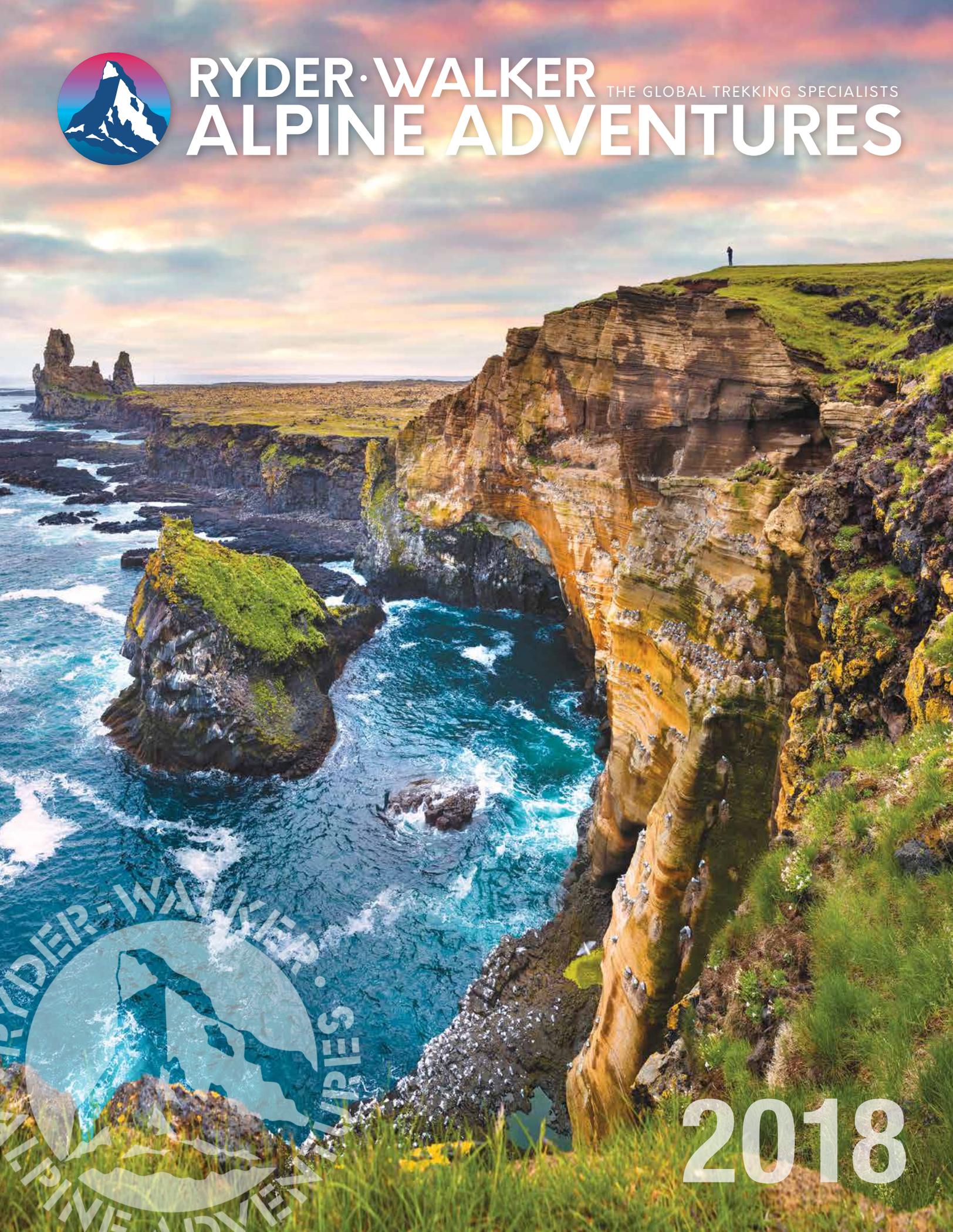




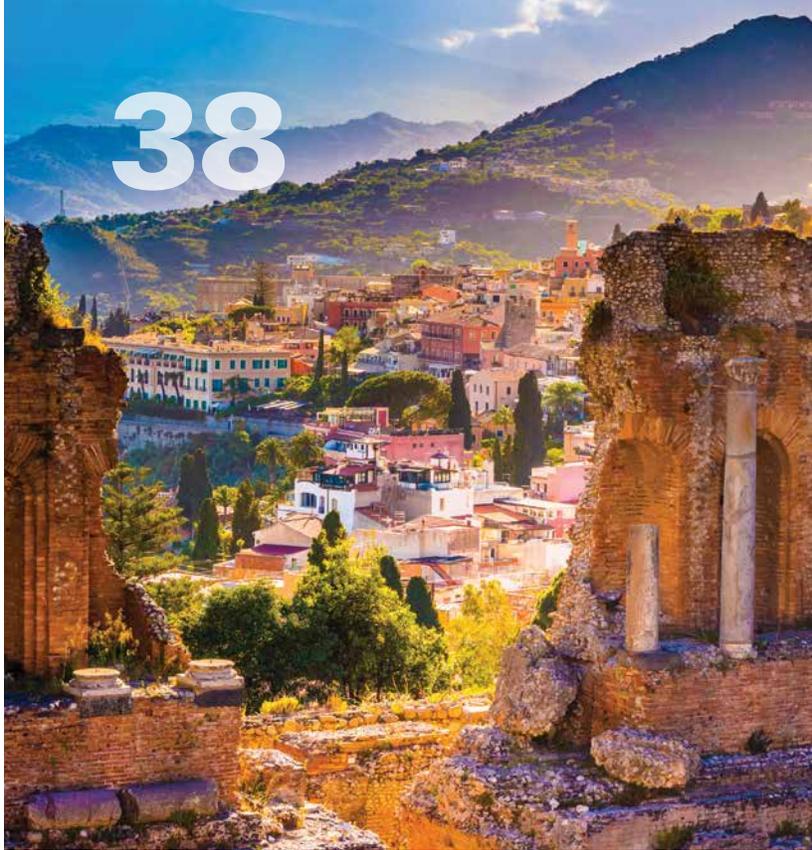
# RYDER·WALKER THE GLOBAL TREKKING SPECIALISTS ALPINE ADVENTURES



# 2018



48



38



20



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Scan this code, or text HIKING to 22828 and receive our e-newsletter. We'll send you special offers, new trip info, RW happenings and more.



# RYDER-WALKER ALPINE ADVENTURES

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# MORE THAN 34 YEARS OF OUTDOOR ADVENTURE



## AWARD WINNING

*Travel + Leisure* named us a "Stand Out Specialist" for hiking. *National Geographic* named us one of the "Top Ten Best Outfitters on the Planet." *Telluride Magazine* named us "Telluride's Ultimate Adventure Company," and we've received numerous mentions in the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, the *Washington Post* and *Outside Magazine*, just to name a few.

## TREKKING SPECIALISTS

Founded in 1984, Ryder-Walker Alpine Adventures offers handcrafted inn-to-inn hiking itineraries that explore the most stunning landscapes on the planet. From private and small group guided adventures, to fully custom self guided tours, we make it easy to realize the perfect adventure vacation.

## HANDCRAFTED ITINERARIES

We can offer anything you like. Our longest custom trip so far is a 54-day self-guided itinerary from the Italian Tyrol to the French Alps. Just tell us where you'd like to hike, what you'd like to see, and how you'd like to bed down for the night. We'll do the rest.

## METICULOUS DETAIL

We take care of everything, from accommodations to providing the perfect hike. You simply walk with a daypack and leave your real-world cares behind.

**W**e've spent more than 34 years designing and fine tuning innovative inn-to-inn hiking adventures throughout the world. Discover why three decades of specialized service gives us the edge over our competitors.



Named Best Outfitter on Earth  
two years in a row by  
*National Geographic*.

Switzerland Network.  
Certified Specialist



# RYDER WALKER

## PIONEERS IN THE ADVENTURE TRAVEL WORLD

BY PETER WALKER



Ryder Walker Alpine Adventures was formed in 1984 after Jon Ryder and I had gathered experience leading hiking trips throughout Switzerland under the umbrella of other organizations. The field of options was quite limited in the early '80s with only a couple of entities offering village based hiking tours.

While we appreciate this trip format (and still run such trips ourselves) we found ourselves unable to resist the allure of unknown peaks, cultures and countries hidden around every next corner. We found we could piece together the finest itineraries from village to village and savor the endless adventure of always walking into the unknown.

*“This was our seventh Ryder Walker trip; we know you are a top notch operation.”*

– Diane A.

Ryder Walker unwittingly found itself the pioneer in trekking itineraries passing from local culture to local culture across entire mountain ranges throughout the Alps and soon beyond in North

and South America and Asia (and of course our Nordic/Arctic, Mediterranean and Adriatic adventures).

Ryder Walker was the first to offer a guided Tour du Mont Blanc and summer Haute Route, not to mention piecing together the components of the magnificent Eiger Trail, Engadine and Italian Dolomites Treks, and other itineraries over the years too numerous to mention. Our 2018 catalogue now represents only the tip of the iceberg of memorable itineraries we rotate through from year to year. It must also be mentioned that Ryder Walker originated the concept of Self-Guided travel and offers that option to most of our destinations.

Other organizations noted the serious fun and adventure we were having and to greater and lesser extents jumped on board with similar concepts but, they all arrived from unrelated backgrounds in boat or bike trips, or trying to diversify their retail empires. Ryder Walker is the only trek focused Adventure Travel Company of that era that began on foot and remains on foot!

Our deep roots as pioneers in the Adventure Travel world also mean we have irreplaceable relationships with an unparalleled array of hotels, service staff and officials/dignitaries in every location we visit.

The history outlined above also helps explain why our guide staff is so magical. Your guide on any given Ryder Walker outing will be intimately acquainted with all the history, culture, terrain and minutiae of the regions you are hiking in. What is particularly exciting is that your guide will likely have just joined you from guiding in the Himalaya, the Andes, countries bordering the Arctic Circle, the Desert Southwest, an adjacent Alpine country or the wilds of Eastern Canada and he or she will be moving on to similarly far flung adventures when your trip is done.

The result is a unique organization of excited, dedicated and motivated people both in the office and in the field, helping you to craft an unforgettable outing of any level of challenge almost anywhere on Earth.

Please join us on one or more of our outstanding adventures in 2018 and learn why for all of us at Ryder Walker this is a calling and not just a career.



# PROTECTING AND PRESERVING OUR PRECIOUS LANDSCAPES

BY BRANFORD WALKER

Some of my earliest memories of my parents are of hiking with them across the barren landscapes of southern Utah and Colorado. These mountains, bluffs, and mesas have been my home for my entire life, and represent both the soul of our family and that of the Ryder Walker company. It can be said of almost every member of the Ryder Walker family that we live in this landscape, and that we love its delicate beauty. The designation of the Bear's Ears National Monument on December 8, 2016 preserved the 1,359,849 acres of land surrounding the pair of buttes in southeastern Utah, aptly named the Bear's Ears for their distinctive shape on the skyline.

The designation of the national monument was immensely joyous for us at Ryder Walker; here was an event that reflected the ideals that we all held so strongly of protecting, respecting, and appreciating the natural world. I, my mother (Karen Walker) and my father (Peter Walker) all traveled out in excitement to attend a celebration for the Bear's Ears, where the leaders of the Navajo, Hopi, Zuni, Mountain Ute, and Uintah/Ouray Ute tribes spoke about their coalition that had led to the naming of the monument. These leaders, appropriately skeptical of land deals offered by

the United States government, reflected that the designation of this monument was truly a moment of coalition and community action to protect an immensely precarious landscape.

This sense of public lands being the product of both protecting the rare and fragile and the coalition of a community spoke to what we at Ryder Walker know of a very different culture and land, the Alps. The high alpine regions of the Alps and the desert surrounding Bear's Ears share the qualities of the rarity of their beauty and the fragility of their ecosystems; it is the combination of these qualities that makes the protection of both regions so incredibly important. After all, there's no reason to have a land dispute or preservation movement over land nobody cares about!

While national monuments in this style are an American tradition, how do alpine countries protect their most precious landscapes? Switzerland in particular stands as an example of sophisticated forestry traditions and land preservation techniques; however, many of the systems outlined below are also used by other alpine countries. The tradition of forestry is one that is endemic to Switzerland, with the first regulations regarding the exploitation

and deforestation of Swiss forests being passed as early as 1298, a year which, for reference, was also the one that Marco Polo dictated his travels in prison. Talk about getting ahead on the ecology movement! The reason for this precedence is the critical role that forests play in protecting the people that live in Switzerland's alpine regions. For example, alpine forests create a degree of protection from avalanches for those that live in the valleys below that is incredibly complex to replicate if the health of a forest is not maintained. Similarly, for many Native Americans, including some of those living in the desert southwest, the protection and nurturing of desert waterways is of importance, not only for sustenance but for religious reasons. It's easy to imagine the protection of the environment as superfluous, yet when faced with an avalanche or physical or spiritual starvation, perhaps it appears more important.

Another aspect of the land debate surrounding Bear's Ears is the question of traditional use of the land. And no, mining rights are not considered a traditional usage. For many natives living in the area, gathering cedar is a traditional use that they would not sacrifice in the formation of the monument. Fortunately, gathering deadwood is not about to cause an environmental collapse. Yet, many ranchers in the area argue that raising sheep and cattle on this land is of equal tradition and importance, even though it is also responsible for much greater environmental damage. The Swiss tradition of high alpine ranching provides an interesting parallel. Not only do the high alpine pastures in Switzerland get subsidies that reflect the cultural and aesthetic importance of these alpine environs, but Swiss farmers have also developed a system of high alpine co-ops. The Swiss-German term "Gemeinwerk" refers to the group operation and caring for an alp (or meadow) that is being used for grazing livestock. In this system the minimum share is one "hoof" or "Klaue," which is a unit of a person's cow right, or "Kuhrecht." In this system both the maintenance of the alp environment and the care for the livestock on it is a communal concern. This isn't to suggest that the Swiss system is an easy fix for the dispute over the grazing rights in the Bear's Ears national monument, but to show that the concerns of grazing rights and tradition and the protection of public lands are not necessarily opposed.

It is a time when the protection of these fragile landscapes is of the utmost importance and also a time when their preservation is at the forefront of national dialogues. To truly understand the value and the challenges of maintaining these spectacular places, come and explore the Swiss Alps and American Southwest with us: for these lands are all of ours to travel and all of ours to care for.

# MEET OUR TEAM



**ANNICA ABBOTT:** Annica has been a member of the RW family for more than 15 years, Her son Rider is a lively 9 1/2 year old that keeps her busy, and therefore you don't see her out guiding in Europe. She is currently our manager of logistics and human resources.

**CONAN BLISS:** Having grown up in Colorado, Conan spent his free time trying to keep up with his parents during outings into the mountains. Thus began his passion for the high country. This love affair with the alpine world has carried him to South America, Alaska, the Alps, and the highest Himalayan summits. Conan shares this enthusiasm for the mountain landscapes and cultures with others. Whether trail or tundra, raclette or fondou, he seeks to make every moment of the journey exciting, precious, and memorable!

**EILEEN BURNS:** Eileen co-founded CEM, producers of the Chicago Marathon, before moving to Telluride 19 years ago. Shifting gears, she founded Burns Publications and taught & supervised for Telluride's Ski & Snowboard School until becoming the Managing Director of RW. Her free time is spent singing, writing, skiing, biking and hiking with her beloved canine companion, Dellah dog.

**DAVE CHEW:** Dave hails from Brisbane, Australia, where he spent his childhood camping, hiking and sailing. After obtaining a Mechanical Engineering degree from the University of Queensland, he began gallivanting around the globe, hiking and climbing. During the winter months, Dave designs and builds skis for Wagner Custom Skis.

**BRITTNEY CLARKE:** When Brittney's family started to migrate west, she began looking for a job in Colorado and was lucky enough to land in Telluride the summer of 2012. She joined Ryder Walker in June of 2016, and has loved being a part of the team. Brittney loves to be outside and is usually hiking (of course), mountain biking, playing volleyball, skiing, or attempting to snowboard.

**KEN FUHRER:** Ken began his guiding career in the Swiss Alps and has since expanded to Slovenia, Croatia, Africa and beyond. He is one of RW's head guides, and he has an uncanny ability to make anyone smile. Ken is celebrating his 22nd year with RW!

**BARBARA GLANZNIG:** Babsi's love for the outdoors began in her homeland of Austria. She travels the world, climbs, skis, hikes and is an Ashtanga teacher. When she is not winning the Powder 8 Ski Championships, she is on her yoga mat saluting the mountains in gratitude.

**WILLI GLANZNIG:** This Powder 8 ski champion hails from a small a country hamlet in Austria. Guided by his love for the outdoors, Willi traveled the world, hiking, skiing and climbing before landing at RW. He brings an infectious passion and humor to the RW team.

**DAVE GRUSS:** Whether on Denali, Aconcagua, in the American West or the heart of Europe, Dave (aka "the nicest guy on earth") made guiding his lifetime career. A jack of all trades, he is equally comfortable on a lofty summit or standing thigh deep in water luring cutthroat.

**LYN GRUSS:** Hailing from the Bay Area and being an ex-collegiate soccer player, Lyn has always been an athlete. She is a 20+year Telluride area local and is well acquainted with hitting the high mountain trails. Over the years she has been a partner in many Gruss family exploits with her husband, also a RW guide.

**ACE KVALE:** As one of the world's top adventure photographers, Ace has traveled to more than 60 countries. He has participated in 26 expeditions to Asia and the Himalaya. Ace is a longtime friend of the RW family and also the head guide on our trips to Markha Valley, Nepal and Bhutan.

**NIKOLA MARKOVIĆ:** Nikola Marković is a very well rounded and well versed guide. He's Serbian and speaks impeccable English and German. The last few years he has worked for different guiding companies doing hiking and biking tours all over Europe and the Balkans. Aside from guiding, he's the father of an adorable 4 year old daughter, and program manager of a cultural NGO doing socio-cultural projects in Belgrade.

**ROGAN O'HERLIHY:** Rogan hails from the quaint countryside of the Cotswolds, England. His childhood amongst its oak trees & quiet villages provided him with a love for the U.K. and its outdoors. Rogan is looking forward to sharing this love for his homeland with guests who join us on the Guided Cotswolds and Guided Rob Roy Way trips.

**CHRIS PRANSKATIS:** Chris P. is RW's communication director, a Wilderness First Responder, a Switzerland Network Specialist, an avid hiker, backpacker, cyclist and paddler. When he is not promoting new tours, he hunts for craft brews and twisty singletrack.

**CLAIRE RICKS:** Born and raised in Ouray, Colorado, Claire can usually be found exploring in her backyard of the San Juan Mountains. She's the newest addition to RW and happy to join the team!

**BRANFORD WALKER:** Since the age of three, Branford has either participated in the development of, or been on almost every trip RW has to offer. He has worked as a guide for the last four years and is currently living in New York.

**PETER WALKER:** Peter founded RW in 1984 after guiding hiking trips in the Alps for seven years. He is an AMGA Legacy Guide, a PSIA Certified Level 3 alpine, telemark and snowboard instructor and, most importantly, the man that keeps everything moving forward at RW.

# CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP FOR YOU

Each Ryder Walker trip offers a unique blend of elements, including adventure, physical challenge, and comfort. Our trip rating system assigns a number between 1 and 4 to each of the three elements by rating them for Comfort, Effort and Terrain so that you can best choose the trek that matches your level of intensity and comfort.

When browsing the catalog you will see our tours begin with our easy to moderate trips and progress to moderate to challenging and end with our most challenging treks. We have also color coordinated each section accordingly so it is easy to locate the type of trip you desire based on the level of difficulty.

## COMFORT



1. Primarily simple accommodations including, berghouses, huts and simple inns.
2. A mix of simple accommodations and charming country inns or first class inns.
3. Primarily charming country inns and first class inns with best accommodations available in remote locations.
4. All superior country inns and first class accommodations.

## EFFORT



1. Gentle hikes up to 8 miles with 1500 feet of elevation gain.
2. Moderate hikes up to 10 miles with up to 2700 feet of elevation gain.
3. Moderately strenuous hikes up to 12 miles with up to 4000 feet of elevation gain.
4. Strenuous hikes exceeding 4000 feet of elevation gain.

## TERRAIN



1. Well maintained and graded mountain paths.
2. Steeper, well maintained mountain paths possibly with rough footing.
3. Steeper, occasionally maintained mountain paths possibly with rough footing and/or exposure.
4. Steep, rarely maintained mountain paths with exposure and rough footing.



1



2



3



4

*A note regarding our rating system: Even the tamest trail can present a wild adventure in unusual conditions, and snow, fog, lightning, rockfall, landslides and avalanches can completely change the nature of all levels of hiking terrain.*

# RYDER WALKER'S GUIDE TO SELECTING YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE

From going easy to strenuous treks, there's something for everyone.

Below is a list all our guided and self guided tours based on difficulty. The catalog is also color coded: **green represents easy to moderate** hiking trips, **blue, moderate to challenging** and **purple, challenging**.



## EASY TO MODERATE HIKING

*\*Trips also offered self guided.*

### CANADA

New Brunswick Canada: Bay of Fundy (guided, page 20)

### EUROPE

Allegra Engadine (self guided, website)  
 Alpino Vino Wunderbar (guided, page 14)  
 Ambiance Italian Dolomites (self guided, website)  
 Capri and the Amalfi Coast (self guided, page 74)  
 Cinque Terre (self guided, page 74)  
 Cotswolds Way (self guided, page 74)  
 Croatia\* (guided, page 26)  
 Enchanted Engadine (self guided, website)  
 Engadine Trek\* (guided, page 28)  
 England: The Cotswolds (guided, page 16)  
 Jungfrau Loop (self guided, page 74)  
 Mont Blanc: The Softer Side (guided, page 18)  
 Montenegro (guided, page 32)  
 Pastoral Berner Oberland (self guided, website)  
 Scotland: Rob Roy Way\* (guided, page 30)  
 Slovenia: Waterfalls and Gorges (self guided, page 75)  
 Val Ladinia: Italian Dolomites\* (guide, page 24)  
 Winter Engadine Holiday (self guided, page 74)

### NORTH AMERICA

Red Rocks: Sadona, Arizona (self guided, website)  
 Sedona, Arches & Canyonlands (guided, page 22)

## MODERATE TO CHALLENGING HIKING

*\*Trips also offered self guided.*

### AFRICA

Morocco: Atlas Mountains Trek (guided, page 50)

### EUROPE

Bavarian Tyrol (self guided, page 74)  
 Berner Oberland Trek (self guided, page 74)  
 Berner Oberland Traverse (self guided, website)  
 Cortina & Lakes of the Dolomites (self guided, page 75)  
 Dolomiti di Brenta\* (guided, page 42)  
 Engadine Summit Series\* (guided, page 56)  
 Heart of Austria\* (guided, page 34)  
 Hiker's Haute Route\* (guided, page 58)  
 Ireland's Dingle Way (self guided, page 75)  
 Italian Dolomites Trek\* (guided, page 36)  
 Italian Lakes District: Como & Bellagio (self guided, page 75)  
 Pays Basque and The French Pyrenees (guided, page 44)  
 Sicily's Aeolian Islands: Home of the Sirens\* (guided, page 38)  
 Slovenia: Julian Alps Triglav Circuit\* (guided, page 52)  
 Snowdonia: Mountain Lakes and Coast (self guided, page 75)  
 Spanish Mediterranean: Costa Brava (self guided, page 75)  
 Ticino Swiss Lakes District: Sun and Serenity (self guided, page 75)  
 Tour du Mont Blanc\* (guided, page 54)

### NORTH AMERICA

Rocky Mountain High Life: Aspen to Telluride (guided, page 40)

### SOUTH AMERICA

Patagonia: The Lakes District (guided, page 46)  
 Peru: The Salkantay Trek to Machu Piccu (guided, page 48)

## CHALLENGING HIKING

*\*Trips also offered self guided.*

### ASIA

Bhutan: Thimphu, Lingshi, Laya Trek (guided, page 62)  
 India: Markha Valley Trek (guided, page 60)  
 Nepal: The Forbidden Kingdom of Mustang (guided, page 72)

### EUROPE

Appenzell Hut Hop (self guided, page 75)  
 Eiger Trail\* (guided, page 68)  
 Iceland: The Remote Westfjords (guided, page 64)  
 Matterhorn Trek (guided, page 66)  
 Norway: The Islands of Lofoten (guided, page 70)  
 Swiss Haute Route (self guided, page 75)



# INSPIRED CUISINE

The best way to celebrate a memorable day on the trail is with a delicious meal. The accommodations we choose offer some of the best in regional and haute cuisine, with inspired menus and a unique array of local wines and beverages. Many of our chefs enjoy the highest culinary rankings awarded by the Gault Millau and Michelin restaurant guides, with some even earning “Chef of the Year” distinctions for their respective countries. Local and regionally sourced food is offered, whether it’s a fireside meal at a four-star hotel, or a hearty bowl of soup on the sun deck of a mountain hut, we find the best cuisine available in each location.



PHOTOS: GRAF.VISION@ADOBESTOCK.COM, KEN FUHRER@AHACTACI@DOMM@ADOBESTOCK.COM



# FIRST-CLASS ACCOMMODATIONS

Our goal is to choose the very best accommodation in every village, hamlet or high mountain pass we travel through. From cozy, wood-paneled chalets with fluffy down comforters, to grand old world hotels perfecting the art of hospitality, to converted patrician homes, we seek the inns that exemplify the character of each village and the charm of days gone by. In more remote destinations and on treks where we stay up high in hostelries and alpine refuges, we strive to provide the perfect balance among comfort, charm and amenity. Each trip is different, and if superb accommodations are a priority for you, let us know, and we will help you select those trips with the highest levels of comfort.

PHOTOS: RYDER WALKER ©, COURTESY MOUNTAIN LODGES OF PERU ©, BARBARA GLANZING ©

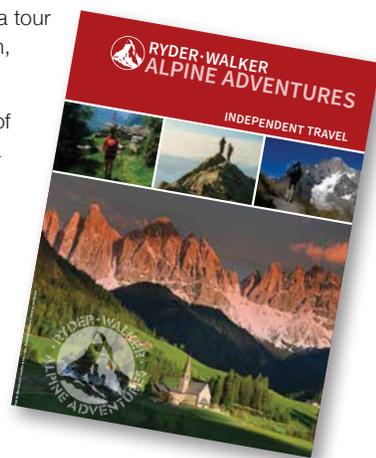




## SELF-GUIDED TRAVEL CHOOSE YOUR TRIP AND YOUR DATES

Self-guided travel offers you the opportunity to be your own guide, navigate like a pro and pick your own dates. Choose from our standard guided tours as independent options or customize a trip to your level of difficulty and degree of comfort. Find a tour that you like, tell us the date that you'd like to begin, and we'll do the rest.

- We provide you with a comprehensive package of materials to make your independent hiking tour a success including:
  - Four-color topographical hiking maps with outlined routes
  - Written hike descriptions and customized travel itineraries
- We handle all of the hotel accommodations, luggage transfers and the logistics specific to the tour. Note: some accommodations are unreachable by vehicles and you will not receive luggage at those huts/inns.
- You'll receive four-color topographical maps with the hiking routes highlighted. Most tours include a larger-scaled overview map as well. Maps may differ between tours.
- We can amend any itinerary or build your dream vacation from scratch. Just give us your intended travel dates and destinations, (we'll offer suggestions if you're not sure), the level of difficulty of your desired tour, and the type of accommodations you prefer.
- You will receive a proposal free of charge with no obligation to you. We'll fine-tune the itinerary until we've arrived at a trip that is exclusively yours.
- We also offer self-guided Going Easy tours with three to four hours of hiking per day on predominantly gentle trails. This format allows more time for sightseeing, exploring villages, and enjoying the comforts of your hotel. Please visit our website for more details.



