



Duration of the tour: 6 days
Category: hike / haute route / via ferrata / alpine course
Difficulty level: easy / **moderate** / difficult / very difficult / expert

Panorama Trail around Zermatt

Hike in the 'festival hall' of the four thousand meter peaks!

Zermatt, the idyllic mountain village at the bottom of the world famous 'Matterhorn' (4.478 m), is situated 1.620 meters above sea level and is surrounded with many 4.000m peaks. The imposing glaciers and mountain tops lend this village its special charm. Zermatt is a wonderful resort for both sport and convalescing with a unique climate. There is no motor vehicles in Zermatt, instead horsedrawn carriages and electric vehicles serve as the means of transport within Zermatt. The Matterhorn rises above Zermatt, the powerful monarch of the mountains, the sphinx of the Alps, majestic as a gothic cathedral it is one of the most beautiful mountains of the Alps. With this mountain as our background we walk on a trail around Zermatt and hike through 5 different valleys in front of this awesome panorama of the four thousand meter peaks.

Region:

Wallis (Switzerland)

Day 1, Sunday

Meeting point is at 2:00 p.m. at the train station in 'Täsch' in the 'Matter' valley. We begin our journey ascending the 'Täschberg' and the 'Eggenstadel' to 'Ottavan'. We spend the night in the 'Täsch' hut (2.214 m).

Hiking time approx. 2½ hours, ascent 750 m.

Day 2, Monday

After breakfast we follow the recently built 'European Trail' and reach the 'Unterrothorn' (3.103 m) above the 'Ritzen' ridge, with its beautiful panoramic view. After a well-earned lunch break our descent leads along the 'Stelli' lake to the 'Fluhalp' hut (2.618 m). This itinerary can also be covered with the 'Sunnega' cable car.

Hiking time approx. 5 hours, ascent 900 m, descent 500 m.

Option: It is possible to climb the 'Oberrothorn' peak (3.414 m) in the afternoon, the highest trekking mountain of Europe.

Hiking time approx. 3 hours, ascent 500 m, descent 500 m.

Day 3, Tuesday

After the descent to the 'Grün' Lake (2.300 m) we ascend to the 'Roten Boden' (2.815 m). From there we descend above the glacier garden to the 'Gorner' gorge and soon we reach the 'Furri' station (1.867 m). In the afternoon we hike over 'Furgg' to the Mountain Hotel 'Schwarz Lake' (2.583 m), our final destination for this day (also possible with the cable car).

Hiking time approx. 7 hours, ascent 1.150 m, descent 1.150 m.

Day 4, Wednesday

Today's itinerary takes us first to a second breakfast at the 'Hörnli' hut (3.260 m), the starting point for the ascent of the Matterhorn. However, we descend to the 'Zmutt' creek and reach above the glacier moraine of the 'Zmutt' glacier, which offers an imposing view to the northern side of the 'Matterhorn' and the 'Dent d'Hérens', the 'Schönbiehl' hut (2.694 m).

Hiking time approx. 6 hours, ascent 1.200 m, descent 1.050 m.

Day 5, Thursday

After a short descent to the 'Hohlen Bielen' (2.380 m) we hike on a beautiful trail over Hochbalm to the mountain restaurant Trift (2.337 m).

Hiking time approx. 4 hours, ascent 500 m, descent 900 m.

Option: If you want, you can ascend the 'Trekking-mountain Wisshorn' (2.936 m) with a light rucksack in the afternoon. From there you have a fantastic view over the whole 'Matter' valley and its mountains.

Hiking time approx. 3 hours, ascent 600 m, descent 600 m.

Day 6, Friday

The descent through the 'Trift' gorge leads along a botanical path to the 'Pension Edelweiss' (1.961 m). On a steep zigzag-trail we reach Zermatt (1.620 m). Arrival in 'Zermatt' at about 11:00 a.m. After a short walk through the world-famous village we return to 'Täsch' by taxi. From there you can either commence your homeward journey or you are welcome to stay a little longer in 'Zermatt'.

Hiking time approx. 2 hours, descent 750 m.

Required:

Suitable for sporting beginners, good health, average physical condition, a sure foot and enough physical endurance for day trips with up to 7 hours hiking time.

Equipment:

Hiking shoes with good grip, 2 pairs of socks, comfortable pants, shorts, pullover or jacket, protective clothing against wind and rain (Gore-Tex), functional underwear, a change of underwear (stored in a plastic bag), rucksack approx. 35 litre, (a maximum weight of 8 kg is recommended). Special advice: you can protect your equipment with a plastic bag inside your rucksack, or use a rucksack cover. Gloves, cap (against sun and cold), sunglasses, sunscreen, lip salve, a water bottle, snacks (power bars, nuts, etc.), indoor shoes or trainers, sleeping bag liner, toilet bag, small towel, first aid, head lamp, identity card, collapsible poles if required.

Accommodation:

Mountain Inns, mountain hotel (shared accommodation); mountain huts (dormitory)

Services:

Mountain guide, 5x half pension, 1x taxi

Personal notes:

A series of horizontal dashed lines providing space for personal notes.