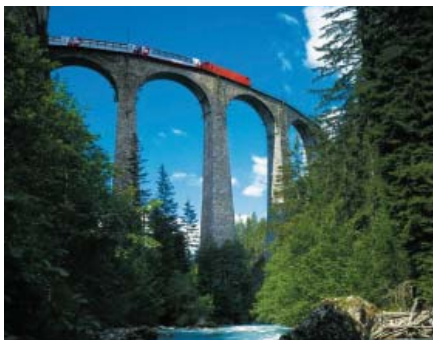


Rail holidays to Switzerland



By Rail to Lake Lucerne Holiday



By Rail to Lake Lucerne Holiday

7 NIGHTS / 8 DAYS

Weggis

Lake Lucerne

Lucerne

Mount Rigi

Mount Pilatus



Lucerne

We recommend travelling to Switzerland by train from London to Zurich, though return flights from the UK with rail travel in Switzerland can also be arranged. Your destination is Weggis on the banks of Lake Lucerne, a peaceful, historic village that was a favourite of Mark Twain's. Along the shore, the city of Lucerne is one of the most beautiful in Switzerland: overlooking the lake and populated by colourful, quirky townhouses. Historic monuments stand in the lake and river waters, on the green terraces of the mountainsides, and emerge proudly from the city streets. Outside the city, vantage points grant sweeping panoramas across the water and mountains. Travel around the lake to the villages and towns of Sisikon, Fluelen, Brunnen, and Schwyz, to the alpine meadows at Rutli, and to Rigi, the Queen of the Mountains.

DAY-BY-DAY SUMMARY

Day one

Arrive into Zurich by rail or air on your first day. If you are travelling by rail, leave in the early morning for a train via Paris, or slightly later for a break of a few hours in Basel, reaching Zurich in the late afternoon or early evening respectively. You change platforms here for the train to Lucerne and make the final leg of your journey by boat across the lake to Weggis.

Days two to seven

Spend seven nights enjoying the highlights of Weggis and Lucerne, first making the most of your three day rail pass to explore the surrounding area.

Day eight

On your eighth day, you board a morning boat back to Lucerne to catch your train to Basel. An onwards connection takes you to Paris where you arrive around half-past three. Join the Eurostar and arrive back into London in the early evening.

CHOICE OF HOTELS

Hotel Park Weggis 5 star

PRICES

From £1,890 per person

Based on double occupancy, with flights to and from, and rail travel within Switzerland in 2nd class.

1st class rail travel can be added for a supplement.

DATES

This rail holiday can be arranged throughout the year. Timings can vary depending on the month and day of the week. For more information regarding rail services to and within Switzerland, view our train guide.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Rail travel from London to Switzerland via Paris and back in standard/ second class (first class can be booked at a supplement), OR scheduled return flights from the UK to Zurich
- 3 day rail flex pass (first class can be booked at a supplement) for travel on 3 consecutive days
- 7 nights' bed and breakfast in your resort hotel

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Optional extra nights
- Transfers in Paris
- Transfers in Switzerland station to hotel unless offered by your hotel

A luggage transfer service is available within Switzerland, please contact us for further details.

ABOUT THE RESORT

The village of Weggis sits low on the banks of Lake Lucerne, sheltered by one of the large rocky outcrops.

Expressions

At just 435m above sea level, Weggis has the benefits of both proximity to the lakeside and stunning alpine views. Crowned by a white-washed church with stone tower and striking red spire, this small cluster of houses is home to a population of under 5,000, which makes Weggis the perfect peaceful, scenic destination on the banks of Lake Lucerne. A warm climate, afforded by the low altitude, and its place on the so-called Swiss Riviera, identifies Weggis as a summer holiday retreat. The region of Lucerne outside the village is rich with cultural and natural interest, thus suiting sports enthusiasts as well as those looking for a quiet, relaxing break. Browse the range of activities listed below to see just how varied this area is.

