

SWITZERLAND

ST. MORITZ | VILLARS-SUR-OLLON

SPONSORED BY

**THE WILLIAMS COLLEGE
SOCIETY OF ALUMNI**

JULY 13-24, 2016

Featuring Professor Reinhard Wobus



Come discover the timeless magic of alpine vistas and glacial lakes. Literary luminaries of the 19th century heralded the idyllic treasures of Switzerland in praise-filled travelogues. Since then, not much has changed in this pristine part of Europe, where magnificent landscapes carved by ancient glaciers continue to thrill visitors. St. Moritz built a glitzy reputation in the 20th century, but this picturesque town first became a popular destination during the Middle Ages because of its therapeutic spring water, which you can still try today. Your journey continues west to Villars, your gateway to towns on the French and Swiss shores of Lake Geneva and impressive mountain landscapes.



Château de Chillon,
Montreux

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Groups are **limited to 28 travelers** to maximize your travel experience.
- ▶ Explore **two regions of Switzerland**, plus sites in France and Italy.
- ▶ Indulge in the ambience of **St. Moritz**, nestled in the **Upper Engadine Valley**.
- ▶ Board the historic **Bernina Express** and picturesque **Glacier Express** for memorable rail journeys.
- ▶ Discover towns on **Lake Geneva** and witness the imposing **Matterhorn**.



Alumni Campus Abroad® Advantages

The unique, value-added features of Alumni Campus Abroad® programs deliver an outstanding educational travel experience.

- **Carefully selected hotels** with comfortable accommodations are the perfect base for exploring the region's renowned landmarks and off-the-beaten-path treasures while providing opportunities to immerse yourself in the local culture and lifestyle.
- **An extensive meal plan** is seasoned with traditional specialties.
- **Meet the People** opportunities allow you to interact with local residents and gain personal insight into their everyday lives.
- **Knowledgeable guides** lead your excursions and **local experts** present insightful educational lectures.
- **An experienced Campus Director** ensures attentive service for the duration of your stay.
- **All gratuities** for excursion guides and drivers are included.



Active Travel

This program is moderately paced with a good balance of included activities and excursions and time to explore on your own. Travelers should be physically fit, able to walk distances of up to three miles and navigate stairs, hills and uneven terrain.

Dear Williams Alumni and Friends,

Tucked into the cultural and geographic heart of Europe, Switzerland is an alpine idyll that stirs the soul. See the majesty of Switzerland's landscape unfold before your eyes on this journey through its blissful meadows, crystal lakes and broad vistas.

As we discover Switzerland by train, bus, boat and foot, the tranquil beauty of this amazing country will take your breath away. Enjoy stays in the resort town of St. Moritz and lovely Villars-sur-Ollon. Staying in two regions of Switzerland gives you opportunities not only to explore the country but also to visit sites in Italy and France. Experience the scenic Bernina and Glacier Express railways, routes so impressive part of each has been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

This unique Alumni Campus Abroad program takes your adventure a step further with a lecture series featuring Bud Wobus and expert local speakers and exclusive opportunities to Meet the People. A professional Campus Director will take care of every detail during your journey, and a dedicated travel staff is committed to ensuring your trip creates many fond memories.

With all of these special features, this once-in-a-lifetime adventure is an incomparable value. Space is limited and is sure to sell out quickly, so make your reservations today!

Best wishes,



Robert V. Behr
Alumni Travel-Study Coordinator
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The Williams College Society of Alumni

800-323-7373

willia.ahitravel.com



Professor Reinhard (Bud) Wobus led the very first alumni trip in 1981. That initial Colorado trip was followed by annual Williams trips to other geologically fascinating parts of the world covering four continents and a dozen countries. Now he returns to Switzerland, a favorite locale from 1996. The Alps offer magnificent vistas as well as Bud's intriguing stories of how the mountains were formed and shaped.

Bud's friendly enthusiasm and his patient explanations have created a loyal band of alumni followers. He has been teaching Williams students since 1966 after receiving his A.B. from Washington University and his Ph.D. from Stanford. This will be his 35th year of conducting alumni trips.

Lake St. Moritz



At an elevation of 6,089 feet, the village of St. Moritz is billed as the “Top of the World.” From this skyscraping town, explore the Engadine Valley. Experience the Bernina Express, one of Switzerland’s most famous trains, and journey into Italy. Then, take the renowned Glacier Express to Switzerland’s French-speaking region. While based in Villars-sur-Ollon, spend time on crystalline Lake Geneva, venture into France to explore Evian and witness the majestic Matterhorn.

