

Swiss Escape

8 Day Tour from Zurich to Lugano

From \$1,550/person
(air, transfers and insurance additional)

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Vacation overview

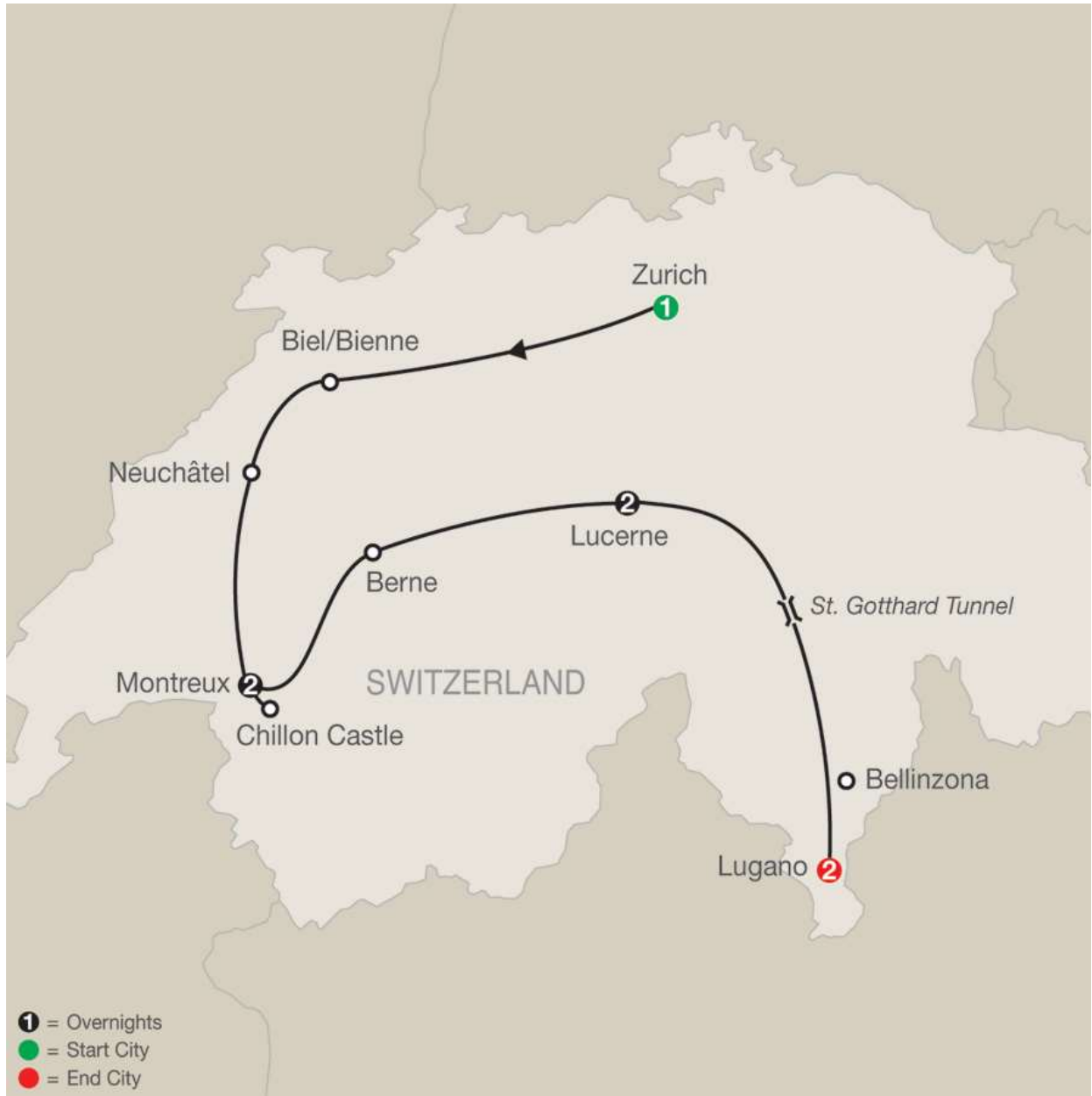
Your escape to Switzerland begins in the dynamic city of Zürich, where you'll meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers for a welcome dinner served at your hotel. Your stay in Zürich includes an orientation of the Old Town. Take a scenic drive to lakeside Neuchâtel with its impressive castle and medieval cathedral, time to stroll along its lake promenade. Lake Geneva, situated at the foot of the Alps, is your spectacular base for 2 nights.

