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THE MEMORABLE P.03

THE HIDDEN LAKE P.09

HIGH UP

ABOUT THE AUTHOR P.23

0,0

Distance: 119 km

**E** 

Driving time: 2:30 hrs

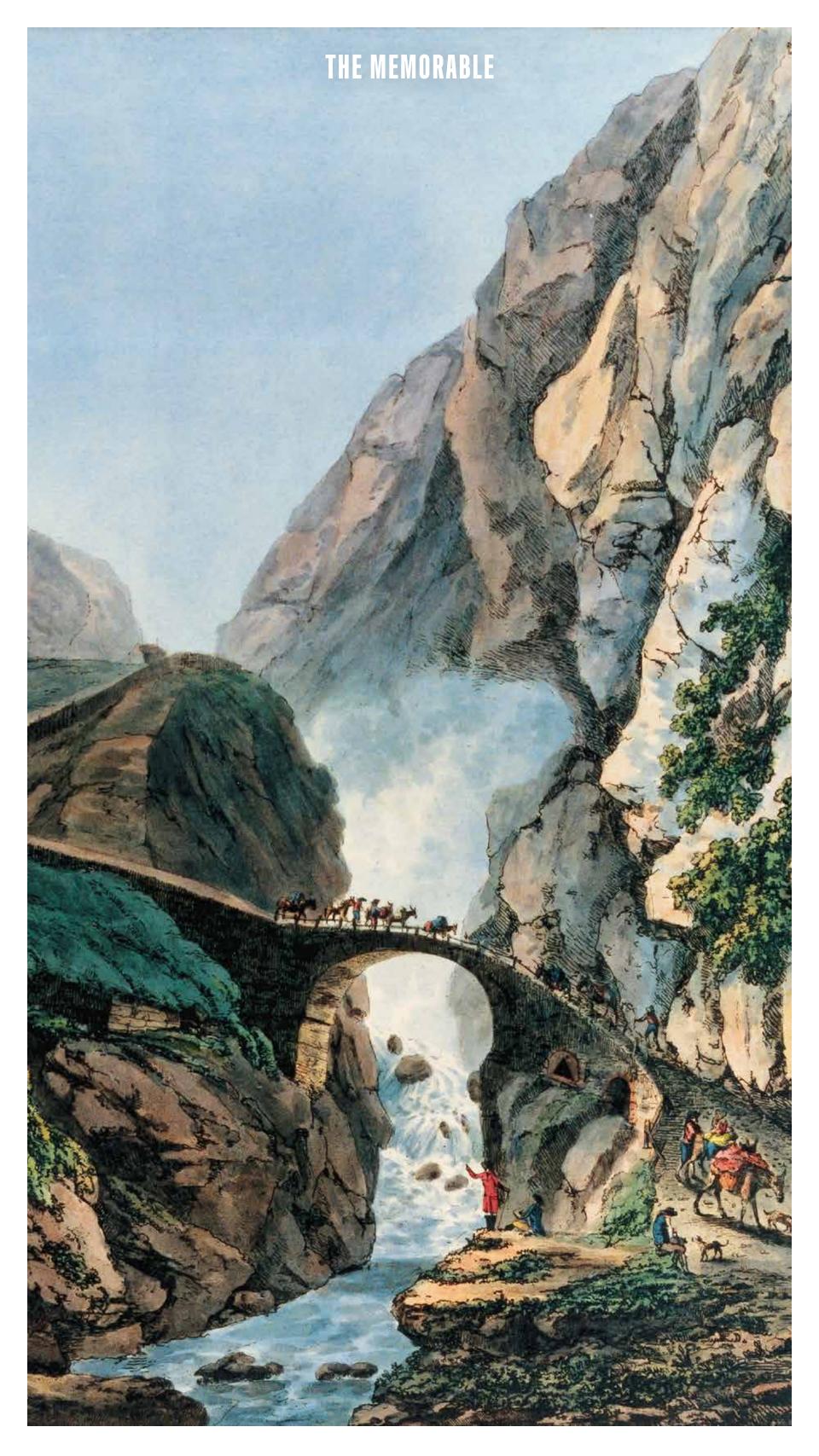
Altitude: 3.659 m

Andermatt - Göschenen - Wasen Susten-Pass - Gadmen - Innerkirchen Guttannen - Grimselpass - Gletsch Furkapass - Realp - Hospental Andermatt



