



SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS

# Switzerland: The Alps to the Italian Lakes

11 4 18

DAYS CITIES GUESTS (MAX)

Switzerland's turquoise lakes and soaring snow-capped mountains stir the soul like few places in Europe, while the charms of cities like Zurich and Bern swap alpine beauty for Old World architecture and hearty meals. On this enriching journey that combines the beautiful Swiss Alps with Italy's glorious Lakes District, discover the region's people, traditions and culinary splendors backdropped by rugged natural wonders.

- 
- ✦ Arrive in Zermatt in style on the Glacier Express, which affords first-class seating, unique glass ceilings and views of Switzerland's beautiful mountain scenery
  - ✦ Gain private access to Bern's landmark Zytglogge bell tower for an intimate guided visit
- 
- ✦ Savor famously smooth Swiss chocolate during a tasting workshop at an independent producer
  - ✦ Discover Lake Maggiore by private boat, and savor a special farewell dinner on beautiful Isola Bella

If you are ready for a luxury experience,  
email for more info: [advisor@zeigstravel.com](mailto:advisor@zeigstravel.com)

**Christina Zeigler**  
YOUR PERSONAL TRAVEL ADVISOR

# Switzerland: The Alps to the Italian Lakes

11 DAYS | JUNE 5 - OCTOBER 2  
FROM \$15,995 | 18 GUESTS



## Day 1 | Arrive Zurich, Switzerland

Arrive in Zurich, Switzerland's largest city and one with a well-deserved reputation for offering a high quality of life, among the best in the world. You are met and transferred to your hotel, where you meet your fellow guests this evening for dinner.

MANDARIN ORIENTAL SAVOY, ZURICH  
 DINNER

## Day 2 | Zurich - Breathtaking Views & Scenic Paths

Enjoy a guided walking tour of Zurich this morning, taking in its alluring mix of modern and Old World architecture while strolling its wide, pedestrian-friendly avenues. Zurich is known for its churches, and your walk incorporates several noteworthy ones, including the Fraumünster, with its Marc Chagall-designed stained glass windows, and the Grossmünster, supposedly founded by Charlemagne and later playing a key part in establishing the Reformation in Switzerland. After lunch at a local bierkeller (beer cellar), gather for a sweet finish with a visit to an independent chocolate producer. Learn about the fascinating history and production of Swiss chocolate at the last manufacturer who still starts with the raw cacao beans.

MANDARIN ORIENTAL SAVOY, ZURICH  
 BREAKFAST, LUNCH

## Day 3 | Lucerne - Peaks of the Alps

Travel to Lucerne, on the shores of its beautiful lake, and stroll the streets of this medieval jewel. The city's most famous landmark is the Chapel Bridge, the oldest covered wooden bridge in Europe. Its interior is decorated with vivid paintings, many of which date back to the 17th century and depict events from the city's history. You also visit Corn Market Square and the nearby Old Town Hall, built in 1602. There is time for lunch at leisure or further exploration. Continue to Alpnachstad and board the cogwheel train for a ride on the world's steepest railway to the top of Mt. Pilatus. Descend via a cable car and alpine gondola. Continue to your hotel in Bern, named for the bears that may still be seen in Europe's wilderness.

BELLEVUE PALACE  
 BREAKFAST, DINNER



## Day 4 | Bern - Capital City

This morning, discover the charms of Switzerland's intimate capital, strolling delightful old streets and stepping inside the Zytglogge for a private, guided visit of this legendary medieval clock tower. Enjoy the rest of your day at leisure, free to relax or explore on your own. Tonight, dine at your elegant hotel.

BELLEVUE PALACE  
 BREAKFAST, DINNER

## Day 5 | Interlaken - Play the Alphorn

Travel to the pretty mountain village of Habkern and partake in two Swiss traditions. Enjoy a special class with a yodel teacher and a lesson in the history of the famous alphorn. Once, these massive horns were used by herdsmen on the mountain slopes to communicate with people in the valleys below; today, they are enjoyed as musical instruments, and your lesson includes the option to play one yourself. After lunch, visit scenic Interlaken and cruise beautiful Lake Thun, surrounded by the glory of the Alps. Return to Bern for an evening at leisure.

