

Luxury Switzerland: Hiking and Wellness Private Tour

Please note that all of the itineraries listed in our web site are actual private tour itineraries we have prepared for clients over the past 12-18 months. By the very nature of what we do, each private tour itinerary is custom, exclusive and unique unto itself. Our over-riding goal is to create lifelong memories that you and your family will forever carry deep within your hearts.

Overview

Similar to Japan, we consider Switzerland to be one of the most meticulously clean and punctual countries in the world. The Swiss values of honesty and hard work are balanced by an emphasis on clean air and an active lifestyle. It is no coincidence that Switzerland is home to many wellness and health spas, as embodied in the mantra “vita borne” or “life from source”/“the source of life”. In addition to the country’s array of 5-star hotels and wellness centers, there are also numerous world-class hiking opportunities. Chocolate lovers have found their home here, as the Swiss are the world’s largest chocolate consumers, per capita.

SWITZERLAND

Temperature Range:

Highs: Mid 60's

Lows: Low 40's

Area:

41,284 SQ. KM

15,940 Million SQ. Miles

Population:

8.4 Million

Language:

German, French, Italian
& Romansch

Currency:

Swiss Franc

Day 1

Fly to Zurich

Through our sister company, premium air provider TRAVNET, we may assist with your international airfare, as well as with mileage points conversion.

Day 2

Arrive Zurich

Upon arrival at the Zurich Airport, you will be met by your private driver and transferred to the Hotel Baur au Lac with the remainder of the day free to spend at your leisure.

Hotel Baur au Lac

The historic 5-star Hotel Baur au Lac sits on the shore of Lake Zurich, set within its own expansive park, yet within walking distance of Zurich’s high-end shopping district. With spectacular views of the Alps and the lake, Baur is a

picturesque hotel with high-touch service and luxurious amenities such as 24-hour room service, free Wi-Fi, and a rooftop fitness center. The 119 rooms and suites are decorated in different styles ranging from Art Deco to French Louis XIV to English Regency, combined with standard modern touches including marble baths and heated floors. Dining options include the Restaurant Pavilion, serving a contemporary take on classic dishes; River Gauche with delicious meat and fish dishes; and Le Hall, a perfect place for afternoon tea.

Meals: --

Accommodations: Hotel Baur au Lac

Day 3

Zurich Half-Day Walking Tour + Private Transfer to Lucerne

Your half-day walking tour begins with the Old Town and continues up Lindenhof Hill, with sweeping views of the city below. You will next visit Peterskirche (St. Peter’s Church), dating back to the 8th or 9th-century and sitting on the site of a temple once dedicated to the Roman God, Jupiter. In the afternoon, you will be driven

to The Villa Honegg Hotel in Lucerne. En route you will be shown the gems and magical mountains in the Lake of Four Cantons region.

The Villa Honegg

Overlooking Lake Lucerne from 3,000 feet above sea level is the art nouveau style mansion hotel, Villa Honegg. Almost every one of the 23 guestrooms has furnished balconies or terraces that offer sweeping views of the lake. In addition to indoor and outdoor restaurants, a special surprise here is the hotel's in-house 20-seat cinema for luxury private viewing. The Villa's Wellness facilities include a Finnish sauna, steam bath, year-round outdoor pool, gym and a variety of spa treatments.

Originally conceived in 1873 by Emil Durrer and opened as a hotel in 1906, Villa Honegg has an interesting history in the Lake Lucerne area. The hotel was later bought by a private party who embarked on a multi-year renovation project, reopening as a 5-star luxury hotel in 2011.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodations: The Villa Honegg

Day 4

Grindelwald Excursion

Set under the infamous North Face and the Eiger, the tiny village of Grindelwald perfectly embodies a heavenly alpine setting. Accompanied by your hiking guide, you may opt for two picturesque hikes: The two-hour Eiger Trail or the longer verdant Lauterbrunnen Valley Hike.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodations: The Villa Honegg

Day 5

Mountain Farm Private Tour + Transfer to Zermatt

In the morning, you will visit a local mountain farmer for an exclusive look into traditional cheese-making. After a short tour of the farm, you will make your way to a breath-taking gorge before having lunch at a mountain restaurant. After lunch, you will be privately driven to Zermatt and transferred to the Riffelalp Resort 2222m.

Option for a guided mountain hike.

