

# dinnerconnect

## **HOSTING A DINNER**

The success of DinnerConnect depends on volunteers willing to open their homes and prepare meals for BaselConnect members & interested non-members. The DinnerConnect coordinator will work with you from the beginning to make it as easy as possible so that all you have to focus on is the food!

### ***Setting a Date***

DinnerConnect has the goal of one dinner every other month. If you are interested in hosting, we will work with you to find a date that fits your schedule best. Once the date is determined, we will publicize it using the BaselConnect newsletters, Facebook & LinkedIn and other trusted sources.

### ***Food & Drink***

You are welcome to prepare whatever meal you would like to. The payment includes a small apero; all beverages (including wine or beer) and the food, so your meal plans should include the same.

If you are interested in hosting an event that is not a meal (ex. a potluck, etc.), please be in touch! We will work with you to create something that works for you and BaselConnect.

### ***Handling Reservations and Payments***

People interested in dinner will be directed to email [dinner@baselconnect.ch](mailto:dinner@baselconnect.ch). We will then ask them to commit to dinner by reserving their seat with a payment. Depending on your preference, that payment can be made directly to your bank account (using your IBAN number), or to the DinnerConnect Coordinator's account. In the case you choose the latter, the Coordinator will discuss with you how you want to receive money (ex. the night of the dinner in case, electronic transfer in advance).

The Coordinator will keep a master list of everyone who has signed up and paid for dinner. This information will be given to the club Treasurer following the event.

### ***Handling Receipts***

It is a requirement from BaselConnect leadership that receipts for the food purchases be submitted. We ask you to keep these as you do your shopping and then provide them to the Coordinator after the event has taken place. We are very pragmatic on this point. If you have concerns, please ask – this does not need to be a reason not to host dinner. 😊

## **ATTENDING A DINNER**

Without you, the eater, there is no reason for DinnerConnect! Attending a dinner is also a great way to determine if hosting a dinner could be for you. Regardless, past experience has shown that the dinners are a great place to make new connections. Maybe you'll find your new Chinese Medicine practitioner, a hiking buddy, someone who speaks your language or shares your enthusiasm.

### ***Confirming Attendance***

To enable the host to appropriately plan, registration for a dinner closes one week in advance. This also allows time for payments to be made. If you decide after that that you would like to attend, please email [dinner@baselconnect.ch](mailto:dinner@baselconnect.ch) and we will discuss with the host if it is possible.

### ***Making a Payment***

Payment is required to hold your seat at the table. The most convenient way to do this is via bank transfer. Either the DinnerConnect coordinator or the host will be in touch with you to share the IBAN number. In exceptional cases, it may be possible to pay cash the evening of the event, but this must be agreed in advance.

### ***The Location***

The location of dinner and the contact information of the host will be shared with you upon confirmation.

### ***The Meal***

The meal is at the discretion of the host, however to ensure that everyone goes home full and happy, we will ask you in advance if you have any food allergies or strong preferences. Meals include an apero and all beverages, including wine.

## **DINNERCONNECT – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **1. What is the goal of DinnerConnect?**

The goal of DinnerConnect is to allow expats and locals the chance to socialize with one another in a relaxed and casual setting over great food.

### **2. How often does DinnerConnect take place?**

DinnerConnect takes place approximately every other month.

### **3. Why do I have to pay in advance?**

This enables the host to cover the cost for the food and drink that will be required. Additionally, it helps us confirm, in advance, how many people are going to attend. Finally, by paying in advance,

you are making a commitment that you will come. Once your payment has been received, you will be given the address and contact information of the host.

#### **4. What if I get sick and can't come?**

In this case, please send an email to [dinner@baselconnect.ch](mailto:dinner@baselconnect.ch). We will work with you to either sign you up for the following event or refund your money.

#### **5. Can I bring other people with me?**

You are welcome to bring people with you! Everyone should, however, be signed up and paid for in advance.

#### **6. What do I get for my money?**

The host will provide a small apero, dinner and dessert. As well, all drinks, including wine with the meal, are included.

#### **7. Can you tell me what is on the menu before I sign up?**

The menu is at the discretion of the host. In the event the host has decided well in advance what to cook, it may be able to share this information in advance. However, we would encourage you to take the opportunity to meet new people even if you don't know – consider it a welcome surprise!

