



Zermatt 2015



4 Superior Hotel Alex*

Saturday 21st - 28th March 2015

Following the great success of last year's Spring Ski holiday we are delighted to return to 4* Superior Hotel Alex, Zermatt, Switzerland. We have a wonderful team of ski leaders headed by Suzi McArthur and Paul Ubysz. They are all current or ex Ski Club of Great Britain reps and bring all their charm and expertise to the slopes.

Jack Stocken, co-hosted by Lorna Heaton, will be hosting an informative and entertaining Bridge programme and as ever, the standard is friendly Intermediate. Jack and Annabel Stocken will be arranging all other aspects of the holiday. Please book early as there is a lot of early interest in this holiday.

Zermatt is a skiers' paradise, with its combination of excellent advanced and intermediate slopes, reliable snow, magnificent scenery, Alpine charm and mountain restaurants with superb food and stunning views. Non-skiers have a wide range of walks, shops and activities. The website is www.Zermatt.ch. It is also easy to ski over to Cervinia, in Italy, for fantastic groomed pistes and great Italian food.



Resort: Zermatt is a picturesque car-free mountain village at the foot of the Matterhorn. The British and Zermatt go back a long way. Indeed Alex Perren, a former mountain guide himself and the owner of the hotel, is the fourth generation of the guides of the Englishman Edward Whymper, who did the first ascent of the Matterhorn.

Zermatt started life as a traditional mountain village, developed as a mountaineering centre in the 19th century and then became a winter resort too. The village lies on either side of a river along a narrow valley, with mountains rising steeply on each side. It is a mixture of traditional chalets and more modern buildings, mainly in traditional style. One arrives by mountain railway from Täsch. The main street runs past the station (the Alex is two minutes from the station just off the main street), and is lined with luxurious hotels and smart shops. It is the focal point of village life. The cog railway to the Gornergrat area leaves from opposite the main station, and the underground funicular to the Sunnegga area is just a few minutes' walk away, or a short journey on the free shuttle bus. The gondola to the Klein Matterhorn (the link to Cervinia), is a free shuttle bus ride away.

Activities: Include, amongst others, winter hiking and snowshoe walking, curling, langlaufing, tobogganing, skating and helicopter flights.

Skiing: There are slopes to suit all standards except absolute beginners. For intermediates and experts Zermatt has few rivals worldwide. There are marvellously groomed cruising trails, some of the best moguls around, long, beautiful scenic runs out of view of the lift system, exciting heli-trips and off-piste possibilities.

Zermatt consists of three separate areas, linked if snow conditions are good.

Sunnegga – Blauherd – Rothorn: This area is reached by the underground funicular which is a short walk or shuttle bus journey from the Alex. It consists of largely intermediate runs and beautiful scenery. From here you can make your way to the

Gornergrat – Stockhorn area, accessed by train two minutes from the hotel. There are numerous cable cars and pistes miles from anywhere! From here you can get below Furi to link up with the third and highest area,

Klein Matterhorn – Trockener Steg – Schwarzsee. This area provides skiing up to 3820m, and access to Cervinia. It is the largest and best-linked area.

Ski Leaders: We are delighted to have the services of our team of ski leaders to cater for different ski standards and larger numbers, as this service has been so popular in recent years. Led by Suzi McArthur and Paul Ubysz, the team have kindly agreed to ski guide for the week on a voluntary basis. There will be a number of groups, catering for a faster group doing mainly black/red runs, a group doing reds and a slower group doing red/blue runs.

To join these leaders, skiers need to be able to ski red runs competently; our ski leaders reserve the right to swap people between groups and if necessary, tell a skier that they must make their own arrangements with ski school at their own expense.

Bridge: The Bridge programme will follow its regular format, namely a pre-dinner tuition session with Andrew Robson set hands, beginning at 5.30pm, and after dinner, Gentle Duplicate, 9pm – 11pm, aimed at the friendly Intermediate player. The Bridge is not suitable for players that are used to a serious 24 board duplicate. For further information please contact Jack.

Hotel: The Hotel Alex is situated in the middle of town, just off the High Street and two minutes walk from the railway station. It is close to the hire shop for which there is a 10% discount on hired ski equipment, and the bus stop for the Klein Matterhorn and Sunnegga areas.

The Alex has been built by Alex and Gisela Perren, using traditional and reclaimed materials to create one of the most famous hotels in the Alps. Alex and Gisela have been the “avant garde” hoteliers of Zermatt. The second generation, Alex Perren Jnr., Christina and Rene Hurlimann-Perren, have been running the hotel since the Winter 2005/06. Please see www.hotelalexzermatt.com.

All rooms are artistically and individually designed and have both jacuzzi bath, shower and wc, direct dial telephone and voicemail, cable TV/radio, modem access and safety box. Please note single rooms have a French bed (140cm x 190cm).

Facilities include grotto swimming pool (25x20m), whirlpool, Bio- and Finnish sauna, steam-bath, magic shower, indoor tennis courts, squash court, badminton and modern fitness area. Body massages and solarium (not included). Booking in advance for treatments is recommended.

Afternoon tea (not included), or an aperitif before dinner, can be enjoyed in the lounge bar by an open fireplace. The lounge bar also has a variety of comfortable quiet seating areas, one of which is shown below.

