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SWISS LAKES TO ALPS 09 NIGHTS / 10 DAYS

DESTINATION DETAILS:

Lugano:

Lugano, the largest town in the holiday region of Ticino, is not only Switzerland's third most important financial centre and a conference, banking and business centre, but also a town of parks and flowers, villas and sacred buildings. With Mediterranean flair, Lugano offers all the advantages of a world-class city, combined with the cachet of a small town.

Must See

Parco Civico Ciani - Overlooking the shores of lake Ceresio, its 63.000 sq. metres constitute the city's green lung; it's a quiet place where you can take nice walks and where it is impossible to remain unperturbed by the grandeur of century old trees.

Monte Brè (925 m) - Lugano's closest mountain can be reached by funicular railway from Cassarate on the outskirts of Lugano and offers wonderful panorama of the town, lake and mountains, stretching right over the border into Italy.

Monte San Salvatore (912 m) - From the top of the "sugarloaf" (reached by funicular railway from Lugano-Paradiso) you can walk down the panoramic footpath to Carona and then on to Morcote.

San Lorenzo Cathedral - Set above the Old Town, it is worth a visit. The Cathedral's facade is in the Lombardy Renaissance style, and it has countless frescoes and valuable Baroque artefacts inside.

Church of Santa Maria degli Angioli - In this former monastery church, built around the year 1500, are fine frescoes by the masters of the Renaissance.

Tourist Train of Lugano - A tour of the City aboard the train "La freccia rossa" (the red arrow).

Swiss Miniatur - A must for families. The open-air museum where one can admire the most important Swiss buildings and means of transportation is a delight for adults and children alike. Their restaurant offers local, Chinese and Indian cuisine.

Accommodation

Swisstours offers a wide range of accommodation in the form of hotels and more than 32 apartments, which are equipped with kitchens and have to be booked on a weekly basis.

Indian Restaurants

King Coconut	Tel. +41 91 970 25 26
Govinda Rama (in Locarno)	Tel. +41 91 752 38 51

Shopping

There are all kinds of shops and department stores in which you can find almost anything. The Lugano market offers the typical food products of small farmers that sell their goods directly. Via Nassa, one of Lugano's historical streets is particularly popular with its sophisticated and artistically displayed goods. Foxtown, a factory outlet for some of the world's

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best brands is located in Mendrisio, 15 kms from Lugano.

Main Languages

German, English

Distance To Other Cities By Train

Lugano - Milan	1 hour
Lugano - Lucerne	2 hours 30 mins
Lugano - Zurich	2 hours 40 mins
Lugano - Basel	3 hours 40 mins
Lugano - Geneva	5 hours 35 mins

Time Zone

GMT/UTC + 01:00 hour

Zermatt:

Zermatt lies at the foot of the Matterhorn. The town's touristic development is closely linked to what is most probably the world's most famous mountain. Zermatt epitomises the image of Switzerland: high-alpine, awe-inspiring and original.

Must See

Matterhorn Glacier Paradise/Klein Matterhorn - The highest place in Europe (3883 m) that can be reached by a cableway, with a viewing platform and the highest glacier palace in the world.

Matterhorn Museum - Houses the items of equipment used during the first ascent of the Matterhorn in 1865 which ended tragically.

Rothorn Paradise - The Rothorn Paradise gives you a view of the Matterhorn from its most beautiful side. The view of the Dufourspitze and the Weisshorn with the Matterhorn looming between them is just breathtaking.

Sunnegga Paradise - The paradise for families. From Zermatt, you can arrive at the Sunnegga paradise (2,288 m. above sea level) in only 3 minutes with the underground funicular railway. From the spacious sun terrace of the restaurant, you can then enjoy a wonderful view of the Matterhorn.

Gornergrat - With its viewing platform that can be reached throughout the year, the Gornergrat, at an altitude of 3,089 m above sea level, has been a big attraction for the last 111 years.

Gorner gorge - A footpath across narrow bridges and steps as well as a fixed rope route guide visitors through the deeply scarped gorge.

Village of Findeln - Original Valais settlement with a small chapel; it has Switzerland's highest rye crop fields at an altitude of 2100 metres.

