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Jura | Gondelbahn Weissenstein.

Jura mountain walk

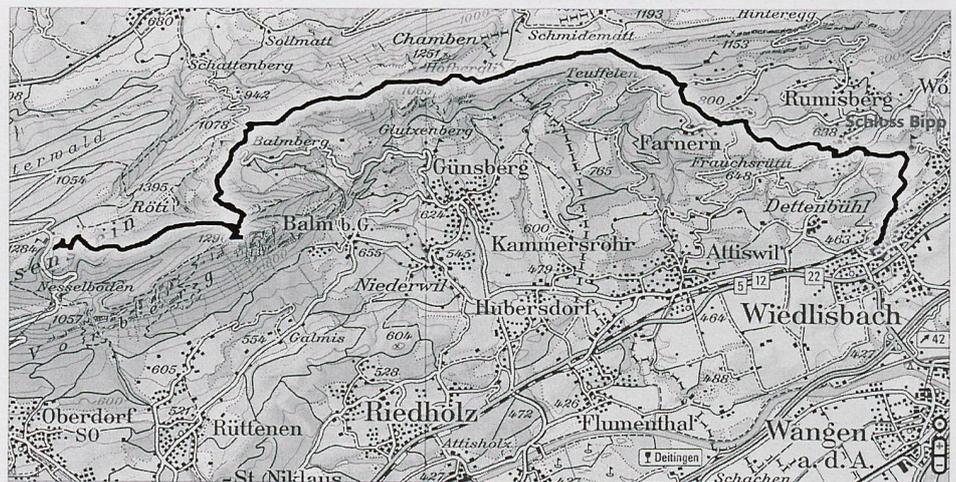
Weissenstein to Wiedlisbach

Mt Weissenstein (white rock) is the house mountain of the city of Solothurn, a town which is also worth a visit for its charm and architecture. This is a great tour, especially in early autumn when the clear skies give you an impressive panorama view of the Swiss alps.

I undertook a similar version of this suggested walk as a child with my parents and sisters on several occasions. The highlight for me was the old wooden chairlift on which we travelled up the mountain.

The starting point for this excursion is ideally the railway station of Solothurn, as you take the Gännsbrunnen train to the station of Obersdorf, where a few metres away the modern cabin of the cablecar carries you up the forest covered slopes.

From the Hotel Weissenstein the walk starts off in an easterly direction, passing a small chapel in the mountain forest on the way to Nesselbodenröti. From there it is worthwhile to make a small detour to



the Balmfluechöpfli, where you can enjoy a bird's eye view of the city of Solothurn. From the pass Oberbalmberg, the walk will carry you along the Jura Ridge through mountain meadows and woods to the Bättlerchuchi (beggar's kitchen – a funny name, as there is no hut or cooking facility in sight.) From here

starts the descent towards Wiedlisbach, via Stierenberg, Farnern and Rumisberg. As the track will take you through private land and fields, always close the gates and stay on track – the owners will appreciate this very much.

Instead of heading straight for Wiedlisbach, I added a small detour via the castle of Bipp. The view of the ruins and castle, located high above the village of Oberbipp, is well worth the additional distance.

Heading south-west towards Wiedlisbach, you will pass by the local sportsground and a few minutes later arrive at the small railway station, where the local SNB (Solothurn Niderbipp Bahn) train will carry you back to the starting point of the day.

Details: Distance 19 km, time approx. 5 hours walking, uphill 574m, downhill 1384m.

Food: There are several mountain restaurants on the route and in the villages, but it tastes best if you carry your own food and drink in your backpack and consume it at a lookout on the way!

Richard Wagner | For GPS data of this tour, email Richard at: riwag3604@gmail.com



Jura | Schloss Bipp.