

# Hiking the Heart of Switzerland

FROM LAKE LUCERNE ACROSS THE BERNESE ALPS TO WINE COUNTRY



## TRIP DATES

### 2024

July 8-15, 2024

July 30-August 6, 2024

August 12-19, 2024

August 25-September 1, 2024

September 17-24, 2024

### 2025

June 17-24, 2025

July 7-14, 2025

July 29-August 5, 2025

August 25-September 1, 2025

September 18-25, 2025



Wilderness Travel

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## Hiking the Heart of Switzerland

FROM LAKE LUCERNE ACROSS THE BERNESE ALPS TO WINE  
COUNTRY

In the fairytale mountain beauty of Switzerland, we've designed a WT-style journey using the remarkable Swiss system of cable cars and cogwheel trains to whisk you high up into the Alps for spectacular—yet moderate—hikes. At mountain-ringed Lake Lucerne in central Switzerland, we'll hike panoramic trails above the lake. In the famed Bernese Oberland, crowned by the summits of the Eiger, Mönch, and Jungfrau, a gondola carries us to incredible high paths with views stretching across the top of Europe. We'll hike through fragrant fields of gentian and edelweiss above turquoise Lake Oeschinen, and for our grand finale, we head to charming Vevey for wine tasting and hikes through the World Heritage-listed vineyards on Lake Geneva.



Wilderness Travel

1102 Ninth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710

800-368-2794 • 510-558-2488

[www.wildernesstravel.com](http://www.wildernesstravel.com) • [info@wildernesstravel.com](mailto:info@wildernesstravel.com)

# Itinerary

## DAY 1

### LUCERNE / MT. RIGI

We meet in Lucerne, an impossibly picturesque city known for its frescoed facades and covered bridges dating back to the Middle Ages. Boarding a classic lake steamer, we head across Lake Lucerne to the village of Weggis, where a cable car brings us to Rigi Kaltenbad (4,700') on the slopes of Mt. Rigi (5,896'), known as the "Queen of the Mountains." Our hike to Rigi's summit rewards us with a magnificent panorama of central Switzerland with its multitudes of lakes and peaks—over 620 mountain peaks, 13 lakes, and 24 of the 26 Swiss cantons—as well as the Rutli, the hilltop meadow where in 1291 the Swiss Confederacy was formed. Our hike contours through lush summer pastures and forest, and along the way we'll be immersed in classic Swiss farming culture, with cows grazing in alpine pastures, scenes of hay cutting, and eye-popping views of the surrounding countryside. After lunch at a cheesemaker's place, where we see traditional Swiss cheese being made—and taste some, of course—we take the cogwheel train (the oldest in Europe!) down to Vitznau and return to Lucerne by boat, enjoying the pastoral scenery of tiny villages clustered in lakeside settings and tidy farms climbing up the hillsides. In the evening we gather for our Welcome Dinner. Overnight at hotel...LD

Hiking Details: 5 miles, 3.5 hours, 1,200 feet ascent, 350 feet descent

Transportation Time: 2 hours by boat, 10 minutes by cable car, 30 minutes by cogwheel

Lucerne: Set on a beautiful lake in the center of Switzerland, Lucerne is the gateway to the Alps. It's also a center for Swiss history and legend: a pact of mutual defense formed here in 1291 against Rudolf of Habsburg was the beginning of the Swiss Confederation, which survives today, and the area was the setting of the familiar legend of William Tell, who shot an arrow through an apple placed on his son's head. Today Lucerne is a delightful city of pretty squares and churches, with a thriving cultural life. It celebrates its antiquity—most of the chapels, covered bridges, restaurants, and homes were built centuries ago, and lend incredible charm to the old town. We recommend arriving a day early in this charming city to explore its remarkable heritage. We can provide suggestions, or you can join a guided walking tour.

