



# Switzerland

## by train, bus and boat.



2009 Edition Europe

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The Swiss Travel System operates like a Swiss watch: every cog intermeshes perfectly with the next one. Even the boats on the lakes form a part of this wheelwork, as do the smaller railways that travel up into the mountains. So – it pays to become familiar with this system. 4

The Highlights. Although small, Switzerland benefits from long scenic routes. Served by both trains and buses, they will leave you mesmerised after having encountered hours of enthralling beauty. From one corner of this beautiful small country to the other. 8



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## The Information.

A great deal of service is included in the Swiss Travel System. It's well worthwhile knowing everything there is about this.

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#### Imprint

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# The Trip.

The ticket for the Swiss Travel System: The Swiss Pass. It offers free travel on this transportation system which is unique in the world. Prices and details on the following pages.

#### Connection on arrival.

Will you be arriving by aircraft? If so, the Swiss Travel System in Zurich, Geneva and Basle will collect you at the airport railway station. A train service (or a bus in Basle) departs for the nearby city every few minutes. Comfortable InterCity trains will whisk you to all the other cities in Switzerland at half-hourly or hourly intervals. You don't have a Swiss Pass yet? It can be purchased directly from the airport railway station and will entitle you to free travel in the Swiss Travel System. You can also arrange to have all of your baggage transported directly to your destination from every international airport. For your return journey, you can check-in your bags at the train station.

Will you already be travelling by train on arrival in Switzerland? Switzerland is linked into the European high-speed rail network. Once at your Swiss arrival station, you will have connections in all directions in a matter of minutes. Swiss train services operate to a synchronised timetable. They arrive at and depart from larger railway stations every full or half-hour. This is the stroke to which the entire Swiss Travel System ticks. Even the departure times of the Postbuses and boats adhere to this stroke, albeit somewhat more unhurriedly. To compensate for this, the rapid-transit railway networks around the larger cities operate even more frequently.



#### Enjoy one train after another.

You'll be travelling onboard air-conditioned coaches in the InterCity network of trains and tilting trains (IC and ICN). Wherever you see a  $\Re$  in the timetable, a dining car will invite you to experience fine cuisine and beverages. A  $\P$  in the timetable indicates that a mobile Minibar operates onboard the train. You'll find that many IC trains even have a family car *FA*.

When travelling on our InterRegio, RegioExpress and regional trains, you'll discover rural Switzerland and the charm of smaller towns and villages. Naturally also operating to a synchronised timetable.



You'll certainly not want to miss out on seeing the Alps. In which case you will need to keep a watchful eye on the scenery passing by your window. The closer you get to the mountains, the more spectacular the views become. The train might, for example, shoot out of a tunnel directly onto a viaduct, bend at a dizzying height above raging mountain streams, enter a dark mountain forest... It all needs to be experienced personally. You will find it hard to believe that so much of the mountainscape can be seen in such comfort from your train window.



#### Allow yourself to be driven.

A Postbus will collect you when the train tracks come to an end. The Swiss Postbus network already starts to extend between the hills of the Central Plateau (Mittelland) and climbs right up into the most remote mountain valleys. On the winding pass roads, the post horn of these comfortable coaches sounds its distinctive three-note call before every narrow switchback. In the Swiss Travel System you also get to be driven along the roads, instead of having to navigate these yourself. And it all gives you ample opportunity to marvel at the splendid views.

#### Experience summits.

It's the mountain rail- and cableways that will take you up to rarefied atmospheres. With the Jungfrau Railway – even up to a height of 3454 metres above sea level. You will however be asked to pay an additional charge here and on several other mountain railways and aerial cableways. But when you arrive at the top and peer into the valley below, and have seen how boldly these masterpieces of engineering are able to conquer even the steepest slopes, you will have already forgotten about this. These highpoints of the Swiss Travel System are worth it!



### Out, and onto water.

Whilst making use of the Swiss Travel System, you may even see a boat waiting directly in front of the railway station. If so, climb aboard! It's all included in your ticket.

Commercial passenger boats operate on every large lake, especially in the summer. Some of these are veritable gems: the historic steamboats for example on Lakes Lucerne, Thun and Geneva.

#### Service en route.

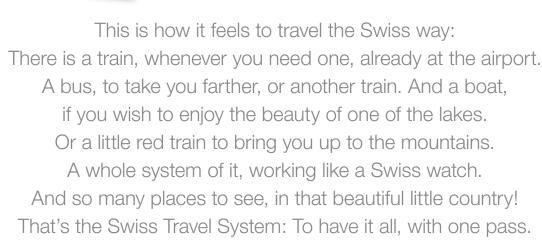
The many additional services that make travelling via the Swiss Travel System even more comfortable stem from the best Swiss service tradition.

The large train stations constitute the centres of this service culture. Here, you'll not only be provided with every conceivable type of information (and not only in Switzerland's national languages), but you can also check-in your luggage to be transported on, purchase event tickets and, on seven days of the week until late in the evenings, purchase anything you might need whilst travelling.

Your bicycle is also welcome on trains, and the same applies to your four-legged friend.

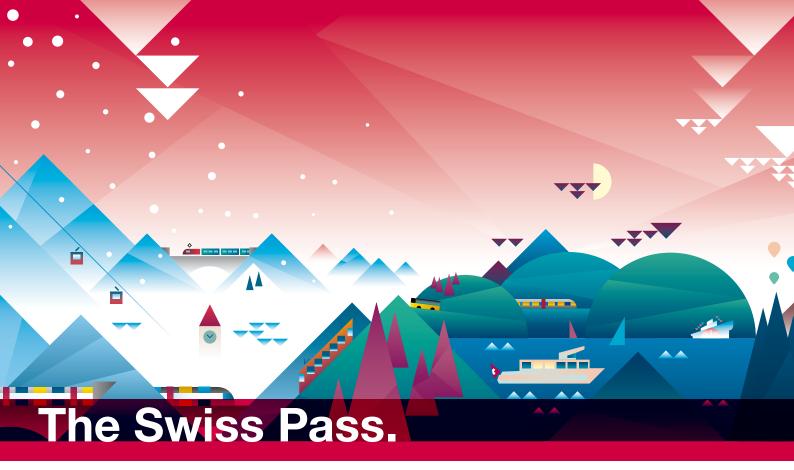
You'll find all the details at the back of the booklet (page 46). On the next 2 pages, everything about the tickets and prices in the Swiss Travel System is explained.

www.swisstravelsystem.ch









## Travel anywhere, whenever you want. With the Swiss Pass.

#### Free travel for 4, 8, 15 or 22 days. Or even an entire month.

You'll travel like a king with the Swiss Pass: it entitles you to free travel throughout the entire Swiss Travel System. The choice of 20000 kilometres of train, bus and boat routes is entirely yours! Wherever you might be across the country, simply climb aboard whenever wanderlust grips you. Classic scenic routes are included, as are trams and buses in 41 cities. On top of this, you'll receive a 50% discount on the majority of mountain rail- & cableways. (Take a look at the map on page 22. Most of the rail- & cableways in the mountains are included in your Swiss Pass!)

But that's still not all: you'll also enjoy free admission to around 450 museums throughout the country (www.museumspass.ch). And several hotel chains, plus other Bonus Partners, will extend generous discounts to you.

Will you be travelling with a companion, or in a group? If so, you'll be entitled to the **Swiss Saver Pass**, which grants a 15% discount to every traveller.

Are you still under 26 years of age? If yes, you'll even get a 25% discount with the **Swiss Youth Pass**. Even if you'll be travelling solo for the time being.

## Holidays with "à-la-carte" travel days. With the Swiss Flexi Pass.

#### Free travel on 3, 4, 5, or 6 selected days. And half-price travel in between.

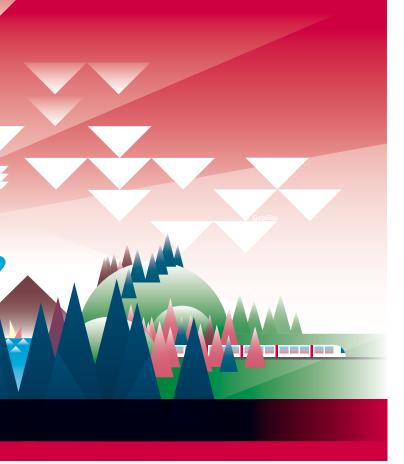
You select the number of days on which you wish to travel at no charge. Just like with the Swiss Pass. You decide when. And on the intervening days, you'll be enjoying your holidays. For smaller excursions, you'll also be entitled to travel at half price on these intervening days. This applies between the first and last day that you have selected to be your free travel days. If possible, the last day should be the day of your return journey. It's a scheme that definitely makes sense.

With the Swiss Flexi Pass, you also get the free admission to museums and the other discounts.

For groups of 2 people or more, the **Swiss Saver Flexi Pass** grants a 15% discount.

With the Swiss Pass and the Swiss Flexi Pass, you'll benefit from the following (on selected travel days):

- free admission to around 450 museums
- 50% discount on most mountain rail- & cableways



# When you simply wish to unwind at a single location.

#### For holidays with lots of rest. The Swiss Transfer Ticket.

This ticket grants you travel to your resort from the moment of your arrival in Switzerland. And back again to the airport or the border station. On the days in between, you simply enjoy your holidays. It's the ideal ticket for sports holidays in winter.

#### For holidays with a little movement. The Swiss Card.

You're not keen on being on the go all the time, but also don't wish to be bound to a single location. The Swiss Card offers you the same advantages as the Swiss Transfer Ticket, but with a decisive benefit: when you do get gripped by the urge to travel, you'll simply pay half price for your excursions in the Swiss Travel System.

#### Children travel with you for free.

Ask for the Family Card to go with your Swiss Travel System ticket. It entitles children under the age of 16 to travel for free when accompanied by at least one parent.

You are entitled to purchase Swiss Travel System tickets if your permanent residence lies outside of Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein. Your passport or identity card will serve as proof of your identity. You do not need to provide a photo.

# A list of the points of sale and information is given on page 47, a synoptic map with the precise scope of validity for the various offers is provided on page 22.

Sales outlets, online booking facilities and further information can be found at: www.swisstravelsystem.ch

## The prices.

SWISS PASS	2nd class	1st class
4 days	260 CHF   161 €	390 CHF   241 €
8 days	376 CHF   233 €	564 CHF   349 €
15 days	455 CHF   281 €	683 CHF   422 €
22 days	525 CHF   325 €	788 CHF   487 €
1 month	578 CHF   357 €	867 CHF   536 €
i monuti		
SWISS SAVER PASS 1	2nd class	1st class
4 days	221 CHF   137 €	332 CHF   205 €
8 days	320 CHF   199 €	479 CHF   297 €
15 days	387 CHF   239 €	581 CHF   359 €
22 days	446 CHF   277 €	670 CHF   414 €
1 month	491 CHF   304 €	737 CHF   456 €
i monut	431 0111   304 €	757 OTI   450 C
SWISS YOUTH PASS 2	2nd class	
		1st class
		1st class 293 CHE   181 €
4 days	195 CHF   121 €	293 CHF   181 €
4 days 8 days	195 CHF   121 € 282 CHF   175 €	293 CHF   181 € 423 CHF   262 €
4 days 8 days 15 days	195 CHF   121 € 282 CHF   175 € 342 CHF   211 €	293 CHF   181 € 423 CHF   262 € 513 CHF   317 €
4 days 8 days 15 days 22 days	195 CHF   121 € 282 CHF   175 € 342 CHF   211 € 394 CHF   244 €	293 CHF   181 € 423 CHF   262 € 513 CHF   317 € 591 CHF   366 €
4 days 8 days 15 days	195 CHF   121 € 282 CHF   175 € 342 CHF   211 €	293 CHF   181 € 423 CHF   262 € 513 CHF   317 €
4 days 8 days 15 days 22 days	195 CHF   121 € 282 CHF   175 € 342 CHF   211 € 394 CHF   244 €	293 CHF   181 € 423 CHF   262 € 513 CHF   317 € 591 CHF   366 €

SWISS FLEXI PASS	2nd class	1st class
3 days in 1 month	249 CHF   154 €	374 CHF   231 €
4 days in 1 month	302 CHF   187 €	453 CHF   280 €
5 days in 1 month	349 CHF   216 €	524 CHF   324 €
6 days in 1 month	397 CHF   246 €	596 CHF   368 €

SWISS SAVER FLEXI PASS 1	2nd class	1st class
3 days in 1 month	212 CHF   131 €	318 CHF   197 €
4 days in 1 month	257 CHF   159 €	385 CHF   238 €
5 days in 1 month	297 CHF   184 €	445 CHF   276 €
6 days in 1 month	337 CHF   210 €	507 CHF   313 €

SWISS CARD <sup>3</sup>	
2nd class	182 CHF   113 €
1st class	255 CHF   158 €

SWISS TRANSFER TICKET <sup>4</sup>	
2nd class	127 CHF   79 €
1st class	192 CHF   119 €

SWISS HALF FARE CARD <sup>5</sup>	
valid for one month	99 CHF   62 €

<sup>1)</sup> Saver formula: valid for two or more people travelling together (price per person)

- 2) Valid for youths under 26 years
- <sup>3)</sup> Only available at airport and border stations in Switzerland
- <sup>4)</sup> Not sold at Swiss railway stations
- $^{\rm 5)}$  Sold in Switzerland and at many travel agencies in Europe

Free Swiss Travel System Family Card: Children between 6 and 16 years travel free when accompanied by at least one parent. Children not accompanied by their parents receive a 50% discount on the Swiss Pass, Swiss Flexi Pass and the Swiss Transfer Ticket.

