

# Switzerland 2022 Itinerary

**Overview:** The Swiss Trip. Switzerland – the Alps, the Lakes, the cheese!

**Travel Ideas:** For Switzerland, [RS Blog 1](#), [RS Blog 2](#), and [RS Switzerland Itinerary](#) are excellent.

**June 22 – June 25: Zermatt 3N (Wednesday - Saturday).** Cable cars and hiking

**June 25 – June 30: Lauterbrunnen 5N (Saturday - Thursday).** Hiking the Alps

**June 30 – July 1: Davos 1N (Thursday - Friday).** Just because!

**July 1 – July 2: Friedrichshafen, Germany 1N (Friday - Saturday).** Zeppelin museum and ride!

**July 2 – July 3: Zurich 1N (Saturday - Sunday).** Town walk (RS)

**July 3 – July 4: Luzern 1N (Sunday - Monday).** Town walk (RS)

**July 4 – July 5: Montreux 1N (Monday - Tuesday).** John Legend concert at MJF

**July 5 – July 11: Montreux 5N (Tuesday - Monday).** La Lamond, Montreux Jazz Festival, hiking, Gruyeres, TDF

**July 11 – July 12: Basel 1N (Monday - Tuesday).** Walk (and swim) the Rhine.

CURRENT			Schengen*	France	Swiss	Belg/Lux	Other	Car	checksum	
			86	55	19	9	1	81	84	Total includes +1 for final Schengen day flying out
		Months	2.8	1.8	0.6	0.3	0.0	2.7	2.8	Car: April 25 - July 13 (80 days discount)
Start	Fom	To	Days	City	Country	Car?	Drive	Notes		
Wednesday	22-Jun	24-Jun	3	Zermatt	Swiss	3	2	Matterhorn		
Saturday	25-Jun	29-Jun	5	Lauterbrunnen	Swiss	5	3	Hiking, oh my		
Thursday	30-Jun	30-Jun	1	Davos	Swiss	1	3	Lucerne enroute: Chapel Bridge, Lion, walk, Mt Pilatus. Davos: sculpture hike + t		
Friday	1-Jul	1-Jul	1	Friedrichshafen	Germany	1	3	Stop Schloss Vaduz, Appenzell, St. Gallen enroute.		
Saturday	2-Jul	2-Jul	1	Zurich	Swiss	1	2	Zeppelin Flight and Museum, stop at Busingen am Hochrhein, the Zurich		
Sunday	3-Jul	3-Jul	1	Luzern	Swiss	1	1	Zurich walk, then to Luzern and Lutzern Walk		
Monday	4-Jul	4-Jul	1	Montreux	Swiss	1	3	Gruyeres enroute. Then John Legend concert at MJF		
Tuesday	5-Jul	10-Jul	6	Montreux	Swiss	6	2	Jazz Festival, nearby hikes, castle, lake cruise, wine, Geneva, Bern for Einstein Mu		
Monday	11-Jul	11-Jul	1	Basel	Swiss	1	3	Teddy Bear Museum, walk the Rhine and old town, enter Germany		

What days are things closed?

## ETIAS

It doesn't appear to be required during our visit, per this [article](#). The European Travel Information and Authorization System or ETIAS visa waiver will be a travel requirement to visit Europe starting from the **end of 2022**. U.S. citizens who wish to travel to and around Europe will have to apply online for an ETIAS visa waiver. Check details at [ETIAS.US](#), and also [InterExchange](#) and [EU Site](#).

## VPN

A VPN would be helpful for the trip for better ticket pricing, watching movies, etc. Check out SurfShark, CNET

## COVID and Swiss Travel

The [EU-PLF form](#) is still compulsory for travelers who wish to enter. You must present a sworn declaration to stating that you have no symptoms of COVID-19 infection and have not been in contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the 14 days prior, and that you are willing to test if required. [Download the declaration template here](#)

U.S. citizens are permitted if fully vaccinated. Confirmation site is here: <https://travelcheck.admin.ch/home>  
Check the [U.S. Embassy in Switzerland](#) for updates. Switzerland's official [site](#) and shows requirements by venue.

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**June 22 – June 25: Zermatt 3N (Wednesday - Saturday).** Cable cars and hiking

**Zermatt:** At the base of the Matterhorn, probably the most recognizable mountain in the world. Ideas: [MyFaultyCompass](#), [LandofTravels](#)

Weather: June 65F / 45F with ~24 days of rain

Hotel – Matterhorn Inn

Park – free private parking onsite, no reservation possible

**Day** -----

Arrive in Zermatt and park at Matterhorn terminal to board the train. No cars in Zermatt, so take the Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn. Get the Peak2Peak ticket that covers necessary lifts, and a map, at the TI near the train station. Walk to hotel and then walk old town.