*Please note that for logistical purposes, we cannot run a self-guided tour during the same dates as the guided version.*

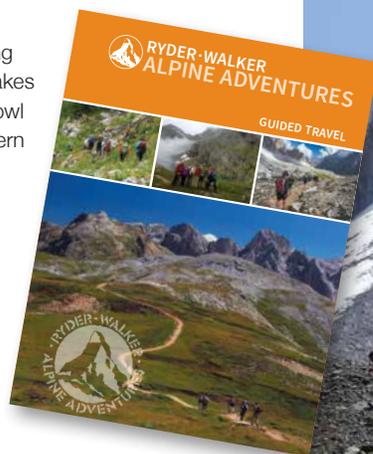
## GUIDED TRAVEL LEAVE IT TO US

Our guides spend years, sometimes decades, exploring alpine regions around the world. They know what makes a region unique. From the Gerstensuppe, the best bowl of soup that you've ever tasted in the Engadine Valley of eastern Switzerland, to the warm You will receive a proposal free of charge with no obligation to you. We'll

Join a Ryder-Walker guided tour and get ready for an unforgettable experience. Not only is the scenery breathtakingly beautiful, our trip leaders are renowned guides who are determined to make sure you return home with plenty of stories to share, and a photo album filled with exceptional memories.

- Spend more time enjoying your vacation and less time worrying about logistics.
- From luggage transfers and hotel reservations, to finding the trailhead and ordering wine, our guides make sure that you have everything you need to be happy.
- If you like to know the name of every mountain peak, then a guided tour is for you.
- Uncork a surprise bottle of wine at the end of a long hike.
- Take a side trip to watch artisan cheese making on a French hillside.
- Succumb to the aroma of fresh baked foccacia as your guide unwraps lunch in northern Italy.
- Celebrate life with a group of fellow hikers that love to travel and cherish the great outdoors.

What more can we say? These earthly pleasures offer a small taste of what's in store for the hiker that chooses a Ryder-Walker guided tour.



## PRIVATE GUIDED TRAVEL THE PERSONAL TOUCH

From birthdays and anniversaries, to reunions and corporate retreats, a private hiking tour is a great way to celebrate any special occasion. We will tailor your trip to meet the interests of your group, and best of all you pick the tour dates.

Our guides will show you the time of your life and they know just the right personal touches to make your private guided trip extraordinary.

- We will help you design an itinerary that reflects the needs of your group, whether it is a trip for two or 20.
- You will have a flexible itinerary that can change, if need be, based on the desires of the group members.
- We are happy to tailor each day's itinerary to "bag" a peak, ski on a glacier, tandem fly or simply sightsee depending on your desires.
- Private guided dates are limited so please book early if possible.
- Early registrants may have the option to "buy out" one of our pre-scheduled guided tours.
- Persons or groups that purchase a previously pre-scheduled group trip in its entirety receive a 5% discount.
- Choose from a limitless inventory of standard and customized itineraries.

Visit pages 74 and 75 for pricing on many of our private tours. Prices reflect per person costs with the services of one guide. Prices will increase or decrease depending on group size and the addition of more guides. Trip customization will also affect the land cost.



# ALPINO VINO WUNDERBAR

Discover the vast variety of hiking Switzerland has to offer – hikes from gentle to gigantic!



## GUIDED TOUR\*

July 24 – August 2

Price: \$4,835 (single +\$545)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

June – September

Price: \$6,155† (single +\$570)

*†Price based on a group of four.*



The AVW is designed to provide exceptional hiking with a broad range of physical challenge. This makes it perfect for families and parties with different interests and abilities. It is also designed to please those who prefer to unpack and stay unpacked for a few days at a time.

We begin in Sils Maria, one of the loveliest mountain towns on the planet. Nestled between two lakes at 1800m and dominated by high peaks all around, Sils Maria may be the Alps' most peaceful mountain town.

Transfer on the magical Palm Express, through the Italian Lakes District, to the canton of Ticino, the heart of Italian speaking Switzerland. Explore ancient, time forgotten hill towns and historic pathways from our superb lakeside accommodations.

The final stage has us transfer to Zermatt, the quintessential mountain town nestled at the base of the iconic Matterhorn. Explore the wild expanses of this heavily glaciated pocket of the Alps and each day return to the comforts of our fantastic hotel in a quiet neighborhood and park-like setting beneath the magnificent Matterhorn.

## DETAILS

- 9 nights, 10 days
- 9 superior four star hotels.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateway: Zurich



EASY TO MODERATE HIKING

## ITINERARY

- DAY 1: SILS MARIA**  
Travel independently to Sils Maria, Switzerland and meet your guides for orientation and dinner in our outstanding hotel in the heart of this tiny and quiet village.
- DAY 2: SILS MARIA LOOP HIKE**  
Explore the mystical Val Fex and Muott 'Ota, a charming valley that descends into downtown Sils. Hikes in this itinerary are options only. The guides will tailor each day to the interests and abilities of all individuals in the group.
- DAY 3: MOUT OTA LOOP HIKE**  
Cross to the far side of the Silsersee and ascend to the micro hamlets Grevasalvas (where the movie Heidi was filmed) and Blaunca before descending to Maloja where a lakeshore ramble returns us to Sils, or summit the Piz Lunghin for those seeking a bigger day.
- DAY 4: LOCARNO**  
Transfer through Italy and Menaggio on the shores of the Lago di Como and back into Switzerland and the ancient canton of Ticino. Arrive in Locarno on the shores of Lake Maggiore. This ancient town boasts a vibrant lakeside vibe with colorful cafes and pubs. Intoxicating trails connect antique hill villages offering stunning glimpses into life in times long past.
- DAY 5: LOCARNO TO VERSZASCA**  
Visit the serpentine, glacial and waterworn granite valley of the Verszasca. The waters of the river that snakes down this glistening valley are alternately emerald green and ultramarine. It is truly visually stunning.
- DAY 6: LOCARNO TO CIMETTA AND MERGOSCIA**  
Ascend by funicular, cable car and chairlift to the Cimetta where a delightful ridgeward ensues with endless views in all directions. Finish in the charming village Mergoscia for transfer back to Locarno.
- DAY 7: ZERMATT**  
What a fun transfer day! The slow journey through the Valle Maggia to the Italian border town Domodossola could not be more memorable. Finish with the spectacular cog rail crawl up the Mattertal to Zermatt. That afternoon, ascend to the Gornergrat for the most inspiring views in the Alps.
- DAY 8: ZERMATT EXPLORATION**  
Both challenging and gentle options are offered to explore the vast terrain on the flanks of the North Face of the Matterhorn.
- DAY 9: ZERMATT TO TASCHALP/HORNLI HUT**  
Wander to the remote hamlet of Taschalp beneath the towering Dom (highest peak entirely in Switzerland) or hike to the legendary Hornli Hut at the base of the most popular route up the Matterhorn (for those in need of a touch more adrenaline).
- DAY 10: DEPART**

## TRIP RATINGS

Easy to Challenging hiking – this trip is designed to accommodate all levels. (Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### EFFORT



### COMFORT



### TERRAIN



*"The guides were accommodating, personable, skilled, knowledgeable, pleasant, and darn good company! All in all - they are Ryder/Walker family and what I have learned to expect!"*

– Diane A.



\*All ground transportation between Sils Maria and Zermatt included during tour. Luggage transfer daily.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# ENGLAND: THE COTSWOLDS

Revel in the beauty and quintessential charm of South West England.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

June 3 – 13

Price: \$4,670 (single +\$750)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

April – October

Call for pricing.



One of the most treasured and visited destinations in the United Kingdom, the Cotswolds is famous for its gently sloping green hills and ancient, picture-postcard towns and villages. Over the course of our 11 day hiking tour we will visit old castles, quaint English gardens, country estates, beautiful historic cities and spa towns bursting with culture. We begin in charming Broadway and end in Bath, with its Roman baths and beautiful Royal Crescent being the highlight. Hike through the lush, rolling, green countryside. Enjoy cream teas in charming hidden cafes. Visit Neolithic burial mounds and old hilltop fortifications. Eat in many a lovely English pub. Wander quiet cobbled streets and explore areas off the tourist trail that only your guide could reveal to you.

## DETAILS

- 10 nights, 11 days
- All nights are in superior hotels and charming bed and breakfasts with one night in a simpler B&B in Stanton.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateway: London, England



## TRIP RATINGS

Easy to moderate with one day up to 7 miles with an ascent of 1500 feet. (Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### COMFORT



### EFFORT

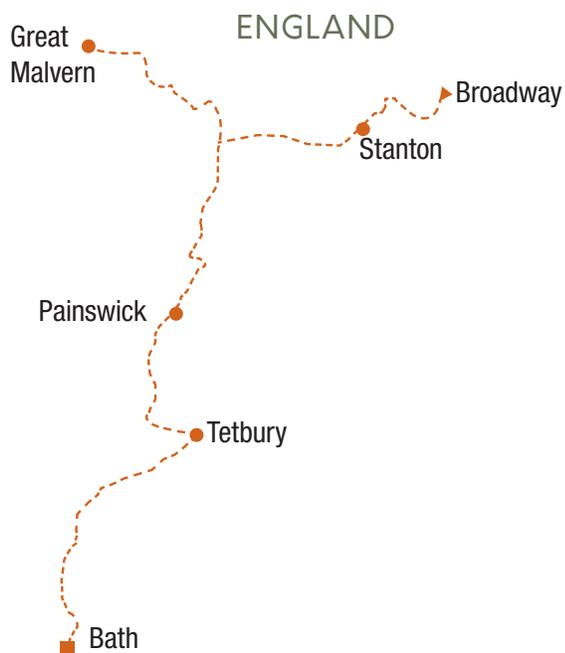


### TERRAIN



*"The best part was hiking in the beautiful English countryside, seeing the wildflowers, trees, lambs and sheep. We enjoyed the small villages delicious food. We also really enjoyed the other people on the trip."*

– Susan G.



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: BROADWAY

Travel independently to Broadway and meet your group. Overnight in a lovely, classic English hotel.

### DAY 2: BROADWAY

Today we will explore Chipping Campden and its surroundings, eat delicious local food and then in the afternoon hike to the Broadway Tower before returning to the hotel. *Distance 2 miles.*

### DAY 3: BROADWAY TO STANTON

Today's loop walk will have us strolling through valleys and woodlands, grabbing a pint at a cozy pub and visiting an historic manor house. We begin with Stanton, Snowhill and The Edge loop. Overnight in a charming B&B in Stanton. *Distance 6 miles.*

### DAY 4: STANTON TO GREAT MALVERN

We enjoy another favorite circular walk, the Winchcombe and Belas Knap loop. Hike ancient trails to historic sites. Visit castles, royal burial sites, a 13th century abbey and Neolithic wonders. An evening drive takes us west to the Malvern Hills and our beautiful hotel in Great Malvern. *Distance 2 miles.*

### DAY 5: GREAT MALVERN

We will summit every peak on the Malverns today. This ridge walk enjoys amazing rural views. There are several hidden gems on today's agenda including visiting a 15th century moated grange and walking in the footsteps of Charles Darwin and Edward Elgar. Return to Great Malvern hotel. *Distance 7 miles. Elevation gain 1500 ft.*

### DAY 6: GREAT MALVERN TO PAINSWICK

On the road today we will stop and visit the oldest pub in Britain, a 1,000 year-old inn and see the most stunning villages of the entire Cotswolds. Overnight in the lovely town of Painswick – the Queen of the Cotswolds.

### DAY 7: PAINSWICK

We will enjoy the third of our circular walks today – the Cranham Coopers and the Beechwoods loop. This four mile beautiful little walk shows you around one of England's most treasured habitats, beech woodlands and leads you to the site of perhaps the Cotswolds' most iconic and intriguing tradition, cheese-rolling. Overnight back in Painswick. *Distance 4 miles.*

### DAY 8: PAINSWICK TO TETBURY

A mix of walking and driving has us visiting the retreats of British royalty including Woodchester Mansion and the famously haunted pub, The Ragged Cot. Enjoy an afternoon visit to the beautiful Westonbirt Arboretum. We end in the market town of Tetbury.

### DAY 9: TETBURY TO BATH

Today we begin with a visit to Highgrove and its gardens, the home of Prince Charles. Spend the afternoon walking our final Cotswold walk, Journey's End: The Walk into Bath. Our boutique hotel is situated in Bath. *Distance 5 miles.*

### DAY 10: BATH

This marvelous spa city is a favorite amongst Brits and visitors alike. Enjoy a walking tour this morning before heading to Stonehenge. Return to our hotel in Bath.

### DAY 11: DEPART

\*All ground transportation between Broadway and Bath included during tour. Luggage transfer daily. Admission to all sightseeing tours.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make the route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# MONT BLANC: THE SOFTER SIDE

Mont Blanc is an icon, much more than a mountain.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

July 7 – 14

Price: \$4,340 (single +\$390)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Mid June - Early September

Price: \$4,670† (single +\$570)

*†Price based on a group of four.*



Explore Mont Blanc from the banks of the Isere River and through the remote Tarentaise Mountains. Unlike the highlands of the Haute Savoie on the flanks of Mont Blanc the terrain along the banks of the Isere River offers simply fantastic walking through truly antique and perfectly preserved hamlets in astonishingly remote locations.

Far from the frantic pace of Chamonix, our trip through the Tarentaise Mountains allows us to explore these fascinating valleys virtually alone and at a relaxed pace. We connect the villages of Bourg Saint Maurice, tiny Sainte Foy, and the bustling winter hotspot of Val d'Isère. The Isere Valley is as well known for its cuisine as for its mountains, and we explore the finest of the finest that each village has to offer.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 7 nights charming superior three and four star hotels.
- Gastronomy is important on this itinerary and we will dine in many of the finer restaurants in the valley.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateway: Geneva or Lyon



## TRIP RATINGS

Easy to Moderate hiking up to 8 miles (two options offered most days) with ascents up to 2300 feet. (Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### EFFORT



### TERRAIN



### COMFORT



*"Nikola was able to adjust the hiking based on what we were able to do or wanted to do which was awesome. We experienced a lot of really amazing sites while we were there. It was my favorite trip ever."*

– Sunnie K.



## ITINERARY

- DAY 1:** BOURG SAINT MAURICE  
Travel independently to Bourg Saint Maurice. There is train service as well as bus possibilities from Geneva or Lyons.
- DAY 2:** BOURG SAINT MAURICE - LES ECHINES-DESSOUS  
Hike the open countryside above Bourg St. Maurice. Our day begins with a quick transfer to Les Chapelles. This village exemplifies the authentic and ongoing importance of farming culture in the Haute Tarantaise. An easy path rambles past several more quaint villages including La Thuile, La Nant and Les Echines-Dessus before descending to Les Echines-Dessous. Return to Bourg Saint Maurice hotel.  
*Distance 7 miles. Elevation gain / loss 2100 ft.*
- DAY 3:** TRANSFER TO SAINTE FOY-TARANTAISE  
Transfer to Sainte Foy-Tarantaise by way of another panoramic hike in the upper Tarantaise. A short transfer brings us to Monvelezan and the start of our hike. We will pass the 400 year old Eglise St. Michel standing alone on the hill above Le Chatelard. This is certainly one of the most important view points around. The trail then dives into the forest for a beautiful stretch before opening up in the ancient farm hamlet of Le Falconniere. The picnic potential here is of very high quality. Now a relatively short descent ensues to another wonderful alpine village, Le Mirroir. After a short break here we finish to our next destination, Sainte Foy Tarantaise. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 2300 ft. / loss 2500 ft.*
- DAY 4:** A GREAT DAY HIKE ABOVE SAINTE FOY  
We are off to the high country today as we ascend the Val de Mecuel. Our objective is a mountain hut near La Motte at the foot of the Point de Archebloc and in close proximity to the Italian boarder. Return to Sainte Foy. *Distance up to 7 miles. Elevation gain / loss up to 2500 ft.*
- DAY 5:** VILLAGE OF LE MONAL  
Today we visit the village of Le Monal, seemingly trapped in a time long forgotten. Our hike from the Sainte Foy ski station traverses beautiful open country with grand views of the Tarantaise' greatest glacier guarded summit; Mt Pourri! After lunch in the village we continue to the Lac du Chevril by Tignes and transfer to Val d' Isere. *Distance 7 miles. Elevation gain 750 ft. / loss 1200 ft.*
- DAY 6:** RESERVE NATURELLE DE LA GRANDE SASSIERE  
An outstanding day in the Grande Sassiere Nature Reserve. Today's trek begins at the Chalet La Sassiere and follows gentle terrain to the Lac du Sassiere where we'll spend a leisurely picnic under the beautiful peak of La Tsanteleina. Return to Val d' Isere hotel. *Distance 6 miles. Elevation gain 1000 ft.*
- DAY 7:** VAL D'ISÈRE  
A final outing above Val d' Isere ends the trip on a dramatic note. From the village of Le Fornet (the highest in Val d' Isere) we follow an incredible trail through the Gorges Malpasset. Coming out in the open high country on the other side we reach the Refuge du Prariond for a proper French Alpine Club lunch with inspiring views of the massive terrain that makes this region resonate with the most discerning mountain enthusiasts. Return to Val d' Isere hotel. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain / loss 1800 ft.*
- DAY 8:** DEPART

\*All ground transportation beginning in Bourg St. Maurice included during tour. Luggage transfer daily.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA: BAY OF FUNDY

Explore the undeveloped coastline on the eastern seaboard.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

July 26 – August 2

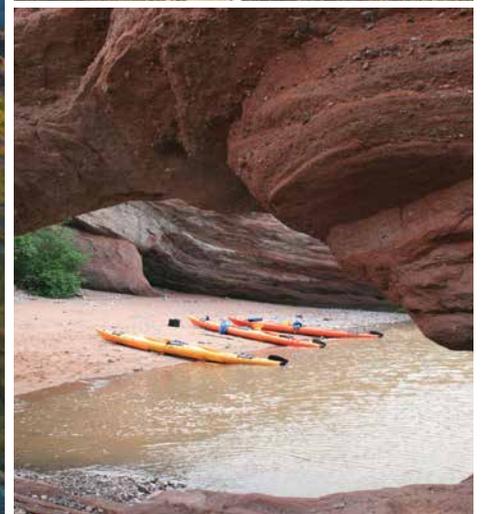
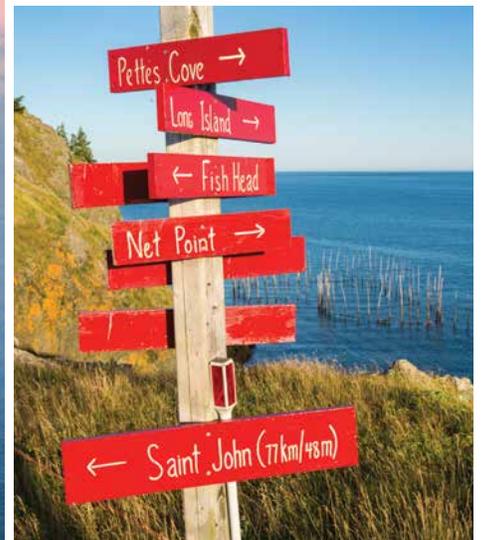
Price: \$4,945 (single +\$565)

*Minimum of four people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Mid May – Mid October

Call for pricing.



Enjoy the hidden treasures of Canada. New Brunswick is most known for the spectacular Bay of Fundy, where the world's largest tidal changes occur. Indulge in freshly caught seafood and the stunning views of the Atlantic Ocean while traveling through small fishing villages.

Start in Saint John, a hip city on the coast where you will first become acquainted with the drastic tides. Take a ferry to the fishing island Grand Manan and sea kayak to secret coves while keeping an eye out for rare birds and marine life. Return to the mainland and hike along the coast on the famous Fundy Footpath. Experience private beaches and breathtaking ocean vistas.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 7 nights first class hotels and charming country inns.
- Breakfast and dinner daily. Lunch daily except for day 4.
- Gateway: Saint John



EASY TO MODERATE HIKING



## ITINERARY

- DAY 1: SAINT JOHN**  
Travel independently to Saint John. Overnight in a centrally located four star hotel.
- DAY 2: SAINT JOHN TO GRAND MANAN**  
Today we transfer by ferry to the small island of Grand Manan. We'll spend the afternoon touring the island before heading out on a sunset kayaking exploration of the beautiful, secluded coves.
- DAY 3: GRAND MANAN**  
Take in the breathtaking scenery on this coastal hike from Seal Cove to Pat's Cove via Flocks of Sheep. The name comes from fishermen thinking these large white granite boulders, placed by glaciers on top of the black lava spires, looked like flocks of sheep. Along the hike, reclaimed lobster traps serve as benches that overlook the ocean and remote beaches. Delight in an afternoon whale watching excursion.
- DAY 4: GRAND MANAN TO ST. MARTINS**  
Today is a travel day. We return back to the mainland by ferry and drive up the coast to the village of St. Martins. Enjoy an afternoon walk along the beach. If the tide is right we will visit the famous Sea Caves.
- DAY 5: BIG SALMON RIVER TO CRADLE BROOK**  
Enjoy a spectacular hike up the first part of the Fundy Footpath. Well-deserved beautiful coastal views abound from all angles as steep ascents and descents make the Footpath challenging. The trail crew has built cabled stairs to make the steepest sections easier. Untouched and unfrequented beaches make for perfect rest breaks and picnic spots.
- DAY 6: CRADLE BROOK TO MARTIN HEAD**  
In the morning, we'll transfer back to Cradle Brook to continue the next section. More coastal vistas abound along the longest stretch of wilderness coastline on the Eastern Seaboard. We'll return to our charming country inn with time to relax or visit the Quaco Head Lighthouse.
- DAY 7: MARTIN HEAD TO ROSE BROOK**  
Today is our last day on the Fundy Footpath. We begin at Martin Head and will finish at Rose Brook. For this section, we must really be mindful of the tidal changes, as some parts of the trail are only accessible at low tide. Tonight we'll dine on delicious Atlantic Salmon as part of our farewell beach barbecue.
- DAY 8: DEPART**

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderate terrain, hiking up to 8 miles with ascents up to 900 feet.  
*(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)*

### EFFORT



### COMFORT

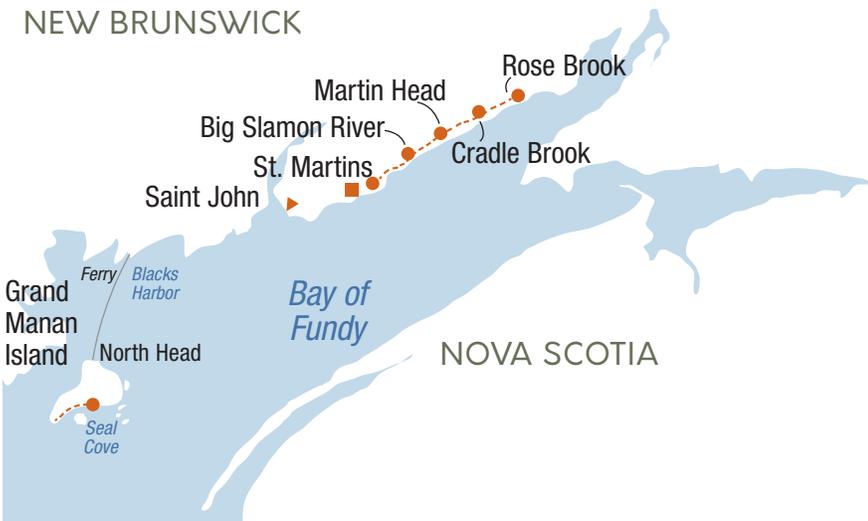


### TERRAIN



*"The Bay of Fundy...  
this place is mighty spectacular."*

*– Lynn M.*



\*Luggage transfer all nights.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.



# SEDONA, ARCHES & CANYONLANDS

Explore the wild deserts of Arizona & Utah.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

May 5 – 13

Price: \$4,630 (single +\$545)

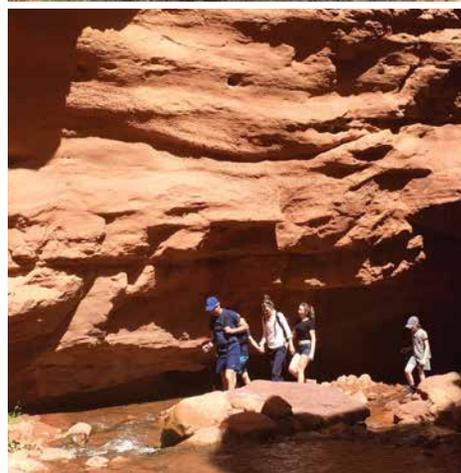
*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

April – May, September – October

Price: \$5,385† (single +\$545)

*†Price based on a group of four.*



**O**ur tour begins in Sedona, Arizona, a town with an established reputation for exquisite dining, inspired art galleries and a plethora of outdoor activities. Explore an enchanting desert landscape, hiking one of the many backcountry trails that spiderweb throughout the region.

Your hike continues to the tranquil hamlet of Bluff, Utah, where you'll trade your hiking boots for paddles and raft through one of the most fascinating sections of the San Juan River. Explore ancient rock art and cliff dwellings with some examples dating back 5,000 years.

In Moab, Utah, a vibrant oasis and outdoor adventure mecca, our guides will lead you off the beaten path to explore hidden labyrinths, whimsical rock formations and natural sandstone arches.

## DETAILS

- 8 nights, 9 days
- 8 nights charming western bed and breakfasts.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateway: Moab, Flagstaff or Sedona inbound. Moab and Grand Junction outbound.



EASY TO MODERATE HIKING

## ITINERARY

- DAY 1: SEDONA**  
The town is perky and fun with a curious blend of mystical crystal and vortex seekers, European travelers and mountain and desert aficionados.
- DAY 2: SEDONA**  
Delve into the popular region of Oak Creek Canyon. Soaring monoliths conspire with forests of ponderosa, juniper and pinion to produce a region that earned Sedona the title, "The Most Beautiful Place in America." *Distance 7 miles. Elevation gain 1350 ft. / loss 1350 ft.*
- DAY 3: SEDONA**  
Sedona truly offers limitless hiking possibilities with unlimited views. We'll choose between lofty mountain excursions, deep canyon explorations or a mixture of both. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 1700 ft. / loss 2000 ft.*
- DAY 4: SEDONA TO BLUFF**  
A memorable journey delivers us to the virtually unknown outpost of Bluff, Utah, perched on the banks of the San Juan River. This is the land of Ancestral Puebloans cliff dwellings, rock art and lost civilizations. Overnight in a charming, atmospheric bed and breakfast located in the center of town. Enroute, explore the southern reaches of the Canyonlands National Park. *Distance 5 miles. Elevation gain 900 ft. / loss 900 ft.*
- DAY 5: BLUFF**  
We'll trade our hiking boots for paddles as we bounce and laugh through the most exciting whitewater sections of the San Juan River. It is no coincidence that some of the finest examples of 5,000 year-old rock art and cliff dwellings lie along the calm sections of the river. We'll use our comfortable riverboat to discover these historic houses and renderings leftover from civilizations now gone. *The river trip is a one mile hike out and back to river house.*
- DAY 6: BLUFF TO MOAB**  
Transfer by van to the bustling desert town of Moab, surrounded by beautiful sandstone cliffs and situated on the banks of the Colorado River. Overnight in another wonderful bed and breakfast. *Distance 5 miles. Elevation gain 400 ft. / loss 400 ft.*
- DAY 7: MOAB**  
Today we'll explore a rarely traveled corner of Arches National Park; a protected area boasting more than two thousand sandstone arches. We'll explore balanced rocks, fins and pinnacles, highlighted by a striking environment of contrasting colors, landforms and textures. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 1000 ft. / loss 1000 ft.*
- DAY 8: MOAB**  
Our second day in Moab will combine everything wonderful about the desert. The snow-capped peaks of the La Sal Mountains present a stunning backdrop against endless miles of red sandstone. *Distance 7 miles. Elevation loss 2000 ft.*
- DAY 9: DEPART**

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderate hiking up to 10 miles with ascents up to 1,800 feet.  
*(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)*

### EFFORT



### COMFORT



### TERRAIN



*"We loved the walks — the less trafficked the better and our guide did a great job of finding those for us."*

— Bevin C.



