

Cultural Walking Adventure

Switzerland

The Bernese Alps & Oberland



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“Classic Journeys provides unbeatable access to experiences around the globe.”

— *Travel + Leisure*

Alpine Life at Its Best

In Switzerland, even the views have views. As you explore the region of the Bernese Oberland, you quickly come to realize that every valley boasts a snow-capped backdrop, every peak lets you see farther than your eye can believe. You'll head to the top on cog trains, cable cars and chair lifts. You'll walk on a glacier, stroll in wildflower meadows, and cruise on glacier-fed lakes that mirror the Jungfrau and Eiger. Then you discover the warm, up-close and very human scale of Switzerland as well. Your fulltime local guide will introduce you to farmers who make their own cheese, traditional weavers, silhouette cutters and the residents of a village so remote that no cars can reach them. Accommodations are in an atmospheric pair of luxury hotels that put you in a chalet frame of mind. And the food? Whether you're lunching on a mountaintop, heading out for a culinary hike, or sipping wine in the alpenglow, you'll discover the happy things that alpine air can do for your appetite.

DAY 1

INTERLAKEN / LAKE THUN

- Enjoy a guided walk of Interlaken
- Stroll the city of Thun

Interlaken means "between the lakes" and the setting of this town on the Aare River where it connects Lake Thun and Lake Brienz couldn't be more perfect. Today, you'll have a chance to visit with your local guide. But to truly appreciate Interlaken you need the vantage point of Harder Kulm, just a 10-minute cable ride up. From there you can truly appreciate the lay of this beautiful landscape, backed as it by some of the most dramatic Swiss Alps of all: Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau.

Later, Lake Thun will surely catch your attention with its amazingly blue water, snow-capped Jungfrau Mountains in the distance, crisscrossing sailboats, and a shoreline dotted with castles and little villages. Here strolling the city of Thun, visiting the garden of the 12th-century castle of Spiez or even taking the boat on Lake Thun to Interlaken are worthwhile alternative activities at your will.

Overnight: Grindelwald

Meals: D

DAY 2

GRINDELWALD

- Visit an alpine cheese hut
- Experience some of the most stunning views of the Bernese Alps

Most of the cattle you've seen on the slopes all week are dairy cows. This morning, you'll visit an alpine cheese hut where you'll learn more about the traditional artisanal cheese-making way over an open wood fire. One of the best benefits is the authentic farm breakfast your hosts will serve you with freshly baked bread, homemade yogurt and, of course, their cheese. After lunch, you'll be able to walk up to the Bachalpsee (Lake Bachalp), which perfectly mirrors the glaciers and mountains around it. Alternatively, you can choose to go up to the Männlichen where you will be able to look back to some of the places you were before from an absolutely stunning new perspective and then walk to the Kleine Scheidegg right at the footsteps the Eiger North-Face.

Overnight: Grindelwald

Meals: B

DAY 3

JUNGFRAU REGION

- See Trümmelbach Falls
- Eat lunch at 007's revolving mountaintop restaurant
- Ride the cog railway and cable car to Mürren

Today's action begins with a three-stage cable car will bring back to the valley where you'll visit Trümmelbach Falls, a series of ten glacier-fed waterfalls inside the mountain made accessible by a tunnel-funicular, built 1913, stairs, and illumination.

In the afternoon ride along the Lütschine Valley to Lauterbrunnen where you will start your ascent to the summit of the Schilthorn (at 9,744 ft.). Next, a small train will take you the typical village of Mürren famous for its main street that offers you a scenic walking path where you will enjoy the beauty of the Lauterbrunnen Valley. After your walk, a two-stage cable car will take you closer to the famous setting of the James Bond movie "On Her Majesty's Secret Service". Since James already took care of Blofeld and his bad guys you'll enjoy lunch in the revolving restaurant Piz Gloria with 360-degree mountain top views. Afterward, you'll get back to the hotel where you can have some rest before heading to dinner.

Overnight: Grindelwald

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 4

SIMMENTAL

- Go for a llama track on an Alpine farm
- Eat a traditional Alpine meal

This morning starts with a visit to a local farmstead, nestled high in the mountains amid gorgeous meadows. But be prepared: this farm has a real difference. Not only are there goats, but also a herd of llamas. They belong to our friends Hugo and Angelika,

who tell you all about them and then invite you to lead them on a scenic trek. It's so much fun – and a perfect photo op. After this walk, Hugo will cook you a traditional lunch over a wood fire. Eaten outdoors, it tastes twice as good.

