

# MOMENTS on the road

Alpenglow & Edelweiss:  
Back Roads Across Europe's Mountainous Heart  
(Austria & Switzerland - 14 Days)







## ON THE ROAD EXPERIENCES

BACK ROADS | HIDDEN GEMS

We love road journeys. They are by far our favourite way of traveling. And when we're in the mood for spoiling ourselves with fine food and delightful hotels besides the sheer pleasure of being on some of the world's best roads, we turn to Europe!

Few regions within Europe offer as much variety of landscapes and cultures and roads as the one centered on the Alps. The Alpine countries and regions – southern Bavaria, Austria, Switzerland, South Tyrol with its Dolomites, the French Alps – are a treasure trove of hidden gems. We therefore take great pleasure in introducing you to our first, carefully crafted Alpine driving journey itinerary that is without equal. Now turn the page and find out what we've come to love ourselves so much...



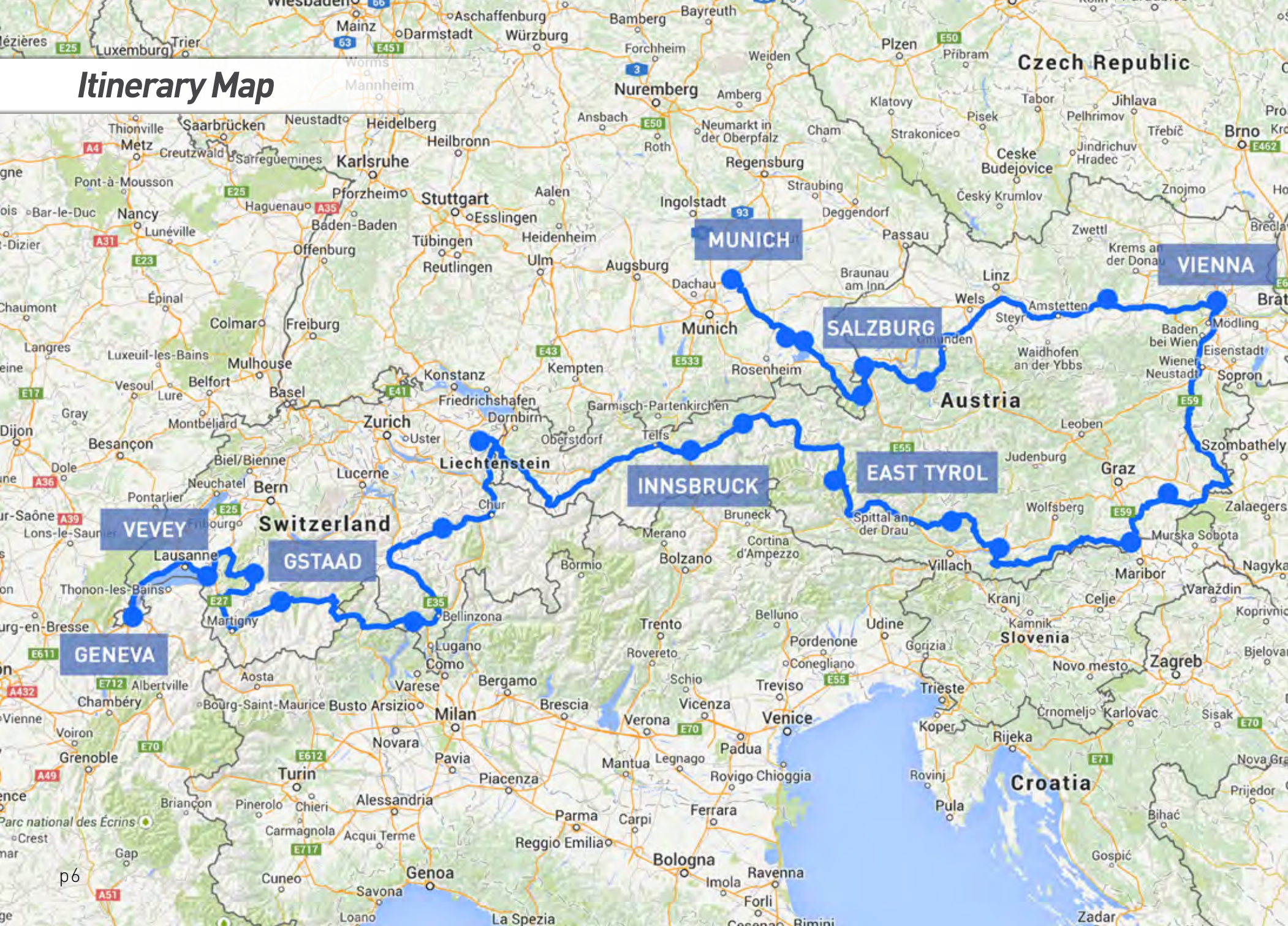


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## Itinerary Map



## Day-by-Day

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Day12  
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Day13  
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Day14  
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your stay?*



## It all goes back a long, long time...

Europe is the cradle of the motorcar and private motoring. Ever since Karl Benz's 1886 Motorwagen, people have taken pride in owning a car and being in its driver's seat. Driving in a beautiful car bespeaks privilege, freedom, privacy, and, especially in a cabriolet, allows one to be in communion with the elements and natural beauty: soak up the sunshine, feel the wind in your hair, smell the fresh air and the scents of freshly cut grass. Besides, there is the sheer pleasure of being in control, of directing the course of travel: to turn, to go, to stop where and when you feel like it.