Click here for the route on Google Maps

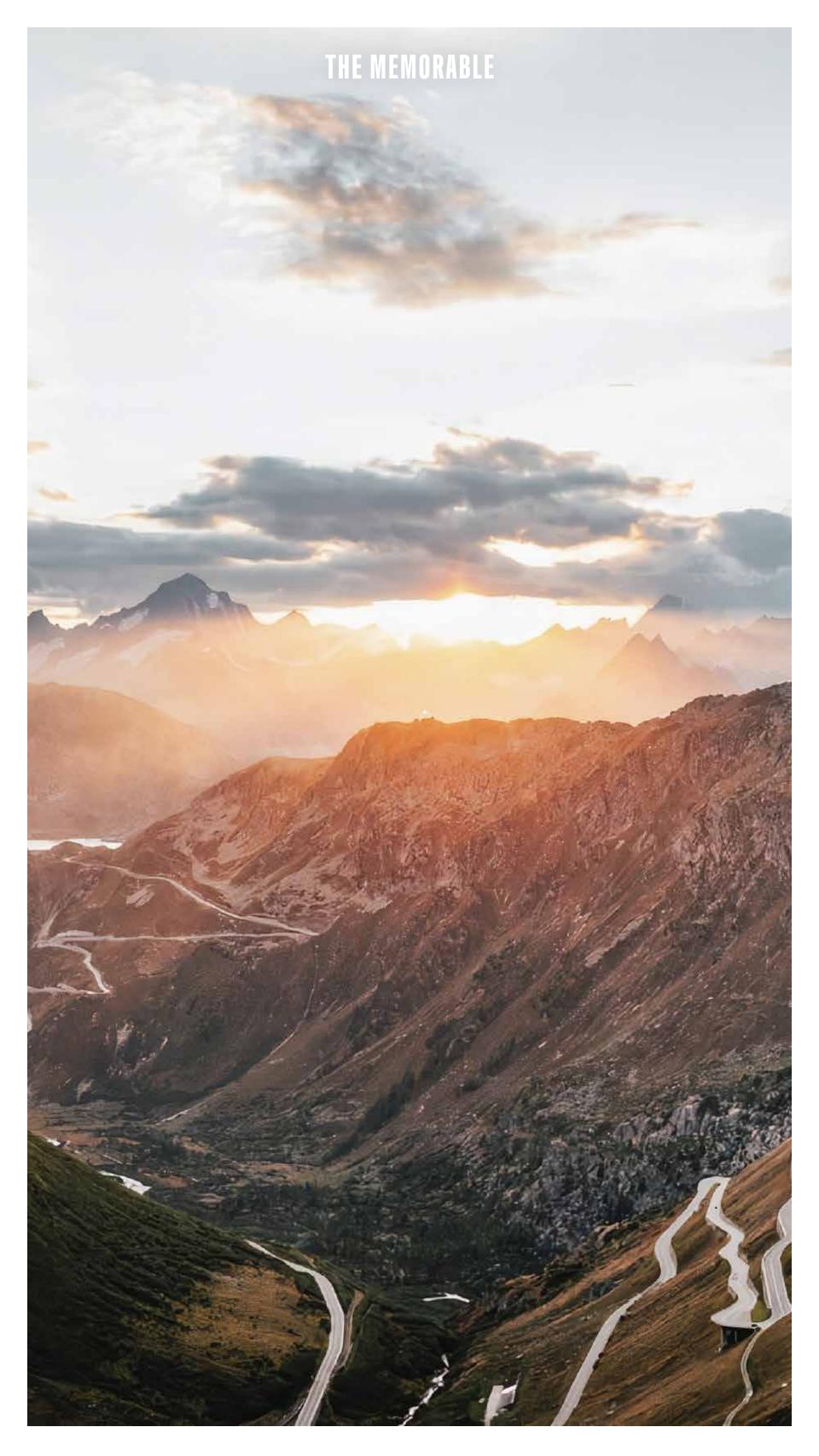
This combination of mountain passes goes by many nicknames, such as the «Königsrunde» (King's Loop), and has long been considered a classic and a "must ride" on the bucket list by insiders. Covering approximately 200 km and climbing a total of 3.659 metres in elevation, the route is the true «El Dorado» for motorcyclists. Countless thrilling combinations of curves, hairpin bends galore, and breathtaking landscapes – there's something for everyone. If you had to choose just one tour when visiting this region, this would likely be it.