DAY ONE

Depart for Zürich, Switzerland.†

†Provided for *AHI FlexAir* participants.

DAY TWO

D

ZÜRICH, SWITZERLAND | ST. MORITZ

Arrive in Zürich and transfer† to St. Moritz to check in to the Hotel Schweizerhof.

This evening, attend a Welcome Reception and Dinner this evening with your fellow travelers.

DAY THREE

B | D

ST. MORITZ | ZUOZ

Educational Focus: *First Journeys through the Alps.* Discuss the motivation behind early passages as well as the challenges climbers faced.

Excursion: *Zuoz.* Travel to Zuoz, a picturesque Upper Engadine village. A walking tour showcases its beautiful cobblestone main square, adorned with brightly colored flowers and bubbling fountains. Stroll the winding streets lined with brightly painted buildings, many built in the 13th century.

Later, take an orientation tour of St. Moritz with a local guide.

Independent Exploration: The afternoon is at leisure in St. Moritz. Enjoy exploring on your own with your included gondola pass.

DAY FOUR

B | L

TIRANO, ITALY

Excursion: *Bernina Express and Tirano.* Go from glaciers to palm trees during a train ride to Tirano, Italy. The Bernina Express travels along one of Europe’s most impressively engineered rail routes. Enjoy free time in Tirano.

Local Flavor: Stop for lunch at a restaurant in Tirano.



UNESCO

The Rhaetian Railway in the Albula/Bernina Landscapes is the UNESCO World Heritage site featured in this program.

DAY FIVE

B | L

PONTRESINA | ST. MORITZ

Excursion: *Pontresina.* Take the train this morning to nearby Pontresina, situated at the mouth of the Bernina Valley. Its streets are lined with charming shops and restaurants, but Pontresina is best known for the natural wonders that surround this tiny village, most notably magnificent Roseg Glacier Valley. Enjoy a horse-drawn carriage ride through the valley, then savor Alpine specialties during lunch at a restaurant with breathtaking views.

Meet the People: Discuss Swiss life with some residents of St. Moritz.

DAY SIX

B | D

ST. MORITZ

Independent Exploration: The day is at leisure. Explore the shops in St. Moritz or take the train to one of the nearby villages.

DAY SEVEN

B | L | D

ST. MORITZ | VILLARS-SUR-OLLON

Excursion: *Glacier Express.* After breakfast, board the Glacier Express for a memorable journey from St. Moritz to Visp. One of the world’s most renowned railways, this day trip will take you through mountain landscapes, stunning gorges and lush valleys. Continue to Villars, then check in to the Hotel du Golf & Spa.



St. Moritz



Lausanne



PASSAGE OVER THE ALPS

The Bernina Express is the highest rail crossing of the Alps and the only Swiss rail route to traverse the range from north to south, and the Glacier Express is recognized as one of the world's most famous railways. Your Swiss adventure allows you to experience both, and each travels along portions of the Rhaetian Railway, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The Bernina Express ascends to a height of 7,391 feet (2,253 meters) at the Bernina Pass along switch-back tunnels and graded spirals. The Brusio Viaduct loops into a 360-degree curve as the train climbs up a 7 percent grade. On the stretch from St. Moritz to Tirano, Italy, the train's panoramic carriages pass Morteratsch Glacier, the Grüm Alp and picturesque Poschiavo Valley.

The Glacier Express, a full-day experience, travels from St. Moritz or Davos to Zermatt and features breathtaking scenery, 91 tunnels and almost 300 bridges. During your ride from St. Moritz to Visp, witness lush landscapes and Oberalp Pass, the highest point of the journey at more than 6,500 feet (2,000 meters).

DAY EIGHT

B | D

MONTREUX

Educational Focus: *Swiss Icons* — An Overview of Switzerland. Learn about the culture and history of Switzerland by taking a look at some of the things that are quintessentially Swiss.

Excursion: *French Connection*. Travel to the Edwardian town of Montreux. This jewel of the Swiss Riviera has charmed artists, musicians and literati for centuries. Cruise Lake Geneva to the Château de Chillon. This enthralling medieval castle and the story of Francois Bonivard, its famous prisoner, inspired Lord Byron's epic poem, "The Prisoner of Chillon."

Educational Focus: *Swiss Wine*. Swiss wine is one of the country's unsung pleasures. Only two percent of the production leaves the country. During the lecture, learn about the history and techniques involved in producing Swiss wine and enjoy a tasting.

