



Switzerland.
by train, bus and boat.

Grand Train Tour of Switzerland.

All highlights on one single route.

mystsnet.com/grandtraintour

Version 1, 2020



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An outline of all stages

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Facts.

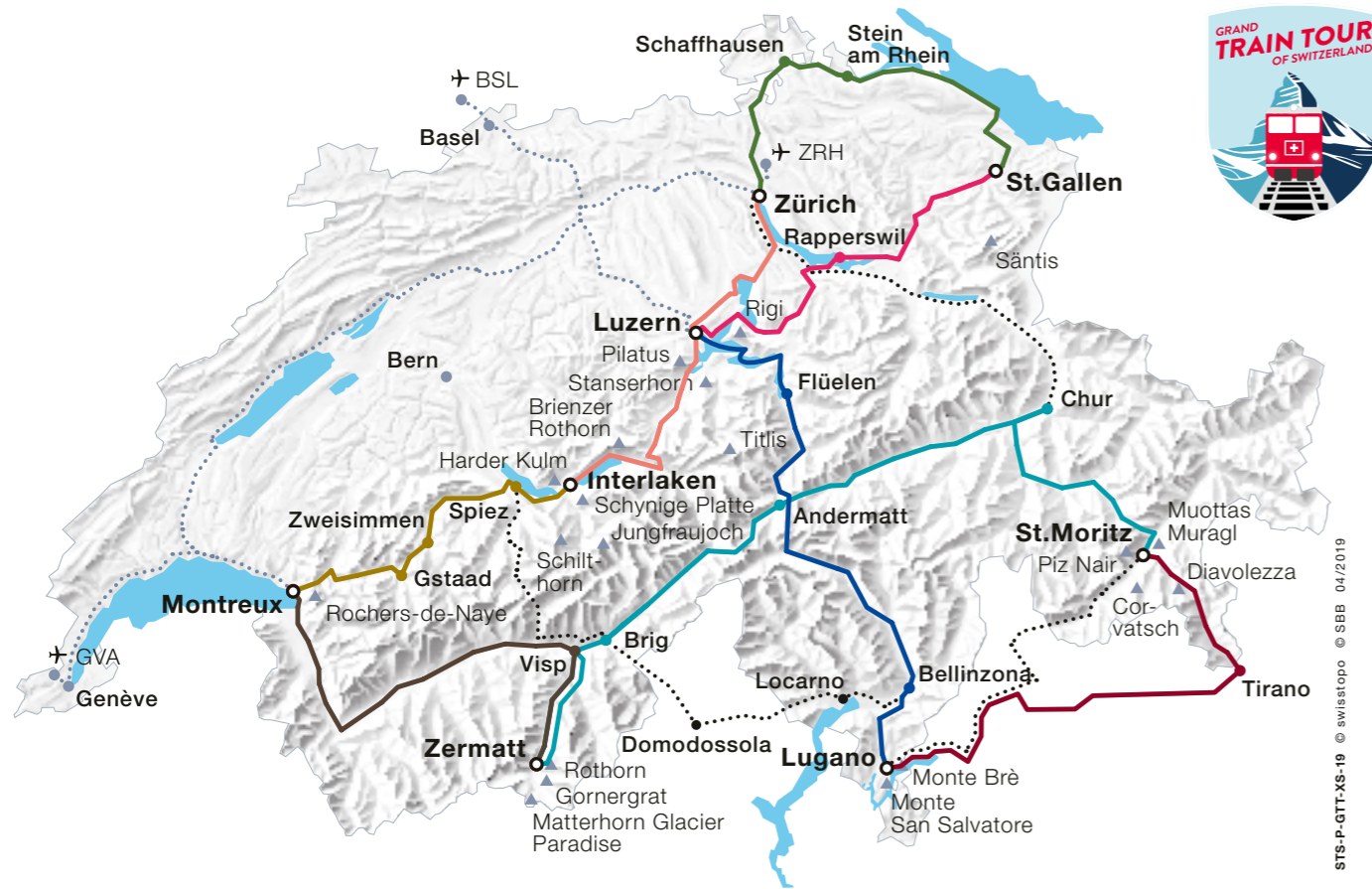
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20

The Grand Train Tour in brief.

On this tour, travellers discover all the highlights of the Alpine nation.

Exploring all sights and landmarks Switzerland has to offer from the comfort of the train. 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. There is no prescribed direction or duration. Travellers can hop on and off wherever they please. The Grand Train Tour of Switzerland is also a perfect companion for many mountain excursions.



Stages

Zürich–Luzern–Interlaken
⌚ 2 h 51 min

Interlaken–Zweisimmen–Montreux
⌚ 3 h 5 min

Montreux–Visp–Zermatt
⌚ 2 h 35 min

Zermatt–St. Moritz
⌚ 7 h 46 min

St. Moritz–Tirano–Lugano
⌚ 6 h 46 min

Lugano–Flüelen–Luzern
⌚ 5 h 25 min

Luzern–St. Gallen
⌚ 2 h 17 min

St. Gallen–Schaffhausen–Zürich
⌚ 2 h 34 min

Shortcuts

Zürich–Chur ⌚ 1 h 15 min

St. Moritz–Lugano ⌚ 3 h 33 min

Spiez–Brig ⌚ 1 h 8 min

Brig–Domodossola–Locarno–

Bellinzona ⌚ 3 h 8 min

The eight stages of the Grand Train Tour of Switzerland.

