



JURA CREST TRAIL

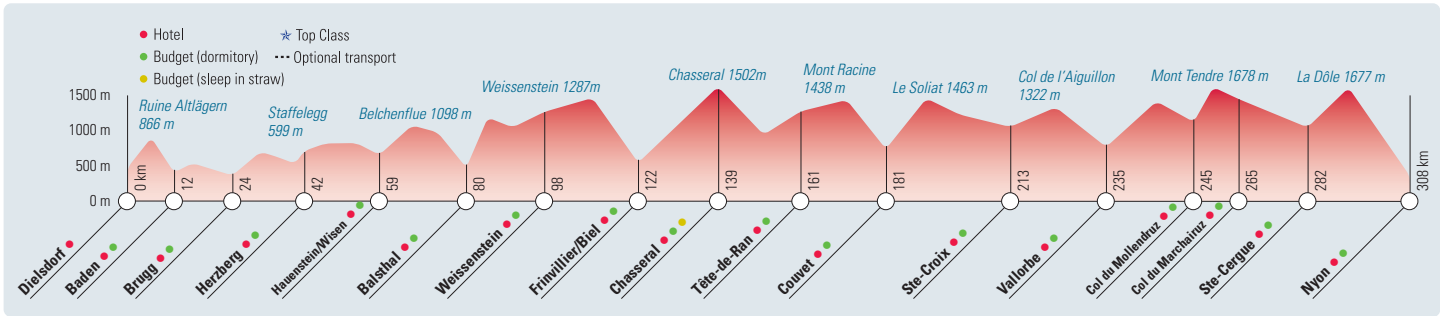


HIGH LIGHTS



- ★ **SEE SWITZERLAND FROM ABOVE**
WITH FANTASTIC VIEWS OF THE MITTELLAND REGION AND THE ALPS
- ★ **PEAKS**
OF THE ROGGEN, HELLCHÖPFLI, HASENMATT, MONT RACINE, CREUX-DU-VAN, MONT TENDRE, LA DÔLE...
- ★ **HOTELS UP ON HIGH**
IN HERZBERG, WEISSENSTEIN, CHASSERAL, TÊTE-DE-RAN, COL DU MOLLENDRUZ, COL DU MARCHAIRUZ...
- ★ **CREST TRAIL**
NO STEEP ASCENTS OR DESCENTS – GOOD FOR THOSE WHO ENJOY WALKING AS A HOBBY

ELEVATION PROFILE AND ROUTE STAGES



CHARACTER

The Jura Crest Trail has a long-standing tradition as a long-distance footpath. Despite this, access to accommodation and catering does present certain difficulties as there are very few places to stay over the first peaks of the Jura. Luckily there are lots of post buses and train connections which lead down into the southern foothills where there are places to stay. The Jura Crest Trail offers pleasant walking opportunities – minimal height variations and generally good pathways. Note the somewhat longer walking times for each stage.

PART 1: AARGAUER JURA

DIELSDORF - LÄGEREN - BADEN

Hiking time 3:30

The length – along the Eastern stretch of the Jura – looks harmless from afar but the crags between Regensberg and Baden are very wild and require walkers to tread care.

BADEN - BRUGG

Hiking time 3:50. This stage does not present any great obstacles and reaches its highest point in Baldegg (593m). The view of the Alps ranges from Säntis to Savoyen and across the Jura to the Black Forest. Between Turgi and Brugg, the route crosses the «moated castle» of Switzerland.

BRUGG - HERZBERG

Hiking time 4:30

After Brugg, the Jura Crest Trail starts to climb. Above the Linnerberg (722m) and Saalhöhe (621m), you will come across the magnificent stage destination of Herzberg.

HERZBERG - HAUENSTEIN / WISEN

Hiking time 5:40. A beautiful stretch on the crest which runs through desolate landscapes – with breathtaking views. Take a picnic with you – as the Nature Friend's House is only open to guests at weekends.

HAUENSTEIN - BALSTHAL

Hiking time 6:30

The route reaches new heights at Belchenflue (1098m) and Roggenflue (995m) – and the two mountain landscapes are the perfect place to take a rest. The Klus – a deep gorge in the first chain of Jura peaks – forces you to descend.

PART 2: BERNER & NEUENBURGER JURA

BALSTHAL - WEISSENSTEIN

Hiking time 6:15. This route section also begins in the lowlands – but the route quickly climbs upwards and reaches the ridge on the Hällchöpfli (13230m). Various different areas offer food and drink and walkers will then pass the Rötiflue along the final section on their way to the Weissenstein.

WEISSENSTEIN - FRINVILLIER / BIEL

Hiking time 6:30

The Weissenstein offers one of the most

striking viewpoints of the Jura. The sun terrace of the Solothurner Jura offers unique views over the middle lands to the crown of the Alps from Säntis to Mont-Blanc. Via Grenchenberg and the little village of Plagne you then reach Frinvillier. Short train ride to Biel from here.