The tickets must be paid for in the local currency of the point of sale. The above-listed prices in Euro ( $\in$ ) are non-binding, guide prices. In Switzerland, the CHF prices as given in the table apply (for payment in  $\in$ : conversion is at the day's exchange rate).

Prices and timetables are valid for 2009. Subject to modifications and amendments.



Sitting by the windows of the red trains of the Rhaetian Railway, you won't cease to be mesmerized in Graubünden. This railway doesn't simply travel through the landscape, it's actually a part of it. The railway and landscape engage in a practically magical dialogue, as they do here at Lake Bianco at Bernina Pass height.

It isn't without reason that the beautiful route "Rhaetian Railway in the Albula/Bernina landscape" has been entered onto the UNESCO World Heritage list.

The route becomes the destination on the classic scenic routes of the Swiss Travel System. It is the actual hours spent travelling, which hardly ever seem to be enough. Sitting comfortably alongside a window, you become entirely transfixed by the beauty outside. And yet, didn't we just see the wide expanse of

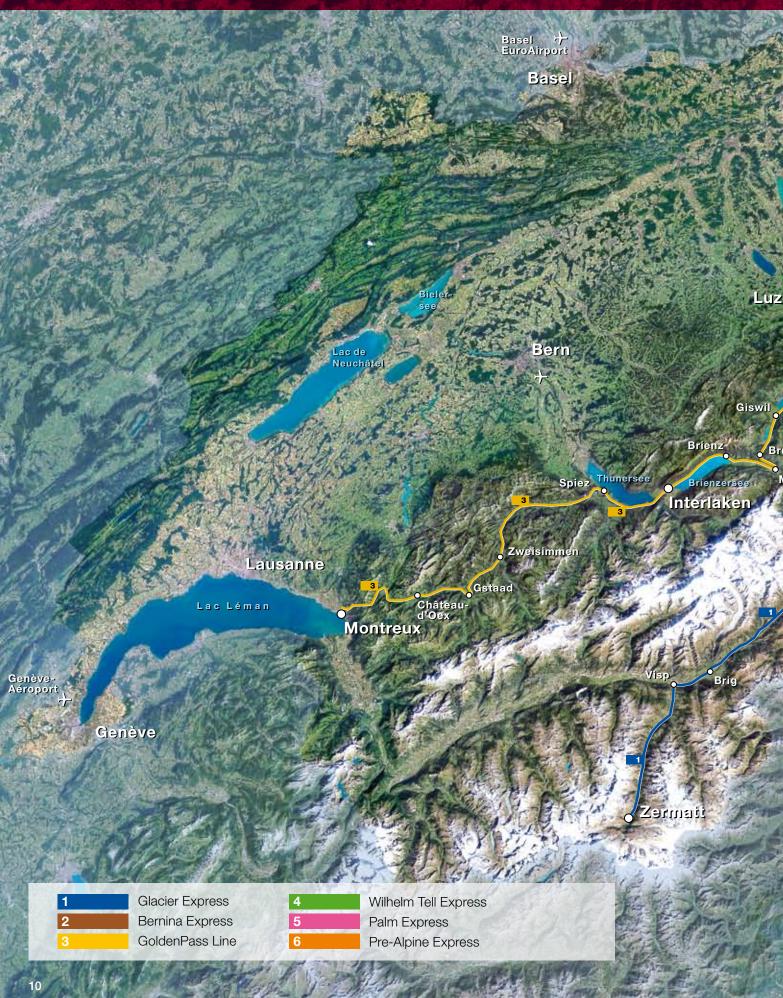
a lake? And now, after the tunnel, the train is passing through a mountain forest, crossing bold bridges over rushing brooks. Mountains tower on the left and right.

Each of the following classic scenic routes also offers these characteristics: a change from one region, one culture to another. A contrast in landscapes, colours, climates.



CRIME Rhätische Bahn

# The classic scenic routes.







# From the "Top of the World" to the mountain of mountains. The Glacier Express.

The "world's slowest express train" connects sophisticated St. Moritz, which self-assuredly calls itself the "Top of the World" with Zermatt, or "The Matterhorn Village" as it wishes to be known with equal pride. A summit meeting of world-renowned subjects then, to which the Glacier Express can also claim status, not least because of its journey time of seven hours. Its real renown stems from the fact that it offers a chain of unforgettable vistas and impressions during each of these seven hours.

In this constellation, the train itself, the Glacier Express, is also a star in its class. Its airconditioned panorama coaches glide silently through the sharply-aromatic mountain forests and the still mountain pastures. And if different sounds seem to be emanating from parts of the train, it's probably because the train is just passing over one of the 291 bridges. If you look through the window, you will have a good chance of discovering a raging mountain stream a long way down.

Be sure to reserve your lunch on the train. Nowhere else will you be able to dine so well against a backdrop of changing Alpine panoramas as on the Glacier Express and, in most cases, directly at your seat. Naturally, you will also have the opportunity of being served snacks and beverages whenever the mood takes you. For example, you might wish to celebrate arriving at the geographical highpoint of your journey, the 2 033 metre-high Oberalp Pass, with a glass of wine.

Astonishment that lasts seven hours. That's the Glacier Express.



#### **Glacier Express**

Zermatt > Visp > Brig > Andermatt > Disentis > Chur > Davos/St. Moritz

Timetable effective from May 16 2009 to Oct 18 2009 (summer)

Zermatt > 0	Chur/C	avos/St	. Moritz		
Train		902	904	906	908
Zermatt	dep.	9.00	9.13	10.00	10.13
Chur	arr.	14.38	14.38	15.37	15.37
Davos Platz	arr.	16.48			
St. Moritz	arr.		16.58	18.11	18.11
St.Moritz/	Davos	/ Chur > 2	Zermatt		
St. Moritz/ Train	Davos	/ Chur > 2 905	Zermatt 907	909	911
	Davos dep.			<b>909</b> 10.04	911
Train		905	907		<b>911</b> 9.50
<b>Train</b> St. Moritz	dep.	905	907		

#### Timetable effective until May 15 2009 (winter)

Zermatt >	Chur/S	t. Moritz	
Train		900	910
Zermatt	dep.		10.00
Visp	dep.	10.05	
Chur	arr.	14.38	15.37
St. Moritz	arr.		17.58
St. Moritz/	Chur >	Zermatt	
St. Moritz/ Train	Chur >	Zermatt 901	903
	Chur > dep.		<b>903</b> 9.04
Train			
<b>Train</b> St. Moritz	dep.	901	9.04

#### **Reservations for lunch:**

RailGourmino swissAlps AG Tel. +41 (0)81 300 15 15

www.rgswissalps.ch | sales@rgswissalps.ch

Seat reservation is mandatory and available from your local sales outlet or at larger train stations in Switzerland.

Trains 904, 906, 908, 905, 907, 909: Supplement CHF 30.with the option of dining at your seat

Trains 902 and 911: Operate from Jun 13 2009 until Oct 18 2009, supplement CHF 30.–, Railbar catering and dining in the dining car Trains 910 and 903: Supplement CHF 10.– with the option of dining at your seat

Trains 900 and 901: operate from Dec 25 2008 until Jan 4 2009 and Feb 1 2009 until May 15 2009, supplement CHF 10.– with the option of dining at your seat

All trains with 1st and 2nd class panorama coaches. Subject to price and timetable changes.

**Zermatt** 



## Over 196 bridges from north to south. The Bernina Express.

It connects Chur in the canton of Graubünden with Tirano in the Italian Veltlin, via the Bernina Pass. It offers the most beautiful connection from the cool north to the temperate south. And the most remarkable fact here: along its route, the red train climbs to 2253 metres above sea level, where glaciers lie. Across 196 bridges and through 55 tunnels on its southbound journey. Four hours of scenic beauty, during which time you'll hardly be able to wrench yourself away from the window.

Take a seat in one of the modern panorama coaches, and lean back. The train provides the rest. It will show you the romantic forests in the Albula valley. It will avail you of a ceaseless number of perspectives of the majestic mountains. Traversing bridges and viaducts it will take you high above gorges and wild streams. The red train will conquer an incline of 70‰ for you, something the larger trains will never be capable of. It wants to show you the snow, up on the Bernina, and the glacier. And then it will start on its descent with you, towards the south. It will show you romantic Puschlav. It is at home in the south, as it is in the north. And it is now southbound. It doesn't begrudge you the espresso on the piazza in Tirano. After all, it has brought you to Italy.

Do you like it here, in the south? Would you like to savour the warmth a little more? In summer, a coach that awaits you in Tirano will take you to Lugano in sunny Ticino. Back into the homeland of the Swiss Travel System which has made this trip to Italy possible for you.

On your return, will say it is no wonder that "The Rhaetian Railway in the Landscape of Albula/ Bernina" was incorporated into the UNESCO list of world heritage sites.



#### **Bernina Express**

Chur/Davos/St. Moritz > Bernina Pass > Poschiavo > Tirano (> Lugano)

Timetable effective from May 16 2009 to Oct 18 2009 (summer)

Chur/Davo	os/St	Moritz > Ti	irano > Lugano
Train			
Chur	dep.	8.301)	
Tirano	arr.	12.351)	
St. Moritz	dep.	9.41 <sup>2)</sup>	11.45 <sup>2)</sup>
Tirano	arr.	11.572)	14.192)
Davos Dorf	dep.	8.401)	
Davos Platz	dep.	8.50 <sup>1)</sup>	
Tirano	arr.	12.201)	
Bus			
Tirano	dep.	14.25 <sup>3)</sup>	
Lugano	arr.	17.30 <sup>3)</sup>	

Lugano > 1	Tirano	> St. Mor	itz/Davo	os/Chur
Bus				
Lugano	dep.	10.00 <sup>3)</sup>		
Tirano	arr.	12.55 <sup>3)</sup>		
Train				
Tirano	dep.	14.31 <sup>1)</sup>		
Davos Platz	arr.	18.09 <sup>1)</sup>		
Davos Dorf	arr.	18.16 <sup>1)</sup>		
Tirano	dep.	8.502)	12.452)	14.492)
St. Moritz	arr.	11.12 <sup>2)</sup>	15.122)	17.11 <sup>2)</sup>
Tirano	dep.	14.04 <sup>1)</sup>		
Chur	arr.	18.28 <sup>1)</sup>		

### Timetable effective until May 15 2009 and from Oct 19 2009 to Dec 12 2009 (winter)

Chur/St.I	Moritz	> Tirano		
Train				
Chur	dep.	8.58 <sup>2)</sup>		
St. Moritz	dep.	10.452)	14.452)	
Tirano	arr.	13.12 <sup>2)</sup>	17.122)	
Tirano > S	St. Mori	itz/Chur		
Tirano > S Train	St. Mori	itz/Chur		
	St. Mori dep.	itz/Chur 8.50 <sup>2)</sup>	14.33 <sup>2)</sup>	
Train			14.33 <sup>2)</sup> 17.07 <sup>2)</sup>	

Valid entry documents are necessary for the border crossing to Italy. Seat reservation is mandatory and available from your local sales outlet or at larger train stations in Switzerland. All trains with 1st and 2nd class panorama coaches.

1) Supplement CHE 9.-

2) Supplement CHF 7.-

3) Bus Supplement CHF 12.-

Subject to price and timetable changes.



# From Montreux to Lucerne. On the GoldenPass Line.

Two languages, three worlds, six lakes, one line: That's the GoldenPass Line. In Montreux, palm trees and southern ambience still prevail along the "Swiss Riviera". French peppers the air. The golden panorama train squeezes through vineyards and gardens on its ascent, one last glimpse back at Lake Geneva, a tunnel...

... then black fir trees, fast-flowing streams. Soon green pastures with grazing cows as well. Cosy chalets in the valley and on the slopes, above them peaks crowned with crags: the Saanenland. The station names change from French to German. Nearby Gstaad proffers a welcome.

A change of trains in Zweisimmen. And soon you'll discover a lake again, but from a different aspect, Lake Thun. White boats animate the lakescape, at Interlaken snow-capped mountains glimmer on the horizon. The train, which waits here, wishes to acquaint you with Lake Brienz and the Giessbach waterfalls near Brienz, before moving on. From Meiringen onwards, it starts to climb uphill, onto the Brünig Pass, and from there down to central Switzerland. Once again, mountain air, pastures, cows. The timber houses here are no longer chalets. They are accustomed to a different climate. On your left during the descent, the Lake Lungern and the Lake Sarnen, plus another lake on the right: Lake Alpnach. You have reached the very heart of Switzerland. Lake Lucerne already awaits you after the short tunnel. Lucerne, the world-renowned destination of so many travellers from around the world, lies just around the corner. You have arrived at the terminus of the GoldenPass Line. Directly in front of the station, the lake, beyond which lie the Reuss bridge, the quaint old town and the lakeside promenade with its proud hotels.

Montreux and Lucerne, two lakeside promenades. With a world in between. One that you have travelled across.

