

# Switzerland – 9-Day Luxury Journey

Curated by Sam Simran Pal – TripsWithSam

A journey through the Swiss Alps — from cosmopolitan Zurich to the lakeside charm of Lucerne, the alpine wonders of Interlaken and Lauterbrunnen, and the exclusive beauty of Zermatt. Expect panoramic trains, five-star mountain hotels, and world-class dining surrounded by the most breathtaking views in Europe.

## Full Day-to-Day Itinerary

### Day 1 – Arrival in Zurich

- Arrive at Zurich Airport (ZRH). Private transfer to Hotel Ambassador, ideally located near the lake and opera house.
- Afternoon: Stroll along Bahnhofstrasse and the lakeside promenade.
- Lunch: Local favorite Kronenhalle for authentic Swiss classics in elegant surroundings.
- Dinner: Gourmet tasting at Pavillon (Michelin-starred).
- Evening: Relax with cocktails at the hotel terrace overlooking the lake.
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### Day 2 – Zurich Art & Old Town

- Morning: Explore Kunsthaus Zurich and the charming Altstadt (Old Town).
- Lunch: Café Sprüngli for a light meal and world-famous Luxemburgerli macarons.
- Afternoon: Private guided shopping on Bahnhofstrasse's luxury boutiques.
- Dinner: Dine at Restaurant Terrasse or enjoy a sunset cruise on Lake Zurich.
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### Day 3 – Zurich to Lucerne (by private car or train, ≈1 hr)

- Check in: Hotel Schweizerhof or Mandarin Oriental Palace (lakeside).
- Morning: Chapel Bridge, Lion Monument, and Old Town walk.
- Lunch: Lake-view bistro at Lucerne's promenade.
- Afternoon: Private boat ride on Lake Lucerne or visit Mt. Pilatus by cable car.
- Dinner: Elegant dining at Restaurant Olivo or a lakeside gourmet spot.
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### Day 4 – Lucerne to Interlaken via Scenic Route (≈2 hrs)

- Drive or take the GoldenPass panoramic train.
- Check in: JungfrauJoch Hotel Interlaken (your favorite stay).
- Afternoon: Explore Höhematte Park and local boutiques.

- Lunch: Interlaken town café or hotel restaurant with mountain views.
- Dinner: Fine Swiss dining — try Fondue at Laterne or gourmet set menu at your hotel.
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#### **Day 5 – Day Trip: Lauterbrunnen & Jungfrauoch**

- Morning: Private tour to Lauterbrunnen Valley — waterfalls, alpine meadows, and authentic Swiss charm.
- Enjoy coffee and your favourite Laderach chocolates (must-try local indulgence).
- Continue by train to Jungfrauoch – Top of Europe (Europe’s highest railway station).
- Lunch: Mountain restaurant with breathtaking glacier views.
- Return to Interlaken for evening leisure and dinner at your hotel.
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#### **Day 6 – Interlaken to Zermatt (via train, ≈2.5–3 hrs)**

- Scenic train journey through Bernese Oberland to car-free Zermatt.
- Check in: The Omnia or Mont Cervin Palace.
- Afternoon: Explore charming Zermatt village and boutique shops.
- Dinner: Fine dining at After Seven (Michelin) or traditional raclette experience.
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#### **Day 7 – Zermatt & Matterhorn Day**

- Morning: Gornergrat Bahn ride for panoramic views of the Matterhorn.
- Lunch: Mountain restaurant at 3,000m altitude (Riffelalp Resort or Gornergrat Kulm).
- Afternoon: Spa relaxation at your hotel or scenic walk through the alpine trails.
- Dinner: Gourmet tasting menu at your hotel’s restaurant.
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#### **Day 8 – Leisure & Swiss Indulgence**

- Free day for optional helicopter tour over the Matterhorn or spa day.
- Lunch: Lunch at Chez Vrony or Findlerhof (incredible mountain view restaurants).
- Afternoon: Browse Swiss watch boutiques or local artisan shops.
- Dinner: Farewell dinner in Zermatt with a private wine pairing.
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#### **Day 9 – Departure**

- Private transfer or train from Zermatt to Zurich (≈3.5 hrs) for onward flight.
- Optional overnight in Zurich depending on flight timing.

