and blood plasma he could mobilize.

In 1947, Dr Junod wrote a book entitled *Warriors without Weapons* about his life as an ICRC delegate, a role he describes as that of the 'third combatant' acting on the humanitarian front between the two belligerents. His legacy is about taking new initiatives for the victims according to evolving situations and needs, which have contributed to the development of international humanitarian law – an example followed by ICRC delegates to this day.

The Marcel Junod Memorial

The memorial by sculptor Hisashi Akutagawa was inaugurated in Ariana Park on 13 September 2005 in memory of the victims of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and Dr Marcel Junod (1904–1961). An identical portrait can be seen on the 1979 monument in the Peace Memorial Park in Hiroshima, Japan.



Watch *Dr Marcel Junod, Le Troisième Combattant*



Energizing the law

On 12 August 1949, three revised Geneva conventions and a fourth new one protecting civilians were universally agreed by States. Complemented 30 years later by the Additional Protocols of 1977, these international treaties contain the most important rules limiting the barbarity of war by protecting people who do not take part in the fighting (civilians, medics and aid workers) or combatants who are no longer able to (wounded, sick or captured).

Yet since their signature, the world has seen tragic violations of these laws with new forms of total war and violence that seek to destroy the enemy by any means, including targeting civilians, relief workers and medical facilities. While we are frequently exposed to shocking images of gross violations, examples of respect for humanitarian law are not always visible to the public eye.



Watch *Rules of War* (in a nutshell)



A stroll through historical Geneva: Parc de l'Ariana

And yet instances of compliance can be seen everywhere: a wounded person allowed through a checkpoint, a child receiving food, detainees able to send a message to their families... Our collective challenge today is to find ways to ensure greater respect for the Conventions in the face of the changing dynamics of conflict.

Today, the Geneva Conventions of 1949 have been adopted by 194 countries. Seventy years on, they remain as necessary and as important in saving lives as the States of the world intended them to be.



Geneva Conventions turn 70

During the 19th century, the estate of Gustave Revilliod extended all the way down to the lake. An avid collector, he built this museum in 1870, and today it displays the most important collection of ceramics and glass in Europe.

Revilliod willed the estate to the City of Geneva so that it could be made into a public park named after his mother Ariana. However, his wishes were not fully respected as the city needed land to build the Palais des Nations for the League of Nations established in 1919. The Avenue de la Paix was then constructed to join the League with another organization – the International Labour Organization (located in the present ICRC headquarters building). The United Nations has occupied the Palais des Nations since 1946.

Journey Trail

International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum

The extraordinary story of the largest humanitarian movement

From the birth of an idea...

In 1859, a young Swiss citizen from Geneva, Henry Dunant, was travelling in northern Italy when he came upon the aftermath of a bloody battle in Solferino. Overwhelmed by the sight, he published a book in 1862 entitled *A Memory of Solferino* calling for improved care for wounded soldiers in wartime.

The Red Cross was born in February 1863 when Dunant and four other Genevan citizens founded what was to become the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). By the end of the year, a number of countries had agreed to Dunant's proposal to create national relief societies with an easily recognizable emblem – a red cross on a white background; an alternative symbol – a red crescent – was later introduced. In 2005, the red crystal was adopted as another option for National Societies to use as an emblem.

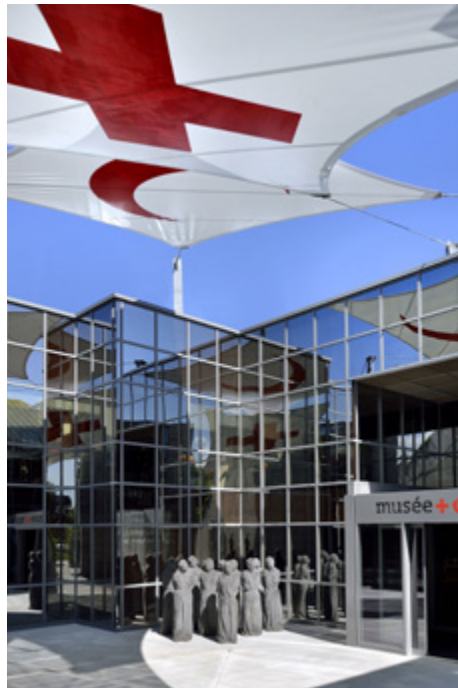
Less than a year later, in August 1864, twelve governments signed the first Geneva Convention obliging armies to care for wounded soldiers, whatever side they were on – a milestone in the history of humanity which laid the foundations of international humanitarian law.



