

# **Majestic Switzerland**

### Interlaken | Vevey

#### **Inspiring Moments**

- Journey by train, bus, boat and foot to witness and explore Switzerland's spectacular Alpine scenery.
- ► Feast your eyes on the soul-stirring landscapes of the **Bernese Oberland.**
- Surround yourself in the unspoiled natural wonders of the Lauterbrunnen Valley.
- Sip crisp wine at a vineyard in Lavaux, one of the world's most celebrated and captivating wine regions.
- Cruise on Lake Geneva and see Château de Chillon, a romantic medieval fortress.
- From sweet to savory, tempt your palate with chocolate and cheese in Gruyères.
- ► Travel by steam-train up the Brienzer Rothorn, reveling in the breathtaking **Bernese Alps.**
- ► Experience two UNESCO World Heritage sites.

#### ALUMNI CAMPUS ABROAD®

#### ACTIVE TRAVEL

#### Excursions on this program require:

- ▶ walking distances of up to 3-5 miles, sometimes uphill or downhill
- walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths and/or uneven and slippery surfaces
- getting on/off motor coaches, boats and/or trains, gondolas and funiculars
- ► tolerating high altitude conditions



Alphorn musicians

**B**ask in the splendor of the incredible Swiss Alps! During stays in the historic cities of Interlaken and Vevey, you will enjoy a fascinating encounter with both the French-speaking and the German-speaking regions of Switzerland. Follow decadent chocolate aromas down cobbled lanes and amble through meadows bursting with flowers. Stand in the shadow of mountain peaks that pierce the sky and thrill to epic vistas from cable cars, cogwheels and gondolas. From undulating summits and glassy lakes to legendary castles and verdant foothills, you will celebrate every moment of this once-in-a-lifetime adventure!

#### Day-by-Day Itinerary

#### Day 1 | In Transit

Depart for Zürich, Switzerland.

#### Day 2 | Zürich, Switzerland | Interlaken

Transfer **t** to the Hotel Carlton-Europe in Interlaken.

**Discovery:** *Welcome to Interlaken!* The beauty and ambience of sweet Interlaken welcome you upon arrival. Join your Travel Director for an introductory walk around this culture-rich town.

Meet your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception and Dinner tonight.

#### Day 3 | Kandersteg | Oeschinensee

**Enrichment:** *Mountaineering.* Switzerland enjoys a long tradition of mountain climbing. Learn about this popular pastime, which draws enthusiasts eager to tackle the challenging peaks of the Swiss Alps.

**Discovery:** *Lake Oeschinen.* The enchanting Bernese Oberland — a portrait of shimmering lakes, cotton-ball clouds and impossibly tall mountains — beckons from the windows of your train on a journey to Kandersteg, followed by a gondola ride up to Lake Oeschinen. Stretch your legs on a gentle hike to the glacial lake, passing meadows filled with grazing cows and sheep. Take in the glorious views before you and inhale the sweet scent of wildflowers.

Back in Kandersteg, unwind over a hearty lunch before traveling back to Interlaken via train.

#### Day 4 | Brienz | Rothorn

**Discovery:** *Brienz and the Rothorn.* Brienz is worldrenowned for its enchanting backdrop, charming wooden chalets and centuries of wood-carving traditions. At the Brienz Rothorn Railway station, built in 1892, board a steam train for a breathtaking ride to the top of the Rothorn. Soak up unparalleled vistas and relax in the sunlight while digging into a delicious lunch. Return to Brienz and take a lake cruise to Interlaken.



#### Day 5 | Lauterbrunnen Valley | Mürren

**Discovery:** *Lauterbrunnen Valley.* Hop aboard a train to the Lauterbrunnen Valley. Ride in a cable car to Grütschalp. Then hike along a gentle forest path to Winteregg and on to the timeless, car-free town of Mürren. Delight in the setting before you where craggy mountaintops loom above an emerald valley. On a clear day, you may witness the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau peaks that complement the landscape. Descend from Mürren by aerial cable car through a quintessential Swiss portrait of wildflowers and mountainscapes.

