



SWITZERLAND

GRAND TOUR OF SWITZERLAND, THE CLASSIC SELF-DRIVE

(TOUR CODE: 11610)

STARTS AND ENDS	TRAVEL PERIODS	EXPERIENCE	TRAVEL STYLE
in Zurich	01 Apr 23 - 31 Oct 23	Cultural Self-Drive	Independent Holiday Packages

A charming self-drive itinerary through Switzerland's breathtaking scenery of snow-capped mountains, alpine lakes and lush countryside.

Highlights

- The path is the goal. The **Grand Tour of Switzerland** leads over 1,600km through Switzerland. Past lush green meadows and deep blue lakes, over winding pass roads and from picturesque mountain villages into the pulsating hustle and bustle of the city.
- The highest point with the **Furka Pass, 2429m above sea level** and the lowest point with **Lake Maggiore just 193m above sea level** creating a memorable experience.
- Discover **5 mountain passes, 22 lakes, 12 UNESCO World Heritages** in **4 language regions**
- Very good road infrastructure (road condition, petrol stations along the route) allow for a wonderful **self-drive experience** over 12 days from/to Zurich.
- Stopping in amazing cities like **St Gallen, Davos, Lugano, Zermatt, Montreux, Interlaken, Lucerne and Zurich**.

Take a tour of Switzerland with a self-driving holiday. This thrilling, 12-day tour will take you to some of the most beautiful regions past the majestic mountains, beautiful lakes, historic towns and villages.

Your journey starts from Zurich, drive through the medieval town of Winterthur past the Rhine Falls. Continue along the banks of Lake Constance until you reach the charming city of St. Gallen, famed for its historic abbey and library. From St. Gallen, continue to the rolling hills of the Appenzell region. Make a short stop in Liechtenstein, one of Europe's smallest countries before heading back to Switzerland. Continue to the ski resort town of Davos then drive through the Graubünden region until you reach the Ticino region.

From Lugano, head to Täsch then to the famous resort town of Zermatt. Continue to the French-speaking region of Switzerland until you reach the lovely town of Montreux located in Lake Geneva. Drive through the vineyards of Lavaux towards Gruyères. Enter the Bernese Oberland region until you reach Interlaken. You also have opportunities to explore the cities of Lucerne and the scenic Emmental region.



- ✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period
- ✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind
- ✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support
- ✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices
- ✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited
- ✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

INCLUSIONS

- 1 night in St. Gallen - 4* Hotel
- 1 night in Davos - 4* Hotel
- 2 nights in Lugano - 4* Hotel
- 2 nights in Zermatt - 4* Hotel
- 1 night in Montreux - 4* Hotel
- 2 nights in Interlaken - 4* Hotel
- 2 nights in Lucerne - 4* Hotel
- Daily Breakfast
- 12 day car rental (FullSize automatic, VW Passat or similar))
- Return 2nd class train journey between Tasch and Zermatt
- Grand Tour of Switzerland Road Map and Travel Guide

Freedom of Choice Days

Freedom of Choice



Our Freedom of Choice program offers flexibility, by allowing you to choose from different options on pre-selected days.

Our per person price includes one tour on each Freedom of Choice day, as follows:

- One "Freedom of Choice" tour on day 10

Expand the itinerary below for more details.

Please note, if more than one room is selected during the booking process, our team will contact you afterwards to discuss options.

ITINERARY

Day **1** Zurich St. Gallen (150km)

Collect your rental car at the airport. Start driving from Zurich, Switzerland's largest city on the banks of the lake with the same name.

Your route takes you through historic Winterthur and, further along, past the **Rhine Falls** – the biggest waterfalls in Europe! Stop here for lunch before continuing to Schaffhausen with its Renaissance era architecture lining the streets.

Drive along the banks of Lake Constance to St. Gallen. This historic city known as the gateway to the Appenzell Alps, is ideal for an afternoon of exploring. The most famous of all the landmarks in St. Gallen is the **Baroque cathedral with Abbey Library**, home to 160,000 documents, some hand-written and over a thousand years old. The entire **Abbey precinct**, including the Rococo Hall, was declared a UNESCO world heritage site and is well worth a visit in the afternoon.

