








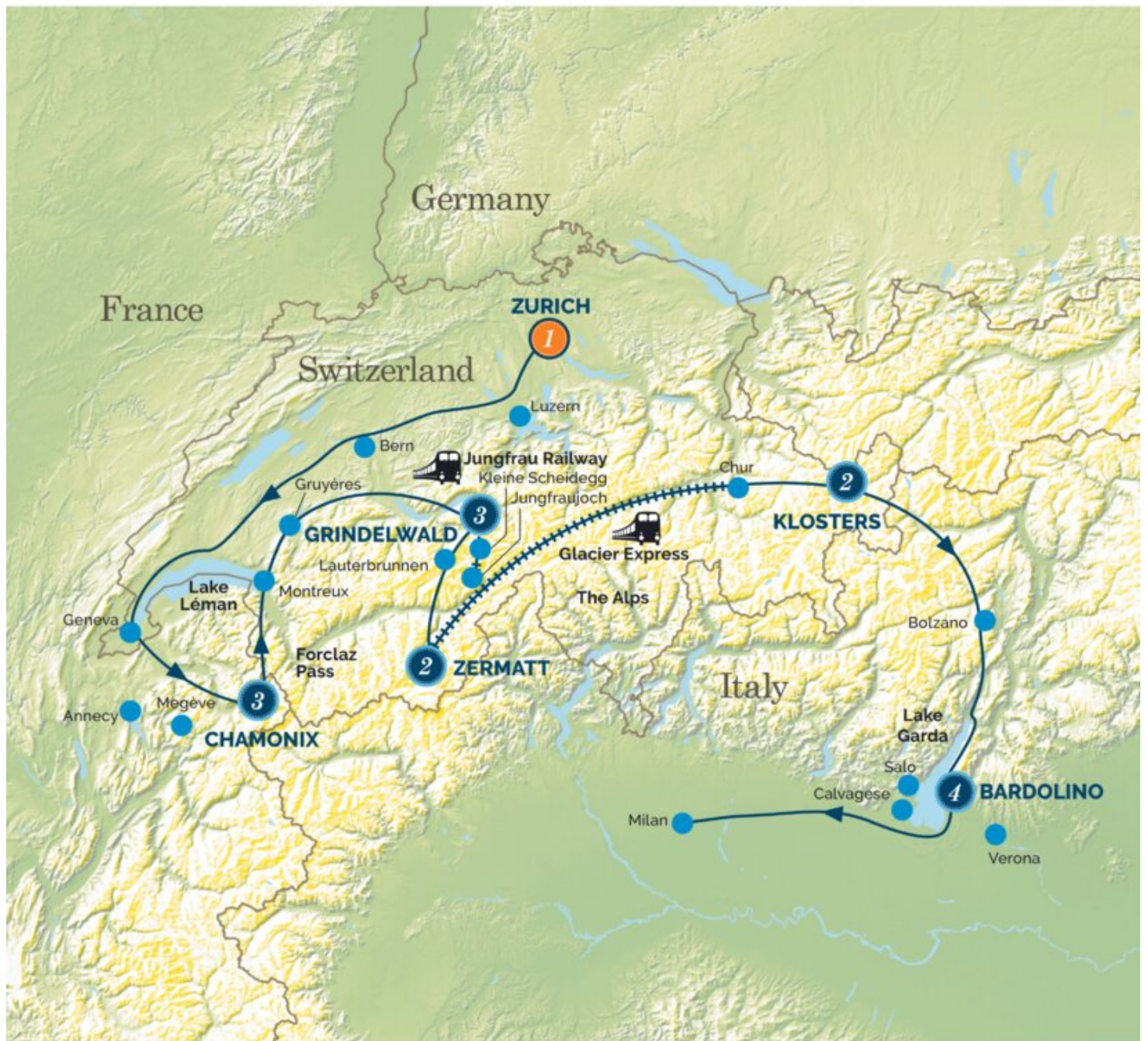
## Zurich to Milan An Alpine Adventure

### Discover the breathtaking French & Swiss Alps

**Ride in panoramic carriages on the amazing Glacier Express passing over chasms and through the mighty Alps**

Experience the awe-inspiring landscapes of the majestic French and Swiss Alps from the remarkable Aiguille du Midi, to the meadows of the Bernese Oberland, climb high into the mountains to the Jungfrauoch, see Zermatt and the mighty Matterhorn, ride across the breathtaking Alps on the Glacier Express and explore delightful Lake Garda.