\*All ground transportation between Sedona and Moab included during tour. Luggage transfer daily.  
NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

## VAL LADINIA: ITALIAN DOLOMITES

Explore the two quietest, most remote sections of the Dolomites.



### GUIDED TOUR\*

September 8 – 15

Price: \$4,500 (single +\$565)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

### PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Mid June – Mid September

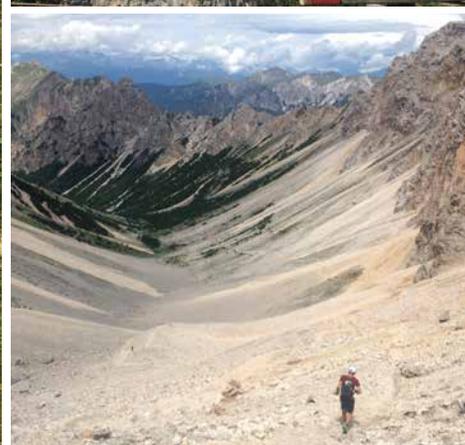
Price: \$4,855† (single +\$570)

*†Price based on a group of four.*

### SELF GUIDED TOUR

Mid June – Mid September

Price: \$2,540 (single +\$350)



The Pusteria Valley on the Italian/Austrian border is where the Alps morph into the Dolomites. The northern flank of the valley is pastoral with undefined walls of limestone and gentler summits. The southern flank is where the Dolomites find their personality and skyrocket above you as compact and jagged summits of seemingly impossible verticality.

The magnificence of this hiking itinerary lies in its ability to navigate these seemingly impenetrable peaks. The route sneaks its way through heavenly lush meadows and links fascinating and remote hamlets, hotels and one superbly appointed Rifugio. Options abound for more adventuresome outings in the higher hills and the more rugged ridges of this forgotten section of the Dolomites, often piercing the astonishing relics of World War 1's Fronte Italiano.

### DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 6 nights excellent hotels and 1 night well-appointed rifugio with private rooms.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateway: Munich, Venice, Milan



EASY TO MODERATE HIKING

## ITINERARY

- DAY 1: SAN CANDIDO**  
Transfer independently to San Candido. This is an easy transfer on the train line through the Val Pustaria (from the main Munich/Milan line through Fortezza). Meet your guides and group for welcome drinks and dinner.
- DAY 2: SAN CANDIDO TO ST VIGILIO**  
After a quick van transfer to the Lago di Braies, (to many the most beautiful lake in the Dolomites) hike over the Kruezjoch, with lunch in the agriturismo Ucia de Fejedora, which is outstanding. Hike to St. Vigilio, or Al Plan in the ladiano language. Check into our wonderful hotel in this quaint hamlet. *Distance 11 miles. Elevation gain 3000 ft. / loss up to 3,000 ft.*
- DAY 3: ST VIGILIO TO RIFIGIO FANES**  
We offer two options today; an easy itinerary from Peredu to the Fanes Rifugio that follows a Hapsburg empire military road to the Rifugio or for those interested, a more challenging hike over the Ju de St. Antoine. Overnight in the Rifugio Fanes (private rooms, great kitchen, even has wifi). *Distance: Options from 5 to 12 miles. Elevation gain from 1620 ft. to 4150 ft. / loss from 300 ft. to 1390 ft.*
- DAY 4: RIFIGIO FANES TO CIASA SALARES**  
Again we offer gentler and more challenging options to access the isolated Ciasa Salares in the Valparola above the romantic hamlet of San Cassiano. The Ciasa Salares is a superior four-star hotel with a fantastic kitchen and spa facilities set above endless meadows. *Distance: Options from 8 to 11 miles. Elevation gain from 700 ft. to 1800 ft. / loss from 1250 ft. to 3550 ft.*
- DAY 5: CIASA SALARES**  
Today we will hike from Abtai back to Armentarola. We will ride the ski lift from a village called Pedraces and enjoy a fun filled hiking day through the famous pastures of the upper Badia Valley. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 1000 ft. / loss 1400 ft.*
- DAY 6: CIASA SALARES TO CESA PADON**  
Hike over the Col di Lana to Livinolungo. This exceptional day takes in the summit of a mountain fought over for years during World War 1. Today this hike is an outstanding outdoor museum. An easier version will be offered that follows ancient farming trails all the way to Livinolungo. Family run and fabulous the Cesa Padon is held in exceedingly high regard. *Distance 10 miles. Elevation gain 1400 ft. / loss 2800 ft.*
- DAY 7: CESA PADON TO ALLEGHE**  
Hiking through traditional farming villages with suburb views, again we offer two levels of challenge to reach or van up at the end of the hikes and transfer to Alleghe, on the shores of its charming lake. Finish in a superior lakeside hotel in this time-forgotten valley. *Distance 10 miles. Elevation gain 2000 ft. / loss 1500 ft.*
- DAY 8: DEPART**

## TRIP RATINGS

Easy Option: hiking up to 8 miles with ascents up to 1,600 feet.  
Strenuous Option: hiking up to 12 miles with ascents up to 4,150 feet.  
*(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)*

### EFFORT



### COMFORT



### TERRAIN



*"We will enjoy a fun filled week exploring the lands of the Ladin people, the original settlers of the Dolomite mountains. There will be a variety of hikes for all abilities."*

*– Ryder Walker Guide, Ken Fuhrer*



\*Transport between San Candido and Alleghe included. Luggage transfer all night except at mountain hut.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

## CROATIA

Surrender to the magic of Croatia.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

June 9 – 16

Price: \$4,015 (single +\$590)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

May – June and

September – October

Price: \$4,730† (single +\$720)

*†Price based on a group of four.*SELF GUIDED TOUR IS FROM  
SPLIT TO DUBROVNIK

May – June and

September – October

Price: \$2,220 (single +\$590)



With postcard-perfect villages, limestone summits rising from the sea, and 1,000 picturesque islands floating peacefully in the azure waters of the Adriatic, you'll quickly discover why the locals refer to their homeland as "The Mediterranean the way it used to be."

Our eight-day hiking tour begins in the tiny seaside village of Makarska, noted for its palm-fringed promenade, welcoming cafes, and a pretty harbor. From Markaska, hop to the islands of Korčula and Mljet, swim in the warm waters off the island of Hvar, and climb to the summit of Sveti Ilija, a famous hiking destination that rises 3,100 feet straight from the sea, offering panoramic views of the Dalmatian Coast. Visit the tiny island of Lokrum and tour the ancient ramparts that earned Dubrovnik a distinguished place on UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 7 nights of charming country inns and superior hotels.
- Breakfast and dinner daily – guided. Breakfast only – self guided.
- Gateway: Split inbound. Dubrovnik outbound.



EASY TO MODERATE HIKING

# ITINERARY

- DAY 1: MAKARSKA**  
Meet group for welcome drinks and dinner at 7:00 pm.
- DAY 2: MAKARSKA**  
We will spend the day hiking in the Biokovo National Park. The park contains Croatia's second highest mountain range. Our day begins with a seaside start and a warm-up through the flower-speckled village before venturing onto the alluring limestone ridges and valleys on the flanks of Sveti Jure, the highest seaside peak in the Adriatic. Return to Makarska hotel. *Distance 7 miles. Elevation gain 1800 ft. / loss 1800 ft.*
- DAY 3: MAKARSKA TO KORČULA**  
After a private van transfer to the high part of Biokovo, we have about a two hour hike through unimaginably beautiful karst topography before finishing at the summit of Vogar. An unforgettable view of the coast unfolds 5000 feet below. After our hike we transfer to the incredible town of Korčula. This medieval walled port town could not be more charismatic or filled with history. Many places claim Marco Polo as one of their own but when you arrive in Korčula, there is no doubt that this is his birthplace. Our boat transfer is past Brac, the Dalmatian Coast's most famous island and around the southern tip of Hvar. *Distance 6 miles. Elevation gain 1000 ft / loss 1000 ft.*
- DAY 4: KORČULA**  
A short ferry to the village of Orebič sets us up for another of the coast's great hikes. Today's loop hike takes us to the summit of Sveti Ilija (St. Elias), and its grand panorama, before descending back to Orebič on ancient paths past historic churches, vineyards and relaxing villas. Return to Korčula hotel. *Distance 7 miles. Elevation gain 2500 ft. / loss 2500 ft.*
- DAY 5: KORČULA TO OTOK MLJET**  
More island hopping today as we transfer to the island of Mljet. Enjoy a waterside ramble on Mljet's west coast. After a fresh and very local lunch, we'll hike past gorgeous saltwater lakes en-route to our hotel in Pomena. *Distance 6 miles. Elevation gain 500 ft. / loss 500 ft.*
- DAY 6: OTOK MLJET TO DUBROVNIK**  
Wake to a Croatian sunrise, and hike back to the port of Polače, climbing to a high point where we can see both coasts of the island. After a picnic, we'll hike down to the water to meet our final water transfer back to the mainland and the historic city of Dubrovnik. *Distance 6 miles. Elevation gain 750 ft. / loss 750 ft.*
- DAY 7: DUBROVNIK**  
Today we will kayak to Lokrum and around the bay before returning to Dubrovnik. Hike option on Lokrum: *Distance 5 miles. Elevation gain 800 ft. / loss 800 ft.*
- DAY 8: DEPART**

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderate hiking up to 7 miles with ascents up to 2,500 feet. (Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### EFFORT



### COMFORT



### TERRAIN

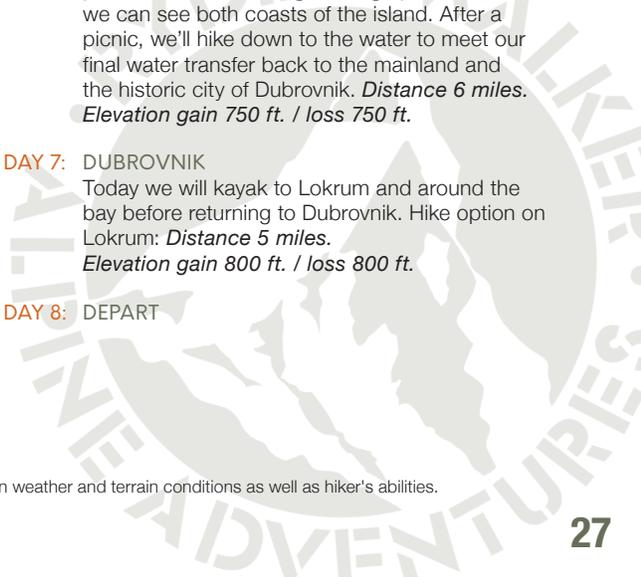


*"We loved Korčula and Mljet, and the hotels were all clean and beautiful. The people were friendly, and we felt safe. The weather was perfect."*

*– Jennifer W.*



\*All ground transportation between Makarska and Dubrovnik included during guided tour. Luggage transfer daily. NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.



# ENGADINE TREK

Visit Switzerland's best kept secret.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

July 15 – 22

Price: \$4,420 (single +\$495)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Mid June – Mid October

Price: \$4,855† (single +\$570)

*†Price based on a group of four.*

## SELF GUIDED TOUR

Mid June – Mid October

Price: \$2,725 (single +\$350)



Our inn-to-inn hiking tour covers the length of the Inn River Valley from Scuol, an ancient spa town just a stone's throw from Austria, to Soglio, a historic hillside village on the Italian border. Staying in incredibly picturesque villages, and quaint inns, we pass from the gentler terrain of the Lower Engadine Valley to the rugged Upper Engadine with its majestic, glaciated peaks. We finish in the Val Bregaglia, a wild and sparsely populated valley that boasts imposing granite spires and the rugged Sciora Mountains.

From pint-sized historic towns like Guarda and Zuoz, to well-appointed hot spots like Sils Maria and Pontresina, we'll lead you along ancient footpaths to the most beautiful mountains of the range.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 7 nights charming country inns and old world hotels.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateway: Zurich



EASY TO MODERATE HIKING

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: SCUOL**  
Transfer from Zurich by train to the ancient Roman spa village of Scuol. Relax in the curative thermal mineral baths before meeting your guides and group for dinner. Overnight in a charming inn in two converted seventeenth century patrician homes.

**DAY 2: SCUOL TO GUARDA**  
Ride the Motta Naluns cable car and enjoy a level walk to a beautiful summer alp called Prui. Descend into the Val Tasna and enjoy a picnic surrounded by stunning larch pine and majestic peaks. Continue to the ancient hill town turned artist colony, Guarda. *Distance up to 12 miles. Elevation gain 1300 ft. / loss 2970 ft.*

**DAY 3: GUARDA TO ZUOZ**  
A short train and van transfer takes us to the tiny whistle stop S-chanf. Enter the mysterious Val Trupchun as we climb deep into the only Swiss National Park. Our highpoint and picnic spot is a secluded and protected wildlife viewing station where we watch the majestic Steinbock and fanciful Chamois play. Return to S-chanf for a quick transfer (or walk) to historic Zuoz. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain / loss 1800 ft.*

**DAY 4: ZUOZ TO PONTRESINA**  
Climb to the Segantini hut and enjoy the finest views of the Engadine. Overnight in Pontresina, home of the twelfth century mountain church, Santa Maria, adorned with frescoes dating from the thirteenth and fifteenth centuries. *Distance up to 8 miles. Elevation gain up to 1500 ft. / loss 3300 ft.*

**DAY 5: PONTRESINA TO SILS MARIA**  
A moderately strenuous day through larch forests and high meadows provides a sensational opportunity to view the sparkling lakes of the Engadine. Have lunch at an alpine lake, the Hahnensee, followed by a spectacular lakeside walk to Sils Maria. Overnight in a grand, old world hotel. *Distance 10.5 miles. Elevation gain 2500 ft. / loss 2560 ft.*

**DAY 6: PIZ LUNGHIN**  
The most strenuous day of the trek is to the Piz Lunghin (summit optional). The lake below the summit is one of the finest viewpoints of the stunning, steep terrain of the Bregaglia. Return to Sils and our memorable accommodations. *Distance 8.5 miles. Elevation gain up to 3540 ft. / loss up to 3401 ft.*

**DAY 7: SILS TO SOGLIO**  
Strike out on a rough-hewn Roman road; an ancient path connecting long-deserted farming hamlets of the Val Bregaglia. The magnificent granite spires of the Bregaglia tower all around as you wind your way into Italian-speaking Soglio, one of the most beautiful and well-preserved historic villages located anywhere in the Alps. *Distance 7.25 miles. Elevation gain 1168 ft. / loss 2286 ft.*

**DAY 8: DEPART**

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderate hiking up to 12 miles with ascents up to 3,540 feet.  
*(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)*

EFFORT



COMFORT

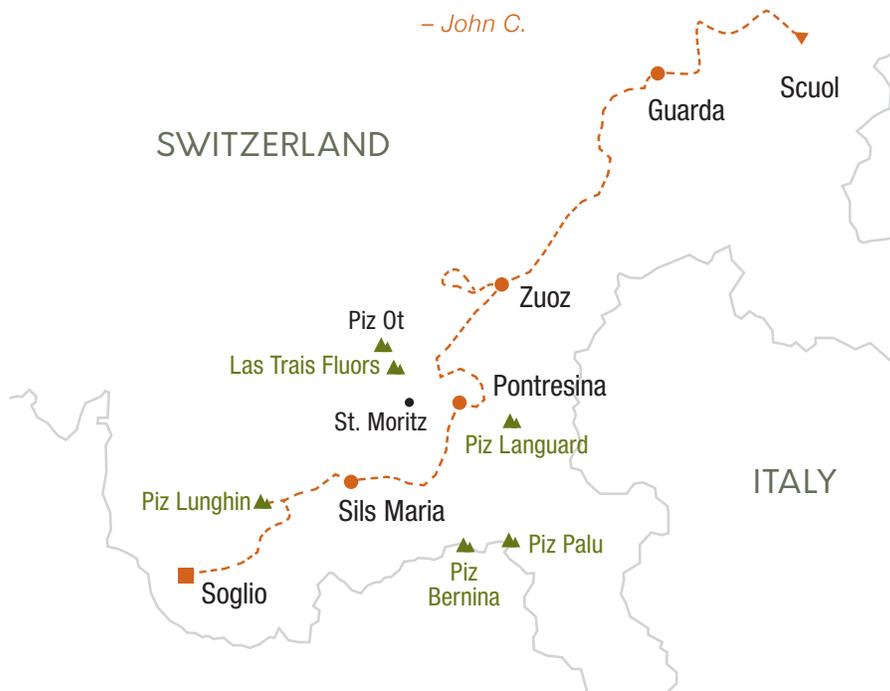


TERRAIN



*"We quickly realized that working with Ryder Walker made the trip so easy. There is no way we could have found all the right hotels and planned out a related series of hikes by ourselves. We are very happy we chose Ryder Walker. We signed up for a comfort level of 4 out of 4 and were more than pleased with the accommodations that were reserved for us!"*

– John C.



\*All ground transportation between Scuol and Soglio included during tour. Luggage transfer daily.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# SCOTLAND: ROB ROY WAY

Walk in the footsteps of Scotland's most brilliant outdoorsman – Rob Roy MacGregor.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

May 18 – 26

Price: \$3,820 (single + \$545)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

March – October

Call for pricing.

## SELF GUIDED TOUR

March – October

Price: \$2,240 (single +\$525)



**T**he highlands are a land of magic, the images of which will be etched on the minds of travelers forever.

Follow the path of one of Scotland's legendary outlaws and greatest heroes – Rob Roy MacGregor. Through green meadows, along the coasts of sapphire lochs and across the feet of snow-capped Munros (peaks over 3,000 feet), we will walk as he did in the beautiful Scottish highlands area of the Trossachs.

Enjoy the pristine natural environments of Great Britain as we travel through waterside, woodland, and moorland ecosystems. The trails are lined with ruins of every age, from the prehistoric stone circles, Roman bridges, and, of course, the remnants of the Jacobean era.

## DETAILS

- 8 nights, 9 days
- 8 nights charming inns, B&Bs, and superior four star hotels.
- Guided tour, breakfast and dinner daily.
- Self guided tour, breakfast daily and dinner only offered on nights 3, 6 and 8.
- Gateway: Glasgow and Edinburgh, Scotland



## ITINERARY

- DAY 1: DRYMEN**  
Arrive and transfer independently to Drymen, where you will meet your group for drinks, orientation and dinner.
- DAY 2: DRYMEN TO ABERFOYLE**  
We will commence our inaugural leg of the Way after a filling breakfast, walking eleven miles past the Campsie Fells, through lush forests and along the Loch Katrine water scheme. Arrive in the town of Aberfoyle, renowned for its legendary antique market. We will overnight in a fine and historic B&B on Aberfoyle's main street.  
*Distance 11 miles. Elevation gain 500 ft.*
- DAY 3: ABERFOYLE TO CALLANDER**  
Today we walk through the woods and along the Lochan Allt a'Chip Dhuibh. The heavily wooded area is the home to many small waterfalls, and is sure to add at least a spell or two of magic to our day. Arrive in the village of Callander. Tonight we are in an elegant, superior four star hotel.  
*Distance 9.5 miles. Elevation gain 725 ft.*
- DAY 4: CALLANDER TO STRATHYRE**  
With the singing waters of the Garbh Uisge to our side, we depart Callander and walk upstream along the river until we reach the Falls of Leny. Arrive in the small, welcoming, and peaceful tiny town of Strathyre. The pub at our inn could not be better!  
*Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain negligible.*
- DAY 5: STRATHYRE TO KILLIN**  
On our walk to Killin, we will traverse a few steady, yet manageable climbs, and pass by Balquhider, the sight of Rob Roy's grave. A quick side-trip to the graveyard is easy and enjoyable. In Killin, we arrive at the site that was once the stronghold of the MacNab clan. All that is left of them is a burial ground on Inchbuie island, visible from the bridge that crosses into town. Tonight we stay at a historic B&B.  
*Distance 12.5 miles. Elevation gain 500 ft.*
- DAY 6: KILLIN TO ARDEONAIG**  
Today we trek across the countryside, with beautiful views of Loch Tay, before arriving in the small hamlet of Ardeonaig, where we will find the excellent Ardeonaig Hotel, with a restaurant that puts its focus on letting local and seasonal produce speak for itself.  
*Distance 11.5 miles. Elevation gain 1850 ft.*
- DAY 7: ARDEONAIG TO ABERFELDY**  
The patchwork countryside beckons us onwards towards Aberfeldy, as we walk across a ridge that spans across two gorges. Pass the iconic and memorable Taymouth Castle along the way. Near Aberfeldy, we take the time to stop by the Birks o'Aberfeldy, where Robert Burns, the famed poet, composed a number of his verses. Tonight we stay in a superior and historic B&B.  
*Distance 9.5 miles. Elevation gain 1100 ft.*
- DAY 8: ABERFELDY TO PITLOCHRY**  
We make the final leg of our journey through moorland, forest, and prehistoric stone circles. After our arrival in the town center of Pitlochry, we'll celebrate our last night in the Trossachs over a fantastic dinner and cocktails. Tonight we enjoy another superior four star hotel.  
*Distance 9.5 miles. Elevation gain 1100 ft.*
- DAY 9: DEPART**

EASY TO MODERATE HIKING

## TRIP RATINGS

Easy to moderate hiking up to 12.5 miles with ascents up to 1,850 feet.  
*(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)*

### EFFORT



### COMFORT



### TERRAIN



*"I am most pleased with Ryder Walker because the people you encounter from start to finish are pleasant and easy to work with. They really care about setting up a quality trip that meets your needs."*

– Pamela P.



\*All ground transportation between Drymen and Pitlochry included during tour. Luggage transfer daily (one bag per person).

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make the route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# MONTENEGRO

Trek the black mountain wilderness and enjoy the stunning adriatic sea.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

September 9 – 16

Price: \$3,300 (single +\$390)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

May – June, September – October

Call for pricing.



**B**ordering Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Albania, this fascinating gem beckons with dominating mountain ranges, sapphire colored beaches, deeply cut fjords and breathtaking wilderness areas.

Venture out into the Biogradska National Park located in the midst of the Bjelasica mountain range. Sit fireside at Eco Kantun, a farm turned ecological resort. Wander through one of Europe's last remaining primeval forests and ascend Ogorela Glava (6562 ft.) with expansive views of the National Park. A day spent entirely on the Tara River allows you to explore the Tara Canyon, the deepest canyon on the continent.

Enjoy hiking in the Bay of Kotor, a small island constructed in the 15th century. Finish in Budva, a small seaside village surrounded by numerous beaches and a charming Old Town.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 6 nights in four-star hotels and 1 night in rugged mountain hut.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateway: Podgorica, Montenegro

\*Note: We recommend booking a ticket for the flight from Zurich to Podgorica on Montenegro Air.



# ITINERARY

- DAY 1: PODGORICA**  
Travel independently by air to Podgorica, Montenegro's capital, and proceed by shuttle or taxi to Kolašin, the country's main mountain resort. Overnight in one of the most comfortable hotels in the area.
- DAY 2: KOLAŠIN TO BIOGRADSKA NATIONAL PARK**  
Hike into Biogradska National Park, nestled within the Bjelasica mountain range, a massif dominating northeastern Montenegro with 10 peaks higher than 6562 ft. Hike across beautiful high alpine pastures and meadows teeming with wildflowers and reach a traditional alpine farm turned ecological resort, the Eco Kantun. *Distance 10 miles. Elevation gain 2600 ft.*
- DAY 3: BIOGRADSKA NATIONAL PARK TO MOJKOVAC**  
Head out on a circular tour of the highest area in the National Park and if weather permits, summit Ogorela Glava (6562 ft.). Take in the breathtaking panorama of the National Park before descending into the primeval forest this region is so famous for. Transfer to a comfortable hotel in Mojkovac. *Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain 600 ft. / loss 2800 ft.*
- DAY 4: MOJKOVAC TO ŽABLJAK**  
Enjoy a whole day rafting on the Tara River, one of Europe's most pristine and wild rivers. No experience is required for this adventure on the "Tear of Europe", home of the Tara Canyon, the deepest canyon on the continent. We'll spend about 4 hours on the river. Lunch is included. *Distance: Approximately 4 hours on the river — includes lunch.*
- DAY 5: ŽABLJAK**  
Hike in the mysterious Durmitor Mountains, past alpine lakes that dot the National Park and head into rugged, high terrain to enjoy views of landscapes carved by ice and water. Forty eight peaks soar to over 6562 ft. and views of the highest peak of the area can be enjoyed. Return to the hotel in Žabljak. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain/loss 2500 ft.*
- DAY 6: ŽABLJAK TO KOTOR**  
Shuttle to the Bay of Kotor and hike in its vicinity. Enjoy a traditional Montenegrin lunch along the way before descending into Risan, the oldest town on the bay. If the weather permits, arrive in Kotor by boat and settle into your charming hotel for the night. *Distance is variable. Shuttle transfer, boat tour and hike in the Bay of Kotor.*
- DAY 7: KOTOR TO BUDVA**  
Today is an easy and rewarding hike. We begin on a well built, old Austrian road that descends down an easy to traverse trail that ends up leading us through beautiful meadows and pastures. This just may be your favorite day of the tour because it showcases spectacular views of Europe's most southern Fjord – the Bay of Kotor. Before our drive down to the town of Budva, a small seaside village, we will stop in Cetinje, a former capital of Montenegro, to visit the historic 15 x 15 meter relief map of Montenegro. This one of a kind map was made by Austrians in the late 1900s. This map also gives the overview of the whole country, mountains and places we have been. Our closing dinner takes place on the terrace of our hotel in the Old Town of Budva, overlooking the city walls and the Mediterranean Sea. *Distance 7 miles. Elevation gain/loss 1300 ft.*
- DAY 8: DEPART**

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderately challenging hiking up to 10 miles with ascents up to 2,600 feet. (Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)



### COMFORT



"The scenery was beautiful. The food was very fresh and plentiful. Nikola was a great guide, very mellow but on top of every detail. A lovely guy."

– Lisa B.



\*All ground transportation beginning in Kolašin included during tour. Luggage transfer daily except at mountain hut. NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

DAY 8: DEPART

# HEART OF AUSTRIA

Visit the most beautiful lakeside village in Europe.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

September 18 – 25

Price: \$4,340 (single +\$390)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Late June – Mid October

Price: \$4,855† (single +\$570)

*†Price based on a group of four.*

## SELF GUIDED TOUR

Late June – Mid October

Price: \$2,155 (single +\$290)



**B**rilliant blue lakes, lush meadowlands, and hundreds of limestone peaks with cascading glaciers are the hallmarks of our eight-day hiking tour through the Salzkammergut region of Salzburg.

