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TAILOR MADE RAIL

Grand Tour of Switzerland

From \$3,299 per person // 12 days



Take in the highlights of small but perfectly formed Switzerland with its towering, snow-capped peaks, glacial lakes and world-famous rail journeys, including the Glacier Express and the Jungfrauoch - Top of Europe.

The Essentials

- Explore five Swiss towns, including the famous resorts of Zermatt, Interlaken and Montreux
- Enjoy jaw-dropping journeys on the Glacier Express, Bernina Express and Golden Pass
- Take a trip on the beautiful Jungfrau railway to the highest train station in Europe
- Finish your trip in Montreux, overlooking Lake Geneva

Tailor make your holiday

- Add extra nights & destinations
- Choose alternative hotels
- Upgrade your journey to First Class
- Let us suggest the most scenic routes

What's included

- Standard Class rail travel with seat reservations on the Glacier & Bernina Expresses and Golden Pass
- 11 nights' handpicked hotel accommodation with breakfast
- A day trip to Jungfrauoch – Top of Europe
- City maps and comprehensive directions to your hotels
- Clearly-presented wallets for your rail tickets, hotel vouchers and other documentation
- All credit card surcharges and complimentary delivery of your travel documents

- Suggested Itinerary -



Days 1 & 2 - Zurich

Your grand tour of Switzerland starts with 2 nights at the Hotel Adler (or similar), a great base from which to explore the lakeside city of Zurich. Switzerland's largest conurbation has plenty to offer visitors, whether you're interested in art or history, music or shopping, or if you just want to relax. The Museum of Art's world-class collections, which include works by Picasso and Munch, are particularly recommended but make sure to visit the 12th century Grossmünster too. Alternatively, make the most of the pedestrianised streets in the CBD by strolling through medieval neighbourhoods and indulging in Zurich's café culture.



Day 3 - Zurich To Chur

After breakfast at your hotel, you will head to the city-centre station to catch a service to Landquart where you will change and travel onto the traditional Alpine town of Chur. Arriving amongst the town's steeply-stepped roofs at lunchtime, you will be able to drop your bags at the Romantik Hotel Stern (or similar) for a 2-night stay. The afternoon is yours to explore the charms of what is reputed to be Switzerland's oldest town.



Day 4 - Bernina Express Day Trip

A relatively early start but the rewards are magnificent. The Bernina Express is one of the world's most iconic train journeys, easing up over the Alps and then down into Italy, all the while treating passengers to incredible views of peaks and valleys from specially designed panoramic carriages. You arrive into the Italian city of Tirano in time to enjoy lunch, before starting your return journey to Chur in the early afternoon.



Day 5 - Chur To Zermatt Via The Glacier Express

You will have barely recovered from the previous day's incredible sights when you embark on your second iconic journey aboard the Glacier Express. Heading west through the Swiss Alps, you will pass through several stunning Alpine valleys before inching up to Zermatt, a resort town with views of the world-famous Matterhorn. You will disembark in the late afternoon and after dropping your bags at Romantik Hotel Julen (or similar), you have the rest of the day to explore and to find a restaurant with a view.



Day 6 - Zermatt

Zermatt provides a wonderful base to enjoy Alpine life, irrespective of what time of year you visit. If it is winter, and the mountains and valleys are coated in crisp, white snow, Zermatt is an ideal base for skiing and snowboarding. In the summer months, the picturesque village offers wonderful hiking and throughout the year there are plenty of places to sit and eat delicious rösti whilst drinking in the views! If you are ready for an extra scenic train journey, you could take the Gornergrat Bahn up into the mountains, with pristine views of the Matterhorn's distinctive peak.



Day 7 - Zermatt To Interlaken

After breakfast at your hotel, it is time to return to Visp via the beautiful Matterhorn-Gotthard Bahn and then connect with a service to Interlaken. You will arrive in Interlaken Ost station by midday and from here, it is a short walk to your accommodation, Hotel Interlaken (or similar) where you will stay for 3 nights. Interlaken is one of the most popular bases to explore the wonderful Bernese Oberland with its great rail connections and awe-inspiring mountain backdrop.



Day 8 - Interlaken

Nestled between Lake Thun and Lake Brienz, Interlaken's traditional wooden buildings and incredible location have made it a favourite for many visitors to the Alps. There are a wide-range of walking routes for you to explore, plus plenty of shops and restaurants, and for the adventurous-spirited there are a host of adrenalin-inspired options including paragliding, rafting and bungee jumping! Take the funicular railway up the Harder Kulm for panoramic views over the town or visit one of the two lakes for a relaxing cruise in stunning surroundings.



Day 9 - Jungfrau Day Trip

After a good night's rest to recover from the previous day's exertions, you'll be ready for the magnificent Jungfrau. Starting from Interlaken Ost, you will travel to Lauterbrunnen or Grindewald, changing to take another train to Kleine Scheidegg. From here you will catch the cog-driven Jungfrau Railway which will haul you to Europe's highest railway station, Jungfraujoch. You will emerge into jaw-dropping mountain scenery, with the very tips of snow-covered Swiss Alps towering all around you.



Day 10 - Interlaken To Montreux Via The Golden Pass

After your third night in Interlaken, a final iconic train journey awaits. The Golden Pass line connects Interlaken to Montreux in the French-speaking area of Switzerland. The journey can be taken by modern panoramic or Belle Epoque coaches and gently winds down via Spiez and Zweisimmen to the shores of Lake Geneva. Upon disembarking, you will check into the conveniently located Suisse Hotel Majestic (or similar) for a 2-night stay.



Day 11 - Montreux

Montreux is a picturesque town with broad pavements courting the water's edge. You can stroll with ice cream in hand and enjoy the views, or if you're feeling more energetic, head out onto the lake yourself on boats of all different shapes and sizes! There are also a wide-array of shops and restaurants for you to explore, as well as a vast network of well-signed walking routes to help you further enjoy the area's breathtaking scenery. You might like to head into the mountains again with a rail trip up to the Rochers de Naye, offering yet more breathtaking views of the lake and distant Alps.



Day 12 - Montreux To Geneva Airport

Leave Montreux today for your onward journey. It's a short train ride around the lake to Geneva Airport, though you might like to extend your stay on the Swiss Riviera, or make your way in the other direction along the lake shore, past the beautifully located Chateau de Chillon and on into Italy. Let us know your plans!

Pricing

From \$3,299 per person

These prices are based on two people sharing a twin or double room. Single supplements will apply for sole occupancy. It is based on Standard Class rail travel and includes seat reservations as necessary. It is based on the best fares on the trains. If you travel during a peak period, particularly at short notice, then supplements may apply.