**Connects:** *Local Culture.* Enjoy an authentic dining experience with regional cuisine, a local folkloric singing group and Alpenhorn music.

#### Day 6 | Gruyères | Vevey

Transit the high Jaun mountain pass to Gruyères.

**Discovery:** *Gruyère Cheese.* Visit a countryside dairy farm where you'll see a demonstration on how to make Gruyère cheese, plus enjoy a tasting.

**Free Time:** Make your own discoveries in Gruyères where the aromas of chocolate and coffee emanate from the cafés bordering the streets.

**Discovery:** *Swiss Chocolate.* During an interactive tour at a chocolate factory, learn about the history of the product, see how raw ingredients become divine concoctions of milk, dark and white chocolate, and nibble on some sweet treats.

**Discovery:** *Welcome to Vevey!* Join your Travel Director for an enjoyable walk around Vevey, perched idyllically along Lake Geneva.

#### Day 7 | Montreux | Lavaux

**Discovery:** *Montreux.* Stylish Montreux has inspired artists, musicians and literati for centuries. Cruise on Lake Geneva to see the 13th-century Château de Chillon. The castle once housed the dukes and counts of Savoy and rises from a rocky promontory,

**Discovery and Enrichment:** *Lavaux Wine Region.* Journey to the fertile, UNESCO-listed Lavaux vineyard region, where stone walls, sun-kissed hills and rolling terraces create a fairy-tale landscape. This region was once heavily wooded until monks of the Benedictine

## Curche SWITZERLAND Brienz Cavadux Verey Montreux Geneva

and Cistercian monasteries turned the land into productive vineyards in the 11th century. Nearly all the Swiss wine remains in Switzerland so it can be difficult to find it outside the country. Learn about the region's viniculture, visit a winery and enjoy a tasting and lunch.

Free Time: Your afternoon is at your leisure.

#### Day 8 | Zermatt

**Discovery:** *Zermatt.* Begin the day with a scenic drive from Vevey to Täsch; then travel via train to Zermatt, a resort town snuggled against a mountain backdrop. This car-free village is a trove of fanciful chalets and appealing shops. Since Zermatt is located at the end of the Matter Valley, you may see the prominent peak of the Matterhorn on a clear day. If you choose, you may (at an additional cost) ride the 30-minute cog railway to the Gornergrat to see glorious panoramas.

#### Day 9 | Vevey

**Free Time:** Enjoy a full day at leisure in Vevey. Join a Farewell Dinner tonight.

#### Day 10 | In Transit

Transfer **C** to the Geneva airport for the return flight **C** to your gateway city.

#### **Included Features**

- Accommodations {with baggage handling}
- -4 nights in Interlaken, Switzerland, at the first-class Carlton-Europe.
- -4 nights in Vevev
- at the first-class Astra Hotel Vevey.

#### Transfers {with baggage handling}

 Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program.

#### **Extensive Meal Program**

- -9 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 4 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Opportunities to sample authentic, local cuisine.

#### Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- Small group: Sized just right at 24 guests.
- AHI Travel Assurance plan covers Accident and Sickness Medical Expense, Trip Delay and Emergency Evacuation for U.S. residents.
- **Discovery excursions** highlight the local culture, heritage and history.
- Expert-led **Enrichment programs** enhance your insight into the region.
- AHI Sustainability Promise: We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.
- **CALL Connects:** Local immersion.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- -Welcome Reception to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- -Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.



#### 2023 Departures & Pricing

#### July 26 – August 4, 2023

¢1 205*
\$250
\$4,545

Special Price from \$4,295\*

\*Special price available for a limited time. Call for details. VAT & port tax supplement are an additional \$295 per person. All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Single accommodations are an additional \$850 (limited availability). Program-specific terms and conditions are available at https:// norcar.ahitravel.com/destinations/1693A?schoolld=114. You can also request a copy from our travel experts.

**Note:** Itinerary sequence and/or scheduled events may change. Walking is required on many excursions.

Flights 3 and transfers 3 provided for AHI FlexAir participants.