



The Grand Train Tour of Switzerland - Travel Suggestions.

Discover all sights and landmarks Switzerland has to offer from the comfort of the public transport. Just like in a theme park. But for real. The Grand Train Tour of Switzerland merges the most beautiful panoramic lines into one unique route of 1,280 kilometres in length. There is no prescribed direction or duration. You can hop on and off wherever you please. Whether at Zermatt or St. Moritz, in the Canton of Ticino or the Lavaux, at the Rhine Falls or Lake Lucerne: The Grand Train Tour of Switzerland is a perfect starting point for excursions as well.

Seven Tours, endless highlights.

There are seven travel suggestions for the Grand Train Tour of Switzerland that contain panoramic train lines and numerous touristic highlights. Each tour can be explored within several days and the travel duration can be adapted individually.

This media kit focuses specifically on the lesser-known travel suggestions, namely "Glaciers & Palm Trees", "Hidden Treasures" and "Stunning Waters", and presents selected highlights that can be experienced on these tours.





Glaciers & Palm Trees Tour: Alpine landscapes and mediterranean climate.



This tour delivers on its promises: Starting from the vibrant city of Zurich and temperate regions, the train climbs to more than 2,000 meters in altitude. First, imposing glaciers take turns with sparkling mountain lakes in front of the ceiling-high windows. Shortly afterwards, the train winds its way down to Italy, where guests can continue to Lugano by bus. Palm trees, vineyards and mild temperatures dominate this stretch. Perfect for immersing yourself in a little “dolce vita” before tackling the historic Gotthard Line back towards Lucerne.

Tour highlights: Switzerland by train, bus and boat.



Bernina Express

This panoramic train connects the north of Europe to its south – right through the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Rhaetian Railway, passing by glaciers on its way down to palm trees. It smoothly negotiates every climb while offering one of the world’s most unforgettable train journeys.



Bernina Express Bus

In summer, the journey of the Bernina Express can be extended on board the Bernina Express Bus along beautiful Lake Como and through the picturesque villages between Lugano and Tirano (I). This bus runs between February 15 and November 24, 2024. Alternatively, you can take the Palm Express Bus



Palm Express Bus

From the impressive glaciers of Engadin to the lovely palm trees of Lugano: The Palm Express invites visitors to a pleasantly diverse four-hour PostBus journey.



Gotthard Panorama Express on Rails

The Gotthard Panorama Express links two of the most attractive regions of Switzerland. The ride starts through the 15-kilometre long Gotthard Tunnel where passengers get a chance to watch the special light projections depicting various Gotthard legends at their leisure. During the ride, the most important hotspots will be announced through speakers. Not only the Mediterranean Ticino and the Reuss Valley of canton Uri make for fascinating stories but also the construction history of the railway line itself. This train runs between April 20 and October 20, 2024. Alternatively, you can take the Treno Gottardo.



Gotthard Panorama Express on Lake Lucerne

On the boat cruise from Flüelen to Lucerne, travelers enter the impressive mountain world of Central Switzerland. In just under three hours, visitors pass by fjord-like cliff walls and idyllic coves – all against the magnificent backdrop of snow-covered mountain peaks. This boat will run on the Gotthard Panorama Express train timetable between April 20 and October 20, 2024.



Treno Gottardo

The Treno Gottardo runs hourly over the 120-year-old Gotthard panorama line to the sun-kissed corner of Switzerland. The panoramic ride promises impressive views of rugged mountain faces and deep blue lakes as well as plenty of Mediterranean flair with palm trees and stately residences.

Tour highlights: Famous mountains and local peaks.



Diavolezza

An impressive view from Piz Palü across the Bellavista to Piz Bernina. Six kilometres before the Bernina Pass, the cable car climbs up on the right to this glacier viewpoint at almost 3,000 metres above sea level.



Muottas Muragl

A funicular railway takes over the 700-meter climb from Punt Muragl up to the Muottas Muragl for all scenic lovers – accompanied in the upper section by sun collectors that cover the energy requirements of the mountain dwelling in an environmentally friendly way. Between the wide valley of the River Inn and the valley that leads to the Bernina Pass, this is probably the most beautiful vantage point above the lakes of Upper Engadine.



Monte Brè

This nature experience starts right in the heart of Lugano. Into the Funi, changing to the second Funi, panoramic view: Only a few minutes of travelling take visitors from the city centre into pristine nature. The Monte Brè not only offers a spectacular panoramic view but also functions as a perfect starting point for many hiking and biking tours.