The great train experience is arranged in several route sections offering different focuses. Thus, Switzerland's entire diversity is made accessible and comes alive. Each stage promises thrilling railway adventures, magnificent scenery and numerous opportunities for discovery.



Stage 1: From Zurich to Interlaken

On the ride from Switzerland's largest urban centre to Lucerne, sparkling lakes and gentle hillsides dominate the scenery. Particularly the ride on the Luzern-Interlaken Express is amazingly beautiful for nature lovers – thanks to a magnificent mountain panorama and countless waterfalls.



Stage 5: From St. Moritz to Lugano

By the time the first glaciers sparkle through the train windows after Morteratsch, few passengers remain in their seats on the fire red train. On the Bernina Express ride down towards Tirano, one highlight follows the next. No end of scenic beauty can also be experienced on the Bernina Express Bus to Lugano.



Stage 2: From Interlaken to Montreux

Starting from Interlaken, guests first glide along Lake Thun and then through the Simmen Valley to Zweisimmen. Here, the GoldenPass Panoramic takes over. The Premium panoramic train gently takes its passengers from Zweisimmen towards Montreux. It runs past magnificent castles as well as peacefully grazing cattle and finally passes the German-French language border. On the last leg, it winds down through the hills – and with the arrival at Montreux visitors become engrossed in the Mediterranean flair of the region.



Stage 6: From Lugano to Lucerne

The Gotthard Panorama Express presents one of the most diverse sides of Switzerland: The 1st class panoramic train takes guests from the Mediterranean-style Ticino along the historic Gotthard Line to Flüelen. There, passengers change to a steam boat or motor vessel and leisurely cruise towards Lucerne.

Stage 3: From Montreux to Zermatt

Valley after valley. From the Rhone Valley the ride continues through the Nicolai Valley, Switzerland's deepest-incised valley. On its way from Visp to Zermatt and the famous Matterhorn, the Matterhorn Gotthard Railway has to overcome all of 900 metres in altitude.



Stage 7: From Lucerne to St. Gallen

It starts at Lake Lucerne against the backdrop of the prominent Alpine panorama of Central Switzerland: the Voralpen-Express. The ride offers views of spectacular peaks followed by the lake dam Rapperswil with a view of the castle and the lake and the Sitter Viaduct – Switzerland's highest railway bridge.



Stage 4: From Zermatt to St. Moritz

The Glacier Express travels over the Alps and connects fashionable Zermatt with the equally glamorous St. Moritz. Ceiling-high panoramic windows offer unobstructed views of imposing mountainscapes, deep ravines and picturesque valleys – scenic splendour at its finest.



Stage 8: From St. Gallen to Zurich

The stretch from St. Gallen to Zurich has the element water as its central theme. Together with Lake Constance and the Rhine, the spectacular Rhine Falls never fail to conjure amazement on visitors' faces. Thanks to the semi-circular routing, passengers get a perfect view of Europe's largest waterfalls right from the train.

Travel suggestions.

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

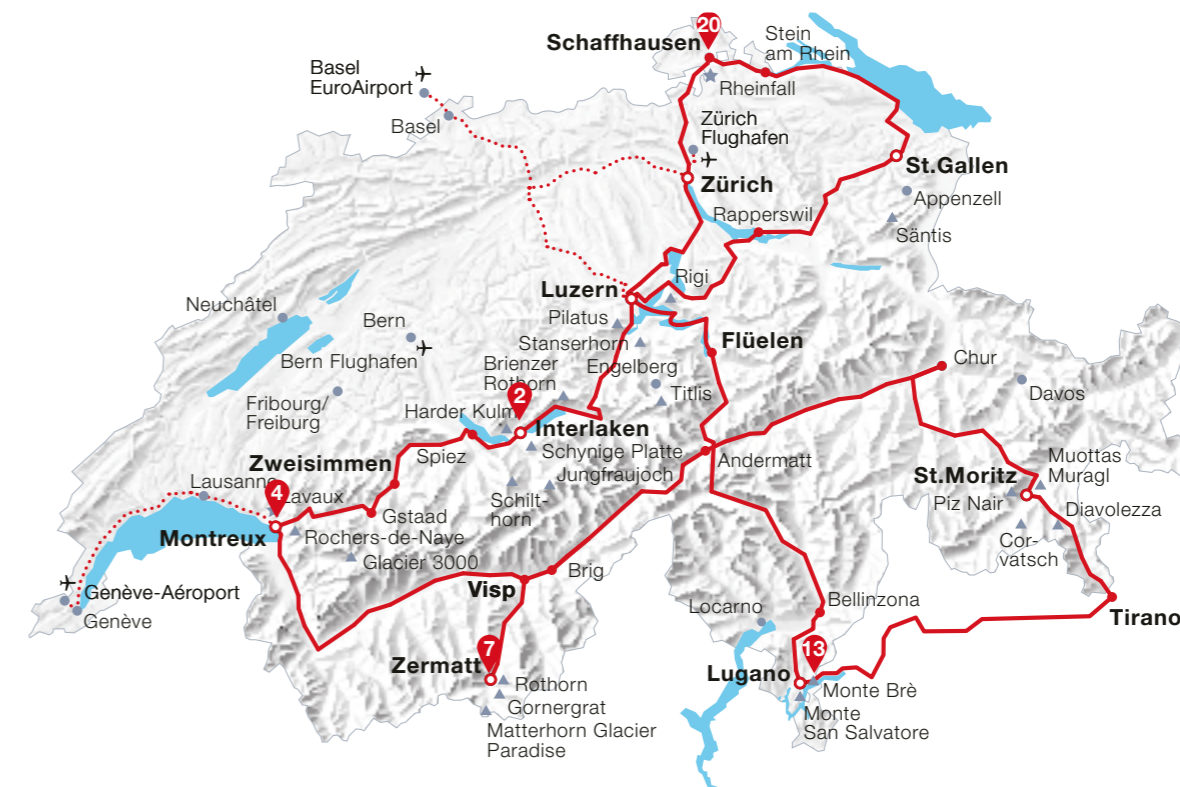
Glacier Express on the Landwasser Viaduct, Graubünden