Places of interest in Weggis

- **Panoramic cableway** from Weggis to Rigi Kaltbad at 1450m above sea level
- **Rigibahn** – this rack railway leads up from Rigi Kaltbad to Rigi-Kulm; once at the summit, you can see 13 lakes, the entire Swiss Mittelland, and the French and German borders
- **Quay** – lined with colourful flowers and an idyllic promenade
- **Paddlewheel steamers** on Lake Lucerne
- **Kurplatz** – musicians play on this picturesque square every day in the summer, bar Mondays
- **Mark Twain Trail** – stretches across 12km from Weggis to Rigi Kulm
- **Cruise to Lucerne** – taking 45 minutes
- **Rose Festival** – originating in 1926, the Rose Festival offers authentic food stalls and entertainment in July

Places of interest around Weggis

- **Rigi Mountain** – known affectionately as 'Queen of the Mountains;' the summit is popular for watching the sunrise
- **Mount Pilatus** – accessible via a thrilling rack railway, this is reputedly the final resting place of Pontius Pilatus and the mythical former home of a dragon; from the top, you can see 73 alpine peaks
- **Stanserhorn** – a hiking excursion, or funicular railway and cable car ride, takes you up to the summit from Stans, from where you can see the Jungfrau, Mount Titlis, and the northern hills and lakes
- **Chapel Bridge**, Lucerne – the most iconic monument in the area, and the most photographed in Switzerland; it was named after St Peter's Chapel. Visit also the Water Tower that marks the bridge's sharp corner
- **Spreuer Bridge**, Lucerne – an ochre-coloured bridge that also crosses the Reuss River, and has miniature red turrets



Lucerne Waterfront

- **Jesuit Church**, Lucerne – an imposing baroque church built on the water's edge in the 17th century with iconic turquoise droplet-shaped domes
- **Musegg Wall**, Lucerne – built in the 14th century, nine of the city's original defensive towers remain; three of which are open to the public
- **Historic squares**, Lucerne – in particular, visit the Kornmarkt Square, home to the Pfistern Guildhall, and the Weinmarkt Square, where Lucerne swore a federal oath with its neighbouring cantons in the 14th century
- **Dying Lion Monument**, Lucerne – one of the most moving memorials in Lucerne, this rock carving commemorates those who lost their lives in the attack on the Tuileries at the end of the 18th century
- **Lucerne art galleries** – visit the Rosengart Collection of works by Picasso and Klee, the Wagner Collection in Tribschen, and the KKL Luzern
- **Wilhelm Tell Express** steamboat or salon motorboat – departing from the Swiss Transport Museum in Lucerne, this boat takes you to the most important points in the legendary story of the Swiss National Hero of Liberty: Tell's Slab and Tell's Chapel in Sisikon and the Rutli Meadows
- **Fluelen** – a riverside, picturesque town with mountainside churches and a pretty marina promenade; Fluelen also marks the end of the Wilhelm Tell Express boat ride
- **Funicular Railway** from Stoos to Fronalpstock – this is the steepest railway track in the world

Local sports

- Kayaking
- Swimming by the promenade in Weggis
- Para-gliding off Mount Pilatus
- Hot air ballooning on Mount Pilatus
- Hiking
- Cycling – bike rentals are available in Weggis
- Fishing – permits can be acquired from the Weggis tourism office
- Sailing, water-skiing, river-rafting, and windsurfing in Brunnen

The abundance of available activities, from cultural and historic tours to water sports and hiking, will ensure that each of your days in the Lake Lucerne area is unique and memorable. This seven night rail holiday allows you to make the most of this variety and get to know the region in-depth.

OPTIONAL

Combine this holiday with one of our Iconic Swiss Rail Journeys or another long stay in a different part of the country.

HOTELS

As part of this single centre rail touring holiday, we include a seven night stay at the Hotel Park Weggis. Other options in the Lake Lucerne area are available on request, and additional nights can be added here or in other destinations.

