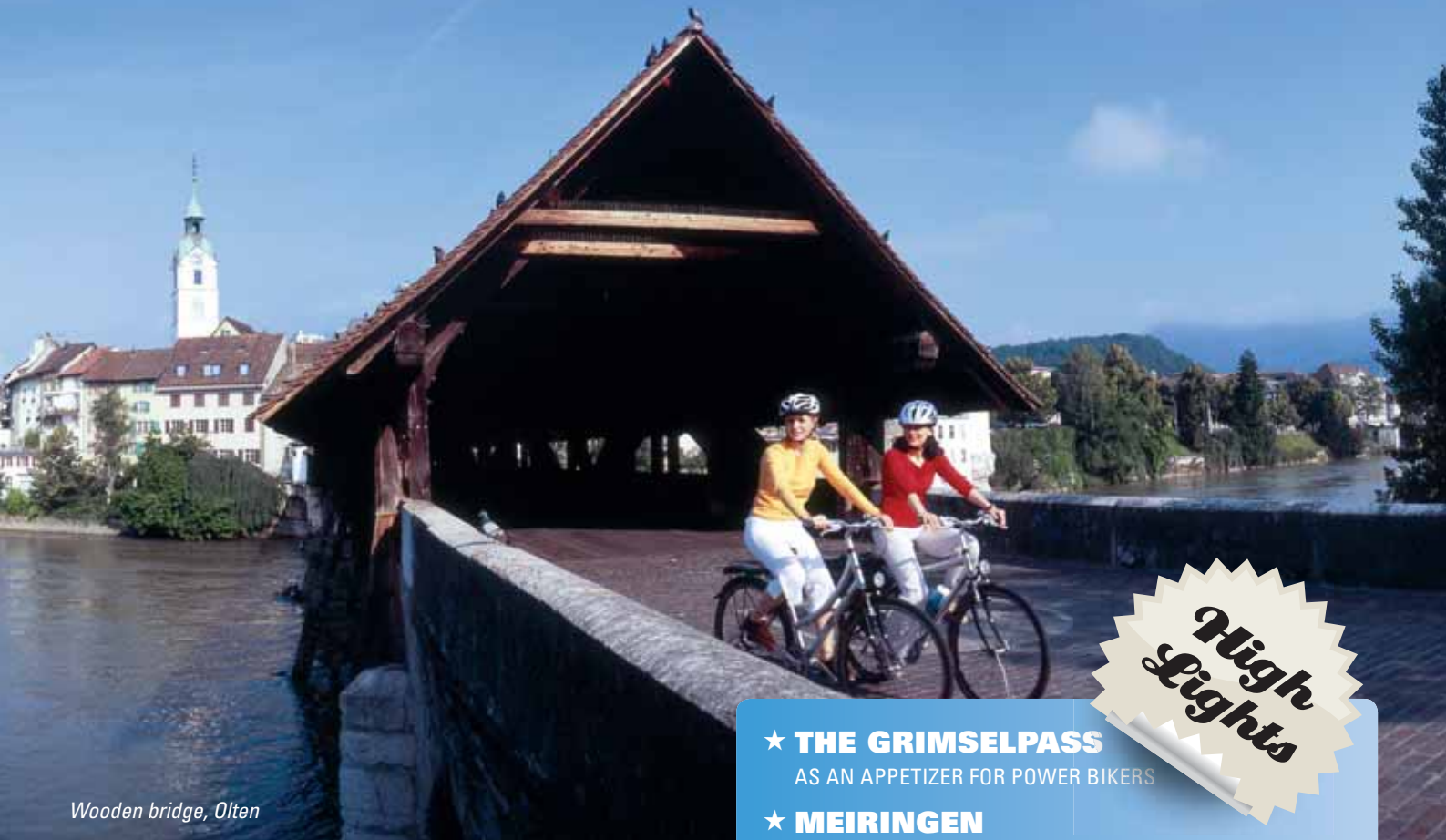




AARE-ROUTE



Wooden bridge, Olten

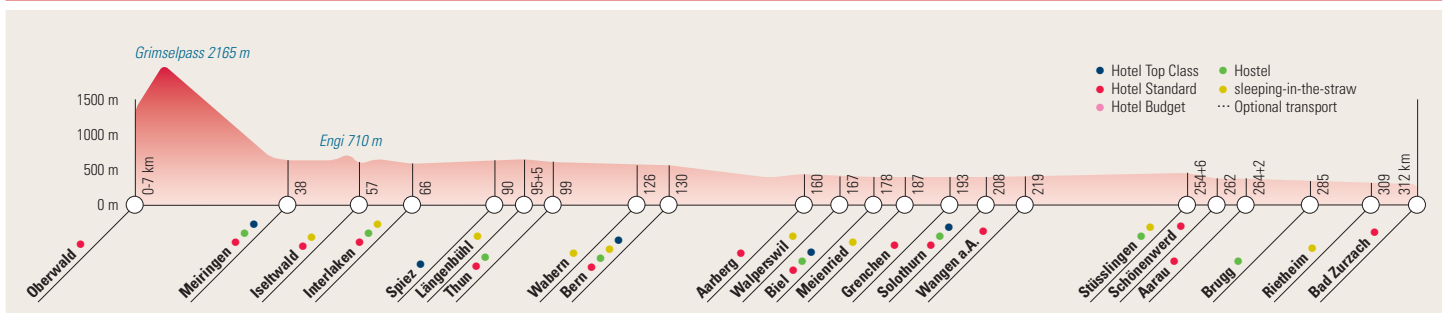
High Lights

- ★ **THE GRIMSELPASS**
AS AN APPETIZER FOR POWER BIKERS
- ★ **MEIRINGEN**
THE AARE GORGE AND SHERLOCK HOLMES
- ★ **THE BERNESE OBERLAND**
WITH ITS ADVENTURE CAPITAL OF INTERLAKEN
- ★ **A SIDE TRIP UP TO BEATENBERG**
WITH A PANORAMIC DOWNHILL RIDE
- ★ **BERNE**
THE CAPITAL WITH LOTS ON OFFER BOTH DAY AND NIGHT
- ★ **INVITATIONS TO DIP INTO LAKES BRIENZ, THUN AND BIEL**
- ★ **THE RIVER AARE**
YOUR FAITHFUL COMPANION FROM START TO FINISH

MAP



ELEVATION PROFILE AND ROUTE STAGES



Cathedral of Solothurn

OVERVIEW

The classic tour in Veloland Switzerland. Ride along the banks of the River Aare and you will encounter a chunk of Switzerland that has maintained its provincial charm, nostalgic farm life and unadulterated nature up to the present day. The Aare Route offers the full range of services with lodgings in hotels, youth hostels, in the straw or camping grounds with both Power and Relax options. Bike and Electrobike (Also new: Top class category) rental.

Gletsch in the midst of high mountains is actually the official start of the Aare Route, but the river has levelled the terrain over millions of years and from Meiringen on there are no steep climbs worth mentioning – this makes it a joy for cyclists to cross the Bernese Oberland, the Mittelland, the Three Lakes region and the southern foot of the Jura Mountains. Thanks to Hostel und sleep-in-the straw overnighting options it is also an ideal route for families with children.

ROUTE

OBERWALD - MEIRINGEN 45 km

The Aare Route begins officially in Gletsch: at 1757 m above sea level, this place is accessible only after July, and by using the post bus. Our Power Route therefore starts off in Oberwald, 7 km and 400 m away from Gletsch. You begin with the climb to Gletsch and to the Grimsel Pass (2165m). The 22 km downward stretch to Innertkirchen passes through a magnificent backdrop of the mountains, and between Innertkirchen and Meiringen, one can visit the spectacular gorges of the Aare (on foot).