Our journey begins with the approximately 50 km long Susten Pass. This pass is one of the most beautiful in Switzerland and is highly popular among motorcyclists. Although the road is packed with fantastic bends and stunning panoramas, experienced riders often refer to the central stretch on the Bernese side as the absolute highlight. Here, scenic views, short tunnels and hairpin bends alternate – and after every curve, the sense of wonder kicks in all over again.

The next highlight awaits with the Grimsel Pass. In addition to its historic role as a former mule track, the pass is now home to the Grimselsee dam – a key component in Switzerland's energy infrastructure. A visit to the dam or the old Grimsel Hospiz offers fascinating insight into both the history and the future of this section.





No sooner have you tackled the last hairpins of the Grimsel Pass than you reach Gletsch and head into the final highlight of the tour: the Furka Pass. One of the most beautiful views during the ascent from Gletsch is of the Rhône Glacier, which is clearly visible from the road. A few bends further along, and the iconic curve at the Hotel Belvédère comes into view. After the summit, the descent takes you back down to Andermatt. In this roadbook, you'll also find references to the famous James Bond bend on the Furka Pass.

This film scene from Goldfinger is, of course, well known among Bond fans and makes for a brilliant backdrop for your photos. Not long after, you'll return from your tour – and a well-deserved post-ride beer will be waiting for you at our event. Welcome back!



