

## DETAILED ITINERARY

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# Fly Rail> Swiss> Swiss-Mountain Railways

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### **Day 1 Arrival at Zurich Airport**

Welcome to Switzerland

On arrival at Zurich International Airport, make your way to the train station which is connected to the airport and board the train to Lucerne. **On arrival in Lucerne make your way to the hotel and check in.**

Day is free, for you to explore the city at your own pace.

Lucerne, a compact city in Switzerland known for its preserved medieval architecture, sits amid snowcapped mountains on Lake Lucerne. Its colorful Altstadt (Old Town) is bordered on the north by 870m Museggmauer (Musegg Wall), a 14-century rampart. The covered Kapellbrücke (Chapel Bridge), built in 1333, links the Altstadt to the Reuss River's right bank.

Overnight in Lucerne



## Day 2 Lucerne

Breakfast at the hotel. Today make your way to the train station and enjoy a ride in the first revolving gondola to Mount Titlis at 3020 m/10'000 ft. In Lucerne you board the LSE-train to Engelberg. There a small gondola takes you up to the Trübsee. You continue your trip by another gondola to Stand. Finally the revolving gondola takes you up to Mount Titlis. For a spectacular, close-up insight into a glacier, you visit the glacier cave and ride the Ice Flyer chairlift. And get your thrills on the TITLIS Cliff Walk, a spectacular Suspension bridge at a height of 3041 m/10'000 ft.

Overnight in Lucerne

## Day 3 Lucerne-Interlaken

After breakfast check out at the hotel and make your way to the train station. Experience the rail journey from Lucerne to Interlaken over the Brünig Pass via the wood-carving village of Brienz.

Day is free, for you to explore the city at your own pace.

Interlaken is a traditional resort town in the mountainous Bernese Oberland region of central Switzerland. Built on a narrow stretch of valley, between the emerald-colored waters of Lake Thun and Lake Brienz, it has old timber houses and parkland on either side of the Aare River. Its surrounding mountains, with dense forests, alpine meadows and glaciers, has numerous hiking and skiing trails.

Overnight in Interlaken

#### **Day 4 Interlaken**

After your breakfast prepare yourself for an exciting journey to the highest mountain in Europe. The journey will start from the beautiful Bernese Oberland! First from Interlaken Ost via Grindelwald or Wengen to the Kleine Scheidegg, at the foot of the famous Eiger North Wall. Then by Jungfrau Railway via the Eiger Glacier to the Jungfrauoch – at 3454 m/11,333 ft the highest railway station in Europe. Views of the Aletsch Glacier, the longest glacier in the Alps.

Overnight in Interlaken

#### **Day 5 Interlaken-Zermatt**

Breakfast at the hotel. Check out at the hotel and make your way to the train station. Travel either via the Lötschberg base tunnel directly to Visp and further to Zermatt. Or by the RegioExpress Lötschberger – the train with big windows using the Lötschberg mountain route, passing the imposing Kander Viaduct, the helical tunnel around the Felsenburg and the descent to Brig with the imposing view onto the Rhone Valley and continue your journey to Zermatt ([www.bls.ch/loetschberger](http://www.bls.ch/loetschberger)). Zermatt, at the foot of the Matterhorn, is the perfect Alpine resort. On arrival you might take the opportunity to go on an optional excursion to Rothorn paradise to enjoy the best view of the Matterhorn.

Day is free, for you to explore the city at your own pace.

Zermatt, in southern Switzerland's Valais canton, is a mountain resort renowned for skiing, climbing and hiking. The town, at an elevation of around 1,600m, lies below the iconic, pyramid-shaped Matterhorn peak. Its main street, Bahnhofstrasse is lined with boutique shops, hotels and restaurants, and also has a lively après-ski scene. There are public outdoor rinks for ice-skating and curling.