Pilatus

Close to Lucerne and easily accessible by public transport, the Pilatus (2,132m / 6,995ft) is the ideal “adventure mountain” for the whole family. Among its many cool and exciting highlights are: the world’s steepest cog railway, two aerial cableways and Central Switzerland’s biggest rope park. Additionally, five restaurants and two hotels provide much needed refreshment and welcome accommodation, as well as great workshop and banquet facilities, in this wonderfully scenic location.



Stanserhorn

The journey up to the Stanserhorn offers a beautiful symbiosis of the historic funicular and the state-of-the-art CabriO cableway: The world’s first open-air upper deck on a cableway allows for the ultimate fresh air experience and turns the ride to this scenic outpost of the Lucerne region into a unique treat.



Titlis

The ride up to the Titlis on the world’s first revolving aerial cableway is a truly spectacular experience. On this 3,000-metre (9,850-feet) summit, guests are greeted not only by a stunning mountain panorama but also by a variety of adventure-packed attractions – not to mention by sparkling snow and perpetual ice.

Tour highlights: Vibrant Cities.



Zurich

Zurich is many things. A city that wears its stories with pride and dignity, like a string of pearls. At the same time, it celebrates urban lifestyle in its diverse districts. Zurich is Switzerland's largest city, with vibrancy and flair in its DNA.



St. Moritz

In the heart of the magnificent Upper Engadin mountains, the international high society meets with much glitz and glamour for winter sports, evenings with friends and family in the best gourmet restaurants or top-class events in the powder snow.



Lugano

Nestled in a bay on the northern shore of Lake Lugano, Lugano lies between the mountain destinations of Monte San Salvatore and Monte Brè. Its Mediterranean-style buildings, narrow old town streets and subtropical vegetation give Lugano a special flair. The city is an architectural and cultural gem.



Lucerne

Urban flair or imposing mountains panoramas? World-class culture or fun at the lake? In Lucerne you don't have to choose: the beautiful, historic old town borders Lake Lucerne, the "dragon mountain" Pilatus rises in the background, and in between the Culture and Congress Centre hosts musicians and artists from all over the world.

[Discover more highlights on this route.](#)



Hidden Treasures Tour: urban charm, rolling countryside and Mediterranean grottos.



This route bridges two cultures: from the urban centre of Zurich, the Hidden Treasures Tour leads over the picturesque, lesser-known Lötschberg Line down to Bella Italia. The journey continues comfortably from Domodossola on the Vigezzina-Centovalli Railway through the Centovalli, the “100 valleys”, and then along the historic Gotthard Line back to the German-speaking part of Switzerland. Three days of urban charm, rolling countryside and Mediterranean grottos – semplicemente perfetto, simply perfect!

Tour highlights: Switzerland by train, bus and boat.



Luzern-Interlaken Express

The journey is its own reward: The train ride on the Luzern–Interlaken Express links two world famous destinations. And time flies – faster than is desirable! The blame lies with the Alpine panorama, the turquoise lakes and the numerous waterfalls that adorn the countryside along the way.



BLS Lötschberger

On many enjoyable roundabout routes, the RegioExpress Lötschberger carry travellers off to marvellous scenes and destinations. The impressive Kander Viaduct, the horseshoe bends around the Felsenburg and the lovely view of the Rhone Valley – these are just a few of the unique views passengers can only experience on the RegioExpress Lötschberger along the century-old Lötschberg route.



Vigezzina-Centovalli

The Vigezzina-Centovalli Railway connects the Gotthard and Simplon lines, linking Ticino with the Valle d'Ossola in Italy and with Valais via Simplon on the shortest possible route. The railway is not just a means of transportation. It is also an excursion train, that takes visitors through the magnificent landscapes of Centovalli and Valle Vigezzo.



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Brienzer Rothorn

Pure nostalgia: Since 1892, the Brienz Rothorn Railway has been steaming its way up to the Rothorn from Brienz – a genuinely intact Swiss cultural asset. Within one hour, the steam cog railway negotiates a difference in altitude of 1,678 metres (5,505 feet), passes through eight tunnels and ranks as an absolute must for railway enthusiasts



Schilthorn

The Schilthorn of the Jungfrau region offers pure mountain magic. Not only film stars get their money's worth at this former shooting location for a James Bond movie. Even the ride up the mountain is impressive: From Interlaken by train to Lauterbrunnen and onwards by bus, guests travel to the Stechelberg lower terminal in the Lauterbrunnental Valley. Then, passengers glide towards the Schilthorn in panoramic cabins, passing sheer rock faces and roaring waterfalls on the way. The arrival at the summit reveals a stunning panoramic view of the high Alpine mountain world, including the UNESCO World Heritage site with Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau.