Riffelalp Resort 2222m

Only accessible by 20-minute private tram ride up to the Hamlet of Riffelalp, the aptly named Riffelalp Resort 2222m sits 7,300 feet above Zermatt and is the ideal place to escape from the everyday hustle and bustle. Stunning panoramic views directly onto the Matterhorn can be seen from most of the resort's 72 guestrooms. Here you will find Europe's highest outdoor pool, as well as a very nice spa, indoor pool, and a small gym. For a taste of traditional raclette, fondue, and saucisse de veau, stop by one of the hotel restaurants, Ristorante Al Bosco or Restaurant Alexandre are both open in summer.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodations: Riffelalp Resort 2222m

Day 6

Zermatt Private Tour

Following breakfast at The Riffelalp Hotel, your Zermatt private tour will begin by traveling up to Gornergrat, via the highest open-air rail system in Europe, where you will be met by an unparalleled view of the Matterhorn, Monte Rosa, and Gorner Glacier. The remainder of the afternoon will be free for you to enjoy the amenities of Riffelalp Resort 2222m and explore Zermatt at your leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodations: Riffelalp Resort 2222m

Day 7

Five-Lakes Hike

Embark on a half-day hike with your guide, considered one of the best hikes in the Zermatt Mountains, Five-Seenweg takes you past five incredible lakes, with the Matterhorn reflected in three. Each lake is special in its own way: Leisee is a popular swimming spot, Grunsee looks out across a rugged landscape, Grindjisee is home to rare flowers, Stellisee is a photographer's dream, and Moosjisee has a beautiful blue, milky hue. Following your hike, you will have the remainder of your day free to relax at the St. Trop Alp Spa at the Riffelalp Resort.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodations: Riffelalp Resort 2222m

Day 8

Private Transfer Zermatt/Lenk

As you are privately driven from Zermatt to Lenk, on the way you will enjoy picturesque alpine valley views in the Bernese Oberland. Upon arrival at The Lenkerhof, you will have the afternoon to relax at one of Switzerland's very best spas.

The Lenkerhof

With a 20,000 sq. foot wellness landscape, the 82-room luxury Lenkerhof is considered among the highest quality spa resorts in Switzerland. Located in the crisp and pristine Simmental Valley of the Bernese Oberland, The Lenkerhof Gourmet Spa Resort prides itself on a "5 star feel good atmosphere". Named after the seven sources of the River Simme, the 7 Sources Spa follows a long tradition of healing waters with a range of treatments. The hotel actually began as a spa hotel with its own sulfur spring 350 years ago! A special experience here is the 93° F outdoor pool with clear sulfur water from the property's original natural spring. Similar to Japan's "onsen" therapeutic culture, the Swiss pride themselves on the rejuvenating powers of hot spring exposure.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodations: The Lenkerhof

Day 9

Lenk Private Tour

This morning, you will embark on a private tour through idyllic mountain roads via a 4x4 to see the most incredible views and hidden gems, including the charming villages of Gstaad and Gruyeres. If desired, your local guide will have several hiking options.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodations: The Lenkerhof

Day 10

Private Transfer Lenk/Lausanne

As you are privately driven from Lenk to Lausanne, you will have the option of stopping at Chateau de Chillon, an island castle located on Lake Geneva. Castle Chillon was the inspiration behind Lord Byron's 1816 poem, *The Prisoner of Chillon*. It is also the castle animated in the Disney film, *The Little Mermaid*.

Beau-Rivage Palace

Opened in 1861, we feel a stay at the 5-star Beau-Rivage Palace is reason alone to stay in Lausanne! Made up of two buildings connected via La Rotonde, the hotel was renovated in 2012 by the renowned designer, Pierre-Yves Rochon. Situated on the shore of Lake Geneva and only 10 minutes from the city center, Beau-Rivage has a four-hectare garden – the perfect spot to relax after a long day of exploring the area. Each of the 168 rooms and suites offers sweeping views of the city, garden, or Lake Geneva. There are 10 different dining options including a sushi restaurant and an Italian one. Of special note is the Cinq Mondes, a 15,000 sq. foot spa featuring indoor and outdoor heated pools, a Jacuzzi, “tropical rain walk”, gym, salon, separate male and female hammams (Turkish-style baths), saunas, and two outdoor tennis courts. This is certainly one of the most impressive well-being centers in the south-west Switzerland area.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodations: Beau-Rivage Palace

Day 11

Lausanne Private Tour

Following breakfast at Beau-Rivage, you will be met by your guide and driver for some Lausanne discretionary private touring. Beginning in the Old Town of Lausanne, you will visit the Gothic Cathedral of Notre Dame, Switzerland's largest church and housing the country's largest organ.

Later in the day, you will be privately driven with your guide to the Lavaux Vineyard Terraces (a UNESCO World Heritage Site) for wine tasting.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodations: Beau-Rivage Palace

Day 12

Private Transfer Lausanne/Geneva + Fly Geneva/Home

Meals: Breakfast