

# THE OBERLAND HAUTE ROUTE self-guided

At the foot of the Swiss giants



This is the complete crossing of one of the most prestigious balconies in the Alps, from Adelboden to Grindelwald. A week to admire the extraordinary faces of the Wetterhorn (3701 m), the Eiger (3970 m), the Mönch (4029 m), the Jungfrau (4158 m) and the Breithorn (3782 m)! The trails covered during this crossing offer an infinite variety of mountain landscapes - balconies, green valleys, traditional and flowery villages, high lakes. The "trek of the Alps", to discover or rediscover for your greatest pleasure... the light back! The stops in the small Swiss villages or on the alpine pastures add to the happiness of this exceptional hike.

🕒 7 days

👤 Self-guided / without a guide

🚐 With or without baggage transport

🏠 Accommodation : Classic or comfort

🧭 Level : \*\*\*\*

🏠 From : 750€

## You will like

- A hike in the country of Tolkien, where the high faces draw an extraordinary landscape
- The high mountains in the background, an accessible hike in a majestic setting!
- Crossing major mountain passes on very well maintained paths
- Remarkable traditional architecture

# The route

## Day 1

### ADELBODEN - ENGSTLIGENALP - SCHWARENBACH

The hike starts at the bottom of the Adelboden valley with an incredible trail that leads through cliffs and waterfalls to reach the Engstligenalp, a vast mountain pasture. It then climbs to the Chindbetti pass (2623m) in a high mountain lunar setting before descending on the glacial lake Tällisee. A final crossing ends the day in style at the Berghotel Schwarenbach, a historic stopover between Oberland and Valais. Overnight at the refuge in dormitory, **without luggage**.

6h walk / Elevation: + 1350m -680m/ 12km

4h30 walk / Elvation: + 800m -680m/ 9km taking the Unter dem Birg cable car

## Day 2

### GÄLLIHORE – KANDERSTEG

From the refuge, walk up to the Schwarzgratli pass to reach the Wyssie Flue (2471m) and follow the ridge of the Üschenegrat, between the two wild valleys of the Gastertal and the Spittelmatte. A small round trip to the top of the Gällihore (2283m) to enjoy the splendid panorama and then a long descent between vast alpine pastures, wild forest and woodland clearing! Possibility to descend directly on Kandersteg through the wide valleys of Spittelmatte and Waldhus. Overnight accommodation in Kandersteg.

6h walk / Elevation: + 580 m -1450 m / 14km

## Day 3

### OESCHINENSEE - HOHTÜRLI - BUNDALP

The highlight of the crossing is the ascent of the Hohtürli, at an altitude of 2778m! After a cable car ascent, the day begins along the spectacular Oeschinensee lake, deep blue and fringed with cliffs - one of the most beautiful in the Alps. Climb the moraines to the pass, then make a diversion to the Blümlisalphütte hut and the eternal ice, before returning to the green pastures of the Kiental. Overnight in a dormitory in the Bundalp mountain hut.

6h walk / Elevation: + 1300 m - 1050 m / 10km

## Day 4

### COL DE SEFINAFURGGA – GIMMELWALD

Splendid stage for this day that starts in the impressive Gamchi valley. The meadows gradually give way to the mineral atmosphere of the Sefinafurgga pass (2612m) and the climb ends in a world of glaciers and high mountains.

Extraordinary panorama on the iconic peaks of the Jungfrau, the Eiger and the Mönch which finally reveal themselves in their entirety and which accompany the whole descent on Gimmelwald, beautiful traditional mountain village. Overnight accommodation in Gimmelwald **without luggage**.

7h walk / Elevation: +1150 m; -1350 m / 15km

## Day 5

### KLEINE SCHEIDDEG - ALPIGLEN

Start with the Gimmelwald cable car to reach the Lauterbrunnen valley, wedged between immense sheer cliffs. Short bus transfer to the Trümmelbach path. The route continues at the foot of the 3 majestic peaks to the Kleine Scheidegg, via the spectacular Trümmelbach waterfalls. From the pass, the landscape opens out into the wide Grindelwald valley. The path descends gently towards Alpiglen, where you will spend the night at an altitude of 2061m, as close as possible to the legendary Eiger North Face. Overnight in refuge, in dormitory.

6h30 walk / Elevation: +1300 m; -520 m / 14km

## Day 6

## **ALPIGLEN – GRINDELWALD**

A day on the balcony above Grindelwald on the Eiger Trail. The path follows the foot of the Eiger, dominated by its imposing north face and the impressive climbing routes that make it possible to reach the summit! After a short descent to the village gates, the crossing continues along the Wetterhorn to the hamlet of Mühlebach, on the heights of Grindelwald.

Overnight in a hotel, **without luggage.**

5h walk / Elevation: +650 m ; -1050 m / 12km

## **Day 7**

### **GROSSE SCHEIDEGG - BACHSEE LAKE - GRINDELWALD**

Departure by local bus to reach the Grosse Scheidegg pass.