**Day** -----

RS - First train up Gornergrat Ridge. On the way down, stop at Rotenboden and take the Riffelseeweg trail (#21 on the maps) for the mountain reflection (see [MyFaultyCompass](#)). Continue, and at the fork go left/downhill to the Riffelberg train stop. At Riffelberg, hike or train back to Zermatt, or the Nattureweg hike to Sunnegga, or take a gondola down to Furi and up to Glacier Paradise on Klein Matterhorn summit and return by hiking Scharzsee ridge.

**Day** -----

Capture Sunrise on the 'horn as it ignites the peak and works its way down. Go up Rothorn summit to Blauherd and walk to restaurant at Fluhalp (see Lake Stillisee reflection), then a hike from Sunnegga ridge.

**Day** -----

Hike again! Maybe 5-Lakes Walk, ending in [Findeln](#) and taking Lejsee up to Sunnegga. See RS book

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**June 25 – June 30: Lauterbrunnen 5N (Saturday - Thursday).** Hiking the Alps

**Gimmelwald/Lauterbrunnen:** "Loud Water" (72 waterfalls!) Ideas: RS Book, [JourneyEra](#), [EmbraceSomeplace](#)

Weather: June-July 60-65F / 55-60F with 12-13 days of rain

Hotel – Chalet Gemschi

Park – free parking onsite, no reservation needed

**Day** -----

*Review and add RS Book suggestions and then modify dates if needed*

Via Ferrata from Murren to Gimmelwald (scary).

Trummelbach short trail - the hike from town center of Lauterbrunnen is just .5 kilometers but it can be added on to part of a loop trail all the way up through Gimmelwald and Murren.

Tanzbodeli provides the best 360 degrees of the entire mountainscape. 13.9km Total distance from Gimmelwald to Tanzbodeli to Obersteinberg to Stechelberg. The total distance from Gimmelwald to Tanzbodeli was 6 steep kilometers in 2 hours. Physically challenging but relatively safe – 3700' gain.

Eiger Trail Hike, Staubbach falls Hike (short), train to Jungfrauoch, eBike Lauterbrunnen, hike to Bachalpsee. Visit Wengen via cogwheel train. Sphinx Observatory. Piz Gloria (007). The Schilthorn of course!

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**June 30 – July 1: Davos 1N (Thursday - Friday).** Just because!

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**Davos:** We have to see a bit of what the fuss is about. Ideas: [CultureTrip](#), RS Book for Luzern,

Weather: June-July 60-65F / 40-45F with 12-13 days of rain

Hotel – Hotel Strela

Park – private parking onsite, reservation not possible, CHF 10 / 24 hr

**Afternoon** -----

**Davos:** Schatz-Funicular up the mountains to explore the Alpine Botanical Gardens. Try a themed hike like the Sculpture Path, which extends from Davos Fraunekirch to Stafelalp with striking stone and tree carvings.

And of course – just walk the town and see what there is to see.

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**July 1 – July 2: Friedrichshafen, Germany 1N (Friday - Saturday).** Zeppelin museum and ride!

**Enroute** -----

**Vaduz:** stop enroute. Ideas: [Trafalgar](#). Schloss Vaduz, royal home (constitutional monarchy). Same ruling family since 1200s; living here since 1712 (visit is outside only). Rustic, wooden Alte Rheinbrücke crosses the Rhine River to link Lich/Switz. St. Florin cathedral.

**Appenzell:** See town; Barefoot Trail (see RS), cheese factory (Stein). Known for smelly cheese and cowbells

**St. Gall Abbey:** Site of one of the world's foremost Medieval libraries

**Friedrichshafen** -----

Weather: June-July 70-75F / 50-55F with 12-13 days of rain

Zeppelin: 5pm flight on July 1, arrive 1 hour in advance. Order B-DZR-298305. See print and PDF tix, ppp.  
*How to find: Flights departing from FRIEDRICHSHAFEN: In Friedrichshafen, drive in the direction of "Messe". Follow the signs "Zeppelinflug" or "Zeppelin Hallein". In Google Maps, "Messe" as the destination*

Hotel – Central Hotel Friedrichshafen

Park – free parking onsite, reservation not possible

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**July 2 – July 3: Zurich 1N (Saturday - Sunday).** Town walk (RS)

**Enroute** -----

Zeppelin: Zeppelin Museum <https://zeppelin-nt.de/en/zeppelin-flights/flight-meersburg.html>

Mini-Germany: Drive thru Büsingen am Hochrhein enroute – tiny bit of Germany surrounded by Switzerland

**Zurich** -----

Weather: June-July 75-80F / 55-60F with 11-12 days of rain

Hotel – Hotel Montana Zurich

Park – under the hotel, CHF 30 additional, requested on Feb 26, subject to availability per booking msg

Activity – afternoon/evening walk per RS book. Hike? <https://greatruns.com/zurich-uetliberg/>

**Runs:** Lakefront 3-9mi - <https://greatruns.com/zurich-lake-zurich-zurichsee/>

Limmat River 3-11mi - <https://greatruns.com/zurich-limmat-river/>

Old Town 3mi - <https://greatruns.com/zurich-old-town-and-sights/>

West Zurich 4mi - <https://greatruns.com/zurich-west-zurich-and-limmat/>

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**July 3 – July 4: Luzern 1N (Sunday - Monday).** Town walk (RS)

**Lucerne:** pronounced “loo-SAIRN”. Leisurely stop enroute to Davos. Ideas: [CrazyTourist](#). Golden Tour up Mt. Pilatus, Reuss River/old town walk (see RS book), Chapel Bridge, Lion of Lucerne monument, city walls.

