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TAILOR MADE RAIL

Valais Walking Holiday

From £1,299 per person // 6 days



This fabulous self-guided hiking holiday based above the Aletsch Glacier in Belalp offers hikes for all levels and allows you explore the surrounding region of Valais in Switzerland, dominated by the iconic peak of the Matterhorn.

The Essentials

- Enjoy a true getaway with a 3-night stay off the beaten track in Belalp
- Choose walking routes to suit your mood and requirements with the help of the hotel staff
- Stop for nights in Basel and Brig to break your journeys there and back

Tailor make your holiday

- Holiday available May to October (subject to snow conditions)
- Adapt the route to suit your plans
- Add extra nights, destinations and/or tours
- Take the Glacier Express to Chur and pick up our Graubunden walking holiday

What's included

- Standard Class rail travel with seat reservations
- 2 nights' hotel accommodation with breakfast
- 2 nights' hotel accommodation with breakfast and dinner in Belalp
- Two packed lunches
- Hexpress transfer from cable car to hotel in both directions
- Detailed hiking notes and local maps
- Easy-to-follow travel documentation
- Despatch of tickets by email, post or collection from our London office

- Suggested Itinerary -



Day 1 - London To Basel

Catch a Eurostar this morning from London to Paris. When you arrive, it's an easy connection by RER (rapid metro) to the Gare de Lyon where you'll board the TGV Lyria service direct to Basel. On arrival in Basel, check in for an overnight stay at the Hotel GAIA (or similar), just opposite the station. It's a 10-minute stroll (or short tram journey) into the centre of town, where there are plenty of options for dinner this evening.



Day 2 - Basel To Belalp

This morning, leave Basel aboard a train bound for Brig in the Swiss canton of Valais. Once you get here, you might like to enjoy some lunch in town before catching a PostBus for a 20-minute journey to Blatten. Once you reach your stop, disembark and catch the cable car up to the village of Belalp. The hotel is a lovely 25-minute stroll from the top cable car station but your luggage will be collected for you – and if you would prefer, you can catch the same transfer to the Hotel Belalp, surrounded by the Alpine peaks of the region. You have a 3-night stay here. Dinner at the hotel is included this evening.



Day 3 - Bruchegg, LÜsgersees & Tyndalldenkmal

A short but extremely rewarding hike to start your holiday begins by walking from the hotel back towards the cable car station but turning right at Bruchegg and climbing gently thereafter following signs for Tyndalldenkmal. Take in a beautiful mountain lake and then rejoin the path heading towards Tyndaldenkmal, with spectacular views offered in every direction. The Matterhorn can also be seen across the Rhone Valley to the south. The path continues to climb steadily towards the Tyndaldenkmal, where you can enjoy breathtaking views over the mighty Aletsch Glacier. Perhaps enjoy your packed lunch here and then either follow the signs towards Aletschbord, arriving back at the hotel from above the small chapel, or head further upwards towards the Sparrhorn. Should you choose the latter, remember to retrace your steps back to Tyndalldenkmal and then head back to the hotel from there. Dinner this evening is included at the hotel.



Day 4 - Hiking From Belalp

After breakfast collect your packed lunch from Reception, head out again towards the cable car station but this time continue past it, dropping downhill slightly, passing the Hamilton Lodge on the left, then following the path to Foggenhorn. The path rises steeply, zig-zagging uphill for around 2 hours, before you reach the ridge. The views from the ridge all the way to the Foggenhorn summit are breathtaking along the entire route, with the Matterhorn clearly visible in the distance. NOTE – the Foggenhorn hike requires a full day (6 hours including breaks) and a good level of fitness. Those preferring a gentle but equally scenic hike can alternatively head from the hotel directly to Nessel via the Foggenhornrundweg and from Nessel, return to Belalp either via the "Nessjeri" route, or head down to Blatten and return to Belalp using the cable car.



Day 5 - Belalp To Brig

After breakfast, the Hexpress will leave the hotel at 10:00 and take you and your luggage back to the cable car station from where you head back to Brig via Blatten. Check in here for an overnight stay at the Ambassador Hotel (or similar) and enjoy a relaxed afternoon at the end of your walking break. Alternatively, if you'd like to extend your holiday, you can take the world-famous Glacier Express from Brig to Chur and then pick up our Graubunden walking holiday. Get in touch for prices and details.



Day 6 - Brig To London

Make your way back to the station today and catch a train to Basel, where you pick up the high-speed service back to Paris and onwards under the English Channel to London via Eurostar.

Pricing

From £1,299 per person

These prices are based on two people sharing a twin or double room. Single supplements will apply for sole occupancy. It is based on Standard Class rail travel and includes seat reservations as necessary. It is based on the best fares on the trains. If you travel during a peak period, particularly at short notice, then supplements may apply.