Expressions

HOTEL PARK WEGGIS

5 star

The five star Hotel Park Weggis stands on the banks of Lake Lucerne, just 30 minutes from Lucerne and Zurich. Emerging from plumes of lush green and purple trees, the white building possesses all the majesty and grandeur of a traditional Swiss chalet, chateau, or palace. Dormer windows in the peaked black roof and a single turret create a distinctive silhouette. The opulence of the property continues inside. Guests can enjoy delicious gourmet Swiss dinners on the terrace or veranda of the Sparks Restaurant after spending a few hours relaxing on the private, tiered, beach-esque lakeside. Atmospheric evening strolls can be had in the Japanese gardens or around the town of Weggis, taking in the sight of the sunset across the water. The guestrooms are blessed with a regal touch, as lightly patterned wallpaper is met with rich, textured fabrics and high ceilings. The Mark Twain two-bedroom suites have a warm, neutral palette, and a living area lit by dormer windows and separated from the bed by a floor-to-ceiling curtain for added privacy and cosiness. Alternatively, the Adara Suites and multi-level Rachmaninoff Suites offer a bold, modern style focused on monochromatic furnishings, polished wood, and signature bursts of red. An added lashing of glamour and authenticity comes with the wine cellar and Laliq Caviar Bar. Hotel guests can sample a wide selection of local and national wines under the curved brick ceiling of the cellar, beside the wine racks. Laliq Caviar Bar serves innovative caviar creations as well as cigars and Scotch whiskies, all alongside beautifully crafted glassware. Indulge further in a range of refined treatments in one of the six Spa cottages, named after precious gems, which cluster around a covered outdoor pool. Sparkling Wellness experts will craft an individual treatment plan for each guest, within the privacy of your cottage, each of which has its own whirlpool topped with petals, sauna, Roman steam room, and invigorating power shower. Hotel Park Weggis lives up to its title as 'the Sparkling Resort,' and is well-suited to those embarking on a rail touring holiday around Switzerland, as well as those looking for a longer, lakeside break. [read more](#)