## DAY 2

### WENGEN / MÄNNLICHEN / LAUTERBRUNNEN VALLEY

The Bernese Oberland is the longest continuous major mountain range in the Alps, with ten glaciers over three miles long and 37 peaks topping 12,000 feet. Its well-defined wall of mountains is sometimes known as "the North Face of the Alps." We head by train into the heart of this exalted realm, a hiker's paradise where many of Switzerland's most famous peaks are found, including the jaw-dropping, snow-clad faces of the Eiger, Mönch, and the Jungfrau—mountain giants that have challenged climbers for generations. From Wengen, a beautiful village above the Lauterbrunnen Valley, a modern cable car whisks us high above town and the start of our hike to the summit of Männlichen (7,687'), where we feast our eyes on this spectacular massif, part of the UNESCO Jungfrau-Aletsch World Heritage Site. We walk to Kleine



## TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

<b>Length:</b>	8 days
<b>Arrive:</b>	Lucerne, Switzerland
<b>Depart:</b>	Vevey, Switzerland
<b>Lodging:</b>	7 nights hotels
<b>Meals:</b>	All meals included except 2 dinners (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
<b>Activity:</b>	Cultural Adventures, Hiking / Trekking
<b>Trip Level:</b>	<b>1 2 ③ 4 5 6</b> 6 hiking days on moderate trails, 2-6 hours a day, altitudes up to 7,900 feet, van support

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Cable cars and gondolas do the steep climbing—you enjoy hiking and top-of-the-world views!
- Spectacular summits and glaciers of the Bernese Oberland, heart of the Swiss Alps
- Classic Swiss mountain villages of Mürren and Kandersteg
- Wine country of Lavaux above Lake Geneva, Vevey's charming Old Town



## Itinerary (cont'd)



“The hikes exceeded our expectations every day. All seemed to agree that it was the most scenic WT trip experienced.”

*Jack M., Woodbridge, VA*

Scheidegg on a pass hiked by Byron and Goethe in the early 1800s, and enjoy the breathtaking view onto the Jungfrauoch, the "Top of Europe."

A cog railway train brings us down into the breathtaking Lauterbrunnen Valley, one of the most beautiful glacial valleys in the Alps. We walk along the Weiße Lütschine river along some of the 72 waterfalls on both sides of the valley and visit the thundering, glacier-fed Trümmelbach Falls, fed by ten glaciers (the Swiss genius for engineering has created an elevator ride that takes us through solid rock to a walkway right next to the torrents). We then take a cable car up to car-free Mürren (5,413'), a traditional mountain village that's the highest in the Bernese Oberland. The views right from the village are enchanting, and the only sounds are of cow bells and the waterfalls across the valley. Overnight at hotel...BLD

Hiking Details: 5 miles, 3.5 hours, 500 feet ascent, 1,100 feet descent

Transportation Details: 3 hours by train, 20 minutes by cable car, 50 minutes by cogwheel

### DAY 3

#### MÜRREN / MOUNTAIN VIEW TRAIL / SCHILTHORN

This morning we take a short funicular ride to Allmendhubel where we begin our hike on the Mountain View Trail. We'll enjoy magnificent views of the mighty Jungfrau standing tall at 13,642 feet, and stop for lunch in Winteregg along the way. In the afternoon, we'll ride the cable car to Piz Gloria on the Schilthorn summit (9,744'). From high in the clouds, we can spend time soaking up spectacular views of the Alps—Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau, even as far as Mont Blanc. The slopes of the Schilthorn were the setting of a famous black ski run on the slopes in the James Bond movie *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*. High up among these peaks, one of our options is the "Thrill Walk"—a walk on a cliffside bridge with a glass floor—views of the Eiger and Jungfrau from here are nonstop. We return to Mürren, where we can watch the sunset



transform the skies surrounding the world-famous Jungfrau and its snow-capped comrades. British mountaineer Sir Martin Conway called this massif “the walls of heaven.” Dinner is on your own this evening...BL

Hiking Details: 3.5 miles, 3 hours, 500 feet ascent, 1,350 feet descent

#### DAY 4

##### KANDERSTEG / LAKE OESCHINENSEE

We travel by train to the quintessential Swiss alpine village of Kandersteg. Ringed by mountains, this wildly picturesque glacial valley with its traditional chalets has been famous since the mid-19th century as a base for hikers and travelers. A cable car whisks us above town, where a short, steep climb brings us to an amazing viewpoint overlooking turquoise-hued Lake Oeschinensee, surrounded by a backdrop of sheer cliffs and snow-clad peaks. After a picnic lunch, we traverse high above the lake and descend to the lake's edge, where we hike along the shoreline before returning to Kandersteg by cable car. Overnight at hotel in Kandersteg...BLD

