

The Ultimate Grand Train Tour of Switzerland Information:

13 Days / 12 Nights: Basel - Interlaken - Montreux - Zermatt - St. Moritz - Lugano - Lucerne

(The tour can be completed in the reverse direction - prices may be subject to change)

Scenic Rail Journeys

- [GoldenPass Line](#)
- [JungfrauJoch - Top of Europe](#)
- [Glacier Express](#)
- [Bernina Express](#)
- [Gotthard Panorama Express](#)

Inclusions:

- 12 nights accommodation
- Basel accommodation: Hotel Teufelhof (3 star superior Hotel) - ART Double Room
- Interlaken, St Moritz, Zermatt, Lucerne, Montreux, Lugano,: a choice of hotels (4 star only) - Standard rooms with private facilities. [Click here for a list of hotels.](#)
- Breakfast included daily at your hotel
- 1st class Swiss Transfer Ticket Combi - inclusive of the 8 transfers mentioned in the itinerary
- Your package does include seat reservations on all the trains except the train to the JungfrauJoch and the Basel - Interlaken train (seat reservations not required)
- Experience Basel welcome pack (delivered to Hotel Teufelhof Basel):

Basel Card: The attractive features of the Basel Card includes free use of public transport, free surfing on the guest WiFi plus a 50% discount on admission to Basel's museums, Basel Zoo, Theatre Basel and much more

City Guide: Your guide for Basel

Brochure: highlighting 5 self-guided walking tours

Voucher for a complimentary audio guide at the Kunstmuseum Basel:

Access to the Museum is 50% off when you present your Basel Card

Complimentary wine tasting at VinOptimum: not available on Sundays and Mondays

Complimentary gingerbread cookie: One pack of Basler Lächerli (100g)

Discount voucher (10% OFF) to use at KURZ: KURZ offers quality jewelry and an exclusive range of world-renowned watch and jewellery brands. The 10% discount applies on all jewellery and watches (excluding OMEGA, Breitling, IWC Schaffhausen & tax free). Receive a free gift in the KURZ boutique in Basel by presenting your voucher. A free catalogue is included in the welcome pack.

- Please note that this is an independent package and therefore tour guides are not included.

All documentation will be received upon check-in at your Basel hotel.

Exclusions:

- Seat reservation from Basel - Interlaken. This service does not require a seat reservation.
- Some hotels may charge 3-7 CHF per person, per night city-tax - payable at the hotel (locally).
- Lunch on board the Glacier Express is not included. Cost is approximately CHF 45.00 per person. Your Rail Europe consultant can provide you with details on how you can pre-book this lunch.
- Supplement per night during the Montreux Jazz Festival, 28 June - 15 July, 2019, and Montreux Fete des Vignerons Festival, 18 July - 12 August, 2019 (this will be applied to your request at time of booking).

Please note that Montreux hotels are extremely busy during this time and we recommend booking as far in advance as possible to secure your hotel. If there is no availability in Montreux, guests may be booked into a hotel in a town nearby such as Lausanne.

Grand Train Tour of Switzerland Itineraries and Departure Dates

Departure Dates:

- Departs *daily between 01 Apr – 13 Oct, 2019. Departs daily. Travel must be completed by 13th Oct, 2019.

*The Gotthard Panorama Express operates Tuesday - Sunday from 19 Apr - 20 Oct, 2019. The Gotthard Panorama Express does not operate on Mondays due to train maintenance. Alternate transport can be taken when the Gotthard Panorama Express isn't operating.

Itinerary:

- This itinerary can be done in the reverse direction and additional nights can added, otherwise no amendments can be made.
- We recommend adding additional nights to the itinerary if you wish to have more free time to explore a destination.

Day 1 Travel from any Swiss Airport or border town to Basel

Individual arrival into Basel. Your Swiss Transfer ticket is not yet valid. Overnight in Basel at the [Der Teufelhof Basel hotel](#). Pick up your welcome pack upon check-in.

A warm welcome to this unique hotel and cultural venue, where restaurants, hotels, theatre and art offer a unique combination all under one roof. The venue is located in Basel's historic centre, in two integrated, historic townhouses from the 18th century. As a popular meeting place, the house links history and tradition with an artistically inspiring, modern and thus urban setting.

