



Fred Jacobson

# ALPINE TRAILS

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## 2018 – Our Destinations

**Courmayeur:** The Mont Blanc towers over this elegant village and was the scene of many of the greatest exploits in modern Alpine history. Its two scenic side valleys – Val Veni and Val Ferret are highlights of the famous Tour du Mont Blanc and offer stunning views of the entire range, including the Grandes Jorasses. Hiking trails lead at friendly gradients to well kept huts with welcoming ambience. The village itself is truly charming and is served by several lifts, enabling the hiker to enjoy the heights he or she might not otherwise reach.

**Meran:** This cosmopolitan village combines world class sophisticated charm and culture with an amazing variety of hiking at all levels - from delightful walks along centuries old aqueducts through vineyards and orchards to high panoramic trails easily reached with the help of a superb lift system. It lies at the foot of the Vinschgau (Val Venosta), the most fertile, lush valley I've ever seen. Five or six spectacular side valleys give an unlimited variety of scenery. Its gardens, fine architecture and inviting mountain farm restaurants create a special ambience.

**Sils Maria:** The Engadine has long been the preferred mountain region for the Swiss. Less developed than the nearby St. Moritz, Sils is a perfect combination of unspoiled Old World charm and modern convenience. Lakes abound. Beautiful pine forests and deep valleys set off the stunning mountains which are capped by the famous Piz Bernina, itself surrounded by some of the most impressive glaciers in Switzerland. The last major village before the Oberengadine plunges to the Bergell at the Maloja Pass, Sils Maria lies at the foot of the greatly admired Fex Valley, virtually on the shore of the beautiful Lake of Sils. Both the Engadine and Bregaglia Valleys are hiked from here.

**Soglio:** Truly a picture book village with cobblestone streets, Soglio lies high above the romantic Val Bregaglia (Bergell), opposite the Val Bondasca, perhaps the wildest in the Swiss Alps. Dating back more than five hundred years, the village is famed for its architecture, winding streets and Southern climate. Just a stone's throw from Italy, it is an ideal base for wandering on both sides of the border, as well as for visiting the nearby renowned Engadine.

**Sulden:** At 1,844 meters above sea level, Sulden is one of the highest year-round villages we visit. It lies in Italy's Sud Tirol, beneath the Ortler – the highest peak of the Eastern Alps – where Switzerland, Austria and the Italian Valtellina all converge. Although surrounded by glaciated high peaks, the valley floor is wide and sunny. Two chair lifts and a cable car enable the hiker to thoroughly explore the beautiful side valleys and climbing huts. The village is calm, secluded and endearingly Old World.

**Vent:** Less publicized than its better known neighbors – Soelden and Obergurgl – Vent earns its reputation and official designation as a "mountain climbers' village." It lies at the head of Austria's famous Oetztal, where the Ice Man was found not many years ago. The village has numerous climbing huts, but just a single chair lift. Nearby neighboring villages provide ample lifts to enable hikers to get high more easily, without disturbing Vent's serenity. Our extremely comfortable hotel blends in seamlessly with this rustic village, which has kept its Old World charm. The trails and spectacular scenery have made Vent famous among Alpine hiking connoisseurs.

**Zermatt:** One of the cradles of Alpinism, Zermatt is beloved of day trippers as well as serious mountaineers. The Matterhorn cast its spell on visitors from all over the world – a truly international resort. While its lift system and dozens of mountain restaurants are justly famous, it's really the spectacular scenery and well kept, well marked, well graded trails that keep its many hiking devotees coming back. The absence of cars gives the village a special ambience. Mountain lovers are drawn to its Alpine Museum as well as to a variety of climbing films shown throughout the summer. While it is hard to take your eyes off the Matterhorn, countless glaciers, deep gorges and numerous high peaks will compete for your attention.

TRIP DATES– 2018	RESORT(S)	LAND PRICES*
April 20 – May 5	Meran/Soglio (I/S)	\$4,600
June 23 – July 8	Courmayeur/Zermatt (I/S)	\$4,800
July 27 – August 11	Sils Maria (S)	\$5,800
August 25 – Sept. 9	Sulden/Vent (I/A)	\$4,000

\* Schedule of supplementary charges for single rooms – when available – may be requested from Alpine Travel.

I= Italy S= Switzerland A=Austria

For further information, contact:

Fred Jacobson or Alpine Travel, or check our website [www.alptrails.com](http://www.alptrails.com)

**TRIP PRICE INCLUDES...**

*Trip price includes...*

**Accommodations:** In twin-bedded rooms with bath or shower at the following hotels: Auberge da la Maison in Courmayeur, Meranerhof in Meran, Waldhaus in Sils Maria, La Sogliana in Soglio, Gertraud in Sulden, Post in Vent and Schoenegg in Zermatt. Hotels have a limited number of single rooms, which will be assigned on a first come first served basis.

