

**SWITZERLAND HIDDEN GEMS**

Grüezi from Swiss Select Travel

We are pleased to present our new Hidden Gems

**PONTRESINA**

A fascinating mix of outdoor adventure, relaxation, and luxury awaits you in Pontresina. Pontresina enjoys a sunny, sheltered location at the entrance to the Val Bernina (Berninatal) on a south-west facing terrace just 7 km from St. Moritz. The first hotels for guests were built as early as the 19th century.

The charm of this medium-sized resort lies in the architectural blend of fine old Engadine houses with their typical "sgraffito" (decorated walls) from the 17/18th centuries and the elegant hotels in Belle Epoque style. A modern conference centre completes the village's infrastructure.

The mountain pass and, since the early 20th century, the Bernina railway line lead over the 2330 m high Bernina Pass towards Italy. At sightseeing speed, the Bernina Express passes the massive Morteratsch Glacier. From the Ospizio Bernina station there is a lovely view over the mountain lakes of Lago Nero and Lago Bianco. From the Alp Grüm stop, you can see a wide view as far as the Poschiavo valley in southern Grisons.

It's one of our favorite Secret Escapes, Hidden gems, where many outdoor adventures await you, and relaxing hotel spa in a typical Engadiner small village situated only a 15 minute drive for the Jet-Set St Moritz, peaceful place where Swiss people enjoy going on holidays and long weekends



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## PREFERRED HOTEL

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|   | <p><b>Grand Hotel Kronenhof *****</b><br/>Pontresina</p> <p>The Grand Hotel Kronenhof in Pontresina is located just 10 minutes by car from St. Moritz. As the only 5-star hotel in the Engadin valley, it is open from mid-June to early April.</p> <p>The fall season is highly recommended when nature begins a play of colors and the forests turn yellow, orange and red and the mountain peaks are cloaked in white for the first time.</p> <p>Affectionately known as the "Grand Dame," Hotel Kronenhof cherishes a remarkable legacy of over 175 years in hospitality, an unparalleled presence in the valley. The hotel's essence is imbued with the grace of neo-baroque aesthetics, which is reflected in the dedication to detail -be it in terms of interior design as well as in the daily services provided to our guests. This symphony of meticulous details crafts an atmosphere of unique distinction, elevating it to a realm all its own.</p> |
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### Swiss Select Amenities

- Bottle of wine
- Chocolate Box

## SUMMER ACTIVITIES

### HIKING PARADISE



In Pontresina, every step taken is an experience of natural surroundings. The combination of fragrant Swiss Stone Pine and Larch woodland and spectacular high-altitude trails is unique beautiful. The high alpine hiking trail network is extremely varied and of around 580 kilometres distance

In the mountain refuge chalets – known in the region as “Chamannas” – visitors can enjoy local specialities and views of glacier mountains or Upper Engadin Lake plateau. The wild and romantic **Val Roseg** and the pristine **Val Morteratsch** are among the highlights of the region. A hike between the **Mutottas Muragl** and the **Alp Languard** – in the territory of the largest ibex colony (Capricorn) in Switzerland – is also a must for the visitor.

### A CLIMBING WONDERLAND



Whether it is any of the 4 different and equally breathtaking Via Ferratas, rope parks or out connecting with the wilderness on the rockface at one of the 4 “climbing gardens” that the Pontresina region has to offer, summertime is climbing time in the Engadin.

There’s a suitable activity for all ages and abilities, and if that wasn’t enough, in wintertime there’s even the possibility to go ice climbing for the real thrill seekers

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## MOUNTAIN BIKE



Mountain biking in the Engadine has many superlatives: over 400 kilometers of riding fun on well-signposted routes, bike transport up to the 3057 meter high Piz Nair. Trail fun all the way to Italy and back by train. Discovery tours through forests and valleys, to mountain lakes and glaciers. You can find the "flow" almost everywhere - and guaranteed on Corviglia.

## WATER ACTIVITIES



It is punctual, extremely consistent and transforms the Engadine into a mecca for enthusiastic windsurfers, kites and sailors: the Maloja wind. It always starts blowing around midday - and, in addition to providing some refreshment on hot summer days, provides ideal conditions for practicing the various water sports activities on the beautiful lakes. In the morning hours, however, these are quiet and a delight for stand-up paddlers.

Or enjoying the romantic Staz Lake – Picturesque bathing lake in the Staz forest near Celerina and St. Moritz

Pontresina also offer various thermal baths public and in 5 stars hotel

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## GOLF



Golfers' happiness is never far away in the Engadine, as the sunny high valley is one of the most beautiful Alpine golf regions with one 9-hole and two 18-hole golf courses. Our breathtaking Alpine panorama, the varied golf courses and the dry Engadine air, which makes the balls fly further than anywhere else, have always delighted professional golfers and amateurs alike. However, we cannot promise that you will manage a hole-in-one on your round of golf.

