

*** NEW ITINERARY ***



GENEVA

SWITZERLAND ... ALPINE WONDERLAND BY TRAIN

Switzerland • Geneva • Interlaken / Berner • Oberland /
Lauterbrunnen Valley • Lucerne • Zurich

This tour was designed by America by Rail Tour Director Ned Kilmer who will also be your host and guide. Ned has travelled extensively in this region and is ready to share his passion with you!

Switzerland with its majestic, snow-capped Alps, lush green mountain valleys, storybook towns and fine dining awaits you on this delightful springtime tour.

We will enjoy stately **Geneva**, headquarters of Europe's United Nations and the Red Cross. It is a hub for diplomacy and banking. Highly influenced by France, we will explore **Lake Geneva** and its lovely lake towns and will venture by train into the mountains surrounding the deep blue waters.

We explore the Alpine playground of the Berner Oberland, high in the Alps, stationing ourselves in **Interlaken**, a beautiful city at the base of the Jungfrau, Monch and Eiger mountains.

We will celebrate **Lucerne's** preserved medieval architecture and the snow capped mountains surrounding **Lake Lucerne**.

Days 1-2 En Route Geneva
Days 3-4 Geneva
Days 5-8 Interlaken/
Berner Oberland

Zurich's Old Town and the exquisite Bahnhofstrasse will be the icing on the cake of this journey to Switzerland's Alpine Wonders.

This tour will explore beautiful cities and the **Alps**, utilizing the wonderful Swiss rail system to effortlessly travel from one highlight to the next. The beauty of the views from the first class comforts on each train only enhances the experience.

Tour members will have a pass for eight days of unlimited first class travel on most of the Swiss rail system. This pass is also good for admission to museums and is valid on city buses and trolleys. Each traveler will also receive a Berner Oberlin Regional Rail Pass for four days.

NOTE: Tour members must be able to walk four or more city blocks with their luggage (we provide tips for light packing) and climb stairs to access trains.

A VALID PASSPORT IS REQUIRED FOR THIS TOUR

Days 9-11 Lucerne
Day 12..... En Route to Home
Destination

TOUR DATE(S):

2018

Tues., May 22 to Sat., June 2

TOUR PRICE:

All prices are per person /double occupancy unless otherwise stated.

\$4,995 - 12 Days

SINGLE \$5,645*

*** SAVE \$1,200 IF NOT USING GROUP AIR ROUND-TRIP NEWARK - GENEVA/ZURICH - NEWARK**

America by Rail will be happy to arrange your connecting flights to/from Newark - price not included.

YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:

- Air transportation from Newark to Geneva and Zurich to Newark.
- Eight-day pass for travel on the Swiss Rail System for all the day train excursions, lake steamer cruise and other transportation as part of this itinerary.
- Three star hotel accommodations for ten nights with private bath.
- 16 meals.
- Cruises on Lake Brienz, Lake Geneva and Lake Lucerne.
- Transportation from arrival flight to the hotel and from the hotel back to the Zurich Airport. Passengers must check their own baggage onto their return flight. Limit one bag per person.
- Services of a professional Tour Director.

NOTE: Refer to deposit and cancellation policy for European Tours on Page 130.

NOTE: Tour members must be able to walk four or more city blocks with their luggage (we provide tips for light packing) and climb stairs to access trains.

Day 1: En Route to Europe

Switzerland's Alpine Wonders tour members will have the option of traveling from their nearest airport to Geneva or joining the group at a designated departure point where they will meet the Tour Director. **D**

Day 2: Geneva, Switzerland

Upon arrival you will transfer to the Hotel Edelweiss. You can relax for the afternoon or stroll the shores of Lake Geneva. A welcome reception and dinner will be provided this evening. **B & D**

Day 3: Geneva

Following breakfast we will board the first of our many Swiss trains and travel to the beautiful lakeside town of Montreux, where we will board "The Chocolate Train", traveling in Belle

Epoque style in a Panoramic coach to the land of Chocolate. A stop in Gruyeres to visit a cheese dairy and then on to Broc for a tour and a tasting of famous Swiss Chocolate. We will return in time for you to explore Geneva and its gastronomic delicacies. An evening stroll along the Lake is a perfect way to end the day. **B**