These are pleasures that Europeans were the first to enjoy. Most evidently, these are pleasures that can be shared by couples. While it is often the gentleman who takes the driving seat, it was in fact Bertha Benz who undertook the first driving journey (with their two children) in the world. Driving journeys in a cabriolet is something that women have enjoyed ever since, whether as companion or driver.

Discovering the world by means of a driving journey is a unique pleasure that we want to share with you!






# Journey of discovery





“ You have arrived  
in EUROPE!  
Let your ALPINE  
JOURNEY begin!”





“On your  
FIRST DAY, get  
UP-CLOSE-AND-PERSONAL  
with the mountains  
surrounding Salzburg...”

One of so many glorious mountains in the Austrian Alps in Salzburg (as seen from Berchtesgaden)



“If there is one  
ROMANTIC  
city in Austria,  
then it is  
SALZBURG...”

View of Salzburg at dusk



“Starting  
your DAY in  
SAZLBURG...”

View from your hotel room ( ◆◆◆ )






“Riding in a  
FIAKER in  
CHILD’s play in  
SALZBURG...”

Riding in a Fiaker, a horse-drawn carriage in Salzburg



An aerial photograph of Salzburg, Austria, showing the city's historic architecture and its famous gardens. In the foreground, the Mirabell Gardens are visible, featuring manicured lawns with intricate flower patterns in orange and yellow. A central fountain with a circular pool is surrounded by a paved walkway. To the left, a large, light-colored building with a green roof is partially visible. The city extends up a hillside, with numerous churches and the Salzburg Fortress (Hohensalzburg) perched on a rocky peak. In the background, snow-capped mountains rise under a clear blue sky.

“SALZBURG,  
one of the  
MOST BEAUTIFUL  
cities in the  
world...”

View of Salzburg's magnificent public gardens



A man in a small, weathered wooden boat is on a calm lake. He is wearing a plaid shirt and dark trousers, and is leaning over the side of the boat, possibly handling a net or some equipment. The boat has a small outboard motor at the stern. The water is dark blue with gentle ripples. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains covered in dense green forests. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

“The  
SALZKAMMERGUT...  
Austria’s delightful  
LAKE REGION  
where the locals  
ENJOY LIFE!”

On lake Mondsee...



“If AUSTRIA has one  
UNIQUE CULINARY  
DISTINCTION, it is  
its many Mehlspeisen,  
sweet delights of  
INFINITE VARIETY...”

An iconic Austrian Konditorei



“MELK ABBEY,  
one of the most  
magnificent in  
ALL EUROPE...”

View of Melk Abbey





“VIENNA,  
where ART and  
CULTURE are a  
way of life!”



Vienna at dusk...



“VIENNA,  
where even the  
HORSES are  
CULTURED...”



The Lippizan Stallions of the Spanish Riding school



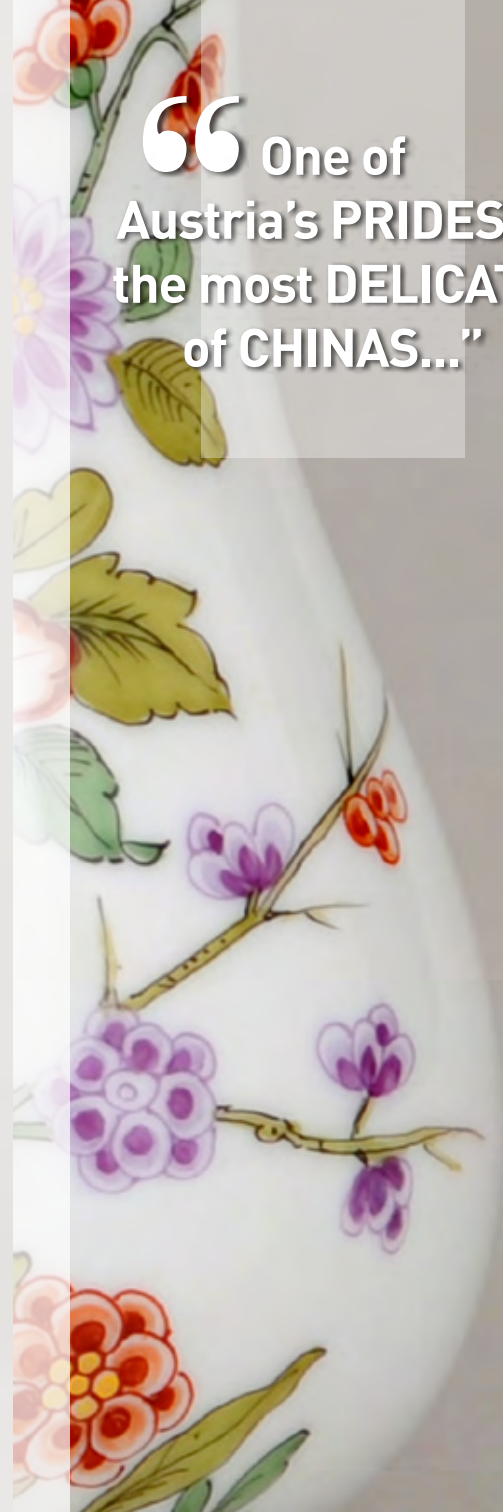
“The VIENNESE  
CAN and DO  
spend their lives  
in their beloved  
KAFFEEHÄUSER...”

