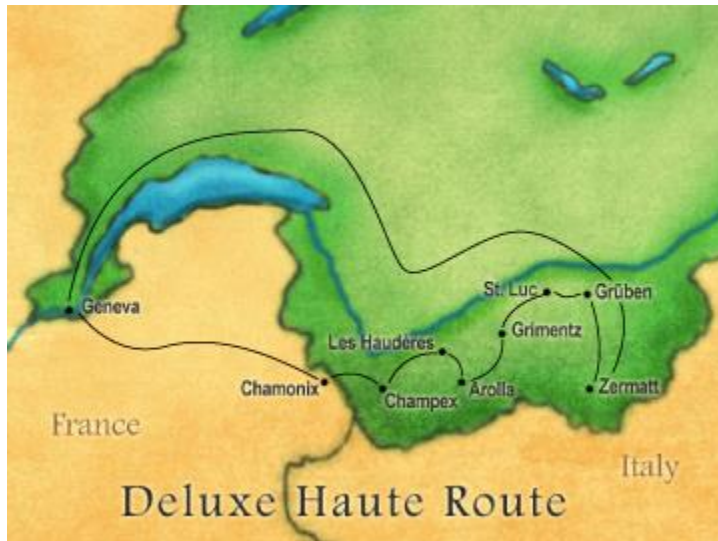


Deluxe Haute Route Chamonix to Zermatt



SWISS HIKING ON THE HAUTE ROUTE

Activity Level

Alpenwild trips are designed for people who are energetic, active, and filled with a spirit of adventure. We rate this trip as strenuous. You should be an experienced hiker in good physical condition. You should be capable of walking 5 to 7 hours per day on good trails with some steep ascents and descents (averaging 3,000 to 3,500 vertical feet per day) at an elevation up to 10,000 feet above sea level.

Overview

This Haute Route is for those who want a more leisurely pace, finer accommodations (no [huts](#)), daily luggage transfers, wine and cheese tastings, and first class rail. We've added a well-deserved rest day at a 4-star Belle Epoque hotel in historic St Luc. Then we softened the route a bit by reducing some of the most arduous ascents and eliminating the most pounding descents.

Incredible Alpine Scenery in Every Step

You still get the spectacular mountain scenery you'd expect on the Haute Route, and you'll still thrill at an abundance of glaciers as well as the finest icefalls in the Alps. You'll ascend some of our favorite

Alpine passes while also taking time to explore the dendritic valleys of the Rhone. You'll come to love the rugged flanks of the Val de Bagnes, the quiet upper reaches of the Val d'Herens, and the sweeping views of the Val d'Anniviers.

You'll discover an Haute Route holding hidden treasures rare wildlife, remote villages, and long-forgotten mountain trade routes. You won't want to miss this most memorable, enjoyable, and rewarding Alpine adventure.

Luggage Transfers so You Can Hike Light and Enjoy the Route

We shuttle your luggage, so all you need to carry is a lightweight daypack with water, snacks, and of course, your camera. The Haute Route is widely regarded as the most scenic trek in the Alps. It's an Alps hiking tour like no other.

Why an Alpenwild Haute Route Trek is the Only Logical Choice

Since we offer the Haute Route throughout the summer and have departures every week, you'll have more options and guaranteed departures than with other less-experienced operators. Our guides have more experience and an intimate knowledge of the route along with its natural history and language and culture. We stay in superb accommodations—a notch above those used by most other operators, and then we always request superior and view rooms for our guests. We include all meals and trail snacks then feature a la carte dining most evenings. We include premium excursions such as the Aiguille du Midi and the Gornergrat cogwheel railway as part of the trip. In short, there is not better choice for the Haute Route than Alpenwild.