Glacier Express in Oberalp, Uri

“Original” tour.

Whether fascinating panoramic lines or relaxed boat cruises: Switzerland by train, bus and boat is always a great experience. Just so with the Grand Train Tour of Switzerland. On the “Original” tour, guests travel on the panoramic trains to all the highlights and sights Switzerland has to offer. Getting in, leaning back and enjoying – whenever and wherever they wish.



STS-P-GTT-XS-19 © swisstopo 04/2019

Tour highlights

Detailed information about the highlights on pages 15ff.

- 2 Mountain excursions Jungfrau region**
- 4 Chillon Castle**
- 7 Matterhorn view**
- 13 Monte Bré**
- 20 Munot**

Further information

- Duration: 8 days/7 nights, or more
- Includes stages 1–8 (entire route)

Booking

Information about booking of the route suggestions on page 23



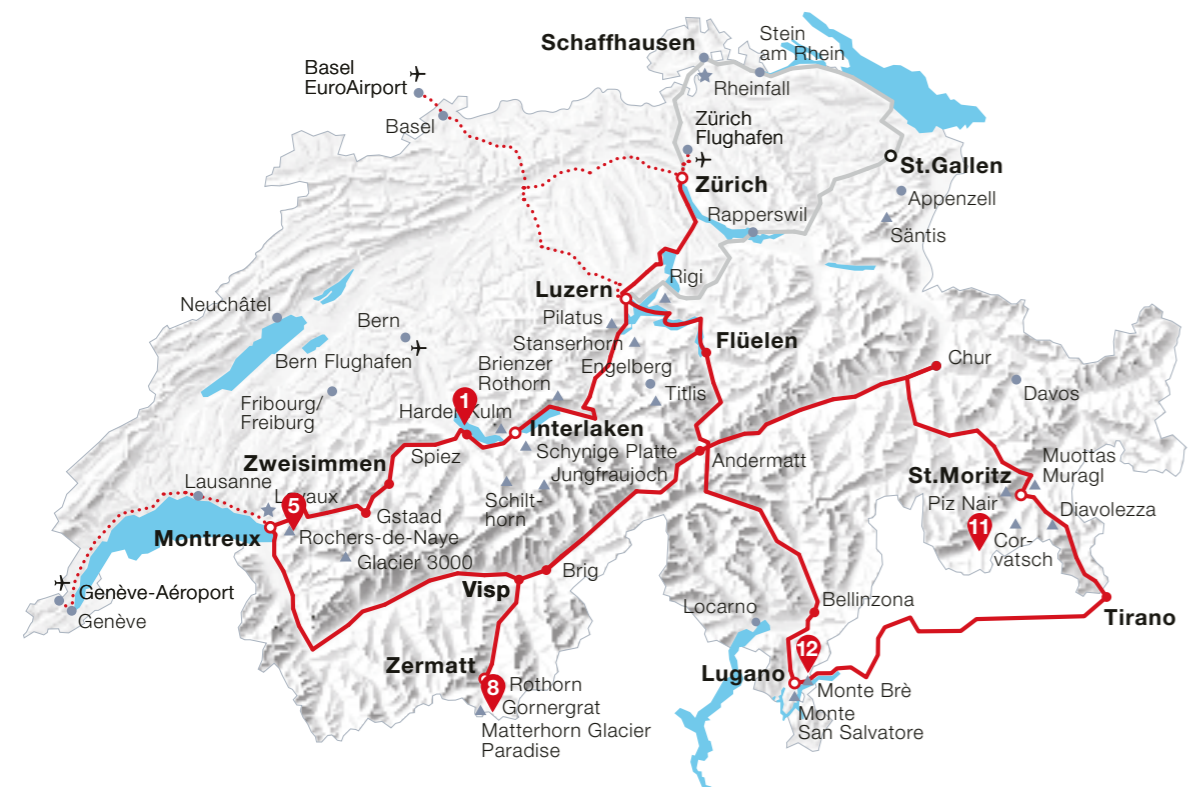
Luzern-Interlaken Express next to Lake Lungern, Central Switzerland



Luzern-Interlaken Express next to Lake Lungern, Central Switzerland

“Classic” tour.