A typical Viennese Kaffeehaus (coffee shop)





Shopping for something special in Vienna?



“One of  
Austria’s PRIDES...  
the most DELICATE  
of CHINAS...”





“ For you,  
a GRAND Hotel for  
a GRAND city!”

Your hotel in Vienna (    )





“Magnificent  
MEDIEVAL CASTLES  
everywhere...just BY THE  
ROADSIDE!”





“TUSCANY  
in AUSTRIA...  
without the  
tourists!”






“On BACK ROADS  
through remote  
regions of Austria...”



“ Stay in a  
TRADITIONAL  
ALM house,  
now a BOUTIQUE  
HOTEL for you!”





“The GROSSGLOCKNER...  
Austria’s tallest mountain  
and the focus of a  
GORGEOUS ROAD across  
the ALPS...”





“In RATTENBERG  
where  
Austrian GLASS  
making began...”




The finest of Austrian Glass





“INNSBRUCK,  
the most ALPINE  
of all Austrian  
CITIES...”



An aerial photograph of a winding asphalt road on a mountain. The road has white dashed lines and a solid white edge. A silver car is driving away from the viewer on the lower part of the road, and a motorcycle is further ahead. The road curves through a lush green forest of tall evergreen trees. In the background, more winding roads are visible on the mountain slopes, and a valley with green fields and distant mountains can be seen. The sky is not visible.

“ There is a tunnel  
from one side to the  
other, but  
**WHO WOULD DREAM  
OF TAKING THAT?”**

The High Alpine Road that divides the two  
western-most states of Austria



“Climb up a  
CHURCH STEEPLE,  
and here is what  
you’ll see: THREE  
COUNTRIES...”

Heiden Village: stand in Switzerland and look  
out across Germany and Austria



“ In APPENZELL...  
where cows are at  
least as important  
as people... ”





“In APPENZELL ...  
where TRADITION is as  
STRONG as anywhere  
in the world...”



Appenzell inhabitants



“ WIDE  
OPEN VIEWS  
from the Oberalp  
PASS as you  
drive WEST...”



“NO  
COMMENT...  
but where does  
it take you?”





“TICINO,  
that part of  
SWITZERLAND  
that is completely  
MEDITERRANEAN...”

The landscape of Ticino





“ There is a lot to see  
in TICINO,  
but it may also be  
TIME FOR enjoying the  
DOLCE VITA...”



“Where the ALPS  
are at their MOST  
STUPENDOUS!”

The view across the Alps from Les Diablerets



“ The  
MOST SWISS  
of all sounds...from  
the ALPHORN....”

A performance by Alphorn players





“DISTINCTLY FRENCH  
by now as you  
descend into the  
LAC LEMAN region...”



“LAC LEMAN  
as seen from your  
hotel in VEVEY...”

Your hotel at Lac Leman





“The TERRACED  
VINYARDS of Lavaux  
are rightly a UNESCO  
World Heritage site!”

View of the Lavaux Wine Region





“ You have ARRIVED  
at your destination:  
**GENEVA**  
at the border of  
**SWITZERLAND** and  
**FRANCE!**”

The lake front of Geneva



# Day-by-day





Day 1  
You have arrived in Europe...

We will pick you up at Munich airport. Then it is time for you to take possession of the car you’ve requested. In it you will find some *On the Road in Europe* goodies that will make your journey and the time on the road even more enjoyable...be surprised!

Only a little while after leaving Munich airport, you will sense that you have arrived in Europe since you will be driving in the charming countryside of Bavaria on the way to your first destination, Salzburg: enjoy the rolling meadows, picturesque villages with iconic church steeples, lunch right by the shore of beautiful lake Chiemsee with the Austrian Alps as the backdrop.