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Helicopter sightseeing flight - Eye-to eye with mountaineers, and a bird's eye view of the imposing peaks that surround Zermatt.

Accommodation

Swisstours offer various options for accommodation ranging from the basic to the high end 5 star luxury resorts and more than 220 apartments.

Indian Restaurants

The Pipe	Tel. +41 79 758 53 24
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Shopping

Zermatt's first attraction is the skiing, the hiking or just looking at the majestic Matterhorn, but you'll also be tempted by the shops. From the finest in Swiss watches, Cuckoo clocks, Jewelry, sport equipment to the classic Swiss army knife, you'll have no trouble finding a special souvenir for yourself or for someone back home.

Main Languages

German, English

Distance To Other Cities By Train

Zermatt - Interlaken	2 hours 15 mins
Zermatt- Bern	2 hours 15 mins
Zermatt - Lucerne / Basel	3 hours 20 mins
Zermatt - Zurich	3 hours 20 mins
Zermatt - Geneva	3 hours 45 mins

Time Zone

UTC/GMT +1 hours

Montreux:

The town of Montreux nestles in a sheltered Lake Geneva bay, surrounded by vineyards and against the breathtaking backdrop of snow-covered Alps. The Montreux Jazz Festival, which takes place in June/July and features concerts on a variety of stages and parks is very famous.

Must See

Rochers-de-Naye -The Rochers-de-Naye rack-railway, after overcoming a difference in altitude of 1600 metres, reaches one of the most beautiful vantage points in western Switzerland.

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Golden Pass Line - The panorama train operates between Montreux, Gstaad and the Bernese Oberland with connections to Lucerne.

Lake Geneva Shipping Company - The ships, some of which are still powered by paddles, take visitors to the picturesque lakeside resorts.

Chillon Castle - Located on a rocky island near the shore featuring fortified walls and towers; the prison in which Bonivard was held in chains for four years and which provided Lord Byron with the inspiration for his famous poem "The prisoners of Chillon" in 1816 deserves particular attention. Nowadays the castle is a museum.

Montreux Jazz Festival - Since its beginning in 1967 the festival has developed into a big event which frequently features the greatest jazz, blues, rock, world music and soul musicians (June/July).

Comedy Festival - The humour festival every year brings together the most famous comedians from the French-, German- and English-speaking areas (December).

Christmas Market - One of Switzerland's famous Christmas Markets with numerous attractions and over one hundred decorated wooden houses brimming with gifts (December).

Accommodation

Swisstours offers various options for accommodation ranging from the extremely basic to the high end 5 star luxury resorts as well as apartments which are equipped with kitchens and need to be booked on a weekly basis.

Indian Restaurants

Shopping

Every Christmas Montreux hosts an excellent Christmas market for several weeks over the holiday period. The main road through the town (Grand' Rue) and the lakeside path are lined with wooden chalets where you can find anything to buy from local wine (free tasting sometimes on offer) to chocolates and local crafts.

Main Languages

German, English

Distance To Other Cities By Train

Montreux – Geneva	1 hr
Montreux – Lausanne	30 mins
Montreux – Zurich	2hrs 35 mins
Montreux - Interlaken	2 hrs 20 mins
Montreux – Zermatt	2hrs 30 mins

Time Zone: GMT/UTC + 01:00 hour

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Interlaken:

Interlaken lies in the Bernese Oberland between Lake Thun and Lake Brienz. This vacation destination, which is presided over by the three mighty mountains, Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau, is the starting point for numerous activities.