# BONUS TIPS ALONG THE ROUTE

Click here for the route on Google Maps

ON FOOT THROUGH THE AARE GORGE

Click here for the location on Google Maps

VISIT THE NEW GRIMSEL DAM

Click here for the location on Google Maps

RHÔNE GLACIER AND HOTEL BELVÉDÈRE

Click here for the location on Google Maps

JAMES BOND BEND ON THE FURKA PASS
Click here for the location on Google Maps

THE HIDDEN LAKE





Distance: 178 km



Driving time incl. detour to Lago di Luzzone (without off-road bonus): 3:42 hrs



Altitude: 4.299 m

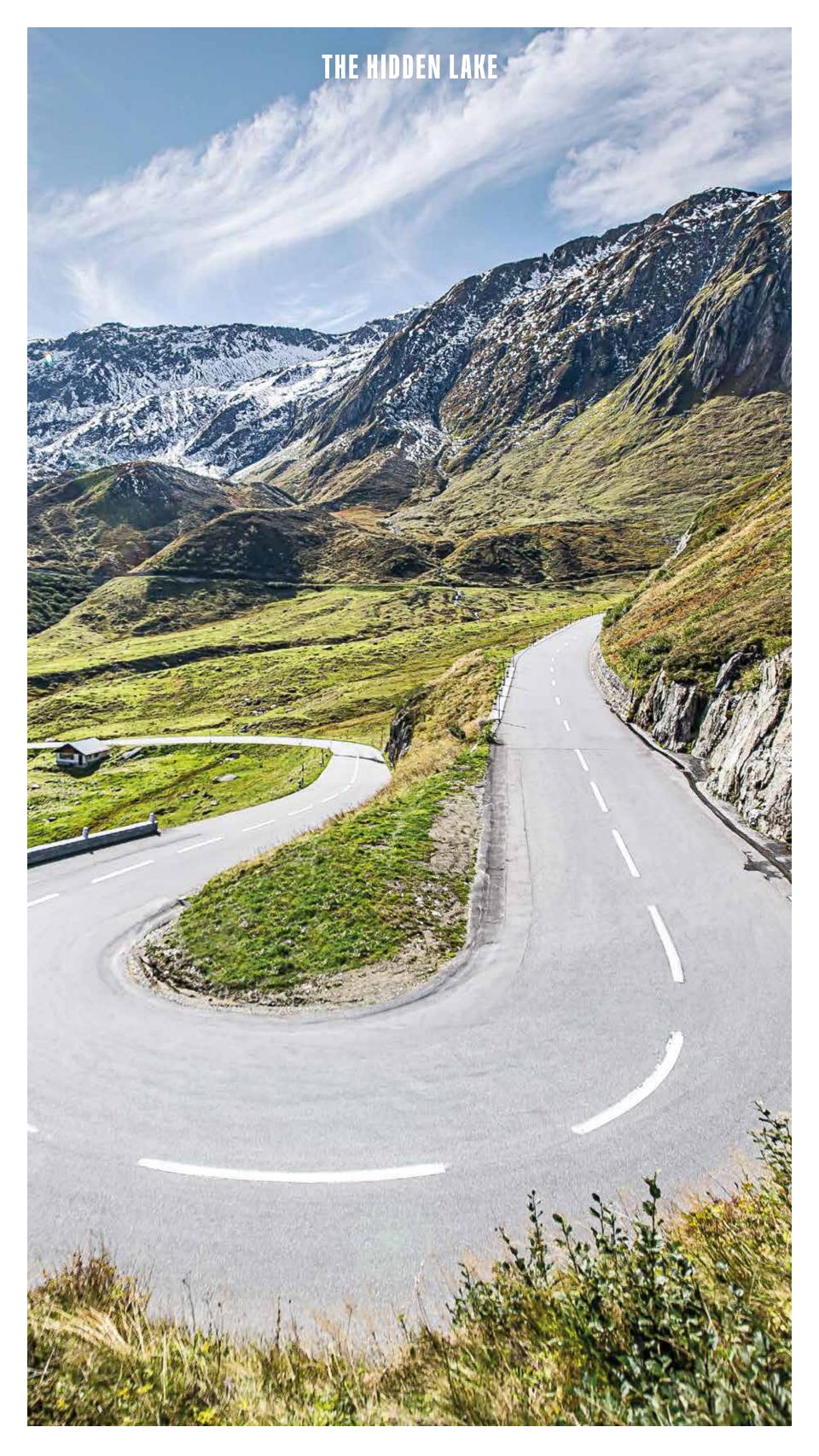
Andermatt - Oberalp - Tomasee -Lukmanier - Lago di Luzzone -Tremola - Gotthard - Andermatt



Click here for the route on Google Maps

If you're taking on this tour, don't expect perfect tarmac – what you'll need instead is a small dose of adventure. Over the course of roughly 163 km, you'll see and experience plenty of things that don't cross your path every day. The bonus on this route? Less traffic than on many others – and, if you're brave enough, a small adventure awaits. What do you need to do?

Just set off and follow all the tips.



Hardly have you swung your leg over the saddle and kicked your bike into gear, and you're already climbing the Oberalp Pass. If you're not just staring at your speedometer, you'll notice that the Oberalp lies in the middle of a ski resort during the winter. Since 2018, the ski areas of Sedrun (Grisons) and Andermatt (Uri) have been connected. So the Oberalp Pass, like many others, serves as a transit route between two cantons – in this case, even in winter, when it becomes a ski slope for winter sports enthusiasts.

A fun fact: On the Oberalp Pass, you'll find the highest lighthouse on the European mainland. It symbolises the source of the Rhine, which officially begins nearby at Lake Toma (Romansh: Lai da Tuma). If you were paying attention in geography class: after 1.233 km, the Rhine flows into the North Sea. The lighthouse on the Oberalp is a replica of the original from Hoek van Holland, which once stood at the mouth of the Rhine in the Netherlands.