Overnight stay in **St. Gallen** in a **4-Star Hotel**.



Day **2**

St. Gallen Davos (160km)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Today your route takes you from St. Gallen through the famous Appenzell landscapes and into Liechtenstein before heading to the old town of Davos. Your day starts with a stunning scenic drive through the rolling hills of the **Appenzell region**. Take a trip up to Mt. Säntis for views over the whole region! Make your way through the principality of Liechtenstein, one of Europe's smallest countries, before returning to Switzerland.

Stop off in Maienfeld for lunch and discover **Heidi's Village**, taking you through the inspiration for the world-famous Swiss novel Heidi!

In the afternoon continue to Davos, a destination renowned for its mountain holidays and sports activities, with traditions stretching back hundreds of years.

Overnight stay in **Davos** in a **4-Star Hotel**.

Breakfast



Day 3 - 4 Davos Lugano (160km)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Today's drive takes you through the wild and beautiful **Graubünden region**, starting off with one of the most spectacular roads in Switzerland: **the Flüela Pass**. Rising up through a beautiful alpine forest, the road suddenly bursts out above the tree line, approximately 1800m above sea level, with views over the Alps of Graubünden. Wind back down through the main valley and along the National Park border to world-famous St. Moritz. Stop here for lunch on the lake and soak up the glamour of this world-famous holiday resort!

Your afternoon continues along the **Julier Pass**, a spectacular mountain route connecting the Engadine Valley with the rest of Graubünden, and through glorious scenery to the San Bernardino Pass into the Mediterranean influenced Ticino. Stop in Bellinzona in the afternoon and explore the Three Castles: medieval fortresses, protected under UNESCO and perfect for exploring on foot!

Continue on to Lugano, where you stop for the night – try out one of the local grotto with their traditional Ticinese fare...

Day 4 will be at leisure to explore Lugano.

Two nights stay in **Lugano** in a **4-Star Hotel**.

Breakfast



Day 5 - 6 Lugano Zermatt (215km)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Today you depart Lugano, heading north to cross the famous **St. Gotthard Pass** and **Furka Pass** before moving down to Täsch, the last stop for your car before you continue to Zermatt.

Your drive takes you through awe-inspiring valleys and towering mountain peaks on a gently winding route over the St. Gotthard Pass on your way to Andermatt. Stop for lunch in this lovely traditional village, nestled between snow-capped mountain peaks, and explore the area! Discover the Devil's Bridge or take a cable car up the Gemmstock before you continue.

Your afternoon route takes you along the breath-taking Furka Pass, with wonderful views over the **Rhone Glacier** as you descend. Stop off to visit the Glacier Grotto. Via Brig you reach Täsch, where you leave your car for the evening while you stay in the *car free village* of Zermatt.

A quick train journey takes you up to world-renowned resort, dominated by one of the most famous peaks in the Alps, the Matterhorn.

Day 6 will be at leisure to explore Zermatt.

Two nights stay in **Zermatt** in a **4-Star Hotel**.

Breakfast



ZERMATT: CREDIT: LORENZO RIVA

Day 7 Zermatt Montreux (145km)

Breakfast at the hotel.

A morning trip up the exhilarating open-air Gornergrat railway is not to be missed.

Back in Täsch your route begins with a stunning drive up through the Valais, heading through Sierre , Sion, Martigny and Aigle. Continue along the shores of Lake Geneva to Montreux.

Overnight stay in **Montreux** in a **4-Star Hotel**.

Breakfast



GORNERGRAT RAILWAY, MATTERHORN

Day 8 - 9 Montreux Interlaken (145km)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Take a walk along the lakeside in Montreux this morning; the picturesque town is nestled on the shores of Lake Geneva,

surrounded by vineyards and against the breath-taking backdrop of snow-covered Alps. The long, flower-bordered lake promenade which links Vevey and Montreux going all the way to **Château de Chillon** is simply asking to be strolled along before you start on your way to Interlaken.