The itinerary ends on a high note with this final stage to Lake Bachsee, the pearl of the Bernese Alps, reflecting all the legendary peaks of the massif! The lake can be reached directly or by walking around the Schwarzhorn. Descent to the village of Grindelwald is partly by bus.

4h walk / Elevation: + 420 m - 490m / 12km

5h30 walk / Elevation: +760 m; -790 m / 13km for the Schwarzhorn tour

**End of the hike at the Grindelwald bus station around 3pm.**

The programme has been drawn up according to the last elements known at the time of its writing; imponderables are always possible and situations beyond our control can alter its unfolding.

Personalised tour available, contact us...

# The trip

## LEVEL \*\*\*\*

Elevation: +/- 1200m approximately per day.

Walking time: 6 to 7 hours per day.

Type of trek: mountain trail on well-maintained paths. A few aerial passages that do not present any particular technical difficulty. The high mountain passes are equipped with wooden steps.

You have to be in a general good fitness level and a mental capacity for long efforts. Please practice a cardio sport such as hiking, running, cycling, from 6 to 8 hours a week. Your physical preparation will enable you to enjoy your trek to the maximum.

Please find the description of the levels by clicking here: [levels of difficulty](#)

## ROAD BOOK

Before departure, we send you a travel folder containing:

- IGN maps with the route highlighted.
- 1 road-book containing all the necessary information for the trek.
- 1 waterproof map holder.
- Accommodation list.

## ACCOMMODATION

### CLASSIC

5 nights in gite or refuge in dormitory

1 night in hotel, in a 2 to 4 people bedroom

### COMFORT

6 nights in a 2 to 3 people bedroom. Supplément of 120€ per person.

All accommodations is equipped with hot showers however, due to increasingly recurrent periods of drought, access to showers is not guaranteed.

## MEALS

Breakfast and dinner are provided in each accommodation (except dinner on night 4 in Grimmelwald).

Picnics are not included and can be ordered the day before in each accommodation. You can also buy supplies in small local shops.

Please inform us about your food allergies and special diets **at the time of booking**.

*We do our best to accommodate special diets (gluten-free, vegetarian, etc.). However, we encourage you to bring some additional products for your own picnics.*

## MAPS

Vanderkarte 1/50000<sup>ème</sup> Berner Oberlans 5004

Et Gstaad – Adalboden 1/50000<sup>ème</sup> 5009

# Practical information

## ACCESS TO DEPARTURE POINT

**Start of the hike in Unter dem Birg, Adelboden. Plan for the first night without luggage.**

### BY TRAIN

Visit the Swiss Railways website: [www.cff.ch](http://www.cff.ch)

Ticket purchase: [sbb.ch/en/home.html](http://sbb.ch/en/home.html)

Outward journey: Paris - Bern - Spiez- Frutigen, then bus to Adelboden.

Return journey: Grindelwald - Interlaken - Bern - Paris

### BY CAR

Refer to the itinerary on [www.viamichelin.fr](http://www.viamichelin.fr)

From the north: access by Basel, Lucerne From the west: access by Frasnes, Neuchâtel, Bern From the south: access by Geneva, Lausanne, Bern. Please note the mandatory sticker on Swiss motorways, to be bought at the border and at petrol stations.

**Where to park your vehicle?** Paying parkings in Frutigen (25CHF per week). Then bus to Adelboden, then Unter dem Birg (no free long-term parking in Adelboden). 3 (free) long-term car parks in Grindelwald (end of the hike): Maennlichen, Jungfaujoch Kl and First Pfingstegg.

Paying parking in Thun and Adelboden, about 80CHF per week.

Info : [parkhausthun.ch/de/](http://parkhausthun.ch/de/)

**End of the hike in Grindelwald around 3pm.**

## RETURN TO DEPARTURE POINT

Return from Grindelwald to Frutigen or Adelboden: train from Grindelwald to Frutigen via Interlaken (1h40 journey) then very regular bus to Adelboden. Another solution if you are by car, is to park on the way to Thun, then take the train to Frutigen, and the bus to Adelboden (very regular, 1h ride). On the way back, train line from Grindelwald to Thun (very regular, 1h journey).

## ACCOMMODATION BEFORE AND AFTER

Swiss National [Tourism Office](#): +41 800 100 200 29

Do not hesitate to contact us if you want us to reserve accommodation for you.

## INSURANCE

In accordance with regulations, we are covered by Professional Liability Insurance. Under no circumstances, we can replace your personal civil liability.

The repatriation insurance EUROP ASSISTANCE that we offer is dedicated to French speaking people living in Europe. If it is not your case, we advise you to subscribe to another travel insurance which will cover you in case of injury and repatriation during your trek.

If you chose to take out repatriation insurance with EUROP ASSISTANCE whom we propose, Altitude Mont Blanc will only serve as an intermediary between the client and the insurer. We cannot influence either party. We adhere to strict conditions of sale. You are responsible for compliance with the reporting procedures of any incident.

