

★★★★★ (2)

HIKING HOLIDAYS: VIA JACOBI RORSCHACH - GENEVA

Hiking: Via Jacobi

The Jacobs trail in Switzerland

Lined by churches, monasteries and chapels, this hiking tour offers a unique experience on historical paths through varied cultural landscapes. Switzerland’s most beautiful lakes, chapels and churches are strung like pearls along the Via Jacobi. The high peaks of the Central Swiss Alps and the Bernese Oberland will guide you on your way through Switzerland. Change of scenery in the endless forests of Jorat in the canton of Fribourg. Now the snow covered peaks of Mont Blanc and the sparkling Lake Geneva come into view before the pilgrimage ends in the charming city of Geneva.



19 Days / 18 Nights



Self-guided tour

To the online version







ITINERARY

DAY
1

Arrival to Rorschach | Rorschach – St. Gallen





Luggage drop-off in Rorschach. As medieval traffic hub and lake port of St. Gallen, Rorschach is mentioned as a pilgrimage station around the year 1300. Highlights of the hike to Herisau: visit to the Stift Library in St. Gallen and the bridge landscape in Bruggen.

 approx. 4 h  approx. 15 km  550 m  280 m

DAY
2

St. Gallen – Lichtensteig





By train to Herisau. Herisau, oldest Appenzell parish seat has been known since 907. The path leads past the former hostel, zum Goldenen Sternen, then on through the varied hilly landscape of Appenzell and Toggenburg to Wattwil. By bus to the neighbouring village Lichtensteig, where you will spend the night.

 approx. 7 h  approx. 23 km  1'000 m  1'125 m

DAY
3

Lichtensteig – Rapperswil





By bus back to Wattwil. Between Wattwil and Rapperswil, the landscape is dotted with individual farms and marked by gently rolling hills and various-sized woodland areas. Some beautiful sunken paths turn the hike into a special experience.

 approx. 6.5 h  approx. 25 km  665 m  865 m

DAY
4

Rapperswil – Einsiedeln

The hike leads over the wooden footbridge from Rapperswil to Hurden built in 2001 and then over the Etzelpass to Einsiedeln. Particularly impressive views of the Zürichsee on this trail to Switzerland's most important place of pilgrimage.

 approx. 4.5 h  approx. 16 km  760 m  260 m

DAY
5**Einsiedeln – Brunnen**

The trail over Haggenegg leads through the beautiful high valley of Alp towards the two Mythen peaks. The stately Au Convent and panoramic views of the Glarner Alps and the valley basin of Schwyz and Brunnen are feasts for the eyes.

🕒 approx. 6.5 h 📏 approx. 24 km ⬆️ 635 m ⬇️ 1'095 m

DAY
6**Boat ride Brunnen – Treib | Treib – Stans**

This section includes a boat trip from Brunnen to Treib, the ancient refuge harbour at the point where cantons Uri, Schwyz and Nidwalden meet. The chapels along the way and the Winkelried memorial in Stans are worth seeing.

🕒 approx. 6 h 📏 approx. 20 km ⬆️ 650 m ⬇️ 670 m

DAY
7**Stans – Sachseln**

Following the first ascent after Stans, impressive views open up to Stanser Boden, the Lake Lucerne and the Innerschweiz mountain peaks. Highpoint at the end of the section is the hermitage of Niklaus von Flüe and the Ranft chapels. In the end you reach the shores of Lake Sarnen with its emerald blue waters.

🕒 approx. 6 h 📏 approx. 20 km ⬆️ 800 m ⬇️ 750 m

DAY
8**Sachseln – Brünigpass**

Flüeli affords outstanding views. The varied route follows the shores of Lake Sarnen and Lake Lungern. From Lungern church you hike along the Brünigweg which, as a pilgrimage pfennig (coin) shows, was once a pilgrims' path.

🕒 approx. 5.5 h 📏 approx. 19 km ⬆️ 780 m ⬇️ 240 m

DAY
9**Brünigpass – Interlaken**

Optional train ride down to Brienz. The trail leads along sunny slopes above the Lake Brienz, allowing you to experience an exceptionally lovely landscape. In constant ups and downs you approach Interlaken, the outdoor centre of the Swiss Alps..

🕒 approx. 8 h 📏 approx. 30 km ⬆️ 860 m ⬇️ 1'300 m

DAY
10

Interlaken – Spiez

The section leads alongside the River Aare to the Weissenau nature reserve on the Lake Thun. From Neuhaus it continues through woodland, often with clear views of the lake and the Bernese Alps. The Beatushöhlen (caves), former place of pilgrimage of St. Beatus are particularly impressive. From Merligen by boat to Spiez.



approx. 4 h



approx. 13 km



445 m



445 m

DAY
11

Spiez – Wattenwil

In peaceful countryside, with the Stockhorn mountain chain in the background, past several lakes and 2 of the «1'000-year-old churches on Lake Thun»: The oldest, built by King Rudolf II of Burgundy, is in Einigen. Romanesque church in Amsoldingen with an impressive crypt by the same builder.



approx. 5.5 h



approx. 21 km



665 m



440 m

DAY
12

Wattenwil – Schwarzenburg

The Rüeggisberg Monastery ruins and Wahlen Church, seen from afar enthroned on a sandstone ridge, are cultural highlights on the route to Schwarzenburg. The hike is also enhanced by the unspoiled pre-Alpine landscape.



approx. 5.5 h



approx. 21 km



585 m



645 m

DAY
13

Schwarzenburg – Fribourg

The trail leads along the Sensegraben, popular recreational area and nature reserve. After the Sodbachbrücke bridge, numerous religious symbols along the wayside are a clear indication that you've crossed the border into the Catholic canton of Fribourg.