#### **GoldenPass Line**

(Geneva >) Montreux > Zweisimmen > Interlaken > Brünig Pass > Lucerne (> Zurich)

Timetable effective until Dec 12 2009

Montreux > Interla	iken > Lu	cerne				
Train						
Montreux dep.	7.453)	8.474)	9.45 <sup>3)</sup>	11.45 <sup>3)</sup>	13.453)	15.454)
Zweisimmen <sup>1)</sup> arr.	9.32 <sup>3)</sup>	10.434)	11.32 <sup>3)</sup>	13.32 <sup>3)</sup>	15.32 <sup>3)</sup>	17.324)
Zweisimmen dep.	9.37 <sup>2)</sup>	11.38 <sup>3)</sup>	11.38 <sup>3)</sup>	13.37	15.36 <sup>3)</sup>	17.38
Interlaken East <sup>1)</sup> arr.	10.57	12.50 <sup>3)</sup>	12.50 <sup>3)</sup>	14.50	16.50 <sup>3)</sup>	18.50
Interlaken East dep.	11.04	13.04	13.04	15.04 <sup>3)</sup>	17.04 <sup>3)</sup>	19.04
Lucerne arr.	13.04	15.04	15.04	17.04 <sup>3)</sup>	19.04 <sup>3)</sup>	21.04
Lucerne > Interlak	en > Mon	treux				
Lucerne > Interlak Train	en > Mon	treux				
	en > Mon 6.55	ntreux 8.55	10.55	12.55 <sup>3)</sup>	14.55 <sup>3)</sup>	
Train			10.55 12.55	12.55 <sup>3)</sup> 14.55 <sup>3)</sup>	14.55 <sup>3)</sup> 16.55 <sup>3)</sup>	
Train Lucerne dep.	6.55	8.55				
TrainLucernedep.Interlaken East <sup>1)</sup> arr.	6.55 8.55	8.55 10.55	12.55	14.55 <sup>3)</sup>	16.55 <sup>3)</sup>	
TrainLucernedep.Interlaken East <sup>1)</sup> arr.Interlaken East dep.	6.55 8.55 9.08 <sup>3)</sup>	8.55 10.55 11.01 <sup>2)</sup>	12.55 13.08 <sup>3)</sup>	14.55 <sup>3)</sup> 15.08	16.55 <sup>3)</sup> 17.08 <sup>3)</sup>	

#### 1) Change trains

2) Change trains in Spiez

<sup>4)</sup> GoldenPass Classic Subject to price and timetable changes

3) GoldenPass Panoramic

Subject to price and timetable shang

#### Recommended excursions

From Lucerne Pilatus – the steepest cog railway in the world From Interlaken Jungfraujoch – Top of Europe From Montreux Rochers-de-Naye – Marmot's Paradise, Swiss Chocolate Train

#### Panorama coaches and dining options

Lucerne – Interlaken East – Panorama coaches in 1st class

- Panorama coaches in 1st class
  Dining car with breakfast and principal meal
- Interlaken East Zweisimmen
- Saloon coaches in 1st class

#### Railbar service

- Zweisimmen Montreux
- Panorama coaches in 1st and 2nd class
- "Grande vue" VIP front seats (spec. supplement required)
   Railbar service





# From Lucerne into Ticino – in style. With the Wilhelm Tell Express.

Fast is certainly what this "Express" is not. But it makes up for it by being first class, through and through. In Lucerne, you'll be welcomed aboard the first-class upper deck of an historic paddlewheel steamer, complete with an elegant saloon. Two and three-quarter cruising hours later, and after a lunch in the onboard restaurant, you'll transfer to a similarly first-class panorama coach of the Gotthard Railway which will take you to Locarno in Ticino.

Lake Lucerne provides the scenic beauty to start with. It's hard to believe that a cruise this long is possible on the lake. One repeatedly has the feeling of simply being underway on a small romantic lake, encircled by idyllic places and nearby mountains. But then the steamer makes a gracious turn around a headland, just where the lake seems to come to an end. This happens twice, until the other end of the lake is reached. According to legend, Wilhelm Tell was transported in chains over the stormy lake to not far from here. The place where you see the Tell Chapel today, is where he escaped from his pursuers onto the "Tellsplatte" (Tell's ledge) with a mighty jump.

Your steamboat, in contrast, will take you safely to Flüelen, where the Gotthard Railway awaits you. It represents another piece of Swiss history: Conquering the Gotthard by rail, 1872–1882. Don't be surprised if the church in Wassen passes by the gigantic win-

Luzern

ierwald-

tättersee

dows of your panorama coach three times on your journey – each time from a different perspective. That's because you will have been taken around in a circle in a tunnel, all in order to gain precious elevation. Then comes the 15-km-long Gotthard tunnel.

On the other side of the tunnel Airolo, the Leventina valley, Ticino. Italian is spoken here. And it also has a lifestyle to match, under the southern sun.

You'll certainly become aware of this, at the latest on the piazza in Locarno, when enjoying your ice-cream under the palm trees.

Nww.wilhelmtellexpress.ch

#### **Wilhelm Tell Express**

Lucerne > Lake Lucerne > Flüelen > St. Gotthard > Bellinzona > Locarno/Lugano

#### Timetable effective from May 1 2009 to Oct 18 2009

Lucerne > Locarno/Lugano			Locarno/Lugano > Lucerne				
Boat				Train			
Lucerne	dep.	9.12 <sup>2)</sup>	11.12	Lugano	dep.	9.301)	11.30 <sup>1</sup>
Flüelen	arr.	11.55 <sup>2)</sup>	13.55	Locarno	dep.	9.45	11.45
Train				Flüelen	arr.	11.41	13.41
Flüelen	dep.	12.16	14.16	Boat			
Locarno	arr.	14.13	16.13	Flüelen	dep.	12.002)	14.00
Lugano	arr.	14.27 <sup>1)</sup>	16.271)	Lucerne	arr.	14.472)	16.47

 <sup>1)</sup> Change trains in Bellinzona
 <sup>2)</sup> Motor vessel on weekdays from May 1 until May 20 2009 and from Sep 21 until Oct 18 2009

Lago

di Lugano

Supplement of CHF 39.– to the Swiss Pass for 1st class. Seat reservation is mandatory and available from your local sales outlet or at larger train stations in Switzerland.

Subject to price and timetable changes.

Göschenen

Flüelen

Gotthard Airolo

Bellínzona Locarno

Lago

Maggiore

Lugano



# From St. Moritz into Ticino by Alpine Postbus. The Palm Express.

Swiss Postbuses can trace their heritage back to stagecoaches. Naturally they no longer clatter their way across Alpine passes drawn by four horses. They now glide smoothly around the curves on their routes. Yet the buses still sound their post horns in curves, albeit mechanically, when the roads become especially narrow, still in remembrance of the romanticism of the stagecoach era. In St. Moritz, a very special Postbus journey awaits you: up onto the Maloja Pass, down along Lake Como, across into Ticino, to Lugano.

The lakes of St. Moritz, Silvaplana and Sils will draw past your window seat once you leave sophisticated St. Moritz on this journey of discovery. Nature will keep you spellbound. You wish to travel to the south and the Maloja Pass, at 1815 metres above sea level, not that much higher than your starting point, firstly needs to be crossed. You only get a true sense of how high you are, when you reach pass height: with its 12 hairpin curves, the road winds down deep into the Bergell valley, towards Chiavenna. A valley of austere beauty.

In Castasegna, you reach Italy, further down, past Lago di Mezzola, you arrive at Lake Como. The austerity melds into the sweet charm of the south. A paradise, adorned with palm and cypress trees, at

di Lugano



a lake that already seems to herald the nearby Mediterranean Sea. In Menaggio, you leave the lake behind. Another lake now awaits you, Lake Lugano. You still remain in Italy, while your driver passes along the shore road towards Lugano, back into Switzerland, into its southernmost point.

In just under four hours, the Swiss Travel System has managed to show so much beauty. As well as a chunk of Italy.

N www.postbus.ch/alps

#### **Palm Express**

St. Moritz > Lugano

#### Timetable effective until Dec 12 2009

St. Moritz > Lugano						
Bus						
St. Moritz	dep.	12.201)				
Lugano	arr.	16.10 <sup>1)</sup>				
Lugano > St. Moritz						
Bus						
Lugano	dep.	11.402)				
St. Moritz	arr.	15.25 <sup>2)</sup>				

Valid entry documents are necessary for the border crossing to Italy. Supplement of CHF 20,- to the Swiss Pass.

Seat reservation is mandatory and available from your local sales outlet or at larger train stations in Switzerland.

- <sup>1)</sup> Daily from Dec 19 2008–Jan 4 2009 and from Jun 12–Oct 18 2009. Friday, Saturday and Sunday from Jan 9–Jun 7 2009 and from Oct 23–Dec 12 2009.
- <sup>2</sup> Daily from Dec 20 2008–Jan 5 2009 and from Jun 13–Oct 19 2009. Saturday, Sunday and Monday from Jan 10–Jun 8 2009 and from the Oct 24–Dec 12 2009.

Subject to price and timetable changes.



# By train from Lake Lucerne to Lake Constance. The Pre-Alpine Express.

You've now become acquainted with five classic scenic routes, each one more spectacular than the other. They all have one thing in common: they take us from one part of the country to another in a few hours. And not by the fastest route, even if they do call themselves an express. Yet always along the most beautiful route. The same applies to the Pre-Alpine Express: the most beautiful connection between Lucerne and Lake Constance.

If you feel drawn to the east, then give the fast trains via Zurich a miss at Lucerne station. Instead, take the direct train to Romanshorn via Biberbrugg – St. Gallen. This is the Pre-Alpine Express. It departs every hour, always at the same number of minutes past the hour. It's also a timetable that lends itself perfectly to stops en route. The next Pre-Alpine Express will surely be arriving soon, or if not that one, what about the one after that? If you feel so inclined, you can even take your bike with you on the train.

This isn't a train of superlatives, more of an insider's recommendation. It doesn't conquer the Alps. It shows you the finely-chiselled charm of the foothills to the Alps, the recalcitrant rock faces behind gently-rolling hills. Cosmopolitan resorts are not its thing. Rather more the highlights of baroque church architecture. If, for example, you decide to stop off in Biberbrugg and take a short trip to the Einsiedeln collegiate church. Or in St. Gallen, the place of treasures of the renowned Abbey Library. Instead of jagged rock faces and deep gorges, the charming hills of the Appenzellerland and Toggenburg will work their magic on you. And then, after having arrived at your destination, a further superlative after all: in Romanshorn, Europe's largest inland lake – Lake Constance.

Take your time, for the Pre-Alpine Express. Study its route. Discover the many gems en route.

N www.voralpen-express.ch

#### **Pre-Alpine Express (Voralpen Express)**

Lucerne > Arth-Goldau > Rapperswil > St. Gallen > Romanshorn

#### Timetable effective until Dec 12 2009

Lucerne > Romanshorn						
Train						
Lucerne	dep.	7.40	every	19.40		
Transp. Mus.	dep.	7.46	hour	19.46		
Arth-Goldau	dep.	8.13	until	20.13		
Rapperswil	dep.	9.03		21.03		
St. Gallen	arr.	9.58		21.58		
Romanshorn	arr.	10.27		22.27		

Romanshorn > Lucerne						
Train						
Romanshorn	dep.	6.34	every	18.34		
St. Gallen	dep.	7.02	hour	19.02		
Rapperswil	dep.	8.00	until	20.00		
Arth-Goldau	dep.	8.48		20.48		
Transp. Mus.	arr.	9.11		21.11		
Lucerne	arr.	9.20		21.20		

All the trains of the Pre-Alpine Express have a bistro coach with a catering vending machine, from which you can obtain snacks and beverages.

Subject to price and timetable changes

Bodensee Romanshorn St. Gallen Herisau Wattwil Ricken Kaltbrunn Rapperswil

## /ierwald- Arth-Goldau

# A beautiful trip. Followed by a splendid night.

All of these scenic trips on the last few pages have two things in common: they take a whole day to complete, and in the evening you'll find yourself in a new place. And probably also a little tired from taking in so many sights and impressions. If so, it's nice knowing that you're vou'll find a few suggestions for individual travel arrangements involving a trip and overnight accomodation on the opposite page. For further offers and information from Switzerland Tourism and to order their brochures, call the following number, free of charge: 00800 100 200 30. Alternatively, visit www.MySwitzerland.com.



### Express yourself in spectacular Switzerland

As a Swiss company, Kuoni knows Europe's most breathtaking country inside out and has been operating lakes and mountains, and winter activity holidays to Switzerland for over 30 years.

Join us on an unforgettable discovery tour of majestic mountains, sparkling lakes and vibrant resorts, travelling in the most romantic and comfortable way – by train. In the new superb Lakes an Mountains 2009 brochure, Kuoni features the finest railway journeys, including the Wilhelm Tell Express, the Cho-

### GoldenPass Tour

Connect Central Switzerland and Lake Geneve with this attractive train ride. Depart from historic Lucerne by GoldenPass Panoramic train, sit back and enjoy the impressive scenery as you travel through the Bernese Oberland. Enjoy the electrifying descent to Montreux, finally arrive at shimmering Lake Geneva.

#### The standard package includes

5 nights accommodation with breakfast in 3 or 4 star hotels (2 nights in Lucerne, 2 nights in Interlaken, 1 night in Montreux); Swiss

### Peaks of the World

A fantastic journey to two of the most famous resorts in Switzerland: Interlaken and Zermatt. Interlaken in the heart of the Bernese Oberland – an excursion to the Jungfraujoch is included! It's then on to Zermatt with the impressive Matterhorn towering in the background. A trip to the Gornergrat is included.

#### The standard package includes

4 nights accommodation with breakfast in 3 or 4 star hotels (2 nights in Interlaken, 2 nights in Zermatt); Swiss Card (5 transfer colate Train and the world famous Glacier Express, including our ever escorted Grand Swiss Tour – plus a host of summer activities from canyoining to Nordic walking.

Holidays start just  $\pounds 227$  per person an a great Swiss train journey from just  $\pounds 764$  per person.

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Card (4 transfer days) in 1st class from/to Swiss border or airport; 1st class seat reservations for the GoldenPass panoramic trains.

 From CHF 760.– per person based on two people sharing

Contact the Swiss Holiday specialist in Zurich or London: Switzerland Travel Centre Ltd. Tel 00800 100 200 30 (freephone), info@stc.ch or www.swisstravelsystem.co.uk

days) incl excursions to Jungfraujoch and Gornergrat in 2nd class.

