

SWISS ALPS & THE ITALIAN LAKES

June 30-July 9, 2017

\$3,295

VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include the AHI FlexAir (unless otherwise stated). Single accommodations are an additional cost (limited availability).

Literary luminaries in the 19th century heralded the idyllic treasures of Switzerland and Italy in praise-filled travelogues. Since then, not much has changed in this pristine part of Europe. At an elevation

of 6,089 feet (1856 meters), the village of St. Moritz is billed as the Top of the World. Wooden chalets, weathered to a soft shade of gray and bedecked with red geranium boxes, are a charming complement to lush valleys and snowcapped peaks. On the southern side of the mountains, golden sunshine glints across the turquoise waters of Lake Maggiore and its lovely village of Stresa. Come experience the timeless magic of Alpine vistas and glacial lakes!



INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations

- **Four nights** in St. Moritz, Switzerland, at the first-class **Hotel Schweizerhof**.
- **Four nights** in Stresa, Italy, at the first-class **Hotel La Palma**.

Transportation

- All deluxe motor coach transfers in the Land Program itinerary and baggage handling on these transfers are included.
- Swiss Mountain/Gondola Pass.

Activities and Events

- **Informative educational programs** presented by **local experts** will enhance your insight into the region.
- **All excursions** as outlined in your program itinerary.
- **Personal VOX listening device** to hear every word from your expert English-speaking guides.
- Attend a **Welcome Reception & Dinner**, gather for a **Farewell Reception** and **Graduation Ceremony** followed by **Dinner**.

Extensive Meal Program

- Enjoy eight breakfasts, two lunches and four dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Sample **authentic regional specialties** during select meals at featured local restaurants.
- Take advantage of leisure time to try the local cuisine independently.

MANY INCLUDED EXTRAS

- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of an experienced **Travel Director** throughout your stay.
- **Tipping** of excursion guides and drivers.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in planning.
- Complimentary travel wallet.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore Switzerland and Italy by **rail, cable car and boat**.
- Indulge in the cosmopolitan ambience of the jet-set resort town of **St. Moritz**, nestled in an Upper Engadine valley.
- Board the historic **Bernina Express** and travel a scenic Alpine rail route to **Tirano**. A portion of this amazing journey is distinguished as a **UNESCO World Heritage site**.
- Visit **Milan** and see Leonardo da Vinci's magnificent "The Last Supper."
- Embark on leisurely cruises on two of Italy's magnificent lakes, **Lake Como** and **Lake Maggiore**.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1 ~ IN TRANSIT

Depart for Zürich, Switzerland.†

† Provided for AHI FlexAir participants.

DAY 2 ~ ZÜRICH/ST. MORITZ

Upon arrival, transfer† to St. Moritz and the Hotel Schweizerhof.

Excursion: St. Moritz. Take an orientation tour of St. Moritz.

Join a Welcome Reception and Dinner.

DAY 3 ~ ZUOZ/ST. MORITZ

Educational Focus: Swiss Icons — An Introduction to Switzerland.

Excursion: Zuoz. Travel to Zuoz, a picturesque Upper Engadine village. Stroll through its beautiful main square, adorned with flowers and fountains.

Continue along winding, cobblestone streets lined with brightly painted houses, many built in the 13th century.

Independent Exploration: Spend the rest of the day at leisure in St. Moritz. Use your gondola pass to ascend the mountains and take in spectacular views. The pass gives you access to all 13 cable cars, funiculars and chairlifts.

DAY 4 ~ BERNINA EXPRESS/ TIRANO

Excursion: Bernina Express.

Embark on a scenic train to Tirano, Italy, along one of Europe's most impressively engineered rail routes. The journey on the Rhaetian Railway features the breathtaking landscapes of the Albula and Bernina lines. Admire stunning views of mountains, lakes, waterfalls and forests.

Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch in Tirano.

Educational Focus: Meet the People.

DAY 5 ~ ST. MORITZ

Independent Exploration: Spend the entire day at leisure in St. Moritz. Explore the shops in town, relax at the spa or take the train to one of the nearby Upper Engadine villages.

DAY 6 ~ TREMEZZO, ITALY/ BELLAGIO/STRESA

Depart St. Moritz for Stresa. Travel through the picturesque Maloja Pass. This spectacular valley was carved by the Ice Age glaciers. Enjoy the majestic beauty of the mountains and picture-perfect Swiss villages as you make your

way to Tremezzo, Italy, on the western shore of Lake Como. Cruise across the lake to Bellagio to enjoy some free time before continuing to Como. Continue to Stresa on Lake Maggiore.

Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch in Bellagio.

DAY 7 ~ BORROMEAN ISLANDS

Educational Focus: Italy's Lake District.

Excursion: Borromean Islands.

Cruise Lake Maggiore to Isola Madre and visit its botanical gardens. Walk the narrow streets of Isola dei Pescatori, a peaceful fishing village. Continue to Isola Bella, where you'll visit a 17th-century palace teeming with antiques.

Educational Focus: Golden Age of the Renaissance.

DAY 8 ~ MILAN

Excursion: Milan. See some of the world's most magnificent art and architecture in stylish Milan. Visit Santa Maria Delle Grazie and its rectory to see da Vinci's masterpiece, "The Last Supper." Visit the museum at La Scala, Italy's premier opera house, before entering the opulent Duomo.

Independent Exploration: Enjoy free time for lunch and exploring in Milan.

DAY 9 ~ STRESA

Independent Exploration: Enjoy the day at leisure.

Tonight, attend a Farewell Reception, Graduation Ceremony and a Farewell Dinner.

DAY 10 ~ IN TRANSIT

Transfer to the airport for the return flight to your gateway city.†

NOTE: The information presented is preliminary. Itineraries, included features and schedules are subject to change. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking.

ENHANCE YOUR EXPERIENCE

Available at an additional cost

Fondue Dinner. Enjoy the Swiss specialty on Day 3.

Lake Orta. On Day 9, travel to Orta for a walking tour. Take a boat trip on Lake Orta to the island of San Giulio for a tour of the fourth-century San Giulio Cathedral. Return to Orta for free time.

ACCOMMODATIONS



HOTEL SCHWEIZERHOF St. Moritz

Built in 1896, the legendary hotel is ideally located in the center of St. Moritz. Amid the ambience of a traditional family-run inn, it has two restaurants serving Alpine specialties, a rooftop wellness center with a sauna and massage treatments, and picture-perfect lake and mountain views. Enjoy well-appointed, comfortable rooms. Wi-Fi is complimentary.



HOTEL LA PALMA Stresa

The Hotel La Palma sits on the banks of Lake Maggiore. The hotel has a restaurant specializing in international cuisine and an inviting lounge. Take a dip in the lakeside swimming pool, which has superb views over the Borromean Islands, and soak up the sunshine on the poolside terrace. Enjoy a workout in the panoramic fitness room, or relax in the sauna, whirlpool or solarium. Each well-appointed guest room features its own terrace or balcony. Wi-Fi is complimentary.

Previous page:
Lake Orta, Italy



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