

## The Jewish Heritage in Switzerland

### DAY 1

#### **\*Arrival Transfer from Zurich Airport to Hotel down-town**

Private transfer from Zurich Airport to hotel in Zurich.

With driver only or with full assistance by English speaking guide.

#### **\*Sightseeing tour of Zurich & Surrounding – 4 hours / 100kms**



Our guide will meet you in the lobby of your hotel in Zurich

In 2 hours we will take you through our beautiful city and show you the business and financial center, Bahnhofstrasse, the most important museums, a section of the Old Town, historical Limmatquai, the University district, residential areas, beautiful hillside villas on the Zurichberg, as well as recreation areas and views of the Alps from Zurich vantage point on the lake.

During the city tour of Zurich discover the traces of the first Jewish community dating from the 13th century, the famous 1330 mural that attests to the first presence of the Jews in Zurich, with words in Middle High German written out in Hebrew script, unique in all of Europe. Then proceed onto the beautiful Löwenstrasse Synagogue, the oldest in Zurich and today the main community centre.



Following the city tour you will enjoy a very pleasant train trip to Uetliberg—'Top of Zurich'. At 871 meters (2858 ft) above sea level, Uetliberg towers over the roofs of Zurich. It offers magnificent views extending over the town and across the lake all the way to the Alps. From the top of the summit's 30 m (100 ft) viewing tower, which boosts your altitude to 900 m (2936 ft) a terrific 360-degree view awaits you. **Only after seeing all of this can you really say you've been to Zurich!**

Return to Zurich by train & coach

### DAY 2

#### **\*Full day in Basel – 9 hours / 250km**



Our driver will wait for you in front of your hotel in Zurich and take you to the waiting coach. After 1h30 drive, arrive to basel.

In Basel, meet our guide specialised in Jewish Culture. There are several very important touristic sites that are a must see: the Three Kings Hotel in Basel and the Stadtcasino. Theodor Herzl stayed at the Three Kings Hotel in August 1897, during the world's first Zionist Congress. The Congress itself was held at the Stadtcasino — a concert hall. To the right of the stage there is a plaque that reads: "On Theodor Herzl's initiative and under his guidance, the first Zionist organization was established leading to the foundation of the State of Israel." Discover with our guide the Great Synagogue and access to rooms closed to the public.



In the afternoon, visit the unique Jewish Museum in Switzerland. It includes an exhibit on Zionism with mementos from the First Zionist Congress. It also includes various Jewish memorabilia from the Jews of Switzerland.

Return in Zurich.

**DAY 3****\*Excursion to Mt. Pilatus & Lucerne – 9 hours / 190 / 200 kms**

Drive from Zurich into Central Switzerland via the Sihl Valley and lake Zug to Lucerne, Switzerland's principal resort. Continue through Lucerne to Kriens and board the cable car that will take you to the Mount Pilatus.

Enjoy the magnificent view over the Lake of Lucerne and a nice lunch on top of the Pilatus before you descend back to Kriens.



From Kriens drive to Lucerne. City tour/walk includes the two old wooden bridges, the Chapel Bridge and the Spreuer Bridge, the Lion Monument ( 1820 ) dedicated to the Swiss guards, the ancient walls and fortifications, the Town Hall and the Dietschberg.

After the city tour some time at leisure in Lucerne before returning to Zurich.

- During the summer season you can also descend from Mount Pilatus to Alpnachstad by the world's steepest cogwheel railway
- Optionally you can take a boat cruise from Alpnachstad to Lucerne (or drive by coach)

**DAY 4****\*Excursion to Endingen and Lengnau – 6 hours / 150 kms**

Meet our guide in the lobby of the hotel and drive from Zurich to Lengnau. (about 1h)

Jewish life in this area started already in the 17th century. During your discovery tours through Lengnau and its neighbouring village of Endingen, you will visit the Synagogue, Jewish Residences ( Double doors), Mikvah, Parish Hall of the Jewish Community and the oldest jewish cemetery in Switzerland.

Departure from Zurich at 08:00 – Return at 15:00.