 From CHF 810.– per person based on two people sharing

Contact the Swiss Holiday specialist in Zurich or London: Switzerland Travel Centre Ltd. Tel 00800 100 200 30 (freephone), info@stc.ch or www.swisstravelsystem.co.uk









ine summer.

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Winter



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# The Experience.

Of all the vehicles that operate along the 20000 kilometres of the route network in the Swiss Travel System, they are amongst the slowest: The boats on the lakes. These passengers on the historic paddlewheel steamer "Schiller" on Lake Lucerne wouldn't have it any other way: it prolongs the pleasure.

Is it a nice day and are you in the mood to venture out somewhere? Are you suddenly smitten with the idea of sampling the wine in a vine-growing village alongside Lake Geneva? Shall we see if the weather is equally brilliant on the other side of the Alps? What about visiting Zurich to do some shopping on Bahnhofstrasse? Or, do the mountains take your fancy today? What about seeing all of Lake Lucerne? In the Swiss Travel System, all that's needed is a quick look at the map, a further glance at the timetable, and off you go. You do, after all, already have the Swiss Pass in your pocket. The following pages are intended to give you a few ideas for excursions in various regions of Switzerland. If you wish to discover even more on your own initiative, the map on the following double page will

help you.

trasbourg | Paris | Luxembourg | Bruxelle

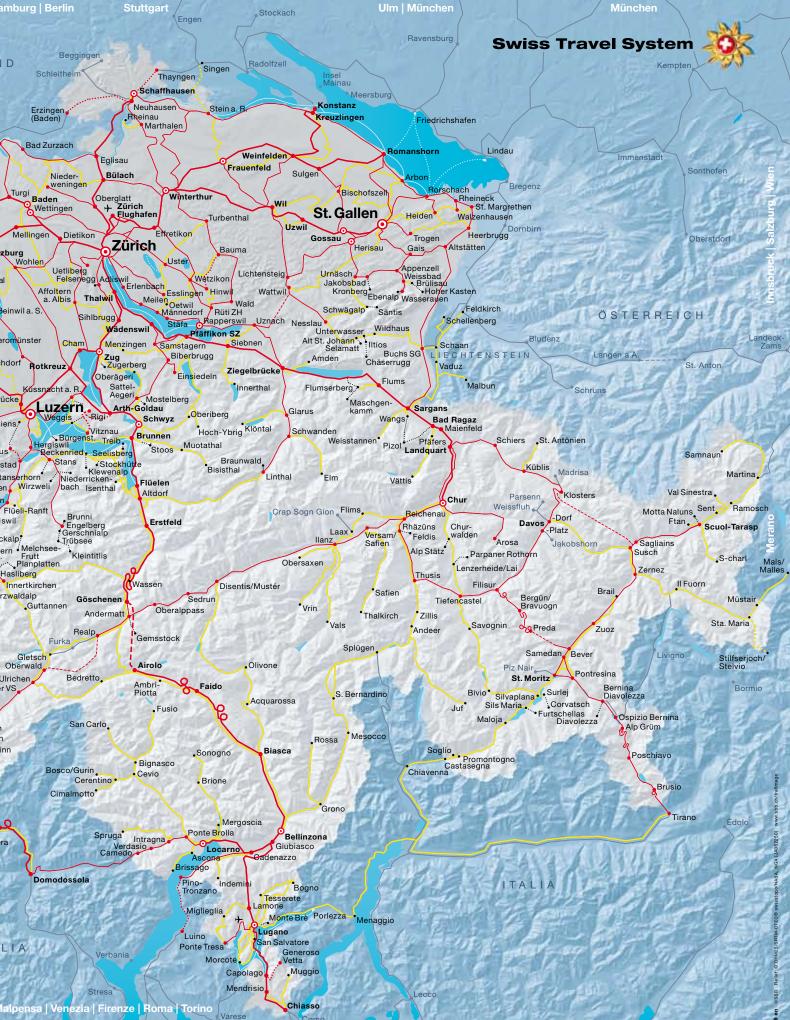
Karlsruhe | Frankfurt | Dortmund | Ha

## Synoptic Map

Due to lack of space not all lines are indicated. Subject to alterations.

DEUTSCHLAN





#### Area of validity Swiss Transfer Ticket

Lines for 1 journey: Round-trip Swiss border/airport – destination and back

A seat reservation (incl. supplement) is required to travel in some trains/buses/boats such as Glacier Express, Bernina Express, Wilhelm Tell Express, Swiss Chocolate Train, Palm Express, etc. On some postbus routes (e.g. Alpine passes) a supplement (Alpine Ticket) and/or a seat reservation is required.



Lucerne has 'its' own mountain immediately on its doorstep: the 2132-metre-high Pilatus. And your Swiss Travel System ticket means that you're practically already there. The steenest cod railway in the world will take you from Almachetad to Lucerne has 'its' own mountain immediately on its doorstep: the 2 132-metre-high Pilatus. And your Swiss Travel System ticket means that you're practically already there. The steepest cog railway in the world will take you from Alphachstad to from summit for half the normal price. The same applies to the aerial cableway from Kriens. When combined with a beat trip from the aerial cableway from Kriens. ticket means that you're practically already there. The steepest cog railway in the world will take you from Alphachstad to the summit for half the normal price. The same applies to the aerial cableway from Kriens. When combined with a boat trip from the steepest cog railway in the world will take you from Alphachstad to the summit for half the normal price. The same applies to the aerial cableway from Kriens when combined with a boat trip from the steepest cog railway in the world will take you from Alphachstad to the summit for half the normal price. The same applies to the aerial cableway from Kriens when combined the Colden Bound Trip from the steepest cog railway in the world will be available and a chort bue trip back to Lucerne from Kriens world be available summit for half the normal price. The same applies to the aerial cableway from Kriens. When combined with a boat trip from Lucerne to Alphachstad and a short bus trip back to Lucerne from Kriens, you'll have experienced the Golden Round Trip. And it isn't only a breath-taking pangrame that awaits you on the summit: with all of its biking trails its alimning routes and it Lucerne to Alphachstad and a short bus trip back to Lucerne trom Kriens, you'll have experienced the Golden Round Trip. And it isn't only a breath-taking panorama that awaits you on the summit; with all of its hiking trails, its climbing routes and its become run, the Pilatue is a verifiable adventure mountain

toboggan run, the Pilatus is a veritable adventure mountain.

www.pilatus.ch

# Where mountains where mountains ise to the heavens. There is hardly a region in Switzerland where at least a There is hardly a region in Switzerland where at least a

few peaks cannot be seen rising into the sky on the horizon. The Alps with their snow-covered four-thousand metre peaks are a landmark of Switzerland. Green valleys lie between them. Romantic mountain villages, chapels and Alpine huts cling to their slopes. Cows, sheep and goats graze between them. Torrents surge into the valley, merry small brooks gurgle briskly through the pastures. A blue mountain lake glimmers here and there. And then, in winter, a carpet of deep Yet the trains and Postbuses of the Swiss Travel System snow envelopes everything. travel everywhere: alongside the rivers in the valleys, through tunnels and over bridges on their way up slopes, along switchbacks to cross passes ... And when they finally reach their termini, pleasant walking trails and bold mountain paths await to be discovered by you.







# Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau. And you're part of it.

It's known as the Jungfrau region, this mountain paradise in the Bernese Oberland. Yet it should actually be called the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau region. The three mountain giants are practically omnipresent here, as a grandiose backdrop. You can already see them on the horizon from Interlaken, the starting point of the Jungfrau Railways. From there to Lauterbrunnen they occasionally become obscured. The Lauterbrunnen valley runs deep within the Alpine massif. Thundering down high rock walls amid a mist of spray, the Staubbach waterfall near Lauterbrunnen, demonstrates this to us impressively. A visit is well worthwhile, before you disappear to higher regions, at the actual foot of the Jungfrau massif. For example in the direction of Kleine Scheidegg, where the Eiger north face confronts you in such a manner that it's easy to feel a slight shiver.

The railways of the Jungfrau region will take you there. The track that extends up directly into the Eiger face and disappears into a tunnel there, belongs to the one and only, the world-famous **Jungfrau Railway.** Its upper terminus lies at an altitude of 3454 metres a.s.l. on the **Jungfraujoch**, the **"Top of Europe"**, in a tunnel under the sea of ice. You'd rather not venture up to quite that altitude? Starting out from Wilderswil, the first station after Interlaken, the Schynige Platte Railway travels up to a rambler's paradise at 1967 metres a.s.l.. And a further 100 kilometres of walking trails through the glorious Alpine world wait to be discovered in Grindelwald-First. The gondola lift will take you comfortably from Grindelwald First. On the other side of the Lauterbrunnen valley, the railway will take you from Lauterbrunnen up to Mürren. The Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau welcome you here from the other side of the valley, and the Schilthorn cableway waits to spirit you up to James Bond's "Piz Gloria", on the Schilthorn. www.myjungfrau.ch www.jungfraubahn.ch

#### Swiss Travel System Conditions.

Swiss Pass: free travel until Grindelwald, Wengen and Mürren. 50% discount on the connecting ticket to Kleine Scheidegg, Schynige Platte, Schilthorn and First. 25% discount from Kleine Scheidegg to the Jungfraujoch. Swiss Card: 50% discount on the entire network of railways and cableways in the Jungfrau region. Seat reservations are not possible for individual travellers.

# Cruising in the Bernese Oberland.

Interlaken means "between the lakes". The starting point for our excursions into the Jungfrau region lies between Lake Thun and Brienz. Thun lies at the lower end of Lake Thun and, at the upper end of Lake Brienz, none other than Brienz. And, in between, the shimmering blue lakes beckon you to cast off on a cruise. The localities in the Oberland might squabble as to which of them offers the finest views of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau. The true connoisseur enjoys seeing their majesties rise up above the bright green hills and dark green firs from the other shore of the lake. And when the boat is also one of the two historic paddlewheel steamers, the connoisseur will be blessed with the best of fortunes. The Swiss Pass simply allows him to step onboard and be taken wherever he wishes. www.bls.ch/schiff



## Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau with the eyes of James Bond.

George Lazenby, as James Bond, in the service of his queen, struck up here. Here, on the Schilthorn, alias "Piz Gloria". In 1969, the then still unopened revolving restaurant on the summit became world famous as the mountaintop fortress of the villain Blofeld in the film "On Her Majesty's

Now, in **Stechelberg** or **Mürren**, you'll be stepping into a cabin of the world's longest aerial cableway as a guest, and then travel up. Across Secret Service". from you, the majesties of the Jungfrau massif proffer their welcomes. Peace reigns. The villain has long since departed. Once at the top, you will realise why he wanted to make this his lair: here, at around 3000 metres above sea level, and above the rest of the world, one feels superior. Dine here, enjoy your Martini, shaken, not stirred, like secret agent 007. And, above all, enjoy the panorama. A part of which is only obscured by the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau. But they are entitled to do so, the majesties. And the restaurant continues to revolve, 360°. If it wasn't round,

you'd be able to see the entire world.

PS: As the holder of a Swiss Pass or a Swiss Card, you are eligible for a **50% discount** on the return fare from Mürren onto the Schilthorn.

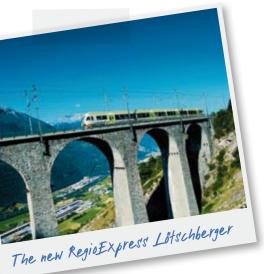


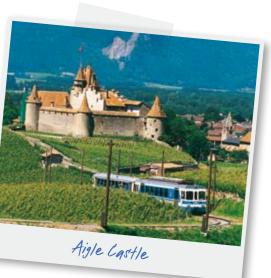


# Visiting the longest valley in the Alps.

### Reaching the Valais from the east. Onboard the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn.

The railway derives its name in part from the **Gotthard massif**, the principal watershed between the North Sea and the Mediterranean Sea. It is a barrier of mountains that firstly needs to be vanquished. And it can be done in comfort from a window seat on the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn. Setting off from **Disentis**, you will encounter the young Rhine in the **Tujetsch Valley** and travel across the 2033-metre-high **Oberalp Pass** to **Ander-matt**. From **Göschenen**, you will travel through the **Schöllenen Gorge** to **Ander-matt** and from there, via the **Urseren Valley** and through the **Furka tunnel** towards Valais.





Up here, the valley is still known as the **Goms,** and it is where you will now encounter the young Rhone on its way to the Mediterranean Sea. Along your route, the sun has practically burnt black the timber houses in the Goms villages that lie scattered around the white churches and chapels.

Then you arrive in **Brig.** Leaving **Visp**, the next station in the valley, you now get taken up nearly one thousand metres, to **Zermatt**, at the foot of the **Matterhorn**.

Now you know where the railway derives the other part of its proud name from. www.mgbahn.ch



Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn

### From the north and from the west. A part of Provence in the Alps.

Sometimes, the slower route is the more beautiful. Take the one from Berne to Brig, in the Valais for example. Allow yourself that extra hour on the train. After all, you are on holidays. In Berne, climb aboard the "Lötschberger", the smart, air-conditioned RegioExpress train that will take you into the Valais via the traditional Lötschberg route. After passing through the ,old' Lötschberg tunnel, the mountains will draw back on one side in Goppenstein and your vista will broaden. If you decide to alight anywhere here, you will see a flora, the likes of which you probably didn't expect to see in the Alps: practically like in Provence. A southern sun shines brightly in the sky. What about some hiking? There are well-signposted walking trails here at the Lötschberg south ramp. And, having returned tired from your walking, you'll be pleased to know that a train departs hourly for Brig.

www.bls.ch/loetschberger

From June 13 until October 18 2009, 3 times daily in both directions. Journey duration approx. 3½ hours. Supplement to a Swiss Travel System ticket CHF 11.–. Seat reservations are essential for trips starting from Saas Fee (available from Saas Fee Postbus station). Will you be coming from the direction of Lake Geneva? Then the Valais will already have welcomed you from afar. The Valais Alps stand like a large wide gateway at the upper end of the lake. You see them from the train when you travel from Lausanne/ Montreux towards Martigny/Brig in the Valais. The region here, famous for its wine, is known as Chablais to start with. What about a stop in Aigle to sample the wine? From here, trains go up to the health resorts of Les Diablerets, Leysin, Monthey and Champéry. Do you wish to continue on up the Valais to Visp? Here you can either take a side-trip by train to Zermatt or continue to Saas Fee by Postbus.

