

## Track the Bernina Express Walking Holiday

From £1,499 per person // 10 days



Take the hiking trail along the UNESCO World Heritage section of the Rhaetian Railway, which regularly offers panoramic views of an over a century-old feat of engineering with a backdrop of stunning Alpine scenery. Combine with rail travel to and from the UK and luggage transfers between hotels for a stress-free walking holiday.

### The Essentials

- Catch the train to Thusis in the the Graubünden region of Switzerland
- Walk along the route of the famous Bernina Express, with regular glimpses of this mountain rail line
- Your luggage is transferred between hotels for each stop so you only need to carry a day pack
- Enjoy the flexibility of a rail ticket along the whole line in case you want to shorten a day's walk
- Break your journey home with a night in historic Zurich

### What's included

- Standard Class rail travel with seat reservations
- 8 nights' handpicked hotel accommodation with breakfast
- Detailed walking directions and travel itinerary
- Luggage transfers between hotels from Thusis to Tirano
- Clearly-presented wallets for your rail tickets, hotel vouchers and other documentation
- All credit card surcharges and complimentary delivery of your travel documents

### Tailor make your holiday

- Decide when you would like to travel
- Upgrade hotels and rail journeys
- Add extra nights, destinations and/or tours

**PLEASE NOTE:** This holiday runs daily between 13 June and 11 October 2020

## - Suggested Itinerary -



### Day 1 - London To Thuisis

Take the Eurostar from London to Paris and connect onto a high-speed TGV service direct to Basel, just over the Swiss border. From here, continue on Swiss regional trains to Thuisis, via Chur and check in for an overnight stay at the Hotel Weisses Kreuz (or similar). TMR RECOMMENDS: Why not break your journey to Thuisis with an overnight stop in Strasbourg, Basel or even Paris?



### Day 2 - Hike Thuisis To Tiefencastel

After breakfast, pack a day pack and head out for your first hike, leaving your bags at reception to be transported to your next hotel, the Albula & Julier (or similar). Today's walk is around 12.5 miles. You can shorten any day of walking by hopping on the train as you generally follow the Bernina line. Highlights today include a spectacular trail leading from Domleschg through the Schinschlucht gorge along with the Solis viaduct and St Peters church in Mistail, dating from the 8th century. The ascent to the hamlet of Muldain rewards you with breathtaking views.



### Day 3 - Hike Tiefencastel To Burgun

After breakfast this morning, head out for your second day's walking, which includes the famous Landwasser Viaduct. Prior to this, your route takes you along the fast-running Albula River to a perfect viewpoint of the viaduct, where you can take breathtaking pictures. Continue past the historic village of Filisur and follow the trail up to the pretty railway station at Stugl. Your finishing point for today is the village of Bergün, with its distinctive Engadin houses and railway museum (at the station). Your overnight stay will be at the Hotel Albula (or similar).



### Day 4 - Hike Bergun To St Moritz

Today's walk is around 11 miles and should take around 6 hours. Follow the banks of the Albula River which criss-crosses the railway line. You will be walking along the 'Railway Adventure Trail' with regular plaques offering fascinating facts about the past and present of the railway and the people of the Albula Valley. There will be a quite steep ascent and descent as you climb up over Weissenstein Alp to the Fuorcla Crap Alv and then drop down through the Bever Valley into Spinas. Catch a train here to St Moritz and check in for a 2-night stay at the Randolins Berghotel (or similar).



### Day 5 - Day At Leisure In St Moritz

Enjoy a day's rest today as you discover the ski-resort of St Moritz. You can browse the boutique stores, enjoy coffee and cake in one of the tempting cafés or perhaps take a boat ride around the lake. If you want to continue walking, there are plenty of options for short hikes in the area. Take a cable car up to Alp Languard and then walk the breathtaking Panoramaweg to Muottas Muragl, with panoramic views all the way along the 4-mile path. You can then return to St Moritz via the funicular railway and a quick bus journey back into town.



### Day 6 - Hike St Moritz To Alp Grum

You're in for a spectacular walk today as you catch a train from St Moritz to the little station of Morteratch. From here, you'll walk through Alpine pastures and moorland to the Bernina Pass. Photo opportunities abound here; Pontresina, the Morteratsch Glacier, stunning Lago Bianco and the highest mountain in the Graubünden region. After walking by the glacial waters of Lago Bianco, your route takes you up to the panoramic vantage point at Sassal Masson. Stay tonight at the Hotel Alp Grum (or similar), right by the railway line, with spectacular views.



### Day 7 - Hike Alp Grum To Poschiavo

A relatively short, downward hike today of around 7 miles takes you towards Poschiavo, still following the route of the Bernina Express line. You can take a detour along the way to see the Cavaglia glacier garden (pictured). This is also on the train line if you don't want to walk. On arrival in Poschiavo, check in at the Hotel Suisse (or similar) for an overnight stay. There's plenty of time to explore the town of Poschiavo, with its pretty narrow streets and piazzas. Enjoy some Italian-inspired food for dinner this evening.



### Day 8 - Hike Poschiavo To Tirano

After breakfast at your hotel today, take the train to Miralgo, the starting point for your last day of hiking. The route of the hike takes you through orchards, vineyards and chestnut groves, across the border into Italy. The stand-out highlight is famous Brusio spiral viaduct, a fantastic feat of engineering. Arriving into Tirano, check in at the Hotel Stelvio (or similar) for an overnight stay at the end of your fabulous hike. Remember you'll need some Euros here to pay for dinner and don't miss out on the city views from the spire of the church of S. Perpetua.



### Day 9 - Tirano To Zurich

It's time to board the Bernina Express this morning for your return journey to St Moritz. Watch the familiar vistas pass by your window as you make your way along this UNESCO World Heritage-listed route. Change at St Moritz for the train to Zurich, via Landquart. On arrival in Zurich, check in for an overnight stay at the Hotel Adler (or similar) in the Old Town area of the city. Why not head out for a meal this evening to celebrate your beautiful hike? The Altstadt along the River Limmat has plenty of options for a drink and an evening meal.



### Day 10 - Zurich To London

Leave Zurich today and make your way back to London by train, catching a high-speed service direct to Paris and then connecting onto the Eurostar from the Gare du Nord.

## Pricing

From £1,499 per person

These prices are based on two people sharing a twin or double room. Single supplements will apply for sole occupancy. It is based on Standard Class rail travel and includes seat reservations as necessary. It is based on the best fares on the trains. If you travel during a peak period, particularly at short notice, then supplements may apply.