Must See

Jungfrauoch - Top of Europe: The highest railway station in Europe, which guarantees 365 days of snow and ice.
Schynige Platte near Wilderswil - Nostalgic rackrailway, fascinating view of Eiger, Monch and Jungfrau, Alpine garden with about 500 plant species and a lot of hiking possibilities.
Harder Kulm - A cableway takes passengers up to Interlaken's "home mountain" which affords a view of the health resort and the whole Jungfrau region. The Alpine wild animal park near the valley station is an experience for children.
Heimwehfluh - A nostalgic funicular provides transport to the vantage terrace with a restaurant, all weather toboggan run model railway display and large playground.
St. Beatus Caves - One Kilometer of lit limestone caves with stalagmities, impressive halls and waterfalls accessible by boat, car, bus or on foot on the historic pilgrims way.
Indian or Swiss Dinner Cruise - From may to August enjoy an evening on Lake Brienz with Indian or Swiss Dinner Cruise taking in the spectacular views of the Giesbach Falla and surrounding mountains peaks.
Waterfalls - Trummelbach Falls, Giessbach and Staubbach Falls.
Adventure Sports - Enjoy a plethora of sporting activites like bungee jumping, paragliding, river, rafting, sailing, sky diving, wind surfing, water skiing, horse back riding, helicopter rides, etc.

Accommodation

Swisstours offers various options for accommodation ranging from extremely basic to the high end 5 star luxury resorts as well as 16 apartments. Also, located on the shores of Lake Brienz just five minutes from Interlaken are more than 25 of Swisstours exclusive apartments in Ringgenberg and Niederried.

Indian Restaurants

Elite Hotel Thun	Tel. +41 33 223 28 23
Maha Lakshmi Indian Restaurant	Tel. +41 33 221 50 80
Shalimar	Tel. +41 33 821 24 14
Spice India	Tel. +41 33 821 00 91
Welcome India	Tel. +41 33 822 52 04

Shopping

Interlaken has various souvenir stores in every nook and corner. Apart from souvenir shopping, various other boutiques offer a variety of items.

Main Languages

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German, English

Distance To Other Cities By Train

Interlaken - Bern	50 mins
Interlaken - Lucerne / Basel	2 hours
Interlaken - Zurich	2 hours
Interlaken - Zermatt	2 hours 15 mins
Interlaken - Geneva	3 hours

Time Zone

Central European Time (CET), UTC/GMT +1:00 hours

Lucerne:

Lucerne, the gateway to central Switzerland, situated on Lake Lucerne, is embedded within an impressive mountainous panorama.

Must See

Chapel Bridge - One of Europe's oldest wooden bridges and landmark of Lucerne faithfully restored to its original design after a serious fire.

Culture and Convention Centre of Lucerne (KKL) - Unites a large concert auditorium, the convention centre and the art museum under its imposing roof.

Swiss Museum of Transport - One of the most diverse museums in Europe for transport and communication, and the most-frequented museum in Switzerland. Has its own IMAX cinema on site.

Lake Lucerne - The scenic beauty of the lake can be discovered on the many different cruises offered by paddlewheel steamers and motor vessels.

Mt. Titlis - The perfect day excursion! Travel from Lucerne to neighbouring Engelberg and then up to the the highest mountain in central Switzerland by the Rotair.

Pilatus - The Dragon Mountain and its famous Golden Round trip fascinates visitors with its view from 7000 feet above sea level.

Lion Monument - The dying Lion of Lucerne is one of the world's most famous monuments.

Accommodation

Swisstours provides a wide selection of properties -budget, business, tourist, luxury and more than 75 apartments.

Indian Restaurants

Restaurant Masala	Tel. +41 41 240 12 64
Restaurant Kanchi	Tel. +41 41 410 67 08

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Taj Palace	Tel. +41 41 410 70 20
Tandoori Indian (in Ebikon)	Tel. +41 41 340 52 96

Shopping

While strolling down the narrow streets that feed Lucerne's airy squares, enjoy the sheer multiplicity of shops and boutiques displaying all manner of exquisite wares: there's surely something to suit everyone. From something typically Swiss, exclusive watches and jewellery of world renown, attractive fashions and stylish accessories, you will find everything here. When it comes to Swiss chocolate, well, you're going to love it!

Main Languages

German, English

Distance To Other Cities By Train

Lucerne - Zurich	2 hours
Lucerne - Interlaken	2 hours
Lucerne - Lugano	2 hours 30 mins
Lucerne - Geneva	2 hours 50 mins
Lucerne - Zermatt	3 hours 15 mins

Time Zone

GMT/UTC + 01:00 hour