







## 11 Captivating Days **Zurich to Luzern** **Swiss Christmas in Grindelwald**

### **Experience unforgettable Christmas in picturesque Grindelwald**

**Travel through stunning Swiss landscapes and enjoy the breathtaking beauty of the Swiss Alps**

Imagine celebrating Christmas in a first-class spa hotel in the stunning Swiss Alpine village of Grindelwald. Shop at Christmas Markets, explore the gorgeous Swiss Riviera town of Montreux, visit Château de Chillon, the amazing hilltop town of Gruyères and enjoy an exhilarating Alpine ride on the Golden Pass Panoramic train.

-  Travel in a first-class air-conditioned touring coach
-  A complimentary wine, beer or soft drink with all included dinners  
Welcome drink in Zürich  
17 meals including buffet breakfast daily (B), 1 lunch (L) and 6 evening meals (D)
-  Free use of pool and spa facilities in Grindelwald hotel  
Free WiFi at most hotels (where available)  
10 nights authentic, specially selected hotel accommodation  
Hotel portorage of 1 bag per person (where available)
-  Personal audio system whilst on tour (where available)  
ALL tips for your Tour Manager, Driver and Local Guides  
Local guides as described in the itinerary  
Fully escorted by our experienced Tour Manager
-  Explore the fabulous Christmas Markets in Zürich, Montreux and Bern  
ALL excursions, scenic drives, sightseeing and entrances as described





## Zurich

Day 1



Hotel Glockenhof Zürich, Switzerland

QΨ D

Your tour commences this evening in Zürich. Tonight a welcome drink and dinner are included. This is an ideal opportunity to meet your fellow travellers.

## Zurich sightseeing, 'My Time' and Christmas markets

Day 2



Hotel Glockenhof Zürich, Switzerland

QΨ B

This morning we enjoy a guided panoramic tour which will bring alive the city. Your afternoon is free to explore and visit Zürich's Christmas market at the main train station. One of the largest indoor Christmas Markets in Europe, they are famous for their massive, illuminated Christmas Tree. The rest of your day is at leisure in this picturesque lake side city.

## Medieval Bern, Christmas Markets, charming Gruyeres and Montreux

Day 3



Grand Hotel Suisse Majestic

QΨ B,D

On our way to Montreux today we explore the medieval cobbled streets of Bern with a local guide. A UNESCO World Heritage landmark, this capital city is set on a spectacular bend above the River Aare. In addition to kilometres of sheltered arcaded shopping ways, an intriguing clock tower and the famous 'Bärengraben' bear pits, there are several sets of excellent Christmas markets scattered around the old town. Continuing on, our afternoon stop is in the unique village of Gruyères. Rising out of the flat valley floor, Gruyères village and castle are perched on top of a steep rocky hill. The broad cobbled main street, flanked by centuries old houses, is an astounding time capsule and one of the great sights of Europe. Arriving in Montreux, we are now on the exclusive Swiss Riviera, where we will stay two nights.

## Chateau Chillon, Vevey, 'My Time' in Montreux and Christmas Markets

Day 4



Grand Hotel Suisse Majestic

QΨ B

This morning we have included entrance and a guided tour through the beautifully preserved Château de Chillon. Made famous in Byron's poem 'The Prisoner of Chillon', this 13th century fortress juts out imposingly into Lake Geneva. Later we visit Charlie Chaplin's hometown of Vevey. Make sure you walk along the lake foreshore to see the statue of the 'little man with baggy pants'. We also visit Chaplin World, a museum dedicated to Charlie Chaplin, the legendary artist and man, that retraces the extraordinary life of this cinematographic genius. Returning to Montreux the rest of the day is at leisure. Make sure you explore the excellent Christmas markets that stretch along the grand lakeside promenade and foreshore.

## Golden Pass panoramic train to Grindelwald

Day 5



Romantik Hotel Schweizerhof, Grindelwald

QΨ B,D

An adventure today as we board the Golden Pass panoramic train which will take us across the Alps, past the chic ski resort of Gstaad and Château-d'Oex, to Interlaken. Our seats are pre-booked in the special panoramic carriages and the views throughout the journey are spectacular. (Your luggage will travel separately, making this an easy and relaxing day). We change trains in Interlaken and then continue deep into the heart of the Bernese Oberland to Grindelwald where we stay the next five nights.

Grindelwald is known over the world for its dramatic setting surrounded by massive snow covered peaks and meadows and the views directly onto the north face of the Eiger are exceptional. Justifiably famous for its skiing, the village is full of restaurants, cafés and shops. Throughout your stay we have included buffet breakfasts and four course dinners. Highlight of your stay will be a Christmas Eve celebration dinner and a Christmas Day dinner

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

Day 6



Romantik Hotel Schweizerhof, Grindelwald



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. This afternoon enjoy 'My Time' to relax and enjoy the stunning scenery which surrounds you. Use your Swiss Travel card to take advantage of reductions on trains and cable cars around the Grindelwald area. Perhaps try your hand at a winter sport or take a trip up one of the mountains?

### Historic Thun, cruise on Lake Thunersee, 'My Time' in Interlaken

Day 7



Romantik Hotel Schweizerhof, Grindelwald



B

Following an enjoyable train ride along the lakeside of Thunersee, we spend time exploring the old town of historic Thun. Later we board a boat for a relaxing cruise down the length of Lake Thunersee to Interlaken. Nestled between two lakes, and surrounded by soaring peaks, Interlaken makes a great place for some last minute Christmas shopping. Early evening we will enjoy a glass of red wine punch in the hotel lobby. Afterwards, your evening is at leisure.

