



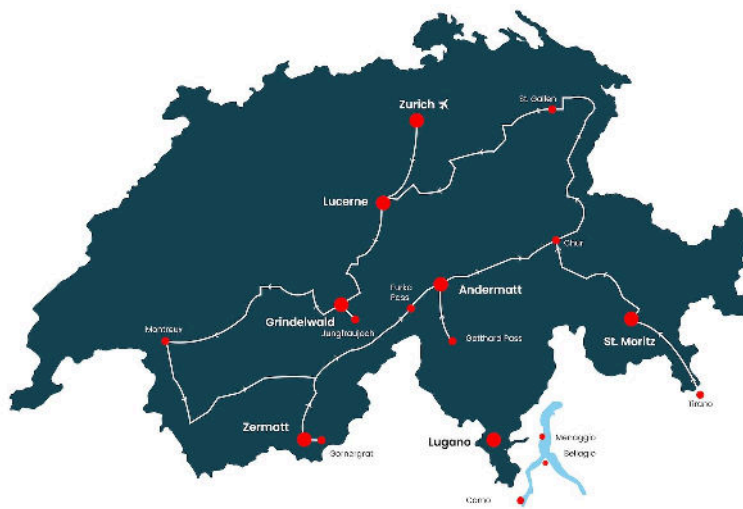
Grand Train Tour Of Switzerland

13 Days; Itinerary for 2025

Dates: Fixed departure dates

Price: from \$9,255

Max number of participants: 16



Day 1 – Arriving at Zurich Airport

Welcome to Switzerland!

Today is your arrival day. You must be very tired from the flight, but don't worry, you will spend the night in Zurich.

The Hotel is close to the Airport so it's really easy to reach. The guide won't be there, however we will send all the details you need in order to have the smoothest travel experience.

At the hotel you'll have the time to check-in and slowly accommodate yourself, so you'll be ready for the upcoming adventure!

Day 2 – Lucerne & Mt. Rigi

Today, your adventure begins with a warm welcome from your Guide at 9:30 am at the Hotel. There will be an itinerary briefing and a Q&A session, providing a perfect opportunity to meet your fellow travellers and clarify any questions you might have about the journey ahead.

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After the briefing, we'll start the day with a trip to Mount Rigi where we'll board 140-year-old cogwheel train to Rigi Kulm. At the top we will have an opportunity to take in the spectacular 360 degrees view of the Alps, glaciers, green meadows dotted with cows and, of course, Lake Lucerne. After that we will take another cogwheel train to Vitznau. Here we will board a boat and take a cruise back to Lucerne.

In the late afternoon we'll take a leisurely stroll around the old town learning more about the history of Lucerne and its most important sights. We will stop at the historic Chapel Bridge, Lion Monument, St. Leodegar's Church, and other sites of interest.

Today evening, we'll dine at one of Lucerne's fine restaurants in the city center.

Day 3 – Mt. Pilatus & Cheese Farm Visit

Today we are going to visit another famous mountain, Pilatus, where we will board the world's steepest cogwheel train (48% gradient). On the summit we will have about 1 hour to enjoy all the activities: admire a stunning panorama on the Alps, the Lake Lucerne, do a short hike, watch a documentary movie about Mt. Pilatus or simply enjoy a cup of coffee.

To descend the summit we will take a gondola down to Kriens where we will hop on the train and then bus to Seelisberg.

There we will visit "Aschwanden", a local cheese farm run by the fourth generation of the Aschwanden family. Here you will hear first-hand how the farm cooperates with local farmers, learn about the process of cheesemaking and sample an original "Bergkase", mountain cheese.

Depending on the schedule, we will get to see "Rütli" where, as the legend has it, Switzerland was founded in 1291. Here you will be able to enjoy the magnificent Swiss Alps scenery as seen across the Lake Lucerne. From there we will take a steamer for a 2-hour cruise back to Lucerne.

Dinner at the city center.