Starting out from the historic town of Bad Goisern, you'll hike to a luxury four star estate surrounded by the dramatic walls of the Gosaukamm Mountains. Climb into the rugged Dachstein Mountains, also a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the Alps' northernmost high limestone range. The finale of the hike leads you to the lakeside hamlet of Hallstatt, a pint-sized jewel of a village lying at the bottom of steep, wooded slopes on the fjord-like Hallstättersee. Spend two nights at our hotel in Hallstatt enjoying the best of two worlds — stunning mountain scenery and a fairytale village on one side, delicious lakeside views with glacially carved waterways and steep cliffs on the other.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 7 nights charming hotels and country inns.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateway: Salzburg and Munich



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: BAD GOISERN

Arrive and transfer to Bad Goisern, a historic market and spa town recognized by UNESCO for its culture and rural treasures. Overnight in a historic hotel surrounded by peaceful gardens, and dine on local delicacies.

### DAY 2: BAD GOISERN TO GOSAU

Today we'll climb through mountain pastures and enchanting forests before cresting at Goiserhütte with outstanding views of the distant Dachstein peaks and the Hallstättersee. Descend to the idyllic village of Gosau. Rugged and majestic mountains encircle the village while rolling pastures and tranquil mountain lakes make the region feel like a fairytale. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 2600 ft. / loss 2664 ft.*

### DAY 3: GOSAU

After a short transfer to Rußbach we will hike the Gamsfeld, famous for having the best preserved and varied fossil beds in the alps. After a hearty and typical hut lunch we return to Gosau. *Distance 6 miles. Elevation gain 1600 ft. / loss 3500 ft.*

### DAY 4: GOSAUSEE

Today's hike takes us from our hotel to the end of the valley to explore the area around Gosausee, the most famous lake of the region. We'll circumnavigate the lake and stop for a delicious lunch lakeside while enjoying views of the imposing Gosaukamm above. Return to your hotel in Gosau. *Distance up to 10 miles. Elevation gain 1150 ft. / loss minimal.*

### DAY 5: GOSAU TO HALLSTATT

After a short transfer to the charming Rossalm we hike beneath the Plassen and connect to Hallstatt. When we reach the salt mines high above Hallstatt, where workers have been excavating for the last 6000 years, we will hop on the funicular to take us into town. *Distance up to 6 miles. Elevation gain up to 900 ft. / without lift loss is 3200 ft.*

### DAY 6: HALLSTATT

Access the high Karst terrain below the Hoher Dachstein with the Krippenstein Cable Car and traverse the stunning plateau to Wiesberghaus Hut for lunch. Along the way we will come across impressive rock formations and panoramic views of the Dachstein Massif and the Hallstättersee. Return to Hallstatt via the same route. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain / loss 2000 ft. None with cable car transfer.*

### DAY 7: HALLSTATT TO BAD GOISERN

On our last day we will cross the Hallstättersee by ferry and hike along the eastern lakeshore on the "Panoramaweg". If the weather permits we will take a dip in the lake and stop for an Apfelstrudel before heading back to Bad Goisern. *Distance up to 8.4 miles. No elevation gain or loss.*

### DAY 8: DEPART

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderate terrain, hiking up to 10 miles with ascents up to 2,700 feet.  
*(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)*

### EFFORT



### COMFORT



### TERRAIN



*"The guide was excellent at making this a very relaxed experience and skilled at quickly identifying my preferences and incorporating them in the plan."*

– Annie O.



\*All ground transportation beginning in Bad Goisern included during tour. Luggage transfers daily.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# ITALIAN DOLOMITES TREK

This may be the most beautiful mountain region on earth.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

June 17 – 24

Price: \$4,500 (single +\$565)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Mid June – Mid September

Price: \$4,855† (single +\$570)

*†Price based on a group of four.*

## SELF GUIDED TOUR

Mid June – Mid September

Price: \$2,540 (single +\$350)

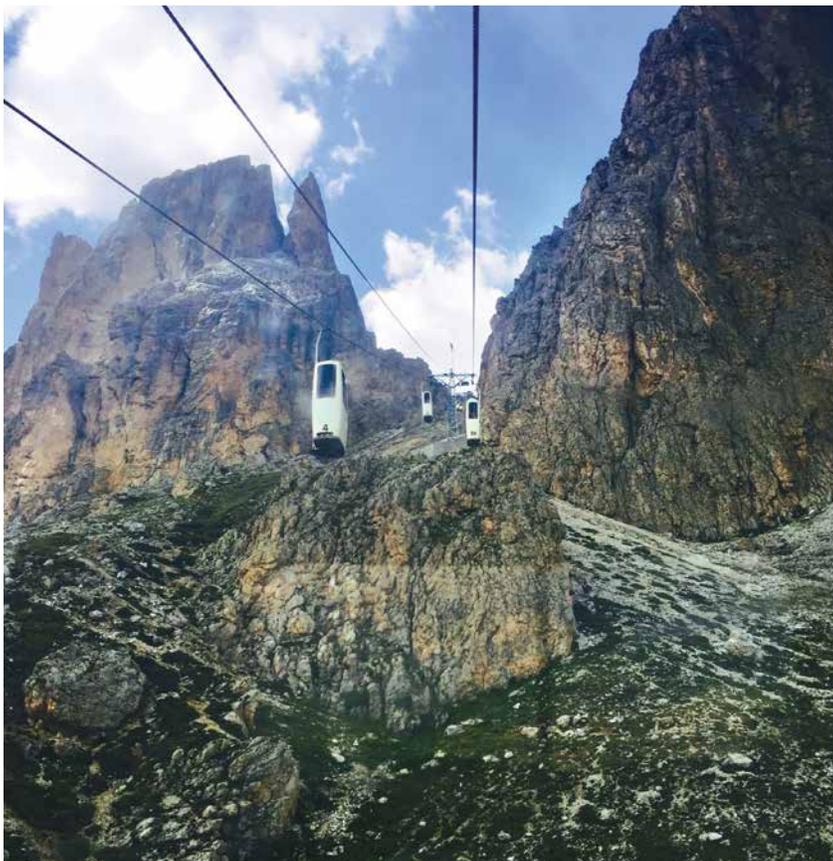


**N**ourish yourself with the pleasures of Northern Italy. The Dolomites are culturally diverse, and this trip visits the German speaking Tyrolean villages of the Val Gardena, the Ladin speaking center of Corvara in the Alta Badia and the chic Italian speaking center of Cortina D'Ampezzo, a long-time destination for members of the jet set crowd.

Visit Vols Am Schlern, a cobblestoned village beneath the Sciliar. Climb onto the Alpe di Siusi, with views that extend across the Ortler, Stubaier and Zillertaler Alps of Austria. Spend one night in a comfortable rifugio above treeline. Hike through the Rosengarten, Sassolungo, Puez and Tofane ranges; the most striking and vertical-looking mountains in the Dolomites.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 6 nights first class hotels and charming country inns plus 1 night comfortable rifugio.
- Breakfast and dinner daily on guided tour. Breakfast daily and dinner all nights except in Cortina on self guided tour.
- Gateway: Venice



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: VÖLS

Travel independently by rail to Bolzano. Transfer by minivan to Völs. Alternate: Travel independently by rail to Bolzano. Ryder Walker provides your transfer to Völs. Overnight in a restored inn in fourteenth century walls.

### DAY 2: VÖLS

Today we'll enjoy a gentle warm up hike from Völs through Tuffalm to Hofalm, a picturesque farm house turned restaurant. We'll enjoy views of the Sciliar before looping back to Völs.  
*Distance 6 miles. Elevation gain 1750 ft.*

### DAY 3: VÖLS TO RIFUGIO ALPE DI TIRES

Today's hike begins in the Alpe di Siusi, the largest meadow, or alp, in the Alps. Views extend to the Austrian Alps to the north and to the region's dominant peaks, the Sassopiatto, Sassolungo and today's objective, the Sciliar. Have lunch at the Rifugio Alpe di Tires, a quintessential Tyrolean hut/restaurant at 8,059 feet. Traverse to the Rifugio Alpe di Tires.  
*Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 2600 ft.*

### DAY 4: RIFUGIO ALPE DI TIRES TO SELVA

Hike between the Sassopiatto and Sassolungo peaks to a high saddle with a dramatically situated cable car. Descend to the Passo Sella for transport to the village of Selva in Gardena and a welcoming three star inn. *Distance 7 miles. Elevation gain 2700 ft.*

### DAY 5: SELVA TO CORVARA

Ascending the lovely Val Lunga, a pristine glacial valley surrounded by towering limestone walls, we climb through larch and stone pine toward the Rifugio Puez. Have lunch at the hut then traverse to a dramatic pass before descending to the village of Corvara in the Alta Badia. Overnight in a superior four star inn. *Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain 3000 ft. / loss 3300 ft.*

### DAY 6: VALPAROLA

We begin with an ascent to a ridge separating the Puez and Sella groups and the Marmolada, the highest peak in the Dolomites at 10,692 feet, to the west, and the Tofane and Della Croce groups to the east. The views are continually engaging on our long traverse to the dramatically situated Rifugio Valparola, where our van awaits us to return to Corvara. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 2700 ft. / loss 2350 ft.*

### DAY 7: CORVARA TO CORTINA

Hike into a world of rock; the heart of the Tofane Range. Ascend gradually to a striking vantage point before descending to the beautifully situated Rifugio Dibona. Transfer to the alpine center of Cortina D'Ampezzo and the comforts of a four star hotel. *Distance 10 miles. Elevation gain 2000 ft. / loss 1500 ft.*

### DAY 8: DEPART

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderate terrain, hiking up to 10 miles with ascents up to 3,000 feet.  
*(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)*

### COMFORT



### EFFORT

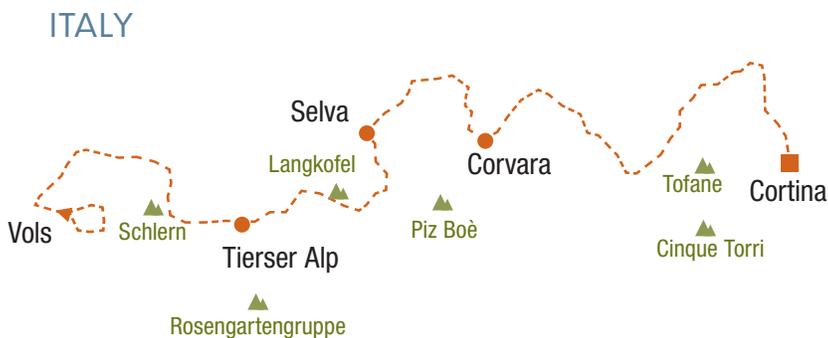


### TERRAIN



"Totally awesome!! Nothing else to say..."

– J. Rochelle



\*Taxi transport between Bolzano and Vols upon arrival is included. Luggage transfer all night except at mountain hut.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# SICILY'S AEOLIAN ISLANDS: HOME OF THE SIRENS

Seven islands with over 5000 years of history await you.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

May 19 – 26

Price: \$3,900 (single +\$545)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

May – October

Price: \$5,460† (single +\$640)

*†Price based on a group of four.*

## SELF GUIDED TOUR

May – October

Price: \$2,570 (single +\$345)



From across the aquamarine waves, their call can be heard for thousands of leagues. Ulysses surely wasn't the first to hear their sound as he crossed the Adriatic, Aegean, and Tyrrhenian seas on his Odyssey, but he definitely was a notable visitor – the Aeolian Islands, home of the sirens.

Tour highlights begin with your stay in Taormina, idyllically perched on a rocky promontory high above the sea followed by your visit to the small volcanic island of Vulcano in the southernmost of the Aeolian Islands. Volcanos are the reason why people first came to the region, and the soil that resulted from their eruption is the reason why everything that grows here has that special, magic quality. Your visit to a live volcano on the tiny island of Stromboli will be as memorable as the friendly people and outstanding cuisine.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 7 nights excellently appointed hotels.
- Breakfast and dinner daily on guided tours. Breakfast only on self guided tours.
- Gateway: Catania and Palermo



## TRIP RATINGS

Moderate hiking up to 8 miles with ascents up to 2,000 feet.  
(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### COMFORT



### EFFORT



### TERRAIN



*"The food everywhere was excellent;  
not one complaint or suggestion to improve."*

– Noel A.



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: TAORMINA

Begin your trip in the Sicilian city of Catania/Taormina. Catania is the airport and Taormina is the charming town not far away where Greek ruins, Roman walls, bridges and roads, and Norman buildings speak of the great history of this land. Settle into a truly superior and excellently appointed hotel in a perfect location in Taormina.

### DAY 2: TAORMINA

Our trip is going to focus heavily on minimally developed volcanic islands, so we feel it is in everyone's best interest to spend today getting to understand Sicilian culture and history on the flanks of Mount Etna. We have secured a well-renowned cultural and social historian to escort us on a half day excursion around greater Taormina. Return to your outstanding Taormina hotel.  
*Distance up to 5 miles. Elevation gain 600 ft. / loss 600 ft.*

### DAY 3: TAORMINA TO VULCANO

This morning we will take a van to Milazzo then ferry to the island of Vulcano. Enjoy a day hike before settling in to your comfortable inn near the Ponente Bay.

### DAY 4: VULCANO TO LIPARI

Transfer by ferry to Lipari where we will commence on a hike to Santa Margherita, the Gran Crater summit and down to Quattropani. Overnite in Lipari. *Distance 6 miles. Elevation gain up to 900 ft. / loss 900 ft.*

### DAY 5: LIPARI TO SALINA

Today we will hop on a ferry or hydrofoil and travel to the island of Santa Marina, the most fertile and green of all the Aeolian Islands. Despite being arguably the most beautiful of all of the Aeolian Islands it has almost entirely escaped the waves of movie stars and VIP tourism that have plagued some of the other Sicilian Islands, leaving the land rural and perfectly pastoral – great for us! After bagging the peak of the resident volcano, we will retire for the evening at an excellent hotel with a classic Aeolian exterior and colorful and modern interior. *Distance up to 8 miles. Elevation gain up to 1200 ft. / loss 1200 ft.*

### DAY 6: SALINA TO PANAREA

Off we go by ferry to the fashionable Panarea. Hike Punta del Corvo, one of the grandest treks in all the islands. We are in an elegant three star hotel tonight with beautiful whitewashed walls and deep blue architectural accents. *Distance up to 9 miles. Elevation gain up to 1200 ft. / loss 1200 ft.*

### DAY 7: PANAREA TO STROMBOLI

Explore this magical island during the day and hike the active volcano of Stromboli at midnight to observe the magnificent eruption. *Distance up to 7 miles. Elevation gain up to 1000 ft. / loss 1000 ft.*

### DAY 8: DEPART

Independently transfer via ferry from Stromboli to Milazzo Port. Take a taxi or bus to your gateway airport.

\*All ground and ferry transports are included during tour. Luggage transfers from/to port/hotel.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH LIFE: ASPEN TO TELLURIDE

Enjoy snow capped peaks, alpine meadows, tumbling waterfalls and golden Aspen trees.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

September 16 – 23

Price: \$4,630 (single +\$625)

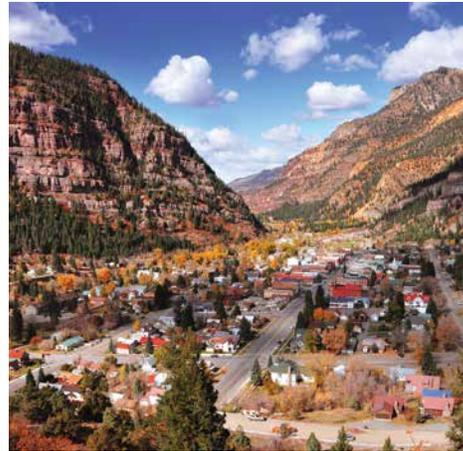
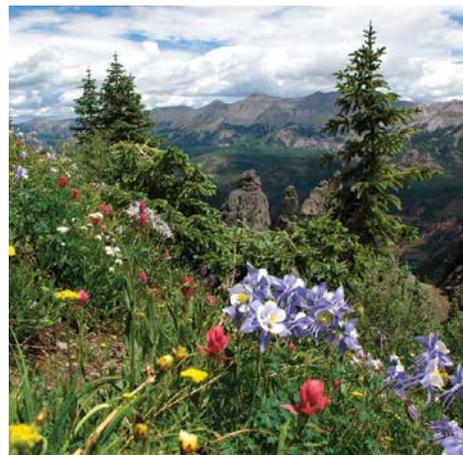
*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Late June – September

Price: \$5,775† (single +\$910)

*†Price based on a group of four.*



**S**now capped peaks, expansive alpine meadows, tumbling waterfalls, golden Aspen trees and charming hotels beckon you to explore the Maroon Bells, Elk Range and San Juan Mountains of Southwestern Colorado.

The Rocky Mountain High Life trek starts in the cosmopolitan town of Aspen and continues across the Maroon Bells to Gothic, Crested Butte and into Ouray, home to a variety of world-famous hot spring pools and backdrop of gorgeous scenery that earned Ouray the title, “The Little Switzerland of America”. Our trek ends in Telluride, one of the most beautiful towns in the Rocky Mountains and home to Ryder-Walker Alpine Adventures.

Along this trek, enjoy endless views across the Continental Divide as you ascend Independence Pass (elevation 12,096 feet). Hike beneath the imposing, snow-capped faces of Mount Sneffels and Mendota, and enjoy views of the iconic 14ers Mt. Wilson, El Diente and Wilson Peak.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 7 nights charming western bed and breakfasts and four star hotels.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateway: Aspen, inbound and Montrose or Grand Junction outbound.



# ITINERARY

- DAY 1: ASPEN**  
Arrive in Aspen and overnight in an upscale hotel in the center of this bustling former mining town.
- DAY 2: ASPEN, CATHEDRAL LAKE, WOODY CREEK, AND INDEPENDENCE PASS**  
Today your guides will choose an appropriate itinerary to meet the group needs and interests. Aspen has an endless array of options from gentle to very challenging hikes. *Distance variable. Elevation gain / loss variable.*
- DAY 3: ASPEN TO CRESTED BUTTE**  
Transfer to the trailhead and hike above tree line into a pristine, high alpine environment. On your way to Gothic, a small town outside of Crested Butte, historians will enjoy a myriad examples of 19th and 20th century mining architecture. *Distance 10.2 miles. Elevation gain 3265 ft.*
- DAY 4: RED LADY SUMMIT**  
Hike through forest of Spruce and Fir before getting to the summit of Red Lady, or Mt. Emmons, where views back towards Crested Butte, the town and peak, are simply breathtaking. *Distance 10 miles. Elevation gain / loss 2914 ft.*
- DAY 5: CRESTED BUTTE TO OURAY (VIA LOU PASS)**  
After transferring to the trail head above Blue Mesa/Curecanti Reservoirs, approach a seldom hiked weakness in the Cimarron Range, Lou Pass and the summit of Lou Creek. Descend to a van near Ridgway and shuttle to Ouray. *Distance up to 9 miles. Elevation gain 2300 ft. / loss 3300 ft.*
- DAY 6: OURAY TO TELLURIDE**  
Hike on the Mendota trail beneath the imposing, snow-capped faces of Mt. Sneffels and Mendota before reaching Telluride, one of the most beautiful towns in the Rocky Mountains. Overnight in another outstanding hotel located in the heart of Telluride's historic district. *Distance variable. Elevation gain 2900 ft. / loss 3300 ft.*
- DAY 7: TELLURIDE**  
The last day of the trek will be spent on a loop-hike in the Telluride area. Best in the region may be Blackface, which offers endless above timberline hiking next to the famous Lizard Head and beneath the most iconic peaks of the area, Mount Wilson, Wilson Peak and El Diente. *Distance 10 miles. Elevation gain 3200 ft. / loss 3000 ft.*
- DAY 8: DEPART**

MODERATE TO CHALLENGING HIKING

## TRIP RATINGS

Challenging hiking up to 10 miles with ascents up to 3,265 feet.  
*(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)*

EFFORT



COMFORT

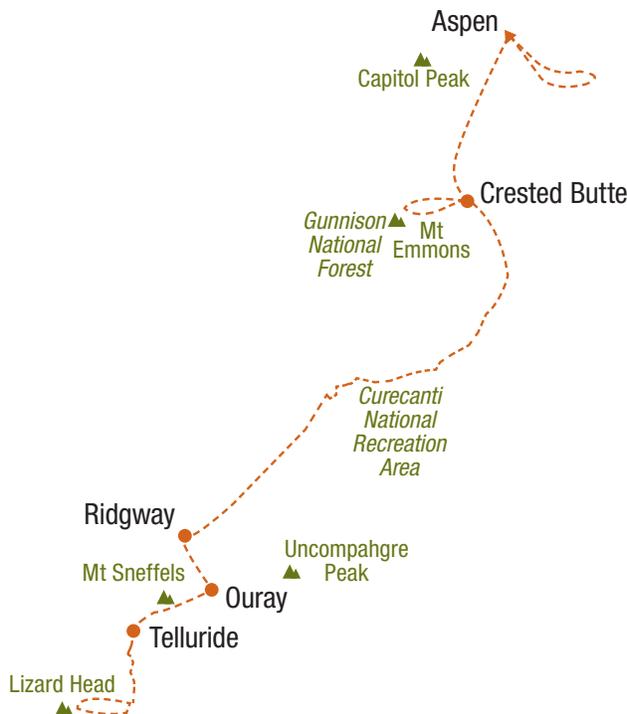


TERRAIN

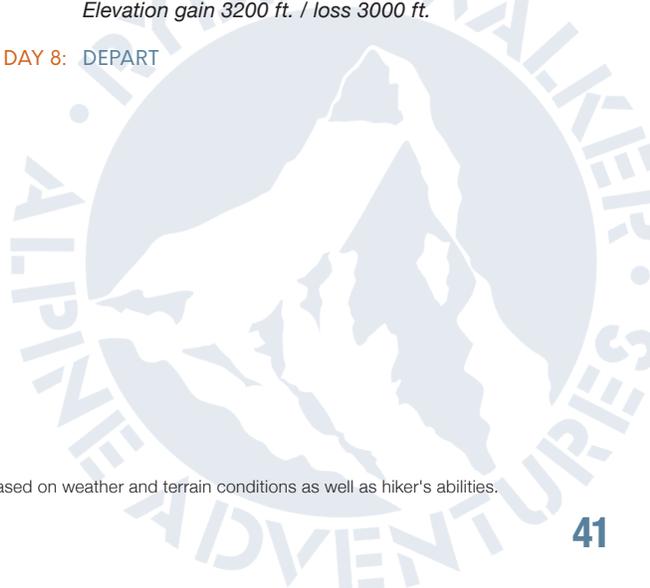


*"We took so many pictures, created lasting friendships and memories we will always cherish. Our daughter said it was the best trip we've ever had. We can't wait to schedule our next Ryder-Walker adventure."*

– Erika B.



\*All ground transportation between Aspen and Telluride included during the tour. Luggage transfer daily.  
NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make the route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.



# DOLOMITI DI BRENTA: MADONNA DI CAMPIGLIO & MOLVENO

The Brenta Dolomites, Italy's westernmost major incursion of Dolomite limestone.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

August 29 – September 5  
Price: \$4,340 (single +\$810)

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Mid June – Mid September  
Call for pricing.

## SELF GUIDED TOUR

Mid June – Mid September  
Price: \$2,340 (single +\$735)



A true hidden gem in the Alps, the Dolomiti di Brenta is bordered by the Swiss Alps to the west and the Austrian Alps to the north. Unlike the bulk of the Dolomites to the east, where Austro-Hungarian history mixes with Ladin and Italian, the Dolomiti di Brenta enjoy a purely Italian culture and flavor.

Beginning in the elegant and fashionable alpine village of Madonna di Campiglio, surrounded by the Adamello Brenta Nature Park, you'll spend six days exploring high alpine lakes, quiet larch forests as well as striking out into the very heart of the Brenta Gruppo with its strategically placed and well-appointed huts.

Highlights of the tour include a night in a spectacularly situated hut in the very heart of the range, a ridgeline ramble with views of the Trento Valley to the east, the Brenta Gruppo to the west and the spectacular Lago di Garda to south, and the lovely lakeside village of Molveno, perched right on the shores of one of the most beautiful lakes in the Alps.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 6 nights first class hotels and charming county inns plus 1 night comfortable rifugio.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateways: Verona, Venice, Milan



MODERATE TO CHALLENGING HIKING

## ITINERARY

- DAY 1: MADONNA DI CAMPIGLIO**  
Travel independently by rail to Trento and then via bus to Madonna di Campiglio, which is about a two hour ride. Tonight we will overnight in a lovely five-star hotel. Meet your guide and group for dinner.
- DAY 2: MADONNA**  
Today we'll enjoy a moderate trip high above Madonna di Campiglio where we will view the picturesque landscape, including five gorgeous alpine lakes and the Adamello Group, a lovely collection of limestone needles. We will take in the final views of the Brenta Massif before returning back to our hotel in Madonna. *Distance 6 miles. Elevation gain 2500 ft.*
- DAY 3: MADONNA TO RIFUGIO TOSA PEDROTTI**  
Today's trek takes us deeper into the heart of the Brenta Group and offers spectacular and stark views of the Brenta as we meander through the idyllic and enchanting landscape. Nosh along the way at quaint and delightful mountain huts. Ramble on through the beauty of this high alpine region as we make our way to the authentic, family run Rifugio Tosa Pedrotti Hut, which offers some of the most spectacular views of the Dolomiti. *Distance 7 miles. Elevation gain 3300 ft.*
- DAY 4: PEDROTTI TO MOLVENO**  
We begin today with a walk out to an impressive viewpoint where we will be able to revel in all the splendor that surrounds us. We will spot the fantastic systems of via ferrata as we wander towards Rifugio Croz dell'Altissimo. This is the perfect spot to enjoy a tea or cappuccino. Descending towards Molveno we will traverse to the Rifugio Croz dell' Altissimo and then onto Rifugio Pradel, which is a mid station. Here there is a choice to either ride the lift to town or continue walking another hour to our wonderful four star hotel located in the heart of Molveno. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain virtually none / loss 3000 ft.*
- DAY 5: MOLVENO**  
Today's hike offers beautiful views of the Trento/ Alto Adige valley on one side and amazing views of the Brenta and northern Lago di Garda area on the other side. Lunch will be at a delicious restaurant with magnificent views of the Brenta range. Walk back along a lakefront trail back to your hotel in Molveno. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 630 ft. / loss 4300 ft.*
- DAY 6: MOLVENO TO MADONNA**  
Today we will follow trail number 301 as we route you from the lake shores of Molveno through Andalo and back to Madonna di Campiglio. Today will include a bit of uphill from Andalo to Malgo Spora. After lunch, we will enjoy a final push over the Passo Groste and then head back to the familiar setting of our Madonna hotel. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 4300 ft.*
- DAY 7: MADONNA**  
Today's hike is a fitting way to end our journey through the Brenta Dolomiti. Wildflowers, waterfalls and an amazing lunchspot await us on this tour from Monte Spinale into the Vallesinella and back up to Madonna di Campiglio and our five star hotel. *Distance 5 miles. Elevation gain 500 ft. / loss 2956 ft.*
- DAY 8: DEPART**

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderate terrain, hiking up to 8 miles with ascents up to 4,300 feet.  
*(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)*

**EFFORT**

**COMFORT**

**TERRAIN**

*"I loved the varied terrain of the hikes. The guides were relaxed, competent, flexible and fun to be with. What a stellar trip!"*  
— Sally L.



