Alpine Tasting Menu

Taste your way through the Alps on a five-day culinary adventure: gourmet fare in Zurich's international restaurant scene, perfectly ripened cheese in the mountains of Appenzell, Bavarian beer in cozy Garmisch, fresh fish from the Alpine lakes of the Salzburg region, and sausage in medieval Regensburg.

Fishing fresh fish in SalzburgerLand

1 Zurich

Enchanting Zurich is a "metropolis of experiences," framed by the snowcapped Alps on the horizon. The lakeside city's unique mixture of attractions includes over 50 museums and more than 100 art galleries, international fashion labels and Zurich designers, and the most flamboyant and lively nightlife scene in Switzerland.

STAY

The refurbished **Park Hyatt Zurich** boasts the parkhuus restaurant, with 14 Gault Millau points. **Hotel Adler** is located in quaint Niederdorf, with Bahnhofstrasse and the lake a short walk away.

myswitzerland.com/zuerich-park-hyatt-zuerich
myswitzerland.com/hotel-adler

EAT

Sample Zürcher Geschnetzeltes (sliced veal in cream sauce) at **Zunfthaus zur Waag,** a guild house dating from 1315. **The Hiltl** lures lovers of vegetarian cuisine, with the city's largest salad buffet.

myswitzerland.com/zunfthaus-zur-waage
myswitzerland.com/restaurant-hiltl-zuerich

DO

Visit Zürich West for its shimmering **Prime Towe**r and the **University of Arts. The Swiss National Museum** occupies a 100-year-old fairy tale castle. Just as spectacular is the park behind the museum.

myswitzerland.com/from-industrial-district-to-trendy
myswitzerland.com/swiss-national-museum-zuerich-zuerich

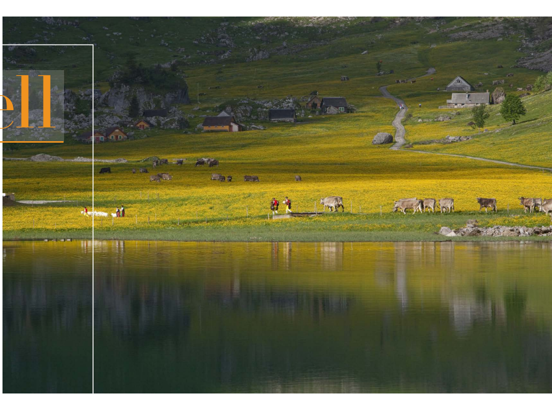
TopTip

Hike Up Uetliberg Mountain

Ready for a challenge? Hike up Uetliberg Mountain (1,300 feet) with experienced guide and Green Party councilor Bruno Pfeuti, along narrow trails and past the largest collection of yew trees in Europe.

myswitzerland.com/uetliberg

2 Appenzell



Appenzell village and Appenzell Innerrhoden canton nestle in a singularly beautiful landscape of rolling hills. The region is known for honoring its rural customs, such as the ceremonial descent of the cattle in autumn, rustic dances, and hiking tours in the Alpstein region. Visit the old Aescher inn, tucked into the side of a sheer cliff, and Appenzell's car-free center, with its colorful wooden houses.

STAY

Hotel Hof Weissbad, renovated in 2009, is the perfect destination for health-focused holidays. **Romantik Hotel Säntis** offers fine dining in three restaurants and traditional Appenzeller hospitality.

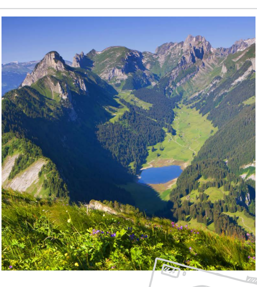
myswitzerland.com/hof-weissbad
myswitzerland.com/romantik-hotel-saentis

EAT

Dramatic **Berggasthaus Äscher** restaurant clings to a vertical cliff. At stylish **Landgasthof Sammelplatz,** traditional Appenzell cuisine is inflected with a touch of Italy.