Hiking Details: 4.5 miles, 4 hours, 1,150 feet ascent/descent

Transportation Details: 2.5 hours by train, 20 minutes by cable car

#### DAY 5

##### KANDERSTEG / GASTERNTAL

From the trailhead at Eggeschwand, we climb steeply alongside the wild Kanderchluse stream descending from the upper valley. Soon the trail eases and joins a level farm road, and from here the beautiful Gasterntal valley reveals itself. Framed by the summits of the Balmhorn and Doldenhorn, this deeply cut glacial valley feels wild and romantic, with feathery waterfalls spilling from high buttress-like cliffs. A gradual climb brings us to the tiny hamlet of Selden, where we enjoy a picnic or restaurant lunch in this dramatic setting, right on the edge of the Jungfrau-Aletsch World Heritage Site, with its stunning panorama of peaks and glaciers. We return to Kandersteg and have free time to stroll around the village or relax at the hotel's tranquil spa—saunas, pools, and steam baths are free to use while massages and other spa treatments can be booked during your stay. Overnight at hotel...BLD

Hiking Details: 5 miles, 3.5 hours, 1,350 feet ascent

#### DAY 6

##### MONTREUX / VEVEY

A beautiful train ride changes the scene entirely, bringing us to Lake Geneva and beguiling Montreux. With a lakeshore lined by Belle Époque villas and a grand backdrop of the stunning Savoy Alps, sunny Montreux is a wonderful grand finale to our hiking adventure. After lunch we'll walk along the lakeside promenade to one of Europe's most spectacularly sited castles, the 13th century Chateau de Chillon. Perched on a rocky island on the edge of Lake Geneva, Chillon has inspired some of the greatest names in literature, including Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Victor Hugo, Henry James, and Lord Byron (The Prisoner of Chillon). Its impressive walls and turreted battlements lend it a classic medieval atmosphere and it is easy to imagine life during those turbulent times. From here we can also enjoy a marvelous view of the whole of Lake Geneva,



“The trip was brilliantly planned and executed from start to finish, with memorable picnics, fantastic trip mates, brilliant guides, and the most fantastic mountains and valleys.”

*Jane S., Santa Fe, NM*





## Itinerary (cont'd)



“I wanted a 'Heidi' experience...hiking, cowbells, high mountains, fantastic landscapes...We got all of that and so much more! This trip wasted no time getting us to hiking in the best areas, and the group leaders were beyond charming and accommodating. Just the best trip ever!”

*Marcia Z., Clio, CA*

framed by the Alps. We then head to Vevey and transfer to our hotel. Dinner tonight is on your own, and your Trip Leader will be happy to make restaurant suggestions. Overnight at hotel...BL