#### **8. What about my food allergies?**

You will be asked at the time you sign-up to inform us of any allergies or food limitations. In the event the host cannot accommodate these, you will be informed in advance and your payment, if already made, refunded.

#### **9. How many people usually attend?**

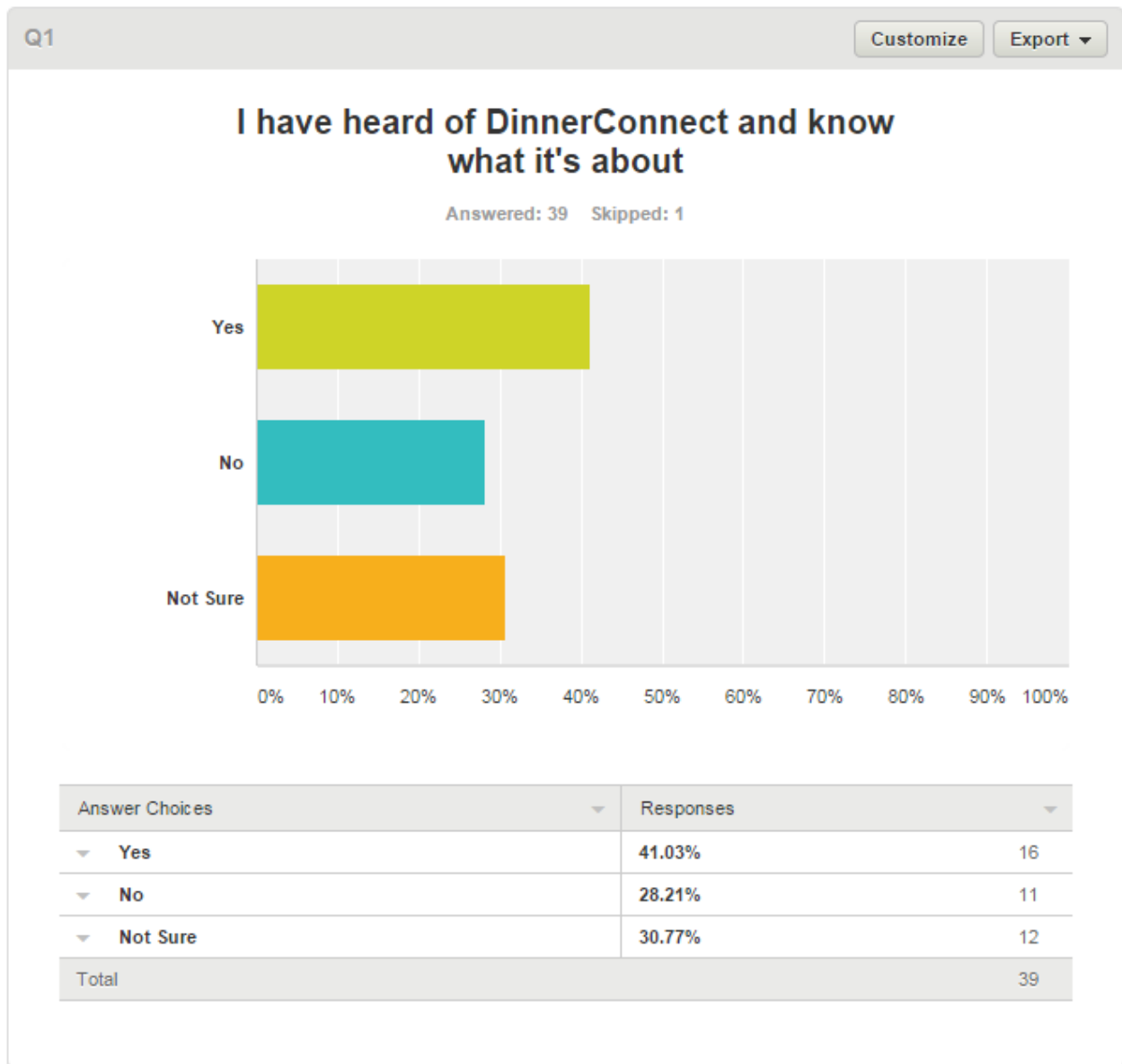
This depends very much on the host, their comfort preparing food for groups and the size of their table. It is typically between 6 and 10.