Whether the view of the Matterhorn from Zermatt, the ride on the Glacier Express or the stroll over the Chapel Bridge in Lucerne – on this tour, one classic follows hot on the heels of the next. The “Classic” tour offers something of everything: picturesque towns, breathtaking train lines and thrilling mountain excursions.



Tour highlights

Detailed information about the highlights on pages 15ff.

- 1** Turquoise lakes
- 5** Rochers-de-Naye
- 8** Gornergrat
- 11** Upper Engadine lake district
- 12** LAC Lugano

Further information

- Duration: 7 days/6 nights, or more
- Includes stages 1 – 6 of the entire route

Booking

Information about booking of the route suggestions on page 23

“Top Attractions” tour.

A route packed with Swiss highlights – that’s the “Top Attractions” tour. It takes travellers to Interlaken, Lucerne, Montreux and Zermatt. World-famous mountains and numerous top sights and landmarks wait to be explored here.



Tour highlights

Detailed information about the highlights on pages 15ff.

- 2** Mountain excursions Jungfrau region
- 4** Chillon Castle
- 6** Lavaux – UNESCO World Heritage
- 9** Matterhorn Glacier Paradise
- 7** Matterhorn view

Further information

- Duration: 5 days/4 nights, or more
- Includes stages 1 – 4 of the entire route

Booking

Information about booking of the route suggestions on page 23



Gotthard Panorama Express with the church of Wassen



Regional train Thurbo at the Untersee near Ermatingen, Eastern Switzerland

“Glaciers & Palm Trees” tour.

This tour delivers on its promises: Starting from temperate regions, the train climbs up to more than 2,000 metres 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 – immersing themselves in a little “dolce vita” before tackling the historic Gotthard Line back to Lucerne.



Tour highlights

Detailed information about the highlights on pages 15ff.

- 1 Chapel Bridge**
- 10 Muottas Muragl**
- 11 Upper Engadine lake district**
- 14 Food & wine in the south**
- 17 Swiss Museum of Transport**

Further information

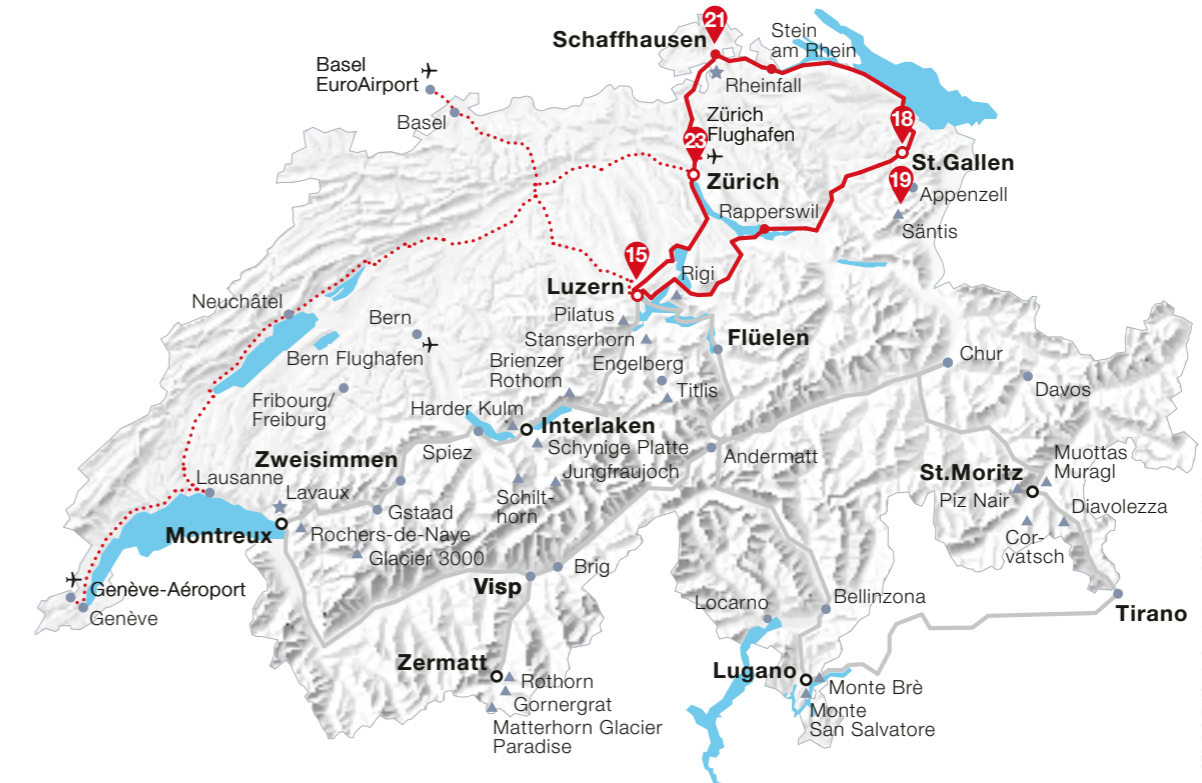
- Duration: 4 days/3 nights, or more
- Includes stages 1 (partly), 5, 6 of the entire route

Booking

Information about booking of the route suggestions on page 23

“Stunning Waters” tour.