Hiking Details: 3 miles, 2 hours

Transportation Details: 2.5 hours by train, 45 minutes by boat

### DAY 7

#### VEVEY / LAVAUX WINE COUNTRY

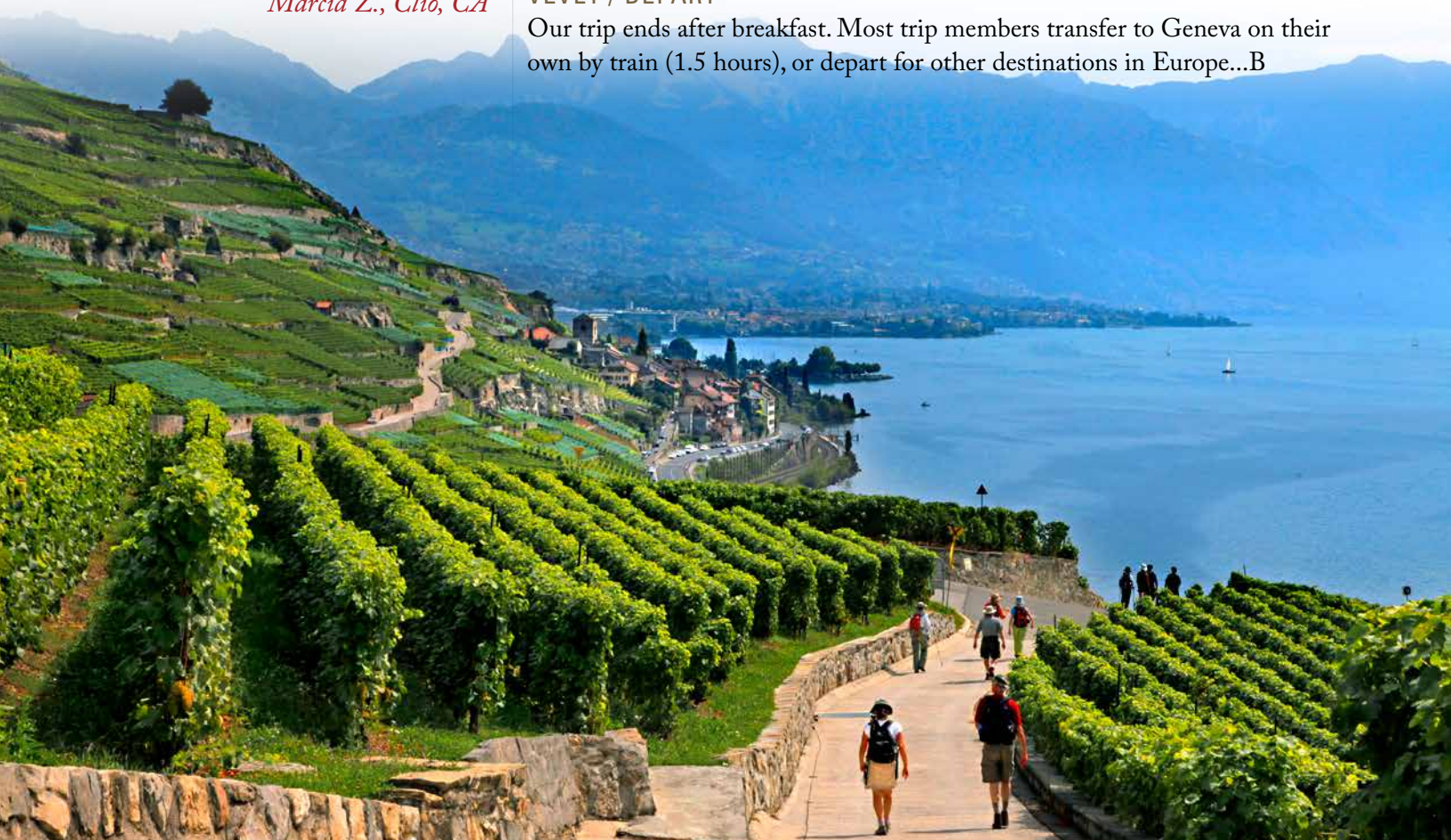
Lavaux is one of Switzerland's most famous wine-growing regions. Its terraced vineyards, set high above the lake, are so unique and historically rich they have been declared a World Heritage Site. They produce seven appellations, including one of Switzerland's most distinctive wines made from white Chasselas grapes, which have thrived here for more than 800 years. Our delightful hike through the vineyards, with a backdrop of the Savoy Alps, begins in St-Saphorin, a charming medieval town with homes dating from the 16th to 19th centuries and wine-growing families that date back seven generations. We hike past Rivaz, Epesses, and Riex to a lovely winemaker's house above Villette, then return by train to Vevey, with the remainder of the afternoon free. In the evening, we gather for a festive Farewell Dinner...BLD

Hiking Details: 7 miles, 3.5 hours, 850 feet ascent, 750 feet descent

### DAY 8

#### VEVEY / DEPART

Our trip ends after breakfast. Most trip members transfer to Geneva on their own by train (1.5 hours), or depart for other destinations in Europe...B



# Trip Cost, Payment & Insurance

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## TRIP COST

**Prices are per person, valid through 2024**

\$6995 (11-14 members)

\$7395 (5-10 members)

Single supplement: \$985

*2025 Trip Costs: Please call for details*

To offer the lowest possible cost, our trips are priced according to the number of participants on the trip. All costs are per person, based on double occupancy. If you wish to have a single room, you must pay the single supplement fee. Please note that Wilderness Travel staff, or guests of Wilderness Travel such as travel writers, photographers, or leaders-in-training, are not included in the tier pricing count.

## CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE

Due to the volatility of currency markets, we can only offer the most competitive pricing on our trips in Switzerland by partially tying the trip cost directly to the value of the Swiss Franc. In the late spring of 2023, when we set the rates for our 2024 program, the US Dollar equaled 0.93 Swiss Francs. While in most years, no price changes are ever necessary, if there were to be a significant change in exchange rates, we may be forced to raise or able to lower our trip cost; if so, your final invoice, sent two weeks before your final payment is due, will reflect the difference. Please note that the calculation will not be a straight proration. While most of the trip cost is paid in Swiss Francs, the remainder of our expenses are paid in US Dollars. The overall effect is to moderate any change; thus, if the Swiss Franc were to rise in value, the trip cost would rise less than might be expected, and if the Swiss Franc were to fall, the drop in land price would also be less than might be expected.

## TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Expert leadership of Wilderness Travel Trip Leader(s)
- Accommodations in hotels
- A glass of wine or beer with dinner
- Van support and luggage transfer
- All transport during the trip (trains, cable cars, gondolas, cogwheel trains, lake steamers)

## TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, airport transfers, any meals not specified after each itinerary day, airport departure taxes, optional tipping or gratuities to leaders or staff, additional hotel nights made necessary by airline schedule changes or other factors, pre-trip expenses such as immunizations (if any), travel insurance, or passports and visas; and other expenses of a personal nature (alcoholic beverages, laundry, etc.).

## PAYMENT SCHEDULE

At time of reservation: \$600

90 days prior to departure: Balance

## CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Up to 91 days prior to departure: No charge!

61-90 days prior to departure: 25% of trip cost

46-60 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost

45 days or less: 100% of trip cost

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details: [www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance](http://www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance)



# Accommodations

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## HOTEL DES BALANCES

*Lucerne, Switzerland*

*Day 1 (1 night)*

The Hotel des Balances is, hands down, the place to stay in Lucerne. Set right on the waterfront and in the heart of Lucerne's Old Town, it's just steps from the famous covered Chapel Bridge. The breakfast buffet is extraordinary, with everything from smoked salmon to muesli and fresh-baked bread, as well as eggs cooked to order. The gorgeous piano bar opens right onto a waterfront terrace, ideal for enjoying a glass of wine after an exhilarating day of hiking. With its impeccable service, comfortable rooms, and the most wonderful down comforters imaginable, the Hotel des Balances is an absolutely classic hotel with utterly up to date services and style.



## DREI BERGE HOTEL

*Murren, Switzerland*

*Days 2 to 3 (2 nights)*

Centrally located in the quiet little village of Murren, the Drei Berge Hotel is an absolutely charming place to stay, with great chalet-style decor, friendly owners who are consummate hosts, good hiking trails right out the front door, and—the best part—breathtaking views of the massive peaks of the Eiger, Monch, and Jungfrau. The restaurant serves up a wonderful breakfast spread, and has excellent local beer on tap and amazing desserts!





### WALDHOTEL DOLDENHORN

*Kandersteg, Switzerland*

*Days 4 to 5 (2 nights)*

Situated in a quiet garden-like setting just outside the village of Kandersteg, the Waldhotel Doldenhorn is a great place to relax after our day's hike. Spa facilities include a large pool, two Jacuzzis, and saunas, and its two dining venues—one for fine dining and the other conveying a traditional rustic ambiance—serve excellent cuisine.



### HOTEL DES TROIS COURONNES

*Vevey, Switzerland*

*Days 6 to 7 (2 nights)*

This classic, historic hotel is set right on the lakefront promenade in the heart of Vevey. Relax on the terrace and sip a drink while gazing at the waters of Lake Geneva with the stunning backdrop of the Savoy Alps, or take a dip in the hotel's swimming pool. The hotel staff is friendly and accommodating, with perfect Swiss efficiency.