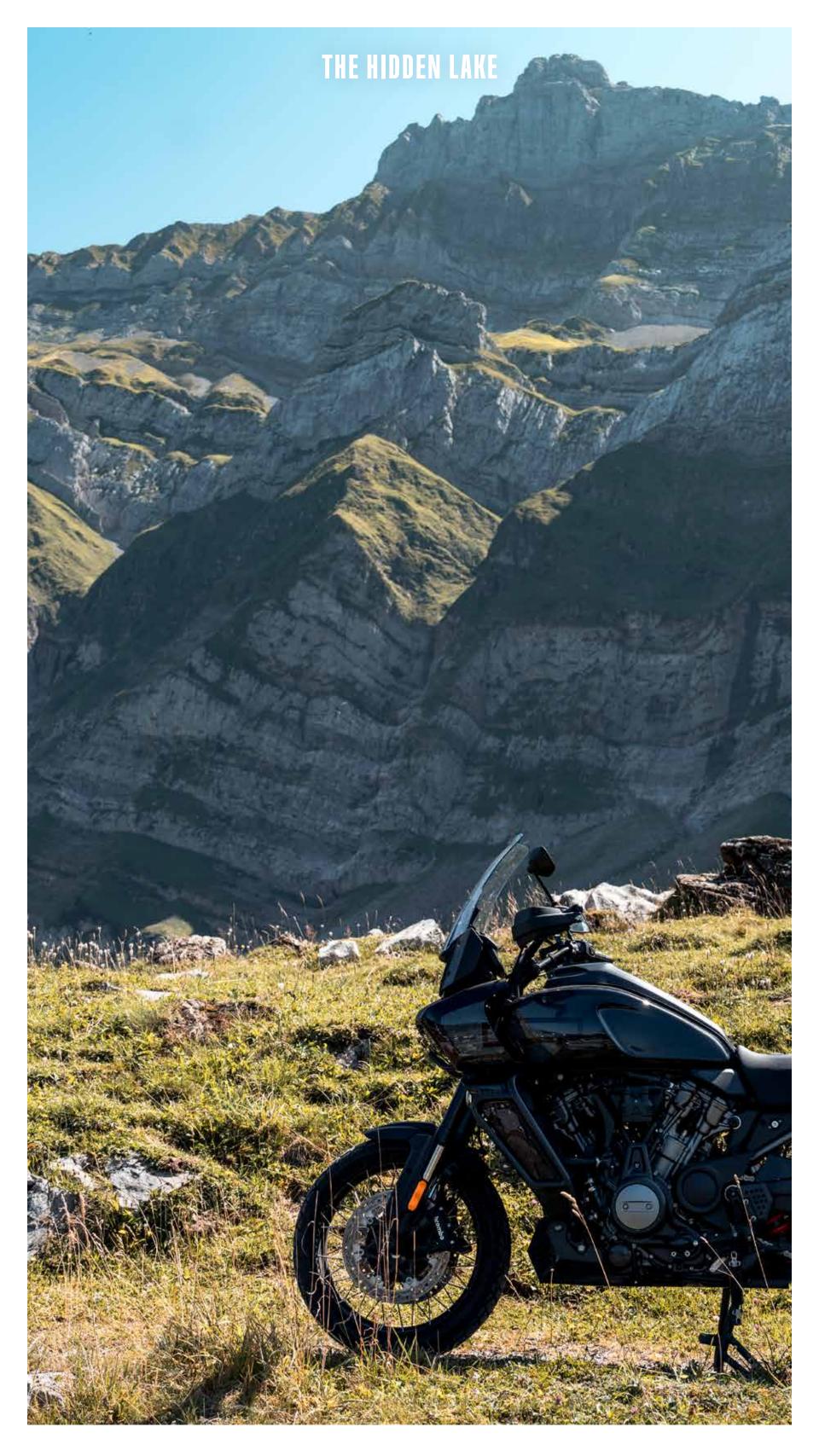
Enough school knowledge – let's continue winding through the switchbacks towards Disentis. Here we turn onto the Lukmanier Pass. This comparatively moderate pass at 1.920 m is also a great route for bikers. The curves are a little gentler, giving you time to soak in the beautiful views – especially around the summit and throughout the Blenio Valley.



Optional: If you're after a real adventure, take the detour toward Lago di Luzzone. There are several options here: for example, you can conquer one of the four tunnels within the dam (some are narrow and very dark), passing repeatedly by stunning backdrops. If you prefer unpaved terrain, you'll be well catered for – at Lago di Luzzone, there are officially permitted natural roads open to vehicles. If you're interested in this side trip, be sure to stop by the info stand to get more details.

Back on the Lukmanier route. After finishing the pass, you'll ride along country roads that run parallel to the Gotthard motorway until you reach Airolo – where the day's final highlight begins: the Tremola. The Tremola is the longest historic road monument in Switzerland and has remained virtually unchanged since its restoration in 1951. You'll quickly get used to the distinctive cobblestones of the upper section – though caution is advised in wet conditions. The Tremola ends at the Gotthard Pass. From there, the Gotthard road leads you back to Andermatt.