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

Detailed information about the highlights on pages 15ff.

- 15 Chapel Bridge**
- 18 Abbey District**
- 19 Säntis**
- 21 Rhine Falls**
- 23 A diverse world of museums**

Further information

- Duration: 3 days/2 nights, or more
- Includes stages 7 and 8 of the entire route

Booking

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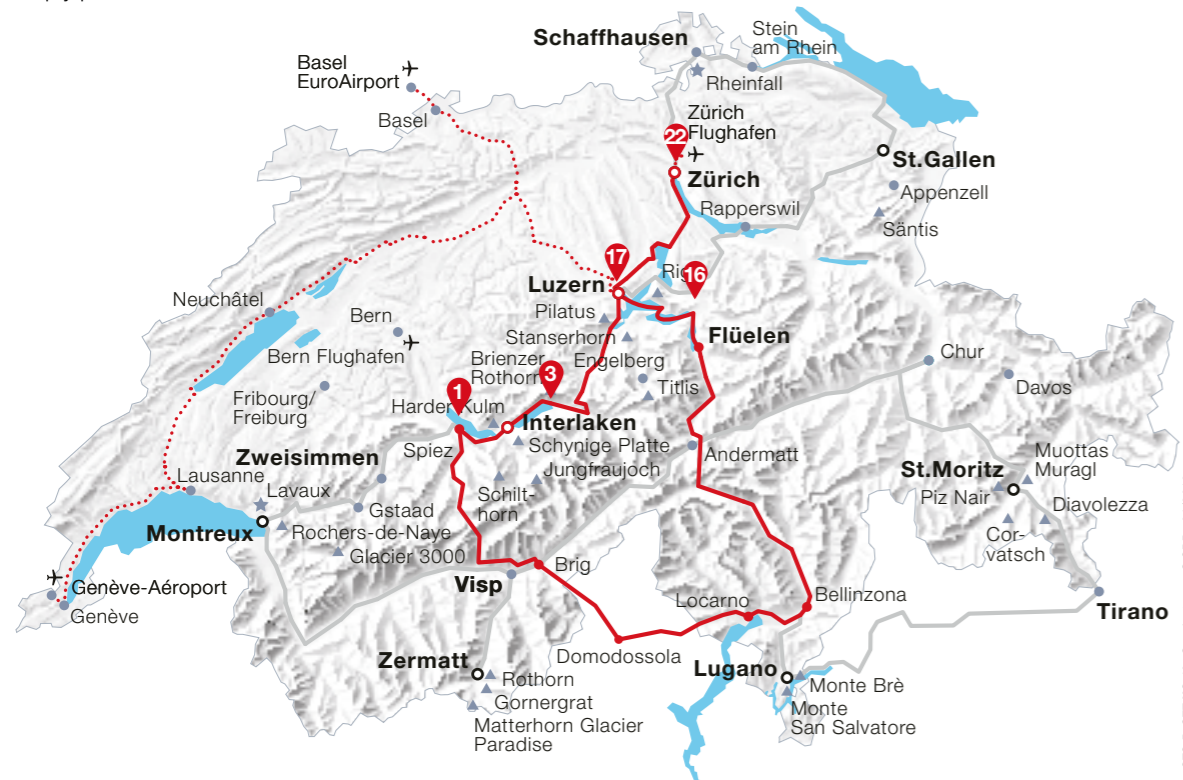


Regio Express Lötschberger, Luogelkin viaduct near Hochtenn, Valais

All highlights at a glance.

“Hidden Treasures” tour.

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 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

Detailed information about the highlights on pages 15ff.