Was Napoleon ever in Saas Fee? Either way, there is a Postbus connection here named after him. The **Napoleon Route Express** travels across the Simplon Pass and links **Saas Fee** with **Domodossola**. The name stems from the hotel on the pass road in **Gabi**, at which Bonaparte is reputed to have stayed once. He will certainly not have taken the **Centovalli Railway** (page 41), which will take you from Domodossola to Locarno in Ticino.

www.postbus.ch/alps

Gornergrat Bahn – The Matterhorn Railway

Anyone who wishes to discover the dazzling beauty of the Alps will soon realise that the trip to the Gornergrat by Zermatt is a "must". Its sunny viewing platform, which remains accessible all year round, makes the Gornergrat 29 peaks rising to above 4000 m, Switzerland's greatest mountain and the second longest glacier in the Alps, it offers a spectacular mountain panorama second to none. And the "Matterhorn Railway" brings it all to within touching distance. The Swiss Pass grants you free travel to Zermatt. From www.gornergrat.ch





# Toward Europe's highest mountain.

From **Martigny** in the Lower Valais, a mountain railway climbs toward **Mont Blanc,** on the French-Italian border, which towers over the whole of Europe with a height of 4807 metres a.s.l.: the **Mont Blanc Express.** The trip to **Chamonix** in France takes two hours; at its highest point, the route takes you nearly up to a third of the height of Mont Blanc.

During its ascent, the railway passes through the rugged **Trient Gorge**, past fast-flowing water. Watch out for shady mountain forests and pleasant mountain villages en route. The ever-closer glacier world of Mont Blanc extends its welcome.

Don't forget that you will be crossing the border into France. You will need valid entry documents. Your Swiss Travel System ticket is valid for the entire journey, including the French side.

#### www.tmrsa.ch

Current timetables are available at www.rail.ch

# To the place of origin of Saint Bernard dogs.

Who isn't familiar with them? The muscular, good-natured St. Bernard dogs. Who hasn't seen a picture somewhere of Barry, the most famous of all St. Bernards, complete with a small cask around his neck?

In a little over an hour, the **St. Bernard Express** will take you up to the height of the **Great St. Bernard Pass**, at 2469 metres a.s.l., the place of origin of these famous rescue dogs. It is now nearly four hundred years since the Augustinian monks in the hospice up here started rearing these dogs and training them to search for and rescue lost mountain travellers.

First of all, the railway takes you from **Martigny** to **Orsières.** There, a bus that awaits you will take you to **Champex-Lac, La Fouly** and – from mid June to mid September – even to the hospice on the **Great St. Bernard Pass.** 

www.tmrsa.ch Current timetables are available at www.rail.ch



Great St. Bernard Pass

# Take a ride on the Alpine merry-go-round.

It is thanks to Roman road builders that you are now able to negotiate the ridge of the Alps comfortably by Postbus. They turned their attention to the completion of Alpine passes in the first two hundred years of our calendar. At the Great St. Bernard Pass, the oldest milestone in Switzerland dating from 47 A.D. makes reference to the Roman emperor Tiberius Claudius. Say hello to him, when you ride past.



of Alps and the Gotthard massif.

Susten Pass

## The Four Passes Round Trip ...

... takes you from Meiringen in the Bernese Oberland across the **Grimsel Pass** into the Upper Valais, from there across the Nufenen Pass into Ticino, across the Gotthard Pass into central Switzerland, and then across the Susten Pass to Meiringen again. You'll be driven comfortably by a modern Postbus. Yet, time and again, whenever the bus approaches one of the countless switchbacks, the clarion call of its mechanical ,post horn' takes you back to the time of the old stagecoaches. Like the coachman in his day, your driver on this one-day tour of the Alps will allow you to stretch your legs at the most beautiful vantage points, enjoy the view and occasionally permit himself sustenance on the terrace of a mountain restaurant. At the end of the day,

you will have conquered an altitude gain of 8000 metres, and surmounted the Alps four times. You can also have the route explained to you over headphones along the journey.

www.postbus.ch/alps

This day-long adventure excursion incl. a coffee break and lunch stop will be offered every day from June 20 until October 4 2009 from Meiringen. Departure 9:20 hrs, arrival 18:05 hrs at the departure point. Supplement to your Swiss Travel System ticket: CHF 25.- per Person. Seat reservation is mandatory and available from your local sales outlet or at larger train stations in Switzerland.



Grimsel Pass

## Romantic Route Express ...

... that's the name of the two-pass journey across the Furka and the Grimsel Pass. In summer, it connects Andermatt with Grindelwald in the Bernese Oberland. Andermatt lies on the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn line. That means it is easy to reach from the Valais, as it is from Göschenen and Disentis on the other side.

What looks to be a small drive on the map, is in actual fact an experience-packed tour lasting from five to seven hours. Along its route the Postbus will climb above the forest line twice. The Furka Pass lies at 2431 metres a.s.l., the Grimsel Pass 2165 metres a.s.l., Gletsch, at the lower end of the Rhone Glacier, lies between both; it is where the Rhone starts its journey towards the Mediterranean Sea. The magnificent views across the Gotthard massif, the reservoirs on the

Grimsel Pass, the ruggedly-romantic Rosenlaui Valley and the passage across the Grosse Scheidegg are just as much a part of this trip as the peaceful mountain pastures with their grazing cows. www.postbus.ch/alps

The Romantic Route Express operates once every day from June 20 until October 4 2009 in both directions. From Grindelwald across the Susten Pass, instead of over Grimsel and Furka Pass. Supplement to your Swiss Travel System ticket for both options: CHF 20.- per Person. The Schwarzwaldalp - Grindelwald fare stage costs CHF 11.50 extra (to be paid to the bus driver). Seat reservation is mandatory and available from your local sales outlet or at larger train stations in Switzerland.



The Rhine gorge

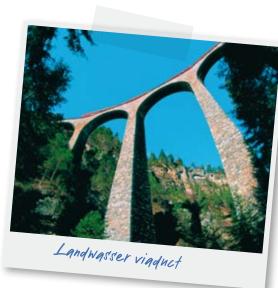
# Move on, to Graubünden.

The people of Graubünden are proud of their canton, and rightly so. A unique language, **Romantsch**, has even been retained here in addition to German and Italian. None of the wide-gauge trains of the Central Plateau continues on from **Chur**, the cantonal capital. Instead, the dapper red narrow-gauge trains of the **Rhaetian Railway** depart from here, amongst them a blue one destined for **Arosa.** They are better suited to the rugged landscape of this mountainous canton. They might be smaller, these trains, but they are no less comfortable. A holiday mood prevails on board. Anyone who isn't a local, will soon feel like one. And at the stations everywhere, yellow **Postbuses** wait to take those who wish to venture up even higher. Graubünden has its own transportation system within the Swiss Travel System.

www.rhb.ch, www.postbus.ch

## The trip to St. Moritz. An attraction in itself.

In **Chur,** hop aboard the train to **St. Moritz** via **Thusis.** It could very well become your route addiction, one you are hardly able to wean yourself off. One thing that you won't be able to tear yourself away from is the ever-changing landscapes passing you by from the window of this small train. From time to time you will hold your breath when the train thunders over one of the high bridges, for example over the **Landwasser viaduct,** the imposing landmark along the **UNESCO World Heritage-listed Albula route.** Far down below, a remote mountain stream gurgles into the valley, between cliffs and firs. Soon afterwards, after a tunnel, everything changes again, to green and delightful. It's something you need to experience personally. And then, in **St. Moritz,** you and half of the world will be guests, in this magnificent Alpine Mecca of the rich and beautiful.





s-chanf in the Engadine

### The Engadine route to St. Moritz.

If you wish to experience the Lower Engadine on your detour, then take the Engadine Star train from Landquart to St. Moritz. It travels via Klosters and Zernez. It's route is not immediately as mountainous as the one just described. On the way towards Klosters, the delightful Prättigau Valley, with its snug villages set on green farmland, is a joy to see. Until 1999, this line terminated in Klosters, that is unless you wanted to continue on to Davos. Now, immediately after Klosters, your train will enter the 19-kmlong Vereina Tunnel which was opened at the time. The Engadine awaits you on the other side, its white villages with their splendid stone houses gathered around their churches: Zernez, S-chanf, Zuoz, Madulain, La Punt Chamues-ch, even the Romanic names of the villages seem as if from a picture-book. World-famous St. Moritz, with its blue lakes, also awaits here at the end of your journey.

# Where the Engadine still remains practically untouched.

It need not always be St. Moritz. Scuol-Tarasp, a typical Engadine village, with wide expansive houses with thick walls, inviting round archways and small, deeply-inset windows, lies at the other end of the Engadine. Sgraffiti decorate the building frontages. Mineral water (actually) flows from the village well and the air is also incomparably pure, even if mixed with less champagne than in sophisticated St. Moritz. In Landquart, you can board the Aqualino adventure train, if you wish to travel to Scuol-Tarasp. On its route, it will also pass through the Prättigau Valley via Klosters and through the Vereina Tunnel. Spending a few hours in the Scuol Spa Complex? An excursion to the nearby National Park? The tough decision is yours to make.



Guarda in the lower Engadine valley

### A side trip into South Tyrol?

You will certainly be returning again, from Italy to Switzerland, because one thing's a sure bet: there will still be much to discover in the Swiss Travel System. Knowing this, in Zernez (Engadine) you will board the Postbus identified as the Engadin-Meran Route Express. On your way up the long road to the Ofen Pass (2049 metres a.s.l.), you will travel right through the wilderness of the Swiss National Park. Then, at pass altitude, the view into the Münster Valley reveals itself: a sublime world unto itself in the south-eastern corner of Graubünden. The snow-capped summits of the Ortler range, over there, in South Tyrol, stand imposingly. In Müstair, in front of the Italian border, it is well worthwhile making an en-route stop and visiting the Benedictine Convent of Saint John. It, together with its frescoes dating from the early Middle Ages, has been granted UNESCO World Heritage listing. But your journey continues, into the Vinschgau Valley in South Tyrol. You are in Italy here. However the language here continues to be predominantly German. In Mals, the Vinschgerbahn (www.sad.it) awaits, to take you to the practically Mediterranean town of Merano. When you travel back into Switzerland along the same route in the evening, you can be certain of having discovered a corner that even many Swiss (and many Italians) hardly know. www.postbus.ch/alps

The Engadin-Meran Route Express operates hourly every day from May 16 to October 18 2009, and six times daily in both directions in mid-season. An express service also operates once a day in both directions, with mandatory seat reservation.

The trip lasts approximately 1 ½ hrs. Valid entry documents are necessary for the border crossing into Italy. The Vinschgerbahn (www.sad.it) is not covered by the Swiss Travel System.

Option: From June 27 to October 18 2009 you also have the option of commencing your trip in Davos and travelling by Postbus across the Flüela Pass to Zernez. Supplement to the Swiss Travel System ticket: CHF 6.– per Person.



Engadin-Meran Route Express



View from Hasliberg

# Stunning views.

Much has already been said here about the views you'll be able to savour from trains, from Postbuses and boats. But travellers in Switzerland who, in addition to stunning vistas, also want to have an overview will enquire about the nearest mountain vantage point. Wherever there are mountains, and that means practically everywhere in Switzerland, you'll also find mountain cable- and railways that will take you

up into the mountains offering the most beautiful panoramas. And thankfully, the base stations of most of these have convenient rail, bus or boat connections.

An en-route stop is always well worthwhile. And especially so when autumnal mist settles widely across the valley but glorious sunlight still shines at the top.

### The Alpen tower. Panoramic view of 401 peaks.

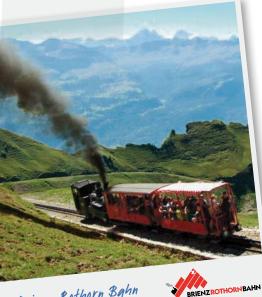
Meiringen is the ideal place for an en-route stop on the GoldenPass Line. Take some time to visit and explore the beautiful Haslital. Right nearby, the Reichenbach Falls thunder down into the valley from the cliffs. The ruggedly-romantic Aare gorge invites travellers to visit. Are you game to venture up even higher? If so, allow yourself to be taken up onto Hasliberg Reuti from Meiringen by the aerial cableway. Having arrived, transfer to the "Alpen tower Express", an 8-seater gondola lift up onto the Mägisalp. And because you're already soaring high, why not continue up to Planplatten, better known as the "Alpen tower", at 2250 metres a.s.l., onboard the "Eagle Express", another 8-seater gondola lift.

Here you'll find the restaurant Alpen tower, a light, modern design with views in all directions, indeed a true panorama restaurant. Take a seat, enjoy a sumptuous meal, toast the magnificent views with a fine glass of wine, allow yourself to be pampered.