#### **10. Does it have to be dinner? Can I host a potluck instead?**

If you are interested in hosting an event that is not a meal, please be in touch! We will work with you to create something that works for you and BaselConnect.

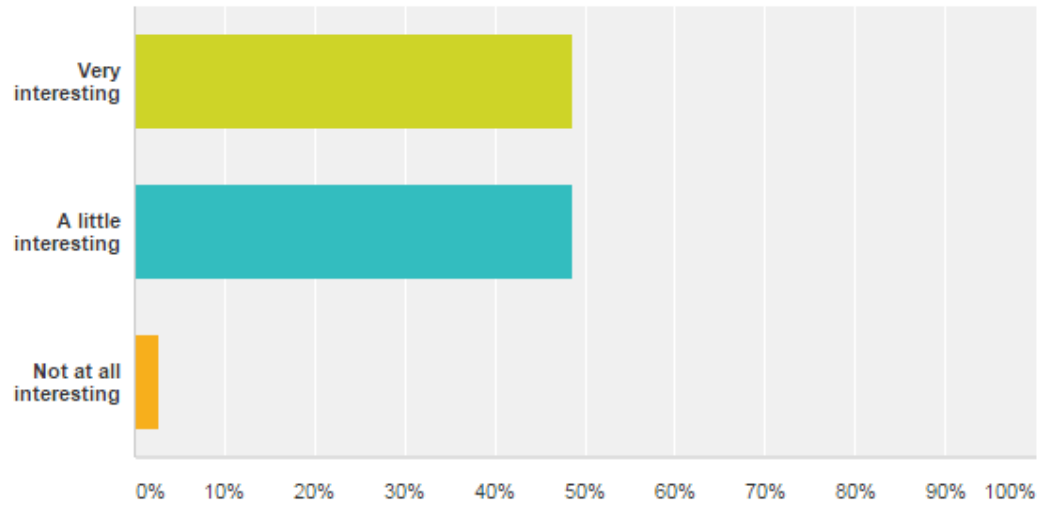
## JUNE 2015 SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to the BaselConnect mailing list members who took the time to provide feedback using the DinnerConnect Survey! Your contribution is key to ensuring our success in providing activities that provide meaning for the BaselConnect community.



## DinnerConnect is something I find

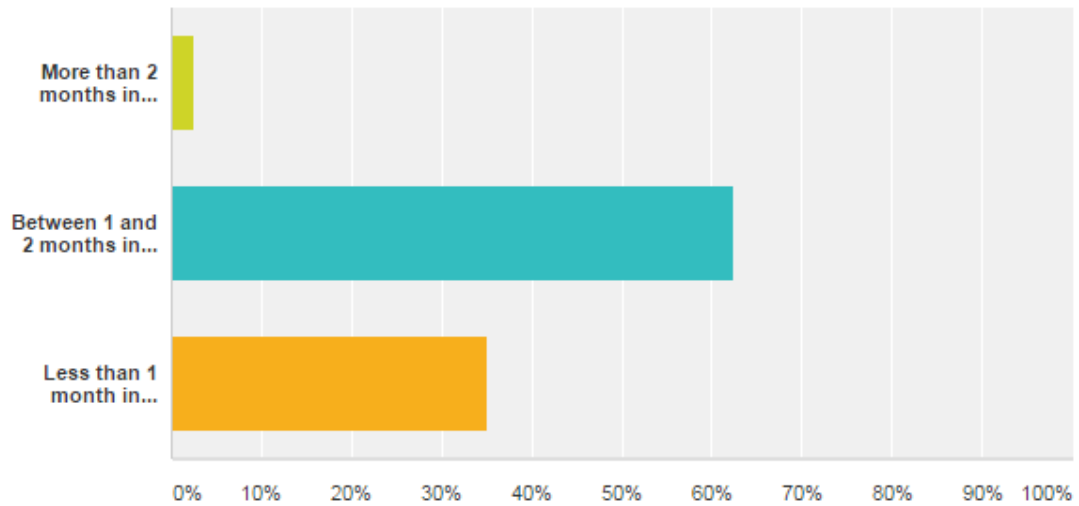
Answered: 37 Skipped: 3



Answer Choices	Responses
▼ Very interesting	48.65% 18
▼ A little interesting	48.65% 18
▼ Not at all interesting	2.70% 1
Total	37