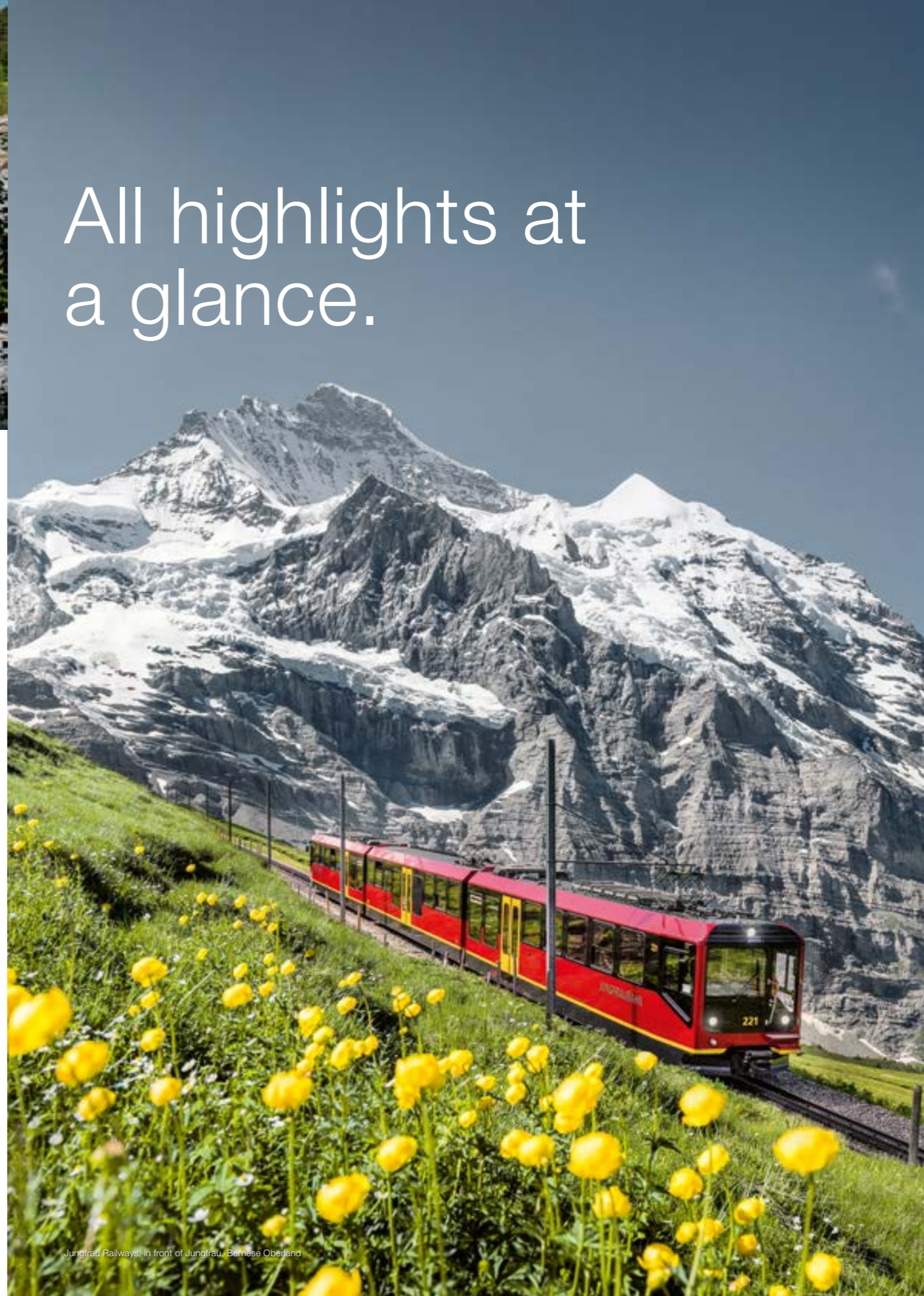
- 1 **Turquoise lakes**
- 3 **Open-air museum Ballenberg**
- 16 **Mountain excursion Lucerne region**
- 17 **Swiss Museum of Transport**
- 22 **Great Minster**

Further information

- Duration: 3 days / 2 nights, or more
- Includes stages 1 – 6 of the entire route

Booking

Information about booking of the route suggestions on page 23



Jungfrau Railways, in front of Jungfrau, Bernese Oberland



1 Turquoise lakes.



Interlaken sits in a unique location between Lake Thun and Lake Brienz, right at the foot of the imposing “big three” Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau. For many visitors this town is destination and starting point of long-cherished vacation dreams. Adventures are guaranteed: Paragliding, jetboat riding or river rafting are just a few among the many outdoor activities in Interlaken’s stunningly beautiful natural surroundings.

2 Mountain excursions Jungfrau region.



From Interlaken, the Jungfrauoch, Harder Kulm, Schynigge Platte and Schilt-horn are all just one breathtaking train ride away. All of them are captivating alright. The Jungfrauoch impresses with Europe’s highest railway station (3,454 m a.s.l.), the imprint of James Bond can be found on the Schilt-horn, and the Harder Kulm offers a view of the two lakes nestling between the mountains. Those are the superlatives of the Interlaken region.

3 Open-air museum Ballenberg.



A journey to the origins of Switzerland: Ancient Swiss farmhouses have been carefully taken apart at their original location and rebuilt at the open-air museum Ballenberg. More than 100 witnesses of the past have been assembled that way. However, the Ballenberg is actually more like a village than a museum: Visitors can participate in one of many handicraft workshops such as clay oven construction or horsehair braiding.

4 Chillon Castle.



It is one of the first sights that catches the eye of every visitor of Montreux: the magnificent Chillon Castle at the shores of Lake Geneva. In the 12th century, it was used as a strategic check point for passengers between the northern and southern parts of Europe. Nowadays, its doors are open to interested visitors. This attraction is easily accessible on foot and by train, bus or boat.