We're already looking forward to hearing your stories from the road – and finding out whether you made the detour to Lago di Luzzone.



# BONUS TIPS ALONG THE ROUTE

Click here for the route on Google Maps

RHEINQUELLE LIGHTHOUSE

Click here for the website

LAGO DI LUZZONE DAM

Click here for the location on Google Maps



FOR MORE INFO
ON THE TUNNELS AND NATURAL ROADS:
PLEASE STOP BY THE EVENT INFO POINT



### HIGH UP

0,0

Distance: 104 km

Driving Time: 2:35 hrs

Andermatt - Furka - James Bond Bend -Nufenenpass - Tremola - Gotthard -Andermatt

A

Altitude: 3.113 m



### Click here for the route on Google Maps

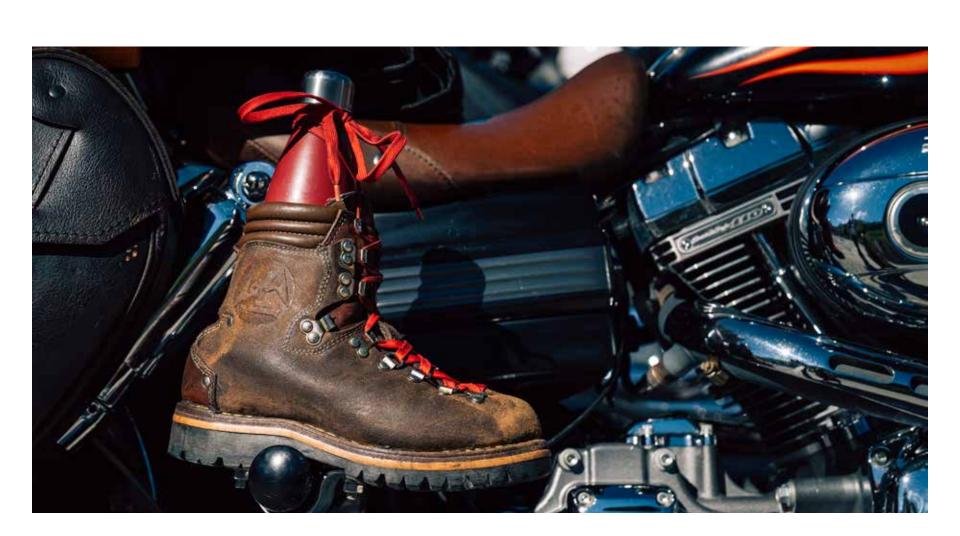
Last but surely not least. Now we're heading high – to one of the tallest mountain passes that lies entirely within Switzerland. As motorcyclists are famously masters of finding the best detour between points A and B, we make use of that gift and set off towards the Furka Pass. After the first hairpin bends, we pass the James Bond Goldfinger bend, where the iconic scene with Sean Connery was filmed.