\*All ground transportation beginning in Madonna di Campiglio included during tour. Luggage transfer daily except at mountain hut. NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# PAYS BASQUE AND THE FRENCH PYRENEES

Surrender to the bewitching mountains of southern France.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

August 30 – September 7

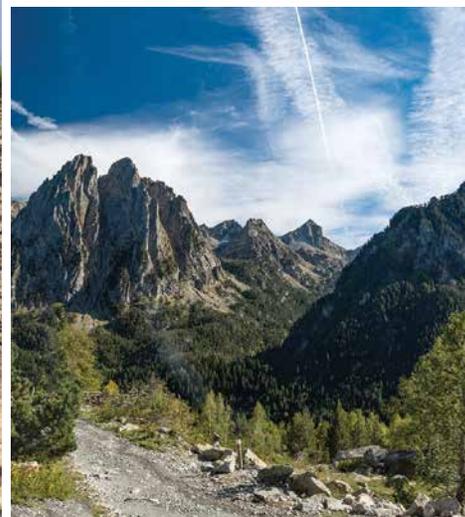
Price: \$5,210 (single +\$613)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

June – September

Call for pricing.



**R**ugged, deep, and rivaling the Alps in grandeur and terrain, the Pyrenean mountain ranges will beguile you with their wild, wind-swept summits, steep trails and lush valleys.

Beginning in Saint Jean de Luz, France, famous for its striking position along the Atlantic coast, you'll wander inland through the Pyrénées-Atlantiques, a pastoral landscape of rolling hills. Visit authentic Basque villages like Sare, Ainhoa and St. Etienne de Baigorry, the latter known for its verdant surroundings, colorful festivals, and Romanesque architecture. Enjoy the medieval atmosphere of St. Jean Pied de Port, (a walled city), but not before you train your eyes on the summits of the Haute Pyrénées, the high mountains that share the border between France and Spain.

## DETAILS

- 8 nights, 9 days
- 7 nights country inns and luxury hotels plus one night in simple mountain hut.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateways: Bordeaux, Biarritz, Pau



## ITINERARY

- DAY 1: SAINT JEAN DE LUZ**  
Transfer independently to the seaside tourist resort of Saint Jean de Luz. Check into your hotel then hit the beach on the Atlantic Coast.
- DAY 2: SAINT JEAN DE LUZ TO AINHOA**  
Ride "le petit train," a tiny cog rail train, to a secret stop midway to the top of the La Rhune summit. Descend La Rhune and follow unpaved rural roads through charming Basque hamlets. We'll arrive in the magical village of Ainhoa, famous for its whitewashed cottages that are unique to the Basque region. *Distance 11 miles. Elevation gain 160 ft. / loss 1580 ft.*
- DAY 3: AINHOA TO ST. ETIENNE DE BAIGORRY**  
Today we'll enter the Bas Navarre, a collection of beautiful green valleys in the foothills of the Pyrenees. Hike to the village of St. Etienne de Baigorry where the river Nive des Aldudes flows beneath the Pont Romain, a Romanesque bridge built in 1661. *Distance 12 miles. Elevation gain 1740 ft. / loss 1800 ft.*
- DAY 4: ETIENNE DE BAIGORRY TO SAINT JEAN PIED DE PORT**  
Connect old farm roads, fields, passes and gentle summits to a fascinating walled Basque village. Arriving on the route of St. Jacques de Compostelle, a one thousand year-old pilgrimage route, we'll delight in a medieval atmosphere and our internationally acclaimed restaurant. *Distance 11.5 miles. Elevation gain 3000 ft. / loss 3000 ft.*
- DAY 5: SAINT JEAN PIED DE PORT TO CAUTERETS**  
This day marks our entry into the Haute Pyrénées, the highest peaks of southern France and northern Spain. Transfer by van to the ancient spa town of Cauterets. Enjoy an afternoon hike above town before relaxing at the café at our comfortable hotel. *Distance 5 miles. Elevation loss 1900 ft.*
- DAY 6: CAUTERETS TO REFUGE DE BAYSELLANCE**  
We'll exit the village to the south over the Pont d'Espagne "the Spanish bridge," lying on the ancient mule route to Spain. Ascend the flanks of the Petit Vignemale to the Refuge de Bayscellance (8,698 feet), our home for the night and the highest refuge in the Pyrenees. *Distance 7.5 miles. Elevation gain 3600 ft. / loss 500 ft.*
- DAY 7: REFUGE DE BAYSELLANCE TO GAVARNIE**  
Awake early above treeline then descend quickly into the upper Russeau d' Oulettes following the river to a point where we will cross a bridge and wander trails into the mountain hamlet of Gavarnie and our castle-like hotel. *Distance 9.5 miles. Elevation gain 700 ft. / loss 4600 ft.*
- DAY 8: CIRQUE DU GAVARNIE**  
Our last days hike will take us up into the spectacular Cirque du Gavarnie, a massive rock amphitheater ringed with multi-teared cascades and designated a UNESCO World Heritage Sight in 1997. Given agreeable weather we will have a chance to hike up to the base of the Grand Cascade. Following the short loop finish we wander back to Gavarnie for a final night and dinner at a favorite local resaurant. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain / loss 1300 ft.*
- DAY 9: DEPART**

MODERATE TO CHALLENGING HIKING

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderate hiking up to 12 miles with ascents up to 3,600 feet.  
(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### EFFORT



### COMFORT



### TERRAIN



"Great range of terrain, culture.  
Great hotels."

— Michael R.

Bay of Biscay

Saint Jean de Luz

Ainhoa

La Rhune

St. Etienne de Baigorry

Saint Jean Pied de Port

FRANCE

Pyrenees National Park

Cauterets

Refuge de Bayscellance

Vignemale

Gavarnie

SPAIN

\*All ground transportation beginning in Saint Jean de Luz included during tour. Luggage transfer daily except at mountain hut.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# PATAGONIA: THE LAKES DISTRICT

Patagonia is a land of legend.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

February 19 – 28

Price: \$5,920 (single +\$785)

*Minimum of four people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Late December – Mid March

Call for pricing.



**T**his diverse land covers some 400,000 square miles. In geographical terms Argentine Patagonia is roughly the size of Texas, blessed with vast steppe grasslands, a rugged and beautiful Atlantic coastline, endless foothills and forests of indigenous trees, lakes and rivers of seemingly infinite colors of blue, and the massive volcanoes and peaks of the mighty Andean cordillera. Chilean Patagonia by contrast is quite different. This is a land of verdant green foliage and fauna, labyrinthian fjords and stoic volcanoes rising from the lowlands.

As vast as Patagonia is, we will begin our tour discovering the mountain trails, refugios and lakes of what is known as the “Lakes District” and the towns tucked in along the infamous Ruta 40 before venturing over the frontier into Chile where we will explore towering volcanoes and the strikingly blue lakes of Lago Llanquihue and Todos Los Santos.

## DETAILS

- 9 nights, 10 days
- 9 nights in charming inns and superior four star hotels.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateways: Arrival, Bariloche, Argentina. Departure, Puerto Montt, Chile.



## ITINERARY

- DAY 1: BARILOCHE**  
 Arrive Bariloche, the gateway to the Northern Patagonian Lakes District. Meet the group for welcome drinks and dinner at 7:00pm.
- DAY 2: BARILOCHE TO EL BOLSÓN**  
 Transfer by van 1.5-2 hours south to the laid back village of El Bolsón. We will hike up the Rio Azul en route to the Cajon del Azul, or Blue Canyon, encountering amazingly clear blue water, multiple bridge crossings and quaint refugios! Tonight we will enjoy a traditional Argentine "asado" barbeque. *Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain 1800 ft./loss 1800 ft.*
- DAY 3: EL BOLSÓN**  
 Today we will drive just south of Bolsón and up to the trailhead to Cerro Piltriquitron, or Piltri, as the locals call it. After a quick break at the refugio, we continue our ascent to the upper slopes of Piltri to the summit for amazing 360-degree views of the Patagonian Andes. *Distance 6.5 miles. Elevation gain / loss 3700 ft.*
- DAY 4: EL BOLSÓN TO LLAO LLAO**  
 Transfer to Llao Llao peninsula and our trailhead for Cerro Lopez. We will climb through the forest to Roca Negra, or Black Rock, a small hut before we climb up to Refugio Lopez with unmatched views of the Llao Llao peninsula and Lago Nahuel Huapi. Tonight we will stay at a lovely hotel in Llao Llao. *Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain / loss 2400 ft.*
- DAY 5: LLAO LLAO**  
 Today starts with a lift and short climb to Punto Paradiso. A long traverse follows with spectacular views into the Rucoca valley and the glaciated mighty Monte Tronador in the distance. From the Cancha de Futbol we drop down to Laguna Schmoll and on to Refugio Frey sitting on the eastern shores of Laguna Toncek. We descend through a lush forest. Van to Llao Llao. *Distance 10.5 miles. Elevation gain 640 ft. / loss 3800 ft.*
- DAY 6: LLAO LLAO TO TERMAS DE PUYEHUE**  
 Transfer by boat to Lago Nahuel Huapi at the southern tip of the Quetihue Peninsula and Los Arrayanes National Park. Today's casual stroll rambles through the forest finishing at the northern end of the peninsula. Enjoy views of Cordillera de los Andes and Bahia Brava. We end with a 2-hour drive across the frontier into Chile and our tranquil hotel in Puyehue. *Distance 7 miles. Elevation gain 250 ft. / loss 400 ft.*
- DAY 7: TERMAS DE PUYEHUE**  
 A short drive to Antillanca is followed by an ascent up Volcan Casablanca. From the summit of Casablanca enjoy fantastic views of the lush Chilean tierra and the volcanoes of Osorno and Puntigudo. An optional afternoon hike is available. *Distance 4.5 miles. Elevation gain / loss 2300 ft.*
- DAY 8: PUERTO VARAS**  
 Today we drive south to Vicente Perez Rosales National Park. Our hike will follow the Paso Desolacion trail and then the Rincon trail down to the lake. After lunch we follow the Rincon trail through a beautiful, lush woods until it eventually drops back down to the shoreline and Petrohue. Van back to Puerto Varas. *Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain / loss 900 ft.*
- DAY 9: PUERTO VARAS**  
 Our final day will be your guide's choice. Possibilities could be a lakes circuit in Los Alerces National Park, an ascent of Volcan Calbuco or a hike up to the toe of the glacier on Volcan Osorno.
- DAY 10: DEPART**

MODERATE TO CHALLENGING HIKING

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderately challenging, hiking up to 10.5 miles with ascents up to 3,700 feet. Hikers should be in good condition.

*(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)*

### COMFORT



### EFFORT

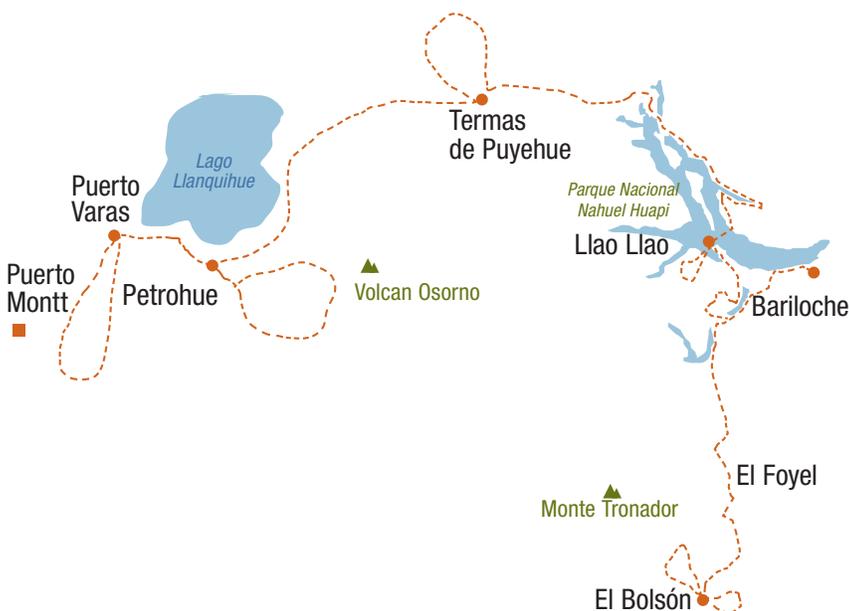


### TERRAIN



*"Our guide, Dave Gruss, spoke the language well and had lots of great local contacts. He put together a fantastic adventure for us, on the trail and off!"*

*– Bill Y.*



\*All ground transportation during the trek included. Luggage transfer daily.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# PERU: THE SALKANTAY TREK TO MACHU PICCHU

Discover the mysterious origins of the royal Inca.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

April 10 – 20

Price: \$6,095 (single +\$2000\*\*)

*Minimum of four people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Late December – Mid March

Call for pricing.



Come explore this unique opportunity to experience ancient history in the Land of the Incas. Our 10-day Peruvian adventure begins in the beautiful and bustling city of Cusco, which is perfectly tucked into the hillsides at an elevation of 11,200 feet and was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983.

Our lodge to lodge trekking experience will take you on a historic section of Inca trail through 15 different eco-systems, while you traverse a mountain pass over 15,000 feet, explore villages where locals still maintain age-old traditions and re-discover the mystical beauty of Machu Picchu, the crown jewel of the Inca Empire. Each day's trek ends at a deluxe lodge followed by a gourmet meal with select wines.

## DETAILS

- 10 nights, 11 days
- 5 nights in superior lodges and 5 nights in four star hotels.
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.
- Gateway: Cusco via Lima

# ITINERARY

## DAY 1: CUSCO

Arrive in Cusco, the once capital of the Inca Empire. Meet the group for welcome drinks and dinner at 7:00pm.

## DAY 2: CUSCO WALKING TOUR

Today's walking tour of the city includes the ruins of Sacsayhuaman, the Cathedral Basilica and the historic Plaza de Armas. In the afternoon relax at the hotel or wander around the city exploring its many nooks and crannies.

## DAY 3: CUSCO TO SORAYPAMPA

Our first stop will be a visit to the Inca ruins at Tarawasi near the town of Limatambo before ascending a winding mountain road to a site called Marcoccasa. Here we will begin our hike to Soraypampa along a picturesque path called the "Camino Real" (Royal Path). Our lodge for tonight sits under the glacier peak of Mt. Salkantay, among the most sacred in Inca mythology and the highest in the region (20,600 ft). *Distance 5 miles. Elevation gain 800 ft.*

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderately challenging, hiking up to 9 miles with ascents up to 2,500 feet. Hikers should be in good condition – this trek reaches altitudes up to 15,213 feet. (Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### COMFORT



### EFFORT

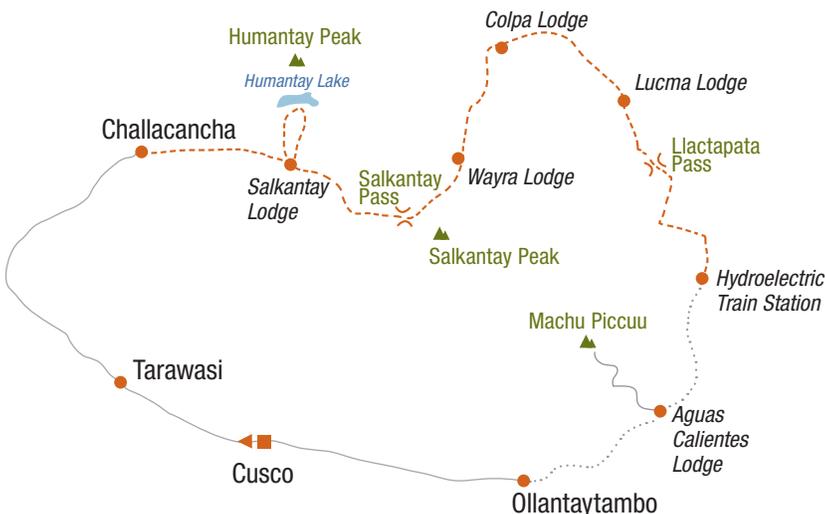


### TERRAIN



*"The Salkantay adventure goes beyond deluxe lodges and a great trek... it is a unique opportunity to experience ancient history in the Land of the Incas, as well as the most interesting and exotic variety of flora and fauna, all in the company of new friends and like-minded souls."*

– Mountain Lodges of Peru



\*All ground transportation during the trek included. Luggage transfer daily.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

\*\*There is the option for a single traveler to share a room with another single traveler for an additional \$1300 versus your own room for an additional \$2000.

## DAY 4: HUMANTAY LAKE

Today we will continue our slow and steady acclimation with a half-day hike up to Lake Humantay and its amazingly turquoise blue waters. Relax at the lake, at an elevation of 13,845 ft, and wonder at the Humantay glacier looming above. You will have the afternoon to yourselves. *Distance 5 miles. Elevation gain 1150 ft. / loss 1150 ft.*

## DAY 5: CROSSING THE SALKANTAY PASS

We embark on our longest and most strenuous but arguably the most magical day of the trek. Our hike begins up the Rio Blanco valley, circling Humantay Peak where we will encounter expansive plateaus dotted with boulders of varying sizes. The final and most challenging part of today's ascent is conquering the mountain switchbacks that take us to the Salkantay Pass, the highest point on the trek (15,213 ft). What follows is a dramatic descent through fields of giant boulders, often shrouded in fog. We will stay at the remote Wayra Lodge at Wayracmachay. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 2500 ft. / loss 2400 ft.*

## DAY 6: WAYDRA LODGE TO COLPA LODGE

We will descend along the banks of the Salkantay River into the lower elevations of the cloud forest and the warmer air of the jungle below en route to the Colpa Lodge located on a promontory above the confluence of 3 rivers. We will access the lodge by an amazing zipline across the canyon. *Distance 6 miles. Elevation loss 3400 ft.*

## DAY 7: COLPA LODGE TO LUCMA LODGE

Today's hike winds us down through the Santa Teresa River valley. We will cross waterfall fed streams and fruit orchards. A van will take us to the start of the Llactapata Inca Trail that will lead us shortly to the Lucma Lodge (elevation 7000 ft). *Distance 9 miles. Elevation loss 2400 ft.*

## DAY 8: LLACTAPATA PASS TO AGUAS CALIENTES

Today we leave the last of our lodges and hike for several hours under the jungle canopy, treading on original Inca steps to the ruins at the Llactapata Pass (elevation 8975 ft.). From the Llactapata Pass you will get your first glimpse of the "back" side of Machu Picchu. After we explore the ruins at the pass our hike ends with a steep descent through bamboo forest. Enjoy a one-hour train ride to the village of Aguas Calientes. *Distance 7 miles. Elevation gain 1900 ft. / loss 3100 ft.*

## DAY 9: MACHU PICCHU

At dawn we will begin our journey to the sanctuary of Machu Picchu, where we will be given a 2-3 hour guided tour of the grounds plus a Huayna Picchu hike. Prepare to be awed by the supremely skilled architecture of the Temple of the Sun, the Watchtower and the many beautiful royal Inca residences. This afternoon we will transfer by train to our hotel in Ollantaytambo.

## DAY 10: OLLANTAYTAMBO RUINS

We will enjoy a morning tour of the Ollantaytambo Ruins, gateway to the Antisuyo (the Amazon corner of the Inca Empire) and located at the northern end of the Sacred Valley. From there we will stop at the Chinchero Archeological site before transferring to Cusco and our final night.

## DAY 11: DEPART

# MOROCCO: ATLAS MOUNTAINS TREK

Climb the highest mountain in north Africa.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

September 30 – October 9

Price: \$4,455 (single +\$380)

No single rooms in refuges.

*Minimum of four people required to run this tour.*

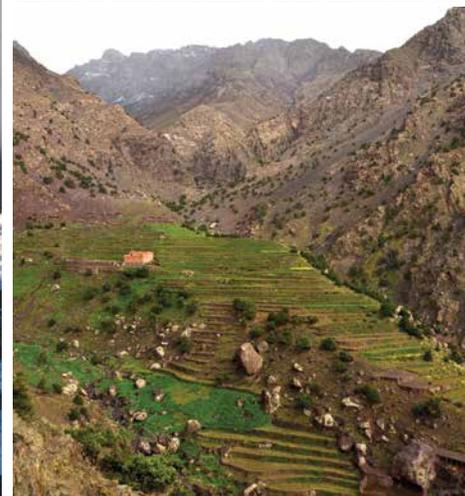
## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

April – May, September – October

\$4,860† (single +\$940)

No single rooms in refuges.

*†Price based on a group of four.*



In Morocco, the Atlas Mountains rise against the burnt-orange sunset, violet rays radiating across the wide desert plateaus, bleached white beaches, and pastel medieval buildings. As you walk across the sand through the busy markets bustling with wild sounds, colors, and smells, through small mountain hamlets seemingly carved into the peaks, you can feel the antiquity of the land beneath your feet.

The Atlas Mountains Trek begins in the walled imperial city of Marrakesh, founded in the eleventh century. Next, you're off to the mountain hamlet of Imlil, and then on to ascend Ibel Toubkal (13,671 feet), the highest mountain in North Africa. Afterwards, you will travel to Essaouira for a night of pure bliss watching the sunset over the Atlantic and the western shores of Africa before traveling back to Marrakesh for a final night of festivity.

## DETAILS

- 9 nights, 10 days
- 6 nights in four and five star riads. 3 nights in refuges with excellent facilities (indoor western toilets, hot water and showers)
- All meals included except lunches in Essaouira and the final day in Marrakesh.
- Gateway: Marrakesh



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: MARRAKESH

A Ryder Walker representative will meet you at the airport and transfer you to the hotel. Meet your guides and group for a brief orientation and dinner. Overnight in a five-star luxury hotel in Marrakesh.

### DAY 2: MARRAKESH TO IMLIL

Transfer to the picturesque village of Imlil. Enjoy an easy acclimatization hike before returning for dinner and another night in five star accommodations.

### DAY 3: IMLIL

We will be hiking for most of the day up to the Adrar Tamalroute, an 8,900 foot summit before returning to our wonderful hotel in Imlil.

### DAY 4: IMLIL TO REFUGE AZIB TAMSOULT

Today you will hike through a gorgeous mountain pass close to the summit of Tasserimoute. When you arrive for lunch, the porters and mules, as well as a local cook, will already be there with an elaborate spread of local produce served up and ready for your enjoyment. Continue on for a night at the Refuge Azib Tamsoult.

### DAY 5: REFUGE AZIB TAMSOULT TO REFUGE LES MOUFLONS

Your journey continues through the mountains until you arrive at the Refuge Les Mouflons, named after the bighorn sheep that are native to the region. Les Mouflons is an elegant refuge on the flanks of Toubkal featuring a beautiful tearoom.

### DAY 6: LES MOUFLONS

Ascend Jbel Toubkal (13,671 feet), the highest mountain in North Africa, before retiring for the evening in Les Mouflons. Enjoy a celebration with a special feast.

### DAY 7: LES MOUFLONS TO IMLIL

Begin your descent from the high country by following an excellent trail along the Isougouane River. Stop for tea at the Sidi Chamarouch. Continue to Imlil and an elegant celebration and ceremony where we part ways with our porters.

### DAY 8: IMLIL TO ESSAOUIRA

Transfer by van through the desert to the port city of Essaouira. The atmosphere of Essaouira is truly spellbinding. The breeze along the Atlantic shore is invigorating and the shopping is the best of the trip. We will dine in a superb local restaurant. Overnight in a four star hotel.

### DAY 9: ESSAOUIRA TO MARRAKESH

After spending the morning in Essaouira, travel to Marrakesh for dinner and a final night of fine food and entertainment.

### DAY 10: DEPART

## TRIP RATINGS

Challenging hiking up to 10 miles with ascents up to 4,000 feet.  
(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### COMFORT



### EFFORT



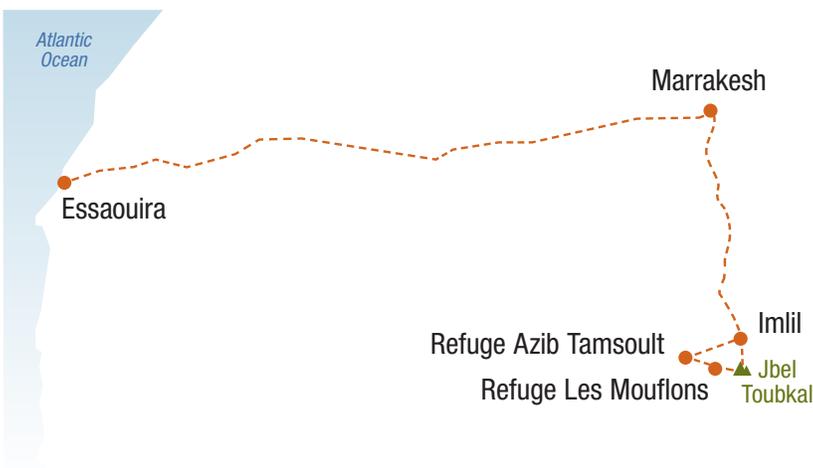
### TERRAIN



*"Morocco was such a great experience.  
The different culture, friendly people and good hikes  
made it a great vacation."*

– Kirk V.

## MOROCCO



\*Luggage transfer daily.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# SLOVENIA: JULIAN ALPS TRIGLAV CIRCUIT

Let the enchantment of Slovenia carry you away.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

June 25 – July 2

Price: \$3,300 (single +\$410)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Late June – September

Price: \$4,295† (single +\$450)

*†Price based on a group of four.*

## SELF GUIDED TOUR

Late June – September

Price: \$1,935 (single +\$395)



Enchanting, or perhaps intoxicating, might be the best words to describe the Julian Alps of Slovenia. It most definitely is a mountain land all to its own. Bordering Italy, Austria, Croatia and the Adriatic Sea, this rugged country beckons with dominating mountains, sun-drenched seaboards, alluring villages and a captivating culture. Triglav, Slovenia's tallest peak, reigns supreme, and delights hikers with an elevation change of more than 7,000 feet above its surrounding valley floors.

Hike beneath the mighty Triglav. See other notable peaks like the Skrlatica, Slovenia's second highest peak, and the Jalovec, often referred to as, "Slovenia's most beautiful mountain." Bed down in two mountain huts above treeline. The first hut sits on a ridge below the Triglav peak. The second hut lies in the heart of the Triglav National Park. Finish the tour on the shores of Lake Bohinj, famous for its clear waters and intoxicating mountain scenery.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 5 nights charming hotels and country inns plus 2 nights mountain huts.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateway: Ljubljana



# ITINERARY

**DAY 1: KRANJSKA GORA**  
Travel to Kranjska Gora from Ljubljana. Kranjska Gora is the Julian Alps' most charming village, exuding a serenity that makes the visitor feel immediately at home. Overnight in a family run, centrally located hotel considered the most comfortable in town.