5 Rochers-de-Naye.



Right at the heart of Montreux sits the lower terminal of the cog railway up to the Rocher-de-Naye. At a leisurely pace, the train passes charming houses and splendid palaces, granting lovely views of Lake Geneva from various perspectives on its way to the summit. There, guests are greeted by whistling marmots in summertime – and by Father Christmas himself in the winter. In the warmer months, a visit to the Alpine garden is of course a real must.

6 Lavaux – UNESCO World Heritage.



They can be seen from the train from far away, the vineyards protected by UNESCO. Especially at sunset, the combination of the lake waters and the south-facing slopes covered in vines is ravishingly beautiful. Highly recommended for those who know how to appreciate the good things in life.

7 Matterhorn view.



Many people know Zermatt for its most famous landmark: the Matterhorn. Apart from the “Horn”, as the mountain is affectionately dubbed by the locals, beautiful timber chalets as well as luxurious hotels adorn the village, which is quite popular with a more affluent clientele. For, nestled in the Zermatt mountainscape, not only hiking, biking and skiing but also shopping, dining and drinking Champagne are the order of the day here.

8 Gornergrat.



Surrounded by no fewer than 29 4,000-metre peaks, the Gornergrat (3,089 m a.s.l.) offers an unforgettable 360° panorama. It provides the most beautiful view of the Matterhorn and Europe’s third-longest glacier. After a mere 33 minutes’ ride from Zermatt, the view opens onto a mountainscape that couldn’t be more magnificent. The hike to Lake Stellisee is highly recommended. Here, the Matterhorn is impressively reflected on the water’s surface – a perfect photo spot.

9 Matterhorn Glacier Paradise.



The panorama is unique: the largest glaciers of the Alps as well as a total of 38 breathtaking Italian, French and Swiss Alpine giants. Visitors are at 3,883 metres altitude and very close to Italian territory. Here, they look at the “beautiful rear” of the world-famous Matterhorn. Below lies Europe’s biggest summer skiing area, open 365 days a year.

10 Muottas Muragl.



A visit to the local mountain of St. Moritz is worthwhile, in summer as well as winter. In addition to a great view of the Engadine lake district, the Muottas Muragl also offers numerous hiking trails. On the “trail of philosophers” and the winter hiking trail, for example, visitors follow great thinkers, who once created their poems and paintings here.

11 Upper Engadine lake district.



So beautiful it looks almost surreal: The lake plateau between Maloja and St. Moritz characterises the image of the Engadine scenery. It is recreational paradise and picture-perfect postcard scene all rolled into one. Travellers on the Grand Train Tour of Switzerland best explore the magnificent, deep blue Engadine lakes on a lake hiking tour or a leisurely stroll along the shoreline. Apart from the four large, well-known valley lakes, many smaller mountain and moor lakes in the forests or higher up are tempting destinations as well.

12 LAC Lugano.



Attention art lovers! In Lugano, right at the lake, a new cultural asset has opened its doors: the LAC Lugano Arte e Culture. The cultural centre mainly focuses on the fine arts, performing arts and music. The many temporary exhibitions, events and theatrical productions guarantee an exciting experience every time.

13 Monte Bré.



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 Bré not only offers a spectacular panoramic view but also functions as a perfect starting point for many hiking and biking tours.

14 Food & wine in the south.



Yum... Wine from sun-kissed vineyards and dishes “della nonna”: Lugano offers lovers of good food a diverse Italian culinary experience. The locals have even devoted a special tour to this passion: On the Food & Wine Tour, typical specialities from the Canton of Ticino together with delicious, bright red Merlots can be sampled. For a more individual experience, the Grotti Tour can be booked. Here, a boat takes guests to a Grotto of their choice.

15 Chapel Bridge.



Lucerne thrives on the contrast between history and modern age. Especially the Chapel Bridge, built in 1356, with its prominent water tower characterises the cityscape of Lucerne. Tourists and locals alike admire this wooden construction and have made it their No 1 photo subject. What makes it so special? Its carefully designed decoration showing a beautiful picture cycle.

16 Mountain excursions Lucerne region.



Lake Lucerne is surrounded by the prominent mountains of the Central Switzerland Alpine panorama. Rigi, “Queen of the mountains”, Pilatus with the world’s steepest cog railway, and Titlis with the Rotair cableway are known well beyond the borders of Switzerland. The Stanserhorn with the CabriO cableway, unique in the world, also counts among the mountain highlights of the Swiss heartland. How wonderful that these mountain excursions can be combined with a delightful boat cruise.

17 Verkehrshaus – Swiss Museum of Transport.



It takes at least a full day to discover and explore everything there is to see at the Swiss Museum of Transport: From aviation and space travel to railway traffic and cableways to seafaring – all in an interactive exhibition. To cap it off, a visit to the IMAX cinema is in order: Thanks to the biggest screen in Switzerland (500m²), visitors can literally immerse themselves in the film.

18 Abbey District.



Located right in the heart of the historic Abbey District is the oldest library of Switzerland, the “Stiftsbibliothek” (Abbey Library). Its priceless holding of books ranges from Irish manuscripts – dating back to the time of the 7th to the 12th century – to ivory tablets dating from the year 894. It’s no surprise then that the Abbey Library has been awarded UNESCO World Heritage status in 1983. The baroque library hall, which one is only allowed to enter with slippers, is open to interested visitors year-round.