MEIRINGEN - INTERLAKEN (ISELTWALD) 30 km

The brief stretch along the traffic free southern bank of Lake Brienz allows ample time for an excursion to the Aare gorge, a refreshing visit to the Giessbach drop and snack in Iseltwald. Lake Brienz with its waters glittering in all shades of green depending on the weather is an attractive companion today.

INTERLAKEN - THUN 28 km

The route offers a breathtaking panoramic view with snow covered peaks, deep blue water bodies, vineyards that thrive on the mild climate and dark brown, seasoned chalets in Musse.

SwissTrailsTip: Take the post bus to Beatenberg to the magnificent panorama route with view of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau towards Thun!

THUN - BERN / AARBERG 30 / 60 km

The snow-covered peaks begin to retreat after Thun and you enjoy an unobstructed view over the wide plains of the Aare Valley. Well tended fields announce the transition from the Berner Highlands into the Swiss Mittelland (Midlands). The well sign posted route directs the cyclist in the heart of Bern.

SwissTrailsTip: Exchange the cycle for a rafter in Thun, and paddle away on clear waters and magnificent currents towards Bern! You can book this now with SwissTrails, for details please see Page 110).

BERN - BIEL 50 km

And now you will witness the merry interplay between the dazzling beauty of nature and the industrial world of energy production. The vegetable-growing region in the Grosse Moos and later on the Lake of Biel mark the scenery of today's route. A short break in the pretty little town of Aarberg is worthwhile.

BIEL - SOLOTHURN / WANGEN A.A. 34 km

Between Biel and Büren the course of the Aare has undergone correction as part of the Jura waterway project, but the river winds its way through a fertile region, forming many loops, towards the city of Solothurn. The storks circling the skies in Altreu are a unique experience. And soon the towers of the Solothurn Cathedral will beckon to you from afar.

SwissTrailsTip: A canoe trip on the Aare from Büren to Solothurn (incl. bike transport) offers an exciting alternation (now bookable with Swiss Trails, details see page 110).

SOLOTHURN - AARAU (SCHÖNENWERD) 53 km

Continue to the medieval town of Wangen. Ride on leisurely through an enchanting river landscape between Berken, Aarwangen and Wolfwil. Visit the pedestrian zones in Olten's old town.

AARAU - BAD ZURZACH 53 km

The route usually follows the course of the River Aare and after Brugg, it touches the «Water Castle» of Switzerland, where the three rivers Limmat, Reuss and Aare meet, and reach the Rhine 16 km further down. Bad Zurzach is just 7 km downstream along the Rhine.

SEASON 2011

01.05.-15.10.2011 (daily service)



The comfort you desire!
 Along the Aare route, you can choose your accommodation from among these:

- A=Top Class Hotel
- B=Standard Hotel
- D=Hostel
- E=sleep-in-straw

RATES (in CHF, per Person, incl. VAT.)

Category	Start / Overnights / Finish	Days / N.	Rate	Rent a Bike
A Top Class	Oberwald ^(B) - Meiringen - Spiez - Bern - Biel - Solothurn - Schönenwerd - Bad Zurzach ^(A/B)	7/6	1173.–	231.– (e-Bike)
B Standard Hotel	Meiringen ^(B) - Interlaken - Thun - Bern - Biel - Solothurn - Aarau ^(B)	6/5	785.–	130.– (Standard)
D Hostel	Meiringen ^(D) - Interlaken - Thun - Bern - Biel - Solothurn - Aarwangen - Aarau ^(B)	8/7	761.–	
E sleep-in-straw	Meiringen ^(D) - Iseltwald - Längenbühl - Wabern/Bern - Walperswil - Meienried - Stüsslingen - Rietheim ^(E)	7/6	573.–	143.– (Standard)

Rates include: accomodation, breakfast, luggage transfer, travel documents, helpline. Additional night: E) sleep-in-straw: 35.–, D) Hostel: 45.–, B) Standard: 90.–, A) Top Class: 135.–