### Christmas Eve – Cable car to First and 'My Time' in Grindelwald

Day 8



Romantik Hotel Schweizerhof, Grindelwald



B,D

Christmas Eve! What a magnificent location to relax over Christmas!

We have included a cable car ticket for you to use at your leisure today to visit First also known as the "Top of Adventure". The First cable car valley station is located in the town centre of Grindelwald. The Firstbahn Gondola Cable Car whisks you in three stages from the valley station via Bort and Schreckfeld to Grindelwald-First at 2,168 metres above sea level. Once at the top enjoy the incredible views of the upper Grindelwald glacier, the Wetterhorn, the Schreckhorn, the Kleine Scheidegg, the Männlichen and Grindelwald.

Otherwise, your next two days are free to relax and enjoy the stunning scenery which surrounds you, and do as much, or as little, as you want! Over these two days you are able to use your Swiss Half Fare card to take advantage of reductions on trains and cable cars around the Grindelwald area. Whether you are a 'super active snow sports' person or a 'take it easy and relax' person there are numerous activities you can enjoy, and your Tour Manager will be at hand to assist and advise you. You will be in the heart of the Bernese Oberland – home to the mighty peaks of the Jungfrau, Mönch, Eiger (of 'The Eiger Sanction' fame), the Breithorn, Männlichen and the Schilthorn, as well as internationally known winter resorts like Wengen and Mürren. The skiing is of course fantastic! Non skiers can easily access all the main peaks by funicular trains, cable cars and chair lifts. At all 'drop off' points there are restaurants, cafés and restroom facilities – usually with extraordinary panoramic views spanning the jagged Alps. All around Grindelwald there are hundreds of kilometres of winter footpaths which often double as Nordic or Cross Country ski paths, as well as numerous toboggan runs – one of which is the longest in the Alps. Paragliding is also available for the adventurous. For those wanting to just relax, you will have free use of the pool and spa facilities in your Grindelwald hotel.

This evening will be special as we enjoy a four course themed Christmas Eve dinner.

### Christmas Day in a winter paradise

Day 9



Romantik Hotel Schweizerhof, Grindelwald




B,L,D

Christmas Day at leisure in a stunning location. There is so much to see and do. A Christmas Turkey lunch will be enjoyed and later in the evening there is a themed Christmas Day dinner. Apparently, at some point Santa Claus will make an appearance!



Panoramic train ride along Lake Brienz, 'My Time' in Luzern

Day 10

 Hotel Schweizerhof, Luzern

4Ψ B,D

This morning we take the train along the shores of picturesque Lake Brienz and on to Luzern, with its covered wooden bridges (again, no hassles with your luggage as it will travel separately and be delivered to your hotel). On this two hour train ride you experience some of the most spectacular views the Swiss Alps have to offer, through large panoramic windows. The journey will take you along the shores of crystal-clear lakes (no less than five!), past romantic waterfalls and over the magnificent Brünig mountain pass. Arriving around midday, the afternoon is at leisure to explore this charming lakeside town. Tonight enjoy a farewell dinner.

Luzern

Day 11

 Hotel Schweizerhof, Luzern

4Ψ B

Your Christmas tour comes to a close and it is time to say farewell.

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.



**Zurich**  
Christkindlmarkt



**Bern**  
Explore this UNESCO World Heritage Site



**Gruyères**  
Unique Village



**Chateau Chillon**  
Guided Tour



**Golden Pass Railway**  
Panoramic Train Journey



**Jungfrau Railway**  
Journey to the Roof of the World



**Grindelwald First - 'Top of Adventure'**  
Cable car




**Lake Thunersee**  
Boat Cruise



**Zentralbahn**  
Panoramic train  
Unforgettable Train Journey

Dates and Prices

Correct as of 19:40 on 01st May 2025

Start Date	End Date	Twin Price	Solo Price	
17 Dec 2025	27 Dec 2025	NZD\$10,436	NZD\$14,286	 Space Available

\* Dates, prices, itineraries and hotels shown may be subject to change on specific departures. Please contact our European Tour Specialists for further details.

## Tour Suitability

- ✈ Our Christmas, New Year and Northern Lights tours travel throughout the European winter months. The weather can get cold, and roads and pathways can be slippery. When outdoors, please take extra care when navigating slippery surfaces.
- ✈ We recommend sturdy waterproof shoes with good grip (hiking shoes, rather than sneakers), thick socks, a woollen beanie, thermal underclothes, gloves and sunglasses. Walking poles can be helpful to give you more confidence, if desired. Layering some light clothes is advisable, as you will often come in from the picturesque cold to warm spaces inside, so layering enables you to adjust to each environment for your optimal comfort. You will also be very comfortable when travelling as your modern touring coach is fitted with heaters and double glazed windows. Once you arrive at your hotel you will be greeted with a warm and comfortable atmosphere.
- ✈ Our tours require a moderate level of fitness due to the unique places we visit and stay. This tour is NOT suited to anyone who has mobility issues.
- ✈ Thinking about what to wear? Please read our blog on Wardrobe essentials: <https://www.albatrosstours.com.au/news-nest-travel-blog/wardrobe-essentials-for-a-winter-wonderland-tour-in-europe/>

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