Day 4: Geneva

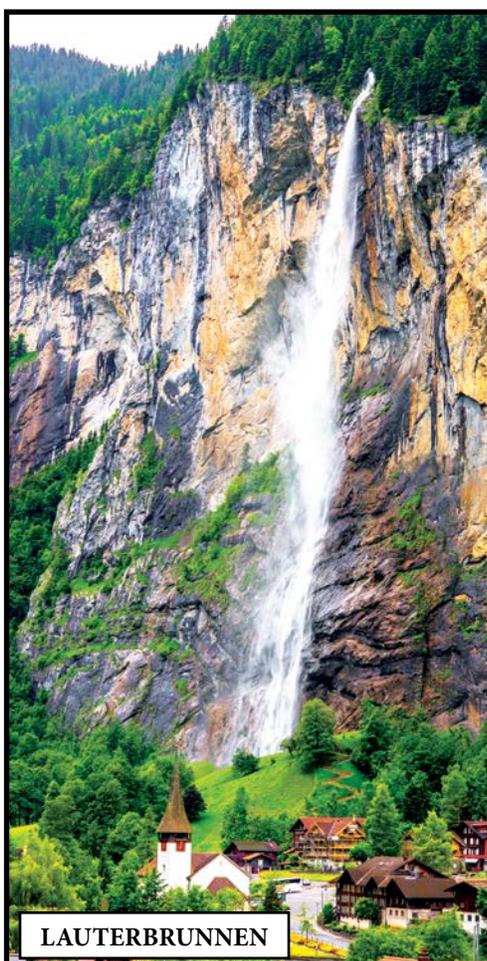
Today we will set off for Lake Geneva and its many lakeside jewels. Lake Geneva is one of Europe's largest lakes and we will board a beautiful steamer and hop on/hop off as you wish. The towns of Nyon, Lausanne, Montreux and Castle Chillon are some of the wonders you may wish to visit. Travel at your own pace, enjoy a cup of coffee or lunch on the shores of this beautiful lake. Return to Geneva at your leisure and immerse yourself in the scenic Old Town. Many tasty restaurants await and the Old Town is magical after dark. **B**

Day 5: Interlaken

We depart beautiful Geneva in first class accommodations aboard the Golden Pass Scenic Train. We will enjoy tall mountains, green valleys and endless vineyards on the way to our Alpine Wonder in the Berner Oberland region, Interlaken. Our home for next four nights will be the Hotel Krebs. Interlaken is a beautiful resort town situated between two emerald colored lakes and the stunning Swiss Alps. Wander the main shopping street, try your luck at the Casino, enjoy some Swiss fondue and prepare for our excursion to the Alpine Wonderland tomorrow. **B**

Day 6: Berner Oberland

Trains, funiculars, gondolas, cable cars, cowbells ringing in the distance, endless hiking trails; these are the many wonders of the Berner Oberland we will enjoy for the next few days. Ride the optional train (additional charge) to the Top of Europe; the Jungfrauoch is Europe's highest rail station. Travel through the Eiger and Monch mountains to reach the top, where the views are spectacular. An optional cable car ride (additional charge) to the top of the Schilthorn and its revolving restaurant at the summit, where the views across the Lauterbrunnen Valley are stunning, is



LAUTERBRUNNEN



BERNER OBERLAND

also available. The James Bond movie, *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* and its famous ski chase, were filmed here. We will explore the non-motorized alpine villages of Wengen and Murren. Enjoy the shopping, eating and breathtaking scenery. This evening we will be treated to an authentic Swiss style dinner. **B & D**

Day 7: Berner Oberland

Today is a free day to explore the Berner Oberland and Interlaken. Explore Trummelbach Falls, a waterfall inside a mountain, travel to Grindelwald, hike the Alps or just enjoy Swiss hospitality and wander your choice of Alpine Mountain towns. **B**

Day 8: Berner Oberland

Today enjoy the clear blue green waters

of Lake Brienz as we board a stately cruiser and gaze at the snow covered Alps surrounding the lake. We will visit the open air museum of Ballenberg, displaying traditional building and architecture from all over Switzerland. Some may wish to visit Bern, the capital of the country and roam its wonderful streets. Dinner this evening will end our stay in the beautiful Alpine Wonder playground of the Berner Oberland. **B & D**

Day 9: Lucerne

We leave Interlaken for our next adventure in Lucerne. This two hour train ride takes you past crystal clear lakes, romantic waterfalls and over the magnificent Brunig mountain pass. Enjoy some of the most spectacular

views the Alps have to offer as we arrive in Lucerne. Our home for the next three nights is the Hotel Des Alpes.

