



TOUR ITINERARY

RIDING  
LEVEL

4

Europe / Switzerland

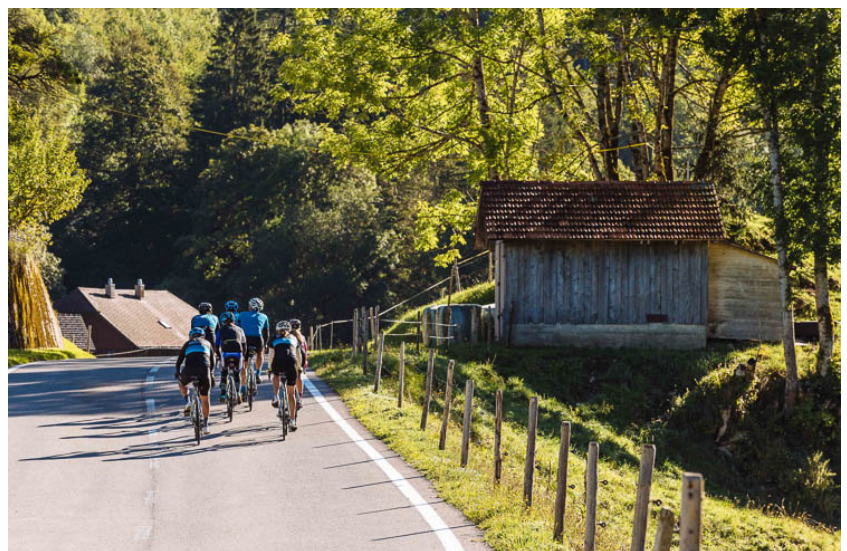
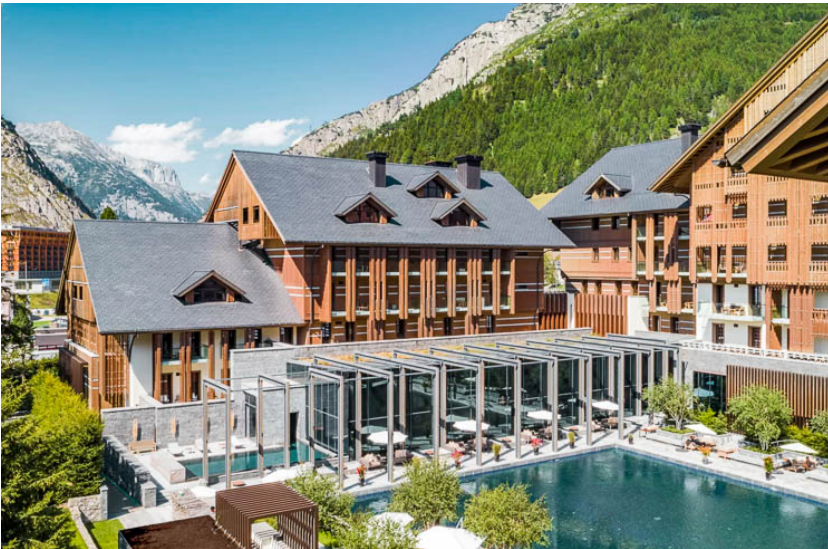
# Switzerland Challenge Bike Tour

High-End at High Altitude: Classic Passes in the Swiss Alps



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Ride across the Swiss Alps from Lake Geneva, passing through four cantons on deliciously diverse terrain: original cobbles, smooth sections of gravel, and serious switchbacks
- Conquer iconic Swiss cols, including the Col du Pillon, Jaun Pass, Susten Pass, and Mittleberg Pass—plus Furka, Nufenen, and Gotthard in a single day
- Lean into cycling lore with a stop at the UCI headquarters in Aigle and sample Swiss cheese where it's made in Gruyères
- Stay in Alpine luxury hotels located in sophisticated Swiss resort towns like Gstaad and Andermatt
- Clip into world-class Colnago V4 road bikes with Dura-Ace Di2 shifting and Vision carbon wheels and kit up in custom Rapha x DuVine jersey and bibs



## ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

### Arrival Details

- ✈️ **Airport City:**  
Geneva, Switzerland
- 📍 **Pick-Up Location:**  
Montreux
- 🕒 **Pick-Up Time:**  
8:30 am

### Departure Details

- ✈️ **Airport City:**  
Zurich, Switzerland
- 📍 **Drop-Off Location:**  
Lucerne Train Station
- 🕒 **Drop-Off Time:**  
10:30 am

**NOTE:** DuVine provides group transfers to and from the tour from the pick-up and drop-off locations stated on the itinerary. In the event your train, flight, or other travel falls outside the arrival or departure times or locations, you may be responsible for extra costs incurred in arranging a separate transfer.

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### Emergency Assistance

For urgent assistance on your way to tour or while on tour, please always contact your guides first. You may also contact the Boston office during business hours at +1 617 776 4441 or [emergency@duvine.com](mailto:emergency@duvine.com).

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### Travelers Take Note

Upon booking this tour, you will be asked to complete a short form. We use this information to ensure all Level 4 trip participants are adequately prepared for our most difficult riding and have proximate cycling experience to the rest of the group.

Due to altitude, weather can change quickly. Expect anything from peak summer heat to hail and snow in a single day, and pack accordingly. Helpful hints about dressing for all climates can be found on [our blog](#).