These are our signature accommodations for this trip. Although it is highly unlikely, we may make substitutions when necessary. To see more photos and descriptions, please visit our *Hiking the Heart of Switzerland* webpage and click on the "Accommodations" tab.

# Trip Leaders

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Wilderness Travel Trip Leaders have a passion and a joy for creating an unforgettable journey. We are extremely proud of them and the incredible travel experiences they make possible. For more information, including client comments about them and which specific trips they will be leading, please visit our webpage and click on "Trip Leaders": [www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/switzerland-bernese-oberland-hiking-tour/](http://www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/switzerland-bernese-oberland-hiking-tour/)

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## TANIA MASI

Born in Florence, Italy, of an American mother and a Florentine father, Tania Masi was raised with an appreciation for both American and European cultures. Her passion for hiking has started at a very early age and today she holds an International Mountain Leader license from Austria. She speaks nine languages, has a Masters in geography and is an avid climber. "Mountains are my antidote to the modern frenetic speed: they are made of beauty, challenge, solitude, and silence." When not leading trips, Tania loves to explore new mountain faces to climb. She currently lives in southern Tuscany with husband and daughter.



## MARK TENNENT

A native of Bath, England, Mark Tennent quickly learned his calling was in the mountains. He completed a specialist Outdoor Education degree at Bangor Normal College in North Wales, subsequently instructed at various outdoor centers in the UK, then graduated from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and was commissioned into the British Army, which he left as a Captain. A recipient of several mountaineering and leadership certificates, Mark has worked in various parts of the world including Afghanistan, Macedonia, Kosovo, Kenya, Sudan, and India. Since 2005, he has lived in the Savoie department of the French Alps, near Albertville, where he shares his passion for the outdoors, French food, and the local culture. He's a member of the French Syndicat Interprofessionnel de la Montagne, bringing together mountain guides, climbing instructors, and mountain leaders. When not guiding, he can be found ski-mountaineering, rock climbing, and cycling.



# Arrival & Departure

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Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements.

## ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

Lucerne, Switzerland

**Suggested Airport:** Zurich Airport (ZRH) or Geneva Airport (GVA)

**Suggested Date & Time:** Anytime prior to Day 1

**Meeting Place:** You will meet your Trip Leader in the lobby of the Hotel des Balances in Lucerne at 8:30 am on Day 1.

Trip members are responsible for transferring from Zurich or Geneva to Lucerne on their own. A Swiss Half Fare Card will be sent to you with your Final Documents, which you can use to purchase half price train tickets for your arrival and departure trains. Trains from Zurich to Lucerne take about 1 hour, and trains from Geneva take about 3 hours. There is usually at least one train per hour, and no need to book ahead. You can see schedules and fares online at [www.sbb.ch/en](http://www.sbb.ch/en) or [www.raileurope.com](http://www.raileurope.com). The Hotel des Balances is about a 10-minute walk or short taxi ride from the Lucerne train station.

## DEPARTURE

Vevey, Switzerland

**Suggested Airport:** Zurich Airport (ZRH) or Geneva Airport (GVA)

**Suggested Date & Time:** Day 8, after 10:30 am if flying from Zurich and after 8:30 am if flying from Geneva

Trip members are responsible for transferring from Vevey to Geneva or Zurich on their own. There is no need to book ahead, and your trip leaders will assist you with arranging the train while on the trip using your Swiss Half Fare Card. Trains from Vevey to Geneva take about 1 hour 15 minutes, and the earliest train will get you to Geneva Airport at around 6:30 am. Trains from Vevey to Zurich take about 3 hours, and the earliest train will get you to Zurich Airport at around 8:15 am. You can check online at [www.sbb.ch/en](http://www.sbb.ch/en) or [www.raileurope.com](http://www.raileurope.com) for current train schedules.

## INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to and from Europe.

There are many online consolidators for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exito Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or 1-800-670-2605 in Canada. They are very adept at putting flight itineraries together, to even the most far-flung places. More information can be found on Exito's website at [www.exitotravel.com](http://www.exitotravel.com).