Schynige Platte

Guests visiting the Schynige Platte by cog railway feel carried back to the "Belle Époque". This one and only nostalgia railway of its kind in Switzerland equipped with wooden benches and rolling stock dating from the 19th century is reminiscent of a bygone era and the pioneer spirit of the Bernese Oberland.



Monte San Salvatore

Lugano's home mountain and pinnacle of enjoyment - that's San Salvatore! The striking mountain south of the town boasts 360° views over the lake and environs, far south and to the high Alps in the west. The funicular railway up this landmark mountain starts in Lugano-Paradiso.



Rigi

This mountain is a realm of adventure. 365 days a year. Located between Lake Lucerne and Lake Zug, right at the heart of Central Switzerland, Mount Rigi is easily accessible from every direction. By train, bus and boat – simple as that. By mountain railway, visitors arrive right in the middle of the magnificent mountain world. Mount Rigi is a wonderful natural area with summits, valleys, forests and meadows. Cog railways, cableways, hiking trails, restaurants and hotels, as well as spa and sports facilities, make for an unforgettable excursion. In spring, summer, autumn and winter.



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Tour highlights: Vibrant Cities.



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Interlaken

Between Lake Thun and Lake Brienz lies Interlaken – a place where people generally stroll around with their heads craned upwards. Not that Interlaken itself isn't beautiful, but the views of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau are simply too spectacular.



Locarno

Southern plants such as palm trees or lemon trees flourish in Locarno and give the city its special charm. The heart of the city is the Piazza Grande, well-known for its annual film festival. The narrow lanes of the Old Town all lead to the Piazza. Castello Visconteo, a castle dating back to the 12th century, lies at the edge of the Old Town. About a fifth of the castle has been preserved in its original state. Splendid upper-town palazzi house fine art collections and the lake promenade offers relaxed strolling.



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Discover more highlights on this route.



Stunning Waters Tour. Lakes, rivers and waterfalls.



On this tour, travellers discover all shapes and sorts of the precious element of water. From small to large, from deep blue to sparkling turquoise, from straight to winding: every body of water can be marvelled at from the train – including of course Europe’s largest waterfalls, the Rhine Falls in Schaffhausen. Those who like to enjoy the water from up close complement this unique route with a relaxing (river) boat cruise.

Tour highlights: Switzerland by train, bus and boat.



Zurich – Luzern

The train journey from Zurich to Lucerne offers a picturesque journey through the Swiss countryside. Along the route, passengers experience a varied backdrop of rolling hills, sparkling lakes and charming villages. On a clear day, you can even admire the snow-capped peaks of the Swiss Alps in the distance.



Voralpen-Express

The Voralpen-Express is the most appealing way of travelling between Central and Eastern Switzerland. After a last lingering glance onto the picturesque scene of Lucerne and its beautiful lake, travellers move on to the impressive Rothenthurmer upland moor and charming Rapperswil. The journey continues over the gently undulating Toggenburg hills and the Sitter Viaduct – at 99 metres (325 feet) height regarded as Switzerland’s highest railway viaduct – finally arriving at St. Gallen, one of Eastern Switzerland’s urban centres. The beautiful city’s Abbey district is part of the UNESCO World Heritage.



Thurbo lake line

The voyage on the “Thurbo” along Lake Constance and the Rhine leads you through the Cantons of St. Gallen, Thurgau and Schaffhausen. The many villages with picturesque historic old towns along the route invite visitors to exploration tours.



Rhine River Cruise

A trip on the High Rhine from Schaffhausen to Stein am Rhein and on the Lower Lake to Konstanz/Kreuzlingen. Board the boat in Schaffhausen at the foot of the Munot fortress and pass by Hohenklingen castle and Reichenau, an island of culture and vegetable growing, before reaching Lake Constance on the upper shores of the Lower Lake.

Tour highlights: From stunning waters to famous mountain excursions.



