



THE BIG FIVE MOUNTAIN RAILROAD ADVENTURE

8
DAYS

Experience five completely unique mountain railroad excursions – the Pilatus Railway, the Rigi Railway, the Stanserhorn, the Titlis cable car and the Hammetschwand Lift – all from our base at the 4* Seehotel Pilatus beside lovely Lake Lucerne, whose leisure facilities open out onto a fantastic panorama of lake and mountain scenery.

Fares
From
£1199

DEPARTS

**Saturdays 2 July &
17 September 2016**

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Your choice of First or Standard Class rail travel to Switzerland and return
- ★ 4* hotel beside Lake Lucerne with leisure facilities and fabulous views
- ★ Excursion on the Rigi Railway, Europe's first mountain railway
- ★ Breathtaking ride on the Titlis Rotair Cable Car, the world's first revolving gondola
- ★ Drama and Thrills on the Pilatus Railway, Europe's steepest cog railway
- ★ Experience traditional and modern technology at the Stanserhorn
- ★ Enjoy incredible views at the Hammetschwand Lift, the world's highest outdoor rock lift
- ★ Local Transport Pass – offering freedom of the region on your free day

Also included in your Tour Fare:

- ★ 7 nights' bed, breakfast & evening meal
- ★ Local Transport Pass
- ★ Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager
- ★ Hotel Portage



The preferred destination of writers and royalty during the Belle Epoque period, Central Switzerland has lost none of its imposing charm. This unique itinerary offers the thrills and contrasts of five mountain experiences, from the pioneering spirit of the past to the modern Swiss technological wonders of the present, all from our 4* lakeside resort hotel, where you can relax amidst the indoor pool, Jacuzzi, saunas and lakeside terrace.



Breathtaking Stanserhorn Cabrio Cable Car

© Stanserhorn



Rigi Railway

© Luzerne Tourismus



Stunning panorama from the summit of Mt Pilatus

© swiss image.ch / Philipp Giegel



Pilatus Cog Railway

© www.pilatus.ch



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ITINERARY

DAY 1

Relax as we let the European train system transport us from the bustle of early morning London to **Lucerne**, then by local train to lakeside Hergiswil by **Lake Lucerne** and the Seehotel Pilatus, where a welcome evening meal awaits at our hotel. (D)

DAY 2

Our first adventure begins with a rail journey around the lake to Stans. Here we join the **Stanserhorn**, firstly enjoying the timber carriages of the **nostalgic funicular railway dating from 1893**, before continuing on the **world's first cabrio cable car**, whose top deck has no roof. Enjoy the lakes and mountains panorama through the panoramic windows of the lower deck or feel the wind in your hair on the sun deck, with nothing but the wide open sky above. (B,D)

DAY 3

Drama and thrills all the way today on the **Pilatus Railway!** This famous round trip provides the best of mountain railways from every angle. Let the **world's steepest cogwheel railway** take you up through woods and tunnels, along flowery meadows and rocky outcrops to the top of this rugged pre-Alpine peak. After free time at the summit, an aerial cable car and panorama gondola transport you back down to Lucerne, Switzerland's prettiest city. (B,D)

DAY 4

A day at leisure in Hergiswil allows you the opportunity to relax and unwind by lovely Lake Lucerne and maybe take full advantage of the **hotel's leisure facilities**. Alternatively, you can use your **local transport pass** to visit **Lucerne** itself, with its famous Chapel Bridge and Transport Museum. (B,D)

(B) = Breakfast included, (D) = Dinner included

DAY 5

A pretty unique experience awaits today, as we travel from Hergiswil to Stanstad. From here a short bus journey takes us up to **Bürgenstock**. We enjoy the fresh mountain air on a **breathtaking mountain walk to the Hammetschwand Lift**, the **highest outdoor rock lift in the world**. For over 100 years the elevator has taken passengers up 153 metres in one minute, enjoying lakes and mountain views. Revel in the views from the restaurant at the summit before we make the return journey. (B,D)

DAY 6

See steep rocky walls, deep glacial crevasses and snow-covered mountain summits glide past as we ascend **Mount Titlis** on the **world's first revolving gondola** – the 'Titlis Rotair'. The gondola rotates a full 360 degrees during its ascent, providing breathtakingly beautiful panoramas as you soar to the mountain station at an altitude of over 3,000 metres above sea level. (B,D)

DAY 7

Europe's first mountain railway, the **Rigi Railway**, has been transporting visitors from all over the world to the top of the 'Queen of the Mountains' since 1871. The Rigi was the preferred destination of writers and heads of state during the 'Belle Epoque' era between 1884 and 1914. Mark Twain, Tolstoy and Goethe all enthused about the beautiful views and even Queen Victoria wrote that, "We are amused!" Enjoy the 'Queen of the Mountains' for yourself on our fantastic final mountain adventure. (B,D)

DAY 8

We return by train across Switzerland to Paris, changing stations for our Eurostar journey to London. (B)

HOTEL

Seehotel Pilatus, Hergiswil

A 4-star hotel on the shores of lovely Lake Lucerne surrounded by majestic mountain views. This family owned hotel provides a great location for all our excursions and also features a host of leisure facilities, including a large indoor pool, jacuzzi, saunas, sun deck and lakeside terrace.

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FARES From London St Pancras International:

Standard Class rail travel to / from Switzerland, including Standard Eurostar	£1199
First Class rail travel to / from Switzerland, including Standard Premier Eurostar	£1499
Single Traveller Supplement	£140

Fare inclusive of:
7 nights' bed, breakfast & evening meal
Eurostar and rail travel to and from Switzerland in the class of your choice
Local Transport Ticket
All excursions as detailed
Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager
Hotel Portage

All fares based upon sharing a twin-bedded en-suite room; single rooms available for a supplement.

GUARANTEED FARE – No currency surcharge

If wishing to travel **BY AIR** to join the tour: Please contact us with your variation request so that we may confirm availability and fare variation.

To book visit: www.railtrail.co.uk or telephone: 01538 382323

Standard Railtrail Tours Ltd. booking conditions apply to this tour, as detailed in our Escorted Holidays by Train brochure; copies available upon request.