The towering peaks of the Alps serve as the stunning backdrop for our Swiss and Austrian exploration. As our small group discovers mountain villages and European cities, rides the famed Glacier Express, cruises on glassine lakes, and ascends snowcapped summits, borders disappear and the region’s history – and beauty – enchant one and all.

Alpine Splendor: Switzerland and Austria

14 days from $5,692 total price from Boston, New York, Phil, PA ($5,195 air & land inclusive plus $497 airline taxes and fees)

Day 1: Depart U.S. for Zurich, Switzerland

Day 2: Arrive Zurich/Lake Lucerne  We arrive in Zurich and transfer to our hotel on the shores of Lake Lucerne. After checking in, we meet for a briefing about the journey ahead, followed by dinner at our hotel.  

Day 3: Lucerne/Mt. Pilatus  This morning we encounter historic and alluring Lucerne, surrounded by mountains and sitting on its namesake lake. We visit the medieval Old Town; and cross treasured Kapellbrücke (Chapel Bridge), the oldest covered bridge in Europe. Later we ride the world’s steepest cogwheel train to the summit of nearby Mt. Pilatus for stunning views across the surrounding countryside.  

Day 4: Lake Lucerne/Zermatt  Today’s scenic overload begins with a ferry ride on Lake Lucerne, where we pass Rüti meadow, legendary “birthplace of Switzerland.” Disembarking at Flüelen, we coach to Andermatt to board the celebrated Glacier Express train, renowned for its panoramic views as it sweeps through striking valleys, past mountain hamlets, and follows the course of the fabled Rhône. Our adventure on this famed route ends in Zermatt, gateway to the Swiss Alps in the shadow of the Matterhorn. Tonight, we enjoy dinner together at a local restaurant.  

Day 5: Zermatt/Gornergrat  Sitting in a low-slung notch, Zermatt is surrounded on all sides by towering slopes. We get a unique view of the spectacular scenery this morning as we ride the Gornergratbahn, the highest open-air railway in Europe, to the summit of the Gornergrat. Atop this rocky ridge, a dramatic tapestry unfolds all around us: 29 Alpine peaks, each over 13,000 feet, including the majestic Matterhorn standing alone at nearly 15,000 feet. After admiring the jaw-dropping scenery, we begin our descent by train to Zermatt, where the remainder of the day is free to explore this very walkable village as we wish.  

Day 6: Zermatt/Stresa, Italy/Lugano  We travel by coach today through more superb Swiss scenery, and cross into northern Italy via the legendary Simplon Pass through the Alps. Late morning, we arrive in Stresa, Italy, along the shores of lovely Lake Maggiore, where we have time to explore and enjoy lunch on our own. Then a scenic drive through the famed Italian lake district returns us to Switzerland and our hotel in lakeside Lugano.  

Day 7: Lugano/Bellinzona/Ascona  Today’s tour of Ticino, Switzerland’s southernmost canton, begins in medieval Bellinzona, with its three feudal castles, all UNESCO sites. Here we visit Castelgrande, the iconic central castle where we explore the ramps.
Day 8: Lake Lugano  After a free morning to explore Lugano independently, we board a motorboat for a private half-day cruise around Lake Lugano. We put ashore at Morcote, a town barely a mile square whose cobbled streets, terraced gardens, and Mediterranean façades seem to cling precariously to the side of Monte Brè. B,L

Day 9: Lugano/Vaduz, Liechtenstein/Seefeld, Austria  Leaving the Lake District today, we’re bound for Austria by way of the tiny sovereign nation of Liechtenstein. We reach the country’s scenic capital of Vaduz mid-morning then have some free time to stroll through the vineyard, tour the wine cellars, and sample the wines on offer here. From here we travel on to Austria, reaching our hotel in the mountain village of Seefeld early this evening. We dine together at our hotel tonight. B,D

Day 10: Seefeld/Innsbruck  This morning we coach to nearby Innsbruck, host of the 1964 and 1976 Winter Olympics. A walking tour highlights the postcard-worthy sights, including the many pedestrian squares surrounded by pastel-colored façades. Then we take a cable car to a lookout in the Nordkette, the “mountain at the heart of Innsbruck,” where we enjoy panoramic views of the city and the surrounding Alps. We have time on our own in Innsbruck before returning to Seefeld. B,D