Please note that e-bikes cannot be reserved for this tour.

# TOUR ITINERARY

## Tour By Day

DAY  
1

### The Canton of Vaud

Welcome to the Swiss Riviera: our adventure begins this morning in Montreux, located at the base of the Alps and on the shores of Lake Geneva. Your bikes are waiting at the lakefront, so we'll warm up on a bike path and drop in at the UCI headquarters in Aigle before the last bits of civilization change gradually into vineyards. Before long, we encounter our inaugural climb—the Col de La Croix—which is a lovely little slice of tarmac that brings us officially into the Alps. Next up: the Col du Pillon. You've already done most of the climbing, but our last 3.5 kilometers is at 9%. A descent into Gstaad marks the end the week's first ride, and we'll check into our Alpine luxury hotel and home for the next two nights.

**Meals:** Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** Aigle, Ormont-Dessus, Gstaad

**Accomplished:** 52 miles / 83 km, elevation gain: 7,067 feet / 2,154 meters

**Accommodations:** [The Mansard](#)

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DAY  
2

### Gruyère, Gruyère, Gruyère

Here, it's typical to find cheese at breakfast alongside bread, fruit, and eggs—and that's because we're in the birthplace of Gruyère. As any monger will tell you, clean air, green pastures, and fresh spring water are the foundation for exceptional cheese; it happens that they're also excellent conditions for cycling. Today we make our way through the Sarine river valley until we reach the town of Gruyères, where we'll sip coffee on the cobblestones, peer up at turrets on the medieval castle, and train our tastebuds on the subtle nuances between Alpine cheeses. Starting to feel a little relaxed? Our climb *du jour*—the Jaun Pass—will perk you up as the gentle approach through Alpage pastures turns into 10% on the middle two miles. We promise the views from the top will reward your efforts in kind. This afternoon is a perfect opportunity to hit the hotel spa before a charming farmhouse dinner later in the evening.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** Gruyères, Saanen

**Accomplished:** 63 miles / 102 km, elevation gain: 6,841 feet / 2,085 meters

**Longer Option:** 78 miles / 126 km, elevation gain: 8,383 feet / 2,555 meters

**Accommodations:** [The Mansard](#)

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## TOUR ITINERARY

DAY  
3

### Gantrisch Natural Park

Leave the valley behind and head east this morning, beginning with a bang on the Mittelberg Pass. The Mittelberg is a classic Swiss climb—if it were in the French Alps, it would be a TDF fixture. But here in Switzerland, it remains a secret so you can climb in solitude. There's no traffic, just the sound of clanging cowbells and clicking gears. Next, enter the protected roads of the Gantrisch Natural Park where we'll meet the Gurnigel Pass and ascend to cycling heaven via a section of well-packed gravel near the top. Round it out with a descent into the Thunersee, then cruise for a final few kilometers along Lake Thun to reach our hotel. After check-in, unwind with a swim or sit back and sip a beer overlooking the mountains we just conquered. Dinner tonight is at a lively restaurant on the water's edge in town.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** Broc, Wattenwil

**Accomplished:** 80 miles / 129 km, elevation gain: 7,756 feet / 2,364 meters

**Accommodations:** [Hotel Schlossberg](#)

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DAY  
4

### The Susten Pass

Today kicks off gently with some lakeside riding that follows the curve of Lake Thun and Lake Brienz. Just when you thought your legs were getting a break, we approach the Susten Pass—but you'll be so enthralled by the views of Giglistock and Sustenhorn peaks (plus the perfectly paved road) that you'll hardly notice the 28 kilometers at 5.7%. After an electrifying descent into Andermatt, take the rest of the day off to get acquainted with this sweet Alpine town or relax at The Chedi before tomorrow's king stage.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch

**Destinations:** Interlaken, Meiringen

**Accomplished:** 71 miles / 114 km, elevation gain: 10,259 feet / 3,127 meters

**Accommodations:** [The Chedi Andermatt](#)

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DAY  
5

### Above the Clouds: Furka, Nufenen, and Gotthard

It's a good thing we've spent the last four days getting into mountain goat mode, because this week is ending on a high note—literally. Our appetizer is the Furka Pass, with 11 kilometers to the summit at an average grade of 6%. At almost 2,500 meters elevation, we're eye-to-eye with the Rhone Glacier, source of the Rhone river. Gain momentum on the ride down because next is the Nufenen Pass, the second highest paved road in Switzerland that gets up to 10% on some ramps. Finish with the main event: Gotthard Pass. We'll go via Tremola Road, an old byway built in 1832 with four kilometers of cobbles and 24 unforgettable switchbacks. You'll arrive back in Andermatt as fresh as a daisy! Tonight we pop the Prosecco—we've successfully conquered the Swiss Alps!

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** Obergoms, Airolo

**Accomplished:** 68 miles / 110 km, elevation gain: 10,827 feet / 3,300 meters

**Accommodations:** [The Chedi Andermatt](#)

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DAY  
6

### See You Later, Switzerland

Enjoy one last coffee at The Chedi before your guides shuttle you to the train station in Lucerne. From here, it's an easy connection to Basel, Geneva or Zurich airports, or wherever your adventure takes you next.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Destinations:** Lucerne

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