And what better way to aid digestion afterwards than to take the five-minute walk to the vantage point on the Planplatten ridge. Here, the panorama information panels will help to acquaint you with the names of nearby and distant mountains. Visitors of a more active disposition also won't be disappointed: well-signposted rambling trails await to be discovered by them.



www.haslital.ch, www.alpentower.ch



Brienz Rothorn Bahn

## Up the mountain at full steam.

Brienz lies at the upper end of Lake Brienz. An en-route stop in this home village to wood carving is highly recommended, not least because of the steam-operated cog railway that runs up to the Brienzer Rothorn. Hissing, huffing and puffing, the railway has been taking guests from around the world up onto the 2350-metre-high summit since 1892, and saving them the huff and puff of a foot ascent. It takes the Brienz Rothorn Bahn and its smoky locomotive one hour to conquer the climb, passing through six tunnels and two galleries. At the bottom, the turquoise-blue lake sends its greetings. Time seems to fly, since you are forever awestruck by the natural beauty here. The air is fresh up here, and it all makes for a very hearty appetite. Rothorn Kulm, everyone alight please! The staff already await you in the Kulm restaurant. And what about a leisurely stroll afterwards to stretch your legs before returning down into the valley? After all, it's not every day that you get to enjoy a view as magnificent as the one from the Brienzer Rothorn.



### Mount Rigi. 365 days of mountain experience.

Not one, but three rail- and cableways lead up to Mount **Rigi.** It is said to be the most popular mountain vantage point in Switzerland. And legend has it that its name stems from the Latin "Regina Montium", which would translate as "Queen of Mountains". But it's best to see why this mountain is so highly acclaimed with your own eyes. You won't regret it.

However before reaching the summit, you will have to make a tough decision: will you travel by boat from **Lucerne** to **Vitznau** and then transfer to Switzerland's first cog railway? Will you already transfer from your boat to the aerial cableway in **Weggis** which will take you up onto the mountain in only 10 minutes? Or will you make your approach

from the other side, and take the alternative cog railway from Arth-Goldau (on the Gotthard Railway route)? The Rigi offers ample space and scope not only for three mountain rail- and cableways, but also for seven restaurants, 150 km of hiking trails and all those wishing to treat themselves to a beautiful day in the fresh mountain air up there. The Queen has a proud stature, adorned in two robes, one in green mountain pastures and another one in white snow. In summer as in winter, there's enough to see and do to easily spend an entire day here. But you can also stay overnight if you wish to enjoy the renowned sunrise in the morning. www.riai.ch



stanserborn cableway

### Here, the mountain panorama revolves around you.

Simply imagine that you are sitting in a restaurant and an entire panorama is passing you by outside, in front of the window: the snow-covered mountains of the Alps, Lake Lucerne far down below you with Lucerne at one end, the Jura in the blue yonder...

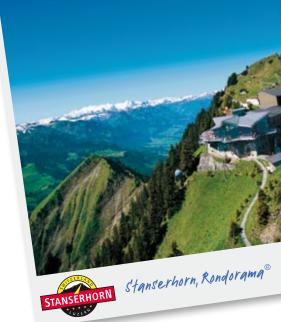
Well, it all actually happens in the Rondorama<sup>®</sup> revolving restaurant on the **Stanserhorn.** And you're sitting pretty, at 1900 metres a.s.l., taking it all in and enjoying yourself. A historic funicular railway and a modern aerial cableway have brought you safely up here from Stans.

If you want to complete a round under your own steam, a secure summit and cliff trail

invites you to embark on a 30-minute circular walk. The children will want to visit the marmots in their enclosure. You will probably want to personally verify that 10 lakes can indeed all be seen from up here.

A place from which to draw strength, that's what Stanserhorn is reputed to be. Breathe in deeply, before the aerial cableway and then the classic funicular railway take you down to **Stans** again, not far from **Lucerne.** You will have topped up your energy reserves in any case.

www.stanserhorn.ch



Your Swiss Pass or your Swiss Card gives you the benefit of a 50% discount on the mountain rail- and cableways presented on this double page.

# Where rolling hills and blue lakes

# From Lake Geneva through to Lake Constance.

Nowhere in Switzerland is the landscape entirely flat. The Central Plateau could best be described as being "hilly". It's a part of the country that lies between the Jura in the north and the Alps in the south. Alternatively, it's the region between Lake Geneva in the west and Lake Constance in the east. Not that the Alps stop abruptly at the southern periphery of the Central Plateau. However it is where their precursors stand: the foothills to the Alps (Voralpen), admittedly not inaccessible snow-capped peaks, nevertheless attractive, mountainous landscapes. Wonderful hiking and relaxation areas.

The jewels of the Central Plateau also lie between the Alps and the Jura: the lakes.

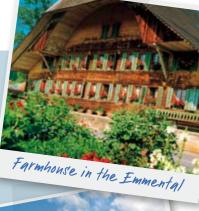
In the Swiss Travel System, the Central Plateau is the domain of the "large" railways. The InterCity network of the SBB (Swiss Federal Railways) connects the large cities half-hourly. The dense network as a whole offers hourly connections to every corner of the country. Anyone wishing to see much of Switzerland in a short time will already be able to reach another city within an hour, a surprisingly different landscape, even another culture with another language. Those who wish to take things more leisurely need only transfer to one of the many regional trains. And alight wherever they find the surroundings most engaging. The next train will already be along in an hour's time. But even this can be missed if one really takes a liking to where one's landed.



Chillon Castle, Lake Geneva

# A distinctly rural landscape prevails between cities.

Give yourself half an hour's more time when you want to travel from one town to another. For example between **Berne** and **Lucerne**. Instead of taking the faster InterCity train via Zofingen, travel through the **Emmental** and **Entlebuch**. A BLS RegioExpress departs every hour. – Emmental? – Yes, it's where the cheese with the big holes comes from. You'll see the cows that supply the milk for this grazing everywhere on the green pastures. The grand farmhouses to which they belong can be seen amidst the greenery and the clanging of cowbells. In Entlebuch you will cross Switzerland's first **UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.** A fascinating moor landscape with diverse flora and fauna. www.bls.ch/regioexpress





# accompany travellers.

## The Lake Geneva region. Almost Mediterranean.

In the Chablais region, just before the Rhone flows into Lake Geneva, you could be excused for thinking the Mediterranean Sea was just around the next bend of the river. And then you'll also see the Swiss Riviera next! Yes, that's what the shoreline along Montreux is known as. You'll get the distinct impression of being in Nice.

#### Experience the lake across its entire length.

The rail routes from the Valais to **Geneva** via **Montreux**, and from **Berne**, **Fribourg** to **Lausanne** and **Geneva** will show you the lake in its full splendour.

The true connoisseur will take it all in from a **boat** deck. For example from **Montreux**, **Vevey**, **Rivaz** or **Lausanne-Ouchy** heading toward **Geneva**. www.cgn.ch

#### Looking down on the lake.

Starting off from **Montreux**, a cog railway will take you up to a heady height, onto **Rochers-de-Naye.** Palm trees at the bottom along the lakeshore promenade, edel-

weiss and marmots 1 600 metres higher. And a view, down onto the lake from this rocky pinnacle, which is worth the 45-minute trip up a thousand times over. About marmots: In the Marmot's Paradise up here, marmots from throughout the world await your visit. Even quieter Vevey, not far from Montreux, invites you to venture on trips that reach the heights above Lake Geneva. The cog railway climbs up to the green meadows of Les Pléiades directly from the railway station. Up there, you'll not only have the opportunity for wonderful hiking; walking along the "Astro-Pléiades" themed trail, you'll also be able to discover the wonders of the universe. www.mob.ch



The Swiss Pass grants you free travel to Caux, Blonay and up onto Mont-Pèlerin on these railways; similarly on all scheduled boat services. 50% discount on connecting tickets onto Rochers-de-Naye and Les Pléiades. With the Swiss Card you will pay only pay half price on all railways and boats.



# If you already happen to be in the country of chocolate ...

... you shouldn't miss out on the **Swiss Chocolate Train.** It departs from **Montreux** and takes you up into Gruyère country, where the fine Cailler chocolate originates from, and naturally also Gruyère cheese.

You will travel exclusively in first class, in luxurious "Belle Epoque" pullman cars dating from 1915 and/or in modern panorama coaches. In **Gruyères** you will visit the picturesque small township and, in a demonstration cheese dairy, see how the cheese is made. And you'll learn all about the production of chocolate in **Broc**, at **Chocolats Cailler**.

The entire trip, inclusive of a seat reservation, coffee and a croissant in the train, bus transfers and castle visit in Gruyères, plus the guided tours will cost you CHF 39.– supplement to the Swiss Pass in 1st class.

The Chocolate Train operates from May 4 to Jun 29 and from Sep 2 to Oct 29 2009 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Daily from Jul 1 to Aug 31 2009. Departing Montreux at 9:25 hrs, arriving at 18:10 hrs. Seat reservation is mandatory and available from your local sales outlet or at larger train stations in Switzerland. Subject to price and timetable changes. www.mob.ch



# Central Switzerland. Where Switzerland has its origin.

Lake Lucerne is representative of central Switzerland. The region encompassing the cantons of Uri, Schwyz, Nidwalden, **Obwalden** and **Lucerne** is also known as inner Switzerland. At their centre, the lake extends its four arms. On its shore lies the Rütli meadow, where the Swiss Confederation was founded in 1291. At its lower end lies Lucerne, the home port of The Lake Lucerne Navigation Company. Its fleet includes five historic paddlewheel steamers, a new catamaran and 14 elegant motor vessels. Thirty eight kilometres of lake routes wait to be discovered. Nothing other than a boat provides the best means of discovering the idyllic bays and romantic inland lake fjords of Lake Lucerne.

The boats operate throughout the year and provide access to the many resorts, hiking trails and mountain railway and cableway stations by the lake. In **Alpnachstad**, the world's steepest cog railway waits to take you up onto Mount **Pilatus**, the distinctive summit high above Lucerne. And every day, the year round, the lunch boat casts off from Lucerne, to start its cruise on the lake with a leisurely lunch.

www.lakelucerne.ch

The **Zentralbahn** provides access to the highlands of **central Switzerland.** It operates between Lucerne and Engelberg via Stans, as well as between Lucerne and Interlaken via Sarnen and the Brünig Pass (see GoldenPass Line, page 14).

In one hour the Zentralbahn will take you into a fascinating Alpine world which has the abbey village of **Engelberg** at its centre. On the other side, in just under two wonderful hours of rail travel after passing across the **Brünig Pass** alongside the deeply-blue Lake Brienz, you'll reach **Interlaken East**, the starting point for many excursions into the Bernese Oberland. But there's also much to discover en route: pretty villages, unspoiled landscapes, clear lakes and brooks. www.zentralbahn.ch Would you really like to travel up high, onto a mountain top? What about **Mount Titlis?** Starting off from Engelberg, the **Titlis Rotair** will take you up to a height of 3020 metres a.s.l. – Rotair? – The Titlis cableway is the first one in the world to have rotating cabins! At the top, perpetual snow awaits you. (50% discount with your Swiss Pass or Swiss Card.) www.titlis.ch







## In Eastern Switzerland

# Eastern Switzerland. Beyond Lake Zurich.

You're already familiar with one route into eastern Switzerland, the Pre-Alpine Express, from page 17. However many railways travel through eastern Switzerland, the region between Lake Zurich and Lake Constance. Schaffhausen, Kreuzlingen, St. Gallen, Rorschach and the German town of Konstanz on Lake Constance all wish to be linked to the metropolis of Zurich and the townships along Lake Zurich. Eastern Switzerland is a cradle of industrialisation in Switzerland. However little of this will be apparent to the traveller passing through the region today. It soon becomes rural beyond Zurich. With landscapes that are rewarding to discover.

In the eastern corner of the region, near St. Gallen, it's the Appenzell Railways that will enable you to discover the Appenzellerland and its surrounding area. Here, in the Appenzell region, many of the older rural customs and have been retained: the tidy farmhouses, the traditional costumes, folk customs and festivals from earlier times and an entirely unique music tradition. A round trip from St. Gallen will acquaint you with typical parts of the area: via Gais to Appenzell and back again via Urnäsch and Herisau. You must, at the very least, get off the train in Appenzell to amble through the town's picturesque main alleyway, but in fact, wherever you wish - the next train will surely arrive shortly. Do you

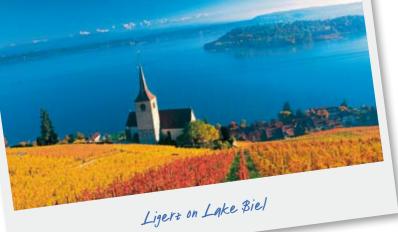
have a little more time to spare? **Mount Säntis** calls. The bus from **Urnäsch** railway station will take you up onto the **Schwägalp**, the **aerial cableway** will transport you up, onto the 2505-metre-high summit with its breath-taking views across the entirety of eastern Switzerland, and far beyond this too. (50% discount with your Swiss Pass or Swiss Card.)

www.appenzellerbahnen.ch, www.saentisbahn.ch

At Kreuzlingen, where the Rhine leaves Lake Constance and where the German town of Konstanz lies directly opposite you, pretty white excursion boats cast off for one of Europe's most beautiful river cruises. It is fifty kilometres from here to Schaffhausen, fifty kilometres brimful of nature's spectacles. The magnificent Untersee (Lower Lake), with the monastic island of Reichenau (UNESCO World Heritage), lies en route. Pretty villages, medieval towns, monasteries, fortresses and castles greet you from the banks. The boat also sails toward picturesque Stein am Rhein with its beautiful Old Town. And if you still haven't had your fill of water when you reach the destination for your cruise, Schaffhausen, then the nearby Rhine Falls beckons you to visit. The Rhine Falls bus will collect you from the boat landing stage. www.urh.ch

Scheduled boat cruises operate in both directions between Kreuzlingen and Schaffhausen from April to October. They call at a total of 17 quays on the Swiss and German river bank. On board, you will be pampered with food and drinks.