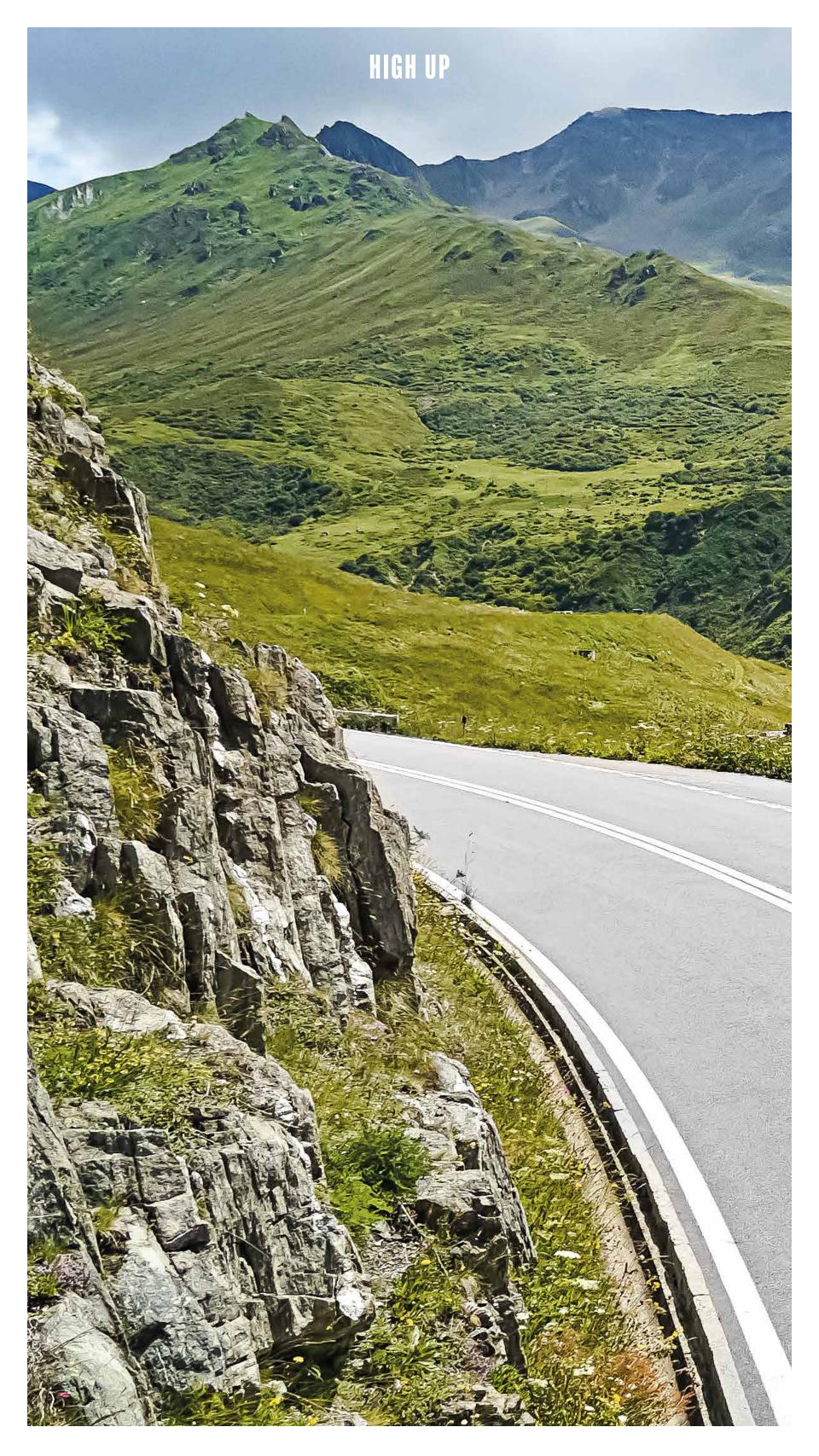


#### HIGH IIP

After reaching the summit and crossing into the canton of Valais, we arrive at the Hotel Belvédère. Since its closure in 2015, it has sadly served only as a photo backdrop for just about every petrolhead and biker. The hairpin bend by the hotel also marks the entrance to the Rhone Glacier grotto. We follow the Furka Pass through Gletsch and Oberwald. With a bit of luck, you might even witness the arrival of the Furka steam railway in Oberwald.

In Ulrichen, we leave the route and turn off onto the Nufenen Pass. This pass connects Valais with Ticino and is the highest fully asphalted road pass lying entirely in Switzerland. Only the Umbrail Pass is 25 metres higher – but it crosses into Italy. The Valais side of the Nufenen offers the greatest riding joy for motorcyclists, though the Ticino side also has its charms. The upper part of the Ticino side features equally beautiful bends – and as you descend towards Airolo, they become a little easier, giving the pass a wonderfully smooth flow.