myswitzerland.comhiking-and-aescher-cliff-restaurant
myswitzerland.com/landgasthof-sammelplatz

DO



Watch how Appenzell beer is brewed at **Brauquöll Appenzell**. A cable car to the revolving restaurant atop **Hoher Kasten** mountain offers views of the Rheintal, the Alpstein, and Appenzellerland.

myswitzerland.com/visitors-center-brauquoell-appenzell
myswitzerland.com/hoher-kasten-the-world-is-turning

TopTip

Delicious Appenzell Hikes

For an intimate look at Appenzell, hike from Teufen to Stein with local herb specialist Martina Rocco and learn how to use domestic herbs for cooking and other household uses. Finish with a tasting of local cheeses.

myswitzerland.com/regions/appenzell

3 Garmisch

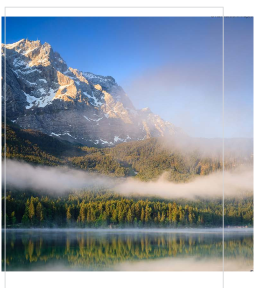
Just an hour from Munich lies the valley resort town of Garmisch-Partenkirchen, embraced by the majestic Alps. Nearby the Zugspitze – at 9,718 feet, Germany's highest peak -- is a popular hiking and skiing destination. Take the cable car and enjoy a beer and authentic German food amid the spectacular scenery. Join the locals for Bavarian dances, shop for your own dirndl or lederhosen, and sample local delicacies.

STAY

Schloss Elmau, a 5-star luxury hotel built in 1914, offers four restaurants and a variety of cuisines. **Garmischer Hof**, in the city's center, features delicious organic and vegetarian options.

schloss-elmau.de
garmischer-hof.de/restaurant-garmischerhof-bayern

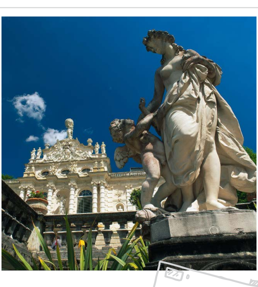
EAT



Take a gondola from Garmisch to Germany's highest restaurant and dine in relaxed elegance under a glass dome above the **Zugspitze.** The local **farmers market** is laden with fresh organic ingredients.

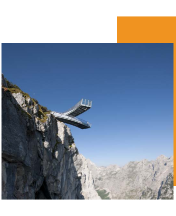
zugspitze.de/gletschergarten

DO



Visit the magnificent **Linderhof Castle** of Ludwig II, built in 1867. Try some liqueur distilled by the Benedictine monks of the **Kloster Ettal Likoere**, founded in 1330.

schlosslinderhof.de/englisch/palace
abtei.kloster-ettal.de/willkommen



TopTip

The Thrilling AlpspiX

Hike or take a cable car to this jaw-dropping viewing platform. Stand on the two steel beams floating over a vertical drop of almost 3,200 feet and experience the clear, crisp air and the endless panorama.

zugspitze.de/alpspix

4 SalzburgerLand

Attention foodies! The region surrounding Salzburg has the greatest density of internationally acclaimed restaurants in Austria. Local cheeses, an abundance of freshwater fish, and of course Austrian farm-raised meat make SalzburgerLand a top destination for food lovers. Enjoy the traditional cuisine amid pristine nature.

STAY

Contemporary **Döllerer Hotel**, near Salzburg, is part of a culinary empire with a restaurant, butcher, and delicatessen. The converted farmhouse retreat **Käth und Nanei** offers simple, healthy cuisine.

doellerer.at
kaethundnanei.at

EAT

Via Culinaria comprises nine culinary-themed food paths focusing on meat, cheese, fish, and other fare. Acclaimed Restaurant **Obauer** will please the most demanding gourmet.

via-culinaria.com
obauer.com

DO

Calling all Julie Andrews fans! Follow the **Sound of Music Trail** to see picturesque filming locations. For a unique adventure, explore the world's largest **ice caves in Werfen**.