-  Travel in a first-class air-conditioned touring coach
-  Welcome drink on Day 1  
23 meals including breakfast daily (B), Lake Garda wine estate lunch (L) and 7 evening meals (D)  
A complimentary glass of wine, beer or soft drink with all included dinners
-  Hotel portorage of 1 bag per person (where available)  
15 nights specially selected hotel accommodation  
Free WiFi at most hotels (where available)
-  ALL tips for your Tour Manager, Driver and Local Guides  
Fully escorted by our experienced Tour Manager  
Local guides as described in the itinerary
-  Hand Selected Albatross Experiences including a Lake Garda wine tasting, cable car excursion to Aiguille du Midi, Jungfrau Railway excursion and the Glacier Express train  
ALL excursions, scenic drives, sightseeing and entrances as described





## Zurich Welcome

Day 1



Central Plaza Hotel Zürich, Switzerland

QΨ D

Your tour commences this evening in Zurich. Join us tonight for a welcome drink before dinner. This is an ideal chance to meet, and get to know, your Tour Manager and fellow travellers.

## Geneva and Chamonix

Day 2



Chalet Hotel Le Prieure & Spa, Chamonix

QΨ B,D

We arrive in Geneva around lunch time. You will have time at leisure to explore Switzerland's second largest city and once home of the Red Cross. Make sure you take a walk along the beautiful foreshore of Lake Léman (Lake Geneva) to see the city's symbolic 140 metre high Jet d'Eau fountain which is set offshore in the lake. Crossing back into France we continue deep into the heart of the mighty French Alps and the Chamonix Valley in the Haute Savoie, to Chamonix, where we stay the next three nights. Set at an altitude of 1000 metres, and surrounded by a dozen world class ski resorts, Chamonix is the world capital of skiing and mountaineering.

## Aiguille du Midi and the 'Sea of Ice'

Day 3



Chalet Hotel Le Prieure & Spa, Chamonix

QΨ B

Today we have included not one, but two incredible mountain rides. The first, arguably one of the world's greatest mountain rides, is by cable car up to the very tip of the Aiguille du Midi - the 'Needle of Middy'. At an altitude of 3842 metres (12,605ft) you are seemingly within reach of Mont Blanc and the views across the French, Italian and Swiss Alps are astounding. The second ride is on the famous 'Little Red Train' - a funicular railway that follows a scenic route through the forests of conifers up to Montenvers station. Soaring high above you is the spike of the Drus Mountain and the massive rock wall of the Grands Jorasse. Filling the valley below you is France's largest Glacier, the 'Mer du Glace' or 'Sea of Ice'. You can even take a cable car (subject to opening) down to explore the hand carved ice caves, beautifully illuminated deep inside this glacier\*.

The less adventurous can of course relax in Montenvers panoramic restaurant or enjoy an afternoon at leisure exploring the shops and boutiques of lovely Chamonix.

*\* From the foot of the cable car you need to go down a large number of steps to access the ice caves entrance.*

## Chic Megeve and lakeside Annecy

Day 4



Chalet Hotel Le Prieure & Spa, Chamonix

QΨ B

First stop this morning will be in the exclusive, chic ski resort of Megève. Running from the delightful cobblestoned central square, the main pedestrian street is lined with medieval buildings, al fresco cafés and some hideously expensive designer boutiques. The rest of the day will be in the delightful French lakeside town of Annecy. A local guide will show us around the cobblestoned streets, half-timbered and beautifully painted houses that sit beside picturesque canals which are criss-crossed with stone bridges. With a back drop of mountains and the turquoise lake, the Vieille Ville (Old Town) is incredibly pretty.

## Chateau de Chillon

Day 5



Sunstar Hotel Grindelwald, Swiss Alps

QΨ B,D

Driving over the spectacular Forclaz Pass into Switzerland we reach Montreux. Our first stop will be to enjoy a guided tour through Château de Chillon. Made famous in Byron's poem 'The Prisoner of Chillon', this 13th century fortress juts out imposingly into Lake Geneva.

The rest of the morning is at leisure on the grand lakeside promenade and foreshore of Montreux. In the afternoon we visit the fortified village of Gruyères, which rises out of the flat valley floor, perched on top of a steep rocky hill. The broad cobblestoned main street, flanked by centuries old houses, is an astounding time capsule and one of the great sights of Europe. Later we drive deep into the heart of the Bernese Oberland to Grindelwald where we stay the next three nights. Grindelwald is known the world over for its dramatic setting surrounded by massive snow covered peaks and meadows. The views of the north face of the Eiger are exceptional! The village is full of restaurants, cafés and shops.