Enjoy the Old Town of Lucerne and its famous covered bridge and find a quaint restaurant for a romantic dinner. **B**

Day 10: Lucerne

Today we enjoy a cruise on Lake Lucerne as we make our way to Alpnachstad where we will board the Pilatus cog rail, the world's steepest, that winds through lush meadows carpeted with Alpine flowers, past sparkling mountain streams and fascinating rock faces. You may wish to have lunch at the top of Mt. Pilatus before riding the aerial cableway back to Lucerne, where you can enjoy the rest of the day and evening in this enchanting town. **B**

Day 11: Zurich

Today we ride the one hour train to Zurich, the center for banking and finance in Switzerland. We will stroll the picturesque lanes of the Altstadt (Old Town). You can return to Lucerne at your leisure after enjoying the shores of Lake Zurich and the Limmat River. Tonight we will enjoy our farewell dinner as we say goodbye to Switzerland's Alpine Wonders. **B & D**

Day 12: Homeward Bound

Following breakfast at our hotel we will transfer by train to the Zurich Airport to board our flight home. **B**



LUCERNE

GENERAL INFORMATION EUROPEAN

REGISTRATION AND DEPOSIT:

A deposit of \$500 per person is due at time of reservation, \$250 of which is non-refundable. Final payment is due 100 days prior to departure.

TOUR CANCELLATIONS:

For cancellations received within 100 days of departure the following per person penalty applies:

- 46-100 days prior to departure: 20% of total tour cost.
- 31-45 days prior to departure: 50% of total tour cost.
- 15-30 days prior to departure: 85% of total tour cost.
- 14 days or less prior to departure through duration of the tour: 100% of total tour cost.

The total tour cost includes tour price, add-ons and upgrades.

Air cancellations after ticketing are subject to the carrier's policy.

Refunds will be made approximately 30 days after the conclusion of the tour.

Payment / cancellation exceptions are noted on tours. All pricing is per person / double occupancy unless otherwise stated.

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

TRANSPORTATION

Rail transportation over the tour route and motorcoach, van, or other modes of transportation where specified in the tour.

TRAIN ACCOMMODATIONS

All tours except those categorized as Coach Class include private Roomette on Amtrak overnight trains and Bedrooms (double occupancy) or Roomettes (single occupancy) on VIA Rail Canada overnight trains. Bedrooms on Amtrak are available at an additional cost. Reclining coach seats are included on U.S. and Canadian trains used only during the daytime except for those categorized as Coach Class. Coach Class tours include reclining coach seats with leg rests on Amtrak trains. Meals on the trains are included for those traveling Coach Class on the North American tours as indicated in the itinerary.

CRUISE ACCOMMODATIONS

Rail / Sail tours include inside staterooms (double occupancy) on cruise ships. Upgraded staterooms may be available at an additional cost.

HOTELS

Accommodations are based on two persons sharing a room. Two-bedded rooms are provided in most instances. However, sometimes their availability is limited. If a two-bedded room is required, please notify America by Rail at time of registration.

America by Rail reserves the right to substitute hotels for those named in any tour description, when necessary. Every effort is made to have hotel rooms available for occupancy upon arrival. There may be instances when rooms are not available until later.

SINGLE ROOMS

Single rooms at hotels and Amtrak Roomettes on a single basis are available at a single cost.

SIGHTSEEING / ADMISSIONS

Sightseeing, as outlined in the itineraries, will be provided by motorcoaches in most instances. Admission fees are included as specified. Sightseeing tour arrangements may be altered if required.

MEALS

All included meals are listed in the tour itinerary. Persons requiring a special diet must inform America by Rail at the time of registration. Not all restaurants / trains will be able to honor special requests. Due to events beyond our control, trains are sometimes delayed and supplies may become limited. If you have special dietary requirements, please make sure you have a sufficient supply of nourishment to meet your dietary needs.

In the itineraries, the meals are listed at the end of each day

using CB for Continental breakfast, B for breakfast, L for lunch, and D for dinner.

BAGGAGE

For your convenience and to expedite movement, baggage handling is limited to one suitcase per person. Transfer and portage of one suitcase per person is included at overnight stopovers. On most tours the one suitcase per person is handled by America by Rail and is checked through to the next destination. An overnight bag is used while en route. America by Rail is not responsible for loss or damage to your baggage or for any lost, stolen or destroyed item. Specified transfers between rail stations and hotels are included.

TOUR DIRECTORS

Services of a qualified America by Rail Tour Director are included for all matters pertaining to the tour. Tour Directors will meet all tour members at the origination city.

TIPS AND TAXES

All gratuities to hotel staff (except to chambermaids), sightseeing guides and drivers are included. Gratuities for sleeping car attendants and meals aboard the train are included. Gratuities for meals specified in the tour itinerary are included on escorted portions of the tour. Gratuities for cruise ship stateroom stewards and dining waitstaff are included.

TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Transportation and tips between your home city and the official origination city; charges for excess baggage; health, accident or baggage insurance; tips to chambermaids and for personal services; items of a personal nature such as laundry; meals, except those specified as included; gratuities for special services; charges for room service, and alcoholic beverages with included meals.

Gratuities for the America by Rail Tour Directors are at your discretion; \$3-\$10 per person per day is the industry standard. They should be extended on an individual basis, not as a group.

RAIL SCHEDULES:

The routing and features described in tour descriptions may be altered to adjust to rail schedules in effect at the time of the tour. America by Rail reserves the right to substitute motorcoach or air travel for unavailable rail schedules, misconnections, delays or other causes.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS :

A valid passport will be required for any trip crossing international borders. i.e. into or out of the United States. At time of reservation we will need your date of birth; gender, passport number, passport expiration date and issuing country.

HEALTH, MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL:

America by Rail will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants. Such participants, however, should be aware that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. Any type of disability requiring special provisions must be reported to America by Rail at the time of registration. America by Rail is not required to provide participants with personal devices, such as wheelchairs or individually prescribed devices such as prescription eyeglasses, or to provide services of a personal nature including assistance in eating, toileting or dressing. Accordingly, all participants are responsible to participate without assistance of the America by Rail Tour Director or other attendant. Tour Directors are prohibited from providing physical assistance or accommodations (beyond normal civil courtesies, such as holding doors open for passing). It is recommended that participants requiring assistance, including those requiring the use of a mobility device, be accompanied by a travel companion who will be responsible to provide required assistance. Participants will be asked to submit a confidential medical form for each tour. Those travelling with oxygen are required to advise America by Rail at least two weeks prior to departure. Amtrak requires all equipment, including oxygen concentrators, must be able to operate a minimum of four hours without

available onboard electrical power (in the event of a power disruption onboard). Oxygen equipment must be Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) or Factory Mutual (FM) listed. The total weight of all tanks may not exceed 120 lbs. Within this limit, no more than 2 tanks 50 lb each, or no more than 6 tanks 20 lbs each

SMOKING:

Smoking is not permitted on America by Rail motorcoaches. Those who smoke may do so at any of the frequent stops we make. All Amtrak and VIA Rail trains are entirely smoke-free. If time is available at station stops, it will be announced by the conductor. Cruise ships policies vary from line to line, but all have designated areas to accommodate smokers.

PLEASE NOTE:

America by Rail reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to accept or retain any individuals as members of the tour. The acceptance of any service provided as part of an America by Rail tour, or any ticket or voucher, shall be deemed to be acceptance of and consent to these conditions.

All rates published herein are in U.S. dollars and based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect on the printing date of the tour brochure. Prices and arrangements are subject to change without notice.

No persons, other than a representative of America by Rail, authorized by a document in writing, may vary, add or waive any term or condition set forth in the preceding provisions. A \$50 per person fee will be assessed for each itinerary alteration requested after final arrangements are confirmed. It is our company policy to issue a tour roster to all tour participants containing all tour participants' names and addresses. If you do not want your address included, you must let us know at time of reservation.

Times, schedules, entertainment and activities are subject to change without notice.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING FUEL SUPPLEMENT:

Please be advised America by Rail reserves the right to apply a fuel supplement for all guests should the price of oil warrant it.

RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE:

America by Rail acts only in the capacity as an agent for the owners and contractors providing means of transportation, hotel or other services. All tour services, tickets and vouchers are subject to any and all terms and conditions under which such means of transportation, hotel or other services are offered or provided. America by Rail shall not be or become liable or responsible in any way whatsoever, for any loss, injury or damage from acts of God, sickness, theft, weather, strikes, war, or quarantine however caused or arising.

America by Rail reserves the right to cancel a tour in the event tour participation does not meet minimum requirements.

America by Rail shall not be obligated to honor any booking resulting from, nor shall be responsible or liable whatsoever in connection with, misprints or errors of any kind, whether in brochures, advertisements, on the Internet, during the booking process or otherwise, that result in traveler being undercharged for the tour. America by Rail reserves the right, prior to departure, to collect the correct fare or cancel the booking and refund any payment made by traveler.

AMTRAK STATEMENT:

The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) is not to be held responsible for any act, omissions, or event during the time passengers are not on board their trains or conveyance. The passenger contract in use of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) and purchaser of these tours and / or passenger. All conditions are subject to the laws of the District of Columbia, U.S.A.

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