 BELLEVUE PALACE  
 BREAKFAST, LUNCH

## Day 6 | Zermatt - All Aboard the Glacier Express

Drive to Stans for a visit to the Culinarium Alpinum, a center where chefs, schnapps distillers, farmers, butchers, sommeliers, cheesemakers and master bakers come together to help preserve Alpine culinary heritage. Join a guide for a tour with tastings, culminating in a traditional Swiss fondue lunch. Then, board the renowned Glacier Express, traversing majestic scenery in your first-class carriage, and enjoying dinner onboard before arriving in the mountain town of Zermatt — a popular waypoint for Alpine explorers.

 GRAND HOTEL ZERMATTERHOF  
 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

## Day 7 | Zermatt - Design Your Day



Today, enjoy one of these Design Your Day activities:Enjoy the remainder of your day at leisure.

- Ascend to the Summit of Gornegrat Mountain by cog railroad to take in vistas of the Matterhorn and more.
- Hike in the Zermatt Mountains with an expert guide to see picturesque alpine lakes that reflect jaw-dropping scenery.
- Indulge in a Spa Experience, taking advantage of your hotel's exceptional amenities for a relaxing massage.

 GRAND HOTEL ZERMATTERHOF  
 BREAKFAST

## Day 8 | Stresa, Italy - Shores of Lake Maggiore

A short train ride takes you out of Zermatt today. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant in the spectacular Simplon Pass before arriving in the Italian Lakes District and the beautiful resort town of Stresa, nestled on the shores of Lake Maggiore. Ernest Hemingway set portions of his World War I novel A Farewell to Arms here, although he didn't actually visit in person until 1948. Settle in to your lakeside hotel and enjoy a Scenic Sundowner overlooking the glittering lake, followed by a fine dinner.

 HOTEL LA PALMA  
 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER



## Day 9 | Stresa - Picturesque Island

Drive to Orta San Giulio, a charming medieval town resting upon a shimmering lake. The town occupies a promontory commanding wide views over the lake and farther shore, and its shaded streets are made for wandering. Take a boat to the nearby island of San Giulio to see its Benedictine monastery and church. Legend claims the island was once infested by serpents and monsters that terrorized local villages, until patron saint Julius of Novara arrived with a great storm at his back and banished them forever. Return to Stresa in the afternoon.

 HOTEL LA PALMA  
 BREAKFAST, LUNCH


## Day 10 | Stresa - Lush, Alpine Lake Maggiore

This morning, relax and enjoy the amenities at your hotel, stroll the local market in Stresa or just sit in a café and watch the world go by. Later, board a private boat for a tour of Lake Maggiore and its islands, renowned for their impressive gardens. On beautiful Isola Bella, enjoy a special farewell dinner with your fellow guests as the sun sets over the surrounding mountains.

 HOTEL LA PALMA  
 BREAKFAST, DINNER

## Day 11 | Depart Milan

Transfer this morning to Milan Malpensa Airport for your onward travel.

 BREAKFAST



DATES & PRICES

Plan Your Trip for 2025

- English Speaking Resident Tour Director® and Local Guides
- Airport Meet and Greet with Private Transfers
- Travelling Bell Boy® Luggage Handling
- Traveller's Valet® Laundry Service
- Internet Access
- Entrance Fees, Taxes and All Gratuities Except Resident Tour Director
- 24/7 A&K On-Call Support

Prices are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy.

June 5 - June 15	From \$15,995
June 12 - June 22	From \$15,995
June 26 - July 6	From \$15,995
July 17 - July 27	From \$15,995
September 4 - September 14	From \$15,995
September 11 - September 21	From \$15,995
September 18 - September 28	From \$15,995
September 25 - October 5	From \$15,995
October 2 - October 12	From \$15,995



Christina Zeigler