

Leukerbad

Canton of Valais · Switzerland

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Leukerbad, also called Loèche-les-Bains, is a spa village in the Valais, at the foot of the Gemmi Pass. It has the largest thermal spa area in the Alps. Hot springs rise in the village, and many hotels and baths use them.

Steep cliffs surround the village. It is a place for bathing, hiking and skiing, and for slow days.

When to visit

The baths are open all year. July to September is best for hiking. December to March is the ski season, and the baths in snow are a main draw. Spring and November are quiet, and some lifts close.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Great Great for skiing	0° / 4° Feels like -5°	-8° / -15°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
February	Great Great for skiing	1° / 7° Feels like -4°	-7° / -16°	12 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
March	Good Good for skiing	4° / 10° Feels like 0°	-4° / -12°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
April	Fair Fair for skiing	9° / 16° Feels like 6°	0° / -7°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
May	Fair Fair for hiking	13° / 20°	4° / -1°	19 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
June	Good Good for sightseeing	18° / 24°	9° / 3°	18 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
July	Good Good for sightseeing	19° / 25°	10° / 5°	17 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
August	Good Good for sightseeing	19° / 25°	10° / 5°	16 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
September	Good Good for hiking	16° / 22°	6° / 1°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
October	Fair Fair for hiking	12° / 18°	3° / -3°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
November	Good Good for skiing	5° / 12° Feels like 1°	-3° / -11°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
December	Great Great for skiing	1° / 6° Feels like -4°	-6° / -15°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights

- A Thermenpark is a large bath complex with indoor and outdoor pools.
- B Alpentherme is a modern spa with pools and saunas.
- C Gemmi Luftseilbahn is a cable car that climbs the cliff to the Gemmi Pass.
- D Loèche-les-Bains is the village, with old houses and the church.
- E Wildstrubel is the mountain massif above the pass.
- F Lämmerenhütte is a mountain hut near a high lake.
- G Altels is a glacier peak seen from the pass.



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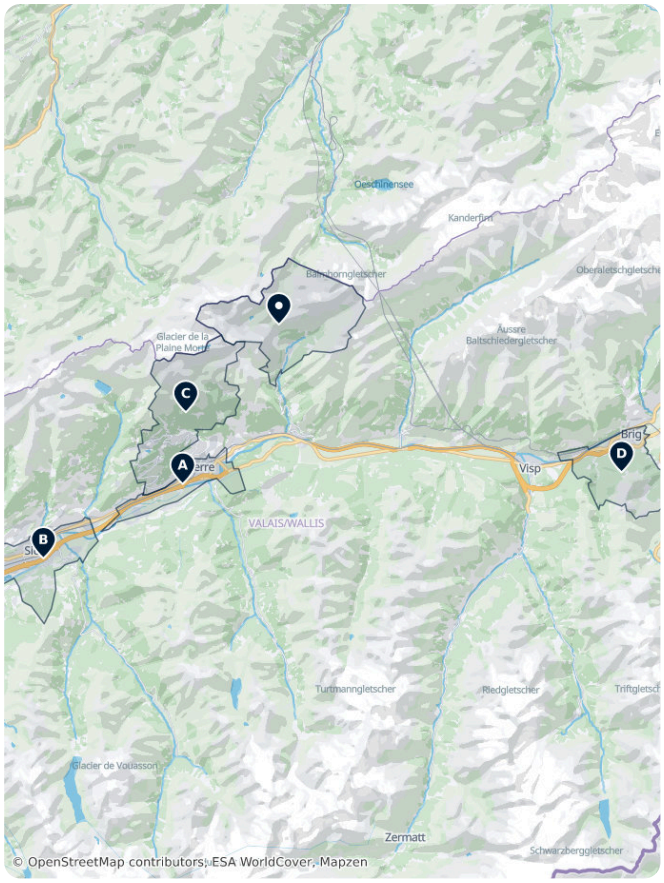
What to experience

- Soak in the hot pools, outdoors in winter if you can.
- Ride the cable car to the Gemmi Pass.
- Hike to a high lake and mountain hut.
- Walk the ladder path on the cliff, with guides only if you have mountain experience.
- Ski or sledge in winter.

Day trips

- A Sierre is a wine town, about 40 minutes away by bus and train.
- B Sion has two castles on hills.
- C Crans-Montana is a ski and golf resort.
- D Brig-Glis has a large baroque palace.
- The Gemmi Pass leads on foot to Kandersteg in the Bernese Oberland.



Where to explore

- Sierre and Sion are the nearest towns in the Rhone valley.
- Crans-Montana is the nearest resort.

Getting there

- By air: Geneva is the main airport, about 3 hours away.
- By train: take a train to Leuk, then a postal bus up to the village. Check times on SBB.
- The bus ride from Leuk takes about 30 minutes.

Getting around

- The village is compact and easy to walk.
- A local bus links the baths, lifts and hotels.
- The cable car runs from the village to the pass.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The village is compact. Mountain trails above it are steep.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Low

Roads are steep and the valley is narrow.

Driving

- A car is not needed in the village.
- The road up from the valley is narrow with bends.
- Parking is paid and can fill up in winter.

Food & drink

Try raclette, cheese fondue and dried meat from the Valais. Local wines such as Fendant are served in village restaurants. Many hotels have restaurants with set menus.

People speak German with a Valais dialect. English is widely understood.

What to eat & drink

BREAKFAST

Birchermüesli
A raw-oat, fruit, and yogurt breakfast invented by a Zurich doctor around 1900, now standard on breakfast buffets.