Day 11: Seefeld/Tyrol/Salzburg  Today we travel through Tyrol, a crossroads of Western Europe, en route to Salzburg. We stop to visit the Museum of Tyrolean Farms, an interactive outdoor exhibit featuring dozens of preserved farmhouses dating from the 15th century onwards. Then we continue on to Salzburg, Austria’s riverside jewel and city of Mozart and The Sound of Music. Following dinner together, we attend a Baroque chamber music concert in the Marble Room of famed Mirabell Palace. B,D

Day 12: Salzburg  Our walking tour this morning features the geometrical-styled Mirabell Gardens, dating to the 17th century; the Baroque Old Town, now a UNESCO site; and visits to Salzburg Cathedral and medieval Hohensalzburg Fortress, one of Europe’s largest and best-preserved castles. Then the remainder of the day is at leisure for independent exploration and dinner on our own. B

Day 13: Salzburg/Eagle’s Nest/Berchtesgaden  We travel today to the Bavarian resort town of Berchtesgaden, site of the clifftop Kehlsteinhaus (Eagle’s Nest), the Nazi Party’s alpine retreat. Arriving by the original 1930s brass elevator, we tour the chalet where Hitler paid multiple visits before it was captured by the Allies in the closing days of WWII. In the event Eagle’s Nest is closed because of unseasonal weather, we’ll visit the nearby Berchtesgaden Salt Mine, which has operated continuously for more than 500 years. After lunch together, we take a walking tour of the village of Berchtesgaden, once the residence of the Bavarian royal family. Then we return to Salzburg, where the rest of the afternoon is at leisure before we celebrate our splendid journey at a farewell dinner. B,L,D

Day 14: Depart for U.S.  We transfer today to the Munich airport for our return flight to the U.S. B

I LOVE TO TRAVEL, BUT I HATE TO ARRIVE.”  
— ALBERT EINSTEIN

Post-Tour Extension

Vienna – On Your Own
4 days/3 nights for $795
Single Supplement: $395
Savor an unstructured stay in this city of arts and culture. Music, opera, and museums abound.

Your Tour Price Includes

• Rail transportation Salzburg/Vienna
• 3 nights’ accommodations at Hotel Kaiserhof (First Class)
• 3 meals: 3 breakfasts
• Vienna city orientation tour with local guide
• Transfer from rail station and to airport

Your Tour Price Includes

• Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
• 12 nights’ accommodations in Superior First Class and First Class hotels
• 22 meals: 12 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 7 dinners
• Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
• Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
• Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
• Luggage handling for one bag per person
• Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers
• $100 frequent traveler credit towards your next Odysseys Unlimited tour ($200 after three tours; $300 after 10 tours)

2022/2023 Tour Dates and Prices
including international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees

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Boston, New York, Philadelphia
$5,692          $5,792          $5,892          $5,992

Atlanta, Charlotte, Washington, DC
$5,892          $5,992          $6,092          $6,192

Chicago, Cinc, Cleve, Detroit, Miami, Orl, Tampa
$5,992          $6,092          $6,192          $6,292

Dallas, Den, Hou, Los Ang, Minn, Phoenix, Port (OR), San Fran, Seattle
$6,092          $6,192          $6,292          $6,392

Prices are per person based on double occupancy and are subject to change until final payment is made.

Additional tour dates for 2022 are available; please go to www.odysseys-unlimited.com or call for information.

Please call if your city is not listed or for land only prices.

Surcharges, including international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees of $497, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

*Salzburg Festival: Guests will have the opportunity to be in Salzburg during this classical music and performing arts festival (no formal activities planned)

Accommodations: Days 2-3: *Renaissance Lucerne (Lucerne); Days 4-5: *Resort Hotel Alex (Zermatt); Days 6-8: *Hotel City Lugano

Airline upgrades (subject to availability); call for details.

Please note: This trip involves considerable walking on uneven terrain in a natural environment. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to the fullest.

FOR RESERVATIONS, CALL TOLL-FREE (888) 370-6765 M-F, 9:00AM-7:00PM, EASTERN TIME

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