## To plan my schedule, I need to be informed about DinnerConnect dates

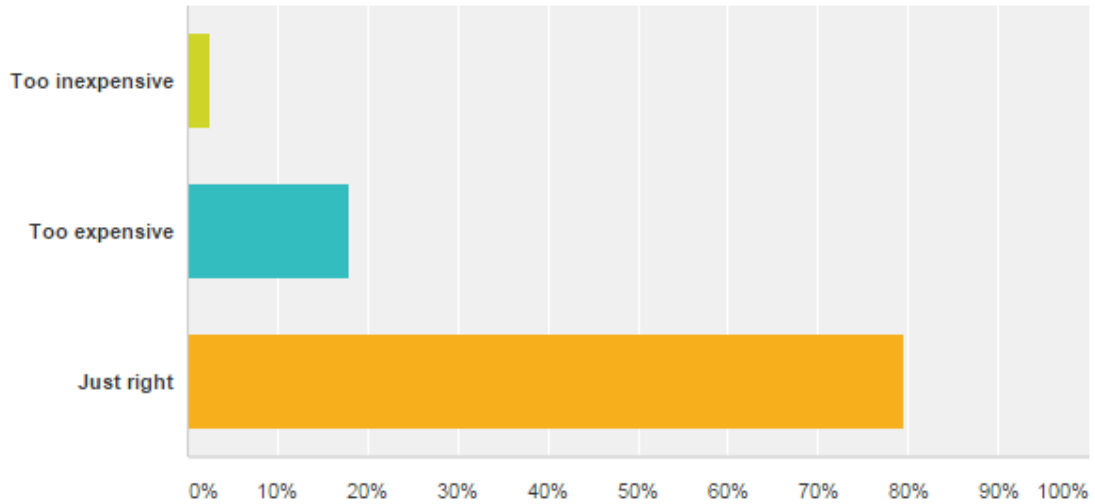
Answered: 40 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
▼ More than 2 months in advance	2.50% 1
▼ Between 1 and 2 months in advance	62.50% 25
▼ Less than 1 month in advance	35.00% 14
Total	40

## I find the fee of 30CHF/member or 40/CHF non-member to be

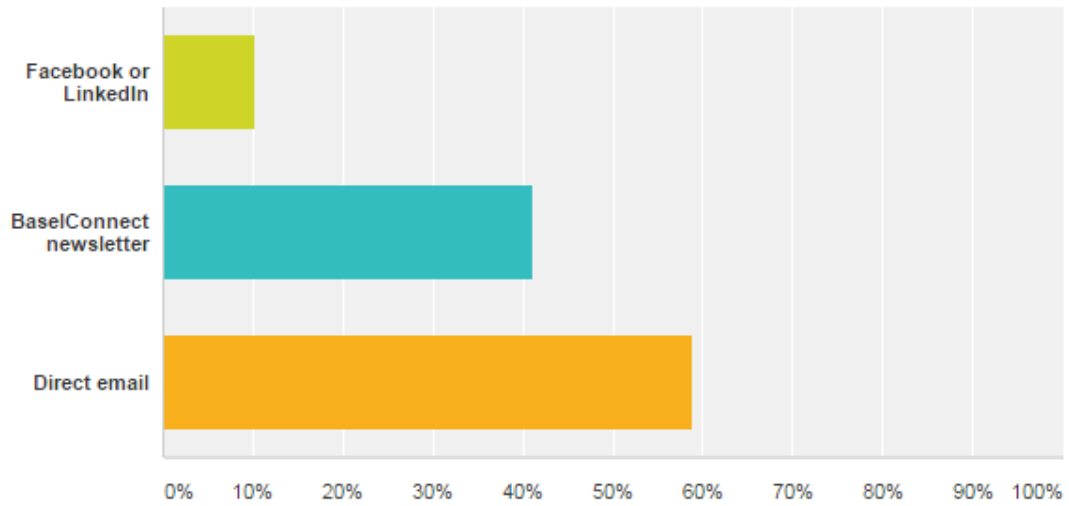
Answered: 39 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
▼ Too inexpensive	2.56% 1
▼ Too expensive	17.95% 7
▼ Just right	79.49% 31
Total	39