Day 4 - Chocolate workshop and Trümmelbach Falls

Today we're taking the train to Interlaken where we'll stop for an immersive chocolate workshop with a professional chocolatier. Here you will learn all about the Swiss impact on the chocolate industry, the art of chocolate making and how to attest the quality of chocolate. At the end you will create your own unique chocolate bar you can bring home.

After the workshop we will have a nice one hour and a half lunch break, where you will be free to explore any restaurants of your choice.

We will then board a train to Lauterbrunnen. Here 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 (5283 gallons) of glacier meltwater per second, crashing over 20,000 tons (over 40 mln pounds) of boulders, creating a continuous spectacle that resonates with the sheer magnificence of nature.

From there we will continue our journey with one last connection to Grindelwald in the Jungfrau region, where we will arrive in the late afternoon.

Day 5 - Grindelwald Eiger Express to Jungfrauoch

Today our journey begins with an ascent from Grindelwald Terminal to Eiger Glacier with an ultra-modern panoramic Eiger Express gondola. Here we will be able to admire Eiger Glacier covering the hills of the famous "Ork" mountain.

We will board the famous Jungfraubahn, an electric cogwheel railway opened in 1912 connecting 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 endless list of activities: from visiting ice palace, to climbing up the Sphinx tower, and learning about the origin of the Jungfrau Railway.

In the early afternoon, we descend from Jungfrau to Kleine Scheidegg and we will get back to Grindelwald where you can enjoy the rest of the day.

Day 6 - GoldenPass Line to Zermatt

Today we will experience the lush of one of the world's most picturesque Swiss railways, the Goldenpass Line. After arriving in Interlaken, we will change trains to the Goldenpass Line connecting Interlaken with Montreux, the capital of the Swiss Riviera.

Our destination is the renowned charming Zermatt, where we'll arrive in the late afternoon.

Day 7 - Gornergrat Railway & Matterhorn

Experience breathtaking views of Mt. Matterhorn and the Alps in an excursion that combines a cogwheel train ride with an optional easy to moderate day hike.

Gornergrat Cogwheel Railway is a 125-years-old narrow gauge line that's Europe's second-highest railway and the highest open-air railway on the continent. It climbs up to 10,134 feet (3089 meters) and offers incredible views of the Matterhorn along the way.

At the top of Gornergrat we will have a selection of activities to do. Our group will walk up to the 360-degree platform area, providing a panoramic view of 29 alpine peaks higher than 13,123 feet (4000 meters), including the world-famous Matterhorn. Those who wish to do so, can embark on an immersive experience at Zoom the Matterhorn. Here, thanks to VR, you can experience what it's like to glide above the Matterhorn.

From there, those who wish to do so, will for for 1,5h hike from Rotenboden to Riffelberg. The path leads along sign-posted trail of an alpine nature reserve, featuring awe-inspiring views of the Matterhorn mirrored in pristine alpine lakes.

From here the itinerary is flexible and depends on the weather. The guides can suggest the best places for lunch up in the mountains or in Zermatt. After lunch, you can explore Zermatt on your own, go shopping or relax.

Our guides will be happy to take you on a 1-hour-long guided tour of Zermatt: learn more about how people lived here more than 200 years ago and visit Zermatt's "Old Village".

Day 8 – Furka Steam Train

Today, we say adieu to Zermatt and set off for a thrilling journey on the historic Furka Steam Train. This train, a marvel of Swiss engineering, originally opened in 1926, was once a crucial link between the cantons of Valais and Uri. After being closed in 1981 due to the new Furka Base Tunnel, it was lovingly restored by railway enthusiasts and reopened in the 1990s as a heritage railway.

At midday, the group will take a ride to Oberwald, where the day's main attraction awaits: a 2-hour trip on the original cogwheel Furka railway. This exciting tour from Oberwald to Realp traverses the second highest rail crossing in Europe, after the Bernina Pass. As we journey through breathtaking landscapes, you'll enjoy unparalleled views of the Rhone and Mutt glaciers.