**DAY 2: KRANJSKA GORA**  
This part of the Julian Alps is considered by many to be Europe's Yosemite. Hike out of Kranjska Gora to Pec, a high point on a ridge where the borders of Italy, Austria and Slovenia meet nearby. Return to Kranjska Gora by van or foot.  
*Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain 2100 ft. / loss 2100 ft.*

**DAY 3: KRANJSKA GORA TO TRENTA**  
Climb into the Tamar Valley. Ascend steeply to Sleme, a beautiful summit high above the valley. Transfer to Trenta and a comfortable guest house. Tonight we'll rest in the heart of the Triglav National Park.  
*Distance 7 miles. Elevation gain 3000 ft. / loss 300 ft.*

**DAY 4: TRENTA TO ZASAVSKA**  
Leave Trenta and ascend the Geology Path and an old World War I military road up the Trebiska Valley to Cez Dol. Leave the timberline and switchback to the top of the ridge not far from the Triglav summit. On the apex of the ridge is our hut, the Zasavska Koca, offering views over the Valley of the Seven Lakes.  
*Distance 6 miles. Elevation gain 4700 ft.*

**DAY 5: ZASAVSKA TO DOM NA KOMNI**  
Begin a truly unique day by descending the Valley of the Seven Lakes to the Seven Lakes Hut. From here enjoy an undulating traverse through rocky terrain and in a gnome-like forest to the Dom na Komni, our second and final hut of the trek. Upon arrival we catch the first glimpse of Lake Bohinj, one of Slovenia's most stunning natural features.  
*Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain up to 1000 ft. / loss 1500 ft.*

**DAY 6: DOM NA KOMNI TO UKANC**  
Enjoy some of the most spectacular mountain views of the Julian Alps, including the magnificent peaks Vogel and Krn. A short but steep descent through karst topography and sink holes delivers us to a conveniently situated cable car for a ride down to Ukanc on the shores of Lake Bohinj.  
*Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain 2000 ft. / loss 600 ft.*

**DAY 7: UKANC**  
A final hike begins with a boat ride across Lake Bohinj to the tiny village of Stara Fuzina. Ascend through farm roads and meadows to the Kosijev Dom for lunch with great views of our previous trails as well as the lake below.  
*Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 2000 ft. / loss 2000 ft.*

**DAY 8: DEPART**

MODERATE TO CHALLENGING HIKING

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderate to challenging hiking up to 9 miles with ascents up to 4,700 feet and average ascents of 2,500 feet.

*(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)*

### EFFORT



### COMFORT



### TERRAIN



*"The written materials were excellent, quite accurate. The maps were very helpful — couldn't be better! The accommodations were exactly as expected and described. We loved all of them."*

*— Kate R.*



\*All ground transportation included during tour. Luggage transfer daily except at mountain huts.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# TOUR DU MONT BLANC

Circumnavigate the highest mountain in Western Europe.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

June 26 – July 5

Price: \$4,855 (single +\$540)

*Minimum of two people required to run tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Mid June – Mid September

Price: \$5,830† (single +\$540)

*†Price based on a group of four.*

## SELF GUIDED TOUR\*\*

Mid June – Mid September

Price: \$2,655 (single +\$370)



**M**ont Blanc (15,781 feet) rises more than 12,000 vertical feet above the famous resort village of Chamonix, France. The epitome of everything that is “alpine” in the Alps, this walk around the entire circumference of Western Europe’s tallest peak is incomparable and infinitely special

Hike across the borders of France, Italy and Switzerland during our ten-day hiking tour. We’ll lead you from the mountain-chic cafés of Chamonix, to remote mountain hamlets en route to Courmayeur, Italy. You will cross into Switzerland before heading back into France on the Grand Balcon Sud, one of the most beautiful hiking trails in all of France. This itinerary is a wonderful reward for the physically fit.

## DETAILS

- 9 nights, 10 days
- 6 nights of charming country inns and first class hotels plus 3 nights simple inns with shared facilities.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.  
(Self guided tours – dinners not included in Chamonix.)
- Gateway: Geneva



# ITINERARY

- DAY 1: CHAMONIX**  
Arrive and transfer to Chamonix, France located at the base of Western Europe's tallest peak, Mont Blanc (15,781 feet).
- DAY 2: CHAMONIX TO CONTAMINES**  
Start with a journey beneath the Bionassay Glacier on the western flanks of the Mont Blanc Massif. Hike past old ruins and settlements and then over the Col de Tricot while the glaciers glisten and sparkle above. Descend through a splendid forest to Les Contamines. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 2000 ft.*
- DAY 3: CONTAMINES TO VILLE DES GLACIERS**  
Ascend past waterfalls on an ancient Roman road to the dramatically situated Refuge de la Croix du Bonhomme. A delightful descent through high alpine meadows offers the opportunity to spy the elusive Steinbock. *Distance 12 miles. Elevation gain up to 4300 ft. / loss 2950 ft.*
- DAY 4: VILLE DES GLACIERS TO COURMAYEUR**  
The greetings change to Italian today as we cross the border to Italy at the Col de la Seigne. We'll enjoy staggering views of the glaciated peaks on the Italian side of Mont Blanc. *Distance 11 miles. Elevation gain 2400 ft. Option to hike 13 miles with total elevation gain 3250 ft. / loss 2870 ft.*
- DAY 5: COURMAYEUR TO LAVACHEY**  
We are treated to ever-improving views of the Brenva face of Mont Blanc, its most impressive and imposing aspect on our remote, rarely traveled variation. *Distance 10 miles. Elevation gain 3300 ft. / loss 2100 ft.*
- DAY 6: LAVACHEY TO CHAMPEX**  
The language changes to French as we ascend the Grand Col Ferret into Switzerland. Stunning views of the Grand Combin make this a spectacular hike. Descend through pristine meadows to the Swiss Val Ferret. Transfer to the idyllic lakeside town, Champex, and our Swiss chalet. *Distance 11 miles. Elevation gain 2800 ft. / loss 4600 ft.*
- DAY 7: CHAMPEX TO TRIENT**  
Today's hike takes us from the hotel through the town of Champex and up to one of our favorite lunch spots, the Bovine, a lovely family run farm serving up fantastic food and beverages. Following lunch it is a short climb to the days highpoint and down to the Col de la Forclaz. From the Forclaz it is a quick descent down into the sleepy hamlet of Trient with its signature Iglesia Rosada, or pink church. *Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain 4500 ft. / loss 4450 ft. Alternate hike distance 10 miles. Elevation gain 2400 ft.*
- DAY 8: TRIENT TO ARGENTIÈRE**  
Hike out of the tiny hamlet of Trient before climbing back into France on a pleasant variant of the TMB. Overnight at a traditional chalet style hotel in Argentiere. *Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain 2500 ft. loss 2700 ft.*
- DAY 9: ARGENTIÈRE TO CHAMONIX**  
Our hike along the Grand Balcon Sud offers some of the best and most spectacular views of Mont Blanc and the Aiguilles, or rock needles, of Chamonix. *Distance up to 7 miles. Elevation gain 2500 ft.*
- DAY 10: DEPART**

MODERATE TO CHALLENGING HIKING

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderate to challenging hiking up to 13 miles and ascents up to 4,500 feet.  
*(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)*

EFFORT



COMFORT



TERRAIN



*"Oh Wow!! I pretty much loved everything!  
First, and most importantly, Dave and Eileen were amazing guides! Cheerful, generous, knowledgeable, helpful, wise and FUN!"*

— Darcy P.



\*All ground transportation beginning in Chamonix included during tour. Luggage transfer daily except one night.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

\*\*Some ground transportation included. Breakfast and dinner daily except in Chamonix where it is breakfast only. Luggage transfers daily except one night.

# ENGADINE SUMMIT SERIES

Hike the undiscovered summits of the Swiss Engadine.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

August 21 – 28

Price: \$4,420 (single +\$495)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Late June – Mid September

Price: \$4,855† (single +\$570)

*†Price based on a group of four.*

## SELF GUIDED TOUR

Late June – Mid September

Price: \$2,725 (single +\$350)



Our expert team of bergführers takes you mountain hopping across the undiscovered peaks of eastern Switzerland. You'll spend six days summiting the many mid-height, unglaciated mountain peaks that the Engadine region is famous for, including the Piz Padella (9,370 feet), offering expansive views across the Rhaetian Alps.

Spend two nights in each village, giving ample time to enjoy an in-depth exploration of the region's historic villages, quiet valleys and rugged peaks. Visit the towns of Zuoz, Pontresina and Sils Maria. Celebrate the finish of your hike in the tiny hamlet of Soglio, a perfectly preserved Roman village where Italian is the language of choice, and cobblestone roads carry you back in time.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 7 nights charming country inns and old world hotels.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateway: Zurich



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: ZUOZ

Travel independently to Zuoz, the first vantage point from which you can see the high, glaciated peaks of the Upper Engadine. Rest in a marvelous, old-world hotel centrally located on Zuoz's main street.

### DAY 2: ZUOZ

Enjoy a warm-up day to one of our favorite high mountain huts above Zuoz. The views of the Palu and Bernina massifs to the southeast are superb. Descend near the old Albulas Pass road to La Punt or Chamues-ch for transport back to Zuoz. *Distance 6 to 12 miles. Elevation gain 2880 ft.*

### DAY 3: ZUOZ TO PONTRESINA

Transfer to one of the Upper Engadine's greatest attractions, a funicular with arguably the finest vista in the Alps. Traverse to one of the highest hikeable summits in the region. Stop for delicious soup and otherworldly views. Descend to Pontresina and a warm and welcoming inn in a quiet section of the village. *Distance up to 9 miles. Elevation gain up to 3414 ft.*

### DAY 4: PONTRESINA

Hike out of Schlarigna, made famous as the finish village of the renowned Cresta Run, perhaps the world's most famous bobsled course. Wander into remote and rarely traveled terrain behind the summits of Las Tres Fluors and beneath the rocky Piz Ot. Descend to Samedan for transport back to Pontresina. *Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain 3350 ft.*

### DAY 5: PONTRESINA TO SILS MARIA

Begin with a gentle ascent up one of the Alps' most pristine valleys, a region carved by glaciers over the millennia. We'll hike all the way to the head of the valley where a charismatic hut rests on the edge of a moraine adjacent to a quickly receding glacier. Descend to Sils Maria and another superb old-world hotel. *Distance 12 miles. Elevation gain 2800 ft. / loss 3000 ft.*

### DAY 6: SILS MARIA

There are numerous hikeable summits surround Sils Maria, and we will choose among them for today's itinerary. Enjoy views of the wild and spectacular Val Bregaglia to the south, a region characterized by massive granite walls emerging from lush valleys on the Italian border. Return to Sils Maria hotel. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 3220 ft. / loss 2775 ft.*

### DAY 7: SILS MARIA TO SOGLIO

High above the Val Bregaglia we ascend to a pass above our final destination, Soglio, one of the most charming villages in the world. We descend into Soglio through numerous rustic, but still active, tiny farms and hamlets. Enjoy your last night in Soglio dining on local specialties and watching the alpenglow embrace the granite spires of the Bregaglia. *Distance 7.25 miles. Elevation gain 1168 ft. / loss 2286 ft.*

### DAY 8: DEPART

## TRIP RATINGS

Challenging hiking up to 12 miles with ascents up to 4,800 feet. (Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### EFFORT



### COMFORT



### TERRAIN



*"We love your personal knowledge of the areas, the great hotels and food and the helpfulness of your staff. I have used many of the major Adventure Travel companies and think you guys are the cats meow!"*

– Peter G.



\*All ground transportation between Zuoz and Soglio included during tour. Luggage transfer daily.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# HIKER'S HAUTE ROUTE

Walk the "high level path" from Chamonix to Zermatt.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

July 6 – 17

Price: \$5,830 (single +\$575)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Late June – Mid September

Price: \$6,480† (single +\$640)

*†Price based on a group of four.*

## SELF GUIDED TOUR

Mid June – Mid September

Price: \$2,695 (single +\$350)



The world famous Haute Route crosses the highest mountain range in Western Europe, the Pennine Alps, and links the Mont Blanc region in France with the rugged Canton Valais in southwestern Switzerland. Starting in the bustling alpine center of Chamonix, France, beneath the mighty massif of Europe's highest summit, Mont Blanc (15,781 feet), the trail crosses eastward into Switzerland and finishes in the famous resort village of Zermatt, set beneath the soaring pyramidal flanks of the Matterhorn.

First walked in 1903 the Haute Route also passes beneath Europe's highest glaciated mountains, Mont Blanc, the Grand Combin, Obergabelhorn, Weissshorn, Dent Blanche, Zinalrothorn, and the Matterhorn, just to name a few. A network of trail systems connects sleepy little villages, with their lush pastures, blackened timber houses and slate roofs, while lonely mountain passes lead to a stunning world of glaciers, aiguilles (rock needles) and sparkling tarns.

## DETAILS

- 11 nights, 12 days
- 6 nights charming country inns, 2 nights simple inns, 1 night simple berghaus with shower on hall, and 2 nights mountain huts.
- Breakfast and dinner daily on guided tour. Self guided tour no dinner in Chamonix.
- Gateway: Geneva



# ITINERARY

- DAY 1: CHAMONIX**  
Arrive and transfer to Chamonix, France, located at the base of Mont Blanc (15,781 feet).
- DAY 2: CHAMONIX TO ARGENTIÈRE**  
Enjoy a gentle introductory hike with spectacular views over the Mont Blanc range. Our hike along the Grand Balcon Sud offers some of the best photo opportunities of Mont Blanc, the Mer de Glace, and the Aiguilles, or rock needles, of the Chamonix Valley. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 1000 ft.*
- DAY 3: ARGENTIÈRE TO TRIENT**  
Today we'll climb to the border between Switzerland and France. Overnight in the tiny hamlet of Trient. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 3500 ft.*
- DAY 4: TRIENT TO CHAMPEX**  
Enjoy awesome views of the Rhone Valley as we find our way through high alpine meadows. Descend through a gorgeous side valley to the lovely little resort village of Champex and our Swiss chalet. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 2300 ft.*
- DAY 5: CHAMPEX TO CABANE MONT FORT**  
Transfer to Verbier. Hike to the Cabane du Mont-Fort (8,061 feet). *Distance 4 miles. Elevation gain 860 ft.*
- DAY 6: VERBIER TO PRAFLEURI HUT**  
Hike through a remote alpine environment to the base of the Rosablanche (10,945 feet). Overnight at the Cabane Prafleuri (8,734 feet). *Distance 6 miles. Elevation gain 3000 ft.*
- DAY 7: PRAFLEURI HUT TO AROLLA**  
Hike over the mountain pass. *Note: There is a section of new ladders on this hike. Overnight in Arolla. Distance 10 miles. Elevation gain 2500 ft.*
- DAY 8: AROLLA TO LES HAUDÈRES**  
A spectacular hike lies ahead with views of Mont Collon, L'Eveque, the Pigne D'Arolla and the Aiguilles Rouges. Descend to the little village of Les Haudères with its blackened timber homes. Overnight in an antique hotel. *Distance 10 miles. Elevation gain 2800 ft.*
- DAY 9: LES HAUDÈRES TO LA SAGE TO ST. LUC**  
Descend to the head of the Val D'Anniviers and transfer to St. Luc. Overnight in a special country inn filled with antiques and old world charm. *Distance 11 miles. Elevation gain 4800 ft.*
- DAY 10: ST. LUC TO GRUBEN**  
Enjoy views of the Aiguilles Rouges and the Dent D'Herens, and forward to the peaks above Zermatt: the Matterhorn, OberGabelhorn, Dent Blanche and Weissshorn. *Distance 11 miles. Elevation gain 3000 ft.*
- DAY 11: GRUBEN TO ZERMATT**  
Follow a medieval trading route with views of the Mischabel range and the peaks of the Berner Oberland. Transfer to Zermatt beneath the Matterhorn. *Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain 3500 ft.*
- DAY 12: DEPART**

MODERATE TO CHALLENGING HIKING

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderate hiking up to 11 miles with ascents up to 4,800 feet.  
*(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)*

EFFORT



COMFORT

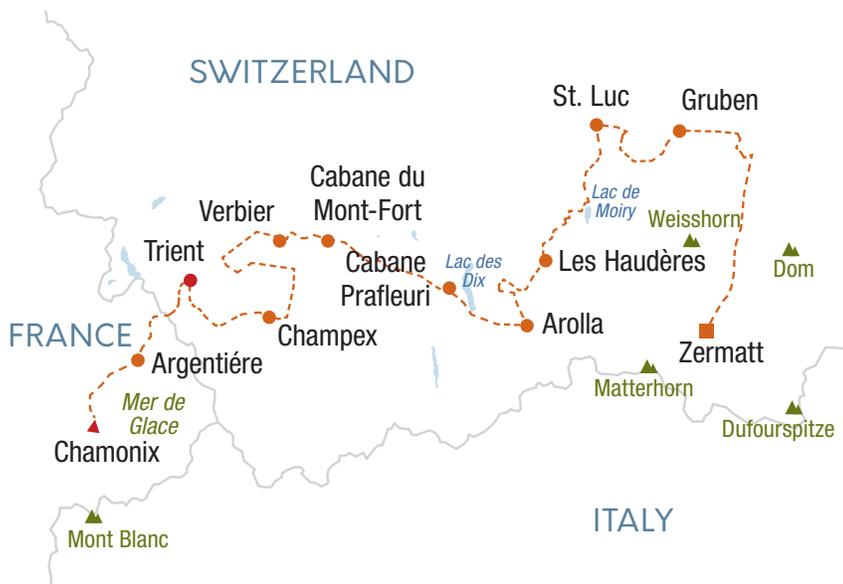


TERRAIN



*"The hike was amazing, quite challenging but most rewarding too."*

*– Susanna M.*



\*All ground transportation between Chamonix and Zermatt included during tour.

Guided tour offers luggage transfer daily except at berghaus and huts. Self guided tours, no dinner in Chamonix.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# INDIA: MARKHA VALLEY TREK

Travel through the Himalaya's last frontier.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

April 22 – May 3

Price: \$5,600 (single +\$540)

*Minimum of four people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

April – June, September – October

Price: \$6,195† (single +\$650)

*†Price based on a group of four.*



Journey to the summit of the world, Ladakh, India, which rests on the western end of the Himalaya and is comprised of four mountain ranges: the Great Himalaya, Zaskar, Ladakh and the Karakoram. It is a maze of enormous snowcapped peaks and is home to the largest glacier outside of the polar regions, the Siachen. Valley heights range between 8,000 and 15,000 feet above sea level while the neighboring summits rise above 25,000 feet.

During our twelve-day exploration of the range, we will experience elegant hotels in Delhi and the finest accommodations in Leh, the capital of Ladakh, a vibrant, bustling village with fascinating bazaars, temples and shrines. While on the trek proper, we will enjoy five star camping with cutting edge outdoor equipment. The trek is supported by a large ground support staff and ponies. Ryder-Walker guides attend to your every need on and off the trail.

## DETAILS

- 11 nights, 12 days
- One night luxury hotel, 4 nights first class hotel, 6 nights high elevation luxury camping.
- All meals included during camping portion. Breakfast and dinner included in Delhi and Leh.
- Our itinerary allows for appropriate acclimatization before ascending the higher elevations.



# ITINERARY

- DAY 1: DELHI**  
Arrive Delhi. Meet and transfer to our five star hotel for a welcome orientation and dinner.
- DAY 2: DELHI TO LEH**  
Begin the day with a beautiful flight over the Himalaya to Leh, the capital of Ladakh. Private transport will deliver us to our comfortable hotel. Spend the day sightseeing and acclimatizing in our comfortable mountain home. The small village of Leh offers a variety of sightseeing opportunities, shops and restaurants.
- DAY 3: LEH**  
Explore the Indus Valley by jeep. Visit Stok, the Shey Palace and the Thiksey Monastery. Return to Leh to rest, sightsee, and continue acclimatization.
- DAY 4: LEH TO SKIU**  
Today, we'll transfer by jeep to the trailhead. A pleasant walk along the mountainside carries us to the Ganda La pass, situated at 16,339 feet. Continue to Shingo village. Following an easy walk, we'll camp at Skiu and visit the Skiu Monastery. Camp at 11,200 feet.
- DAY 5: SKIU TO MARKHA**  
A long, but gentle day takes us to the village of Markha, one of the few permanent settlements in the valley. We'll have the evening to explore the village and share a cup of tea with the locals. Camp at 12,200 feet.
- DAY 6: MARKHA TO THACHUNGSTE**  
Visit Hankar Yokma village & the hilltop Umlung Monastery. Enjoy spectacular views from the monastery, return to camp at Thachungste.
- DAY 7: THACHUNGSTE TO NIMALING**  
We'll climb into a high, narrow valley above Thachungste. Cross pastures to Nimaling, one of the most beautiful high valleys of Ladakh, which sits at a height of 15,420 feet. On the right side stands the Kangyatse Peak (21,000 feet). This is our highest camp during the tour at 15,000 feet.
- DAY 8: NIMALING**  
Rest day in Nimaling with an option to further explore the valley and/or its adjacent high peaks.
- DAY 9: NIMALING TO CHOGDO**  
We'll enjoy a long climb along the mountainside then zigzag up to the Kongmaru La to a height of 16,896 feet, our high point for the tour. Several easy stream crossings add value to today's spectacular hike. Descend to camp.
- DAY 10: CHODGO TO LEH**  
Continue to Chuskurmo and finish the trek at Shang Sumdo. Jeep transfer to Leh.
- DAY 11: LEH**  
Rest and further exploration of Leh. Souvenir shopping and celebration dinner.
- DAY 8: DEPART**  
Transfer to Delhi on an early morning flight.

CHALLENGING HIKING

## TRIP RATINGS

Challenging hiking up to 5 to 7 hours a day with ascents up to 2,700 feet. (Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### EFFORT



### COMFORT

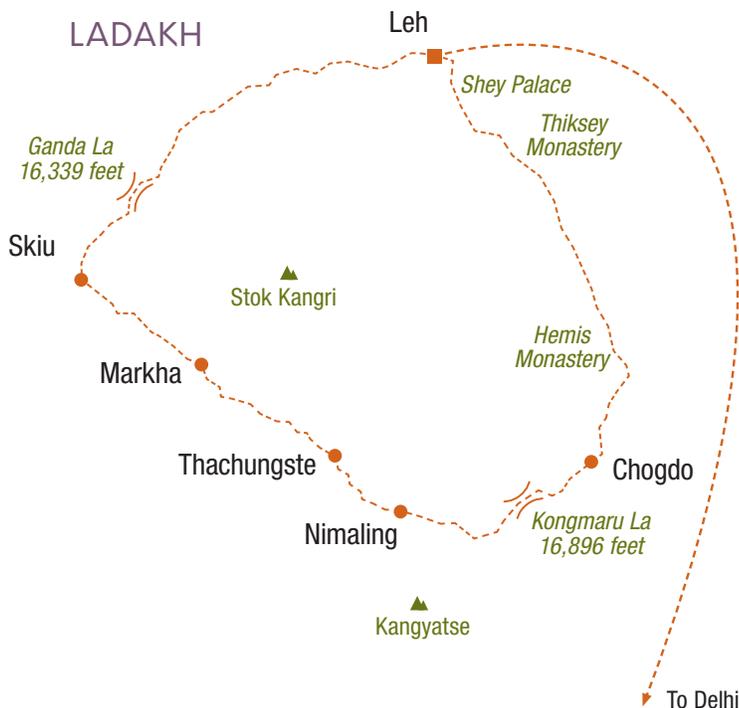


### TERRAIN



*"We enjoyed most getting close to the Ladakhi culture."*

*– John H.*



\*Luggage transfer daily.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# BHUTAN THIMPHU, LINGSHI, LAYA TREK

Explore the hidden kingdom at the top of the world.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

October 22 – November 6  
Price: \$7,460 (single +\$1,660)

*Minimum of four people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

April – June, September – October  
Price: \$9,186† (single +\$1,140)

*†Price based on a group of four.*

## TRIP RATINGS

Challenging hiking up to 12.5 miles and up to 8 hours a day with ascents up to 3,601 feet.  
*(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)*

### COMFORT



### EFFORT



### TERRAIN



**B**eginning in the vibrant cultural center of Paro, you'll spend this trip visiting the people and cultural treasures that live within the realm of the mighty Chomolhari. You'll see the famous Takstang, "Tiger's Nest," a monastic temple built onto a cliff face 2,700 feet above the Paro Valley, and snap photos of the famous dzongs, fortress-like buildings that are unique to the Buddhist kingdoms of Bhutan and Tibet. Before heading into the high country, marvel at the Kyichu Lhakhang, a 7th century temple that is one of the oldest in Bhutan.

Wander through traditional Himalayan settlements where herdsman graze their yaks on the remote mountain slopes. Follow pristine valleys where forests of rhododendron support exotic animal species like snow leopards and Himalayan blue sheep. Ascend rugged mountain passes with views of Chomolhari, Tserim Gang and Masagang.

## DETAILS

- 15 nights, 16 days
- 2 nights luxury hotels, 2 nights first class hotels, and 11 nights in first class, high elevation camping.
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner while camping. Breakfast and dinner in Paro and Thimphu.
- Gateway: Bangkok and Delhi (visa required)

# ITINERARY

## DAY 1: TRANSFER FROM BANGKOK OR DELHI TO PARO

Your guides will meet the flight and escort you to your hotel. Flight arrives midday. In the afternoon visit the National Museum and the Paro Dzong. *Sleeping altitude 7,220 ft.*

## DAY 2: PARO TO TIGERS NEST TO THIMPHU

Visit Taktsang, the Tiger's Nest Temple. This magical temple clings to a vertical granite cliff 2625 feet above the valley. In the afternoon, we will host a special Buddhist prayer ceremony at the beautiful 1200-year-old Kyichu Lhakhang Temple, to bring us good luck for the rest of the journey. *Sleeping altitude 7,550 ft.*

## DAY 3: THIMPHU TO BARSHONG

Today's trail follows the Thim Chhu river through breathtakingly beautiful rhododendron forests and past cascading waterfalls. The valley path gradually ascends to the ruins of Barshong Dzong and on to our camp for the night on the riverside. *Distance 9.5 miles. Elevation gain 2100 ft. / loss 950 ft. Sleeping altitude 11,485 ft.*

## DAY 4: BARSHONG TO SHODU

The trail continues to follow the Timphchu Chu. As we ascend, snow-capped mountain peaks in the distant horizon will come into view. After passing the junctions of Naro and Shodu valley we camp for the night. *Distance 11.25 miles. Elevation gain 1640 ft. / loss 330 ft. Sleeping altitude 12,795 ft.*

## DAY 5: SHODU TO LINGSHI

We cross the first of the many passes including Yalila Pass with an altitude of 16,043 ft. Enjoy views of Chomolhari, Tserim Gang and Masagang on a clear day. Tonight we stay in the highland village of Lingshi. *Distance 12.5 miles. Elevation gain 1640 ft. / loss 330 ft. Sleeping altitude 12,795 ft.*

## DAY 6: LINGSHI REST DAY

Today is a rest day. We will offer an optional day hike.

## DAY 7: LINGSHI TO GOKU LA BASE

We begin today's shorter hike by visiting the Lingshi Dzong, built on a commanding hill by the Shabdrung in the 1600s. We will visit the dramatic village of Gangyul, surrounded by a natural amphitheater of cliffs. Tonight we camp in the tiny, windy village of Chebisa. *Distance 7.5 miles. Elevation gain 1115 ft. / loss 790 ft. Sleeping altitude 12,795 ft.*

## DAY 8: GOKU LA BASE TO TSHERINGYANGU

We cross over Goku La pass at 14,272 ft. and descend into a stunning rhododendron filled valley before ascending over the Jari La pass at 15,575 ft. From the pass, it's all the way downhill into the picturesque valley of Tsharijatha, followed by a small climb to our camp at Tsheringyangu. *Distance 11 miles. Elevation gain 2790 ft. / loss 2100 ft. Sleeping altitude 13,125 ft.*

## DAY 9: TSHERINGYANGU TO LIMITHANG

Today's hike is strenuous trek over the Sinchey La, the highest pass on our trek at 16,420 ft. Descending to Limithang we'll see the snow covered peak of Gangchenta 22,441 ft. and the glacially carved Gangchenta valley. Gangchenta means Great Tiger Mountain. *Distance 11 miles. Elevation gain 3601 ft. / loss 3610 ft. Sleeping altitude 12,795 ft.*

## DAY 10: LIMITHANG TO LAYA

We will be mostly hiking downhill today as we make our way along a narrow, winding river valley and through densely forested region. You will enjoy spectacular views of Mt Gangchenta and Mt. Masagang. Tonight's camp is in a village paddy field. *Distance 6 miles. Elevation gain 330 ft. / loss 655 ft. Sleeping altitude 10,470 ft.*

## DAY 11: LAYA REST DAY

Explore the village of Laya. We will offer an optional day hike.