Then, in the afternoon, as a first real treat, we will guide you across a magnificent mountain road, designed as if it had only one function: to showcase and to invite you to enjoy these



glorious mountains. You can expect to arrive at your hotel in the late afternoon. We will round out your evening with an easy walk from your hotel to Salzburg old town where we have arranged dinner for you in one of Salzburg’s iconic, traditional restaurants.



## Details

### Timing

**10:00**  
Depart from Munich Airport

**12:30**  
Lunch at the Chiemsee

**14:15**  
Depart for your afternoon drive to Salzburg

**17:30**  
Arrive in Salzburg

**19:00**  
Dinner

### Driving Distance & Duration

**Distance:** 210 km  
**Duration:** 4+ hours

### Hotel

(a) A charming hotel near city center  
(b) A magnificent hotel in the city center

Day 2  
Exploring the romantic city of Salzburg

“Salzburg with its surroundings is – alongside Rio de Janeiro and Constantinople – one of the most beautiful urban regions in the world!” Even today, the words of Alexander von Humboldt, world-famous traveller and scientist of the late 19th century, ring true.

Above all, Salzburg is a city of romance and elegance. Along the river Salzach, and presided over by a mighty fortress, Festung Hohen Salzburg, (the largest fully preserved fortress complex in central Europe), fabulous churches, quiet monasteries, impressive palaces, lush parks, beautiful squares with impressive fountains – all these create an intimate and romantic cityscape that is made all the more lovely by the picturesque mountains (some so high that they are snow-covered all year round), pristine lakes and green



meadows of its surroundings. Salzburg, literally meaning Salt Castle, over centuries generated enormous wealth through nearby salt, gold and copper mines. Their wealth allowed the city’s Prince-Archbishops to employ not only some of the finest architects, painters and builders, but also

to invest in prodigious amounts on scientific research, fine arts and culture. Today is your chance to get a glimpse of Salzburg’s charm. We have included in your program some of the better known sites – the mighty fortress, of course, and also some of its charming *Gassen*





(alleyways) – as well as some of its less-well-known attractions – for example, an intriguing nunnery and a visit to a traditional Salzburg costumes manufactory. What’s more, Salzburg is most certainly worth some free time to explore it on your own or with our guide. Should you be interested

in handicraft for which Salzburg is famous or buy curiosities (for example, Austrian Schnapps, a kind of fruity brandy), we will be happy to advise you such that you can make the most out of your day in Salzburg.

# Details

**Timing**  
Breakfast at your leisure in the hotel  
**9:30**  
Start guided walking tour of some of Salzburg’s high-lights  
**12:30**  
Lunch at a traditional costume manufactory  
**14:30**  
Free time to explore Salzburg’s old town (with guide and suggestions as desired)  
**19:00**  
Dinner in a traditional Salzburg restaurant at the edge of town

**Driving Distance & Duration**  
**Distance:** 0 km  
**Duration:** 0 hours

**Hotel**  
(a) A charming hotel near city center  
(b) A magnificent hotel in the city center

## Day 3

Of sparkling lakes, classic patisseries, sweet back roads... on your way to Vienna

The better part of today is devoted to sampling the treasures of the *Salzkammergut*. With well over seventy large and small lakes (all of drinking-water quality), rolling pastures, tall mountains, and marvelous roads, the Salzkammergut is one of Austria’s most charming regions.

A highlight of the morning will be a visit to one of its typical towns and a snack at one of Austria’s best known *Konditoreien* or patisseries.

You will be able to enjoy lunch at a specially selected restaurant right by the lakefront. After your meal (with a selection of fish from the lake), you will drive to Melk Abbey. Situated above the town of Melk on a rocky outcrop overlooking the Danube river in Lower Austria, it is Austria’s most impressive monastery (founded in the year



1089) and one of the world’s most famous monastic sites. Despite it being very much frequented by visitors from all over the world, it is a must-see!

The last leg of today’s journey will take you to Vienna. You will arrive at dusk when its grand buildings are beautifully and tastefully lit.

For dinner, we have selected a hidden gem of a restaurant in Vienna’s central district.

# Details

**Timing**  
**7:00**  
Breakfast at your hotel  
**8:30**  
Begin your drive into Salzburg’s lake region  
**12:00**  
Lunch by Lake Traunsee  
**13:30**  
Continue your drive toward Vienna  
**15:00**  
Visit Melk Abbey  
**18:30**  
Arrive in Vienna  
**19:30**  
Dinner in Vienna’s 1. District

**Driving Distance & Duration**  
**Distance:** 330 km  
**Duration:** 5 hours

**Hotel**  
(a) A lovely boutique hotel by St. Stephen’s Cathedral  
(b) A world-class hotel in the 1st district



## Day 4

### In the city where art and culture are a way of life

Vienna – the former capital of the Habsburg Austro-Hungarian Empire and nowadays capital of Austria, the City of Music, the City of the Blue Danube, the only city worldwide that created its own distinct cuisine and the only capital that grows its very own wine within its city-borders. St. Stephen's Cathedral, *The Hofburg* (the Imperial Court), Schönbrunn and Belvedere Palaces, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Imperial Treasury, The Spanish Horse-Riding School, the world's largest graphic-art museum (the Albertina), the palaces and state buildings along *the Ring Straße* (the former inner defense line)...