# The lake region and Jura. Three glistening lakes set against a blue-green backdrop.

Depending on the weather and distance, the colour of the hilly backdrop that is the Jura changes from blue-grey, to blue-green and to fir-green. It is practically present everywhere on the north-westerly horizon in the Swiss Central Plateau. For the towns at the foot of the Jura – **Neuchâtel, Biel** and **Solothurn** – the dark backdrop of the nearby fir-covered slopes with their interspersed white cliffs is a part of the townscape. It also fashions the lakescape of **Lake Neuchâtel** and **Lake Biel**, the two larger of the three **Jura lakes.** The smallest of the three, **Lake Murten**, remains that little bit remote, possibly because of the winds that spill down the slopes of the Jura on summer evenings.

The **Three Lakes cruise** starts off from Biel and takes you on a visit to all three **lakes.** At Lake Biel, small pretty wine villages catch the sun on the southern slopes of the Jura. You will travel towards **Jean Jacques Rousseau's retreat** on **St. Peter's Island,** the other end of which protrudes into the lake like a tongue. There, at **Erlach,** you will enter the **Thielle Canal** towards **Lake Neuchâtel.** It will receive you all at once, across its entire expanse of water. The boat greets the lake by steering a heading that assumes an elegant curve toward the **Broye Canal.** At its debouchment, you will travel through the **La Sauge** bird sanctuary and then toward **Lake Murten.** There, on the opposite shore of the third lake, **Murten** awaits you. A medieval town with its battlements and towers, your destination on this cruise. You can also embark on smaller cruises on all three lakes. The Jura remains ever watchful. A boat awaits you between **Solothurn** and **Biel** for a **cruise along the River Aare.** The boat will take you past **Altreu** where the billclattering of storks drifts down from the masts and gables, past **Büren**, the charming small town with its impressive timber bridge. And past a hundred idyllic places alongside this slow-flowing river. www.bielersee.ch



Three Lakes cruise

You'll certainly now want to know what things look like from the top, from the **heights of the Jura**. There's even a railway up here, the **Jura Railways (Chemins de fer du Jura)**. The SBB (Swiss Federal Railways) will take you to its departure points in **Tavannes**, **Glovelier** and **La-Chaux-de-Fonds** from **Biel, Neuchâtel** and **Delémont**.

Another world, the **Freiberge region**, awaits you up there. Where high fir trees stand individually and in groups, becoming more den-

se here and there to form dark forests, horses graze on green meadows. Squat farmhouses duck down broadly in between. A wide, gently undulating plateau awaits you. Who would have ever thought so, from the bottom? The small red train will take you through this elevated plain at a leisurely pace. It departs hourly. Get off, talk a walk, have a good look around. It will collect you again when you are tired.

www.les-cj.ch



Jura Railways

# Ticino. Almost Italy.

"All roads lead to Rome", according to the proverb. Seen from Switzerland, it also means that many roads lead into **Ticino** since the canton lies en route to Italy. You will now already be familiar with three railway routes: The route from the **Central Plateau** across the **Gotthard line** (Wilhelm Tell Express, page 15) and those from **Graubünden** either across the **Bernina Pass** (Bernina Express, page 13) or the **Maloja Pass** (Palm Express, page 16).

The **San Bernardino Route Express** into Ticino also hails from **Graubünden.** The Postbus sets off from Chur and, in summer, winds its way at a lofty height across the **San Bernardino Pass** at 2065 metres a.s.l.. (In winter and on direct routes in summer it takes the shortcut through the road tunnel.) Passing alongside numerous fort-resses, castles and ruins, through the impressive **Viamala** and **Rofla Gorge** and across elegant bridges, the bus will take you from **Chur** to **Bellinzona.** The diversity of languages, architectural styles and customs along your route is unique for this small piece of Alpine terrain. In Bellinzona, with its three UNESCO World Heritage-worthy castles, you have a choice: continue on by train to **Locarno?** Or perhaps you'd prefer to visit **Lugano?** 

Several direct connections per day. Seat reservation is mandatory and available from your local sales outlet or at larger train stations in Switzerland.

If you travel southwards through the **Simplon Tunnel** from **Brig** in the **Valais**, then your first place you'll arrive at on the other side in Italy will be **Domodossola**. Of course, you'll have your travel documents with you for the border crossing. The wrong way into Ticino? Definitely not. From here, the **Centovalli Railway** travels to Locarno in Ticino. In regard to its ruggedly romantic scenery, the rail route is a perfect approach to Ticino. Centovalli translates as a hundred valleys. And the rugged valleys along the Alpine slope are just as typical of Ticino, as the palm-tree encircled lakes are down below. This will give you a taste of the region: true gorges with waterfalls steeped in spray, wild chestnut groves, stone-covered houses, graceful spires with chiming tower bells. Still bearing the hallmarks of the Alps, and yet already characterised by the south, this is the valley of a hundred valleys.

Several connections per day. Seat reservation is not possible. Only in the panorama coaches on the Italian route section will you be required to pay a small supplement to your Swiss Travel System ticket onboard the train.

In **Locarno** (as in **Lugano**) you are in Ticino, as portrayed widely on the postcards here. It's just like being in Italy. Although the lakes aren't the Mediterranean Sea, palm trees stand alongside the promenades and in the town squares the luxuriant flora is reminiscent of the south. Stay for a while. And if you find yourself drawn up into the valleys, then the Swiss Travel System can still avail you of a few more Postbus routes. And **Ascona** is not far from Locarno, the famous and, of late, practically sophisticated old fishing village by **Lake Maggiore.** 





Centovalli Train



Andeer

# Even the city stroll is included in the Swiss Travel System.

Are you in the mood for a stroll through the city? – In 41 Swiss cities, your Swiss Pass grants you free travel on the buses and trams of municipal public transport systems. They will take you from one end of the city to the other, to the zoo, the museum, to your hotel, in fact – wherever you want.

Old Town of Berne

Geneva's "Jet d'Ean"

Basle

e travel on the busesare Bonus Partners to the Swiss Travel System. They willrt systems. They willgrant you a discount of 20 to 50% on city tours on presenta-other, to the zoo, thetion of your Swiss Travel System ticket.er you want.grant you a discount of 20 to 50% on city tours on presenta-

## Basle

The border town on the Rhine, in the immediate vicinity of France and Germany. A pulsating metropolis of art and architecture, with the picturesque Old Town and its labyrinthine alleys at its centre. **Bonus:** 50% discount on city tours. Daily from May to October, except on Sundays. At other times, only on Saturdays.

Eight of these cities present themselves here. Seven of them

Basle Tourism | Tourist Information In the SBB station | CH-4010 Basle Tel. +41 (0)61 268 68 68 | www.basel.com

## Berne

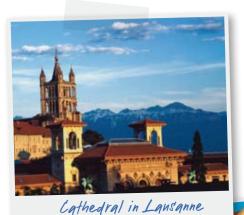
The capital of Switzerland. Bounded by the river Aare, the Old Town with its arcades and Gothic cathedral enjoys UNESCO Word Heritage status. It is said to be the most convivial city in Switzerland. **Bonus:** 20% discount on AudioGuide (iPod) tours, a guided walk around the Old Town and a tour of the clock tower.

Berne Tourism Tourist Centre in the Main Train Station | CH-3011 Berne Tel. +41 (0)31 328 12 12 | www.berninfo.com

## Geneva

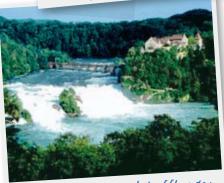
Discover Geneva, the world's smallest metropolis, with its international organisations, its lovely Old Town and its unique lakefront promenade with the world-famous "Jet d'Eau". The world is our guest and France lies just around the corner. **Bonus:** 20% discount on the guided sight-seeing tour.

Geneva Tourism and Congress Bureau 18, rue de Mont-Blanc | CH-1201 Genf Tel. +41 (0)22 909 70 00 | www.geneva-tourism.ch





Chapel Bridge in Incerne



Rhine Falls in Schaffhansen



st. Gallen



### Lausanne

The Olympic capital stretches across five hills, one of which is crowned by the Gothic cathedral, the former bishop's see and the romantic Old Town, the "Cité". At the foot of this "city mountain", in Ouchy, the busy lakeside promenade invites visitors to stroll. **Bonus:** 20% discount on the guided sight-seeing tour.

Lausanne Tourism | Lausanne Station, Main Hall 9, Place de la Gare | CH-1003 Lausanne Tel. +41 (0)21 613 73 73 | www.lausanne-tourisme.ch

## Lucerne

Situated on Lake Lucerne, this city has always attracted guests from throughout the world. Encircled by hills and mountains, the lake connects the city with the historic birth place of Switzerland, the KKL Culture and Congress Centre with the cultural life of the world. What makes this city so endearing? It's best to find out for yourself! **Bonus:** 20% discount on the guided city tour.

Lucerne Tourism | Tourist Information Zentralstrasse 5 | CH-6002 Lucerne Tel. +41 (0)41 227 17 17 | www.luzern.com

## Schaffhausen

The Munot, an impressive medieval fortress, is unmissable. It is a jewel in the lovingly maintained Old Town. Discover the many guild-halls, the 170 magnificent oriels, the Allerheiligen cloister complex. And don't forget to visit the nearby Rhine Falls. **Bonus:** 20% discount on the guided tour of the Old Town, Tuesdays and Saturdays from mid April to mid October.

Schaffhausen Tourism Herrenacker 15 | CH-8201 Schaffhausen Tel. +41 (0)52 632 40 20 | www.schaffhauserland.ch

## St. Gallen

The town of St. Gallen is the economic and cultural centre of eastern Switzerland. Anyone who visits the town will not escape visiting the magnificent baroque Abbey and the Abbey Library with their treasures. The Abbey district has been accorded UNESCO World Heritage listing. The town with its beautiful Old Town lies, surrounded by green countryside, at the gateway to the Appenzellerland with its gentle hills and and charming farmhouses.

St. Gallen-Lake Constance Tourism Bahnhofplatz 1a | CH-9001 St.Gallen Tel. +41 (0)71 227 37 37 | www.st.gallen-bodensee.ch

## **Zurich**

If there's one city in Switzerland that has a cosmopolitan feel about it, is has to be Zurich. On Bahnhofstrasse, you're in "Downtown Switzerland". Yet at the same time Zurich is also a typical charming Swiss city, with its historic centre along the River Limmat and the lake; a city that offers up views right out into green countryside and beyond to the mountains from its centre. **Bonus:** 50% discount on the guided city walk.

Zurich Tourism Main Train Station | CH-8023 Zurich Tel. +41 (0)44 215 40 00 | www.zuerich.com

# There's even discount on overnight stays in the Swiss Travel System.

Good news for your travel budget: You'll not only receive a discount on city tours, but also on your hotel bill with your Swiss Travel System. It's our Bonus Partners that make it all possible. They are all listed on this double page. They look forward to your visit to Switzerland.

## **Best Western Swiss Hotels**

There are more than 40 Best Western Hotels in Switzerland just waiting for you! **Bonus:** 10% discount in all Best Western Swiss Hotels for rooms booked in advance through the central reservation offices. You can find the numbers listed at www.bestwestern.com. **Booking** 

Tel. +41 (0)31 378 18 18 | www.bestwestern.ch | info@bestwestern.ch

## **Minotel**

Minotel is a voluntary hotel chain with hotels in 26 countries. In Switzerland, there are 60 carefully selected establishments. **Bonus:** 15% discount on the rack rate if booked online at www.minotel.ch (please enter Code STSMIN in the booking form). Also: special offers "3 nights for the price of 2".

#### Booking

Tel. +41 (0)21 310 08 35 | www.minotel.ch | reservation@minotel.com

### **Sunstar Hotels**

Sunstar is a well-established Swiss hotel chain with eight fairly priced first class hotels in Arosa, Davos, Flims, Klosters, Lenzerheide, Grindelwald and Wengen. Each hotel provides a free mini bar, an indoor swimming pool and a steam bath. **Bonus:** 10% discount on bookings made through the central reservation office.

#### Booking

Tel. +41 (0)800 611 611 | www.sunstar.ch | reservation@sunstar.ch

## **Swiss Budget Hotels**

In Switzerland, you will find 200 cosy Swiss Budget Hotels in 140 localities. These traditional hotels are inexpensive and will make your stay a true joy. **Bonus:** 10% discount when booked on the internet. Ask for your personal password by contacting pw@rooms.ch. **Booking** 

Luxurions ...

Tel. +41 (0)848 805 508 | www.rooms.ch | info@rooms.ch

## Hotels with a Bookmark

Hotels with a Bookmark are small and medium-sized hotels with a history and good stories, the memory of which will stay with you like a good book. **Bonus:** 20% discount on the rack rate (subject to availability and prior reservation).

#### Booking

Tel. +41 (0)44 368 60 06 | www.bookmarkhotels.ch | info@bookmarkhotels.ch

## **Sorell Hotels**

The Sorell Hotels are a traditional Swiss hotel group with twelve popular business and leisure hotels. The centrally located 2–4 star properties range from traditional to historic, and all the way to the designer hotel. **Bonus:** 10% discount on rack rates if booked directly at the hotel (subject to availability). Use the code "Swiss Travel System" to obtain the discount.

#### Booking

Tel. +41 (0)44 388 35 35 | www.sorellhotels.com | info@sorellhotels.com

## **Swiss Backpackers**

Swiss Backpackers offers the young and the young at heart from throughout the world no-frills, budget accommodation from CHF 26.– per night in a dormitory-style room. **Bonus:** 50% discount on the third night in the same establishment.

