

*Swiss Mountain Rail Journeys: Alps, Glaciers and Lakes*

# SWISS MOUNTAIN RAILS

**Ride Switzerland's world famous mountain trains.**

**May 24th: SWITZERLAND** On arrival in Zurich Airport (or in Zurich railway Station) you are met and transferred to our hotel in Switzerland's oldest town, Chur, for a three night stay. Rest from the flight or wander through Chur's historic quarter until we gather for our Welcome Dinner. **[D]**

**May 25th: CHUR** A day-trip rail journey – across the iconic Landwasser Viaduct - to Switzerland's highest town Davos, famous from the nineteenth century as a 'Wellness' centre, and now a venue for international economic conferences. It is a very trendy ski resort in Winter, favoured by the British Royals. Watch out for the corgis. **[B]**

**May 26th: CHUR – Bernina Express** One of the world's great rail journeys today on the Bernina Express across the Alps to Tirano in Italy. We cross the stunning Landwasser Viaduct, and later "loop the loop" as the Bernina Express descends to the Italian border. So stunning is the scenery that one section of the route has been classed a UNESCO World Heritage site. We retrace our steps into the Alps and our home in Chur. **[B]**

**May 27th: Glacier Express to ZERMATT** Our luggage is taken on ahead today as we join the world's favourite little red Swiss mountain train, the Glacier Express. Enjoy breathtaking views from your panorama car as you cross the Alps through the Oberalpass at 7,000 feet. Lunch is served at your seat with million dollar views. Arrive in the late afternoon in the beautiful village of Zermatt, at the foot of the Matterhorn. **[B,D]**

**May 28th: ZERMATT – Gornergrat Railway** Today we ride the Gornergrat railway – Europe's first electrified rack railway and still the highest in the open air (that is, not through a tunnel) to 2,600 metres. There are stunning views of the Matterhorn during the journey and from the restaurant. This afternoon there is free time to explore the beautiful (and traffic-free) village of Zermatt. **[B]**

**May 29th: ZERMATT** We take a cable car today to Kleines Matterhorn, the highest cable car station in Europe (3,883 m). The views of the highest mountains in Italy, France and Switzerland – and fourteen glaciers - are breathtaking. There is a restaurant here for lunch with a view. Back in the village of Zermatt this afternoon, we take a short hike to the Gorner Gorge. **[B]**

**May 30th: BRIG-INTERLAKEN** Our rail journey today takes us firstly to the historic town of Brig where there is time for a walk about and lunch, before we take the train again under the Alps through the world's longest land tunnel, to arrive in our waterfront hotel in Interlaken, our home for 3 nights. **[B,D]**

**May 31st: Golden Panoramic Express - INTERLAKEN** Today the Golden Pass Panoramic train takes you from the Bernese Oberland to Lake Geneva. There is time in Montreux for lunch on the lakefront esplanade or on a steamer on the lake. Home to Interlaken and our hotel. **[B]**

**June 1st: INTERLAKEN** A quiet day to take a steamer on the lake, or to pay a visit to the beautiful Alpine village of Grindelwald. It is possible to take an optional excursion to the top of the Jungfrau at 11,330 feet. [Tour members with respiratory or heart conditions - should seek medical advice before deciding to join today's excursion]. Alternatively, you may prefer to take a train into Zurich, Switzerland's largest city and financial capital, nestled on Lake Zurich. **[B]**

**June 2nd: Brienzer Rothorn - LUCERNE** Skirting the lake this morning, we ascend the Brienzer Rothorn (steam train) for magnificent views to the Eiger. We arrive in lakeside Lucerne for some shopping time in the cobble stone medieval quarter. **[B]**

**June 3rd: Pilatus - LUCERNE** Trains and boats and cable car - to the top of Mount Pilatus for unsurpassed views to Lake Lucerne below. Legend says that Pontius Pilate (Pilatus in German) fled to Switzerland and became a hermit on this mountain after washing his hands of Jesus. **[B]**

**June 4th: Rigi Kulm - LUCERNE** Our last day in the Swiss Alps today, and perhaps the best mountain train ride saved till last. Using Europe's first ever cog-wheel railway, we climb to the top of the 'Queen of the Mountains' for 360 degree Alpine views. Our farewell dinner tonight. **[B,D]**

**June 5th: Auf Wiedersehen** The tour ends after breakfast today. There is a transfer to Zurich Airport for those flying on or home today. **[B]**







### FACT BOX:

**DURATION:** 13 DAYS

**DEPARTURE:** MAY 24th 2024

### COST:

**\$AU 10,990** per person Twin Share  
Land Content Only (Zurich to Zurich)  
room stay free.

Single supplement \$1,400

### HIGHLIGHTS

Ride Switzerland's world famous mountain trains:

- Glacier Express
- Golden Panoramic Express
- Bernina Express
- Rothornbahn
- Gornergrat Railway
- Rigi Bahn

### INCLUDED FEATURES:

- All stops 3 nights
- 4 star city centre hotels & historic village inns with buffet breakfasts
- 4 dinners
- First Class rail travel in reserved seats with full luggage handling
- Full time Australian Tour Director



# BOOKING CONDITIONS

**TOUR OPERATOR:** Great Trains of Europe Tours (ABN 75 325 01 0 987) are members of IATA #96836610

**COSTS:** Costs are expressed in Australian dollars and are based on transport and accommodation costs, and Australian dollar exchange rates effective as at March 1st 2023.