Trip Highlights

- Ascend the Aiguille du Midi on the Mont Blanc via highest vertical ascent cable car in the world
- Enjoy the trek to its fullest as you hike with just a light daypack while your luggage is transferred to the inn each evening
- Luxuriate on a rest and spa day at the historic Hotel Bella Tola in St. Luc
- Explore mountain trails around Zermatt with stunning views of the Matterhorn

Itinerary

Day 1 – Arrive Geneva Switzerland, Chamonix

On arrival in Geneva, you will head for Chamonix in the shadow of Mont Blanc via shuttle. We'll take the cableway to the 3842m summit of Aiguille du Midi for stunning views of the French and Italian Alps. Welcome dinner, orientation and hotel accommodations in the heart of the village. D

Ascent: 200 feet | Descent: 200 feet | Distance: 2-4 miles around town

Day 2 – Col de la Forclaz, Champex

A gentle first day of hiking takes us through mixed forest with commanding views of the Rhone Valley. Lunch on a working alpine farm. We arrive for an afternoon in the idyllic lakeside resort of Champex, Switzerland. BLD

Ascent: 2500 feet | Descent: 2300 feet | Distance: 8.5 miles

Day 3 – Champex to Sembrancher, La Sage

Departing Champex we descend into woods and encounter century-old hamlets and villages before arriving at scenic stone-walled village of Sembrancher where our shuttle will take us to lunch in Evolène, a nearly untouched Swiss village nestled in the Val d'Hérens. An afternoon walk takes us along the valley floor and then up to our hotel in La Sage. BSD

Ascent: 1000 feet | Descent: 2500 feet | Distance: 10 miles

Day 4 – Lac de Moiry, Grimentz

Our choice of the Col de Torrent or the Col de Tsaté will depend on how much distance you want to hike. Either way, the sweeping alpine slopes are a delight. Snowcapped peaks like Dent Blanche (14,380) are nearby as you descend into meadows of wildflowers before arriving at Lac de Moiry. You'll stay in the ancient village of Grimentz one of the most picturesque and historic villages in the Alps and a favorite of hikers on the Haute Route, where you'll stroll the cobblestone paths and visit the mill on the Marais. BSD

Ascent: 3000 feet | Descent: 2200 feet | Distance: 8 miles

Day 5 – Grimentz, Bella Tola

A forest ascent leads above treeline to offer views of the Val d'Anniviers and the a crown of four 4,000 meter peaks, including the Matterhorn. Evening in St-Luc at the exquisite Hotel Bella Tola. BSD

Ascent: 2378 feet | Descent: 2236 feet | Distance: 9 miles

Day 6 – St. Luc rest day or Hotel Weisshorn excursion

Take a day to rest and enjoy the spa, pool, and sundeck at the hotel Bella Tola, or join us for a shorter hike and lunch at the historic Hotel Weisshorn. Descent back to St. Luc through a cascade-lined trail through the forest.

Ascent: 750 feet | Descent: 2000 feet | Distance: 5 miles

Day 7 – St. Luc to Gruben

A funicular to Tignousa takes us to timberline for a straightforward ascent over the Meidpass--but not before stopping at a cheese dairy to pick up a wedge of their finest Raclette cheese. We depart the French-speaking and enter the German-speaking region of Valais. Hiking along sparkling mountain streams you arrive in the quiet seasonal hamlet of Grüben where you'll spend the evening. BSD

Ascent: 2000 feet | Descent: 3175 feet | Distance: 8 miles

Day 8 – Augstboardpass Zermatt

Crossing the final pass of the trip, the legendary Augstbordpass, you'll have sweeping views of Dom, the highest peak entirely within Switzerland, Weisshorn, and the crevassed curves of the Aletschgletscher. As you descend into Jungen, an exciting gondola ride takes you to the valley floor, where the train to Zermatt awaits. BSD

Ascent: 3517 feet | Descent: 3079 feet | Distance: 8 miles

Day 9 – Zermatt

After a week on the Haute Route, Zermatt is a celebratory destination. You won't want to miss a chance at some of the best dayhikes Zermatt has to offer including walks to quaint villages like Zmutt and Findeln, or panoramic hikes along the Höhbalmen overlooking the north face of the Matterhorn. BSD

BSD Ascent: ~1900 feet | Descent: ~1900 feet | Distance: ~6 miles

Day 10 – Zermatt to Geneva or Zürich

We'll have most of the day available for hikes in the area, including an ascent to the Riffelsee where the Matterhorn is perfectly reflected in still waters. We'll enjoy an afternoon farewell meal in Zermatt before departing for Geneva or Zürich for the evening. BL

Ascent: ~500 feet | Descent: ~500 feet | Distance: ~5 miles

Day 11 – Depart from Geneva or Zürich

An early morning departure from Geneva or Zürich. Welcome home. B

Included

The services of an expert trip leader, all accommodations (9 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](#)