

# Unveiling the Secrets of Zurich's Nightly Visitors (1780-1818)

Exploring the «Zürcher Nachtzedel»



# The Dataset «Zürcher Nachtzedel»

Zurich's Overnight Visitor Logs have been recorded by a «Nachtschreiber» (night clerk) between 1780 and 1818 to control who was staying in the hotels and inns of the city.

- Document names and origins of guests
- Trace presence of famous contemporaries like Goethe and Hölderlin
- Allow for social-historical insights: fluctuation of tourism, origin of travellers, profession and social status of travellers etc.



# The Dataset «Zürcher Nachtzedel»

STORCHEN.  
Mr. Bapt. Wiedkeller von Arbon.  
Jean Barade d'Auvergne.  
1 Berner, 1 Bamberger Kutfcher.  
2 Landl. 5 Handw. 1 Pilger.

- Digitized by the Zentralbibliothek Zurich
- Locked in image format (without machine-readable text)
- 95 % of the Nachtzedel are printed, mostly in good quality
- 5 % of the Nachtzedel are handwritten notes
- Occasional misspellings or unusual spellings

NACHTZEDEL.  
Freytags, den 25 Augusti 1780.

---

SCHWERDT.  
Jkr. Spitalh - Herr Schulmacher und Fran.  
Schweitzer. Jkr. Mahler, Rmtl. von Lucern.  
Mr. Esmejaud de Moulins f. 2. Dolle de Grenoble.  
Baron Kreis. Baron von Holzschuher.  
Baron von Haller, fämliche von Nürnberg.  
de Vermeux de Paris.  
Guillebert. Mr. Meuron de Neuchatel.  
Borazzi und Hoffmann von Bamberg.  
Bourgeois d'Iverdon.  
Blumer von Glarus.  
Schirley Anglois.  
1 Frankfurter Fuhrmann.

STORCHEN.  
Mr. Bapt. Wiedkeller von Arbon.  
Jean Barade d'Auvergne.  
1 Berner, 1 Bamberger Kutfcher.  
2 Landl. 5 Handw. 1 Pilger.

ADLER.  
Hr. Meyer von Eßlingen.  
Noel Corbaffier de Savoye.  
1 Handw. 2 Landl.

ROTHHAUS.  
Mr. Vogt Hagin von Kirchen.  
Pitzala de Milan.  
Brix aus Böhmen f. 2.

HIRSCHEN.  
Mr. Fornaro von Langensee f. 2.  
Jac. Ruthishauser von Güttingen.

RAABEN.  
Hr. Helbling, Portrait-Mahler v. Wien.  
Meyer von Hohenembs. f. 3.  
Ant. Muetter von Rheinau.  
2 Pilger.

LEUEN.  
Cath. Kellerin von Rheinfelden.  
1 Landl. 3 Handw.

ROESSLI.  
Mr. Jof. Leonti Lieberheer von Utznach.  
2 Landl.

# The Challenge



## Extract the text with OCR

- 2 - 3 participants with experience in OCR software



## Verify Data

- Review and correct the OCR-extracted text



## Named Entity Recognition and Linking

- Identify persons, locations and professions
- Link them to authority resources like Wikidata



## Visualise the Data

- Visualise the the history of Zurich's nightly visitors
- At what time did people from which places visit Zurich?