DAY NINE

B | L

LAUSANNE | EVIAN

Excursion: *The Two Countries of Lake Geneva*. Explore the picturesque Swiss



Lake Geneva

town of Lausanne. Built on three hills and surrounded by vine-laden slopes, the town looks out onto the Savoy Alps situated on the French side of the lake. The Old Town is built for pedestrians. Board a boat to cruise across Lake Geneva to Evian, France, one of France's leading spa towns. While in Evian, savor regional specialties during lunch at a local restaurant.

DAY TEN

B

ZERMATT

Excursion: *Zermatt and the*

Matterhorn. Drive to Zermatt, a small village at the base of the Matterhorn. You may choose to ride the open-air cogwheel railroad* to Gornergrat and take in spectacular views.

DAY ELEVEN

B | D

VILLARS

Independent Exploration: Spend your last day in Switzerland at leisure. Consider taking a train to explore some of the scenic mountains near Villars.

This evening, join fellow travelers for a special Farewell Reception and Dinner featuring fondue.

DAY TWELVE

B

IN TRANSIT

After breakfast, transfer to the Geneva airport for the return flight to your gateway city.†

NOTE: *Itinerary subject to change. This program is designed for active alumni and includes moderate daily walking and offers some hiking opportunities. Your Campus Director will describe the length and difficulty level.*

* You may choose to ride the mountain lifts; a surcharge will apply.

Included meals indicated each day as B | L | D = Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner.

INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations

- **Five nights** in St. Moritz, Switzerland, at the renowned **Hotel Schweizerhof**.
- **Five nights** in Villars-sur-Ollon at the family-owned **Hotel du Golf & Spa**.

Meals

- Enjoy an **extensive meal program**, including 10 breakfasts, four lunches and six dinners. Tea or coffee is included with all meals, plus wine with dinner. Take advantage of leisure time to try local cuisine independently.
- Sample **authentic regional specialties** at local restaurants during leisure time.
- Attend special **Welcome** and **Farewell Receptions** and **Dinners**.

Transportation

- All train rides and deluxe motor coach transfers in the Land Program itinerary and baggage handling on these transfers are included.
- A customized five-day Swiss Rail pass.

Your Exciting Travel Program

(For details, see the day-by-day itinerary.)

- **Informative educational programs**, presented by Prof. Wobus and local experts, will enhance your insight into the region.
- **All excursions:**
 - Explore Zuoz, a picturesque village in the Upper Engadine Valley.
 - Journey aboard the Bernina Express to Tirano, Italy.
 - Ride a horse-drawn carriage from Pontresina through Roseg Glacier Valley.
 - Experience a memorable rail journey from St. Moritz to Visp aboard the Glacier Express.
 - Visit French-influenced Montreux and discover the Château de Chillon.
 - Cruise on Lake Geneva and visit cities on the Swiss and French shores.
 - Admire the Matterhorn in Zermatt.

Many Included Extras

- **Tippling** of all guides and drivers.
- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of an experienced **Campus Director**.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in your planning.
- Complimentary travel wallet.