Vienna – the melting-pot and nucleus of the former empire – attracted (and still attracts) scientists, entrepreneurs, artists, architects, engineers, physicists, *Zuckerbäcker*

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("sugar bakers" or makers of sweets) and musicians from all around the world. Mozart, Beethoven, Haydn, Brahms, Schönberg, Mahler, Schubert, Gluck, the Strauss Family (creators and promoters of the Viennese Waltz tradition) and many more musicians lived and worked in this city and enriched its vast history with their master pieces. Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele, Oskar Kokoschka, to name but a few, are among Vienna's best-known painters. Otto Wagner, Friedrich Loos, Helmer & Fellner and Theophil Hansen its most prominent architects.

How to introduce you to a city of such splendor in less than forty-eight hours? We hope that, through a carefully selected sampling of its ubiquitous treasures, you will get a taste of this city in which art and culture is a way of life. We will delight you with visits to its best known manufacturer of porcelain, its imperial treasure chamber, a classic Viennese *Kaffeehaus* (or Café) with its inimitable vaults, a performance at the



horse-riding school, a ride in its nostalgic horse-drawn carriages and, of course, a selection of well-known and not-so-well-known Viennese dishes. (If you have specific interests, please let us know.)

## Details

### Timing

Breakfast at your leisure in the hotel

**9:00**

Morning visits to porcelain manufactory, treasure chamber, and walking tour through the first district

**12:30**

Lunch at a classic Kaffeehaus

**14:00**

Visit to one of Vienna's best known palaces

**16:00**

Free time to explore Vienna's central district (with guide and suggestions as desired)

**18:45**

Dinner in a special Viennese restaurant

**20:00**

Performance at the Imperial Horse-Riding School

### Driving Distance & Duration

**Distance:** 0 km

**Duration:** 0 hours

### Hotel

- (a) A lovely boutique hotel by St. Stephen's Cathedral
- (b) A world-class hotel in the 1st district



## Day 5

### On magnificent roads into Austria's Tuscany

It is time, at last, to venture into the Austrian countryside, on back roads to get away from the crowds.

This morning's drive will take you, before long, onto small roads that run along Austria's border with Hungary. (If you like, you can take a short excursion across the border!)

The Austrian countryside is dotted with castles small and large. One of today's highlights will be your lunch at a small, local restaurant that presents a magnificent view over one of Styria's most impressive castles.

After lunch, you will continue your drive to Styria, one of Austria's nine states. Styria lies in Austria's southwest and borders on Slovenia. In this corner of Austria is a 'wine road' called the *Südsteirische Weinstrasse* (the South-Styrian Wine Road). Without a doubt, the rolling vineyard hills of this region count among the most memorable we've ever seen.

Before dinner, we will guide you to visit one or the other vineyard or to one of the many artisans of local produce.

Dinner itself will, of course, be in the midst of this unforgettable wine region.



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## Details

### Timing

**7:30**

Breakfast in your hotel

**9:00**

Departure from your hotel... begin your drive into the remote region of South Styria

**13:00**

Lunch by Riegersburg Castle

**14:30**

Continue your drive into Austria's Tuscany

**16:00**

Arrive in the South-Styrian wine region

Free-time to explore artisans of local produce

**19:00**

Dinner in the midst of vineyards

### Driving Distance & Duration

**Distance:** 310 km

**Duration:** 4 hours

### Hotel

(a) A boutique hotel in the heart of Austria's Tuscany

## Day 6

### Into the Alps proper and enjoying Alpine-style living...

In the morning, you will be driving along Styria's and then Carinthia's border with Slovenia on a gently winding road well known by all local and regional driving lovers...simply magnificent.

After a few hours of enjoying the sheer pleasure of driving, you will descend into Klagenfurt, the capital of Carinthia for a surprise lunch...

Carinthia is home to Austria's second lake region – it too is a well-known destination for Austrians and many Germans on holiday. For you, however, Carinthia is the beginning of

your exploration of the Alps themselves, this spectacular mountain range in the heart of Europe. From today onward until the rest of this journey, the Alps will become your familiar companion.

Your home for the day will be either a farm house lodge or a village of chalets where you can get a feeling of the unique style of Alpine living as practiced by mountain farmers since the earliest days. In the past life was harsh; today, you can get a taste of it in the comfort of a beautiful, yet rustic and authentic hotel.