The rooms in the Art Hotel are all liveable works of art and redesigned at regular intervals. Guests live in a work of art instead of just viewing art in their rooms the usual way.

Fancy a relaxing stroll around Basel? Head to KURZ and utilise your 10% discount voucher on one of the many items KURZ has to offer. Step into one of their boutiques and all Rail Europe customers will receive a small gift just for presenting your voucher.

Overnight in Basel.

Day 2 Day at Leisure in Basel

Explore the beautiful old town, visit Basel Zoo or go on a boat tour to the famous "Dreieck" (border triangle). If you fancy archaeological finds, a visit to the Roman excavation site August Raurica is a must.

Use your personal Basel Card that includes free use of public transport around Basel, free surfing on the guest WiFi plus a 50% discount on admission to Basel's museums, Basel Zoo, Theatre Basel and much more.

So what are you waiting for? Discover Switzerland's capital of culture. With its multicultural diversity and passion for life, this bastion of art and architecture is sure to captivate you. The Basel Card will turn your trip into an unforgettable experience.

Overnight in Basel.

Day 3

Basel - Interlaken

Today, board your train using your Swiss Transfer Ticket – to Interlaken. The destination is between Lake Thun and Lake Brienz and in the heart of the magnificent Jungfrau Region.

Seat reservations are not required with an average of over 50 trains departing a day.

Overnight in Interlaken.

Day 4 Visit Jungfrauoch – The Top of Europe

A visit to the world famous [Jungfrauoch -- top of Europe](#): a sparkling snow and ice wonderland accessed through the highest altitude railway station in Europe.

Timetable tips!

- The first train to *Jungfrauoch* leaves Interlaken at 6:35am. Trains then run hourly, at 5 minutes past the hour. The last train leaves from the Jungfrauoch at 16:40. The journey from Interlaken Ost takes 2.5 hours each way, a total of 5 hours return.

Seat reservations are not required.

Overnight in Interlaken.

Day 5 Interlaken - Montreux

Train ride to Zweisimmen. Change to the [GoldenPass Panoramic](#) train for this memorable trip to Montreux on the shore of Lake Geneva. You find yourself among alpine forests, bubbling mountain springs and picturesque mountain villages.

Timetable tips!

- The train from Interlaken to Montreux takes just over 3 hours via Zweisimmen. Take the 11am service to arrive into Montreux at 2:13pm.

Seat reservations are included for GoldenPassLine (except VIP seats from Zweisimmen to Montreux which we are unable to confirm).

Overnight in Montreux.

Day 6 Montreux - Zermatt

Today you board the train from Montreux to Zermatt, the marvellous and famous car-free alpine resort at the foot of the majestic Matterhorn.

Overnight in Zermatt.

Timetable tips!

- The train from *Montreux - Martigny* takes 30-34 minutes on an Interregio train. There are 2 departures an hour from 6:05am til midnight.
- The journey from *Martigny - Zermatt*, via Visp, takes around 2hrs with 2 departures an hour until 9:40pm.

Seat reservations are not required for any of these trains.

Day 7 Day at leisure in Zermatt

Enjoy a day of sightseeing in Zermatt.

Optional excursion (not included in the cost of your package) by cogwheel railway up to the [Gornergrat](#) where you will have a superb panoramic view of the Matterhorn, Mont Blanc and other snow-capped peaks rising to above 4000m/13,000 ft. or experience the peak of sporting adventures in the Matterhorn

glacier paradise.

Spend the night having dinner in Zermatt and taking in the sights of this magical alpine resort.

Overnight in Zermatt.

Day 8
Zermatt – St Moritz on
the Glacier Express

Today you board the [Glacier Express](#) which is one of the greatest train journeys in the world. You travel from Zermatt to St. Moritz. Travel in comfort through the unspoiled natural beauty of a landscape rich in ancient, fragrant mountain forests, peaceful Alpine meadows, rushing mountain streams and mountain valleys, soaked in tradition and centuries-old culture.

Timetable tips!