salzburgerland.com
eisriesenwelt.at

TopTip

Breathtaking Castle Sunset

Fortress Hohenwerfen perches in front of an impressive mountain panorama. Discover the medieval stronghold's storied 900-year-old past, and don't miss the falconry show. In late afternoon, watch the sun set over the fort's mystical towers.

salzburg.info

5 Salzburg

Salzburg is named for the salt that made the city rich in the Middle Ages, and in the UNESCO-protected Old Town, it's clear that Salzburg's early residents had money. Ornate architecture lines the streets, and the local culture is geared towards indulgence. Enjoy fine-dining spots and beer gardens with hearty Austrian food. Be warned: Tempting pastries lurk around every corner!

STAY

Arthotel Blaue Gans features stunning rooms and one of the city's best restaurants. For another excellent hotel with acclaimed dining, visit the **Hotel Goldgasse.**

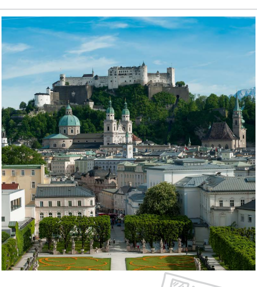
blaue-gans.com
hotelgoldgasse.at

EAT

Dinner at Restaurant **Fideler Affe** (Jolly Monkey) in the heart of Salzburg is a laid-back affair with a traditional Austrian menu. Coffee aficionados need to try **220 Grad Cafe's** roasts.

fideleraffe.at
220grad.com

DO



You can walk or take a cable-car to iconic **Hohensalzburg Castle,** one of the largest medieval fortresses in Europe, begun in 1077. Enjoy the museum and the many richly furnished rooms.

salzburg.info

TopTip

Chocolate Mozartkugeln

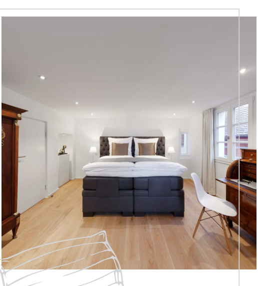
Fürst Mozartkugeln -- balls of pistachio cream encased in nougat and a chocolate shell -- is the original version of Salzburg's famous and irresistible chocolate treat, invented in 1890 by Paul Fürs. Need we say more?

original-mozartkugel.com

6 Regensburg

Regensburg has largely maintained its original form since the 8th century, and the Old Town is a UNESCO World Heritage site. Sitting beside the Danube, Regensburg offers the harmonious combination of an inviting skyline, thousand-year-old monuments, legendary Bavarian hospitality, and a contemporary, vibrant lifestyle. Festivals, exceptional shopping, beer gardens, and numerous bars, restaurants, and cafes all send a clear message: Willkommen.

STAY



Architecture aficionados will love the classical architecture of 4-star **Hotel Maximilian**, a well-known landmark. **Suite Domresidenz** offers modern apartments steps from the famous Regensburg Dom.

eurostarshotels.co.uk/eurostars-park-hotel-maximilian
domresidenz.de

EAT

Gänsbauer Restaurant is famous for its embrace of the slow-food movement, which supports local food and traditional cooking. Enjoy pastries from **Café Prinzess,** the oldest coffee house in Germany.

gaensbauer.de
cafe-prinzess.de/start

DO

Brew your own beer in this UNESCO **World Heritage Site**, home to three charity breweries. Cruise to Walhalla and enjoy the **Regensburg and Walhalla skylines** while dining under a **Swarovski crystal roof.**

tourismus.regensburg.de/bavarian-hospitality
donauschiffahrt.de/kristallzauber-abendfahrt-ab-regensburg

TopTip

Kehlheim & Weltenburg

Take a wooden boat to Weltenburg Abbey, one of the oldest monasteries in the world -- dating to 600 AD -- and renowned for its brewery. Nearby is Kelheim, a popular tourist destination at the confluence of the Danube and Altmuhl rivers.

kelheim.de/kloster_weltenburg

Continue exploring The Alps

www.austria.info/alps
www.germany.travel/alps
www.myswitzerland.com/alps

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