HISTORY & CULINARY DELIGHTS

DAY 1  3 p.m. - A warm welcome
to the Grand Hotel Les Trois Rois in Basel! You are at one of the oldest city hotels in Europe. The former gentleman’s inn, The Three Kings, was first referred to in a document in 1681.

4 p.m. - Old town
Explore Basel’s historic centre with its well-preserved buildings dating from the 15th and 16th centuries. Just as fascinating are the city’s contemporary buildings by architects of international renown, for example the Museum der Kulturen. While this rather unique combination of traditional and modern is exciting, it also forms a remarkably harmonious cityscape! Our concierge will be happy to provide you with the brochure “Following in the footsteps of history” to guide you on your stroll through the historic centre, but can also organise a guided tour if you would like to hear more details and background knowledge.

Tip: Pay a visit to Basel’s cathedral, over a thousand years old, and stroll through the cloister and the magnificent rose garden – from the breathtaking heights at the top of the cathedral tower you can enjoy the impressive views over the Pfalz and the skyline of Basel.
DAY 2 8.30 a.m. - Breakfast

Surrounded by the works of world-famous artists, enjoy a sumptuous breakfast buffet in our Brasserie, which will leave you with no wish unfulfilled. Stay a little longer and relive the joy of reading a newspaper fresh off the press, or let your gaze and your thoughts wander over the Rhine ...

10 a.m. - Pharmacy Museum

Basel's history is closely linked with the pharmaceutical industry, chemistry and research. In fact, two of the world’s five largest pharmaceutical and life sciences companies have their headquarters in this city on the Rhine. No wonder then, that the Pharmacy Museum of Basel University has been around since 1924 in the 15th-century house “Zum Sessel”. It presents an overview of the history of medicaments and their manufacture and houses one of the world’s most important collections. The history of pharmacy in all its scientific, art historical and ethnological aspects is brought to life here!

Tip: It is also possible to arrange a visit to the Roche Tower and the Novartis Campus. Ask our concierge if you are interested.

11 a.m. - St. Alban and the city wall

Wander through the picturesque roads of the St. Alban quarter and admire one of the last stretches of Basel’s city wall still standing. It was constructed between 1080 and 1860 and protected the city from its enemies.

Midday - Crossing the Rhine

Is there anything more delightful than being ferried silently over the water in a small boat? Hardly—which is why you should certainly cross the Rhine in a ferry such as the “Wilde Maa”. The “Wilde Maa” will take you from the St. Alban quarter across to Kleinbasel; it is one of the four Basel city ferries which started operating in 1854. The ferry brings you across the river to the other side with nothing but the natural power of the river’s current – and if you have a chat with the ferryman you will hear some story or another and learn a little more about Basel and its inhabitants.

7.30 p.m. - GaultMillau Chef of the Year

“Limit everything to the elemental – but do not eliminate the poetry.” Tanja Grandits adheres resolutely to the aesthetic approach of the wabi-sabi of Japan at her Stucki restaurant on the Bruderholz. With two stars from the Guide Michelin and 19 GaultMillau points, the Chef of the Year 2020 is one of the best the culinary scene in Switzerland has to offer. Each dish in Tanja Grandit’s aroma cuisine is served in a different hue – so that your senses are fully stimulated.

10 p.m. - Nightcap

Enjoy the end of your evening in the cozy atmosphere of our Salon du Cigare and succumb to the suggestion of a sophisticated cigar and cocktail combination.
TOUR DES ROIS  History & Culinary Delights

12.30 p.m. - Lunch at the historical Hotel Krafft

Enjoy lunch at the Hotel Krafft and succumb to the charms of a bygone age – the hotel was opened in 1873 by Ernst Krafft. The Hotel Krafft is located on the Kleinbasel side, near the Mittlere Brücke and right on the banks of the Rhine. In 1924 the author Hermann Hesse wrote his novel “Der Steppenwolf” in one of the rooms of this hotel.

2.30 p.m. - Convent or Marketplace

For museum lovers we recommend a brief foray over to the Museum Kleines Klingental, which is located in the rooms of the former Klingental convent which dates back to 1274. In 1938/39 it was established as the “City and Cathedral Museum”. The museum houses a collection of original sculptures from Basel cathedral and an impressive model of the city of Basel in the 17th century, as well as a lovely model of the Klingental convent in the 16th century.

After crossing the Mittlere Brücke you will reach the marketplace. Visit the inner courtyard of the imposing town hall (1504) with its impressive wall paintings and statue of Lucius. If you need a coffee break, wander over to the historic Café Schiesser, which is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year and also offers a wonderful view of the bright hustle and bustle in the market square.

7.30 p.m. - Cheval Blanc by Peter Knogl

This evening our chef Peter Knogl welcomes you to his Cheval Blanc restaurant which has been awarded 3 Michelin stars and 19 GaultMillau points. It is not only his cuisine that impresses with its originality – the interior of the restaurant also transports you back to a bygone age. The massive table in the centre dates back to the 18th century and belonged to the bankers family Rothschild. It is part of the impressive collection of historical furniture you will find placed all over Grand Hotel.

