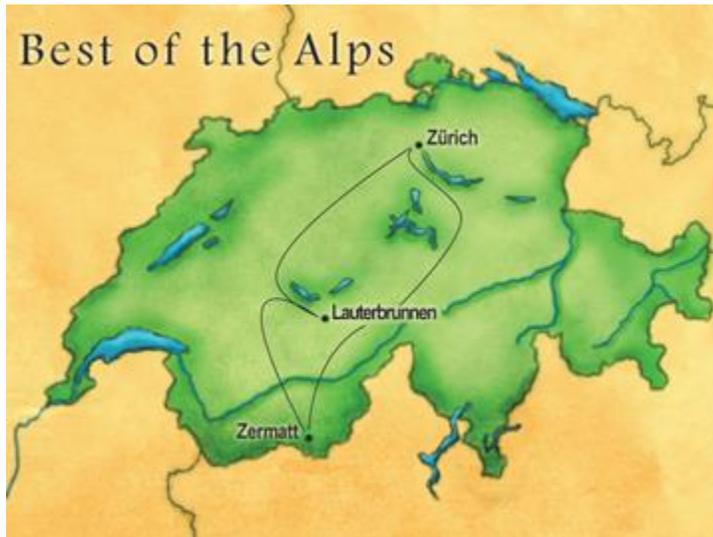


## Best of the Swiss Alps



### SWITZERLAND'S TOP HIKES IN THE ZERMATT AND JUNGFRAU REGION

#### Trip Highlights

- Ascend snowy Jungfrau by cog railway to Europe's highest railway station and overlooking the Alps' longest glacier
- Hike lush Lauterbrunnen Valley where 72 waterfalls plunge over high cliffs
- Make artisan alpine cheese over a crackling open fire followed by hearty farm breakfast
- Explore mountain trails around Zermatt with stunning views of the Matterhorn

#### Activity Level

Alpenwild trips are designed for people who are energetic, active, and filled with a spirit of adventure. We rate this trip as moderate, but also easily adaptable to those who want easier hikes. You should be capable of walking 4 to 6 hours per day on well-groomed and graded trails at an elevation up to 9,000 feet above sea level. On one day a mountain railway takes you to an elevation of 11,400 feet.

## **Overview**

### **Zermatt and the Matterhorn; the Jungfrau Region and the Eiger**

Plan now for your coming summer vacation! Explore the two most picturesque corners of the Alps—Zermatt and the Jungfrau. Hiking in Zermatt and hiking in the Jungfrau gives you the best the Alps has to offer. Zermatt lies at the base of the Matterhorn, the most recognizable peak in the world, while the Jungfrau region is dominated by the North Face of the Eiger, one of the most spectacular and formidable mountain landscapes on earth, and the ideal spots for the perfect hiking tour in the Swiss Alps.

### **Breathtaking Dayhikes and Mountain Excursions**

Cable ascents and cogwheel railroads will take you from the valley floor in Zermatt, Grindelwald and Lauterbrunnen to breathtaking alpine settings. Invigorating dayhikes and excursions lead you past glistening lakes and underground waterfalls.

### **Traditional Alpine Charm with Superb Cuisine**

We've thought of every detail to make this a perfect trip. You'll stay in charming local inns, dine on scrumptious meals, and enjoy the services of an expert hiking guide throughout.

### **Is This Trip for You?**

If you've always dreamed of enjoying the spectacular scenery of the Swiss Alps on adaptable dayhikes and mountain excursions (using trams and cogwheel railways for the steepest ascents), and then returning each night to a charming chalet style hotel with eiderdown comforters and jaw-dropping mountain views from your balcony then Best of the Swiss Alps is just for you.

## **Itinerary**

### **Day 1 – Arrive in Zürich Switzerland and train to Zermatt**

Upon arrival, you will take a train to the historic and charming village of Zermatt. After settling in we'll explore the nearby Gorner Schlucht, a deep canyon waterfall with a thrilling network of stairways and footbridges. Then it's dinner and a group orientation. D

## **Day 2 – Zermatt and the Gornergrat**

Zermatt is surrounded by stunning scenery. This morning you'll take off for the Riffelalp, a high meadow with lakes that perfectly reflect the distant Matterhorn. Further up the Gornergrat ridge we overlook the Monte Rosa, its glaciers and icefall. BSD

## **Day 3 – Zermatt, Sunnegga, and the Matterhorn**

A morning funicular ascent takes you to Sunnegga where you'll have sweeping views of the Mattertal valley before descending into larch forests, passing charming hamlets along the way. BSD

## **Day 4 – Zermatt to Grindelwald**

After breakfast you'll have time to explore the car-free village of Zermatt, visit the historic mountaineering museum or enjoy some short hikes through surrounding forests. Zermatt is a hard place to leave, but a mid-day train will take you across the Rhone Valley and around the Berner Alps to Interlaken, gateway to the Jungfrau region. We will then continue on to our hotel in Grindelwald. BSD

## **Day 5 – Grindelwald with a visit to Lauterbrunnen**

We will take a train to Lauterbrunnen, which lies in a deep glacial valley surrounded by 72 waterfalls. You'll explore the valley and visit Trummelbach Falls, where torrents of water have created a series of caves and underground waterfalls. Return to Grindelwald BSD

## **Day 6 – Grindelwald -Jungfrauoch excursion**

The Jungfrau railway takes us from Grindelwald to the alpine crossroads of Kleine Scheidegg at the base of the Eiger. From here a dramatic cog-wheel climb takes us into a tunnel through the Eiger to ascend to the Jungfrauoch, the highest railway station in Europe. We'll hike on the Aletschgletscher, Europe's longest glacier. BSD

## **Day 7 – Grindelwald - Bussalp- First Hike**

This morning will start off early with a farm fresh breakfast at the Eigeralp Dairy in the pastures high above Grindelwald. After breakfast we will hike from Bussalp to Faulhorn which is one of the oldest mountain hotels in Switzerland, dating to the 1830s. The view from the summit of the Faulhorn offers

views to the north and into Germany. From Faulhorn we will continue on to Bachalpsee lake, where you have a wonderful panoramic view over the mountains to the south. We then end at First where we can return to Grindelwald by cable car. BSD

## **Day 8 – Grindelwald morning hikes – afternoon train to Zürich**

We'll have most of the day available for hikes in the area which may include a tram up to an overlook of the Grindelwald Glacier or a panoramic walk with expansive views of the Eiger, Mönch, and Jungfrau mountains. In the afternoon we transfer by train to Zürich for farewell dinner. BSD

## **Day 9 – Depart Zürich**

Onward departure from Zürich. B

### **Included**

The services of an expert trip leader, all accommodations (8 nights hotel), all meals as shown (B=breakfast, S=snack, D=dinner), ground transportation including trams and mountain railways, admissions and luggage transfers.

### **Not Included**

Beverages (beer, wine) with meals, items of a personal nature (laundry, phone calls, room service)

[Book this Trip Now](#)