Hotel Park Weggis



Hotel Grill Restaurant



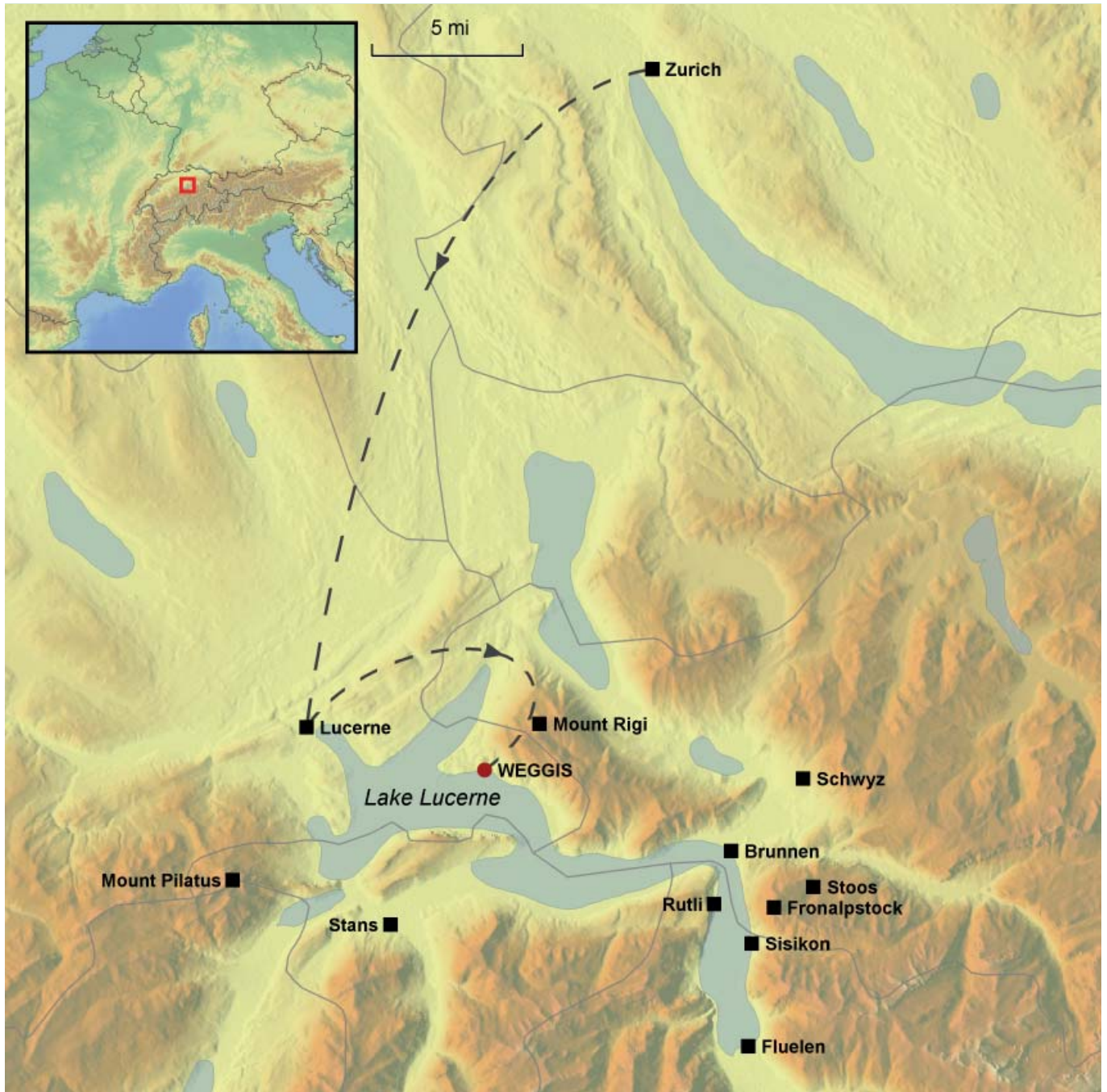
Guestroom



Spa pool

MAP OF BY RAIL TO LAKE LUCERNE HOLIDAY

The map below illustrates the route outlined in this touring itinerary, with places of interest highlighted.



GENERAL INFORMATION

This rail holiday is one of several suggested rail holidays we can offer you exactly as it is but also with any alterations you might want including extra nights in one or more places or adding in extra places. All our tours can be extended so that you can include a longer stay in one mountain or lake resort too, perhaps at the end of the itinerary. Do call to discuss the options with our travel consultants.

The logo for Expressions, featuring the word "Expressions" in a white, elegant script font on a dark blue rectangular background.

OUR TOURS

Our rail tours are for individuals travelling on their own or in their own family group. You do not join a group and you are not escorted.

FLEXIBLE ARRANGEMENTS

Our arrangements are very flexible in that you choose to travel on any day you want, subject to availability of trains and hotels. As mentioned above, additional nights can be added at any point.

FLEX PASS INCLUDED

We include travel to and from your first and last hotel but also a Flex pass is included for the rest of the holiday, depending on its length. For example, on a long stay we would include an 8 day Flex pass. This gives you 8 non-consecutive but selected days of travel within a one-month period.

The pass gives you a choice that includes

- Unlimited travel by rail, road and waterway on your selected days of validity, including most panorama routes and public transport in 75 towns and cities
- Free admission to more than 490 museums on the selected days of validity
- Children under the age of 16 travel free of charge when accompanied by at least one parent holding the Swiss Family Card

If we have included a panoramic route in your holiday, we will automatically include any applicable supplements for that train.

TRAIN TIMES

We have planned our itineraries based on train times that work day by day at the time of planning which can be up to a year before you travel. Usually train times stay more or less the same every day, season by season. The times we have planned will be discussed with you at the time you enquire about the holiday and they are detailed to you in your written holiday quotation. It may be that the timetable changes between the planning of the itinerary and when you come to book but we can always adjust the itinerary to suit the actual train times and any requirements you have for particular times of travel.