Watch the animation *The Story of an idea*

...to the present day

The ICRC, 192 National Societies and their International Federation form the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement – a truly global humanitarian network of 14.2 million people (staff and volunteers) ready to help those facing disaster, conflict and health and social problems.



International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum

Inaugurated in 1988 and reopened after renovation work in 2013, this museum presents the humanitarian story of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, showing how its activities have evolved and how international law has developed. At the permanent exhibition, visitors can see the original Geneva Convention of 1864 as well as six million index cards concerning prisoners of war captured in the First World War.

The renovated building also includes the Humanitarium, an innovative venue with dynamic spaces, ideal for events and discussions on today's humanitarian challenges.

The three following temporary exhibitions and installations can be seen at this venue.



ICRC headquarters

Since 1947, the ICRC headquarters have been located on the premises of the former Carlton Hotel. Created as a boarding school in the 19th century, this building also served as the office of the International Labour Organization (1920–1926.)

The ICRC directs and coordinates the Movement's international activities during armed conflicts and other situations of violence. Its mission is to protect and assist victims through direct action in the field as well as by promoting respect for international humanitarian law. The organization has around 17,700 staff in the field and at ICRC headquarters and is present in over 90 countries. About 30 per cent of its operational activities are carried out in cooperation with National Societies.



Posters Unpacked

At the Museum
Until 26 January 2020

A true mirror of society, the museum's collection of over 10,500 Red Cross and Red Crescent posters from 1866 to the present day reflects the concerns of the different periods in which they were produced. They trace the extraordinary development of the activities of National Societies and capture events that shook the world.



Pages

At the Humanitarium
17 October 2019 to 30 April 2020

The International Review of the Red Cross is the oldest international publication devoted to humanitarian law and action, dating back to 1869. To mark its 150th anniversary, this exhibition invites the visitor to delve into the more than 110,000 pages that form the rich history of the journal and to ponder how words can change the course of history.



Humanitarian Principles Here and Now

At the Museum
4–12 December 2019

This contemporary art installation aims to give visitors a better understanding and deeper insight into the significance that Humanitarian Principles have in everyday life and provides a space for Dialogue on Humanity. You are invited to watch a selection of short films and explore your reaction, thoughts, feelings and point of view. To continue your experience, this time with selected photographs, head to the Yurt outside the CICG. The global project is the result of a partnership between the Musée de l'Elysée, the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the ICRC.



War and Peace

At Bodmer Museum
Until 1 March 2020

Exhibition at the Bodmer Museum with the original edition of Henry Dunant's *A Memory of Solferino* on display.



A stroll through historical Geneva along the way (between the Museum and the IFRC)

International diplomacy

In addition to the 37 international organizations and 420 non-governmental organizations established in Geneva, other crucial actors in multilateral diplomacy are the States represented by 179 permanent missions. These countries are stakeholders in humanitarian action and law, notably as States party to the Geneva Conventions and related treaties. In this area alone, you will pass the missions of Russia, Kuwait, South Korea and Canada.

As you approach the Intercontinental Hotel, try to imagine the scene before its construction and inauguration in 1964, a setting of green fields and grazing sheep. Since then, numerous formal and informal diplomatic meetings and hundreds of visits by heads of States and ministers have taken place within these walls which have witnessed history in the making.

From countryside to global centre

La ferme de Budé. Until the demolition of the fortifications around Geneva in 1850, this area was covered with fields and forest divided into large bourgeois estates outside the walled city. In the 1770s, the land where you are now standing belonged to the Turretini family, who had arrived in Geneva from Italy in the 16th century as protestant refugees, until it became the Budé estate. Fields of crops and vineyards were progressively replaced by vegetable patches.

This was the commune of Petit-Saconnex until 1930 when it merged, village, parks and estates included, with the city of Geneva. With the construction of the airport in 1920, and the Palais des Nations in 1937 and the arrival of all the other organizations after 1946, the area was rapidly transformed into what is considered today 'International Geneva'.

Journey Trail

IFRC

100 years of solidarity – the world's largest humanitarian organization

During the First World War (1914–1918), National Red Cross Societies gained much experience and attracted millions of volunteers. In a devastated post-war Europe, famine and epidemics were spreading fast at a time of mass displacement. In response, National Societies decided to engage in the promotion of public health, nutrition, hygiene and first aid as well as assisting vulnerable people within their communities.

