

Are you ready for 2026? How about an Alpine adventure through Switzerland? Visit the most charming cities and towns---Berne, Lake Geneva, Lugano, Lake Como, Lucerne,

Gruyere, Neufchatel

See the most breathtaking scenery-mountains, lakes, alpine vistas. Travel through one country and experience 3 different languages--German, French, Italian (and Romansh). Those influences are prevalent in the food of each region as well.

Sit back and even try to yodel if you want to!!

Right now the bus is wide open so let's try to fill it with our group. Single supplement waived for the first who sign up. -Sit back and enjoy gorgeous scenery, no extensive walking or exhausting tours.

24 February -3 March 2026. \$2399 land only

SMALL GROUP. 28 MAXIMUM. Airfare additional.

843.332.2247 <u>brenda@newsometravel.com</u>

**DETAILS:** 

.

Swiss Escape 8 Day Tour from Zurich to Lugano 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.

o Switzerland 8 days

Swiss Escape

ARRIVE IN ZURICH, SWITZERLAND

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

dinner

2

## ZURICH-NEUCHÂTEL-LAKE GENEVA

o Swiss History

ZURICH Orientation walk of the old town includes sights of the Fraumünsterkirche.

NEUCHÂTEL Free time en route to Lake Geneva. 174 mi / 280 km

CITY SIGHTS Fall in love with Zurich with a walk through the Altstadt – its Old Town, in the historic heart of the city. See the guild houses and historic squares that span both sides of the Limmat River. Gracing the shore is the famous Fraumünsterkirche, with its signature green steeple marking the skyline above stained-glass windows designed by masters Chagall and Giacometti.

3

LAKE GENEVA

o Grandeur in Geneva

LAKE GENEVA Guided visit to Chillon Castle. Free time this afternoon and evening. breakfast

HISTORIC SPOT

EXPLORE MORE Located on a strategic position on the banks of Lake Geneva, Chillon Castle has been a toll station for ships sailing on the lake. Learn about these fascinating stories while strolling through these serene location and take in breath-taking views of the surrounding area. o Lunch in Gruyères & Chocolate Experience

The only thing more inspiring than Switzerland's stunning scenery is its food! Visit medieval Gruyères for a lunch of Swiss delicacies, then visit the Maison Cailler chocolaterie for a memorable tour and chocolate tasting!

5h 0m



4

## LAKE GENEVA-BERNE-LUCERNE

o Alpine Attraction

BERNE Guided walking tour includes the Old Town, a stop at Bear Park, and a panoramic view of the city from Rose Garden. Free time for lunch. Free time late afternoon and evening. 155 mi / 250 km

breakfast

CITY SIGHTS BärenPark (Bear Park) is home to Pyrenean brown bears (after which the town is named). This hillside habitat in Berne differs greatly from the bear pit of 1191 when Duke Berthold V vowed to name the town after the first animal his hunt found in the nearby woods. The first records of bears being kept in the city date back to 1513 when soldiers brought live bears home as spoils of war. Fast forward to the modern day as the inhumane bear pit of the 16th century has evolved into a 6,000 square-meter natural habitat alongside the Aar River.

5

## **LUCERNE**

o Bridging History

LUCERNE Walking tour includes the Lion Monument, the Old Town, and Chapel Bridge. Dinner at a local restaurant.

breakfastdinner



CITY SIGHTS See the symbol of Lucerne at the famous Kapellbrücke (Chapel Bridge), the oldest wooden covered bridge in Europe. Originally built in 1365, the bridge includes the Wasserturm (water tower) that once served as a prison. Today, this the world-famous timber bridge is Lucerne's most photographed landmark.

o Mount Pilatus

Grab your camera and prepare for indescribable panoramic views on this thrilling ascent up Mount Pilatus.

3h 0m

price range: \$\$

6

LUCERNE-LUGANO

o Sights & Delights of Switzerland

LUCERNE Scenic drive through the Swiss Alps on the way to Lugano.

LUGANO Free time. 112mi/180 km

breakfast

EXPLORE MORE in Lugano to see its mix of Italian and Swiss style and culture reflected in its architecture and cuisine. Standing on the Lake's northern shore, the city is surrounded by mountain peaks. Lugano's Piazza della Riforma and pastel palazzos share the ambience of this lovely Swiss city with impressive architecture and bold and innovative street art. o Lake Lugano Cruise with Meal



Embark your private boat for a relaxing cruise on breathtaking Lake Lugano and learn about the local traditions and dishes for dinner.

4h 0m

price range: \$\$\$

7

LUGANO

o Swiss Celebration

LUGANO Free time this morning and afternoon. Farewell dinner this evening at your hotel. breakfastdinner

EXPLORE MORE in Lugano with an optional excursion to Bellinzona Castle. Ride the elevator to the Courtyard of Castelgrande, high on the hills above Bellinzona. Part of the fortification dates back to the Middle Ages and it is today a UNESCO World Heritage site. Enjoy spectacular panoramic views and try out local specialties and the delicious Merlot wine for which the area is famous.

o Castles of Bellinzona with Lunch and Enchanting Como

Switzerland, Italy -- Italy, Switzerland. You'll have a tough time deciding which country you love best on this exceptional day trip featuring the fairytale castles of Bellinzona and the sparkling lake and lovely Old Town of Como.

8h 0m

price range: \$\$\$

8

LUGANO

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