- Travel duration on the *Glacier Express* is around 8 hours
- Depart from Zermatt at 08.52am for an arrival into St. Moritz at 16.50pm (summer times/subject to change).

Seat reservations are compulsory for the Glacier Express and included in the cost of your package.

Overnight in St. Moritz.

Day 9
Day at leisure in St
Moritz

Day at leisure. We recommend a visit to Mt. Diavoleza. There you can enjoy a fabulous glacier hike against the fabulous backdrop of the Bernina massif and the Piz Palü.

Overnight in St. Moritz.

Day 10
St. Moritz - Lugano via
the Bernina Express

Today you travel with the Bernina Express of the Rhaetian Railway along the UNESCO World Heritage route. Enjoy an Alpine switchback ride, taking you from the high, towering glaciers of the mountains down to the swaying palms of Italy; the Bernina Express is the highest railway line across the Alps, linking Northern and Southern Europe – and in the most spectacular way!

Two routes lead to Lugano in Switzerland's sunny south. In summer, choose the [Bernina Express](#) train to Tirano (Italy), then bus to Lugano.

Timetable tips!

- Travel duration 8 hours in Summer (bus only runs in Summer)
St. Moritz-Tirano (by train, travel time 2.30 h)
Tirano-Lugano (by bus, travel time 3.19 h)

Seat reservations are compulsory on the Bernina Express and included in the cost of your package.

Overnight in Lugano.

Board the Gotthard Panorama Express from Lugano to Flüelen and travel along the Gotthard mountain panorama route followed by a lake cruise to Lucerne. Few things will take your breath away like the [Gotthard Panorama Express](#). Combining rail and waterway travel, this 5-hour trip starts with scenic rail before connecting to a spectacular 2.5-hour Lake Lucerne steamer boat ride.

Day 11
Travel from Lugano -
Lucerne

Timetable tips!

- Travel duration on the Gotthard Panorama Express (incl. change of trains): 5.13 hr Lugano-Flüelen (by train, travel time 2.11 h change trains in Bellinzona) OR Locarno-Flüelen (by train, travel time 1.59h) Flüelen-Lucerne (by boat, travel time 1.59 h)

Seat reservations are compulsory for the Gotthard Panorama Express
Overnight in Lucerne.

Day 12
Day at leisure in
Lucerne

Day at leisure in Lucerne.
We recommend an optional excursion to the following mountain tops: Mount Pilatus – the golden round trip or Mount Rigi – Queen of the Mountains or Mount Titlis – Titlis Rotair.
Overnight in Lucerne.

Day 13
End of tour

Return to any Swiss border or airport, or continue your stay in Switzerland at your own leisure.

Grand Train Tour of Switzerland Hotels

All hotels in this package are 4-star properties with the exception of Der Teufelhof Basel which is 3-star.

BASEL

- Der Teufelhof Basel (3 star superior Hotel)

Rail Europe has handpicked this unique hotel and cultural venue, where restaurants, hotels, theatre and art offer a unique combination all under one roof. The venue is located in Basel's historic centre, in two integrated, historic townhouses from the 18th century. As a popular meeting place, the house links history and tradition with an artistically inspiring, modern and thus urban setting.

The rooms in the Art Hotel are all liveable works of art and redesigned at regular intervals. Guests live in a work of art instead of just viewing art in their rooms the usual way.

There are 9 ART Rooms available. If this is sold out on your requested dates then we can arrange to stay in a Gallery Room. Gallery rooms act as an exhibition space for art, with rooms kept in white. Different exhibitions are on view for one year at a time.



INTERLAKEN

- Hotel Interlaken
- Hotel Du Nord Interlaken

- Hotel Krebs Interlaken
- Hotel Metropole
- Hotel Carlton-Europe

MONTREUX

- Hotel Eurotel
- Grand Hôtel Suisse-Majestic

ZERMATT

- Schlosshotel Life & Style Zermatt
- Hotel Allalin
- Hotel Simi
- Hotel Pollux
- Alpen Resort

ST. MORITZ

- Hotel Steffani
- Art Boutique Hotel Monopol
- Hotel Reine Victoria

LUGANO

- Hotel City Lugano
- Hotel Lugano Dante Center

LUCERNE

- Hotel Continental Park
- Hotel Wilden Mann
- Ameron Hotel Flora Lucerne

Ultimate Grand Train Tour of Switzerland - Excursions

Switzerland has so much to offer, it's impossible to include it all in one package! Below is a list of excursions you may like to add to your Ultimate Grand Train Tour Of Switzerland. Please note, the Jungfrauoch is included in the cost of your package.