## DAY 12: LAYA TO CHAMPSA

We begin with a two-hour hike to Taktsimkhang, a small army check post. The trail from here winds up and down along the river valley of Mo Chhu, with views of the raging river, feeder streams and waterfalls. Our campsite is in Champsa just below Bari-la pass. *Distance 12.5 miles. Elevation gain 1640 ft. / loss 3280 ft. Sleeping altitude 10,830 ft.*

## DAY 13: CHAMPSA TO GASA TSHACHU (HOT SPRING)

After the last climb of the Laya Gasa Trek, Bari La (12,270 ft.), the trail descends all the way to Gasa village (9,088 ft.), where you will find the first restaurants since you started from Drukgyel Dzong. It's an hour hike up to the Gasa Tsachu (hot springs), one of the most popular hot springs in Bhutan. *Distance 4.5 miles. Elevation gain 1475 ft. / loss 3935 ft. Sleeping altitude 8,202 ft.*

## DAY 14: GASA TSHACHU TO PUNAKHA

The drive today to our hotel in Punakha will be about 4 hours on a dirt road. We will visit the magnificent Punakha Dzong, which without doubt. *Sleeping altitude 4,100 ft.*

## DAY 15: PUNAKHA TO THIMPHU

Drive to the capital, Thimphu. Visit the National Memorial Chorten (monument), the Textile Museum, Folk Heritage Museum, Takin Zoo, National Library and Handicrafts Emporium. In the evening we will visit the Tashicho Dzong.

## DAY 16: DEPART

Thimphu to Paro International Airport.



\*Luggage transfer daily.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# ICELAND: THE REMOTE WESTFJORDS

Lose yourself in the unspoiled wilderness of western Iceland.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

July 5 – 12

Price: \$5,220 (single +\$650)

*Minimum of four people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

July – August

Price: \$6,155† (single +\$755)

*†Price based on a group of four.*



Iceland's cinematic beauty is simply overwhelming with its immense glaciers and endless fjords, unspoiled wilderness areas waiting to be explored, clean icy seas where whales surface, volcanic cliffs with one of the biggest bird colonies in the northern hemisphere, geysers, active volcanoes and ancient fishing villages – Iceland's cinematic beauty is simply overwhelming.

Beginning in Iceland's progressive capital Reykjavik, our trip leaders will whisk you away to Hellnar, a beautiful old fishing village on the Snæfellsnes Peninsula that is known for its lush fjords, crackling sulphur lava fields, wild sand-strewn beaches and haunting volcanic peaks. Expect to hike beneath the ice-capped Snæfellsjökull, a glacier that was immortalized in Jules Verne's tale *Journey to the Center of the Earth*. Cross Breidafjörður by ferry and fill up your memory cards while hiking along Látrabjarg, a 14 km long, volcanic cliff, one of Iceland's natural wonders and home to thousands of sea birds and puffins. Our adventure of Iceland would not be complete without exploring the now deserted Hornstrandir peninsula, synonym for stunning subarctic hiking. As one of Europe's last true wilderness areas, it provides the perfect destination for spotting arctic foxes, seals, whales and teeming bird life.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 6 nights in bed and breakfast and hotels in fishing villages plus 1 night in simple hut.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateway: Arrival: Reykjavik
- Departure: Ísafjörður



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: REYKJAVIK TO SNÆFELLSNES PENINSULA

Meet your trip leaders in Reykjavik and transfer by van to the Snæfellsnes Peninsula, the setting for Jules Verne's *Journey to the Center of the Earth*. Shuttle ride approximately 3.5 hours

### DAY 2: SNÆFELLSNES PENINSULA

Snæfellsjökull National Park offers a variety of trails for every level hiker. Expect to hike beneath the glacier peak of Snæfellsjökull and enjoy endless views over black lava beaches. Shuttle ride is approximately 30 min. each way. Distance up to 10 miles. Elevation gain/loss up to 2000 ft.

### DAY 3: SNÆFELLSNES PENINSULA TO PATREKSFJÖRÐUR

Connect by van and ferry to the famous Westfjords, Iceland's most spectacular region. The ferry across from Stykkishólmur to Brjanslaekur is a great opportunity to spot wildlife while enjoying glimpses of Snæfellsjökull in the south. Expect to stretch your legs on a shorter hike along the way before settling into your hotel in Patreksfjörður. Transfer 2 hours by van and ferry. Distance up to 5 miles. Elevation gain/loss up to 1300 ft.

### DAY 4: LÁTRABJARG CLIFF

Shuttle by van to the Bjargtangar lighthouse, Europe's most western point and enjoy a stunning loop hike along the Látrabjarg cliff, one of Iceland's natural wonders. Extending for approximately 9 miles along the coast and ranging from 131 ft. to 1312 ft. the dramatic cliffs are mobbed by nesting sea birds. You will come into arms reach of puffins, razorbills, guillemots, cormorants and gulls. Return to Patreksfjörður. Shuttle 1.5 hours each way. Distance up to 10 miles. Elevation gain/loss 1600 ft.

### DAY 5: PATREKSFJÖRÐUR TO ÍSAFJÖRÐUR

We shuttle from Patreksfjörður on a scenic drive in and out of the Westfjords to Suðureyri, a small fishing village. Stretch your legs during a shorter, afternoon hike near stunning waterfalls and deserted fjords. Shuttle: 3.5 hours. Distance up to 6 miles. Virtually no elevation gain/loss.

### DAY 6: HORNSTRANDIR PENINSULA

Transfer by boat across the gorgeous Ísafjörur fjord to Hesteyri, a hamlet on the deserted Hornstrandir peninsula. Enjoy a stunning hike to the northern shore of Hornstrandir. Return to Hesteyri. No luggage tonight. Expect shared accommodations/bathrooms at the Old Doctor's House. Distance up to 12 miles. Elevation gain/loss 2000 ft.

### DAY 7: HORNSTRANDIR PENINSULA TO ÍSAFJÖRÐUR

Venture out and explore the southern side of the peninsula. Enjoy vast views of sheer endless fjords and the Drangajökull glacier. Look for seals, whales, arctic foxes and many different types of birds. Return to Ísafjörður by ferry in the afternoon and celebrate the last evening in Iceland. Distance up to 11 miles. Elevation gain/loss 1650 ft.

### DAY 8: DEPART

## TRIP RATINGS

Hiking in the arctic tundra and the lack of well traveled footpaths make this a challenging trek with hikes up to 12 miles with accents of up to 2,000 ft. (Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### COMFORT



### EFFORT



### TERRAIN



*"I had a wonderful week in Iceland that exceeded my expectations in every possible way."*

— Kate T.



\*All ground transportation and boat transfers between Reykjavik and Ísafjörður included during tour. Luggage transfer daily except for night six. NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities. Please be aware that due to Iceland's vastness and lack of public transportation, daily van and/or ferry rides occur. Times stated above are estimates.

# MATTERHORN TREK

Ascend the rugged border country of Italy and Switzerland.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

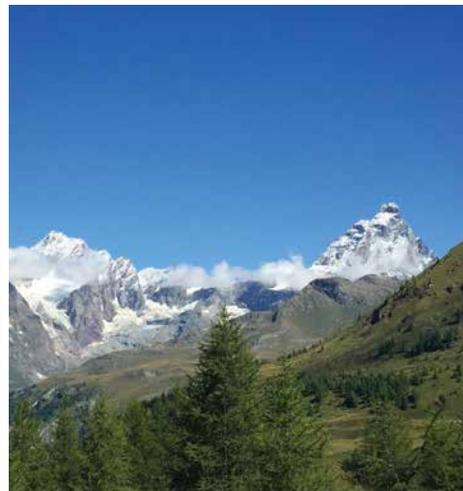
August 25 – September 1  
Price: \$4,315 (single +\$590)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Late June – September  
Price: \$5,190† (single +\$735)

*†Price based on a group of four.*



The highest mountains in Western Europe, the Pennine Alps, offer hikers an opportunity to explore a spectacular alpine world. This itinerary starts and finishes beneath the Matterhorn, one of the most iconic peaks in the world. The tour also circumnavigates the Monte Rosa Massif, the Alps' second highest peak. The Tour du Monte Rosa has become a much sought after achievement, and our itinerary follows much of the same route. In Macugnaga, Italy we are treated to perhaps the Alps' most spectacular mountain view, the east face of the Monte Rosa, which is truly Himalayan in proportion rising 10,000 vertical feet above the valley floor.

Ryder-Walker offers the Matterhorn Trek from Cervinia, Italy to Zermatt, Switzerland in an eight-day trip. You'll visit five towns in Italy and two in Switzerland, beginning and finishing the tour at the base of the majestic Matterhorn on opposite sides of the Swiss/Italian border.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 7 nights first class hotels and charming country inns.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateway: Milan and Torino



# ITINERARY

- DAY 1: CERVINIA**  
Meet your guides and fellow guests in a well-appointed hotel at the base of the Matterhorn.
- DAY 2: CERVINIA TO AYAS-CHAMPOLUC**  
Ascend to the Col de Nana beneath the Grand Tournalin, and descend to the idyllic hamlet of St. Jacques. Continue on to Champoluc. Overnight in one of the finest hotels in the Alps.  
*Distance 10 miles. Elevation gain 3000 ft.*
- DAY 3: AYAS-CHAMPOLUC TO LA TRINITÉ**  
Climb to the herder's settlement of Cuneaz, and ascend from there to the Pentacol and the Col Pinter. Enter the Walser stronghold of the Val di Gressoney beneath the magnificent Lyskamm, one of the most powerful peaks in the Alps. Walk past ancient Walser farms to the medieval hamlet of Gressoney St. Jean and on to your excellent hotel just out of town. *Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain 4000 ft.*
- DAY 4: LA TRINITÉ TO ALAGNA**  
Ascend to Lake Gabiet and on to the Col d'Olen. At the pass we enter into the magical Val Sesia and look down to Alagna nearly 6,000 feet below. Descend, with help from a cable car, through meadows and ancient Walser villages and farms to a place that time forgot. Overnight in the finest hotel in Alagna. *Distance up to 10 miles. Elevation gain 4000 ft.*
- DAY 5: ALAGNA TO MACUGNAGA**  
Hike over the Turlo Pass, the scene of many a World War I skirmish. Follow a Roman road to the historic village of Macugnaga, nestled beneath the staggering 10,000 foot east face of the Monte Rosa. Overnight in a charming three star hotel in the center of this charming village. *Distance 12 miles. Elevation gain 4700 ft.*
- DAY 6: MACUGNAGA TO SAAS FEE**  
A cable car aids our ascent to a point near the Swiss border at the Monte Moro pass. Descend through glacier scoured fields of granite with the occasional cable for help. Continue on foot or by bus to Saas Almagell and then up on foot to Saas Fee. Rest in an outstanding hotel in the center of this charming village. *Distance 11 miles. Elevation gain 900 ft.*
- DAY 7: SAAS FEE TO ZERMATT**  
Exit Saas Fee to gain one of the great Hohenwegs, high level paths, of the Alps. Travel beneath cascading glaciers and remote, uninhabited valleys as we make our way to Grachen, a sparkling village on a bench high above the Mattertal. Van transfer to Zermatt to celebrate our achievements in one of the town's finest hotels. *Distance 10 miles. Elevation gain 2500 ft.*
- DAY 9: DEPART**

CHALLENGING HIKING

## TRIP RATINGS

Challenging hiking up to 12 miles with ascents up to 4,700 feet. (Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### EFFORT



### COMFORT



### TERRAIN



*"The overall experience, scenery, people, guides, lodging, etc. was truly outstanding. The thing I loved most was sharing the experience with my daughter. She told me it was the best vacation she has had."*

– Henry J.



\*All ground transportation included during tour. Luggage transfer daily.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# EIGER TRAIL

Wander beneath the 6,000-foot wall of the Eiger.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

August 11 – 19

Price: \$4,675 (single +\$605)

*Minimum of two people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

Late June – Mid September

Price: \$5,165† (single +\$690)

*†Price based on a group of four.*

## SELF GUIDED TOUR

Late June – Mid September

Price: \$2,775 (single +385)



**T**he Bernese Oberland in central Switzerland is one of the most stunning mountain ranges on earth. High, glaciated peaks and vertical rock walls ascend thousands of feet above tumbling waterfalls, pristine valleys, and flower-filled meadows.

Our nine-day hiking tour begins on the west side of the Berner Oberland in the fashionable resort village of Gstaad. Cross airy mountain ridgelines like the Wasserngrat and Ammertentpass. Cross the lofty Hohtürli Pass and drop into the remote and mysterious Kiental. Climb over the Sefinenfurgge, with views over Europe's most famous mountains, the Eiger (13,025 feet), Mönch (13,474 feet) and Jungfrau (13,642 feet). Hike every foot of the Eignordwand, the vertical north face of the Eiger.

## DETAILS

- 8 nights, 9 days
- 6 nights charming country inns and first class hotels plus 2 nights simple berghaus with shower on hall.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateway: Zurich



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: GSTAAD

Meet your guides and group for dinner in a lovely, four star hotel in Gstaad.

### DAY 2: GSTAAD TO LENK

Begin the next morning with a boost to the fabulous Wasserngrat. Wander through enchanting meadows and limestone outcrops with superb views of the emerging glaciated peaks of the Oberland. Descend to idyllic Lenk by cable car. *Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain 3700 ft. (without lift).*

### DAY 3: LENK TO ENGSTLIGENALP

We'll begin today's hike by the raging headwaters of the Simme as we climb to the remote Ammertentpass. After an airy crossing, we'll descend into the hanging valley of Engstligenalp. *Distance 10 miles. Elevation gain 4523 ft. / loss 1604 ft.*

### DAY 4: ENGSTLIGENALP TO KANDERSTEG

Hike to a lovely ridge beside the Tschingellochtighorn. Descend to the Schwärtzgratli where we continue to the atmospheric Berghotel Schwarenbach. Take the Sunnbühl cable car for an optional descent or take ancient carriage roads to Kandersteg. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 2800 ft. / loss 4874 ft.*

### DAY 5: KANDERSTEG TO GRIESALP

Enter the very heart of the high peaks of the Oberland with a scenic gondola ride out of Kandersteg to the Oeschinensee. Pass through the spectacular Hohtürli, meaning "high little door" in Swiss German, to enter into the remote and lush Kiental. *Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain 3595 ft. with lift / loss 4389 ft.*

### DAY 6: GRIESALP TO MÜRREN

Today we'll ascend out of the remote and lovely Kiental, a pastoral gem beneath the impressive walls of the Blumlisalp massif, then cross the challenging Sefinenfurgge. Here begin glorious views of the Eiger as we descend into the Lauterbrunnen Valley and our stay in Mürren. *Distance 8 miles. Elevation gain 3844 ft. / loss 3194 ft.*

### DAY 7: MÜRREN TO WENGEN

We'll enjoy a long ramble down the Lauterbrunnen valley and view the thundering falls and the vestiges of pastoral culture in this picture perfect valley. Ascend a remote and beautiful valley to Wengen, perched opposite Mürren. *Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain up to 3000 ft. / loss 3194 ft.*

### DAY 8: WENGEN TO GRINDELWALD

A most classic ramble lies before us today as we cross the Kleine Scheidegg, the saddle beneath the infamous Eiger Nordwand, the Eiger North Wall. Descend into Grindelwald beneath the 6,000-foot north face of the Eiger. *Distance 9 miles. Elevation gain 2100 ft. / loss 3369 ft.*

### DAY 9: DEPART

## TRIP RATINGS

Challenging hiking up to 11 miles with ascents up to 4,500 feet. (Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### EFFORT



### COMFORT



### TERRAIN



*"You get into towns, hotels and on to trails that would be hard to discover on your own. I return because the guides always make it a really, really fun trip."*

– T. Leadbetter



\*All ground transportation between Gstaad and Grindelwald included during tour. Luggage transfer daily except at berghauses.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# NORWAY: THE ISLANDS OF LOFOTEN

Unlock the treasures of Norway's mountains and fjords.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

June 27 – July 4

Price: \$5,400 (single +\$715)

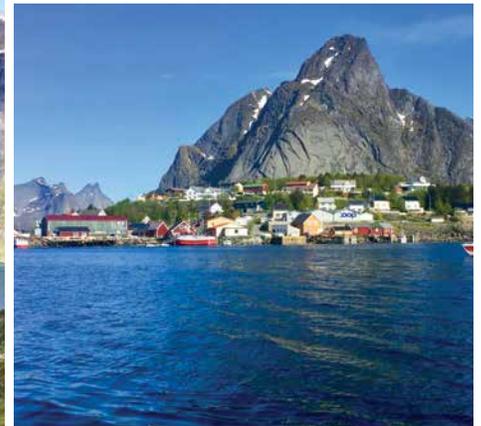
*Minimum of four people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

June – September

Price: \$6,230† (single +\$490)

*†Price based on a group of four.*



Escape from the crowds as you explore the Lofoten archipelago, a rugged island chain lying 122 miles north of the Arctic Circle. Bathed by the light of the midnight sun, and rising out of the Norwegian Sea like a fortress wall, the 4,000-foot granite peaks of Lofoten will mesmerize you with their craggy summits, lovely jade meadows, and unforgettable views of Norway's sparkling fjords.

Beginning in Sørvågen, Lofoten, our eight-day hiking tour of Norway connects tiny villages on the islands of Moskenesøya, Flakstadøya and Austvågøya. Traveling by sea kayak, (no experience necessary), and by foot, you'll paddle to secluded beaches, hike across remote mountain tops, and walk through tiny hamlets with colorful wooden fishing cottages perched at the water's edge.

Whether it's hiking across the summits of Kollfjellet, Merraflestinden and Munken, or whale watching from the harbor in Reine, one of the most beautiful seaside villages in the world, you'll witness the most revered landscapes in all of Norway.

## DETAILS

- 7 nights, 8 days
- 6 nights historic fishing cottages and 1 night charming inn.
- Breakfast and dinner daily.
- Gateways: Arrival, Oslo to Bodø to Svolvær. Departure, Leknes to Bodø to Oslo



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: HENNINGSVÆR

Travel independently to Oslo and then fly into Bodø and either ferry or fly from Bodø to Svolvær. On June 27, there will be a one-time, late afternoon RW shuttle offered from Svolvær to Henningsvær. Other arrivals will independently taxi transfer to Henningsvær – a 30 minute ride. At 7 PM meet the group and your guide(s) for cocktails, orientation and dinner.

### DAY 2: HENNINGSVÆR

Begin the day at the foot of Olderfjorden. Hike up the fjord and through the mountains to an alpine lake and swim if the weather permits. For those feeling energetic, we will summit the peak before hiking back to Henningsvær and our lovely hotel. *Distance 7 miles. Elevation gain 2100 ft.*

### DAY 3: HENNINGSVÆR TO NUSFJORD

Shuttle by van to Eggum and then hike to Unstad, a stunning village famous for its waffles and Arctic surfing. Hiking the shoreline, we will pass a gorgeous lighthouse right below a 2,139-foot peak. Enjoy view of Lofoten's dramatic landscapes. Transfer to Nusfjord, one of the most picturesque and best preserved fishing villages in Lofoten. Spend the night in a refurbished nineteenth century seaside rorbuer cottages. *Distance 10 miles. Elevation gain 3000 ft.*

### DAY 4: NUSFJORD TO SAKRISØY

After a short transfer to Ytresand, we hike up a stunning mountain plateau and descend to a secluded beach. In the afternoon, we transfer to the small fishing village of Sakrisøy. Stay in an authentic, family run rorbuer-hotel, Sakrisøy Rorbuer (fisher huts), located on the waterfront. *Distance up to 8 miles. Elevation gain up to 2000 ft.*

### DAY 5: SAKRISØY TO HORSEIDVIKA

We will transfer by boat into Kjerkfjorden and hike to Horseidvika, another stunning beach on the north shore of the archipelago. Depending on weather, we may continue onto a mountain saddle with expansive views across the fjords. Return to your rorbuer hotel in Sakrisøy. *Distance up to 8 miles. Elevation gain/loss up to 3000 ft.*

### DAY 6: SAKRISØY TO SORVÅGEN

After a short transfer to the village of Sorvågen, we will hike over three peaks to reach our lunch spot at Munkebu. Enjoy vast views of Lofoten and its many fjords and peaks, before returning to Sorvågen to settle into our cozy, waterfront rorbuers. *Distance: up to 10 miles. Elevation gain/loss: up to 3000 ft.*

### DAY 7: SORVÅGEN

Hike from sea level to Hellsegga at 1,949 feet. Hellsegga is the highest peak on the southwest end of Lofoten, and it will give us the chance to view the most southern islands of the Norwegian archipelago, Værøy and Røstlandet. *Distance 5 miles. Elevation gain/loss 2200 ft.*

### DAY 8: DEPART FROM SORVÅGEN

The closest airport with connections to Bodø/Oslo is Leknes. There will be a one-time RW shuttle for those catching afternoon connections. It is a 45-minute drive. Other departures will independently taxi transfer to Leknes airport.

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderate terrain, hiking up to 10 miles with ascents up to 3,000 feet.  
(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### EFFORT



### COMFORT



### TERRAIN



*"I'm glad that we got to visit Norway; the other hikers on the trip were great; the scenery was beautiful."*

– Beth P.



\*All ground transportation between Sorvågen and Henningsvær included during tour. Luggage transfer daily.  
NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# NEPAL: THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM OF MUSTANG

Follow the ancient caravan route before it disappears.



## GUIDED TOUR\*

May 6 – 23

Price: \$6,255 (single +\$380)

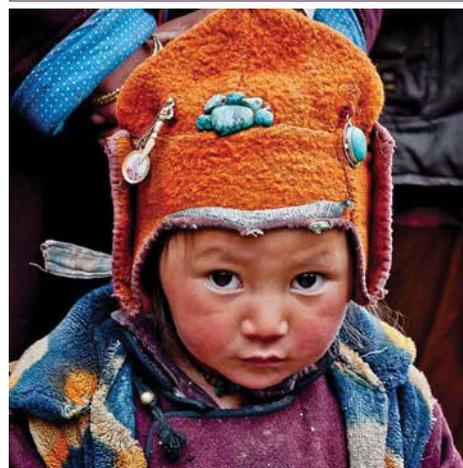
*Minimum of four people required to run this tour.*

## PRIVATE GUIDED\*

April – June, September – October

Price: \$6,980† (single +\$380)

*†Price based on a group of four.*



**N**ow is your chance to step back in time and follow the ancient caravan route through summer nomad camps and isolated villages to the last intact walled city in the world — Lo Manthang, capital of this mysterious kingdom.

Departing from the trading town of Jomson (9,000 ft.), the trek begins in the world's deepest valley, where the Kali Gandaki River winds its way between the towering 26,000-foot massifs of the Annapurna range to the east and the magnificent Dhaulagiri to the west.

From Jomson, you'll journey to Upper Mustang where untouched Himalayan treasures await. You'll gain altitude slowly; hiking, camping, and enjoying the incredible scenery as you climb to Lo Manthang (12,500 ft.). Spend several days in Lo, then descend on the western side of the valley to Jomson for your return to Kathmandu.

Your trip leader will be professional photographer and explorer, Ace Kvale. Ace is one of the world's top adventure photographers. He has participated in 27 expeditions to Asia, and his works have appeared in dozens of books, films and magazines, including National Geographic.

## DETAILS

- 17 nights, 18 days
- 4 nights five star hotels, 1 night superior hotel, 5 nights mountain lodges, 7 nights luxury camping.
- All meals included except lunch in Kathmandu.
- Gateway: Kathmandu



## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-3: KATHMANDU

Acclimate and sightsee. Transfer to Pokhara and meet your guide.

### DAY 4: KATHMANDU TO KAGBENI

Meet up with local guides and pony men in Jomsom, the gateway to Mustang and the world's deepest gorge. Begin walking up the Kali Gandaki Valley, slowly gaining altitude to arrive in Kagbeni.

### DAY 5: KAGBENI TO CHUKSANG

Hike to Chuksang. Camp at the base of the mountains. With a private cook and muleteers, your nights in the Mustang wilderness will certainly be wild, but you won't have to give up your creature comforts.

### DAYS 6-7: CHUKSANG TO TANGYE

By now you will have acclimatized sufficiently, so full days of hiking through valleys and over jagged moraines follow. Visit Tangye. This tiny town lies at the base of an enormous plateau, and after many hours of trekking through desolate landscape, it appears as an emerald in the distance. People await you at the end of this leg, excited to witness travelers from the outside world.

### DAY 8: TANGYE TO YARA

Hike to the village of Yara, home to many of the greatest caves and cave paintings in the region. The village of Yara is yet another emerald embedded in a valley with cliffs as rugged as the teeth of dragons.

### DAYS 9-10: YARA TO CHARANG

Continue on to the beautiful village of Charang, with its ancient colorful monastery situated on a cliff above the river. Hike to the medieval walled city of Lo Manthang (12,500 feet). Tour the various temples and monasteries of the capital with art and frescoes, which are equal, if not superior, to the Sistine Chapel in complexity and beauty.

### DAYS 11-12: CHARANG TO LO MANTHANG

Explore Lo Manthang and the outlying villages near the border with Tibet, an area with snow leopards, caves, and ancient monasteries that have been continuously occupied for nearly one thousand years.

### DAYS 13-15: MANTHANG TO CHHOSER

Travel by car and foot to Chhoser, Chuksang and Josom. Local guides will share wild and wonderful stories and myths of the region, which haven't changed in three millennia.

### DAYS 16-17: CHHOSER TO KATHMANDU

Fly to Pokhara, then on to Kathmandu and your five star accommodations. Sightsee.

### DAYS 18: DEPART

## TRIP RATINGS

Moderately challenging hiking at altitude.  
(Trip rating descriptions found on page 8.)

### EFFORT



### COMFORT



### TERRAIN



*"Nepal is one of the few remaining sanctuaries of Tibetan Buddhism and one of the most remote places on earth."*



\*Luggage transfer daily.

NOTE: Daily itineraries on all our guided treks are subject to change. Your guide(s) will make route decisions based on weather and terrain conditions as well as hiker's abilities.

# TRIED-AND-TRUE: FAVORITE SELF-GUIDED TREKS



## ■ CAPRI AND THE AMALFI COAST



**(April–June and September–October)**

Tranquil and enchanting might be the best way to describe this trek. You'll explore some of the most famous hikes in the region including the Sentiero del Fortini on the Island of Capri; the Hike of the Gods from Amalfi to

Positano and the Valley of Valle dei Mulini above Amalfi where rare ferns and orchids line your path. 6 nights and 7 days. Easy to moderate hiking up to 6.5 miles with ascents up to 3600 ft. **\$2,975\* (single +\$625)**

*\*High season supplement for July and August is \$250 per person.*



## ■ CINQUE TERRE



**(April–October)**

Spoil yourself in this UNESCO World Heritage Site, where the rocky coast and green hills meet the cobalt sea. Authentic Ligurian Coast cuisine and wine swoon you and friendly locals engage you, while unique hiking along a dramatic coastline

complemented by a train and ferry system, transport you from village to village. 4 nights and 5 days. Easy to moderate hiking up to 7 miles with ascents up to 1800 ft. **\$1,275\* (single +\$320)** Breakfast only.