approx. 5.5 h



approx. 21 km



390 m



560 m





DAY
14**Fribourg – Romont**

The city of Fribourg with its numerous historic references to St James and the St James pilgrims would be worth the journey on its own. The pilgrims' path leads over the St Apolline bridge and through the varied landscape of the Glâne to Romont.

 approx. 7 h  approx. 28 km  610 m  500 m





DAY
15**Romont – Moudon**

The stage of the Via Jacobi that links Romont to Moudon has some beautiful viewpoints and no particular difficulties. Both little towns share the fact of having once belonged to the Duke of Savoy.

 approx. 3.5 h  approx. 15 km  180 m  440 m





DAY
16**Moudon – Lausanne**

Along the River Broye to Bressonnaz an area with bridges crossing both the Broye and the Carrouge rivers. The trail to Vucherens has open views of the Freiburger Alps and the forested Jorat region.

 approx. 7.5 h  approx. 29 km  740 m  720 m





DAY
17**Lausanne – Rolle**

In Lausanne, the ViaJacobi leads from the Notre Dame Cathedral down the Escaliers du Marché. In Vidy it crosses an idyllic park with Roman ruins and then follows the popular lakeside promenade along Lac Léman to Morges.

 approx. 7.5 h  approx. 31 km  280 m  420 m

DAY
18**Rolle – Coppet/Commugny**





Caesar founded Nyon, intellectuals gathered in the salon of Madame de Staël in Coppet and the rich and famous still love Lac Léman. As a pilgrim, you can reflect on all this or simply enjoy the inspiring landscape.

 approx. 7 h  approx. 29 km  400 m  360 m

DAY
19

Coppet / Commugny – Geneva | Departure or extension

This hike leads through villages with a French ambience to cosmopolitan Genève. Highlight and end point is the impressive St. Pierre Cathedral. One magnificent stained glass window depicts St James wearing a purple cloak trimmed with ermine. After arrival in Geneva individual departure.

 approx. 4.5 h  approx. 17 km  200 m  240 m

TOUR CHARACTER

The hiking trails mostly lead along wide forest and field paths, only on the stage to Stans you have to reckon with narrower paths along Lake Lucerne. Very good basic fitness is required for the long stages.

The Via Jacobi at SwitzerlandMobility

- [Details about the route](#)

PRICES & DATES

PLACE OF ARRIVAL: HÖCHST/RORSCHACH

Season 1	Season 2
06.04.2024 - 26.04.2024 28.09.2024 - 13.10.2024 Arrival daily except Sundays	30.03.2024 - 05.04.2024 27.04.2024 - 27.09.2024 Arrival daily except Sundays

Via Jacobi total route, 19 days, CH-OSWRG-19X		
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Base price	3'219.-	3'369.-
Surcharge single room	1'045.-	1'045.-

Category: 3* hotels & small B&Bs

ADDITIONAL NIGHTS

PLACE OF ARRIVAL: HÖCHST/RORSCHACH

Season 1	Season 2
Apr 6, 2024 - Apr 26, 2024 Sep 28, 2024 - Oct 13, 2024 Arrival daily except Sundays	Mar 30, 2024 - Apr 5, 2024 Apr 27, 2024 - Sep 27, 2024 Arrival daily except Sundays

Höchst/Rorschach		
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Double room p. P.	125.-	125.-
Surcharge single room	55.-	55.-

Geneva		
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Double room p. P.	135.-	135.-
Surcharge single room	105.-	105.-

Prices per person in CHF

SERVICES & INFORMATION

Services

Included:

- Accommodation as mentioned incl. breakfast
- Daily luggage transfer
- Costs for luggage drop-off at the station (for direct arrival and departure)
- Subsidy for arrival by train
- Visit to the Abbey Library in St. Gallen
- Boat ride Brunnen - Treib
- Boat ride Merligen – Spiez
- Carefully elaborated route description
- Travel documents (1 x per room)
- Navigation app and GPS data available
- SwitzerlandMobility-Plus subscription for one year
- Service hotline

Note:

- Return ticket for the bus ride Wattenwil – Lichtensteig not included in the tour price (approx. CHF 10.-)
- Train ride from Brünigpass to Brienz not included (approx. CHF 10.-)
- Tourist tax, if due, is not included in the price
- Reservation fee of CHF 20.- per adult (incl. legally required customer money protection)

Information

Arrival/Departure:

- Arrival by public transport to Rorschach. Drop off your luggage at the luggage counter by 10:00 a.m. at the latest.
- Departure by public transport from Geneva. Luggage will be returned to the luggage counter by 5:00 p.m. at the latest.

Arrival by train:

Leave the car at home! For every bike, biking or hiking tour in Switzerland, you will receive an SBB coupon per participant, **which you can use to deduct CHF 10 from the ticket price for traveling by train.** The reduction can be obtained in the SBB online store or in the SBB app. On many trips, we use the luggage counters at the stations at the beginning and at the end to hand over the suitcases. You can conveniently combine this right away when you arrive by train. **If you are a GA owner, you can provide this information when booking. We will credit you the amount on the invoice.** If you don't need the coupon for the trip itself, you can use it during the year. Unfortunately, a retroactive refund is not possible for administrative reasons.

Travel documents

Travel documents "digital"

We reduce the amount of printed documents. You will receive instructions to help you find your way around using the Eurotrek Travel Guide App. We provide you with further information online.


In advance you will receive a small package of documents with the following contents:


- Your travel program
- Luggage tags
- Description of how to use the app
- Any vouchers

The Eurotrek Travel Guide App will help you find your way around. In addition to your digital map, you will find further information about your booked trip. The app is also available offline, simply download the trip in advance.

CONTACT & BOOKING

Do you still have questions about the tour? We are happy to help and look forward to your inquiry.

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Book now