### Jungfrau mountain ride & 'My Time' in Grindelwald

Day 6



Sunstar Hotel Grindelwald, Swiss Alps

9Ψ B

Boarding a local train we climb high into the mountains to Kleine Scheidegg. Changing on to the Jungfrau Railway we travel into a tunnel which takes us through the inside of the north face of the Eiger, and up to the Jungfraujoch – the highest rail station in Europe. At 3,454 metres (11,332 ft) the views down onto the Aletsch Glacier are magnificent. You will find several restaurants, an Ice Palace and the Lindt Swiss Chocolate Heaven display. You can also take a lift another 100 metres higher to the dramatic Sphinx lookout point. Your afternoon is entirely free for you to enjoy the spectacular Swiss scenery. Perhaps go for a walk in the hills or catch a train to explore nearby Interlaken.

### Lakeside Luzern and medieval Bern

Day 7



Sunstar Hotel Grindelwald, Swiss Alps

9Ψ B

Our morning will be spent at leisure exploring the lovely lakeside town of Luzern with its quaint old town and the famous Chapel and Mill wooden bridges which cross the river. In the afternoon we set off to explore the medieval cobbled streets of Bern. A UNESCO World Heritage Listed landmark, this capital city is set on a spectacular bend above the River Aare, and boasts kilometres of sheltered arcaded shopping ways, an intriguing clock tower and the famous 'Bärengraben' bear pits.

### Lake Brienz Cruise & Zermatt

Day 8



Hotel Ambassador, Zermatt

9Ψ B,D

Our first stop of the day will be in the nearby town of Interlaken where we board a boat to enjoy a cruise along the turquoise waters of Lake Brienz, embedded between two imposing mountain ranges. Sit back and admire the natural landscapes, marvel at the view of the Giessbach waterfall as we pass by it, and immerse yourself in the magnificent scenery that surrounds you, including the picturesque villages filled with traditional wooden houses, that are dotted along the shores of the lake. Later we drive through spectacular scenery into 'Le Valais' and Taesch where we catch a cog railway train up to the world-famous alpine resort of Zermatt. Set at an altitude of 1620 metres (5315 feet), the village is surrounded by a dozen huge peaks and dominating all is the mighty Matterhorn. Petrol-driven vehicles are banned from the village and as such the peace and quiet enhances the beauty of the wooden chalets and small winding village streets. Stunning!

### 'My Time' in Zermatt

Day 9



Hotel Ambassador, Zermatt

9Ψ B

Today has been left free for you to explore the town, walk on the well sign posted hiking trails to mountain restaurants and waterfalls, and relax in the crisp clean air. Alternatively pamper yourself in the hotel's excellent indoor pool, spa and wellness centre. Looking for another classic mountain ride? The Sunnegga Paradise cable car is situated right beside the hotel, or maybe jump on the nearby funicular train which takes you up to the Gornergrat station and terraced restaurant with its massive views across to the Matterhorn. Alternatively if you want to spend a day skiing, maybe catch a cable car ride up the Kleine (little) Matterhorn, where there are twenty-five kilometres of pistes and eight ski lifts which remain open all summer long!

### Glacier Express, Chur & Klosters

Day 10



Silvretta Parkhotel, Klosters

9Ψ B,D

This morning we board the famous Glacier Express train which takes us along the 'Valais' through Switzerland's finest mountain scenery. Ranked as one of the world's top train trips, you will be seated in panoramic carriages as we cross some of the 291 bridges, the 2033 metre Oberalp Pass and go through 91 tunnels. Early afternoon we arrive and have time to explore Switzerland's oldest city, Chur. The traffic free zone in the old town has a wonderful atmosphere with its boutiques, shops, bars and restaurants. Later we continue to Klosters where we stay two nights.

### 'My Time' in Klosters

Day 11



Silvretta Parkhotel, Klosters

42 B

Your day is free to relax and explore Klosters.

### Bolzano and lakeside Bardolino

Day 12



Hotel Caesius Thermae & Spa Resort, Lake Garda

42 B,D

Today we go to Italy! Passing through the Alps, we enjoy lunchtime in the centuries old town of Bolzano. Influenced by both Tyrolean and Italian cultures, you will find intricately carved gables, painted timber façades and an elegant arcaded main street. Later we continue to the charming lakeside town of Bardolino, where we stay the next four nights. Dinner tonight will be in our hotel restaurant.

### 'My Time' in Lake Garda

Day 13



Hotel Caesius Thermae & Spa Resort, Lake Garda

42 B

We have left today entirely free. Do as little or as much as you want. Lake Garda is Italy's largest and perhaps most beautiful lake, and its shores are lined with quaint villages and colourful ports. The shopping is excellent and the cafés, lakeshore restaurants and shady gardens, all have that distinctly Mediterranean feel. Perhaps catch a ferry across the lake and wander around Gardone Riviera with its botanical gardens on the hill, or explore the characterful 'picture postcard' ports of Lazise or Sirmione.