FIRST OR SECOND CLASS

We will automatically include travel in second class but lots of our clients do upgrade to first class service. On Eurostar this is called Premier Standard for leisure travellers as it gives you an upgraded on-board service and more spacious seating but without paying for the fully-flexible business tickets. On the TGV trains from France to Switzerland, upgrading to first class gives you more spacious seating with increased legroom. Within Switzerland, first class gives you again more space and more comfortable seats, often with a quieter environment. The price of upgrading varies from route to route but is something that is not always proportionately a lot more on the price of the overall holiday, so well-worth considering.

LUGGAGE TRANSFER SERVICE

Swiss rail operates an efficient transfer service for your luggage. This works in a number of ways:

For travel to Switzerland by air, you can check-in your baggage with any airline, from any airport in the world and it will be forwarded to our destination station in Switzerland from Zurich, Bern or Geneva airports. Simply collect your baggage from the station at your destination.

For departure from Switzerland if flying with Swiss, you can check-in for your flight at the train station the day before you fly (major stations only). You receive your boarding pass and your seat allocation and your baggage will be transported onto the aircraft.

For departure from Switzerland with other airlines eg British Airways or Easyjet, you can have your baggage transported to the airport train station ie Zurich or Geneva and you collect it from there to take it to check-in as usual. Just allow enough time for the luggage to reach the airport station, so well before you travel. Your station will be able to advise a day or two beforehand.

Within Switzerland you can transfer your luggage from one location to another. The Fast Baggage service is available between 45 destinations. You just have to check-in your luggage before 9am at your departure station and collect it by 6pm on the same day at your destination (or sometimes the following day, depending on the actual destination). The cost of this service is approximately £17 per item.

TRANSFERS

Transfers in Paris between stations and from the station to each hotel are not automatically included in the price of the holiday. In Paris most clients choose to take a taxi between the stations rather than go on the Metro but we can arrange a private car with driver to take you in between. This is quite useful if you are a family group that can't fit into one Paris taxi. In Switzerland, depending on the location, hotels sometimes have their own transfer vehicles that they will send to collect you if we advise them in advance (eg in St Moritz and Zermatt this is usual) but elsewhere some hotels are within walking distance and others are a short taxi ride away.

OUR PRICES

The sample prices mentioned in this leaflet are generally a 'from' price based on the cheapest season of travel. However, train fares and hotel rates can change (up and down depending on offers), so we give you an accurate price for your holiday when we provide you with a quotation. Our sample prices should be used as an indication of how much a particular combination will cost and to show the differences on average between the hotel categories on offer.

PRICE INFORMATION IN MORE DETAIL

Rail (standard class on Eurostar and second class on all other trains) from London and throughout back to London at the Hotel Park Weggis.

From £1,960 per person

Supplement: Standard premier on Eurostar and first class on all other trains £370 per person

Flights to/from Switzerland and second class rail travel in Switzerland at the Hotel Park Weggis.

From £1,890 per person

Supplement: First class rail in Switzerland £200 per person

BOOKING CONDITIONS

Our booking conditions apply to all holidays. A copy can be found on our website and a copy is also sent to you with a written quotation and when you make a booking.

FINANCIAL PROTECTION

Expressions Holidays offers full financial protection for all holidays you book with us. If your holiday includes a flight, the ATOL (3076) covers the costs of the holiday. If the holiday does not include a flight, it is the ABTOT bond that protects the cost of the holiday. We are also members of AITO (the Association of Independent Tour Operators) and ABTA.



Expressions Holidays
Lynx House, Pynes Hill, Exeter EX2 5JL

HOW TO BOOK

To make a booking, just phone us on

01392 441217

and we can take you through the details we need and start the booking process. A deposit is required to confirm the arrangements and this can be paid by debit or credit card over the phone. No handling fee is charged on deposits up to £1000. The level of the deposit will be confirmed at the point of booking and will depend on the ticketing deadlines of the rail tickets involved in your booking.