Our final destination today is the picturesque village of Andermatt. We'll arrive in the late afternoon, just in time to savor a delightful dinner at a charming local restaurant.

Day 9 - Gotthard Military Bunker & Andermatt

In the morning, we'll take a yellow Postal Bus up to the Gotthard Pass summit. After a 20-minute ride we will take a short walk from the station to the recently declassified military bunker built during WWII to protect Switzerland's southern flank from invading forces. We will enjoy an exciting 1-hour guided tour led by a Swiss military historian.

In the afternoon we'll be back in Andermatt. Here you will have options of things to do. You can go to the hotel and relax, walk around the village, explore the Chedi hotel, and/or walk or take the train to the famous Devil's Bridge.

The Devil's bridge, which was built from wood back in the 13th century and replaced by a stone bridge in about 1585, provides access to the Schöllenen Gorge today and carries traffic across the Gotthard pass from north to south and vice versa. The stone bridge has been replaced and extended several times over the years. The newest bridge dates back to 1956.

Day 10 - Glacier Express to St. Moritz

Today we are going to travel on the famous Glacier Express from Andermatt to St. Moritz. During this breathtaking journey you will be able to admire countless natural and man-made wonders. From circle tunnels and impossibly high viaducts to the Rhein Gorge (dubbed Swiss "Grand Canyon") and sky-high peaks around Oberalp Pass at (2033 meters/6000 feet), Glacier Express provides unforgettable experience through many Swiss UNESCO National Heritage Sites.

During this panoramic journey you will enjoy the comfort of a first-class car, access to a restaurant coach and all amenities before arriving at St. Moritz in the afternoon.

Upon arrival in St. Moritz, we'll indulge in a delightful local cuisine experience at the hotel.

Day 11 - Bernina Express to Tirano

Today our group will board the famous Bernina Express to travel across the highest railway in the Alps, a route that offers spectacular views of mountain peaks, glaciers and waterfalls. These are the Alps at their most impressive.

We will board the train early in the morning and enjoy a spectacular 2-hour ride through the Pontresina valley up to Ospizio Bernina located at a staggering 2,253 meters (7392 ft) above sea level. En route, prepare to be mesmerized by the breathtaking sight of the majestic Morteratsch Glacier. As we gradually descend towards Poschiavo, the landscape unfolds before us, culminating in a memorable border crossing into Italy. Our journey concludes with a final stop in Tirano, where we'll take in the charm and culture of this Italian town.

Here we will enjoy an authentic north-Italian lunch and stroll around the picturesque old town, making sure to pass by the local must-sees such as Santuario Madonna di Tirano and Palazzo Salis.

Returning in the afternoon by train, our journey leads us back to St. Moritz after a scenic 2-hour ride. Upon arrival in St. Moritz, our adventure continues with a ride on the legendary funicular to the summit of Muottas Muragl. Here, amidst awe-inspiring views of the peaks and lakes that shape the upper Engadine valley, we'll indulge in a delightful dining experience at a panoramic restaurant.

Day 12 – St. Gallen Abbey Library & Zürich

Today we're leaving St. Moritz for our next destination: Zurich. In the morning we'll start our journey to Chur and board the Glacier Express route, where you can admire several engineering marvels such as Landwasser viaduct, Albula line and a few spiral tunnels.

After our lunch break, we'll be traveling through the rolling landscapes of Eastern Switzerland to St. Gallen where we'll visit the Abbey Library—one of

the oldest libraries in the world. Built in the 9th Century A. D., the library stores priceless manuscript collections from the Carolingian and Ottonian periods.

Once in Zürich we'll have dinner at a local restaurant in the heart of town, the Zeughauskeller. There is also time for your Guide to provide a walk-through in the old parts of the city. Towards evening we head to the Zürich main station and take the train to our Zürich airport hotel and check you in.

Day 13 – Zurich & Beyond

Today is departure day.

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

Meals included: Breakfast.