*\*High season supplement for July and August is \$250 per person.*



## ■ THE COTSWOLDS WAY



**(March–October)**

The villages of the Cotswolds are some of the most charming you'll ever see. Thatch roofed, golden rock hewn cottages line tiny cobbled streets. The region has been inhabited for at least 6000 years and there are numerous sites of

great archaeological interest along the route. Start/Finish villages are Chipping Campden and Bath. 9 nights and 10 days. Easy hiking because there is negligible ascent/descent but up to 16 miles (can be made shorter). **\$2,035 (single +\$370)** Breakfast only.



## ■ JUNGFRAU LOOP



**(Mid June–Mid September)**

Picture postcard views surround you in every direction, and the fabulous system of lifts, cable cars and funiculars makes hiking in this lofty region accessible for families and those wishing a more moderate hiking

experience without sacrificing big mountain views as well as for more ambitious hikers. 5 nights and 6 days. Easier hiking with up to 9 miles and ascents up to 2500 ft. **\$1,990 (single +\$295)**



## ■ PROVENCE: HILL TOWNS OF THE LUBERON



**(April–June and September–October)**

Provence, in particular the Medieval hill towns of the Luberon Mountains, offers its visitors a taste of 'souleu e terraire' --the soul of the terrain. Walk amongst the vineyards, olive groves, cherry and apple orchards, as well as

the infamous lavender fields in Provence's most quintessential historic villages situated in the Vaucluse region of Provence. 7 nights and 8 days. Easy to moderate walking up to 6 miles and ascents up to 1500 ft.

**\$2,445 (single +\$660)** Breakfast daily. Dinner day 1 and day 6 only.



## ■ WINTER ENGADINE HOLIDAY



**(January–March)**

Explore the upper and lower Engadine, a pioneer of alternative winter activity and adventure for decades. This tour offers: hiking, snowshoeing, skiing from inn to inn on expertly maintained trails, sledding from village to village and soak in

thermal hot springs and spas. 7 nights and 8 days. Be as exhilarating or calm as you wish with plenty of daily options. Four-star hotels throughout! **\$2,970 (single +\$415)**



## ■ BAVARIAN TYROL TREK



**(June–September)**

See fairytale Germany spring to life before our eyes. Hike along high mountain footpaths, mellow farm roads, and sinuous singletrack. Traverse notable Tyrolean mountains like the Fockenstein, Benediktenwand and Zugspitze. Enjoy traditional

Bavarian meals served at working farmhouses, and refresh with tall steins of German lager. 7 nights and 8 days. Moderate hiking up to 10 miles with ascents up to 3000 ft. **\$1,985 (single +\$270)**



## ■ BERNER OBERLAND TREK



**(Late June–Mid September)**

Classic scenery is the hallmark of the Berner Oberland where the famous trio, the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau, dominates not only the landscape, but the imagination of the traveler. As you link the region's villages, you'll traverse

high ridges, follow valleys, and climb to a number of high and lonely passes separating the deep and dramatic valleys cutting through the range. 6 nights and 7 days. A more strenuous trek with up to 9 miles and ascents up to 4500 ft. **\$2,200 (single +\$370)**

For more information on the following self-guided treks please visit our web site and see the schedule on pages 78 and 79 for available dates and pricing.

*Allegra Engadine, Ambiance Italian Dolomites, Berner Oberland Traverse, Enchanted Engadine, Pastoral Berner Oberland, Red Rocks: Sedona Arizona, Slovenia: Waterfalls and Gorges and Tour du Mont Blanc Vitesse.*

Most of our Guided tours are offered Self Guided as well.  
Our Tried-and-True Treks are only offered as Self Guided or Private Guided.



### ■ CORTINA & LAKES OF THE DOLOMITES



**(Mid June–Mid September)**  
Our point to point hiking adventure travels from North to South, from the rolling Val Pustaria all the way to the ultra-charming Lago di Alleghe. We'll connect the Tre Cime National Park just south of the Austrian border with the Monte Pelmo

Nature Reserve in the heart of the Dolomites. 6 nights and 7 days. Challenging hiking up to 10 miles with ascents up to 4000 ft.

**\$2,330 (single +\$340)**



### ■ IRELAND'S DINGLE WAY



**(April–October)**  
Perhaps Ireland's best walking tour is found in the very southwest of the country on the Dingle Peninsula. Throughout, it uses a latticework of farm roads, back streets of small villages, tracks across bleak coastland and beaches, and

trails up remote hills. A moderate trek averaging 12.5 miles daily with one day up to 17 miles. Ascents nominal – one day just over 2000 ft. 9 nights and 10 days. **\$2,230 (single +\$470)** Breakfast daily and only one dinner.



### ■ ITALIAN LAKES DISTRICT: COMO & BELLAGIO



**(May–October)**  
This hike offers an opportunity to sample old Italy while enjoying views of the Alps' most notable mountain ranges and peaks. Authentic Italian cuisine, romantic villas and lakeside views are the hallmarks of Lake Como. Transfers by water ferry

allows you to enjoy the tranquility and calm beauty of the lake, while adventurous day hikes access the ridges, mountaintops and UNESCO World Heritage Sites. 6 nights and 7 days. Moderate terrain with ascents up to 2000 ft. **\$2,445 (single + \$405)**



### ■ SNOWDONIA: MOUNTAINS, LAKES AND COASTS



**(June–October)**  
This unique itinerary travels through the heart of the Welsh Highlands. Visit sparkling coastal ports, the summit of Wales highest peak (Mount Snowden), connect the country's loveliest lakes and hike through ancient Roman

Camps as well as spirited farm communities. Overnight in welcoming old world hotels and charming B&Bs. 6 nights and 7 days. Moderate hiking with distances up to 9 miles and optional ascents up to 2700 ft. **\$2,050 (+\$425)**



### ■ SPANISH MEDITERRANEAN: COSTA BRAVA



**(May–Mid July and Mid August–October)**  
This Ryder-Walker exclusive itinerary explores the undiscovered gems of the Spanish Costa Brava. The variety is incredible and the quality of accommodation and cuisine exceptional. The trek is

a mixture of trails through hidden fishermen's villages, ancient ruined Iberian settlements, remote beaches and as mountainous terrain. 8 nights and 9 days. Moderate hiking with distances up to 9 miles and ascents up to 2800 ft. **\$2,545 (single \$670) Dinner two nights.**



### ■ TICINO SWISS LAKE DISTRICT: SUN AND SERENITY



**(May–October)**  
While it is predominantly Italian, Ticino still offers quintessential Swiss landscapes with many valleys, centuries old stone villages and historic mountain pastures. With multiple summits to bag, your trek encounters the most spectacular mountain

scenery, including numerous lake-view sightings as well as snow-dusted peak backdrops. 7 nights and 8 days. Moderate hiking up to 10 miles with ascents up to 2500 ft. **\$2,650 (single +\$365)**



### ■ APPENZEL HUT HOP



**(Late June–October)**  
Exciting hiking characterizes this unusual corner of Switzerland where the trails, punctuated by steel cables, cut steps and iron pegs to aid the hiker, are carved in the living rock. The mountains feature a system of huts and berghauses, all situated within a

day of walking from each other. This is a point to point circumnavigation of the range known as the Säntis/Churfirsten. 7 nights and 8 days. Challenging hiking up to 8 miles with ascents up to 3000 ft.

**\$1,445 (single +\$290)** No luggage transfers on this hike.



### ■ SWISS HAUTE ROUTE



**(Late July–Mid September)**  
Explore a spectacular alpine world that takes you from Arolla, beneath the shadow of Mont Collon with its vertical rock walls and snowy summit, across the western Valais to Saas Fee with its tumbling glaciers and towering peaks. The route lies

along quiet mountain trails with some rough and remote sections and spectacular and unusual views of peaks and glaciers. 6 nights and 7 days. A challenging trek with up to 11 miles and ascents up to 4500 ft.

**\$2,150 (single +\$335)** No luggage transports.

**NOTE:** All trip prices are based on double occupancy. Breakfast and dinner included daily on every trek unless indicated otherwise. Luggage transfers except at berghauses/huts or noted in trek description.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## ABOUT RYDER-WALKER

Ryder-Walker Alpine Adventures is a family owned and operated adventure travel company based in Telluride, Colorado. We are a dedicated team of outdoor fanatics who are delighted to provide you with unique, memorable adventures in the most dramatic and breathtaking regions on earth.

We are in the office 9 AM to 5 PM Mountain Time and are happy to talk to you by phone. You can also send us an email or communicate via social media. You'll always connect with someone that knows (and loves) what they're talking about and is excited to help you plan your next adventure.

Early registration is recommended. All tours are subject to availability.

## DEPOSIT

- Guided and Self-Guided tours require a \$500 deposit per person.
- Private Guided tours require 25% of the total cost as a deposit per person.
- Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.
- Bookings within 90 days of the tour's starting date must pay the full tour balance at the time of registration.
- Prices are quoted in U.S. Dollars and all payments must be made as such. We accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, checks and wire transfers.

- Upon receipt of your deposit, you will receive a confirmation letter, invoice, travel insurance application, waivers and releases.
- A final balance invoice will arrive prior to the due date.

## FINAL PACKAGE

- Approximately 30 days prior to departure all travelers will receive a pre-departure final package. The travel booklet includes your itinerary, travel instructions, cultural information, equipment list and more.
- Self-Guided travelers will receive an additional *On the Trail* booklet with daily hike descriptions and maps, as well as transfer information when applicable.
- Final packages are mailed out approximately 30 days prior to departure. Exceptions apply on a case-by-case basis. Last minute registrations, for example, follow an expedited timeline. Please inform us of special requirements.

## CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

### *Guided Trips*

- Cancellations more than 90 days prior to tour departure: full refund.
- Cancellations between 45 and 90 days prior to tour departure: forfeit 25% of the cost.
- Cancellations within 45 days of tour departure: forfeit 100% of the cost.

### *Independent Travel*

- Cancellations more than 90 days prior to tour departure: full refund.

- Cancellations between 45 and 90 days prior to tour departure: forfeit deposit.
- Cancellations within 45 days of tour departure: forfeit 100% of the cost.

### *Private Guided Travel*

- Cancellations more than 90 days prior to tour departure: forfeit deposit worth 25% of the cost.
- Cancellations within 90 days of tour departure: forfeit 100% of the cost.

## RESCHEDULING

There is no charge for rescheduling guided or independent tours prior to 90 days before trip departure. If rescheduling is not an option then please refer to our cancellation policies.

## CURRENCY EXCHANGE ESTIMATES

To be competitive in our pricing we tie the Euro, Swiss Franc and other foreign denominated costs to the value of those currencies at the time of the publication of our following summer's materials. Note that this does not represent the total cost of the trip since many of our expenses are in dollars, which will not fluctuate. This means that 2017 prices are fixed in the autumn of 2016. It has rarely been necessary to change our prices. However, if there is significant fluctuation in the value of the dollar relative to these currencies we may need to alter the price slightly. Should this be the case it will be clearly outlined in the final invoice you will receive approximately 90 days prior to the start of your trip.

*Ryder-Walker Alpine Adventures, Inc. including owners, guides, associates and employees, or any associated trip operator act only as agents for the passenger in regard to travel, whether by railroad, motor coach, boat, airplane, or any other means of conveyance. They assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by neglect or reason of defect in any vehicle or for any reason whatsoever, or through the acts or default of any company or*

*person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time the passengers are not aboard their planes. The usual passage contract used by airlines when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the tour participant. Ryder-Walker reserves the right to: make reasonable changes to or withdraw a tour if conditions so warrant; to refuse application of*

*anyone or expel from tour any tour member(s) whose conduct or condition is incompatible with the safety or interest of the party as a whole; to substitute hotels specified for others of similar category. Prices of the tours are based on current tariffs and exchange rates, and are subject to adjustment in the event of any change therein. Baggage is at the owner's risk entirely. The payment of a deposit or issuance of acceptance of voucher or ticket shall be deemed to be consent to the above conditions.*

## RYDER-WALKER LIMITED EDITION MERCHANDISE FOR 2018

**W**e thought it would be nice to offer clients who trek with Ryder-Walker the opportunity to purchase a few of our favorite items that RW staff wear and enjoy. We also wanted to give back to a non-profit and chose 350.org to receive the proceeds of sales made from all merchandise sales.

### WAYNE MCKENZIE PORTRAITS OF THE ALPS

Australian native Wayne McKenzie is a long-time friend to the Ryder-Walker family and an award winning plein air painter. His works are a visual journey into the landscapes he creates. His paintings hang in private collections throughout North America, Europe and Australasia. Along with his countless awards and Best of Shows in many national competitions, Wayne's work has appeared in various publications in the United States including being honored as a feature artist in the hardcover book "Best of Artists-Oil-Global edition" by Kennedy Publishing.

Ryder-Walker commissioned Wayne to paint two of our favorite hikes the Val Ferret and Val Travenanzes. We are selling the original paintings as well as a limited edition of 10 Professional Gallery Wraps of each painting.



**Val Ferret** – This painting is of the stunning Italian Val Ferret beneath the Brenva face of Mont Blanc. Original painting with frame as shown – \$2500 (30"L x 24"H x 2"D)



**Val Travenanzes** – This painting is the top of the Val Travenanzes – wild Dolomites valley. Original painting with frame as shown – \$2500 (30"L x 24"H x 2"D)

Limited Edition Professional Gallery Wraps – \$300 each plus shipping and handling. We've taken Wayne's original paintings, professionally photographed them and then had them professionally printed on a high-grade photo satin canvas, framed in a wrap style and finished with a protective UV fine-art Satin Finish. Finished art comes with a hanging wire ready to be displayed.

To commission Wayne to paint your favorite hike, visit [waynemckenzieart.com](http://waynemckenzieart.com) or email him at [waynemckenzie@hotmail.com](mailto:waynemckenzie@hotmail.com)

### MAMMUT JACKETS WITH THE RYDER-WALKER LOGO

You will definitely want to have our sporty Mammut jacket as one of your go-to layers. This mid-layer zip up, by Mammut\*, is made from soft, Pontetorto® Tecnopile® microfleece, and is wonderful as a standalone jacket as well as a companion to your favorite hiking or ski jacket for colder weather conditions. It features two zip hand pockets and packs up perfectly due to its light weight. Regular Fit. Limited inventory, call for availability.

#### YAMPA WOMEN'S JACKET

Color: Black  
 Sizes: XS, S, M, L, XL  
 Price: \$100  
 Includes Shipping and Handling.

#### YADKIN MEN'S JACKET

Color: Black  
 Sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL  
 Price: \$100  
 Includes Shipping and Handling.



#### RYDER-WALKER ADVENTURE CAP

The light-weight Ryder-Walker adventure cap is ideal for hiking, walking, golf, running and most outdoor sports. The high-teck "Breeze" Lite performance fabric by Pacific Headwear keeps you dry and cool. Adjustable velcro back makes it virtually fit everyone.  
 Color: Graphite  
 Price: \$20  
 Includes Shipping and Handling.

**350.org**

350.org is building a global climate movement who's online campaigns, grassroots organizing, and mass public actions are coordinated by a global network active in over 188 countries. The number 350 Means climate safety: to preserve a livable planet, scientists tell us we must reduce the amount of CO2 in the atmosphere from its current level of 400 parts per million to below 350 ppm.

\*Mammut is the official apparel sponsor of Ryder-Walker Alpine Adventures.

# 2018 GUIDED TOURS

ALL GUIDED TRIPS	2018 DATES	GUIDED PRICE Per Person (+ single supplement)	PRIVATE GUIDED † Price Per Person (+ single supplement)	COUNTRIES VISITED
<b>FEBRUARY</b>				
Patagonia: The Lakes District (page 46)	Feb. 19 – 28	\$5,920* (single +\$785)	Call for pricing	Argentina, Chile
<b>APRIL</b>				
Peru: Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu (page 48)	April 10 – 20	\$6,095* (single +\$2000)	Call for pricing	Peru
India: Markha Valley Trek (page 60)	April 22 – May 3	\$5,600* (single +\$540)	\$6,195 (single +\$650)	India
<b>MAY</b>				
Sedona, Arches & Canyonlands (page 22)	May 5 – 13	\$4,630 (single +\$545)	\$5,385 (single +\$520)	United States
Nepal: The Forbidden Kingdom of Mustang (page 72)	May 6 – 23	\$6,255* (single +\$380)	\$6,980 (single +\$380)	Nepal
Scotland: Rob Roy Way (page 30)	May 18 – 26	\$3,820 (single +\$545)	Call for pricing	United Kingdom
Sicily's Aeolian Islands: Home of the Sirens (page 38)	May 19 – 26	\$3,900 (single +\$545)	\$5,460 (single +\$640)	Italy
<b>JUNE</b>				
England: The Cotswolds (page 16)	June 3 – 13	\$4,670 (single +\$750)	Call for pricing	United Kingdom
Croatia (page 26)	June 9 – 16	\$4,015 (single +\$590)	\$4,730 (single +\$720)	Croatia
Italian Dolomites Trek (page 36)	June 17 – 24	\$4,500 (single +\$565)	\$4,855 (single +\$570)	Italy
Slovenia: Julian Alps Triglav Circuit (page 52)	June 25 – July 2	\$3,300 (single +\$410)	\$4,295 (single +\$450)	Slovenia
Tour du Mont Blanc (page 54)	June 26 – July 5	\$4,855 (single +\$540)	\$5,830 (single +\$540)	France, Italy, Switzerland
Norway: The Islands of Lofoten (page 70)	June 27 – July 4	\$5,400* (single +\$715)	\$6,230 (single +\$490)	Norway
<b>JULY</b>				
Iceland: The Remote Westfjords (page 64)	July 5 – 12	\$5,220* (single +\$650)	\$6,155 (single +\$755)	Iceland
Hiker's Haute Route (page 58)	July 6 – 17	\$5,830 (single +\$575)	\$6,480 (single +\$640)	France, Switzerland
Mont Blanc: The Softer Side (page 18)	July 7 – 14	\$4,340 (single +\$390)	\$4,670 (single +\$570)	France
Engadine Trek (page 28)	July 15 – 22	\$4,420 (single +\$495)	\$4,855 (single +\$570)	Switzerland
Alpino Vino Wunderbar (page 14)	July 24 – Aug. 2	\$4,835 (single +\$545)	\$6,155 (single +\$570)	Switzerland
New Brunswick, Canada: Bay of Fundy Isles (page 20)	July 26 – Aug. 2	\$4,945* (single +\$565)	Call for pricing	Canada
<b>AUGUST</b>				
Eiger Trail (page 68)	Aug. 11 – 19	\$4,675 (single +\$605)	\$5,165 (single +\$690)	Switzerland
Engadine Summit Series (page 56)	Aug. 21 – 28	\$4,420 (single +\$495)	\$4,855 (single +\$570)	Switzerland
Matterhorn Trek (page 66)	Aug. 25 – Sept. 1	\$4,315 (single +\$590)	\$5,190 (single +\$735)	Italy, Switzerland
Dolomiti di Brenta (page 42)	Aug. 29 – Sept. 5	\$4,340 (single +\$810)	Call for pricing	Italy
Pays Basque and The French Pyrenees (page 44)	Aug. 30 – Sept. 7	\$5,210 (single +\$613)	Call for pricing	France
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>				
Val Ladinia: Heart of the Italian Dolomites (page 24)	Sept. 8 – 15	\$4,500 (single +\$565)	\$4,855 (single +\$570)	Italy
Montenegro (page 32)	Sept. 9 – 16	\$3,300 (single +\$390)	Call for pricing	Montenegro
Rocky Mountain High Life: Aspen to Telluride (page 40)	Sept. 16 – 23	\$4,630 (single +\$625)	\$5,775 (single +\$910)	United States
Heart of Austria (page 34)	Sept. 18 – 25	\$4,340 (single +\$390)	\$4,855 (single +\$570)	Austria
Morocco: Atlas Mountains Trek (page 50)	Sept. 30 – Oct. 9	\$4,455* (single +\$380)	\$4,860 (single +\$940)	Morocco
<b>OCTOBER</b>				
Bhutan: Thimpu, Lingshi, Laya Trek (page 62)	Oct. 22 – Nov. 6	\$7,460* (single +\$1660)	\$9,186 (single +\$1140)	Bhutan

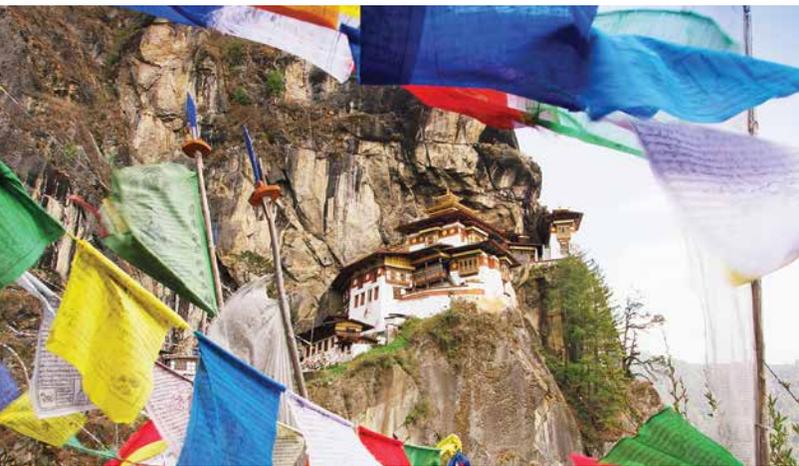
NOTE: All guided trips require a minimum of 2 guests to run the tour unless indicated by \* which require a minimum of 4 guests to run the tour. † Price based on a group of four.

# 2018 SELF GUIDED & PRIVATE GUIDED TOURS

POPULAR TOURS	SEASON	PRICE PER PERSON (+ single supplement)	PRIVATE GUIDED † Price Per Person (+ single supplement)	COUNTRIES VISITED
<b>EUROPE AND UK</b>				
Appenzell Hut Hop (page 74)	Late June – Oct.	\$1,455 (single +\$290)	N/A	Switzerland
Bavarian Tyrol Trek (page 74)	June – Sept.	\$1,985 (single +\$270)	\$4,855 (single +\$570)	Germany
Berner Oberland Traverse (website)	Late June – Mid Sept.	\$2,775 (single +\$385)	\$5,165 (single +\$645)	Switzerland
Berner Oberland Trek (page 74)	Late June – Mid Sept.	\$2,200 (single +\$370)	Call for pricing	Switzerland
Capri & The Amalfi Coast (page 74)	April – June & Sept. – Oct.	\$2,975 (single +\$625)	N/A	Italy
Cinque Terre (page 74)	April – Oct.	\$1,275 (single +\$320)	N/A	Italy
Cortina & Lakes of the Dolomites (page 74)	Mid June – Mid Sept.	\$2,330 (single +\$340)	Call for pricing	Italy
Cotswolds Way (page 75)	March – Oct.	\$2,035 (single +\$370)	Call for pricing	England
Croatia (page 26)	May – June & Sept. – Oct.	\$2,220 (single +\$595)	\$4,730 (single +\$720)	Croatia
Dolomiti di Brenta (page 42)	Late June, July & Sept.	\$2,340 (single +\$735)	Call for pricing	Italy
Eiger Trail (page 68)	June – Sept.	\$2,775 (single +\$385)	\$5,165 (single +\$690)	Switzerland
Enchanted Engadine (website)	Mid June – Early Oct.	\$2,725 (single +\$355)	Call for pricing	Switzerland
Engadine Summit Series (page 56)	Late June – Mid Sept.	\$2,725 (single +\$350)	\$4,855 (single +\$570)	Switzerland
Engadine Trek (page 28)	June – Oct.	\$2,725 (single +\$350)	\$4,855 (single +\$570)	Switzerland
The Heart of Austria (page 34)	June – Sept.	\$2,155 (single +\$290)	\$4,855 (single +\$570)	Austria
Hiker's Haute Route (page 58)	Late June – Mid Sept.	\$2,695 (single +\$350)	\$6,480 (single +\$640)	France, Switzerland
Ireland's Dingle Way (page 75)	April – Oct.	\$2,230 (single +\$470)	Call for pricing	Ireland
Italian Dolomites Trek (page 36)	Mid June – Mid Sept.	\$2,540 (single +\$350)	\$4,855 (single +\$570)	Italy
Italian Lakes District: Como & Bellagio (page 75)	May – Oct.	\$2,445 (single +\$405)	\$4,325 (single +\$585)	Italy
Jungfrau Loop (page 74)	Mid June – Mid Sept.	\$1,990 (single +\$295)	Call for pricing	Switzerland
Provence: Hill Towns of the Luberon (page 74)	April – June & Sept. – Oct.	\$2,445 (single +\$660)	N/A	France
Scotland: Rob Roy Way (page 30)	March – Oct.	\$2,240 (single +\$525)	Call for pricing	Scotland
Secret Swiss Valleys (website)	July – Mid Sept.	\$2,195 (single +\$380)	N/A	Switzerland
Sicily: Aeolian Islands (page 38)	May – Oct.	\$2,570 (single +\$345)	\$5,460 (single +\$640)	Italy
Slovenia: Julian Alps Triglav Circuit (page 52)	Mid June – Mid Sept.	\$1,935 (single +\$395)	\$4,295 (single +\$450)	Slovenia
Snowdonia: Mountains, Lakes and Coasts (page 75)	June – Oct.	\$2,050 (single +\$425)	Call for pricing	Wales
Spanish Mediterranean: Costa Brava (page 75)	May – Mid July & Mid Aug. – Oct.	\$2,545 (single +\$670)	N/A	Spain
Swiss Haute Route (page 75)	Late June – Mid Sept.	\$2,150 (single +\$335)	Call for pricing	Switzerland
Ticino Swiss Lake District: Sun & Serenity (page 75)	May – Oct.	\$2,650 (single +\$365)	Call for pricing	Switzerland
Tour du Mont Blanc (page 54)	Mid June – Mid Sept.	\$2,655 (single +\$370)	\$5,830 (single +\$540)	France, Italy, Switzerland
Tour du Mont Blanc Vitesse (website)	Mid June – Mid Sept.	\$2,155 (single +\$330)	\$4,080 (single +\$265)	France, Italy, Switzerland
Val Ladinia: Italian Dolomites (page 24)	Mid June – Mid Sept.	\$2,540 (single +\$350)	\$4,855 (single +\$570)	Italy
Winter Engadine Holiday (page 75)	Jan. – March	\$2,970 (single +\$415)	N/A	Switzerland
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>				
Red Rocks: Sadona, Arizona (website) (Very advanced sign up required.)	April – May & Sept. – Oct.	\$1,945 (single +\$435)	\$5,555 (single +\$875)	USA
<b>GOING EASY TOURS</b>				
Allegra Engadine (website)	June – Oct.	\$2,725 (single +\$350)	\$4,855 (single +\$570)	Switzerland
Ambiance Italian Dolomites (website)	June – Sept.	\$2,540 (single +\$350)	\$4,855 (single +\$570)	Italy
Pastoral Berner Oberland (website)	June – Oct.	\$2,725 (single +\$350)	\$4,855 (single +\$570)	Switzerland
Slovenia: Waterfalls and Gorges (website)	Late June – Mid Sept.	\$1,940 (single +\$395)	\$4,295 (single +\$450)	Slovenia



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Along this historic trek you will hike over a 15,200 ft pass, tour historic ruins including Machu Piccu and enjoy traditional Peruvian cuisine.

### **NEW BRUNSWICK CANADA: BAY OF FUNDY GUIDED TOUR, JULY 26 – AUGUST 2**

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### **BHUTAN: THIMPHU, LINGSHI, LAYA TREK GUIDED TOUR, OCTOBER 22 – NOVEMBER 6**

Visit tiger's nest temple; cross over Sinchey La pass at 16,420 feet, visit the Punakha Dzong, and experience real adventure trekking.

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