Before making any decision, contact EUROP ASSISTANCE.

## CONTACT US

If you are late, contact the agency: **+33 (0)4 50 79 09 16** or **+33 (0)6 42 49 76 07**



# Dates & prices

## DEPARTURE AND PRICE

Departure from 23rd of June to 08th of September

### **Without luggage transport**

**750€** per person, classic accommodation

### **With luggage transport (except on day 1, 4, 6)**

Group of 2-3 people: **1160€** per person, classic accommodation

Group of 4-5 people: **960€** per person, classic accommodation

Group of 6 or more: **890€** per person, classic accommodation

**Comfort version** (6 nights in a 2 to 3-person bedroom) : **+120€** per person

## THE PRICE

### The price includes:

- Organization and booking fees;
- The road book: description and maps (1 complete road book for 1 to 4 people, additional file for 5 people or more. Additional file: supplement from 10 to 25€);
- Meals in half board, except dinner on night 4 in Gimmelwald ;
- Nights in refuge, gite or hotel;
- The transport of your personal belongings (except J1, J4 and J6) if you have chosen the option;

### The price does not include:

- Personal expenses (drinks, etc.), visits;
- The lunch picnics;
- Diner on night 4 at Gimmelwald;
- Road transfers and ski lifts (approximately CHF100) ;
- Your return journey from home to the point of departure/end point.

**The price is all inclusive from departure to end point.**

# Equipment and baggage

## EQUIPMENT LIST

### Clothing

- Walking trousers
- Shorts (Bikini/swimsuit, just in case!)
- Breathable or merino wool t-shirts
- Breathable or merino wool leggings
- Fleece or jumper
- Wind stopper or Goretex jacket
- Waterproof poncho + gaiters or Goretex trousers + waterproof rucksack cover
- Pair of gloves and a warm hat
- Sun hat or baseball cap
- Walking socks (1 pair per day)
- Sturdy walking boots with a good sole, already broken in
- 1 change of clothes for the evening
- A pair of comfortable shoes for the evening

### Other Equipment

- Toilet bag
- Quick drying towel
- Sunglasses and sun cream
- Water bottle or Camelback (1.5 litre minimum)
- Knife, fork and spoon
- Plastic lunch box/plate for your picnic lunches
- Plastic cup for coffee
- Small First Aid kit (antihistamine, ibuprofen, Compeed type blister pads...)
- Survival blanket
- Head torch or hand torch
- Sleeping bag liner sheet and pillowcase (blankets provided at accommodation)
- Two adjustable walking poles (highly recommended)
- Identity card or passport

## BACKPACK

Bring a comfortable backpack of 30 to 40 litres for your personal belongings for the day (warm clothes, waterproofs, water, plate and cutlery for your picnic, sunscreen and your identity papers) and please keep a little room to carry a picnic and snacks.

## LUGGAGE TRANSPORT

You are allowed **1 soft, sports type bag, with all your possessions inside, of 10kg maximum per person**. Your baggage will be transported daily between accommodation except days 1, 4 and 6 by our logistics vehicle where access is not always easy.

**Baggage which is too big and too heavy won't be accepted by the drivers, please think of their backs!**

## YOUR BACKPACK FOR THE NIGHTS WITHOUT LUGGAGE

**On nights 1, 4 and 6**, your luggage won't be dropped off at your accommodation (you will get it back the day after). Here are the things to bring with you (about 2 kilos are enough!):

- small toiletries bag
- sleeping bag liner sheet
- change of clothes for the day after (bare necessities!) and comfortable for the evening.



# Details

## HOW TO REGISTER

- Online: [www.altitude-montblanc.com](http://www.altitude-montblanc.com)
- By telephone: +33 (0)4 50 79 09 16
- By post: please provide your contact details

Surname, First Name, date of birth  
Address  
Email  
Telephone  
Mobile

If you wish to register by post, please complete the form below and return it to:

Altitude Mont-Blanc  
62 Passage du Nant Devant  
74110 MONTRIOND  
FRANCE

Please specify whether you wish to take out an optional cancellation insurance (4.2% of the tour price).

On receipt of your registration we will email an invoice (per couple) with a request for a deposit of 30% in association with your account details at Altitude Mont-Blanc ('My Account'). Payment can be made by credit card, bank transfer or by cheque. On receipt of your deposit you will receive a registration confirmation.  
The balance must be paid one month before departure without a reminder from us.  
For self-guided tours, we will then send your tour pack (includes maps, descriptive book etc.)

Our terms and conditions of sale can be found on our website.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

## Registration by mail form

Last name:

PRENOM:

Date of birth:

Address:

Phone number:

Mobile phone number:

Email address:

SEJOUR DEMANDE:

Number of days:

Insurance:

Price:

x 30% =

Deposit

Locality where signed:

Date

Signature:

Return with your deposit to:  
Altitude Mont-Blanc, 62 Passage du Nant Devant, 74110 Montriond, FRANCE