

The Alps, a tourist attraction

Hörtexte

Every year hundreds of tourists from all over the world come to visit the Swiss Alps. Some of them want to go skiing, others go climbing or hiking and some come because they have never seen snow before.

Lots of these tourists speak English. That's why most people who live and work in one of the famous tourist resorts, such as Zermatt, Davos, St. Moritz or Wengen have to speak English. And they often need to know other languages, too!

Meet some of the visitors. Look at the pictures and find out why these tourists come to Switzerland. Now listen to what they say.

Number 1

I'm Paul. My friend Chris and I live in Vancouver, Canada. We go cycling together all the time and we're always looking for exciting new adventures. This is our first time in the Alps. We want to cycle from Switzerland to Italy. We started our tour in a place called Scuol. I don't know how to say it right, but you spell it S-C-U-O-L. We are cycling all the way up the – what's it called? Hmm, yes the Val d'Uina. When we get to the top, we'll be in Italy. From there it's a great ride down into South Tyrol and to a town called Merano. There we'll relax and go swimming. This tour is absolutely fantastic, some friends told us about it and we're enjoying every minute. Yipeeee! Here we go!

Number 2

Hi there. I'm Georgina Jones from New York. I'm 22 and I'm training to be a sports teacher. I am in Zermatt because I want to go climbing. Did you know that the first guy who climbed the Matterhorn was British? And he was only 26! I saw a programme about him on TV. My main aim is to beat him and get to the top of that Toblerone mountain before I'm 26. There are fixed routes up the Matterhorn nowadays so it's not very dangerous. Tomorrow I'm off on my first tour. It's really hot here in July, so I've got to be careful not to get sunburnt.

Number 3

Our name is Dal. We're from Calcutta, India. We are on a guided tour through Europe. June is the only month we can travel because our children are on holiday then. We are spending three days in Switzerland. Yesterday we were in Berne. Today we'll go up the Jungfrau – I don't know if I say the word correctly. It's the name of a mountain in the Bernese Alps. They call the place the Top of Europe, because it is 13'642 feet high. For the first time in our lives we'll go walking in the snow. Our daughter Chhanda can't wait to touch the snow and see the ice palace.