## I prefer to be informed of future DinnerConnect events via

Answered: 39 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices ▾	Responses ▾
▾ Facebook or LinkedIn	10.26% 4
▾ BaselConnect newsletter	41.03% 16
▾ Direct email	58.97% 23
Total Respondents: 39	

[Comments \(1\)](#)



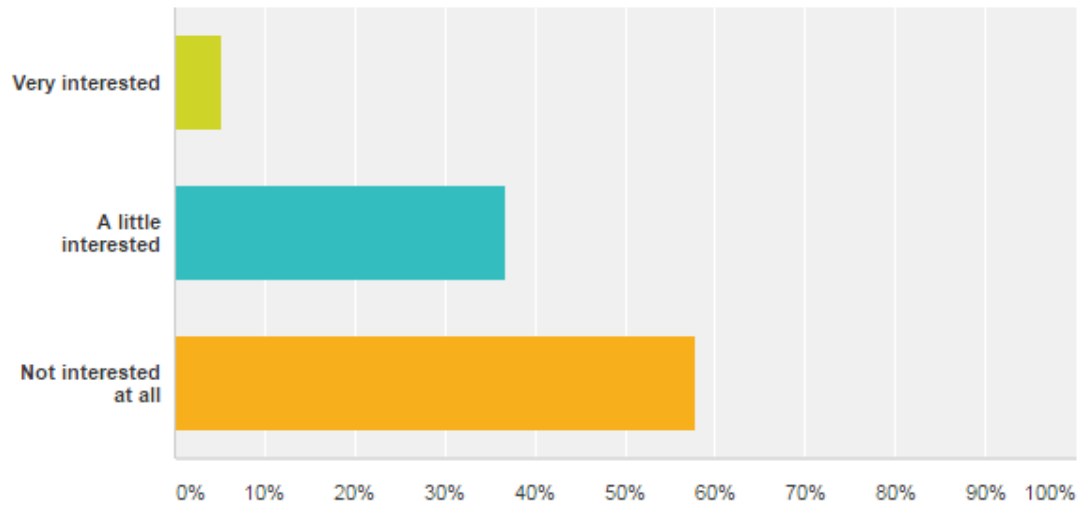
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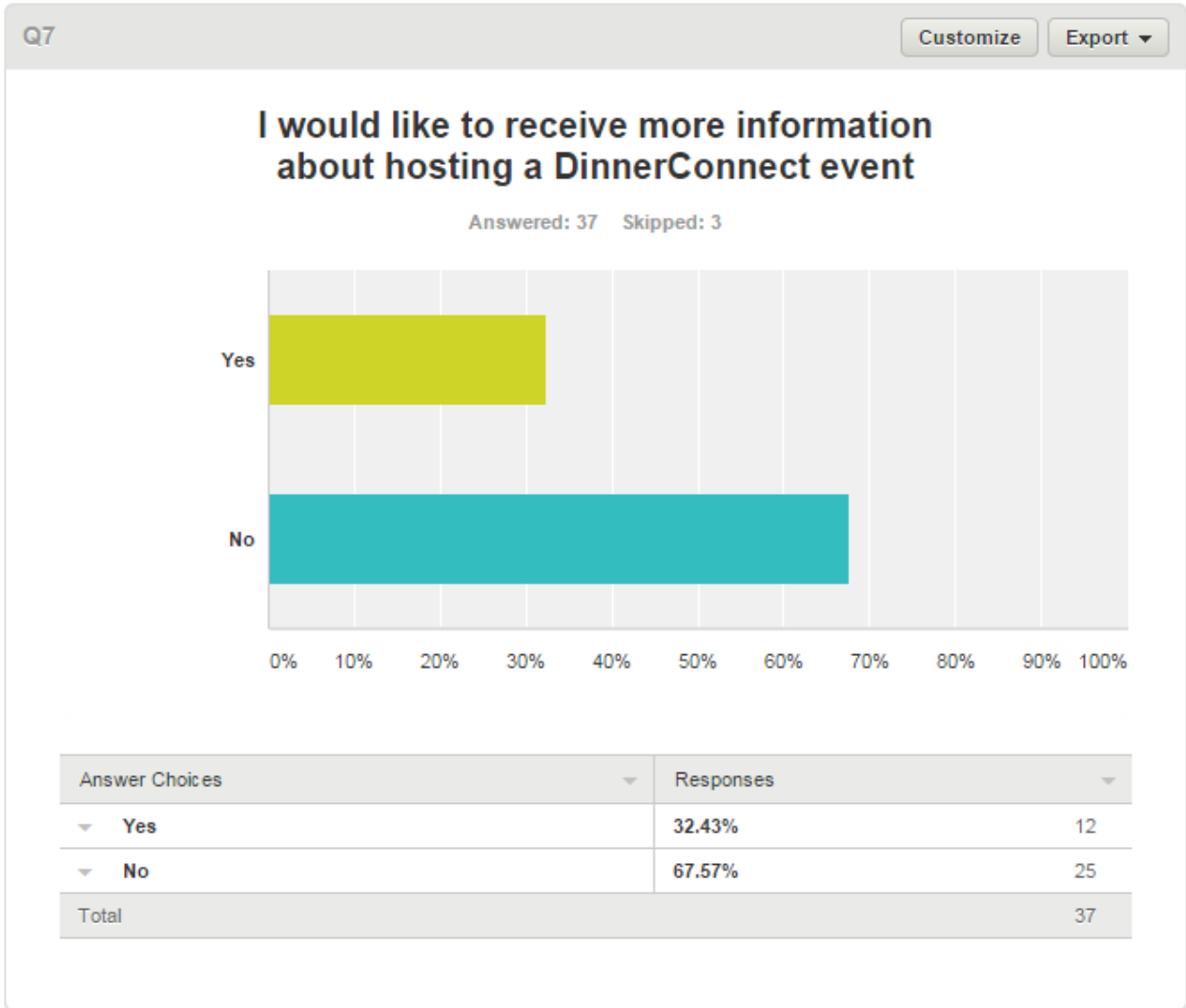
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## I am interested in hosting a DinnerConnect event