LUNCH

Rösti
A fried, shredded-potato cake, originally a Bernese farmer's breakfast, now a national side dish.

DINNER

Cheese Fondue · Fondue
Melted Gruyère and Vacherin cheese in a shared pot, eaten by dipping bread cubes on long forks.

Raclette
Cheese melted tableside or under a grill and scraped over boiled potatoes, pickles, and onions.

Zürcher Geschnetzeltes
Sliced veal and mushrooms in a creamy white-wine sauce, traditionally served with rösti.

Älplermagronen
Alpine herder's macaroni gratin with potatoes, cheese, and cream, often topped with fried onions and served with apple sauce.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Cervelat
Switzerland's best-known sausage, usually grilled and often called the country's unofficial national dish.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Swiss Chocolate · Schweizer Schokolade
Switzerland pioneered milk chocolate in the 19th century; look for small-batch chocolatiers alongside the big national brands.

Basler Läckerli
A dense, spiced honey-and-candied-fruit biscuit from Basel, traditional around Christmas.

DRINKS

Swiss Wine · Vin Suisse
Mostly consumed domestically rather than exported; Valais and Vaud, along Lake Geneva, produce the best-known Chasselas whites.

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Safety & health

- Leukerbad is very safe.
- Thermal water is hot. Follow time limits at each pool.
- Mountain weather changes fast, and snow stays late on high paths.
- Avalanche risk exists in winter. Stay on marked trails.

History

The hot springs have been known since Roman times. Visitors have come to bathe here for centuries. Bathing grew during the Middle Ages, when travellers crossed the Gemmi Pass.

The village developed into a modern spa resort in the 20th century.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Switzerland at a glance:

CURRENCY
CHF CHF

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY



Type C / Type J
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
German, French, Italian, Romansh

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Leukerbad's Essential Alpine & Thermal Wonders

Leukerbad is Europe's largest high-altitude thermal spa resort, where 65 natural springs discharge 3.9 million liters of mineral-rich water daily. This selection highlights the historic Gemmi Pass, a vital trade route since the Middle Ages, and the expansive Alpentherme complex. Beyond the thermal pools, the list covers high-alpine terrain including the Wildstrubel Glacier and peaks like Balmhorn and Altels, alongside the Lämmerenhütte, a Swiss Alpine Club base for mountaineers exploring the Bernese Alps.



A Leukerbad

The valley station located in the village center, providing cable car access to the Gemmi Pass.

12 Gemmistrasse, Leukerbad 3954, Switzerland
(46.38362, 7.62540)



B Gemmi Luftseilbahn

Aerial cableway connecting the village of Leukerbad to the Gemmi Pass at an altitude of 2,350 meters.

12 Gemmistrasse, Leukerbad 3954, Switzerland
(46.38358, 7.62539)

C Thermenpark

Public green space located in the center of the thermal resort near the major bath complexes.

(46.37773, 7.62574)

D Alpentherme

One of the largest thermal spa and wellness complexes in the Alps, featuring indoor and outdoor mineral pools and a Valaisan-style sauna village.

(46.37869, 7.63041)

E Gemmipass

Mountain station situated at 2,314 meters on the historic pass connecting the cantons of Valais and Bern.

3954, Switzerland (46.39802, 7.61629)

F Lämmerenhütte

Swiss Alpine Club mountain hut located at 2,507 meters, serving as a base for glacier tours and ascents of the Wildstrubel.

3954, Switzerland (46.40029, 7.57449)

laemmerenhuette.ch

G Lämmerenhütte

Swiss Alpine Club mountain hut located at 2,507 meters, serving as a base for glacier tours and ascents of the Wildstrubel.

3954, Switzerland (46.40029, 7.57449)

laemmeren.ch, +41 27 470 25 15

H Wildstrubel Glacier

The Wildstrubel Glacier is a 2.5 km long glacier situated in the Bernese Alps in the canton of Valais, on the eastern slopes of the...

3954, Switzerland (46.40157, 7.54328)



I Balmhorn

Glaciated peak in the Bernese Alps rising to 3,698 meters on the border between the cantons of Bern and Valais.

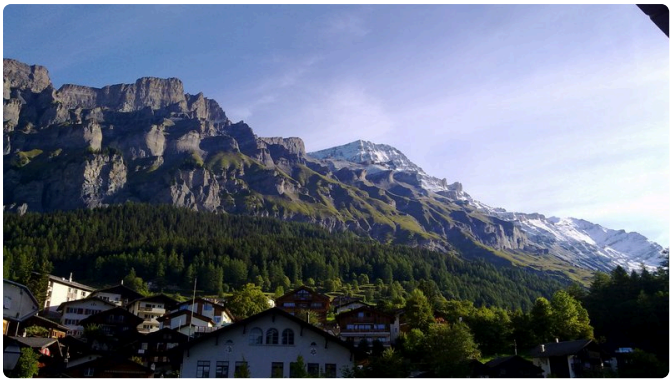
3718, Switzerland (46.42498, 7.69355)



J Altels

The Altels is a mountain of the Bernese Alps, located on the border between the Swiss cantons of Bern and Valais.

3718, Switzerland (46.42896, 7.67860)



Loèche-les-Bains

Leukerbad is a municipality in the district of Leuk in the canton of Valais in Switzerland.

Kurparkstrasse 15, 3954 Leukerbad, Switzerland
(46.37923, 7.62838)

leukerbad.ch, +410 27 472 71 71

DATA SOURCES

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- Altels — "Altels memorial, Altels, Bernese Alps, Switzerland" by ZorkNika, CC BY-SA 3.0
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