FRINVILLIER - CHASSERAL

Hiking time 6:05

A long but even ascent over several terrains leads from Frinvillier up to the highest peaks in the Bernese Jura chain. Up on the Grat there are just a few tufts of grass covering the cliffs.

CHASSERAL - TÊTE-DE-RAN

Hiking time 6:30

Magnificent views of the Jura and Alps with the wild and romantic Combe Biosse gorge and gentle landscapes of the Jura characterising this high stretch from Chasseral to the Vue des Alpes. You will then arrive at Tête-de-Ran via the Vue-des-Alpes.

TÊTE-DE-RAN - NOIRAIGUE / COUVET

Hiking time 6:10

The route runs via Mont Racine (1438m) and La Tourne to Val de Travers, where the «green fairy» now legally sells absinthe. From here, it's just a short train transfer to Couvet.

NOIRAIGUE - CREUX-DU-VAN - LA COMBAZ / COUVET

Hiking time 4:45

The powerful rock face of the Creux du Van is one of the highlights of the Jura as a whole. A visit to a Métairie (farm with restaurant) gives a good insight into the tough life which takes place up here. From La Combaz, transfer by car to Couvet.

PART 3: WAADTLÄNDER JURA

COUVET - CHASSERON - STE-CROIX

Hiking time 5:30

The climb up from Couvet to La Combaz runs through the bizarre gorge of Poëta Raisse. You will then reach Ste-Croix via the views of the «Balcon du Jura vaudois» and peaks of the Chasseron (1606m).

STE-CROIX - VALLORBE

Hiking time 6:10

The Aiguilles de Baulmes – a bizarre and



Fondue near Creux-du-Van



large band of cliffs – form the first highlight. The Neuenburgersee lake and Lac Léman can be found in this chain of the Alps. The descent offers magnificent views of the Vallon de Joux and French Jura.

VALLORBE - COL DU MOLLENDRUZ

Hiking time 4:30

The official route runs from Vallorbe via the Dent du Vaulion (1482m) towards Col du Mollendruz. You can also choose to climb up to Le Pont / Lac de Joux, visiting the Grottes de l'Orbe caves on the way. The result is a magnificent natural spectacle of stalactites and gigantic cave formations.

COL DU MOLLENDRUZ - COL DU MARCHAIRUZ

Hiking time 4:55. The 1679 m high Mont Tendre is the highest point of the Swiss Jura. The ascent takes several stages from Lac de Joux up to the mountain. Shortly before reaching the peak, you will come across the Chalet du Mont Tendre. Here, the giant terrace offers unbelievable panoramic views over Lake Geneva and the Alps.

COL DU MARCHAIRUZ - ST-CERGUE

Hiking time 5:30. Park-like landscapes and magnificent views of Lac Léman and the Savoy Alps characterise this walk. The descent to St-Cergue is characterised by a mix of greenery and dark fir tree forests.

ST-CERGUE - BOREX / NYON

Hiking time 5:30

The vegetation around the peak of La Dôle

is almost alpine in nature. There are buttercups and wild gentians almost as far as the eye can see. Lac Léman stretches out in all its glory. The city of Geneva can be seen and in the South, Mont Blanc borders the horizon. The tour and Jura Crest Trail comes to an end in the small village of Borex.

SEASON 2009

15.04. - 15.10.2009 (Daily service)



Take a break

Why not spend a rest day and stay for 2 nights at the same place?

We recommend:

Baden
Hotel du Parc (****)

Tête-de-Ran
Hotel de la Cléf des Champs

Ste-Croix
Hotel de France (***)

RATES 2008 (in CHF / Euro, per Person, incl. VAT.)

OPTIONS	START AND FINISH	DAYS / NIGHTS	HIKING DAYS	OVERNIGHTS	BASIC RATES HOTEL	BASIC RATES BUDGET
A Part 1	Dielsdorf - Balsthal	5 / 4	5	Baden - Brugg - Herzberg - Wisen	CHF 647 / € 415	CHF 459 / € 294
B Part 2	Balsthal - Couvet	6 / 5	6	Weissenstein - Biel - Chasseral - Tête-de-Ran - Couvet	CHF 785 / € 503	CHF 550 / € 352
C Part 3	Couvet - Nyon	6 / 5	6	Ste-Croix - Vallorbe - Col du Mollendruz - Col du Marchairuz - St-Cergue	CHF 785 / € 503	CHF 550 / € 352

* Included in the price: supplements / reductions see page 5. All other options see SwissTrails à la Carte, pages 48 / 49.

Additional night possible at start and end destination and all stage destinations / Top Class: top class hotel (usually *****) at selected stage destinations (see Elevation Profile)