Overnight in Zermatt

#### **Day 6 Zermatt**

Breakfast at the hotel. Today board the cogwheel railway up to the Gornergrat, with views of the majestic Matterhorn, Monte Rosa and other spectacular summits. The Gornergrat Railway is a mountain rack railway, located in the Swiss canton of Valais. It links the resort village of Zermatt, situated at 1,604 m above mean sea level, to the summit of the Gornergrat.

Overnight in Zermatt

### Day 7 Zermatt-Zurich / End of trip

After breakfast. The day is free until checkout time. Board the train from Zermatt to Zurich airport for your onward flight or continue your stay in Switzerland at your own request.

## TOUR COST, TERMS & CONDITIONS

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**AED 6950/-** per person, prices are based on twin sharing.

**Duration:** 7 Days / 6 Nights.

**Destinations:** Lucerne, Interlaken, Zermatt, Zurich.



The rates are subject to availability at the time of booking request. Rates include airfare, hotel, and ground transportation. Additional charges may apply for in Govt taxes, or hotel charges a surcharge, or BAR rates (Best available rate) without notice. The exchange rate is subject to change. Please ensure you have valid permits & valid passport. The best source of visa information is the





## Accommodation

3 nights accommodation in Rio de Janeiro based on double room o  
2 nights accommodation in Foz de Iguassu based on double room o  
3 nights accommodation in Buenos Aires based on double room o



## Transportation

Land transfers and tours in Rio de Janeiro & Iguassu on SIB basis v



## Sightseeing

Sightseeing tours mentioned in the program.



Meals

Daily breakfast.



Insurance

Complimentary travel insurance.



Taxes

All airline and hotel taxes.

## EXCLUSIONS



- Visa fees.
- International airport departure tax.
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary.
- Items of personal nature viz. telephone calls, drinks, laundry
- Except all above mentioned in inclusion.

## TRAVEL TIPS

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**Switzerland** is a mountainous Central European country, home to numerous lakes, villages and the high peaks of the Alps. Its cities contain medieval quarters, with landmarks like capital Bern's Zytglogge clock tower and Lucerne's wooden chapel bridge. The country is also known for its ski resorts and hiking trails. Banking and finance are key industries, and Swiss watches and chocolate are world renowned.

**Trip Planning:** The planning stage of your trip can be instrumental in its success and an enjoyable part of the experience itself. You have a world of options...and plenty to consider.

**Entry and Exit formalities:** Visitors must hold a passport valid for at least six months & beyond at the time of entering the country. Some nationalities can obtain visa on arrival and for nationalities who requires visa please refer to the Swiss consulate website: <https://www.vfsglobal.ch/switzerland/uae/>. Switzerland is part of the 26 Schengen State Countries.

**Transportation:** Figuring out how to get around is one of your biggest pre-trip decisions. Get our holiday expert best advice on deciding between your options. Based on your trip itinerary, our experts will help you choose wisely. You'll also find a wealth of practical travel tips.

**Money:** Use your money wisely. Know the best time to use cash or card — and how to avoid unnecessary fees either way — as well as tipping etiquette, and how shoppers can take advantage of VAT refunds.

**Phones and Technology:** Phones and other smart devices can be huge time-savers...or expensive distractions. Get our tips for making the best use of technology during your trip, and for calling home with or without your own phone.

**Packing Light:** On your trip you'll meet two kinds of travelers: those who pack light and those who wish they had.

**Sleeping and Eating:** Your hotel and restaurant choices can be a matter-of-face chore...or they can provide rich opportunities to connect with locals and their culture.



**Health & Hygiene:** Take comfort: Doctors, hospitals, laundrettes, and bathrooms aren't that different. Dealing with them can even be part of the fun of travel.

**Sightseeing & Activities:** Once you're on the ground, the real fun begins...but it pays to have a thoughtful plan. Our experts will help you get oriented to your surroundings, use your sightseeing hours wisely, and find your way off the beaten path.

