

MALANS

SWITZERLAND'S "MOST VERTICAL METERS WITHOUT A STOP"



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▷ STARTING POINT

ÄLPLIBAHN RAILWAY
STATION IN MALANS

📅 SEASON

MAY TO OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER,
ÄLPLIBAHN OPEN DATES

📍 MAP REFERENCE

SHEET 238T

👁 INTERESTING SIGHTS

VIEWS OF GRAUBÜNDEN
RHINE VALLEY.

✂ DESTINATION

WEINGUT FROMM,
MALANS

🏠 HIKE TYPE

DIFFICULT



🕒 DURATION

3H 20M

➔ LENGTH

12.3 KM

⤴ CLIMB / DESCENT

677 M / 1,869 M



PINOT NOIR

PINOT NOIR
SPIELMANN
WEINGUT GEORG FROMM



RED



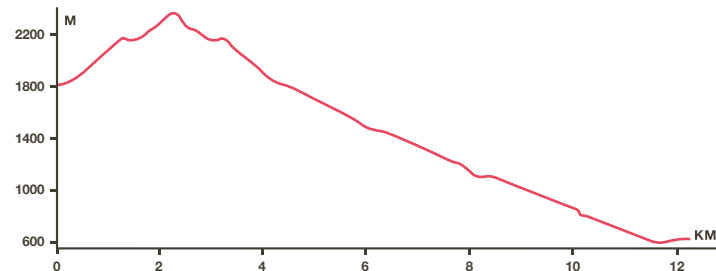
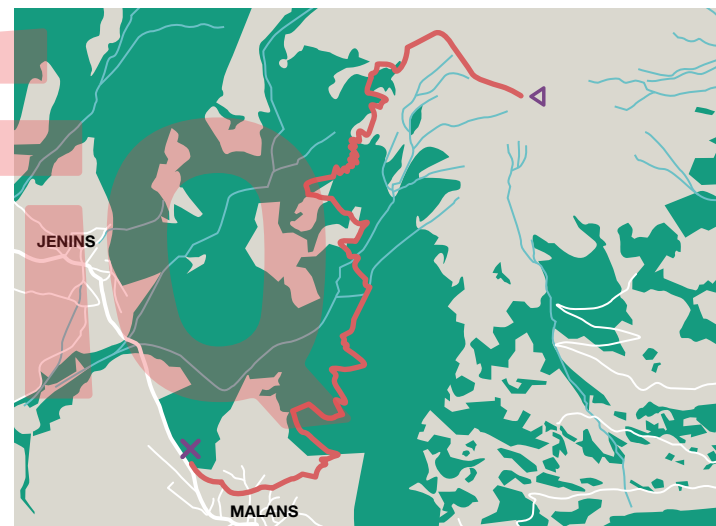
BERRIES



BEAUTIFUL STRUCTURE,
LONG FINISH,
CASSIS AND BITTER
ALMONDS



DRY,
STILL



DESCRIPTION OF THE ROUTE

Take the Älplibahn from its base station; the “train” is actually a small double cable car for only eight persons so be sure to reserve ahead. It covers the most vertical meters without a stop in Switzerland. It was originally a 3.5 km military transport system built in 1941. Its website notes: “In 1938 a road was built from the Austrian side up to the border; the Swiss border guards had to carry ammunition and food in an arduous ascent from Jenins to the mountain front.” Money was quickly found to build, and forest specialists with experience working with ropes were relieved of other military duties to construct it. It has been renovated several times, with help from the Swiss Army. Today it is funded and run by volunteers.

The lower station is at 605 m a.s.l. in the Buochwald and the top station, where there is a restaurant, at 1,802 m a.s.l. The trail begins at the top and follows the standard easiest route, (marked red and white) to climb Mount Vilan, 2,375 m a.s.l. Allow at least two hours for the 3.5 km climb and another 1.5 hours to return the same way to the Älplibahn. Several popular high mountain routes start here. Expect to see serious hikers.

The descent to Malans: there is more than one option, but this trail takes the shortest route, which roughly follows the cable car. From the Älplibahn top station, follow signs for Malans. The hike stays close to the overhead railway as far as Älpliwald; head downhill through the Heuberg section, along the trail. The hike here is a mix of woodland and open stretches. (Where the trail splits at 1,245 m a.s.l., an alternative right-hand trail leads down to the Wynegg Castle ruins, which are just before a small river crossing, the Üll.) Continue along the trail, crossing one small river and ignoring three lesser trails, to reach the Älplibahn base station. The last 100 m of climb-down are through the top end of the village. Turn left onto Gassa just below the station, then immediately left onto Degenstrasse, follow it to the end and turn right onto Hintergasse. The winery is on the right after a few metres.

Return

The winery is a five-minute walk to the bus stop that is just below the town square with good connections to the train station in Landquart.

Notes

A good hike plus climb for those who want more than a pleasant stroll through the vineyards, although it can easily be combined with the Malans-Jenins loop to provide both. There is also a downhill hiking route from the top station to Jenins.

For mixed age groups, these two hikes can be a good solution: everyone takes the cable car up and those who don't want the alpine hike down can return via cable car and then do the gentler Malans-Jenins hike while the more sports-minded in the group climb Mount Vilan, then march down the mountainside. It's wise to make reservations for the cable car in mid-summer, Tel. 081 322 4764.

WEINGUT GEORG FROMM

Georg Fromm was already a successful wine producer in Switzerland, running the family business, when he went to New Zealand to try his luck in Marlborough. He remained there for several years, continuing to oversee the Swiss family winery while becoming known as one of New Zealand's top producers of Pinot Noir. He returned to Malans with his New World wines experience and developed the Swiss business, which is now widely considered one of the country's best wineries, particularly for Pinot Noir (six of their eight reds are Pinots). They also run a guesthouse and his son Marco has joined him.



Pinot Noir Spielmann: A perfect example of the kind of big, elegant Pinot Noirs that make this region famous.

ADDRESS

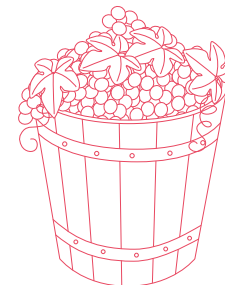
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WINERY FEES

No

WHERE ELSE TO FIND THIS CELLAR'S WINES NEARBY

Sternen Malans, the new village center wine-tasting café and shop, opened in 2022.



KASTANIENBAUM

GLASSWORKS TO ANCIENT REEDS



▶ STARTING POINT

TRAIN STATION STANSSTAD

 SEASON

YEAR-ROUND

 MAP REFERENCE

SHEET 235T

 INTERESTING SIGHTS

GLASSWORKS MUSEUM, HERGISWIL.
RIGI, BRUNNISTOCK AND PILATUS PEAKS.
HORW PROTECTED ANCIENT REEDS LAKEFRONT
AREA.

✕ DESTINATION

WEINBAU OTTIGER,
KASTANIENBAUM

 HIKE TYPE

EASY 

 DURATION

2H 45M (VARIES DEPENDING ON
TRAIN CONNECTIONS)

 LENGTH

9 KM WALKING DISTANCE

 CLIMB / DESCENT

110 M / 96 M



RIESLING-
SYLVANER,
SAUVIGNON
BLANC

LE PETIT
MOUSSEUX
WEINBAU OTTIGER



WHITE



PASSION FRUIT,
LIME,
ELDERBERRY FLOWER



LIGHT,
FINE BUBBLES



MEDIUM-DRY
SPARKLING