## Details

### Timing

**8:30**

Breakfast at your hotel

**9:30**

Begin your drive along the Slovenian border towards Klagenfurt, Carinthia's capital

**12:30**

Lunch in Klagenfurt...it will be a pleasant surprise!

**14:00**

Continue your drive into the Alps

**15:45 or 17:15**

Arrive at your hotel for the night (depending on whether you stay in Carinthia or Osttirol)

**19:30**

Dinner at the hotel

### Driving Distance & Duration

**Distance:** 230 km to Carinthia or 330 km to Osttirol

**Duration:** 4 hours to Carinthia or 6 hours to Osttirol

### Hotel

(a) A boutique farm house lodge in Osttirol

(b) A village of Alpine Chalets in Carinthia



Day 7  
Of stupendous mountains and the traditions of crystal glass

You will want to pray for good weather for this morning since you will be driving across the Grossglockner *Hochalpenstrasse*, Austria’s grandest high alpine road. The snow-capped peaks, especially that of the Grossglockner, Austria’s tallest mountain, and flower-dotted bright green pastures (in spring) or golden-red forests (in autumn), are a sight to behold.

After this exhilarating drive, you will find yourself in Tirol, Austria’s most mountainous state and the cradle of its world-

famous crystal glass making excellence. Instead of taking you to Swarovski, however, we propose to introduce you to a tiny town (Austria’s smallest with a history of well over a 1000 years) that is the home of an artisanal manufactory of beautiful glass – plain and simple or ornate and colorful. You will be delighted, either simply to look and marvel or perhaps to purchase and take home one of its gems.

The remaining drive to Innsbruck is short. Innsbruck is our founder’s mother’s ancestral home and therefore has a special place in his heart. Innsbruck, of Olympic Winter Game fame, has an old town that you will love to explore before dinner.



Details

Timing

7:30

Breakfast at your hotel in the Alps

9:15

Begin driving from your hotel across Austria’s grandest Alpine road

12:45

Lunch along the way

16:00

Visit an artisan of glass at the birthday place of Austria’s excellence in crystal glass

17:45

Arrive at your hotel in Innsbruck

19:30

Dinner in Innsbruck’s old town

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 330 km from Carinthia or 280 km from Osttirol

Duration: 5.5 hours from Carinthia or 4.5 hours from Osttirol

Hotel

A stylish hotel in the heart of Innsbruck

Day 8  
Into the heart of Switzerland: Appenzell and Grison

Today you will drive further west to arrive in Switzerland’s most tradition-bound Canton called Appenzell.

Along the way, we will show you a very special look-out to take in the locally well-known *Dreiländereck* (Three-Country Corner): find yourself in Switzerland and look at across the *Bodensee* (Lake Constance) on whose far shares you will see Germany (due north) and Austria (northeast).

If you have one image of Austria, it is most likely one of glorious pastures dotted with healthy cows whose bells ring out across the Alps...it is a sound that everyone born and raised in the Alps will instantly connect with home and that has the power to charm distant travelers as well. These visions and memories are best represented by Appenzell... where Switzerland is truly Swiss!

You will be able to enjoy a lunch

in the midst of these pastures and then visit the Appenzell cheese producer where you can see and learn about the traditions of local cheese making and, of course, also taste a great variety of fresh and aged cheeses.

Your day will conclude with a drive to Canton Grison where the forth of Switzerland’s 4 official languages is spoken: Romansch. Only thirty thousand native speakers remain.

It is here where we would like to introduce to Alpine traditions of spas and “wellness” in a beautiful hotel that is yours for the night.



Details

Timing

7:30

Breakfast at your hotel

8:30

Begin your drive toward Switzerland

12:00

Stop to enjoy the view of the Dreiländereck

13:00

Lunch in a hidden gem of a restaurant: pure Appenzell

14:00

Visit to the Appenzell cheese producer

15:00

Drive into Canton Grison

17:00

Arrive at your spa lodge

19:30

Dinner at your hotel

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: Distance: 350 - 390 km

Driving Duration: 5-6 hours (depending on the route chosen)

Hotel

A traditional spa lodge in the heart of Switzerland’s Canton Grison



Day 9  
Into Switzerland's  
Italian south

Switzerland has four distinct cultural regions: the Germanic North and Northeast; the East-Central Grison; the Italian South and the French West. The first two you got a glimpse of the day before.

Today you will drive into the Italian south where Switzerland truly feels Italian, not only because the Italian language is in common use, but also because the climate is thoroughly Italian, replete with palm trees and southern European vegetation, piazzas and the colors of Italy.

Ticino (like Austria's Tuscany) is known for excellent wines;

in particular, Merlot feels at home here. This region is famous as well for steep and narrow valleys and spectacular lakes dotted with sailboats and ferries that carry people and cars from the Swiss to the Italian shores of these bodies of water.