## **Practical Travel Info**

- Main Routes: Zurich → Lucerne → Interlaken → Zermatt
- Transport: Swiss Rail (1st Class Swiss Travel Pass) or private chauffeur
- Airports: Zurich (ZRH), Geneva (GVA, optional departure)
- Currency: Swiss Franc (CHF)
- Hotels: Zurich – Ambassador; Lucerne – Mandarin Oriental; Interlaken – JungfrauJoch Hotel; Zermatt – The Omnia

## **Travel Tips & Essentials**

- Book panoramic train seats early (GoldenPass, Glacier Express).
- Bring light layers — alpine weather changes quickly.
- Best seasons: May–October for ideal weather.
- Must-try: Swiss chocolates (Laudrat), local fondue, lakefront dining in Lucerne.
- Tipping: 5–10% appreciated but not expected.



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# Switzerland & Austria – 17-Day Grand Alpine Journey

Curated by Sam Simran Pal — TripsWithSam

An ultimate west-to-east Alpine adventure, blending cosmopolitan Zurich, storybook Lucerne, alpine Interlaken & Lauterbrunnen (Jungfrauoch), Zermatt's Matterhorn views — then into Austria for Innsbruck's mountains, Salzburg's music, and imperial Vienna. Private transfers, scenic panoramic trains, five-star hotels, fine dining, and VIP experiences.

## Full Day-to-Day Itinerary

### Day 1 — Arrival: Zurich

- Arrive Zurich Airport (ZRH). Private transfer to Hotel Ambassador (your preferred stay).
- Afternoon: Lakeside stroll, Bahnhofstrasse window-shopping, relaxed coffee at Café Sprüngli.
- Dinner: Elegant tasting menu at Pavillon or Restaurant Terrasse.
- Evening: Gentle lakeside walk or cocktails at your hotel.

### Day 2 — Zurich: Culture & Classics

- Morning: Kunsthaus Zurich or private Old Town walking tour.
- Lunch: Kronenhalle for Swiss classics in elegant surroundings.
- Afternoon: Optional private shopping appointment or a short lake cruise.
- Dinner: Chef's table experience or Michelin-starred restaurant.

### Day 3 — Zurich → Lucerne (≈1 hr)

- Transfer to Lucerne. Check in: Hotel Schweizerhof or Mandarin Oriental Palace.
- Afternoon: Chapel Bridge, Lion Monument, and Old Town walk.
- Evening: Sunset boat on Lake Lucerne.
- Dinner: Lakeside gourmet restaurant or Olivo.

### Day 4 — Lucerne: Mountains & Views

- Choice: Mt. Pilatus (cable car + panoramic views) or Mt. Rigi (boat + cogwheel railway).
- Lunch: Mountain or lakeside restaurant.
- Afternoon: Spa relaxation or artisan shopping.
- Dinner: Romantic dinner with local wines.

### Day 5 — Lucerne → Interlaken (GoldenPass scenic route)

- GoldenPass panoramic train to Interlaken.
- Check in: Jungfrauoch Hotel (Interlaken).
- Afternoon: Höhematte Park and local boutique exploration.
- Dinner: Classic Swiss fondue or hotel fine dining.

### **Day 6 — Lauterbrunnen Valley & Waterfalls**

- Morning: Private tour to Lauterbrunnen, waterfalls, alpine meadows, and iconic scenery.
- Chocolate tasting with Läderach chocolates.
- Afternoon: Short hikes or visit Trümmelbach Falls.
- Return to Interlaken; dinner at cozy alpine restaurant.

### **Day 7 — Jungfrauoch – Top of Europe**

- Full-day private excursion to Jungfrauoch (Europe's highest railway station).
- Lunch at the glacier plateau restaurant.
- Optional: Ice Palace visit, glacier walk, or private photography session.
- Return to Interlaken for evening relaxation.

### **Day 8 — Interlaken → Zermatt (≈2.5–3 hrs)**

- Scenic train transfer to car-free Zermatt.
- Check in: The Omnia or Mont Cervin Palace.
- Afternoon: Village exploration and boutique browsing.
- Dinner: Traditional raclette or Michelin tasting.