**Lucerne** -----

Weather: June-July 75-80F / 55-60F with 12-13 days of rain

Hotel – Hotel Spatz

Park – free parking at hotel and free bus into city center stops nearby (5 min ride, 2k)

Activity – afternoon/evening walk per RS book

**Runs:** **Lake Front 3-9mi** - <https://greatruns.com/lucerne-lake-lucerne-paths/> (looks best)  
**Reuss River 3-9mi** - <https://greatruns.com/lucerne-reuss-river-path/>  
**Lake Rotsee 6mi** - <https://greatruns.com/lucerne-lake-rotsee-loop/>

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**July 4 – July 5: Montreux 1N (Monday - Tuesday).** John Legend concert at MJF

Weather: June-July 75-80F / 55-60F with 10-11 days of rain

Hotel – Bon Port Hotel

Park – requested parking, 15CHF

**Enroute** -----

**Gruyeres:** Cheese and Chocolate enroute to Montreux

**John Legend:** 8:30pm, seated way back but who cares, 20 min walk from hotel. Tix printed + PDF

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**July 5 – July 11: Montreux 5N (Tuesday - Monday).** La Lamond, Montreux Jazz Festival, hiking, Gruyeres

**Montreux:** X. Ideas: [TheGuardian](#), MySwissAlps [Map](#), and by each city below. [Jazz here](#)

Weather: July 75-80F / 55-60F with ~7 days of rain

Hotel – Central Apartment | Terrace & Private Parking

Park – free private parking onsite, no reservation required

**Activities** -----

**Jazz:** [Montreaux Jazz Festival](#) is July 1-16. [Tickets Here](#)

**Montreux:** Ideas at [HolidayToSwitzerland](#). Lakeside Promenade runs 13k (8mi) from Vevey to Chillon Castle. It is also called the “Flower Path”, with sculptures. “Queen: The Experience” museum in the casino. Sing “Smoke on the Water”. Walk to Chateau de Chillon by the lake. Gorges du Chauderon is a nearby hike.

**Bern:** Day trip. RS “Heart of Bern” walk, see sandstone architecture, visit Einstein House (center of town) and Einstein Museum (across the river, more engaging). See BarenPark.

**Bern Runs:** **Tierpark 6mi** - <https://greatruns.com/location/bern-switzerland/>  
**Aare River 4-9mi** - <https://greatruns.com/location/bern-switzerland/>  
**Run See 6mi** - <https://greatruns.com/bern-runseeing-tour/>

**Murten:** Old city ramparts, near Bern, ½ day. See RS Book

**Lausanne:** “loh-zahn”, beautiful mountain views over the lake. Home of the IOC. See Ouchy Promenade for view of the French side, and nearby Olympic Museum. Sauvabelin Tower (short drive) has great views.

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**Vevey:** same beautiful views. [Charlie Chaplin Museum](#), Quai Perdonnet (promenade) with fork in the water sculpture. Eat at Ze Fork. On the way to Montreaux, stop at Les 11 Terres winebar for local samples. And... the Alimentarium Food Museum, near the fork.

**Hiking:** See also Les Diablerets is 40 min, Sion 45 min Val d'Anniviers 60 min. [Valais Bisses \(more\)](#) ([more](#)) interesting and easy to terrifying to hike - 90 min. Chandolin 90 min, San Luc 90 min.

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**July 11 – July 12: Basel 1N (Monday - Tuesday).** Walk the Rhine. Mark and Barbara for suggestions

**Basel:** where Switzerland, Germany and France join at the Rhine. Ideas: [LoveExploring](#), [ArzoTravel](#)

Weather: June-July 75-80F / 55-60F with ~9 days of rain

Hotel – Hotel Wettstein

Park – private parking onsite CHF 25, reservation needed (confirmed Feb 25 via app)

**Day** -----

Teddy Bear Museum. Eat at Klara Food Hall, or Le Cheval Blanc for \$\$\$\$\$. Float down the Rhine with a Wickelfisch to Flora Buvette. Ferry across the river. Walk/pub transport into Germany.

**Runs:** **Runsee 5mi** - <https://greatruns.com/basel-old-town-runseeing/>

**Rhine 5mi** - <https://greatruns.com/basel-rhine-river-run/>

**Two Country 5-9mi** - <https://greatruns.com/basel-wiese-river-run/>

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*July 12 – on to Paris and a flight to Split to enjoy Croatia!*