Driving up into the golden vineyards of the Lavaux, you wind your way up around the local mountain Rochers-de-Naye and through lovely Chatel-St-Denis towards Gruyères. Stop in Gruyères for lunch – don't miss the local dairy showcasing the methods of making Gruyere cheese!

From here, why not take a quick detour up to Broc to explore **Maison Cailler**, the Swiss chocolate factory? Discover one of the most famous Swiss exports and indulge in delicious Swiss chocolate! You enter the Bernese Oberland along the **Jaun Pass**, then along Lake Thun you reach Interlaken. Interlaken is the gateway to the Jungfrau region, with plenty of activities in and around the town. Take a late afternoon stroll around the town centre and marvel at the imposing mountain peaks.

Day 9 at leisure to explore Interlaken.

Two nights stay in **Interlaken** in a **4-Star Hotel**.

Breakfast



Day 10 Interlaken Lucerne (215km)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Today, enjoy your pre-selected tour from our Freedom of Choice options below (self-guided).

Onwards, this afternoon through the Emmental region, home to the delicious Emmental cheese known the world over. Visit a working cheese dairy here and find out how the famous Emmental cheese is made before winding your way towards historic Lucerne.

Two nights stay in **Lucerne** in a **4-Star Hotel**.

Breakfast

Freedom of Choice Options

- **Bern:**

Depart Interlaken this morning along the shores of Lake Thun, climbing first up to Beatenberg then following the lake, with views down into the villages below. A scenic drive through lush green forests and nature reserves takes you to the capital city **Bern**, with its protected covered arcades and imposing architecture. Explore the city at your own pace.

OR

- **Brünig Pass:**

The **Brünig Pass** is a shorter route, leaving you more time in Interlaken or to stop along the way. En route you can stop in Meiringen – site of the Sherlock Holmes Museum and the Reichenbach Falls – before continuing to the open air living museum Ballenberg, demonstrating the various regions of Switzerland. In the afternoon you reach Lucerne. Surrounded by famous peaks and set on the unusual lake of the same name, Lucerne is often seen as quintessential Switzerland. The romantic old town is perfect for a late afternoon stroll: don't miss the Chapel Bridge, with paintings in the eaves dating back to the Middle Ages, or the charming shops and restaurants along the lakeside.



Day **11**

Lucerne

Breakfast at the hotel.

Today is at leisure to explore beautiful Lucerne.

Surrounded by famous peaks and set on the unusual lake of the same name, Lucerne is often seen as quintessential Switzerland. The romantic old town is perfect for a late afternoon stroll: don't miss the Chapel Bridge, with paintings in the eaves dating back to the Middle Ages, or the charming shops and restaurants along the lakeside.

Overnight stay in **Lucerne** in a **4-Star Hotel**.

Breakfast



Day **12** Lucerne Zurich (140km)

Breakfast at the hotel.

You will spend your last day in one of the most beautiful cities in Switzerland. One of the highlights of Lucerne is the Chapel Bridge.

Drive back to Zurich for rental car drop-off at the airport.

Breakfast

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Electric Car Rental

There is no better way to discover the fascinating change of landscapes than by cruising the **E-Grand Tour** route. You will not have to compromise when going green as your ultra-cool **electric vehicle** (Polestar 2 or similar) will take you comfortably on this luxurious road trip where tradition meets modernity.



Prices are dynamic based on travel dates. Please proceed to [Book Now](#) or [Contact Us](#) for details.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE	LOCAL CURRENCY
French, Swiss - German, Italian, Romansh	SWISS FRANC

We work with a selection of hotels in each location. All bookings are subject to availability, which means our team will confirm your specific hotels upon confirmation and payment of deposit. The package price is based on 4-star accommodation.

This is a self-guided/independent package.

Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.)
- Parking, refueling or charging costs
- Local Taxes
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package