Overnight: Schönried

Meals: B, L

DAY 5

GLACIER 3000 / SAANENLAND

- Walk atop a glacier
- Learn silhouette cutting from a local expert

Fill up on luscious breakfast of croissants, muesli and hot chocolate. Then you head up from the valley station of Glacier 3000 to a cable car that whisks you to the summit of a 9,000-foot-high peak to walk on the glacier's surface. A "gear valet" will fit you with just the right snow hiking shoes. At this altitude, the sun is warm enough that you can walk the icy surface in just your shirtsleeves. At the top, you can cross the only suspension bridge in the world that connects two mountain peaks. With a table beside the restaurant's floor-to-ceiling windows lunch is truly breathtaking. Back down in the valley, you'll have a chance to relax on a ride to the picturesque village of Saanen in an area famous for the art of silhouette cutting. You'll meet one of the artists who shows you how the intricate cutting works, and you can try your own hand.

Overnight: Schönried

Meals: B

DAY 6

SIMMENTAL

- Take the culinary trail to a lunch at the peak

Being out in fresh alpine air is good for the appetite—which is the perfect excuse for a culinary walk on the Stockhorn. Think of it as the most scenic progressive farwell lunch ever. Mountain trails and cable cars deliver amazing views and a series of food experiences including a sky-high lunch on an Alpine terrace.

After lunch say farwell to your guide and a wonderful week.

Meals: B, L



Tour Hotels



Alpenrose

For authentic alpine atmosphere, you can't do better than this chalet-style hotel, overlooking Gstaad. The spacious, tastefully decorated rooms offer spectacular view of the mountains and Le Diablerets glacier.

OVERNIGHT: Schonried | **NIGHTS:** 2



Kreuz & Post Hotel

Opened in 1899, Hotel Kreuz & Post is situated in the heart of Grindelwald with breathtaking views of the Alps. We're welcomed by our gracious hosts, Martin and Helena.

OVERNIGHT: Grindelwald | **NIGHTS:** 3

Tour Dates & Prices

To see the full list of dates and prices for this tour, go to our website by clicking [here](#).

Want to travel with just your group on a date of your choosing? Visit [CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE](https://www.classicjourneys.com/private) to learn more about Private Journeys.

Trip Essentials

TRIP LENGTH	6 Days, 5 Nights
START	Lobby of Hotel Kreuz and Post, Grindelwald, Switzerland
END	Hotel Alpenrose, Schonried, Switzerland
TERRAIN	Easy to moderate on good valley and high mountain trails, utilizing cable cars and funiculars regularly to bypass steep stretches. At your option, 2-3 hours of walking per day.

What's Included

- Award-winning boutique hotels that provide you unlimited access to the people and places, culture and history you came to experience
- All breakfast, 3 lunches and 2 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- Admissions to scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals, and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

Above & Beyond Benefits

- Invisible Check-In
- Privileged Access Events

READY TO BOOK?
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Or give us a call

1-833-387-1210

Mon-Fri 8:00AM – 5:00PM PST

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ENJOY THE UNEXPECTED

When you travel with Classic Journeys, you can expect handcrafted surprises built into every trip, but some things just can't be anticipated. Unusual weather, a once-a-year festival or an unscheduled site closing will inspire us and your local guide to improvise and modify this itinerary. Likewise, the hotels named here are used on the majority of our trips, but occasionally one of them can't accommodate us. If that happens, you can count on us to let you know before departure and make sure you're in a hotel of equal or better quality. It's our goal to make your trip exceptional!

**Any discount offered cannot be combined with other offers, and only applies to published (regularly scheduled public) departure dates in our catalogs or on our website.

THE Classic Journeys Difference

HANDCRAFTING TRIPS OF A LIFETIME.



At the end of the day, we fundamentally believe that every guest on every departure of every trip should have a trip of a lifetime. We're fortunate to play the role of well-connected friend, linking our guests with amazing guides, artisans, winemakers, hoteliers, restaurateurs, naturalists, and too many others to list here.

That's what motivates me and our team — in our La Jolla HQ and around the world — every day. Join Us!


President & Founder



You can expect the highest standards:



Luxurious Lodgings:
Ours include coveted properties that appear in "World's Best" and "Gold List" rankings.



Included Activities:
You'll never be surprised with add-on fees on your activities that include snorkeling to cooking lessons.



Local Guides:
Your guides are locals who are always at your side like well-connected friends.



Small Group Travel:
With an average of just 10-12 guests, it's a small footprint that guarantees you access that's off-limits to larger groups.



Amazing Cuisine:
From Michelin-starred restaurants to lunch in a farmhouse kitchen, you'll have a seat for the region's signature dishes.



Unmatched Value:
"Excellent value" and "unbeatable access" are two of the reasons that Travel + Leisure has consistently voted us a World's Best Tour Operator.

You'll enjoy these handcrafted travel experiences in Switzerland...

- Eating your way through a culinary walk on a high alpine trail
- Snapping Instagram-worthy photos from your picture-perfect chalet hotel in Schönried
- Trekking with llamas on a family farmstead
- Marveling at the unforgettable views of snow-capped Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau
- Riding famous Swiss cog railways and cable cars

"We loved that we didn't have to plan anything and our days were filled with fun activities, opportunities for learning and quality time spent together everyday."

-Leslie N., Champaign, IL

Let's Go!

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