



# RHINE ROUTE

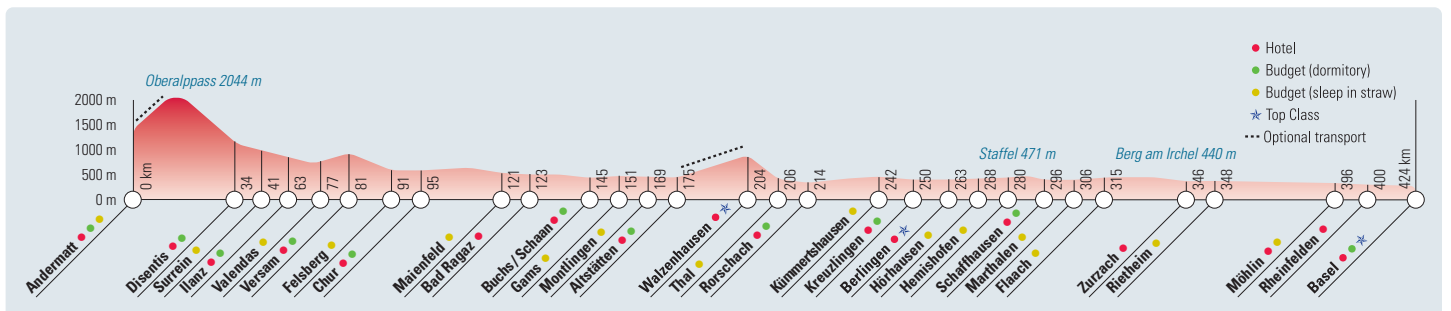


St. Galler Rheintal



- ★ **THE SURSELVA REGION**  
WHERE ROMANSH IS STILL SPOKEN
- ★ **THE GORGE OF THE VORDERRHEIN**  
THE «SWISS GRAND CANYON»
- ★ **THE PRETTY WINE VILLAGES**  
OF THE BÜNDNER HERRSCHAFT REGION
- ★ **HEIDLAND WITH BAD RAGAZ**  
SPARKLING RELAXATION IN THERMAL SPRINGS
- ★ **PERFECT CYCLING TRACKS ON THE RHINE BANK**
- ★ **LAKE CONSTANCE**  
LOSE YOUR HEART TO ITS SUMMER LIFESTYLE
- ★ **THE RHINE FALLS AT SCHAFFHAUSEN**  
LARGEST WATERFALL IN EUROPE
- ★ **BASEL**  
ATTRACTIVE DESTINATION ON THE RHINE ROUTE

## ELEVATION PROFILE AND ROUTE STAGES



## CHARACTER

The start of the elevation profile of the Rhine Route is a real challenge. From the Oberalp Pass and the Surselva alpine district follows the spectacular panoramic stretch through the wildly romantic Rhine Gorge. Crossing the Bündner Herrschaft wine region involves a jaunty up-and-down trail. From Bad Ragaz the route generally follows the River Rhine and Lake Constance, and until Schaffhausen and Basel there are no great climbs to speak of. Our hotels at Disentis, Walzenhausen, Berlingen, Schaffhausen and Rheinfelden are extraordinary.

## ROUTE

### ANDERMATT - DISENTIS 34 km

A «comfortable» Pass ride to start off with – from Andermatt (1447m) to the Oberalp Pass summit (2044m) a mere 600m difference in altitude spread over 11 km needs be conquered. Shortly after the summit is Lake Toma where the River Rhine rises. In Sedrun we recommend a visit to the Alp Transit Visitor Centre to find out all about the construction of the impressive 57 km Gotthard Base Tunnel – the longest tunnel in the Alps.

### DISENTIS - ILANZ 29 km

Highlights of the day: the Surselva, a valley where the old Roman language is still alive and well.

### ILANZ - CHUR 35 km

From Ilanz you cycle in the Swiss Grand Canyon with its spectacular views. An option is riverrafting on the rhine.

### CHUR - BUCHS (ALTSTÄTTEN) 44 km

Today by bike the Rhine route takes you past the vineyards and charming villages of the Grisons region with such proud names as Malans, Jenins and Maiefeld. The thermal bath in Bad Ragaz calls for a refreshing visit before continuing on flat terrain on the Rhine Bank. Accommodation is located in Buchs – almost next door to the Principality of Liechtenstein with its capital Vaduz. Overnight in Buchs.