Answered: 38 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses
▼ Very interested	5.26% 2
▼ A little interested	36.84% 14
▼ Not interested at all	57.89% 22
Total	38



**COMMENTS**

never participated and don't really know how it functions but perhaps scheduling via doodle would be a convenient way to fix best for all date

6/30/2015 12:53 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

Having them on another day than Friday or Saturday. Vegetarian?

6/16/2015 11:11 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

i cannot suggest as i did not realize earlier it did exist already

6/16/2015 10:00 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

May be more like gathering 1 hour walking, jogging or cycling then followed be one hour set relax and drink something

6/16/2015 9:35 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

As I have not attended any event, would be difficult to suggest improvements but I guess maybe each event could have a limit on number of participants I guess, to make the event more manageable and personal. Also there could be cuisine themes to make it more interactive and a feeling of shared cultures

6/16/2015 7:43 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

Give some pictures or idea of what it is and looks like... I have no idea how many people come, who they are, or if its worth me going

6/16/2015 6:23 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

Emphasize up front and clearly, the amount includes all, i.e. apero, meal, dessert, and coffee/tee. Pre-announce the intended menu, to raise culture awareness and attractivity.

6/16/2015 6:09 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

Fee for non members is a bit expensive for each dinner event.

6/16/2015 3:55 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

Perhaps making the dinners themed 'potluck' to reduce costs and burden on host/s and build the 'connection' right from the beginning? Host would set the theme (eg Thai, Mexican, Greek) and invitees commit in a doodle poll to attendance and what they'll bring: at least one of food or drink type (eg 'chicken dish', 'rice dish', 'pasta dish', 'vegetarian dish', 'white wine')

6/16/2015 2:51 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

The whole business of collecting the receipts from everything you buy for the dinner is far too complicated. Why not just collect the 30CFr and let the host decide how to spend it.

6/16/2015 2:47 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

No comment as never attended one

6/16/2015 2:04 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

I have neither been to one nor have I hosted one. No comment therefore.

6/16/2015 1:45 PM [View respondent's answers](#)