

Zeitschrift: Swiss express : the Swiss Railways Society journal
Herausgeber: Swiss Railways Society
Band: 6 (2000-2002)
Heft: 6

Artikel: The Rothorn
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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-854911>

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Inspired by others who have written I would like to recommend a walk which I have found enjoyable even after 40 years of holidaying in Switzerland. This extended walk has to use some parts of the Swiss Transport System, which of course is a joy in itself.

Start off by taking either the train or the boat from Interlaken to Brienz. Then board the Brienz Rothorn Bahn for a delightful ride to the summit at 6500ft. Make sure, before you depart, that visibility at the top is cloud free. An uphill path is necessary to climb the final 1000ft to the actual summit but the effort is rewarded by superb views right across the Berner Oberland. The summit station's adjoining restaurant is excellent and very welcome after the exertion! It was at this point that I decided to walk all the way down to Lake Brienz rather than taking the train. An excellent path provided some stunning views.

A bonus was the discovery of some wild flowers including orchids.

I then had the idea of walking round the South side of the lake to return to Interlaken. After some lunch in Brienz and not being quite so fit as I used to be I only managed to make it as far as Iseltwald which is only halfway along the lake in the Interlaken direction. Here however I was able to board the Lake Steamer and return to base in smooth silent comfort.

A sad aside to the walk round the lake was the crossing of Giessbach Falls, the scene of the tragedy which befell an adventure group. They were engaged in a free-fall exercise down the falls but were caught in a flash flood from further upstream, and were then carried to the lake by the force of the water where they drowned. A rescue attempt proved fruitless.

A dramatic view from the top over the BRB line and down to Brienzensee. Photo: Bob McIntyre