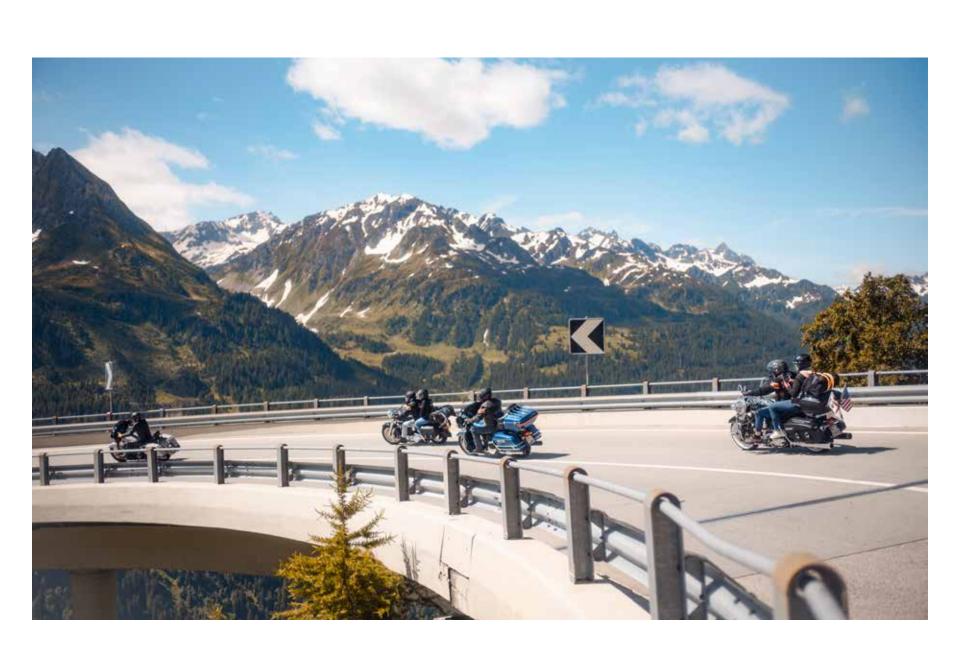




#### HIGH IIP

Once in Airolo, you face a hard choice: Option 1 takes you over the modern and well-developed Gotthard Pass. Option 2 is the Tremola – the longest historic road monument in Switzerland. This route is a bit more technically demanding, but offers more beautiful scenery and is significantly less busy. However, if the roads are wet, we recommend saving the Tremola for another day.

Whatever you choose – we're looking forward to hearing about your tour, and we're curious whether you made a stop at the Belvédère bend to show off your bike in style.





HIGH UP

## BONUS TIPS ALONG THE ROUTE

Click here for the route on Google Maps

JAMES BOND BEND FROM "GOLDFINGER"

Click here for the location on Google Maps

HOTEL BELVÉDÈRE BEND

Click here for the location on Google Maps

**FURKA STEAM RAILWAY STATIONS** 

**Gletsch:** 

Click here for the location on Google Maps

Oberwald:

Click here for the location on Google Maps

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR** 



### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

## FLORIAN RÜBARTSCH



Nickname: Floppi, Flowrider

Current Bike: Harley-Davidson Low Rider ST

**Profession:** Field Sales Manager at Harley-Davidson

Free time: Foremost: I'm a dad of two boys. I love

photography and renovating our

family home. The little time that is left:

play the guitar

### MOST MEMORABLE RIDES:

### **Europe:**

Route des Grandes Alpes

### Asia:

Ma Pi Leng Pass, Vietnam

### **USA:**

Mojave Desert

### **BUCKET-LIST-RIDE:**

### From Switzerland to Cape Town.

Fun Fact: The trip was originally planned over 11 years ago – the same year I met my partner. Today we're a family of four, so the ride has been postponed, but it's definitely still on the list.

### WHAT I ENJOY MOST ABOUT RIDING:

Exploring mountain passes and roads less traveled (both on- and off-road). Rides that stimulate all senses – from the visual drama of landscapes to the sound of the engine, the scent of nature, and shifts in altitude and temperature.

Long days in the saddle (from dawn till dusk) and "Iron Butt" rides of 600+ km.

Riding with people who match my style and pace – nothing beats the flow of a group riding in formation, like a flight of eagles owning the road..

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

### **PREFERENCES:**

### Hotel vs. Camping:

Hotels when covering long distances or after a rainy day to dry gear. Camping when off-road – for a closer connection to the environment.

#### Cruiser vs. Offroad:

Impossible to choose, both have delivered unforgettable adventures and thrills.

### Beach vs. Mountains:

Mountains.

Every single time.

### Riding style:

A balance of both. I enjoy quick, dynamic riding, leaning into curves – but as a photographer, I'm also drawn to the details of the landscape. If something catches my eye and time allows, I stop for a shot.

That said: unless you're on a mission to lose your license, you probably don't need to overtake me. :-)

