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## Day 2 – Gornergrat & Matterhorn

Experience breathtaking views of the Matterhorn and the Alps in an excursion that combines a cogwheel train ride with an easy to moderate day hike. You'll ride on Europe's second-highest railway and the highest open-air railway on the continent. Gornergrat cogwheel train climbs up to 10,134 feet (3089 meters) and offers incredible views of the Matterhorn along the way.

Our group will walk up to the 360-degree platform that provides a panoramic view of 29 alpine peaks higher than 13,123 feet (4000 meters), including the world-famous Matterhorn. Depending on your fitness level and interests, you can join our guide for a 1 to 2-hour guided hike along sign-posted trails of an alpine nature reserve featuring awe-inspiring views of the Matterhorn mirrored in pristine alpine lakes.

The guide will recommend a lunch spot with a great view, or you can choose to eat back in Zermatt. In the afternoon, you will have the option to join a guided tour of Zermatt and learn about its history and how it became one of the world's best-known winter resorts.

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## Day 3 – GoldenPass Line, Interlaken & Grindelwald

Today we will travel through the lush green cantons of Fribourg and Bern with one of the world's most picturesque Swiss railways, the GoldenPass Line.

After leaving Zermatt, we will travel through the canton of Valais, famed as one of the most important vine-growing regions in Switzerland. After arriving in Montreux, the capital of the Swiss Riviera, we will change trains to the Goldenpass Line connecting Montreux with Interlaken. We continue on the GoldenPass Line through the Préalps of the canton of Fribourg and through the beautiful Simmental Valley, known for the sturdy brown and white cows and the world-famous resort town of Gstaad, home to many Hollywood stars.

In Interlaken, we will stop for an immersive chocolate workshop with a professional chocolatier, where you will learn all about the art of chocolate making. At the end, you will create your own unique chocolate bar, which you can bring home. After the workshop, we will continue to Grindelwald.

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## Day 4 – Jungfrauoch & Trümmelbach Falls

Today, our journey begins with an ascent from Grindelwald Terminal to Eiger Glacier with an ultra-modern panoramic Eiger Express gondola. Next, we will board the famous Jungfrauobahn, an electric cogwheel railway that opened in 1912 and connects Kleine Scheidegg and Jungfrauoch, the highest railway station in Europe.

Jungfrauoch, a mountain pass nestled between the Mönch and Jungfrau mountains, offers unparalleled views of Europe’s largest glacier: the Aletsch Glacier. The Jungfrauoch station offers an endless list of activities, from visiting the ice palace to climbing up the Sphinx tower and learning about the origin of the Jungfrau Railway.

In the afternoon, we descend from Jungfrau to Kleine Scheidegg where we will board a train to Lauterbrunnen. We will transfer to a postal bus en route to the mesmerizing Trümmelbach Falls. This natural wonder consists of ten glacier-fed waterfalls concealed within the mountain, accessible via a tunnel-funicular complex built in 1913. These falls cascade with the force of up to 20,000 liters (over 5000 gallons) of glacier meltwater per second, crashing over rock boulders, creating a continuous spectacle that resonates with the sheer magnificence of nature.

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## Day 5 – Reichenbach Valley, Gotthard Tunnel & Lugano

Today, we are going to leave Grindelwald and head to Lugano. In the morning, we will board the Postal Bus in Grindelwald for a scenic ride over the Grosse Scheidegg before we reach the Schwarzwaldalp. Here, we will change buses with time to visit the old Schwarzwaldalp sawmill.

Continuing our journey, we will pass by the renowned Reichenbach Falls, famously featured in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s “The Final Problem” as the dramatic setting for the showdown between Sherlock Holmes and Professor Moriarty. Once in Meiringen, we transfer to the Central Railway and travel over the Brünig Pass to Lucerne, where we connect to the next train and proceed to ride through the world’s longest tunnel, the Gotthard Base Tunnel. We will reach the Italian-speaking region of Ticino in the afternoon.

After checking in to the hotel in Lugano, we will have a couple of hours of free time to relax or stroll around the town's center. In the evening, we will travel across Lake Lugano to an authentic local restaurant, "Grotto," where we'll enjoy an authentic Ticinese dinner.

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## Day 6 – Bellagio & Lake Como Cruise

Today, we will discover one of the most fascinating Italian lakes, Lake Como. We will travel by local Italian bus from Lugano to Menaggio, then board the Lake Como boat to Bellagio.

We will visit the most beautiful town on the lake: Bellagio. We'll stroll on the cobbled sun-soaked streets that lead us down to the glistening blue lake surrounded by the Alps. We will see some of the most famous and beautiful villas that line the sunny upper shores of Lake Como with its microclimates and the amazing gardens that touch the lake.

Today, we will enjoy lunch in a typical Italian restaurant in Bellagio before continuing by boat to Como. We will be cruising surrounded by mountains, sparkling water, and opulent villas while relaxing in the peaceful atmospheres of one of the most beautiful lakes in Europe.

After arriving in Como, we walk through the town, exploring sights and local shops and admiring the beautiful Duomo di Como (Como's Cathedral).

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## Day 7 – Panoramic Gotthard Train & Lucerne Lake Cruise

Today we depart the Italian part of Switzerland heading North through the original Gotthard tunnel built in 1882. It connected the North Sea and the Mediterranean Sea facilitating the movement of goods and people between Northern & Southern Europe.

We will have 3 different views of the Wassen church, which has become world-famous thanks to the ingenious railway system and its many helical tunnels. In Fluelen, we board a steamboat and glide over Lake Lucerne, past mystical bays and picturesque landscapes, all while savoring culinary delicacies.

We will pass countless locations steeped in Swiss history – most notably the Rütli meadow, where Switzerland was founded in 1291, and the Schiller Stone and Tell's Chapel.

In Lucerne, we'll take a train to Zurich. We should arrive in our hotel by early evening.

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## Day 8 – Departure

Today is departure day.

We wish you a safe onward journey to your next destination.