On the way to your destination today, you will have lunch in a small restaurant in the midst of the Merlot vineyards and also visit the Val Verzasca dam of "James Bond" fame: the dam is 220m tall and will frighten anyone with only a touch of acrophobia. Bungee jumping anyone?



Details

Timing

Breakfast at your leisure in the hotel

10:00

Departure from your hotel

13:30

Lunch in the vineyards of Ticino

15:00

Drive a little while further to your hotel (and visit the Val Verzasca dam)

17:00

Arrive at your hotel and free time

20:00

Dinner at your hotel

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 150 – 220 km

Duration: 3 – 4.5 hours

Hotel

(a) A lakeside lodge in Ticino

(b) A resplendent, hill-side hotel in Ticino

Day 10  
Soak up the Italian  
flair in and around  
Ticino

Ticino with its mild southern climate is the ideal place for a day of rest or leisurely sightseeing.

You will have many choices ranging from kicking back with a drink and a good book by the hotel's pool, visiting local markets (in a different village depending on the day of the week), making an outing by driving along one of the lakes (and dipping your toe into Italy,

as it were), or visiting near-by Milano for a bit of shopping. We will help you make your arrangements and guide you as you desire.

Note: Today's lunch and dinner are *not* included.



Details

Timing

To be flexibly arranged for you depending on your interest

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 0 to approximately 150 km

Duration: 0 to 4 hours  
*(depending on your chosen activities)*

Hotel

(a) A lakeside lodge in Ticino

(b) A resplendent, hill-side hotel in Ticino



Day 11

Two hidden gems: The best view of the Alps and a little-known hide-away of the great and good...

Today you will take a large step toward your final destination by beginning to drive north-northwest. In the morning, you will cross the Alps again. Depending on your passion for driving on mountain roads, we will choose one of two routes for you: one rather gentle and easy-going, the other quite the opposite: challenging, yet magnificent.

You will enjoy lunch in a lovely bistro in Canton Valais. After lunch it is a short drive to Les Diablerets. It is a place you are unlikely to have heard of; yet it is here that a cable car takes off and soars high and higher to the roof of the Alps. It is here that we would like to introduce you to the most memorable view of the Alps, much more memorable than any other we know of.



From Les Diablerets to Gstaad it is but a hop and a skip. Gstaad is a small village (“more cows than people”) in a remote corner of the *Berner Oberland* (the Bernese Highlands) which, for mysterious reasons, has blossomed as a hide-away of many a movie or sporting star. Even though, it has retained much authentic Alpine charm and provides the perfect setting for a dinner as traditional as it gets in Switzerland: what would be a journey into this land without a sampling of Racelette and Fondue?

### Details

**Timing**  
**8:00**  
Breakfast at your hotel  
**9:30**  
Begin your drive north-west toward Gstaad  
**12:30**  
Lunch in Canton Valais  
**14:00**  
Continue your journey toward Gstaad  
**15:30**  
Stop at Les Diablerets for the most beautiful view of the Alps  
**16:45**  
Continue toward Gstaad  
**17:30**  
Arrive at your hotel  
**19:30**  
A most traditional Swiss dinner

**Driving Distance & Duration**  
**Distance:** 260 km  
**Duration:** 5.5 hours

**Hotel**  
(a) A small lodge on the outskirts of Gstaad  
(b) A hidden gem of a boutique hotel on a hillside above Gstaad

### Day 12

#### And onward toward the Swiss Riviera

Today you can make a very leisurely start since you only need to depart from Gstaad after lunch.

In the morning, we can recommend a number of activities.

One is simply to stroll through the center of Gstaad and to get some shopping in, including at von Siebenthal, a marvelous, multi-level cookery store where you find the finest of cooking utensils available in Switzerland.

If you are in the mood for something a little bit more active, you might want to consider a 30min drive to the *Launenensee* and a gentle one-hour walk on flat terrain around this beautiful small lake.

If you’re ready for an adventure, you could book (optionally) a hot air balloon that takes off from Chateau d’Oex. Such a ride in the early morning

across the highlands of Bern will surely count as one of your most memorable holiday experiences ever.

After a light lunch in Gstaad, you will begin your one-and-a-half hour drive to the shores of Lac Leman.

Just as you arrive at Lac Leman, you might want to enjoy a stop at Chateau Chillon, a medieval fortress built on a promontory reaching out into the lake. (But beware, it is an attraction very much frequented by tourists.)

Still, a view of this fortress in late afternoon is quite something to behold.

### Details

**Timing**  
Your morning arranged according to your interests followed by lunch in Gstaad before your departure for Lac Leman.  
**14:30**  
Departure from Gstaad  
**16:00**  
Arrival at your hotel.  
**19:00**  
Dinner by the lakeside

**Driving Distance & Duration**  
**Distance:** 65 km  
**Duration:** 1.5 hours

**Hotel**  
(a) A boutique city hotel minutes from Lac Leman  
(b) A magnificent grand dame of a hotel, by the side of Lac Leman





## Day 13

### Through a UNESCO World Heritage wine region on the way to Geneva

In the morning, you may want to visit, for example, the cradle of Swiss milk chocolate, a small maker of the finest such chocolates to be enjoyed anywhere. Also, a stroll along the lake-front is highly recommended or a short drive to Montreux, famous for its annual Jazz Festival.