The food: a breakfast buffet consisting of healthy mountain-grown products, a big choice of various breads, Swiss cheeses, homemade jam, cereals and a sparkling glass of "Prosecco". For late risers, espresso and croissants are available in the lobby until late morning. Dinner is eaten in the traditional “Alex Grill” with 4-course gourmet menu, weekly Gala dinner, starter and dessert buffets and other culinary surprises...



Transport, Prices and Booking Conditions

Booking: Bookings will not be confirmed or accepted without a non refundable deposit cheque and completed booking form. Please book early so that we can try to accommodate any requests you may have.

Transport: Scheduled flight Heathrow – Geneva on Swiss.

Please note: If you would like to travel independently then you may deduct £150 from the package price below.

Package includes:

- Return flights from Heathrow – Geneva
- Coach transfer to Täsch (approximately 3 hours).
- Taxi luggage transfer service from Zermatt – hotel and return.
- Train to Zermatt (approximately 15 minutes by cog railway).
- Daily ski programme led by Suzi and Paul, all current or ex-Ski Club of Great Britain reps, exclusively for our group. Number of ski leaders is subject to final group numbers.
- All Bridge as outlined on pages 1 and 3.
- Welcome drink in the hotel before dinner on the first evening.
- Accommodation as detailed below.

Accommodation:

Hotel Alex: half-board accommodation and rooms as described on page 3.

Please note: Rooms do vary in size and style. Andrew Robson Bridge Holidays will do its utmost to ensure that requests are granted, but will treat all requests on a strictly first come first served basis. However, rooming allocations are ultimately made at the hotel's discretion.

Package Price Hotel Alex:

Single bedded room	1 person	£2095
Standard Double	1 person	£2295
Superior Double	1 person	£2795
Superior Double	2 sharing	£2095 per person
Junior Suite	2 sharing	£2345 per person

Money:

- Should the £ fall by more than 5% against the Swiss Franc before the beginning of January 2015, a surcharge appropriate to the fall will be charged to all clients.
- Group flights are non-changeable and non-refundable (please note that any deviation or upgrades to the standard group flight should be booked independently by the client).
- The deposit is non-refundable.
- The full balance will be payable by 19th January 2015 (we will email a reminder).

Insurance: Everyone must have adequate travel insurance, to include winter sports if necessary. On booking, a signature will be required to guarantee that you have, or will have, made the arrangements to insure your party as necessary.

Lift Pass: CHF 434 (approx £285) for a Zermatt & Cervinia region adult six-day pass.

These prices are subject to change depending on the exchange rate. One may purchase daily passes for the separate areas, from the lift pass office or when paying your full balance, you will be able to pre-purchase a lift pass, which Jack will hand out on the first evening.

Ski Hire: We shall be using a local ski hire shop, two minutes from the hotel, for which there is a 10% discount for our group.

Cancellation: The deposit is non refundable and a cancellation charge will be made to cover any costs incurred. Once the balance has been paid, no refunds can be given.

Air Travel Organisers' Licensing (ATOL):

Your flights are covered by ATOL licence 4013, Switzerland Travel Centre. ATOL exists to protect the public from losing money or being stranded abroad because of the failure of air travel firms. It gives comprehensive financial protection to 28 million people in the UK who buy flights or air holidays each year.

Andrew Robson Bridge Holidays – Liability:

In all the arrangements we have made for your holiday, we have taken reasonable steps to ensure that the suppliers of the services used are of an acceptable standard. However, we would point out that we do not own or control the organisations providing transport or accommodation for your holiday. We cannot accept any liability for services provided (carriage by air, sea or land, accommodation and other space), where these services are interrupted by force majeure, which includes but is not limited to acts of God, adverse weather conditions (e.g. ash cloud), acts or threat of war, government action, strike, terrorism, civil unrest, fire, failure of public utilities, medical emergency, natural or nuclear disaster or airport closure.

Andrew Robson Bridge Holidays and our ski leaders accept no liability for any mishap, loss, damage, illness, accident, or death that may occur on this ski trip.

**IF YOU REQUIRE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL JACK ON 07775 892 720
OR email: jack@yorkshirebridge.com**



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ZERMATT BRIDGE & SKIING HOLIDAY 2015

BOOKING FORM

Please fill in this form and preferably pay the deposit of £250 per person via online banking (email Jack for details) OR send a cheque made payable to "Andrew Robson Bridge Holidays" to: Jack Stocken, 53 East Witton, North Yorkshire DL8 4SL.

1. I would like to book _____ persons on the trip, detailed as below:

Names including Title (Mr, Mrs etc)
(if flying, please enter Title, Christian name and Surname as on passport)

Hotel and Room type (see page 3)
Single room / Standard double/ Superior double / Junior Suite

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2. **Insurance:** Please sign below to state that you have taken out adequate insurance for your holiday, including Winter Sports, and have agreed to the Terms and Conditions as on the holiday's page of the website www.yorkshirebridge.co.uk

Name

Signature

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3. **Next of Kin:** Please provide the following details (IN BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

Name: Main Contact Number:

4. **Own travel and dietary needs etc:** Please note any supplementary requirements here, e.g. independent flights and/or transfers, vegetarian meals, allergies etc

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5. Please fully complete the section below in BLOCK CAPITALS:

Address

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Telephone

Mobile

Email