### **Things do & see:**

**Ski the Matterhorn** — Switzerland offers the best skiing in the world, and the Matterhorn is the epitome of it all. You'll have to take a train or bus into the area as cars aren't allowed. Not only do you need to ski here, but you can come to admire what's truly a pollutant-free area. And, if you miss ski season, come hike the mountain in the summer. It's not easy but the views of the surrounding countryside are some of the best I've seen in Switzerland.

**Join in the Fasnacht Spring Carnival in Basel** — This three-day festival is a three day long party that welcomes in the warm weather. Nothing in the town shuts down. It's something that's highly anticipated by both tourists and locals. Everyone here is in a good mood!

**Explore Geneva** — As the third largest city in Switzerland, Geneva offers spectacular views of the city's lake (Lake Geneva), a plethora of museums, the world's largest fountain, the UN, a historic city center, and a collection of international restaurants to satisfy anyone's palate (thanks to the UN buildings in town).

**Visit the capital, Bern** — The capital of Switzerland, Bern has an amazing historic town center that you'll want to walk around all day long (though it only takes a few hours). It's filled with ancient clocktowers, cobblestone streets, churches, and buildings. Be sure to walk the river way (and surrounding park), relax with a good book, visit the history museum, and check out the local bear!

**Hike Mt. Pilatus** — Located right outside the city of Lucerne, this beautiful mountain has breathtaking views of the alps. From the city, you can take a cable car to the top or (better yet) hike its trails to the top to look out over the Swiss Alps.

**Picnic at the Rhine Falls** — Pack a picnic lunch and look out at your view of Europe's largest waterfall. Nearby in the town of Schaffhausen, you'll find a medieval castle which also houses a hostel for cheap but interesting accommodations.

**Explore St. Gallen** — The seventh largest city in Switzerland, St. Gallen boasts beautiful museums, colorful murals, and one-of-a-kind architecture.

**Interlaken** — Interlaken is one of the outdoor capitals of the country (though it's quite touristy during peak season). There is a lot to do here for the adrenaline-seeker: skydiving over the Swiss glacier, water-skiing, skiing, hiking, etc. This is also ground zero for backpackers since there's so many free outdoor activities.

**The old Villages** — Visit the Graubunden area of the country, where you'll find villages with houses dating back to the 13th century. Here they also speak an ancient language called Romansh, which has died out everywhere else in the country and take great pride in keeping the tradition alive.

**Swiss Riviera** — The "Swiss Riviera" is situated in Lavaux (Canton of Vaud) and goes along Lake Geneva. You can visit vineyards that overlook the lake, the castle

Château de Chillon, and the town of Montreux, which is famous for its annual jazz festival. It's where you can hob knob with the well heeled jet set of the region!

**Montreux** — With a picturesque castle (Chateau de Chillo) lying at the edge of a lake, this area makes for a pretty romantic destination. Tour the castle, which dates all the way back to the 11th century and inspired the likes of Lord Byron, Mary Shelley, and more. The town was also the home of Freddie Mercury and there is a statue here in his honor.

**Discover rural culture in Appenzell** — This small village of 7,000 lies in the canton of Appenzell Innerrhoden. There are no cars and the village has upheld much of its local traditions and culture. Its location near the foot of the Alpstein mountains makes it a great gateway for participating in summer and winter outdoor activities.

**Lucerne** — You can't get much more of a typical Swiss destination than Lucerne. Located on the beautiful Lucerne Lake, the city offers a wonderful combination of urban life and nature.

**Zurich** — With a hopping nightlife, filled with endless bars and restaurants, this cosmopolitan city is bustling with activity. Zurich (spelled Zürich) is also set on a beautiful lake, near the mountains, and is close to a lot of other cities. It's a very international city and you'll find expats and students from all around the world living and working here. I love the historic center that opens up on the lake, sitting in the parks, and drinking a beer on the lakefront. The city is also very arty and full of street art and exhibitions.