Depending on your routing, it is necessary to depart from the US one or possibly two days prior to Day 1 of the trip itinerary. The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly, and your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US.

**Please do not purchase your tickets until you are confirmed on the trip.** Once tickets are purchased, please forward a copy of your email flight confirmation from the airline. It is your responsibility to ensure your flight times coordinate with the arrival and departure logistics for this trip.

# Trip Details

## WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

This trip is rated a Level 3 (Moderate) according to our trip grading system. You will need to be comfortable hiking 7 miles a day, being on your feet for up to 4 hours a day, and hiking on uneven surfaces including downhill over loose scree. Trail conditions, weather, and the group's level of fitness can affect hiking times and pacing.

### Average Hiking Day

- 5 miles
- 3-4 hours
- 800-1,000 feet gain/loss

### Challenge Day

- Day 4: 4 miles, 4 hours, and 1,150 feet gain/loss; includes occasional areas with loose scree and a 2 hour and 15 minute train

## TERRAIN

There are a variety of hikes on this trip, from flat walks through historic towns and vineyards to mountainous hikes with sections of packed dirt and sections of loose scree. Some hikes may become muddy and unstable in bad weather, so the trails we choose are ultimately dependent on the weather.

## GETTING IN SHAPE

We strongly urge you to train for your trip, as your enjoyment will be highly dependent on your level of fitness. The best training for a hike is to hike, especially over hills or rough terrain. Next best are running, swimming, bicycling, or other cardiovascular exercises. Stair-climbing machines are excellent preparation for hiking uphill. Your feet should also be well prepared—make sure your hiking boots are sturdy, comfortable, and thoroughly broken-in.

## WEATHER

Mountain weather can be fickle, and we are likely to experience a full range of conditions. Some days may have blue skies with temperatures in the 70s°F and some days may be cloudy, wet, and cold, making rain gear and warm garments necessary items to carry with you on every hike. At night, the temperature will drop quite a bit, depending on the altitude.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

Our accommodations are in nice, comfortable hotels that are centrally located in the towns and cities that we pass through. The hotel in Mürren doesn't have an elevator or porter services, so you should be prepared to carry your luggage up and down the stairs. Please note that the rooms are not always of uniform or international size. Our leaders do their best to assign rooms in a fair way so that all participants experience an equal advantage throughout the trip as a whole. Single rooms can be requested but are not always available, due to the limited space in the hotels. If you prefer a single room, please make your request as early as possible.

## CUISINE

Lunch will usually be in a cheese farm, a small village, a mountain lodge, or a picnic spot amidst the beauty of the surrounding mountains. Most evening meals will be taken at our hotels and will be hearty, nourishing mountain fare, often featuring cuisine the region is noted for. Some of the items you may see on the menu include hearty soups, a variety of cheeses and dry meats from the region, cheese fondue, raclette (melted cheese served with jacket potatoes, cocktail gherkins, onions, and pickled fruit), älpermagronen (a kind of gratin with potatoes, macaroni, cheese, and onions), rösti (a flat, hot cake of potatoes fried in butter),

HIKING DETAILS BY DAY				DRIVING DETAILS
DAY	HOURS	MILES	ELEV. GAIN/LOSS	HOURS
1	3.5 hours	5 miles	+1,200' /-350'	2 hrs boat r/t, 10 mins cable car, 30 mins cog wheel
2	3.5 hours	5 miles	+500' /-1,100'	3 hrs train, 20 mins cable cars, 50 mins cog wheel
3	3 hours	3.5 miles	+500' /-1,350'	10 mins Funicular
4	4 hours	4.5 miles	+/- 1,150'	2.5 hrs train, 20 mins cable car r/t
5	3.5 hours	5 miles	+1,350'	Bus 30 mins
6	2 hours	3 miles	minimal	2.5 hrs train, 45 mins boat
7	3.5 hours	7 miles	+850' /-750'	20 mins train r/t
8				depart Vevey on own