Your Rail Europe consultant can add any of the below to your booking, simply mention this in your Booking form.

JUNGFRAUJOCH - TOP OF EUROPE (INCLUDED)

Interlaken

The highest railway station in Europe is located at 3454m. Visitors have access to a high alpine wonderland of ice, snow and rock which they can admire from the viewing platforms on the Aletsch Glaciers or in the Ice Palace. The railway journey to the Jungfrauoch is an experience that leads through the mountains Eiger and Mönch. From the immediate stations Eismeer and Eigerwand visitors have stunning views of the impressive Eiger North Face.

MOUNT PILATUS

Lucerne

The Golden Round Trip takes you to the most spectacular spots on Mount Pilatus. Enjoy a boat trip on Lake Lucerne and a stunning view of the surrounding mountains. In Alpnachstad you will board the steepest cogwheel railway in the world to reach the summit. Then take the aerial cableway and the panoramic gondolas back to Kriens where you board the train to go back to Lucerne.

[Click here to book](#)

MOUNT TITLIS

Lucerne

From Lucerne the train takes you to the mountain monastery village Engelberg where you board a gondola that takes you up to the Trübsee. Continuing your trip by another gondola to Stand you finally board the first revolving cable car of Titlis Rotair that takes you up to Mount Titlis. Visit the glacier cave, ride the Ice Flyer chairlift or get your thrills on the Titlis Cliff Walk.

[Click here to book](#)

MOUNT RIGI

Lucerne

On the way to Lucerne we recommend a stop at Arth-Goldau. There you take the train up to Mount Rigi. The "Queen of the Mountains" offers 100kms of hiking trails with a stunning panorama. On Europe's oldest mountain train you will get back to Vitznau where you can take a boat back to Lucerne. This is truly worth a visit.

Online bookings are not available. Please contact us to add this to your Ultimate Grand Train Tour of Switzerland booking.

GORNERGRAT

Zermatt

From Zermatt, Europe's highest open-air cogwheel railway takes you up to the Gornergrat. The train crosses impressive bridges, galleries and tunnels, On the summit you will have a superb panoramic view of the Matterhorn, Mont Blanc and other snow-capped peaks rising to above 4000m. Did you know the 3100 Kulmhotel Gornergrat is Europe's highest altitude hotel?

[Click here to book](#)

MATTERHORN GLACIER PARADISE

Zermatt

At 3883m you will find Europe's highest aerial cableway and summit station. If you want to go higher still, the summit lift will bring you to the viewing platform with a 360° panoramic view that includes 38 Alpine giants. A visit to the world's highest glacier palace will make the excursion an experience you will never forget.

[Click here to book](#)

CHOCOLATE TRAIN

Montreux

The Chocolate Train is a first class trip that takes you to the Maison du Gruyère where the secrets of the production of this famous Swiss cheese will be demonstrated to you. Afterwards, you will visit the charming town of Gruyère. You might wish to stay for lunch and enjoy the tasty local cheese fondue or visit the magnificent castle. Later, the Chocolate Train takes you to Maison Cailler-Nestlé where you will learn everything about the Swiss chocolate making tradition followed by a chocolate tasting.

[Click here to book](#)

ROCHERS-DE-NAYE

Montreux

Rochers-de-Naye has always been a favourite destination for nature lovers with its peak at an altitude of 2042m. A charming cog railway awaits you once an hour at the Montreux train station and ascends more than 1600m on the journey - passing fields, villages and forests. In about 55 minutes you'll reach the summit and all its possibilities.

Online bookings are not available. Please contact us to add this to your Ultimate Grand Train Tour of Switzerland booking.