## EXCURSIONS



### Swiss National Park:

Switzerland's only national park, located in the Engadin, is also the oldest national park in the Alps: its extensive terrain has enjoyed the highest level of protection since 1914. Today, the Swiss National Park covers an area of about 170 square kilometres and is criss-crossed by footpaths that allow walkers an intimate experience of pristine nature.

**Bernina Express Panoramic** train from Pontresina to Poschiavo or until Tirano, the Italian small town. The train journey offers the most attractive ride between the Alpine Engadin and the Mediterranean landscapes to the south, the route is full of contrasts.

## ALPEN CHEESE



Experience the authentic cheese making process, unchanged for centuries, up close and personal in this traditional alpine dairy that still makes its own delicious cheeses every day from early June until the end of September.

Afterwards you can enjoy local meats, cheeses and other delicacies at their on-site restaurant, completing a relaxing and authentic Engadin alpine experience

## SO MANY OUTDOORS ACTIVITIES...



### Acrobranching / Fun forest

Aerial courses for young and old, for thrill-seekers. For children, courses adapted to their age and ability.  
For athletes, freestyle from branch to branch.

### Rafting on the River Inn from nearby Zuos

You like water and adrenaline? This activity is for you on the cascading River Inn

### Tandem paragliding

Jump with us with one of our pilots and enjoy the fantastic panorama from a bird's eye view

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## WINTER ACTIVITIES

### SKI & SNOWBOARDING



Engadin is a wintersports paradise, with the pistes situated on the Diavolezza and the Lagalb - Pontresina's local mountains – offering a more laid-back ambience. It is an ideal place for high alpine discoverers, connoisseurs and powder-snow fans. The Corvatsch is steep and spectacular, with the highest mountain station in the Canton of the Grisons (at 3,303 metres), as well as having a huge snow park, including a world championship half-pipe. The recommendation for families would however be the Languard Ski Lift in the centre of Pontresina.

### CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING & WINTER HIKING



Cross-country skiers are particularly well served around Pontresina. This is no wonder because of up to 220 km of serviced and smoothed trails criss-cross the Upper Engadin. This represents the largest network of cross-country trails in Switzerland.

Most of the trails are usually serviced throughout the whole Winter Season. This is thanks to the altitude (of 1,700 to 1,800 metres above sea level), as the Engadin valley floor with its romantic side valleys is also very snow sure.

For winter hikers, there are trails through snow covered forests and dramatic viewpoints: the winter hiking trails in the Engadin are ideal for enjoying the Alpine tranquility and experiencing nature up close.

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## OFF PISTE/FREERIDE SKIING



The Engadin is a haven for freeriders: Pristine powder slopes and diverse terrain make the region a top destination for powder enthusiasts and adventurers. Leave the pistes behind in the Freeride paradises of Diavolezza and Lagalb, where connecting with nature in untouched powder becomes a reality.

## ICE SKATING THROUGH THE FOREST



About an hour away from Pontresina, from late December onwards you can experience a truly rare alpine winter experience - ice skating, not on a man-made rink but on a natural ice path that winds its way for around 3 km through the native larch forests – an experience to bring you closer to the fresh alpine air and quiet, snow clad forests.



## RAINY / SNOWY DAY OPTIONS



If the weather isn't perfect, Pontresina and surrounding region still offers authentic and fun options for the whole family. A couple of examples are:

### **Museum Alpin, Pontresina**

Housed in an authentic painted Engadiner house, at the Museum Alpin, one can enjoy details of the mountain world with a large variety of exhibits. The fauna, flora and geology of the Grisons Mountains are presented here, as is Alpine culture. The exhibitions on Summer and Winter alpinism are a special highlight. They exhibit an insight into the pioneering days of mountaineering, the conquest of the high alpine Bernina Massif and the development of modern alpinism as well.

### **Albula Railway Museum, Bergün**

The Albula Bahn Museum, located in Bergün, around 1 hour from Pontresina, celebrates the history and engineering marvel of the Rhaetian Railway's Albula Line, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visitors can explore interactive exhibits, historical artifacts, and detailed models that showcase the railway's construction through the stunning Swiss Alps. A highlight is the original "Crocodile" locomotive. The museum offers insights into alpine rail transport and the challenges of building through mountainous terrain, making it a must-visit for train enthusiasts and history lovers alike.

### **Bellavita Pool & Spa, Pontresina**

To keep kids and adults alike entertained in bad weather, this large pool and spa complex has something for everyone - indoor & outdoor pools, a toddler pool, flumes, saunas and a steam room. Come here to slow down and relax or burn off energy, all whilst surrounded by the gorgeous Pontresina alpine valley

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