



# Swiss Alps & the Italian Lakes

## Inspiring Moments

- ▶ Witness majestic scenery carved by ancient glaciers aboard the historic **Bernina Express**, the highest rail crossing in the Alps.
- ▶ Indulge in the cosmopolitan ambience of **St. Moritz**, a jet-set resort town.
- ▶ Cruise on **Lake Como**, soaking up vistas of golden sunlight and azure waters.
- ▶ Stroll through beautiful botanic gardens while listening to the melodies of birds on the **Borromean Islands**.
- ▶ Wind your way over the stunning **Maloja Pass**, a canvas of pristine lakes and picture-perfect villages.
- ▶ Gaze at Leonardo's incredible **"The Last Supper"** during a visit to Milan.
- ▶ Discover the secrets of northern Italy's cuisine during a **cooking lesson**.
- ▶ Experience two **UNESCO World Heritage sites**.



Bellagio, Lake Como

ALUMNI CAMPUS ABROAD®

From the bewitching glory of St. Moritz, Switzerland, to the Italian Lakes, fall in love with two beautiful, culturally distinct countries. Begin in the mountain resort of St. Moritz and journey by train to colorful Zuoz. Gaze at dramatic vistas of snowy peaks aboard the Bernina Express during your ride to Tirano. Explore Tremezzo, sitting on the shores of Lake Como, and cruise to Bellagio and the town of Como, celebrated for their captivating allure. Stroll through flourishing gardens in the Borromean Islands, witness da Vinci's spectacular "The Last Supper" in Milan, and learn culinary secrets of Piedmontese cuisine at a local restaurant.

## Day-by-Day Itinerary

### Day 1 | In Transit

Depart for Zürich, Switzerland. 🚆

### Day 2 | Zürich, Switzerland | St. Moritz

Upon arrival, transfer 🚗 to St. Moritz and check in to the Schweizerhof St. Moritz Hotel. Spend some time unpacking or head out to see St. Moritz. Later, join us for a Welcome Reception.

### Day 3 | St. Moritz | Zuoz

**St. Moritz Walking Tour.** A walking tour showcases this lovely resort destination. Enjoy stunning vistas, and glimpse daily life while visiting local shops.

**Zuoz Walking Tour.** Revel in this romantic Upper Engadine village. A walking tour reveals its beautiful cobblestone main square adorned with flowers and bubbling fountains. Follow the winding streets, taking note of the brightly painted buildings, many built in the 13th century. This postcard-perfect setting is quintessentially Switzerland!

**Free Time:** Uncover St. Moritz at your leisure. Stroll around the lake or explore the local food scene.

**Enrichment: Essential Switzerland.** Discuss the iconic and unique elements of Swiss culture.

### Day 4 | Bernina Express | Tirano, Italy | St. Moritz

**Bernina Express Train.** Wind your way from craggy mountain peaks to palm-lined streets during a train ride to Tirano, Italy. The Bernina Express travels along one of Europe's most impressively engineered rail routes. Enjoy a lunch of regional dishes in Tirano. After, return to St. Moritz.

### Day 5 | St. Moritz

**Free Time:** Craft your own adventures today.

**Enrichment: Meet the People.** Learn about life in the Swiss Alps during a discussion with residents who can tell you about the local lifestyle and traditions.





Join your fellow travelers for dinner this evening.

### Day 6 | Stresa, Italy

After breakfast, depart for your journey to Stresa, Italy.

**The Road to Stresa.** Traverse the Alps along the Maloja Pass. During this picturesque transfer, take in views of sparkling glacial lakes, rivers and Swiss villages. Arrive in Tremezzo, Italy, sitting on the shore of Lake Como. Board a boat for a cruise to Bellagio, a village with flower-adorned sidewalks and buildings painted in shades of cream and butterscotch. Dig into lunch in Bellagio before cruising to the town of Como, relishing floral-scented breezes and stirring vistas of elegant villas nestled within gardens and forests. Disembark in Como and continue to Stresa via motor coach.

After checking in to the Hotel La Palma, dine on delicious Italian cuisine for dinner.