GLACIER 3000

Gstaad

The Glacier 3000 beckons with yet another attraction: a suspension bridge connecting two mountain peaks. The 107 metre-long and 80 centimetres wide bridge connects the View Point with the Scex Rouge. And as visitors take to the circular summit tour on the Peak Walk, they have amazing views of the Matterhorn, Mont Blanc Massif, Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau.

Note: Please refer to your itinerary for included excursions. Otherwise Rail Europe can assist in booking additional excursions (payable at time of booking).

[Click here to book](#)

The Ultimate Grand Tour of Switzerland Map



CONDITIONS

- **A non refundable 30% deposit is required before hotel accommodation will be confirmed, with full balance payable 60 days prior to departure.**
- Rail Europe will send an invoice, please check this carefully and then forward required deposit. Hotel confirmations will be advised within 2-3 working days once payment has been received. Prices are per person based on double/single occupancy.
- Hotels are subject to change prior to confirmation
- Once the booking has been confirmed, amendment fees or cancellation fees will apply even if the booking has not been ticketed.
- Some hotels may charge CHF 3 - CHF 7 local city taxes per person/night and only payable locally
- Supplements per night apply for the following city accommodations (prices advised at time of booking):
 - Montreux Jazz Festival: 28 June - 15 July, 2019
 - Fete des Vignerons: 18 July - 12 August, 2019.
- Vouchers cannot be refunded or reissued if lost or stolen.

REFUNDS

- Once the booking has been confirmed, amendment fees or cancellation fees will apply even if the booking has not been ticketed.

CANCELLATION FEES

NOTICE RECEIVED

30%	Up to 45 days prior to the 1st hotel night.
40%	Between 44 and 11 days prior to the 1st hotel night.
55%	Between 10 and 7 days prior to the 1st hotel night.
100%	5 day or less prior to the 1st hotel night.

- Partial refunds of hotel nights and/or train days is not possible.

- [Where can I validate the Swiss Transfer Ticket?](#)
- [Will I be accompanied by a tour guide?](#)
- [Can the tour be completed in the opposite direction?](#)
- [Is second class travel available?](#)
- [Can I choose which hotel I want?](#)
- [How far are the hotels from the train stations?](#)
- [Can I add additional nights in each city?](#)
- [What is meant by included transfers?](#)
- [What are seat reservations?](#)
- [What are the airport stations and border towns?](#)

Where can I validate the Swiss Transfer Ticket?

The Swiss Transfer Ticket is valid from any border town or Swiss airport, and validation of the card is possible at any train station in Switzerland prior to your first day of travel.

Will I be accompanied by a tour guide?

The Ultimate Grand Train Tour of Switzerland are not accompanied and there will not be a representative/guide available to guests at any time.

Can the tour be completed in the opposite direction?

Yes, this tour can be booked in the opposite direction.

Is second class travel available?

Second class is not available for this tour. Prices are based on first class, twin share occupancy. There are no discounts for triple share occupancy.

Can I choose which hotel I want?

It is possible to submit a preference at time of booking, but this cannot be guaranteed as all hotels are subject to availability.

How far are the hotels from the train stations?

Our partner hotels are generally located within a 5 minute walking distance of the train station.

Can I add additional nights in each city?

Yes, additional nights can be added provided the cities are already included in the itinerary. All additional nights are subject to availability with the remainder of the package.

What is meant by included transfers?

The Ultimate Grand Train Tour of Switzerland includes 8 transfers. This is made up of:

- 7 x transfers on the inclusive Swiss Scenic Trains including: The Jungfraujoch, The Golden Pass Line, The Glacier Express, The Bernina Express, and The Gotthard Panorama Express.
- 1 x transfer from Lucerne to border town/airport.

What are seat reservations?

Seat reservations are compulsory for Switzerland's Scenic Trains. You are not required to do anything to secure these as they are included in the total package cost. Reservations on regional trains are not required.

What are the airport stations and border towns?

The main border towns for Switzerland are:

- Basel SBB, France
- Basel Bad, Germany
- Les Verrieres, France
- Vallorbe, France
- Geneva, France
- Buchs, Austria
- St. Margrethen, Austria

Other stations ie: Zurich HB may be allowed. Please contact our team for more information.

Airport stations refer to any airport station in Switzerland ie: Zurich International Airport train station.