### BUCHS - WALZENHAUSEN (RORSCHACH) 62 km

The river remains your steady companion to Oberriet, where the route turns towards the hinterland and the pretty town of Altstätten. Past St. Margrethen the route loops through the national park of the Rhine delta and then along the lake shore to Rorschach. A highlight of the tour – quite literally – is the overnight stay in the well-being hotel of Walzenhausen high above Lake Constance – the ticket for the train from Rheineck including bike hire is included!

### WALZENHAUSEN - BERLINGEN (KREUZLINGEN) 59 km

The route more or less follows the lake shore all the way to today's destination. Inviting swimming spots, garden restaurants and boat harbours abound for rest and re-

creation. The whole day is spent in splendid scenery on perfect cycling trails.

### BERLINGEN - SCHAFFHAUSEN 46 km

The route passes through picturesque fishing villages along the Swiss shore of the Lower Lake before reaching the outflow of the Rhine River from Lake Constance at Stein am Rhein. This simply delightful town, a jewel of medieval architecture, deserves a longer visit. before tackling the last days along the right bank of the Rhine to Schaffhausen.

### SCHAFFHAUSEN - ZURZACH 50 km

The route starts at the Rhine Falls, the mightiest of all Europe's waterfalls, and travels through delightful fertile riverland scenery and asparagus growing country. The pretty riverside villages of Eglisau and Kaiserstuhl definitely warrant a closer look before pedalling on and soaking in the thermal baths of the neighbouring spa town of Zurzach. Certainly a relaxing way to round off your day's ride.

### ZURZACH - RHEINFELDEN 54 km

At Koblenz, the resulting rapids are turbulent enough to have once put fear and dread in the hearts of the Rhine boatmen. Apart from that lively little section of the river, most of the Rhine along here is harnessed for hydroelectric power use and subsequently flows rather sluggishly on its way. A visit to the historic towns of Laufenburg and Stein-Säckingen straddling the River Rhine will liven things up for you. Laufenburg on the Swiss side; Stein-Säckingen in Germany. (Don't forget your passport or ID).

### RHEINFELDEN - BASEL 26 km

Cycling through green countryside is always pleasant, but variety is the spice of life, and what greater contrast could await you as you emerge from the green-verged Rhine River trail than the industrial agglomeration sprawled outside Basel, the pharmaceutical capital of Europe. Riding through the villages embedded in it is exciting in its own way, too! At Kaiseraugst, on the doorstep of Basel, the Roman settlement of Augusta Raurica reminds us of our ancient roots.

### SEASON 2009

01.04.-31.10.2009 (daily service)



«Swiss Grand Canyon» near Versam



## SwissTrails

### Take a break

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

We recommend:

**Disentis**  
Hotel Cucagna (\*\*\*\*)

**Walzenhausen**  
Hotel Walzenhausen (\*\*\*\*)  
also Top Class !

**Berlingen**  
Seehotel Kronenhof (\*\*\*\*)  
also Top Class!

**Basel**  
Hotel Merian (\*\*\*\*)

### À la Carte

Plan your own individual bike tour: the entire route from Andermatt to Basel as well as all the stage destinations listed in the «elevation profile» are available to you with SwissTrails à la carte. You can choose the duration of the trip as well as the start and end destinations and accommodation (hotel and budget).

Pricelist see pages 48 / 49.

## RATES 2009 (in CHF / Euro, per Person, incl. VAT.)

OPTIONS	START AND FINISH	D. / N.	OVERNIGHTS	DIST.	BASIC R. HOTEL	BASIC R. BUDGET	RENT A BIKE	FLYER
<b>A</b> Relax	Disentis - Schaffhausen	6 / 5	Ilanz - Chur - Buchs - Walzenhausen - Berlingen	262	CHF 785 / € 503	CHF 550 / € 352	CHF 130 / € 84	CHF 224 / € 144
<b>B</b> Relax	Buchs - Schaffhausen	3 / 2	Walzenhausen - Berlingen	151	CHF 356 / € 228	CHF 262 / € 168	CHF 89 / € 57	CHF 128 / € 82
<b>C</b> Relax	Disentis - Basel	9 / 8	Ilanz - Chur - Buchs - Walzenhausen - Berlingen - Schaffhausen - Zurzach - Rheinfelden	390	CHF 1229 / € 787	CHF 852 / € 546	CHF 173 / € 111	CHF 320 / € 205
<b>D</b> Power	Andermatt - Basel	5 / 4	Chur - Altstätten - Berlingen - Zurzach	424	CHF 647 / € 415	CHF 459 / € 294	CHF 116 / € 75	CHF 192 / € 123

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

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)