



Treasures of Switzerland & Italy

10 Days | Spring 2026

The experience of a lifetime is waiting for you. Every detail from the cities you'll stay in to the cultural discoveries you'll make have been customized by your teacher for your group. Take a look at your personal itinerary for a sneak peek of what's in store.

Included on tour



Round-trip flights on major carriers; full-time Tour Director; project-based learning program, EF's personalized learning experience; hotels with private bathrooms; breakfast and dinner daily unless otherwise specified. Lunch on day 6.

Sightseeing: Swiss National Museum, Zurich; Florence; Uffizi Gallery

Entrances: Swiss National Museum, Zurich; Lindt chocolate factory, Zurich; Swiss Alps experience, Lucerne region; Swiss fondue evening, Lucerne region; Lake Como cruise; Christopher Columbus House, Genoa; Cinque Terre train card; Baptistery & Cathedral, Pisa; Uffizi Gallery; Accademia Gallery

Overnights: Lucerne region (3); Milan (1); Cinque Terre region (2); Florence (2)



Your Itinerary

Day 1: Fly to Switzerland

Board your overnight flight to Zurich!

Day 2: Zurich | Lucerne region

Arrive in Zurich & travel to the Lucerne Region

Recall the legends of folk hero William Tell (and his fortunate aim) as you overnight in the Vierwaldstättersee (Lake Lucerne) region.

Exploration time in Lucerne

Enjoy time to explore Lucerne on your own. Famed for its Rolex and Swiss army knives, which you can have engraved, Lucerne also offers some of the finest chocolate anywhere.

Day 3: Lucerne region

Take an excursion to Zurich

Travel to Zurich, the charming and multifaceted heart of Swiss business and finance. With your Tour Director, explore the narrow streets of Old Town, which lies on the bank of the River Limmat. Discover the Baroque-era guild houses along the river that hint at the city's past. Climb up Lindenhof hill to see sweeping views over the city. Next, see Zurich's rich cultural side in the rich stained-glass windows of churches like Grossmünster and Fraumünster. See the famous Schauspielhaus, the theatre known for keeping German drama alive during World War II and explore the many neighborhoods that make Zurich the richest city in Europe.

Guided visit of the Swiss National Museum

With the largest collection of Swiss cultural artifacts, the Swiss National Museum (Landesmuseum) showcases the rich history of Switzerland, while also addressing current social issues affecting Switzerland today. Learn about this and more on a guided visit to the museum.

Visit a Chocolate Factory

Journey outside the city limits to the Lindt and Sprüngli Chocolate factory. Here you will learn about- and sample- one of Switzerland's most famous products.

Day 4: Lucerne region

Walking tour of Lucerne

Get to know Lucerne during your Tour Director-led walking tour. You might walk the length of the Kapellbrücke, Lucerne's medieval covered bridge, make your way to the Lion Monument, a statue carved into a rock cliff near the center of town, or stroll along serene Lake Lucerne to take in the majestic mountain views.

Swiss Alps experience

Venture to the roof of the Swiss Alps, atop one of the majestic peaks that tower over charming Lucerne. Take a boat across Lake Lucerne and ride a cog railway to the top of either Mount Pilatus (best known for its steep railway and its iconic craggy summit) or Mount Rigi (beloved for its original mountain railway and its history as a favorite spot of Mark Twain). Enjoy the splendid views of the quaint villages and fields of Switzerland as you trek along the mountain with your group. *(Please note: Warm clothes and appropriate shoes recommended.)*

Swiss fondue evening

Join our special Swiss folklore evening. Enjoy cheese fondue, the country's most popular dish. Dip your long forks with bread or potatoes into the caquelon and be treated to lively alpine entertainment-including authentic flag swinging, alpenhorn playing, and yodeling.

Day 5: Lucerne region | Milan

Travel via a Lake Como cruise to Milan

Enjoy a cruise on Lake Como, probably the best known of Italy's lakes due to its mountain views and magnificent villas. A boat cruise on Lago di Como brings you up close to the pristine beauty of this northern Italian lake. At 1,350 feet, it is the deepest lake in Europe. Surrounded by the Swiss Alps to the north and the Italian Alps to the east and west, the lake stretches for 30 miles and splits into three parts at Bellagio, the centro di lago, or center of the lake.

Exploration time in Bellagio

Take time to make your own explorations of Bellagio. You may wish to take a walk through the village to take in the inspiring scenery, or you may enjoy a snack overlooking the lake.