DAY 3  9.30 a.m. - Breakfast in your room

You just have to treat yourself to breakfast in bed once in a while – with us it can also be on the balcony overlooking the Rhine. And you should definitely take some time to enjoy your historic hotel room before you leave. We will be delighted to serve you a continental breakfast in your room at no extra cost.

11 a.m. - Guided historical tour of the hotel

Our staff will whisk you away on a journey through the fascinating history of the Grand Hotel Les Trois Rois – for about an hour you will take an exciting tour of our hotel and learn more about the 300-year history of the oldest city hotel in Switzerland.
LES TROIS ROIS

TOUR DES ROIS   History & Culinary Delights

1 p.m. - The oldest city gate in Switzerland
Cross the lovely Petersplatz flanking the main building (Kollegienhaus) of Basel University which was founded in 1460 and is thus the oldest university in Switzerland. Shortly after you will reach the mighty Spalentor, one of the former city gates originally set in Basel’s encircling mediaeval city wall. The listed Spalentor is one of the three city gates which still stand today and is considered one of the finest in Switzerland. Then walk along the Spalenvorstadt to the Spalenberg – a real gem with its historical alleys and picturesque, ornate historic town houses.

2 p.m. - Music Museum of the Basel Historical Museum
With more than 3,300 objects the museum has the largest collection of musical instruments in Switzerland. Spread over three floors is a display of around 650 European instruments from a span of five centuries: including the oldest drum dating to 1571. The museum itself is part of a group of buildings, the oldest parts of which date back to St. Leonhard monastery. The Church of St. Leonhard (Leonhardskirche), which was probably founded between 1060 and 1070, also belongs to this ancient ensemble of buildings.

Interesting fact: Basel’s heraldic emblem, The Baselstab (Basel staff) is a stylised image of a bishop’s crozier. In 1512, Pope Julius II rewarded the Confederate Cantons for their support in his war against France. He granted the people of Basel the privilege of representing a golden Baselstab on their banner from then on, as can still be seen today in the choir of the Church of St. Leonhard. It was probably during the Reformation in 1529 that Basel returned to the simple black Basel staff.

3.30 p.m. - Afternoon Tea
Now it is time to take a break. Indulge your senses with a classical afternoon tea in the Bar Les Trois Rois and take time to think back to all you have experienced over the last couple of days. Afternoon tea is a custom almost as ancient as the Grand Hotel Les Trois Rois itself. Legend has it that it was first served at the English court in 1662 – the intent being to sweeten the long pause between meals served at lunch and supper time. Please make yourself at home in the sitting room of the people of Basel!

Excursion tip - Augusta Raurica
Before you set off for home or before you arrive in Basel, taking a detour to the highlight Augusta Raurica would be well worth the effort. This ancient Roman colony lies approximately 10 km away from the city centre. It was officially founded in 44 B.C. and developed into what was, at the time, the largest city in the region. Nowadays, Augusta Raurica is a freely accessible archaeological park and a cultural monument of national significance.

Our Tour des Rais introduces you to the favourite places, cultural highlights and secret tips of our staff members – in Basel and the tri-border area. The third tour is presented to you by Silvio Kehrli, Director of Sales, Banquet & Events, with the theme History & Culinary Delights.

Information and reservations:
Our concierge team will be happy to help you!
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concierge@lestroisrois.com

#MEETTHETEAM   Facebook   Twitter   Instagram   LinkedIn
Take a look at our social media sites – you will find more exciting tips, recipes and amusing stories there.

1. Historic centre
2. Restaurant Stucki - www.tanjagrandits.ch
4. www.pharmaziemuseum.ch
5. St. Alban
6. www.krafftbasel.ch
7. www.chevalbasel.com
8. www.chevalblancbasel.com
10. Spalentor and Spalenberg
Historic rooms

River Suite Napoleon
Napoléon Bonaparte never actually spent a night here – but this luxuriously appointed, lime-green suite with a view over the Rhine is reminiscent of the state banquet held in his honour at the old inn in 1797. The ceiling panel with its cloudy sky and the charming frescoes and stucco work transport you back to the Napoleonic era (approx. 70 m²).

River Room Herzl
The River room Herzl captivates its visitor with the unique charm of its decor and its history – for it was here that Theodor Herzl laid the foundation stone for the State of Israel during his stay in 1897. This simple yet fascinating junior room with a view over the Rhine has continued to bring inspiration and peace up to the present (approx. 22 m²).

Your comfort is provided for with, among other things:
- Breakfast in the Brasserie or continental breakfast in your room
- BaselCard (free use of public transport in Basel, 50% discount on cultural and leisure activities)
- Feuerstein Essentials Switzerland amenities
- Minibar with free-of-charge, non-alcoholic drinks, beer and snacks
- Bang & Olufsen flat-screen television with satellite TV
- Internet access (LAN or WLAN)