



SWITZERLAND

BERNESE OBERLAND

Looking down on Oeschinensee

...A MAGICAL ALPINE PLAYGROUND WAITING TO BE EXPLORED

A magnitude of natural beauty is bequeathed by the Bernese Oberland. Awe-inspiring and dramatic, yet exuding an overwhelming serenity, this wonderful walking destination will have you captivated the moment you arrive. Spectacular Alpine scenery creates a backdrop dominated by snow-capped peaks, carpeted lowland slopes, fragrant meadows awash with wild flowers, and more than 800 glassy lakes that bestow incredible reflections.

“Beautiful region, lovely hotel with great food and superb walking.”

Mr Lulham

The Bernese Oberland’s captivating soul lies in peaceful Kandersteg, in the heart of the region, where the great arc of the Alps culminates in some of its highest and most remarkable glacier-clad peaks - the Eiger, Mönch, Jungfrau and Matterhorn dominate the skyline. The thousands of kilometres of wonderful walking trails allow you to experience the astonishing scenery from all angles.

In Kandersteg, ‘chocolate box’ Alpine villages nestle into verdant valleys that are criss-crossed with undulating and weaving footpaths. One moment you will be spellbound by the glacial legacy that created the crashing waterfalls in the Gasterntal ‘hidden valley’, while in another it will be the sheer cobalt blue of the Oeschinensee Lake that will take your breath away. Woods and

open meadows are decorated with lady slippers, fire lilies and more than 25 varieties of scented orchid, where you’ll hear the distant clinking of cowbells.

Indulge in the 360° panoramic vistas from the Allmenalp to the Valais Alps, enjoy a breathtaking ridge walk along the Uschinengrat and trace the footsteps of intrepid travelers who first crossed the Alps centuries ago when you reach the Gemmi Pass. You might fancy lunch at the renowned Schwarenbach Hotel, where Lenin and Picasso have signed the visitors’ book. With only the company of the occasional swooping eagle, it is easy to feel on top of the world.

CLASSIC SWISS ALPS WALK

WALKING ACTIVITY LEVEL
1 1+ 2 2+ 3



Pretty little Alpine villages



YOUR HOLIDAY DAY-BY-DAY

DAY 01	ARRIVE IN KANDERSTEG	
Arrive at the *** Hotel Alfa Soleil and perhaps enjoy an <i>aperitif</i> before dinner (included all week, along with picnic lunches). Below is our suggested itinerary for the week but you are free to pick and choose when and where you walk each day.		
DAY 02	BLAUSEE	10KM/6.5MI/3HR
This varied and peaceful route takes you along the bottom of the upper Kandertal Valley to the world-famous Blausee (Blue Lake).		
DAY 03	THE GASTERNTAL AND KANDERFIRN GLACIER	13KM/8MI/6HR
Take an exciting 20-minute minibus ride (included) along a narrow road carved out of the rock wall. The Gasterntal is Kandersteg's 'hidden valley'. From this romantic nature reserve, with the mighty rock walls of the Tatlishorn and Atels towering on the right, meander through woods and meadows.		
DAY 04	OESCHINENSEE	15KM/9.5MI/5HR
Oeschinensee is widely regarded as the jewel in the crown of the Bernese Oberland. After a short ride up on the gondola (included), you climb to the viewpoint at Heuberg. Admire the cobalt blue of the water surrounded by the peaks of the Doldenhorn (3,638m), towering 2,000m above it.		
DAY 05	ALLMENALP	11KM/7MI/3.5HR OR 16KM/10MI/5HR
Enjoy a cable car ride (included) to ascend to the Allmenalp (1,725m), from where there are stunning views across the valley to Oeschinensee.		
DAY 06	DAUBENSEE AND GEMMI PASS	15KM/9.5MI/4.5HR OR 20KM/12.5MI/6HR
The Sunnbuel cable car (included) whisks you up to nearly 2,000m, from where you climb to a fantastic ridge walk along the Uschinengrat (2,200m). It's then on past the Daubensee to the famous Gemmi Pass (2,322m). Views to the south include the Matterhorn and Monte Rosa.		
DAY 07	THE SUDRAMPE	10KM/6.5MI/4HR OR 16KM/10MI/5.5HR
Take a 25-minute rail ride (payable locally) through the mountains up to the village of Hochtenn, where your route takes you high above the Rhone Valley.		
DAY 08	LEAVE KANDERSTEG	

- ★★★★★☆ customer rating
- Breathtaking natural beauty: snow-capped peaks, emerald-green slopes, amazing turquoise lakes
- Spectacular views of the region: Eiger, Jungfrau, Matterhorn, Monch
- Thousands of kilometres of well-marked trails, stunning Alpine flowers and rare birds of prey

“Outstandingly beautiful area with plenty of fantastic walks.”

Mrs Elliott

PRICES FROM

\$1,395 per person

With departures every Saturday from May 26th to September 22nd 2018

YOUR HOLIDAY INCLUDES

- 7 nights single-centre accommodation in a *** hotel
- All breakfasts, picnic lunches and evening meals
- Management by local hotelier
- Route directions and maps
- Kandersteg guest card and travel pass
- Blausee (Blue Lake) excursion discount (with guest card)

OPTIONAL UPGRADES

- Nearest arrival airport: Zurich airport
- Rail from Zurich to Kandersteg/return (including local transfers), details and prices available on request.
- First Class rail available
- Single room \$22 per person per night
- Room upgrades available
- Extra nights in Kandersteg

WHERE YOU STAY



*** Hotel Alfa Soleil