Whatever you fancy, be sure to return by 11:30 and be ready for your departure toward Geneva.

Today's drive will begin with one of the most picturesque drives of the entire journey, namely through the UNESCO World Heritage terraced vineyards of eastern Lac Lemman. In the midst of it, is a restaurant that will afford you a bewitching view of Lac Lemman down below and across Lac Lemman a glimpse of the French Alps which are worth a trip of their own...perhaps one day in the future, but not on this journey.



Your road journey will conclude in Geneva after a short drive on the first Swiss highway of this journey. Surrounded by the Alps on the one hand and another well-known Swiss mountain range called Jura and at the eastern end of Lake Geneva (from where it flows into the Rhone river), Geneva has become the seat of many international institutions. It has a vibrant and rather French cultural and social life and makes a fitting place for celebrating the end of your East-West journey across the Alps!



## Details

### Timing

Vevey to restaurant in the Lavaux Region: 10km and 10min, from there to Geneva, 1-1:15 hours, 80 km

### Driving Distance & Duration

**Distance:** 90 km

**Duration:** 1-1.5 hours

### Hotel

(a) A small, yet grand hotel in the city center

(b) A hidden gem of a hotel overlooking lake Geneva

## Day 14

### Life must go on...or why not extend your stay?

We will arrange your transfer from the hotel to Geneva airport or train station, depending on your arrangements.

If you are not pressed for time, there are many ways in which you can extend your stay.

Why not continue to Paris, by car or France's high-speed train, the TGV?

Or, if you love driving, return in one day or two to Munich where you began your journey?

Or rest for a few days in Geneva which has much to offer?

Whichever way you choose to continue, we are happy to help you make further arrangements.





## Choice of Cars

We include in the package price a cabriolet.

We strongly encourage you to enjoy this journey in an opentop car because the natural beauty, the fresh and scented air, the glorious mountains, the vineyards, and the many gorgeous roads are best enjoyed when wind is in your air and you can fully immerse yourself in the enjoyment of being on the road!

Of course, if you prefer a coupe or sedan of the same class or something a little or a lot more exotic, we're happy to offer you upgrade options.



**“ANY car,  
as long as it is a  
CABRIOLET”**



# Adventures and Discoveries in Local Cuisines

While this itinerary is **not** one of our 'Foodie'-themed journeys, we do believe that each one of our journeys should introduce you not only to hidden gems of cultural and scenic beauty, but that sampling local cuisines is also a must.

We will therefore arrange for you 'tasting menus' such that you can try out a variety of specialties during each meal. While alcoholic beverages are not included in the price, on certain occasions, when we believe that a particular dish is best enjoyed when combined with a local drink, we will make it part of the experience!

For private journeys, we can, of course, tailor the meal experience to your taste (and budget).





# What's Included / Best Months to Go...



Best months to go...

JANFEBMARAPRMAYJUN

JULAUGSEPTOCTNOVDEC

Generally speaking, our journey packages and prices are all-inclusive. Once you've paid and you arrive at the starting point, you really won't have to take out your wallet again except for liquids (alcoholic drinks and petrol) and presents to take home!

- Hand-crafted *On the Road in Europe* – Back Roads. Hidden Gems. – Itinerary design as described in this Journey Dossier
- A crew of three (your journey host, subject matter experts/destination guides in various locations, and a journey guest officer)
- All meals in 'tasting menu'

- (or omakase) style
- All accommodations
  - A car as described from one of our highly reputable car rental partners will full insurance
  - All ground transportation and airport transfers
  - Pre-programmed GPSs and printed maps

- Walky-talkies to stay in touch with fellow travelers and your crew
- All toll fees and parking fees
- Entrance fees for all attended activities
- Lead car for your crew
- *On the Road in Europe* service (goodies basket and other treats along the way:

- wet towels, daily picnic, basket containing fresh fruit, fruit juice, water, and a mixture of sweets and nibbles)
- All tips

## What's Not Included

- Your transport to Munich and from Geneva
- Personal shopping

- Visas (if required)
- Alcoholic drinks (unless explicitly included)
- Petrol for your car
- Activities, Meals, Transport during 'free times' as indicated in this Journey Dossier
- Top-up Collision Damage Waiver insurance



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“ A picture is worth a thousand words. True,  
but when it comes to a road journey, moving  
images are priceless. Please visit :

*<http://www.ontheroadexperiences.com/experience/videos/> ”*







## ON THE ROAD EXPERIENCES

BACK ROADS | HIDDEN GEMS

“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

