

PEOPLE . PLACES

SPECTACULAR MOUNTAIN RAILWAYS OF THE SWISS ALPS

8 × 50' (ENG, GER)

The Swiss cog trains take you up through majestic landscapes to the most spectacular peaks.

Their unique blend of tradition, technology and nature is as fascinating today as it was then. Their charm and character captivates people from all over the world. With a lot of steam, sweat and flair, historic locomotives and railcars from the 19th century still climb the peaks of the Swiss mountains. Just like their modern successors, that shine with state-of-the-art engineering and technology.

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1. The Charming Brienz Rothorn Railway

The Brienzer Rothorn in canton Berne prides itself on having one of the most spectacular panoramas of the Alps. It is also the only cog train in Switzerland with daily steam train service. Driven into the mountain by hand 130 years ago, the 7.6 km long line leads from the foot of emerald-green Lake Brienz up to 2244 meters above sea level. The ascent is made by one of the traditional steam locomotives - the oldest of which dates back to the 19th century.

2. The Mythical Pilatus Railway

Take the world's steepest cogwheel railroad up to the impressive Mount Pilatus. A journey with a certain thrill. Mount Pilatus south of Lucerne is one of the most impressive mountain massifs in Switzerland. For over a century it has offered thrills and great landscape cinema with the world's steepest cogwheel railroad.

3. The Impressive Gornergrat Railway

With a constant view of the magnificent Matterhorn - the place of longing for many travellers - the Gornergratbahn winds its way from glamorous Zermatt to the chilly charm of the Glaciers. The Gornergratbahn is the secondhighest cog train in Europe after the Jungfrau Railway. And offers undisputedly the best view of the unmistakable cone of the Matterhorn in the canton of Valais during the ride to the peak in over 3000 meters.

4. The Royal Rigi Railway

The Rigi is home to the most impressive historic fleet of Swiss mountain railroads. True to Tradition: the Rigi Railway - built in 1871 - was the first cog train in Europe. The mountain journey in the legendary railcar "Sächsi" offers passengers an unforgettable journey: over viaducts, past waterfalls, along rugged rock faces and numerous "train spotters", that cherish the old cars as perfect photo motifs, the locomotive pushes the train uphill.

- 5. Monte Generoso 6. Furka Steam Railway
- 7. Rochers-de-Naye Railway
- 8. Schynige Platte