19 Säntis (Appenzell).



This adventure mountain of Eastern Switzerland inspires with a magnificent view: From its summit, visitors can see Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Liechtenstein, France and Italy all at the same time. Against this backdrop, Säntis hiking tours in the “Appenzellerland” are truly highly recommended.

20 Munot.



The Munot Fortress towers high up on the hill and gives the medieval town of Schaffhausen its unique character. The building, dating back to the 16th century, is Schaffhausen's uncontested landmark. The town itself is no less splendid: medieval house fronts, no fewer than 171 beautiful bay windows, winding alleys and comfortable street cafés invite visitors to linger.

21 Rhine Falls.



Over a width of some 150 metres, the roaring mass of water tempestuously thunders down. The Rhine Falls between Neuhausen and Laufen are the largest waterfalls in Europe and can be reached from the train stop “Neuhausen am Rheinfall” in a matter of minutes. On platforms and boats, visitors get to experience this natural spectacle from up close.

22 Great Minster.



It is truly impressive how the two 64-metres-high towers dominate the cityscape of Zurich. The Great Minster, a Protestant church, sits right in the centre of the old town. According to the oldest existing written records, its construction is believed to date back to the 8th century. Apart from its towers, the neo-Gothic dome of the Great Minster is also considered an architectural gem.

23 FIFA World Football Museum.



The Kunsthaus Zürich, with a collection of 4,000 paintings, statues and art installations, has ranked among Zurich's most important cultural assets since 1787. About 100 years later, the Landesmuseum (National Museum) next to the Main Station opened its doors. The newest addition to the Zurich world of museums is the FIFA World Football Museum, where everything revolves around football (soccer) and how this sport inspires people around the world. An absolute must – even for football “poopers”.

All about the Grand Train Tour of Switzerland.

myTravel Stamp Booklet.



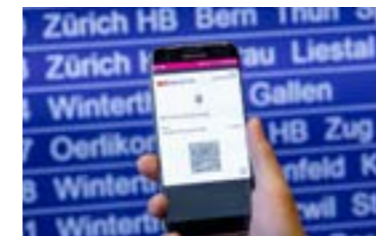
With the purchase of a Swiss Travel Pass or at every starting point of the Grand Train Tour of Switzerland stages, travellers can obtain the myTravel Stamp Booklet. Nine individual and unique stamps can be collected along the most beautiful train tour of Switzerland with this booklet. However, the myTravel Stamp Booklet is more than just an attractive public transport souvenir: It impresses with a prize competition and a wealth of invaluable travel tips.

Certificate.

Each stage of the Grand Train Tour of Switzerland is a highlight in itself. In order to help visitors to remember this wonderful experience for a long time, the Grand Train Tour of Switzerland Certificate has been created. It's simple: Select the routes and print. MySwitzerland.com/certificate



Swiss Travel Pass.



The Swiss Travel Pass is the key to public transport in Switzerland. With one single ticket, travellers get to explore Switzerland by train, bus and boat during 3, 4, 8 or 15 days. All stages of the Grand Train Tour of Switzerland are included, as is public transportation in more than 90 towns and cities. On top of it all come free admission to over 500 museums throughout the country and up to 50 % discount on most mountain railways. Hence, this all-in-one-ticket is the perfect companion for travellers on the Grand Train Tour of Switzerland.

Grand Train Tour of Switzerland app.



All “must-sees” along the Grand Train Tour of Switzerland at a glance: The new app offers this and much more besides. Apart from receiving push notifications about upcoming sights and landmarks, travellers get a chance to playfully collect stamps and credits. Those who have collected enough can achieve the distinction of becoming “Master of the Grand Train Tour”. A coveted title. On top of it all, there are presents and discounts via integrated digital coupons to be had.



Facts.

Route length	1,280 kilometres / 795 miles
Etappen	8
Tickets	The Grand Train Tour can be combined individually with the Swiss Travel Pass product range.
Booking	All official Grand Train Tour of Switzerland route suggestions can be booked as packages via grandtraintour.com .
Packages Trade	All Grand Train Tour of Switzerland travel suggestions are also available as tailor-made tickets for system partners. Tour operators and agents without access to the distribution system can book packages at special B2B conditions with Raitour Suisse and the Switzerland Travel Center (STC).
Seat reservation	Seat reservation is required and subject to surcharge on Glacier Express, Bernina Express and Gotthard Panorama Express. Seat reservation is recommended on the Luzern-Interlaken Express and all GoldenPass trains.
Timetable	General timetable information about all routes are available at sbb.ch . Timetables of the premium panoramic trains are available at: mystsnet.com/grandtraintour
Further information	Detailed information about the Grand Train Tour of Switzerland is available at mystsnet.com/grandtraintour (media/trade) GrandTrainTour.com (end customers)





#chateauchillon #montreux



#gornergrat #zermatt



#montebello #lugano



#chapelbridge #lucerne



#santis #appenzellerland



#rhinefalls #schaffhausen