### **Day 9 — Zermatt & Gornergrat / Matterhorn**

- Morning: Gornergrat Bahn panoramic views of Matterhorn.
- Lunch: High-altitude restaurant with glacier panorama.
- Afternoon: Spa or alpine trails.
- Dinner: Gourmet tasting menu with local specialities.

### **Day 10 — Zermatt Leisure & Optional Helicopter**

- Optional helicopter flight over Matterhorn or relaxed hiking.
- Afternoon: Visit local artisan chocolate shops.
- Dinner: Intimate farewell in Zermatt.

### **Day 11 — Zermatt → Innsbruck (cross into Austria)**

- Private transfer or scenic train to Innsbruck.
- Check in: Grand Hotel Europa or The Penz.
- Evening: Altstadt stroll and Golden Roof.
- Dinner: Tyrolean cuisine at an upscale restaurant.

### **Day 12 — Innsbruck: Alpine Charm & Nordkette**

- Morning: Cable car to Nordkette for panoramic views.
- Lunch: Mountain lodge experience.

- Afternoon: Hofkirche and Imperial Palace (Maria-Theresien-Strasse).
- Dinner: Contemporary Austrian tasting menu.

#### **Day 13 — Day Trip: Swarovski & Hall in Tirol (optional)**

- Morning: Wattens to Swarovski Crystal Worlds.
- Alternative: Explore Hall in Tirol's medieval streets and salt museum.
- Evening: Return to Innsbruck for dinner.

#### **Day 14 — Innsbruck → Salzburg (≈2 hrs)**

- Check in: Hotel Sacher Salzburg or Hotel Goldener Hirsch.
- Afternoon: Mirabell Gardens, Getreidegasse, Mozart birthplace.
- Dinner: Meissl & Schadn Salzburg (traditional schnitzel highlight).

#### **Day 15 — Salzburg: Music & Culture**

- Morning: Private Sound of Music tour or classical music experience.
- Lunch: Countryside manor or city brasserie.
- Afternoon: Fortress Hohensalzburg; optional private concert.
- Dessert: Sample local pastries inspired by Viennese classics.
- Dinner: Chef's tasting or historic inn.

#### **Day 16 — Salzburg → Vienna (≈2.5 hrs Railjet)**

- Check in: Hotel Palais Hansen Kempinski.
- Afternoon: Ringstrasse stroll, St. Stephen's Cathedral, café culture.
- Desserts & treats: Demel, K. & K. Gerstner, apple strudel, Sachertorte.
- Dinner: Meissl & Schadn Vienna — classic schnitzel in authentic setting.

#### **Day 17 — Vienna: Imperial Elegance & Rooftop**

- Morning: Schönbrunn Palace and gardens private tour.
- Lunch / Afternoon: Hotel Motto Rooftop – Chez Bernard for panoramic city views.
- Optional: Kunsthistorisches Museum or Belvedere (Klimt's The Kiss).
- Evening: Farewell gala dinner — private chef's table or rooftop restaurant.

#### **Day 18 — Departure**

- Reserved for private transfer to Vienna International Airport (VIE).
- Optional final stroll or Viennese breakfast depending on flight timing.

#### **Practical Travel Info**

- Transport: Scenic trains (GoldenPass, Gornergrat), Swiss Travel Pass (1st class recommended), private transfers for comfort.
- Currency: CHF (Switzerland), EUR (Austria).
- Luxury Hotels:
  - Zurich: Ambassador
  - Lucerne: Schweizerhof / Mandarin Oriental Palace
  - Interlaken: Jungfrauoch Hotel
  - Zermatt: The Omnia / Mont Cervin Palace
  - Innsbruck: Grand Hotel Europa / The Penz
  - Salzburg: Sacher / Goldener Hirsch
  - Vienna: Palais Hansen Kempinski
- Culinary & Experiences: Pavillon Zurich, Olivo Lucerne, Läderach chocolates, Hotel Motto rooftop & Chez Bernard, Demel, K. & K. Gerstner, Meissl & Schadn, Apple Strudel, Sachertorte.
- Travel Tips: Book panoramic trains and mountain excursions in advance; pack layers; May–October is best; tip 5–10% for exceptional service.



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