AVERAGE DAILY MAX/MIN °F												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Lucerne	36/27	39/28	46/32	55/39	63/46	68/52	73/55	72/54	64/50	55/43	45/34	37/28
Montreux	40/31	43/33	49/36	57/42	65/49	71/55	77/59	75/59	69/54	59/46	49/38	42/32
RAINFALL - INCHES												
Lucerne	2.7	2.6	2.7	3.7	4.7	5.9	5.5	6.2	4.0	2.6	3.1	2.6
Montreux	3.5	3.4	4.1	4.3	4.7	6.2	5.1	6.2	4.6	4.1	4.5	3.6

and bratwurst (considered the nation's favorite sausage for barbecuing or frying) served with onion sauce. Please also note that in Europe, the dinner hour is considerably later than what it is in the US. We do our best to secure early reservations for our groups, but most often the evening meal will be at 7:30 pm.

## TRANSPORTATION

Our support vehicle will transport the group's luggage, so you only need to carry a daypack (rain gear, sweater, camera, water bottle, etc.). Trip members are always free to skip a day's hike and travel to the next destination in the support vehicle (or remain at the hotel if we are not transferring that day). We will also experience the efficient Swiss network of public transport, including cable cars, chair lifts, cogwheel trains, funiculars, and steamboats.

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Europe Manager or email us at [europa@wildernesstravel.com](mailto:europa@wildernesstravel.com).

## REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

## TOUCAN CLUB

We're proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business! The Wilderness Travel Toucan Club was established to reward our travelers for their loyalty. For details, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at [www.wildernesstravel.com/resources/toucan-club](http://www.wildernesstravel.com/resources/toucan-club).

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At [www.wildernesstravel.com](http://www.wildernesstravel.com), you can book your trip online or find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and one-time Limited Edition adventures that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access our complete library of detailed itineraries filled with enticing photos and videos, read bios of our Trip Leaders, find descriptions of trip accommodations, and check real-time availability of any trips that interest you.

# Toucan Club Rewards & Discounts



MEN'S T-SHIRT



WOMEN'S T-SHIRT



PATAGONIA SYNCHILLA FLEECE VEST  
PLUS INSULATED CAMELBAK WATER BOTTLE



PATAGONIA R1 PULLOVER

We are very proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business, and have established the Wilderness Travel Toucan Club to reward you for your loyalty. For more information, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at [www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan](http://www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan).

Here's how it works:

## YOUR FIRST TRIP

As a first-time traveler, you receive a lightweight Wilderness Travel T-shirt and set of durable WT Luggage Tags. On subsequent trips, we're happy to send you a new WT T-shirt and set of Luggage Tags by request.

## YOUR SECOND TRIP

A top quality Wilderness Travel insulated stainless steel water bottle by CamelBak and a cozy Wilderness Travel fleece vest by Patagonia (\$130 value).

## YOUR THIRD TRIP

A versatile Wilderness Travel R-1 pullover by Patagonia (\$140 value).

## YOUR FOURTH TRIP

Discounts on the cost of your trip begin! You receive a 4% discount on the tour cost.

## FIVE AND MORE TRIPS

You receive a 5% discount on the base trip cost. On your sixth trip, you receive a 6% discount, and so on up to your 10th trip. The maximum discount is 10%, with a ceiling of \$500.

*Note: Due to special pricing considerations, Toucan Club discounts do not apply to our Private Journeys or Special Events. However, your participation on these trips does count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular adventures.*

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

Toucan Club travel discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount, unless otherwise specified. Discounts are deducted from the base trip cost and shown on the final invoice. The base trip cost is the main land/tier cost and does not include single supplement fees, extensions, internal airfare, or other additional charges. Bonus gifts (T-shirts, luggage tags, vests, water bottles, and pullovers) will be mailed approximately three weeks prior to trip departure. Terms and conditions of Toucan Club bonuses are subject to change or cancellation at the discretion of Wilderness Travel, Inc.







## WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

**World's Best Tour Operators:** *Travel + Leisure*, 2022, 11-time winner

**Best Travel Specialists in the World:** *Conde Nast Traveller*, 2022, 3 years in a row

**Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips:** *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row

**Best Adventure Travel Companies:** *USA Today*

**Trip of the Year:** *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner

**50 Tours of a Lifetime:** *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row

**Best Adventure Travel Companies:** *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.