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Säntis

The view from its summit takes in six countries: Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Lichtenstein, France and Italy. But the far distance isn't actually relevant at this moment – ideally you would stay on the mountain and in the moment forever. At 2,501m a.s.l., Säntis is the highest mountain in the Alpstein.



Lake Constance

Measuring 64 km in length and 12 km at its widest point, Lake Constance, which is sited at the tripoint of Switzerland/Germany/Austria, is the third largest lake in Central Europe. Scheduled boat services, allied with a range of attractive year-round offers and run by various companies from all three neighbouring states, operate on Lake Constance.



Rheinfalls

To stand high above Europe's largest waterfall, feeling the roar and vibration of the water over one's entire body - this can be experienced at the Rhine Falls near Schaffhausen. By ship one can reach castles, the Rhine Falls Basin and even the mighty rock in the midst of the waterfall.

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St. Gallen

Around 612 AD, the wandering Irish monk Gallus came to what is now Eastern Switzerland and founded a monastery – the basis for what would later become St. Gallen. In the Middle Ages it was one of Europe's most important centres for culture and education. The charming and cosy old town has preserved its medieval character to this day.



Schaffhausen

The Rhine flows in leisurely style through Schaffhausen, and it is pleasant to stroll the streets of the medieval town – perhaps to the Munot fortress, the city's proud landmark. And for urban flaneurs who share Sherlock Holmes' keen eye, the old town contains a total of 171 oriel windows. By seeking them, you can simultaneously embark on an exciting tour of the city.

[Discover more highlights on this route.](#)

Swiss Travel System ticket range – caters for all tastes.

Exploring Switzerland has never been easier! For foreign guests, the all-in-one ticket **Swiss Travel Pass** is the key to Switzerland's public transport network. This single ticket enables visitors to explore Switzerland from end to end by train, bus and boat on 3, 4, 6, 8 or 15 consecutive days.

Swiss Travel Pass – the all-in-one-ticket



The Swiss Travel Pass offers unlimited travel by train, bus and boat including panoramic routes (excluding seat reservation and/or surcharge) as well as public transportation in 90 towns and cities. Both, the mountain excursions to Rigi, Stanserhorn and Stoos and admission to more than 500 museums nationwide, are fully covered. Many mountain railways offer holders of a Swiss Travel System ticket a discount of up to 50%. Validity: 3, 4, 6, 8 or 15 consecutive days. Discount: Young travellers up to their 25th birthday receive a 30% discount on the regular Swiss Travel System ticket price.

Swiss Travel Pass Flex – the flexible solution

The Swiss Travel Pass Flex offers the same benefits as the Swiss Travel Pass – plus flexibility. **Validity:** 3, 4, 6, 8 or 15 freely selectable days within one month.

Swiss Half Fare Card – all of Switzerland at half the price

Up to 50% discount on journeys by train, bus, boat and mountain railways as well as public transportation in 90 towns and cities. **Validity:** one month.

All Swiss Travel System tickets are also available as e-tickets.

Over 500 museums included.



And that's not all: The Swiss Travel Pass also offers free admission to more than 500 museums throughout Switzerland – including many highlights, such as the newly modernised National Museum Zurich directly at Zurich main station. Furthermore, the Swiss Travel Pass opens the doors to the famous Chillon Castle on Lake Geneva, the Olympic Museum in Lausanne, or the FIFA World Football Museum in Zurich. Art enthusiasts should absolutely plan a visit to the Zentrum Paul Klee in Bern. Find an overview of all participating museums at: bit.ly/CHmuseum

Swiss Family Card – children travel free of charge.



Thanks to the Swiss Family Card, children between 6 and 16 years of age accompanied by at least one parent holding a valid STS ticket travel free of charge on the entire Swiss public transport network. The complimentary Swiss Family Card is available at all serviced train stations in Switzerland and through the online booking service. Children under 6 years of age travel free of charge. Children under 16 years of age travelling alone receive a 50% discount on the entire Swiss Travel System ticket range.

The Swiss Travel System AG.



Swiss Travel System AG is a Zurich-based marketing company, co-founded in 2011 by the Swiss Federal Railways (SBB), Switzerland Tourism and five private railway companies. Swiss Travel System AG's core mandate is to bundle and purposefully direct the marketing of Swiss public transport abroad. Its core tasks include the worldwide marketing of national traffic and of the incoming ticket range as well as the promotion of cross-border traffic from neighbouring countries.

Pictures are ready for download [here](#) & [here](#)

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