

Basel Again

Once every year, all the jewelers, the watchmakers, the diamonds and gems dealers—both cheap and expensive—meet in Basel. It's a wonderful mix of people and merchants who gather at the exhibition and shrewdly trade alongside their counterparts from all over the world. The exhibition consists of five fully equipped high quality buildings. The decoration of the exhibits themselves are something of another world altogether, displaying goods worth hundreds of millions of dollars. In one case alone you can find thirty diamonds with the cheapest one valued at half a million dollars. That's just at the beginning, but there's even more inside.

An important questions arises. How can visitors move so seamlessly from one department to another, interacting smoothly with the well-trained guards and advanced security systems? What kind of devices are used to detect weapons and explosives, or to prevent thefts, etc? Of course, it is nothing like the silly devices and security we have posted at the entrances of hotels, or at the ministries' complex, which detects my phone, but none of the keys or coins stuffing my pockets. The poor guards here possess no real training or knowledge about security procedures.

Before entering the exhibition, visitors register at the box office, provide all their information, pay the admission fees, and receive a lanyard with a magnetic access card. You can get in and out just by sliding the card in the machine and that's it! At the entrances where there are no machines, you will find security officers with big smiles on their faces and a mobile barcode reader in their hands. You don't get inspected, your bags are safe from being opened, and no one has the right to know what you carry or have. That's not to say there is no security, because the exhibition