**DAY 5****\*Transfer to Geneva with Spa in Loesche-les-Bains – Max 9 hours / 450km**

Start from Zurich and drive through wonderful landscapes of mountains during 3 hours to Loesche-les-bains.

Ten pools with various water attractions at Europe's largest Alpine Thermal Spa invite visitors to relax in the thermal water.

The thermal baths (28 degrees C to 43 degrees C) offer refreshing, mineral-rich thermal water.

Waterfall showers, massage jets, whirlpools and a natural stone grotto offer an unforgettable nature and bathing experience, regardless of the weather.

Then drive to Geneva.

**DAY 6****Full day tour to Gruyères incl. visit of Cheese Model Factory, Chocolate Factory & Golden Pass train journey (10 hours)**

Drive from Geneva to Montreux via Lausanne by the motorway. Arrived Montreux, take the Panoramic Golden Pass train to Montbovon. Enjoy the 40mns journey and admire the panorama on the lake & the landscapes. Transfer to Broc for the virtual visit of the Chocolate Factory Cailler (approx 1.30hrs).



Then, continuation driving to Gruyères, visit the medieval village. The old comital residence lies on a hill above the river Saane. The castle, which dates back to the 13th century, is today a museum depicting 800 years of regional architecture, history and culture.

Free time for lunch before the visit of the Cheese Model Factory. Return to Geneva.

**DAY 7****Geneva Sightseeing tour combined with visit of UN or Patek Philip Museum (05 hours)**

A fascinating sightseeing trip with time to browse around the city of Geneva, Important organizations like the Red Cross, the International Labour office, the United Nations and the European Council for Nuclear Research have head-quarters here. Geneva is the city of Calvin and a stop is made at the Reformation Monument with its statues of the Reformers of Geneva and the precursors of Protestantism. On to the highlights of the city's University, Town Hall, St Peter's Cathedral, Ariana Park with its museum, the old town with its antique shops, art galleries & colourful student bistros.



A Jewish community in Geneva was established by the end of the 18th century. For several decades the few Jews who lived in Geneva worshiped in Carouge, where the old synagogue still exists. A visit of the Cemetery of Carouge can be organized. With a total number of about 720 stones, the older inscriptions are from 1779.

Cominable with:



**Visit of UN :** Be one of the 100,000 visitors who take the tour of the Palais des Nations each year. You will see The Human Rights and Alliance of Civilizations Room, decorated by famous artist Miquel Barcelo. The Council Chamber, where many important historical negotiations have taken place, with murals by José Maria Sert. A film on the activities and the objectives of the United Nations Office. Gifts presented by various countries to the United Nations Office at Geneva and more...

**OR**



**Patek Philip Museum:** Welcome to the PATEK PHILIPPE MUSEUM, home to the prestigious creations of the Geneva-based firm of master watchmakers which was founded in 1839. Discover how a passion for timepieces has brought together an extraordinary display of watches, musical automata and portrait miniatures from the 16th to the 19th century, in addition to a library dedicated entirely to horology and its related subjects. Tuesday-Friday: 2pm-6pm Saturday: 10am-6pm

**DAY 8****Full day tour to Chamonix / Mount Blanc incl. ascent to Aiguille de Midi (8 hours)**

After one hour 30 minutes drive through the Arve Valley you will arrive in the popular French resort of Chamonix, which lies at the foot of the Majestic Monc-Blanc and its surrounding glaciers.

From Chamonix you will take a 20 minutes ride the cable car will take you to the Aiguille du Midi (12'605ft / 3'842m), the highest summit of Europe only accessible by cable car for a unforgettable panorama of the Alps and Surroundings view.



Back to Chamonix, lunch in a cosy and charming restaurant, free time for shopping and visit the village town of Chamonix. Then return to Geneva.

**DAY 9****Airport departure transfer Geneva**

Private transfer from Geneva hotel in city centre to the airport.  
With driver only or with full assistance by local guide.

➤ Duration approx 15mns to 30 mns depending of the traffic.

For quotation, please contact [smtravel@dmcgva.ch](mailto:smtravel@dmcgva.ch)