Your Swiss Escape includes a visit to the stately capital of Berne. Enjoy a guided tour of the city to see Bear Park, a panoramic view from the Rose Garden, the Old Town's Clock Tower with its painted figures, and the flowered-adorned fountains. In lovely Lucerne, be captivated by the Lion Monument, dedicated to the fallen Swiss Guards of the French Revolution, as well as the ornate patrician houses of the Old Town. Cross the famous covered Chapel Bridge to Lucerne's Jesuit church. Drive through the magnificent Swiss Alps via the famous St. Gotthard tunnel to the Italian-speaking area of Switzerland, home to the lakeside



town of Lugano. Enjoy a full day to relax or explore this beautiful setting, before a farewell dinner on your last night in Switzerland. The wonderful memories of your Swiss Escape are made all the sweeter by the absence of high-season crowds on your stunning Switzerland escorted vacation.





Itinerary

Day 1 **ARRIVE IN ZURICH, SWITZERLAND**

Welcome to Zurich! At 6 pm, meet your Tour Director and traveling companions for a welcome dinner at your hotel.

Day 2 **ZURICH-NEUCHÂTEL-LAKE GENEVA**

Walk through Zurich's Old Town, Switzerland's center of banking and commerce, before departing on your Swiss adventure. You'll quickly discover that Switzerland isn't just home to the Alps, but also to some of the world's most beautiful lakes. Enjoy a scenic drive to lakeside Neuchâtel, dominated by the medieval cathedral and castle. Time to stroll along the lake promenade before continuing to your overnight destination.

Today's Distance: 174 mi / 280 km

Day 3 **LAKE GENEVA**

This morning, a guided visit to the nearby Chillon Castle is included. Beautifully located on the banks of Lake Geneva, the castle was used as a residence and toll station by the Counts of Savoy from the 12th to the 16th century. Spend the afternoon and evening at leisure.

Day 4 **LAKE GENEVA-BERNE-LUCERNE**

Arrive in the stately capital of Berne. Your guided tour starts with a stop at the Bear Park, symbol for the name of the town, followed by a panoramic view of the city from the Rose Garden. Walk through the beautifully preserved medieval Old Town, witness the hourly parade of painted figures at the Clock Tower, and marvel at the ornate, flower-adorned fountains. Leave the Berner Oberland and drive to picturesque Lucerne.

Today's Distance: 155 mi / 250 km

Day 5 **LUCERNE**

During your orientation walk, be captivated by Thorwaldsen's impressive Lion Monument, dedicated to the Swiss Guards who protected the Royal House of France during the French Revolution. See the ornate patrician houses of the walled Old Town, then cross the famous covered Chapel Bridge to the Jesuit church. A breathtaking optional excursion is available to one of Lucerne's mountains. This evening, enjoy dinner with regional specialties at a local restaurant.

Day 6 **LUCERNE-LUGANO**

A spectacular drive straight through the Swiss Alps brings you via the famous St. Gotthard tunnel to the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland, and to elegant Lugano. Later, why not sign up for an optional excursion to make the most out of your stay?

Today's Distance: 112 mi / 180 km

Day 7 **LUGANO**

A full day at leisure gives you the chance to explore more of the local area. Join an optional excursion to visit the UNESCO protected Castles of Bellinzona. Tonight, a farewell dinner will be served at your hotel to celebrate your Swiss Escape.

Day 8 **LUGANO**

Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning. (The nearest airport is Milan, Italy.)

Vacation Highlights

ZURICH

Welcome dinner; orientation walk of the Old Town

NEUCHÂTEL.

Stop at the lake promenade

LAKE GENEVA

Guided visit to Chillon Castle

BERNE

Guided sightseeing, stop at the Bear Park and enjoy a panoramic view from the Rose Garden

LUCERNE

[LF] Dinner at a local restaurant; walking tour including the Lion's Monument and the Chapel Bridge

LUGANO

Farewell dinner

Headsets throughout the tour.

Free Wi-Fi available on your motorcoach and in most hotel lobbies.

- Hotels listed may occasionally be substituted with alternative hotels of equivalent standard.

Meals

Full buffet breakfast daily; 3 three-course dinners including dinner at a local restaurant in Lucerne