Arrive in Milan

Welcome to Milan, fashion and finance capital of Italy. With its majestically adorned cathedral and the world-famous La Scala opera-house at the center, Milan is a mixture of traditional beauty and an economically successful present.

Day 6: Milan | Cinque Terre region

Travel via Genoa to the Cinque Terre region

Enjoy time to explore Genoa this afternoon. Stroll along the Via Garibaldi, once known as Via Aurea (Golden Street) for the palace homes built here in the late 16th century. Find yourself at the religious focal point of Genoa as you observe the San Lorenzo Cathedral. Named for St. Lawrence, who ventured through Genoa in the third century, the cathedral was also the administrative center of the city for centuries.

Visit Christopher Columbus' House

Visit the childhood house of the famed explorer Christopher Columbus. Upon entering this well-restored, ivy-draped house, you will see a number of relics and objects from his younger years.

Pesto lunch in Genoa

Enjoy a pesto lunch in Genoa today, the birthplace of pesto.

Arrive in the Cinque Terre region

Welcome to the Cinque Terre region, a cluster of towns perched on the dramatic cliffs of the Mediterranean coast. Each of the region's five Italian villages- Monterosso, Vernazza, Corniglia, Manarola and Riomaggiore-has its own unique character and charm.

Day 7: Cinque Terre region

Visit the Cinque Terre

Travel by train between the villages and take in views of dazzling aquamarine water, which makes the area popular with sunbathers and swimmers. From Monterosso's lively markets to Vernazza's medieval forts and Manarola's pastel-colored edifices, there is something for everyone to discover and enjoy in Cinque Terre.

Your Itinerary

Day 8: Cinque Terre region | Florence

Travel via Pisa to Florence

Journey to Pisa and visit the Field of Miracles for a photo-stop. Here you will see the six stories of white marble that form the 12th century Leaning Tower of Pisa, along with the adjacent marble cathedral, and the neighboring baptistery.

Visit the Pisa Baptistery & Cathedral

Italy's largest baptistery, the Battistero di San Giovanni is also slightly taller than the Leaning Tower across the square. As it shares the same unstable ground as the tower, the baptistery also has a slight lean of 0.6 degrees towards the cathedral. The baptistery's pulpit is a masterpiece carved in 1255-60 by Nicola Pisano. Begun in 1093, Pisa Cathedral (Duomo di Pisa) is a masterpiece of Romanesque architecture. Despite its proximity to the eye-catching and tourist-attracting Leaning Tower, the Duomo still dominates the monumental Piazza dei Miracoli.

Arrive in Florence

Welcome to Florence, a jewel set deep in the heart of Tuscany. Florence is the birthplace of the Italian language, opera and the Renaissance, and where works of art like Michelangelo's statue of *David* and Botticelli's *The Birth of Venus* still reside today.

Guided sightseeing of Florence

Fall under the spell of the powerful Medici family on your guided walking tour of Florence. The Medici's dominated politics, banking and trade for generations in Florence, the capital of the Tuscany. See Giotto's Bell Tower and the imposing marble cathedral of the Duomo, the Cathedral that rises far above this city's otherwise low skyline. Stand before Ghiberti's legendary *Gates of Paradise* and pass the classical statues in the main square: Piazza della Signoria. Here you can see where Michelangelo's *David* originally stood.

Day 9: Florence

Guided visit to the Uffizi Gallery

Originally created as offices (uffizi) for Cosimo de Medici, the building became a gallery in the 17th century. Today it houses one of the finest collections of Renaissance works of anywhere in the world. The three-sided gallery is a treasure-chest of pieces in a perfectly-lit opulent setting, truly a gallery of special taste. Enjoy a guided tour of the gallery today.

Visit the Accademia Gallery

This simple building, located on Via Ricasoli, houses one of the world's true masterpieces in Michelangelo's statue of *David*. Elsewhere, you can see unfinished works by the great artist along with other Renaissance treasures.

Photo Stop at Piazzale Michelangelo

Later, enjoy a stop at Piazzale Michelangelo for one of the most breath-taking views of Florence.

Day 10: Depart for home

Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your Tour Director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

Itinerary is subject to change

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at www.eftours.com/bc.

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My daughter has gained such an amazing view of the world and history from this experience. She has not stopped talking since I picked her up at the airport. Thank you for all the organization, helpful hints, flexible payment plan, and knowledgeable tour guides.

—CHARLOTTE, PARENT OF TRAVELER

“ Tour review

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