### Day 7 | Borromean Islands

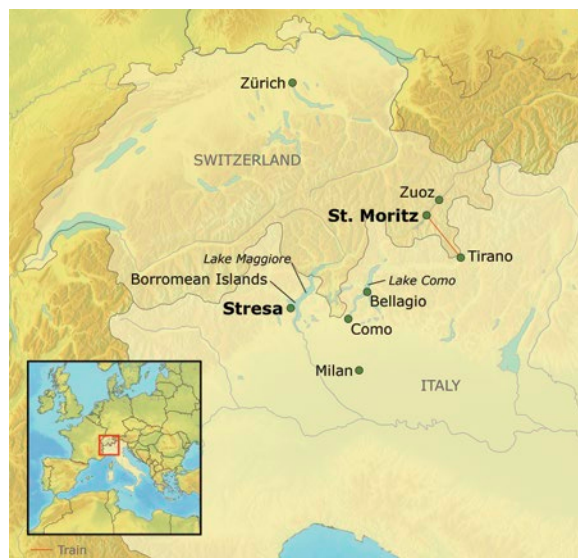
**Enrichment: Italy's Lake District.** Discover how this region became one of Europe's favorite retreats.

**The Borromean Islands.** Uncover the 16th-century legacy of the aristocratic Borromeo family today. Begin with a cruise on Lake Maggiore aboard a private motorboat to Isola Madre, and enjoy a guided visit of its impressive English-style garden graced with exotic flowers and rare plants. Then embrace the rustic charm of Isola dei Pescatori where narrow streets are lined by the houses of the fishermen and families who call this island home. Finally, visit Isola Bella, the "Beautiful Island," extolled by writers over the centuries. Explore its 17th-century baroque palace and summerhouse that is home to a mosaic grotto and a collection of art and antiques, and walk through hanging gardens embellished with Greek and Roman statuary.

**Enrichment: Golden Age of the Renaissance.** Trace the profound influences of Michelangelo and da Vinci.

### Day 8 | Milan

**Exploring Milan.** Venture to Milan, one of the world's fashion capitals. Inside the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie, witness Leonardo's "The Last Supper," which is painted on the wall of a dining hall in the monastery's refectory. Visit the Museo Teatrale alla Scala, located



inside one of the world's leading opera and ballet theaters where Puccini's "Madame Butterfly" was first performed, and step inside the Duomo to see this magnificent cathedral built by European artisans.

**Free Time:** Craft your own path through Milan during leisure time. Explore the chic boutiques of the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II or discover delightful city views from the roof of the Duomo.

### Day 9 | Stresa

**AHI Connects: The Piedmontese Kitchen.**

Visit a family-owned restaurant where you will learn to prepare a few proudly authentic Piedmontese dishes. This mouthwatering traditional cuisine is based on using locally produced foods. Characteristic dishes may include ingredients such as local blue cheeses, gnocchi and risotto. Your tasty meal is complemented by panoramic views of the lake.

**Free Time:** Enjoy your final afternoon at leisure.

Gather to celebrate your wonderful journey at a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

### Day 10 | In Transit

Transfer to the airport in Milan for the return flight to your gateway city.

## Included Features

**Accommodations** {with baggage handling}

- 4 nights in St. Moritz, Switzerland, at the first-class Schweizerhof St. Moritz Hotel.
- 4 nights in Stresa, Italy, at the first-class Hotel La Palma.

**Transfers** {with baggage handling}

- Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program.

**Extensive Meal Program**

- 8 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 dinners, including tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

**Your One-of-a-Kind Journey**

- **Small group:** Sized just right at 28 guests.
- **AHI Travel Assurance** covers Accident and Sickness Medical Expense, Trip Delay and Emergency Evacuation for U.S. residents.
- **Enrichment by expert speakers** enhances your insight into the region.
- **Engaging excursions** showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.
- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.



## 2024 Departures & Pricing

July 17-26, 2024

Full Price from \$4,545

Special Savings \$250

**Special Price from \$4,295\***

\*Special price available for a limited time. Call for details.

VAT & port tax supplement are an additional \$395 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 prices are available upon request (limited availability).

Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://norcar.ahitravel.com/destinations/1829A?schoollid=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 and transfers provided for AHI FlexAir participants.