It was in this spirit that Henry Davison, president of the American Red Cross War Committee, proposed forming a federation of National Societies in order to benefit from these vast reserves of expertise and leverage their potential. The result was the creation of the League of Red Cross Societies in Paris on 5 May 1919, which would support the Societies and their health activities and coordinate relief work in the wake of epidemic outbreaks and natural disasters.

Renamed the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1991, it now has more than 13.7 million volunteers from 192 National Societies, forming a truly global network capable of providing community-level humanitarian support before, during and after a disaster or crisis.

The need to treat the less visible wounds

Mental health and psychosocial needs increase dramatically as a result of armed conflicts, natural disasters and other emergencies. Emotional suffering due to trauma, anxiety and grief may linger long after the physical wounds have healed. The helpers who are part of the community are also exposed to the same stress and difficulties. The Danish Red Cross operates the Federation reference centre for mental health and psychosocial support for affected people, staff and volunteers.



The need to better prepare for climate change

Millions of people around the world are already suffering the humanitarian consequences of climate change. The impacts are occurring earlier and more frequently than predicted, and recent decades have seen a sharp increase in climate- and weather-related disasters.

Already, more than 25 million people are displaced, on average, every year by sudden-onset disasters, and millions more are at risk of displacement from slow-onset hazards. It is widely expected that the number of people being displaced by the effects of climate change will continue to increase, particularly in developing countries.

The Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre was established in 2002 by The Netherlands Red Cross and the IFRC with the aim of reducing the impacts of climate change on vulnerable people and improving multi-disciplinary preparation, including climate-smart disaster law and risk management.

The innovative redesigning of the IFRC headquarters at its 100-year milestone

Visit the new IFRC building, learn about its climate-smart and eco-friendly construction and see what it has to offer National Societies, humanitarian partners and the local community in Geneva.

Much of the space is open to the public, including the successful restaurant 'The Continents'. As you enter through the main reception area, an exhibition will allow you to discover the history of the IFRC and its founders. This welcoming open space also includes the Volunteers Memorial commemorating the lives and dedication of Red Cross and Red Crescent personnel who have been killed on duty.

The Geneva Branch of the Swiss Red Cross also has a presence here with a multilingual library that offers many services to the community, including assisting migrants with writing in French and helping local children with their homework.

Between 4 and 12 December, you will have the opportunity to watch historical films from the IFRC archives and learn from the 'Time-Machine' installation of the Swiss Red Cross. You can also attend conferences and talks on humanitarian priorities, such as climate change and mental health, or simply enjoy a coffee in a friendly and dynamic restaurant in this new building dedicated to the cause of humanity.



Practical information

Duration

Trail 1: The Humanitarian Legacy – Old Town

The full trail takes approximately 90 minutes with a walking time of 30 minutes.

Trail 2: The Humanitarian Journey – International Quarter

A walk of about 40 minutes from the International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG) to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) – plus visits to the stops on the trail.

Public transport – TPG

Trail 1, starting point:

Place de Neuve: 3, 5, 12, 18, 20

Trail 2, starting point:

Place des Nations: 8, 5, 11, 15, 20, F
IFRC: 3

For visitors staying in hotels in Geneva, free transport passes can be obtained at the reception (buses, trams, trains and yellow taxi-boats).

www.tpg.ch/en/web/site-international
www.mouettesgenevoises.com

Geneva public Wi-Fi

The free Wi-Fi provided by the city of Geneva is called '(o) Geneve Ville' and covers many locations across the city. Spots along the Trail include: Bastions, Place de Neuve, Plainpalais, St Pierre Cathedral, Place des Nations and Parc de l'Ariana.

Admission

Admission is free for all the temporary events along the Trail except for the Posters Unpacked exhibition at the Red Cross Red Crescent Museum and the War & Peace exhibition at the Bodmer Museum. Check with each establishment for more information. The Red Cross Red Crescent Museum is free for Conference delegates upon presentation of name badges.

www.fondationbodmer.ch/en/
www.redcrossmuseum.ch/en/your-visit/practical-information/

Accessibility

The two trails are physically accessible to all, with some uphill walking and cobbled streets in the Old Town. Audio description is accessible for visually impaired people visiting the Yurt (Trail 2).

Grab a bite and relax along the Humanitarian Trail

Trail 1:

ICRC/Museum restaurant and IFRC
The Continents restaurant.

Trail 2:

Large choice of restaurants and cafés in the Old Town and around.

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