**Transportation:** Guests for Meran/Soglio will travel by private bus from Zurich to Meran and then Soglio and will receive a train ticket back to Zurich (bus not included). Travel from Geneva to Courmayeur and from there to Zermatt will be by private bus. One-way rail tickets from Zermatt to Zurich will be included. Sils Maria participants will receive round trip tickets from Zurich to St. Moritz, where the hotel bus will pick you up. The hotel will also provide passes for all local buses, trains and mountain lifts. Travel from Zurich to Sulden, Vent and back to Zurich will be provided by private bus.

**Meals:** Buffet breakfast and dinner at hotel.

**TRIP RATE DOES NOT INCLUDE...**

Local airport taxes, air fares, expenses of passports and visas (bearers of US passports do not require visas for Western Europe); laundry, wines, liquors, mineral water, after luncheon and after dinner tea or coffee, or food not on the menus of the included meals; additional baggage; expenses of carriages, guides, sightseeing, or other services than those specifically mentioned as being included in the itinerary; tips to hotel personnel and drivers; baggage and other personal insurance; airport taxes and all items of personal nature, plus those not listed above as being included in the trip price.

**Special Insurance:** For those passengers interested in obtaining additional insurance coverage for the length of the trip; trip cancellation; baggage insurance including sports equipment, medical expense coverage, accidental death and dismemberment, as well as specified fractures can be covered. Cost of insurance is very reasonable and brochures will be provided at time of booking.

**HOW TO BOOK...**

All reservations should be made through Alpine Travel, P.O. Box 1477, Newburyport, MA 01950. Tel: (800) 291-8126 or (978) 465-8510. E-mail: alpine.travel@verizon.net. They will handle the travel details pertaining to your trip. A deposit of US \$500.00 per person is required at time of booking. No order will be processed without a deposit. Balance is due in full 90 days prior to departure. Once your deposit has been received, you will get, in addition to your confirmation, a letter from Fred Jacobson in which he will spell out the equipment you will need (minimal), what kind of weather to expect, what to wear at dinner, etc.

**Cancellations and Refunds of Land Arrangements:** Refund in full up to 10 weeks prior to departure, less handling fee of US \$200.00 per person. If cancellation is received less than 10 weeks prior to departure, the cancellation fee is 50% of the total land cost, plus any charges incurred by hotels, cable fees, etc. Less than 5 weeks, 80% of total land cost, plus

◆ **SAMPLE ITINERARY** ◆

**DAY 1:** Depart North America to Switzerland.

**DAY 2:** After arrival at your gateway city, transfer by train or bus to your hotel. Fred Jacobson will hold a brief orientation meeting at your hotel this evening.

**DAY 3 AND FOLLOWING:** Daily hikes, plus transfer.

**DAY 16:** Transfer to your gateway.

charges. **We strongly suggest that, to allow for unexpected contingencies, you purchase "trip cancellation" insurance. Information about such insurance will be sent to you upon receipt of your reservation.** No refunds for unused portions during the course of our trip, except at the discretion of the trip operator. Claims must be made within 60 days following the termination of the trip program.

**Trip Membership:** In an honest endeavor to ensure congenial membership on the trip, Fred Jacobson Alpine Trails, Ltd. reserves the right to refuse application of anyone and/or expel from any party trip members whose conduct is incompatible with the interests of the party as a whole.

**Published Rates:** Trip rates in this folder are based on two persons occupying one room and are quoted per person (in US\$). All trip prices are based on costs and currency exchange rates existing and in effect September 15, 2017. Any subsequent changes in the currency exchange rates may alter or change the rates published in this folder.

**Responsibility:** Alpine Travel and/or Fred Jacobson Alpine Trails, Ltd. and/or their agents act only in the capacity of agent for the passengers in all matters pertaining to travel whether by plane, rail, bus, steamer or any other means of conveyance. They shall not be liable for any injury, damage or loss occasioned by neglect or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the trip, or any hotel proprietor or car rental organization or other persons supplying services or materials in connection with the trip. Alpine Travel and/or Fred Jacobson Alpine Trails, Ltd. reserve the right to withdraw a trip or to make changes in the published itinerary if in their sole judgment conditions warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience or safety of the passengers. *In the unlikely event of a trip canceling, neither Alpine Travel nor Fred Jacobson Alpine Trails can take responsibility if a client has chosen to book a NON-REFUNDABLE AIR FARE.* The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane. The passenger contract in use by the airlines concerned when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchasers of the trips and/or the passengers.

**Participating Carriers:** All IATA carriers.

**REGISTRATION FORM FOR THE MAGIC OF THE ALPS TRIPS**

I WISH TO JOIN THE FOLLOWING TRIP(S):

Destination(s): 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Mr./Mrs./Ms. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home \_\_\_\_\_ Business \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Deposit: \$500 per person: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodations Required:  
TWIN: (sharing with) \_\_\_\_\_

SINGLE: \_\_\_\_\_ (If available, at a supplement)

**Please make check/money order payable to:** Alpine Travel • P.O. Box 1477 • Newburyport, MA 01950

I have read the MAGIC OF THE ALPS Brochure and agree to its conditions.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_