Exchange rate fluctuations in the price of any service provided, beyond the control of Great Trains of Europe Tours, may be passed on to travellers, right up to the date of departure.

A deposit of \$2,500 per person will guarantee a place (unless already filled, in which case you will be advised of your place on the waiting list. With a maximum tour size of 25 travellers, tours often fill early). Please note special payment conditions for the Legendary Silk Road Tour.

Full final payment is due 90 days before commencement of the tour. Please make payment by cheque to "Great Trains of Europe Tours" or by bank transfer as follows:

Heritage Bank, Toowoomba

BSB 638-060 Account Number 111 097 34 Payment by credit card attracts a 1.5% surcharge.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** Cancellation at any time after the deposit is paid will result in the forfeiture of the deposit. Any booking cancelled between 90 days and 45 days before departure will incur a 50% cancellation charge on land content. Bookings cancelled within 45 days of departure will incur a 100% cancellation charge.

**TRAVEL INSURANCE:** A condition of joining a Great Trains of Europe tour is either the purchase of travel insurance through Great Trains of Europe Tours, or documentary evidence of a sufficient level of travel insurance purchased elsewhere.

**BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE:** A baggage allowance of 23kgs per person applies to all tour members.

**HOTELS:** Hotel star ratings, where provided, are those of the country in which the hotel is situated, and vary from country to country.

**OTHER IMPORTANT ADVICE:** The tour will proceed if a minimum of 15 travellers have paid deposits by 90 days before scheduled departure. In the highly unlikely event that there are insufficient travellers for a tour, you will be

offered either (i) a full refund of all monies paid, (ii) a modified cost structure for a smaller group, or (iii) a place on an alternative Great Trains of Europe Tour.

Each tour is sold as a package and there can be no refund for any element of the tour (eg. a meal or an excursion) not utilised by the traveller by her/ his own choice. Tour costs have built into them the costs associated with researching tours, communicating with overseas suppliers, brochure preparation and marketing. Great Trains of Europe Tours does not claim nor imply that some of the inclusions in our tours may or may not be available at a lower price direct from the overseas supplier. Travellers are reminded, however, that purchases made direct with overseas suppliers may not be covered by Australian Travel Agents licensing protections.

Most photographs used in this brochure were taken by the Tour Leader on past tours, but some have been provided by hotels, rail companies or Tourism Boards. Photographs are indicative only. Great Trains of Europe Tours reserves the right to decline any reservation or booking request, and may at the Tour Leader's discretion terminate any person's involvement in the tour due to unruly or disruptive behaviour.

Great Trains of Europe Tours does not accept responsibility for any injury, damage, loss, delay, change of schedule or other events which are beyond our direct control such as, but not limited to war, terrorism, epidemic, pandemic, civil disturbance, industrial action, acts of government or of God, or mechanical failure such as aircraft, trains or coaches.

Great Trains of Europe Tours cannot be held responsible for changes to provision of services by local suppliers, but we will do all in our power to provide an alternative service of equal standard to that advertised, or make a cash refund of the difference on the spot.

**CONTRACT:** The contract between the traveller and Great Trains of Europe Tours, entered into by your signing the booking form, shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Queensland.



# Great Trains of Europe Tours BOOKING FORM

One form per person, please.

Tour Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PASSPORT DETAILS

Full name (as in passport): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Passport No: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Issue: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Ph. Home: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Ph. Work: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

MEDICAL / DIET

Do you have any medical conditions or dietary requirements that we should be alerted to?

☐ YES   ☐ NO   If you answered YES, please outline briefly: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you able to walk 500 metres and climb 25 stairs without assistance?   ☐ YES   ☐ NO

NEXT OF KIN {to be contacted in event of an emergency}

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Ph. Home: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Ph. Work: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

TRAVEL INSURANCE

☐ Please provide me with travel insurance.   ☐ I have a pre-existing medical condition.

{NOTE: Passengers over 75 years of age at end of a tour will need a medical clearance}

☐ I decline your offer of travel insurance and attach documentary evidence that I have sufficient travel insurance cover.

Insurance Company \_\_\_\_\_ Policy Number \_\_\_\_\_

ACCOMMODATION

☐ Double   ☐ Twin, sharing with \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Twin, please find someone to share with me. If no suitable room-mate can be found, the single supplement is payable.

☐ Single Room   ☐ Single occupancy of double sized room {surcharge}   ☐ Non-smoking   ☐ Smoking

EXTRA ACCOMMODATION

☐ Pre-Tour in \_\_\_\_\_ {city}   Date IN \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_   Date OUT \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

☐ Post-Tour in \_\_\_\_\_ {city}   Date IN \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_   Date OUT \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

FLIGHTS

☐ I seek your assistance with an airfare. Please contact me.   or   ☐ I will make my own flight arrangements.

PAYMENT METHOD

☐ I enclose a cheque, payable to “Great Trains of Europe Tours” for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or

☐ I have deposited \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in the “ Great Trains of Europe Tours” account at Heritage Bank, 400 Ruthven St, Toowoomba, Qld.,

4350, Australia as follows.

BSB 638 – 060   Account Number 11109734   Swiftcode HBSLAU4T, and I attach a pay-in slip as evidence.

By signing this form I declare that I have read the Tour Terms and Conditions, understand them, and agree to abide by them.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



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