#### Booking

Tel. +41 (0)33 823 46 46 | www.swissbackpackers.ch | info@swissbackpackers.ch

## **Swiss International Hotels**

The first-class hotels and resorts, as well as charming boutique and hideaway hotels are located in more than 40 destinations in all four Swiss language zones. **Bonus:** 10% discount on bookings done through the central reservation office.

#### Booking

Tel. +41 (0)44 487 14 50 | www.sih.ch | email@sih.ch

## **Swiss Quality Hotels International**

75 Swiss Quality Hotels await you in more than 40 of the most beautiful towns and holiday destinations in Switzerland. **Bonus:** 10% discount on the best available rates when booked through the central reservation office.

#### Booking

Tel. +41 (0)44 928 27 27 | www.swissqualityhotels.com | info@sqh.ch

## unikathotels.ch

One-of-a-kind, unmistakable and everything except ordinary: totally unique! Several independent Swiss hotels have banded together under this title. Each of the hotels is managed individually and very personally. Whether a lifestyle & designer hotel, a wellness & golf hotel in the mountains, a romantic lakeside hotel or a pulsating city hotel: they are all situated in the most picturesque parts of Switzerland and offer a multitude of facilities to ensure an extremely enjoyable stay. **Bonus:** 10% discount on the rack rate (subject to availability and prior reservation).

#### Booking

www.unikathotels.ch



## Even more Bonus Partners.

#### Swissminiatur Melide

Switzerland to a scale of 1:25 – Discover picturesque landmarks, towns, famous historical buildings and means of transportation – all faithfully reproduced. This miniature landscape is a permanent exhibition in a beautiful park by Lake Lugano. Open daily from March 14 until November 15 2009. **Bonus:** 20% discount on the admission ticket. www.swissminiatur.ch

#### **Furka Cogwheel Steam Railway**

Drawn by a steam locomotive over 80 years old, the journey onboard this heritage train from Realp (1 420 metres a.s.l.) passes through a magnificent mountainscape via the highest station, Furka (2160 metres a.s.l.) to Gletsch (1760 metres a.s.l.), where there is a connecting Postbus service. **Bonus:** 20% discount on the ticket price. The Furka Cogwheel Steam Railway does not operate all year round. Exact operating periods and further information can be found at www.dfb.ch

### RailAway

At most Swiss railway stations you'll discover display stands featuring a huge selection of excursions and event offers under the RailAway brand. Select that one or ones that appeal to you the most, and then ask at the counter window about the conditions with your Swiss Travel System ticket. You will receive a discount on the additional attractions included in these offers.

www.railaway.com

#### Mountain cable- and railways

The Swiss Pass (all types) and the Swiss Card have "halffare travelcard" validity. This means that you will only pay half of the normal ticket price on practically all mountain railways and aerial cableways that are not included in the basic services of the Swiss Travel System. Please refer to the synoptic map on pages 22 and 23, or ask at the valley station.





# The Information.

#### **COMFORT & SERVICES**

#### 1st or 2nd class?

You can purchase Swiss Travel System tickets for 1st or 2nd class travel. All main-line and most regional trains have both comfort classes. So do some of the boats. The price supplement for 1st class is approximately 50%.

The 2nd class already provides you with the customary high standard of comfort you can expect from the Swiss Travel System. In 1st class, you will benefit from wider and more comfortable seats and, frequently also a lower occupancy of coach compartments and, consequently, greater quiet.

#### InterCity, InterRegio and RegioExpress.

Whenever you travel in Switzerland you will repeatedly encounter these three terms which describe train categories: for example in timetables, on information boards, and in announcements in trains.

InterCity trains (IC) connect the larger cities, without making enroute stops. ICN are also InterCity trains, but modern tilting trains for use on routes with many bends. InterRegio (IR) and RegioExpress (RE) trains operate on the same routes as IC trains, and on smaller lines. They connect the medium-sized centres. Regional trains serve all enroute stations, and also provide access to all the smaller branch lines in the network.

The large centres have a **rapid-transit railway** network. These trains – identified specifically with an  $\mathbf{S}$  – provide access to the respective conurbations in a time-table of extremely frequent services.

Smoking is not permitted on any of the modes of transportation in the Swiss Travel System. www.rail.ch

#### Dining whilst travelling.

Most IC and ICN trains have their own **dining car.** In these SBB Restaurants, you can have whatever your heart desires. Be it a drink, a small snack or even an exclusive menu. Dining cars are also present on international connections from and to Switzerland, in several trains of the Rhaetian Railway (Graubünden), in the Glacier Express and in trains operated by the Zentralbahn, between Lucerne and Interlaken East. Look out for the **X** symbol on timetables and on departure displays.

A SBB **Bistro** can be found on the lower floor of most doubledeck trains. In addition to coffee specialities, fine pastries, cold and hot snacks, and cold drinks, also to take away, are served here. Look out for the (**%**) symbol on timetables and on departure displays.

The **Minibar** is a mobile bar that passes by your seat in the train. SBB Minibars are unique because of their mobile coffee machine that will even brew you an authentic espresso. Hot and cold drinks, pastries, sandwiches and various snacks are also available from the Minibar. Look out for the **I** symbol on timetables and on departure displays.

**www.elvetino.ch** for SBB and Zentralbahn trains.

**www.rgswissalps.ch** for the Glacier Express and trains operated by the Rhaetian Railway.

#### Timetable information.

The Swiss timetable has an internet address: **www.rail.ch**, worldwide, at all hours. It enables you to plan your trip, including the rail connections in Europe, from the comfort of your own home. Your concierge in Swiss hotels resorts to the same source to find his timetable information.

At staffed railway stations in Switzerland, customer service representatives in the **Travel Centre** and at **ticket counters** will be pleased to print out timetables for any connection you desire. Here's where you will also find **complimentary timetables** for a large number of connections and regions. Larger stations also have PCs with access to internet-based timetables for you to use.

Will you be travelling as the mood takes you? Then keep a lookout

for the various **departure displays** at stations. These will either be blue panels with white mechanically-changing lettering, LCD screens or yellow departure posters. Your next train will almost certainly be on the list.

You can reach us by telephone by calling 0900 300 300 (CHF 1.19 per minute): the **Rail Service** for timetable and other information in German, French, Italian or English. For calls from abroad, dial +41 900 300 300 and pay the normal long-distance tariff.

#### Service at the station.

At larger stations you'll receive all manner of information about the Swiss Travel System in addition to timetable information. You'll be able to change currencies at the adjacent bureau de change, as well as send money via Western Union. You can also obtain event tickets here. And in the large railway stations, you'll find everything you need for travelling, in fact, everything you need to live! **www.railcity.ch** 

#### Will you be travelling by bicycle?

Bicycles are available for hire at many railway stations. If you're bringing your own bike, you can take it with you on any train marked with the 🎝 symbol for the daily price of CHF 10.– (self loading). Rented bicycles can be taken on board free of charge. Please note that on ICN tilting trains a chargeable reservation will also be required for this. www.rail.ch/bicycle

#### Dogs are welcome.

Will your best friend also be at your side? Is your dog taller than 30 cms and therefore not able to travel with you in its own basket? If so, it will need its own Swiss Travel System ticket. It can be purchased for half of the 2nd class price of your own ticket.

## Baggage service when arriving or departing by plane.

When arriving (from any airport in the world), simply specify upon check-in the Swiss railway station that you will be travelling to as the destination for your baggage. The system is called Fly Rail Baggage. It operates with all airlines to most of the major railway stations and is extremely practical. Conversely, on your return flight you can also check-in your baggage at the train station. It will be transported by rail to the aircraft without you having to concern yourself about it further. You will receive your boarding card at the same time, specifying your desired seat on the plane. The necessary documents for Fly Rail Baggage and Check-in at the Train Station are obtainable abroad wherever VOU purchase your Swiss Travel System ticket and at larger stations in Switzerland.

#### www.rail.ch/check-in

#### Baggage service within Switzerland. Fast Baggage.

If you particularly need your things on the same day at your destination, then make a point of asking for the "Fast baggage" service by name. And hand your baggage in before 9:00 hrs in the morning, to ensure it arrives at the destination by 18:00 hrs at the latest. This service is also extremely convenient if you don't wish to have your luggage with you, for example, on your trip along the GoldenPass Line from Lucerne to Montreux.

#### www.rail.ch/baggage

#### Seat reservations.

Seat reservations are only possible and necessary in exceptional cases, especially on some classic scenic routes. Where they are a requirement, you'll find this information with the respective offers. Seat reservations on international travel are advisable, and in some cases essential. You'll be able to reserve your seat conveniently in advance when purchasing your Swiss Travel System ticket abroad, but also at every railway ticket counter after your arrival in Switzerland.

#### SWISS TRAVEL SYSTEM

#### Conditions and places of purchase.

Persons whose permanent place of residence is outside of Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein are entitled to purchase Swiss Travel System tickets. You will not need a photograph. A passport or identification card will suffice.

Swiss Travel System tickets and further information can be obtained:

at

#### www.swisstravelsystem.ch

- at larger railway stations in Switzerland
- by toll-free telephone on 00800 100 200 23 from Switzerland Travel Centre
- at larger railway stations in Germany, Austria, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, France
- from many travel agencies around the world: list of sales outlets at

www.swisstravelsystem.ch

• For passengers of Swiss International Airlines, at their sales outlets abroad

#### Sales points in the U.K.:

- Switzerland Travel Centre (London): Phone 020 7420 4908, Fax 020 7420 4922 sales@stc.ch, www.swisstravelsystem.
- com International Rail, www.internationalrail.com
- Railbookers.
- www.railbookers.com On the Piste Holidays, www.swisspasses.com
- Crystal Holidays, www.cristallakes.co.uk
- Great Rail Journeys, www.greatrail.com
- Inghams UK, www.inghams.co.uk
- Kuoni UK, **www.kuoni.co.uk** Swiss Travel Service,
- www.swisstravel.co.uk Thomson,
- www.thomsonlakesandmountains.co.uk
- Made to Measure, www.mtmhols.co.uk
- The Swiss Ski Company, www.swissskico.com
- The Swiss Holidays, www.theswissholidays.ch

Many of these operators also offer attractive rail and hotel packages.

#### Sales points in Nordic Countries:

- Denmark: DSB railway stations DSB tours,
- www.dsb.dk/rejsebureau • Sweden: SJ railway stations
- Stockholm, Uppsala, Malmö, Lund, Växjö, Göteborg, Call Centre 0771 75 75 75, 360AB, www.360ab.se
- Finland: Kaleva Travel. www.kalevatravel.fi You Travel, www.youtravel.fi

#### Discounts at mountain cable- and railways.

In the Swiss Travel System, you'll be able to get up to mountain resorts without having to pay more. As the holder of a Swiss Travel System ticket, you will be granted a discount of 50% (Kleine Scheidegg-Jungfraujoch 25%) on genuine mountain railways and aerial cableways.

#### Bonus Partners.

The following Bonus Partners to the Swiss Travel System will grant you a discount on the prices of their offers (see also pages 42-45):

- Museums (free admission with Swiss Pass): www.museumspass.ch
- Cities (city tours)
- Hotels
- Furka Cogwheel Steam Railway
- Swissminiatur, Melide
- Excursion offers of RailAway

#### **USEFUL LINKS**

#### Further information on the internet.

- Timetable for the entire Swiss Travel System, plus international connections: www.rail.ch
- The official website of Switzerland Tourism. Containing much information and options for bookings: www.mySwitzerland.com
- Hiking, biking, skating, canoeing in Switzerland: www.switzerlandmobility.ch
- The best information about the geography of Switzerland: www.swissworld.org

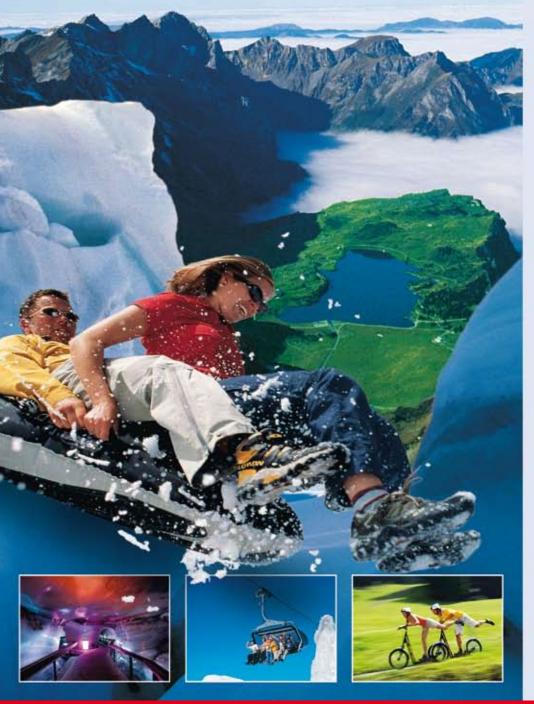
unburdened by heavy bags and suitcases? All the relevant information on our baggage forwarding services can be found at: www.rail.ch/baggage

## Farewell to suitcase lugging.

Wouldn't you rather travel light -



# Snow and Fun all year round





## Titlis

The highest glacier excursion in Central Switzerland (10'000 feet)

### **Titlis Rotair**

The world's first revolving cable-car that takes you into a unique glacier world!

Ice Flyer Chair Lift

Float safely over the glacier crevasses.

### **Titlis Glacier Park**

Enjoy the thrills of a microscooter, balancer, boogie board or classic snow tube.

### **Unique Panorama**

Breathtaking view from the sun terrace or the windprotected Toporama.

## Swiss Pass/Swiss Card: 50% reduction

### **Titlis Rotair**

CH-6391 Engelberg Phone +41 (0)41 639 50 50 Fax +41 (0)41 639 50 60 titlis@titlis.ch www.titlis.ch



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