

21 Hidden Gems of Switzerland Vol. II: Unveiling the Enchanting Side of the Alps

Nestled amidst the majestic peaks of the Swiss Alps, Switzerland is renowned for its breathtaking landscapes, picturesque villages, and vibrant cities. However, beyond the iconic destinations, Switzerland holds a wealth of hidden gems waiting to be discovered. In this guide, we present 21 lesser-known places that offer a glimpse into the enchanting side of the Alps.



21 Hidden Gems of Switzerland Vol II by Erin Swann

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1. Saas-Fee

Saas-Fee is a car-free village nestled in the heart of the Saas Valley. Surrounded by towering peaks and pristine lakes, Saas-Fee is a paradise for hikers, skiers, and nature lovers. Its charming chalets and narrow streets exude a timeless Alpine charm.

2. Lauterbrunnen

Lauterbrunnen is a picturesque valley in the Bernese Oberland region. Nestled beneath towering cliffs, the valley is home to over 72 waterfalls, including the iconic Staubbach Falls. The village of Lauterbrunnen is a gateway to the Jungfrau region, offering stunning views of the surrounding mountains.

3. Grindelwald

Grindelwald is another charming village in the Bernese Oberland. Surrounded by some of the most famous mountains in Switzerland, including the Eiger, Mönch, and Jungfrau, Grindelwald is a popular destination for hiking, skiing, and snowboarding. The village is also home to the First Cliff Walk, a thrilling adventure that offers breathtaking views.

4. Zermatt

Zermatt is a world-renowned ski resort nestled at the foot of the Matterhorn. This picturesque village is car-free, preserving its pristine Alpine charm. Zermatt offers a variety of activities throughout the year, including skiing, hiking, and mountain climbing. The village is also home to the Matterhorn Museum, which tells the story of the legendary mountain.

5. St. Moritz

St. Moritz is a glamorous resort town in the Engadin Valley. Known for its luxury hotels, boutiques, and fine dining, St. Moritz is a popular destination for winter sports and summer hiking. The town is also home to the Engadin Museum, which exhibits the region's rich history and culture.

6. Pontresina

Pontresina is a charming village in the Upper Engadin Valley. Nestled amidst pristine lakes and towering mountains, Pontresina is a paradise for outdoor enthusiasts. The village offers a variety of hiking trails, mountain biking routes, and cross-country skiing opportunities. The Bernina Express, one of the most scenic train journeys in the world, stops in Pontresina.

7. Arosa

Arosa is a picturesque resort town in the Grisons region. Nestled high in the Swiss Alps, Arosa offers stunning views of the surrounding mountains and valleys. The town is a popular destination for skiing, hiking, and mountain biking. Arosa is also home to the Arosa Bear Sanctuary, where rescued bears find a safe and natural habitat.

8. Davos

Davos is a high-altitude town in the Grisons region. Known for its pristine air and stunning alpine scenery, Davos is a popular destination for health and wellness retreats. The town is also home to the World Economic Forum, which hosts its annual meeting in Davos.

9. Lenzerheide

Lenzerheide is a charming village in the Grisons region. Nestled amidst pristine forests and sparkling lakes, Lenzerheide is a paradise for outdoor enthusiasts. The village offers a variety of hiking trails, mountain biking routes, and cross-country skiing opportunities. Lenzerheide is also home to the Lenzerheide Sports Center, which offers a wide range of sports and leisure activities.

10. Scuol

Scuol is a historic town in the Lower Engadin Valley. Known for its mineral springs and thermal baths, Scuol is a popular destination for relaxation and rejuvenation. The town is also home to the Scuol Palace, a 17th-century castle that houses a museum and cultural center.

11. Bad Ragaz

Bad Ragaz is a spa town in the Sarganserland region. Known for its healing waters and thermal baths, Bad Ragaz is a popular destination for relaxation and wellness. The town is also home to the Grand Resort Bad Ragaz, one of the most luxurious hotels in Switzerland.

12. Appenzell

Appenzell is a charming town in northeastern Switzerland. Known for its traditional architecture and colorful facades, Appenzell is a popular destination for cultural tourism. The town is also home to the Appenzell Museum, which exhibits the region's rich history and traditions.

13. St. Gallen

St. Gallen is a historic city in northeastern Switzerland. Known for its beautiful cathedral and medieval abbey, St. Gallen is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The city is also home to the Textile Museum, which exhibits the region's rich textile industry history.

14. Schaffhausen

Schaffhausen is a charming city in northern Switzerland. Known for its historic old town and its location on the Rhine River, Schaffhausen is a popular destination for



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