ACCOMMODATIONS



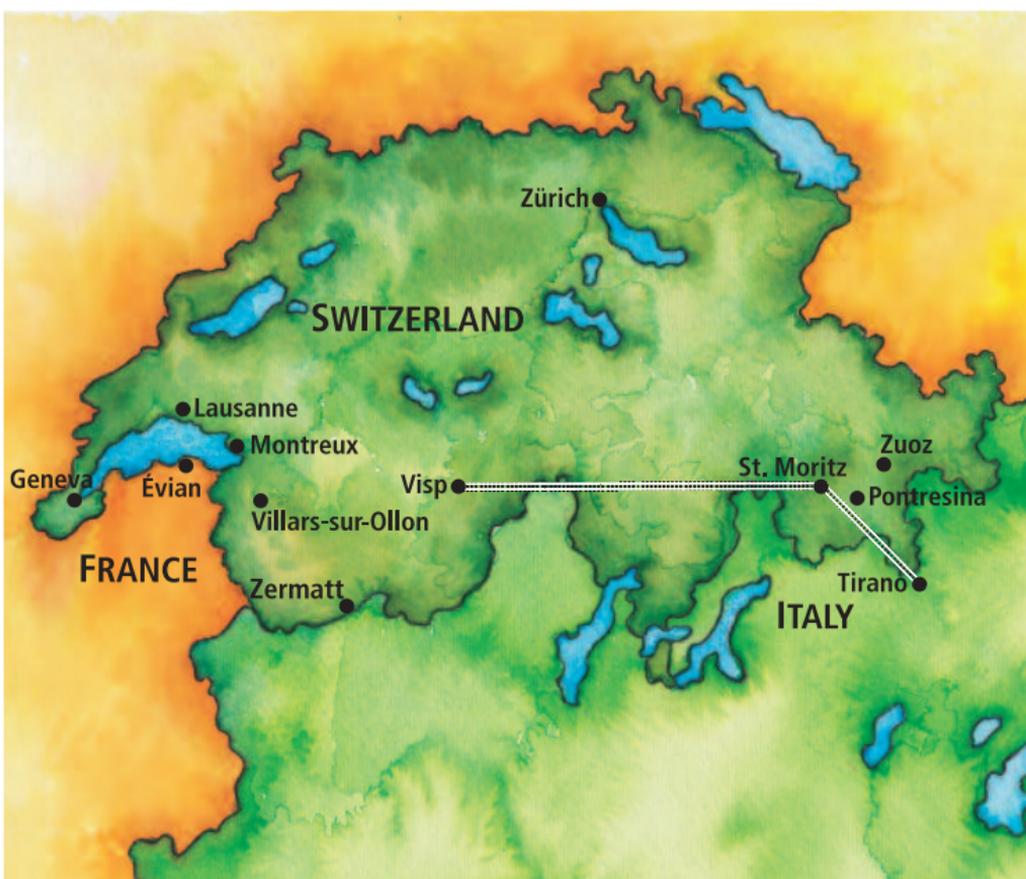
HOTEL SCHWEIZERHOF ST. MORITZ

Built in 1896, the legendary hotel is ideally located in the center of St. Moritz. Amid the ambience of a traditional family-run inn, it offers two quaint restaurants serving Alpine specialties, a rooftop wellness center with a sauna and massage treatments, and picture-perfect lake and mountain views. Each guest room features individual climate controls, a minibar, a safe, cable TV and a hair dryer. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available.



HOTEL DU GOLF & SPA VILLARS

The family-owned Hotel du Golf & Spa is ideally located in the heart of French-speaking Switzerland in the charming village of Villars-sur-Ollon. The Swiss-chalet style hotel features a lobby decorated with wooden beams and an inviting central fireplace. The hotel's restaurants serve a selection of Swiss, French and Italian cuisine. The wellness center offers an assortment of treatments. Each guest room is tastefully appointed and provides stunning views of the alpine landscape. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available.



Reserve your trip to Switzerland today!

Trip #:6-22573W

Send to: Switzerland
The Williams College Society of Alumni
c/o AHI Travel
International Tower-Suite 600
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Chicago, IL 60631

Please contact AHI Travel at **800-323-7373** with questions regarding this trip or to make a reservation.

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Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

(2) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home: (_____) Cell: (_____) _____

Sharing with _____ (Form sent separately.)

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Land Program and AHI FlexAir

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the AHI FlexAir to Zürich, Switzerland, with a return from Geneva, to depart from:

Departure City

- Please contact me regarding air options.
 Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

Land Program

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

Single Accommodations

- I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$450 (limited availability).
 I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first come, first served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by April 29, 2016 (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI International.

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 per person required) to reserve _____ place(s).

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(Signature as it appears on credit card)

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If you are interested in making independent travel arrangements before and/or after this program, please contact **AHI Travel** at **800-323-7373** no later than **60 days prior to departure**, and they will be happy to assist you with your reservations. *A nonrefundable service fee and additional air/land charges based on reservations apply.*

LAND PROGRAM

July 14-24, 2016

Full Price

\$4,245

Special Savings

\$250

Special Price*

\$3,995*

*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.
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BAGGAGE-Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

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AHI FLEXAIR July 13-24, 2016

Our personalized air program allows you to select your flights, routing, class of service and dates of travel in consultation with one of our experienced Passenger Service Representatives. Airfares will vary, depending on airline, routing and class of service. In most cases, transfers between the airport and hotel/cruise ship will be included on arrival and departure days. Your Passenger Service Representative will provide you with all of the details you need to guarantee your transfer. Book your air with us to ensure assistance in the case of schedule changes or delays that may impact your air travel plans. AHI FlexAir participants automatically receive flight insurance worth up to \$250,000, subject to policy terms.



Tirano

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