### Verona and lakeside town of Garda

Day 14



Hotel Caesius Thermae & Spa Resort, Lake Garda

42 B,D

Skirting the lake we will visit Romeo and Juliet's Verona. A local guide will bring to life this beautiful city, where these tragic lovers avowed a love that spanned the centuries. After free time to explore and find a restaurant for lunch, we return to glorious Lake Garda and enjoy an afternoon visit to the delightful lakeside town of Garda, after which the lake is named.

### Lakeside Salò and Redaelli de Zinis

Day 15



Hotel Caesius Thermae & Spa Resort, Lake Garda

42 B,L

This morning we visit the delightful lakeside town of Salò to explore its historical centre filled with lanes and little squares adorned by noble houses, elegant shops and the longest promenade on Lake Garda. Later we continue to Redaelli de Zinis in Calvagese della Riviera. This is a famous local winery and restaurant. Here we enjoy a wine tasting and sample some of the locally grown produce before enjoying our farewell lunch.

### To Milan

Day 16



Hotel Caesius Thermae & Spa Resort, Lake Garda

42 B

We soon reach the stylish city of Milan where your tour ends on arrival. Drop off points will be Milan Centrale train station and Milan Malpensa Airport. We recommend you book flights that depart Milan after 3pm.

Hand Selected Experiences

These are just a few of the very special hand selected experiences that will really make your touring experience exceptional and unique, and don't forget, with Albatross they are always included.



Aiguille du Midi  
Cable Car Excursion



Aletsch Glacier  
Funicular train up the Jungfrauoch



Ride the Glacier Express  
Panoramic Train



'Little Red Train'  
Funicular railway journey



Bern  
Explore this UNESCO landmark



Chamonix  
Heart of the French Alps



Lake Garda  
Enjoy 'My Time'



Redaelli de Zinis  
Wine tasting & Lunch

Dates and Prices

Correct as of 12:50 on 17th May 2024

| Start Date  | End Date    | Twin Price  | Solo Price  | Guaranteed to Depart |                   |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 26 May 2024 | 10 Jun 2024 | AUD\$11,347 | AUD\$14,347 | ✓                    | ● Sold Out        |
| 16 Jun 2024 | 01 Jul 2024 | AUD\$10,887 | AUD\$12,887 | ✓                    | ● Sold Out        |
| 18 Aug 2024 | 02 Sep 2024 | AUD\$10,887 | AUD\$12,887 | ✓                    | ● Space Available |
| 08 Sep 2024 | 23 Sep 2024 | AUD\$10,887 | AUD\$12,887 | ✓                    | ● Space Available |
| 25 May 2025 | 09 Jun 2025 | TBC         | TBC         |                      | ● Pre-Register    |
| 15 Jun 2025 | 30 Jun 2025 | TBC         | TBC         |                      | ● Pre-Register    |

|             |             |     |     |                |
|-------------|-------------|-----|-----|----------------|
| 20 Jul 2025 | 04 Aug 2025 | TBC | TBC | ● Pre-Register |
| 17 Aug 2025 | 01 Sep 2025 | TBC | TBC | ● Pre-Register |
| 07 Sep 2025 | 22 Sep 2025 | TBC | TBC | ● Pre-Register |

\* The itinerary and hotels featured are based on 2025 tour departures and may be subject to change. If you are travelling in 2024 please refer to your specific booking Itinerary. Any questions, please contact our European Tour Specialists for further details.

### Tour Suitability

**Altitude is really the only fitness issue you may have to deal with.**

- ✧ Altitude is really the only fitness issue you may have to deal with. On this Mountain adventure we have included a number of sensational cable car and train rides. In particular, The Aiguille du Midi, Gornergrat and Jungfrau Joch rides, take you up above 10,000 feet. In itself this is not particularly high, but since you will be ascending to the top quickly you need to understand that you should now take things very easy. Breathe more deeply, move more slowly and hydrate. These excursions are utterly spectacular and should not be missed, and they require no exertion or activity on your part, so walk and move more gently, get up from you seat a little more slowly, and enjoy being on the roof of the world. Let's face it, you are with Albatross so what is the rush?
- ✧ When you take the Little Red Train up to the restaurant station above the Mer du Glace you will see the Glacier down below you. You can take a cable car part way down, but to visit and walk inside the blue glacier ice caves you will need to descend the metal stairways. You will know your own fitness, so you choose if you walk down them. If you don't, make sure look up, look around and enjoy the spectacular scenery.

Please refer to our Tour Suitability section for more information.

### Terms & Conditions

- Information provided is true and correct at time of issue. Airfares not included. For further details please contact your consultant or full terms and conditions may be found at [www.albatrosstours.com.au/booking-conditions](http://www.albatrosstours.com.au/booking-conditions). Albatross Tours ABN 45 010 585 143. ATAS Accreditation No: A11341. CATO Accreditation No. 69562707