



TRAVEL IDEAS

FOR GROUPS

VORALPEN-EXPRESS ROUTE PLAN



VORALPEN-EXPRESS (PRE-ALPINE EXPRESS) – EXPERIENCE THE PREALPS FROM THE TRAIN!

Operated by Schweizerische Südostbahn AG, the Voralpen-Express runs hourly between Lucerne and St.Gallen and is the best, most convenient way of travelling between central and eastern Switzerland. Discover the authentic side of Switzerland and its breathtaking scenery between St.Gallen and Lucerne from the comfort of the panorama carriages – and there's no need to change trains. Refreshments are available in the buffet car during the journey.

Voralpen-Express – discover and enjoy!

ST.GALLEN

Experience the Swiss side of Lake Constance and the eastern Switzerland town of St.Gallen. It's home to the famous Abbey Library, and its Old Town is a warren of narrow lanes and alleys imbued with medieval secrets. The entire abbey precincts of St.Gallen have been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1983.

Visit the world-famous cathedral and admire the historic embroidery in the heart of the town, or take the Mühlegg funicular railway up to the Drei Weiern, a glorious vantage point offering views of the whole town and parts of eastern Switzerland.

www.st.gallen-bodensee.ch



SITTER VIADUCT, ST.GALLEN

The Voralpen-Express takes just a few minutes to travel between St.Gallen and Herisau. In doing so, it crosses the 99 metre-high, 365 metre-long viaduct over the River Sitter. The Sitter Viaduct is the tallest railway viaduct in Switzerland and Europe, as well as Europe's tallest standard-gauge railway viaduct constructed from stone and steel. Experience this unique feature from the comfort of your seat on board the Voralpen-Express.

APPENZELL AND TOGGENBURG

The holiday destinations of Appenzell and Toggenburg nestle amid gentle rolling hills, providing enchanting picture-book scenery that's typical of Switzerland. In no other part of the country are custom and tradition so much part of everyday life. Herdsmen in traditional costume drive their animals up to mountain pastures



in the summer, and cattle shows feature prize-winning cows. In this region the locals still participate in cantonal affairs in open-air parliaments called *Landsgemeinde*. The tradition of the *Silvesterchlausen* or New Year's mummer processions is a custom unique to parts of Appenzell: groups of impressively masked and costumed characters pass from door to door wishing the residents a happy New Year. The *Stobete*, meanwhile, is a forum peculiar to the Appenzell where yodelling and traditional dancing takes place to the sound of string music. At 2502 metres, Mount *Säntis* towers above its lake, the tallest mountain in eastern Switzerland. From its summit, the visitor has views of six different countries and the distinctive *Churfürsten* peaks in the Toggenburg region.

www.toggenburg.org

www.appenzell.ch

RAPPERSWIL

This town on Lake Zurich, famous for its roses, has much to offer. Aside from its picturesque Old Town and medieval castle, Rapperswil-Jona is a

mecca for devotees of the rose. Its four rose gardens and other public and private spaces are home to more than 20 000 rose plants. The romantic lakeside promenade and timber pedestrian bridge lend the town an ambience all its own. With numerous museums, the Knie children's zoo and a great selection of shops, boutiques and cafés, Rapperswil is an attractive destination for all the family.

www.vvrj.ch



EINSIEDELN

Einsiedeln is famous for its monastery, Switzerland's most significant baroque edifice, and for its Chapel of Mercy and Black Madonna. Einsiedeln is a place of pilgrimage, but also a wonderful place to unwind and relax. Nearby Lake Sihl is great for bathing, surfing and sailing, and for skating when it freezes in the winter. www.einsiedeln-tourismus.ch



ROTHENTHURM

One of Switzerland's largest upland moors occupies the area between Rothenthurm and Biberbrugg. Rothenthurm lies in a valley featuring extensive moorland scenery at an altitude of around 900 metres. The upland moors

here are of national importance and are therefore protected by statute. Beavers have made a home for themselves in this environment. Why not visit this unique region in the company of an expert? www.rothenthurm-tourismus.ch



ARTH-GOLDAU

Arth-Goldau is an important railway junction for trains travelling between German-speaking and Italian-speaking Switzerland. Within two hours of arriving in Arth-Goldau with the Voralpen-Express, you could be in Switzerland's Canton Ticino, soaking up the southern sun. Savour la dolce vita courtesy of Lakes Maggiore and Lugano, the southern Alps, Ticino handicrafts, the local cuisine and the easy-going mentality of the local population. www.ticino.ch

LUCERNE

Lucerne is situated on the River Reuss in the heart of Switzerland at the north-westerly end of Lake Lucerne. The town is one of the world's prettiest and is rich in sightseeing opportunities. As well as the world-famous Chapel Bridge and Water Tower, numerous other historical buildings and sights contribute to Lucerne's fascinating townscape. www.luzern.com





Directions to coach parking in St.Gallen

ARRIVAL

The best way to arrive is via St.Gallen railway station, where short-term coach parking is available. Approach the station from the St.Gallen Kreuzbleiche motorway exit. (See street plan above when leaving)

ROLLING STOCK

The standard train configuration is composed of first and second class carriages, both with large windows. Most of the carriages are airconditioned.

CATERING

The standard train configuration includes a self-service buffet car offering food and drink.

RESERVATIONS

Please inform us as soon as possible of the number of people travelling so that we can reserve your seats.

SEATS

A carriage seats 80 passengers.

HOTEL

Hotels of every description and price category may be found along the entire route. We can help find the right one for you.

DISCOUNT

Groups of 10 or more are eligible for a 20% discount on the standard ticket price. You receive one free ticket for every nine tickets you purchase.

WHAT TO DO NEXT

Email gruppen@voralpen-express.ch with your enquiry or call us on +41 (0)71 353 36 30.

We look forward to hearing from you and helping organise a suitable itinerary.

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