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A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Roger Ellis investigates photo locations and remembers “The Supremes”!

An SOB train for St Gallen.

All photos: Roger Ellis

Despite the ‘Gotthard Walking Tour - 2012’ being disrupted by a lack of trains, due to the landslide which took place just before we arrived, our SRS group still had a super holiday. We just went to different places. Whilst travelling from Lucerne to Erstfeld Steve Tinsley and I spotted some yellow walking path signs on the ‘mountain’ side of the line after departing from Immensee (most people are looking at the Zugersee), and it set us thinking of another possible photographic location. Returning to Erstfeld later


in the summer I set off to Immensee to investigate and discovered the following.

Alighting at the station turn right and walk beside the sound barriers towards the village, joining the main road as you go. Turn right again, walk under the railway and the Motorway, passing the graveyard and Church, until you come to a minor road on your right signposted Arth. Take this, then it is a 30 minute walk with the lake to your left to the point it is signposted “Cul de sac” and “Cycle Route 77”. Then you have a choice. Turning right takes you under the Motorway up a short hill then to a left-turn onto the old Immensee-Arth road. Follow this for some 500m until you come to a farm, then a house with a rockery (complete with a white seated statue and a blue gnome), where a small road on your right leads up the hill, under the railway. Turn right here for Location A and left for Location B. Alternatively keep to “Cycle Route 77” alongside the lake, pass some lovely gated houses, and follow the sign “Schattenberg – 50min.” and “Arth 1hr 45min.” This will lead you under the Motorway, and following “Wanderweg” a short uphill path across a field takes you under the railway where



A Cargo diesel with a “heavy” load.

you will be at the Arth end of Location B. Both locations are excellent for photography in the late morning or the afternoon with views over the railway with the Zugersee in the background. There is no shelter at either location so plenty of water and a head covering are required.

From the Arth end of Location B you can walk for another 30min. to Location C. There is a steep upward climb to the pylon line and a gentle downward path to where there is a sign "Arth 55min." DONT take this path but walk some 300m downhill along a small tarmac road towards the railway for Location C. This is your "Supremes" moment - 'Stop, in the name of Roger' - do not continue to Arth as the yellow signs disappear, or perhaps were never there. Go back the way you came as this also avoids the unwelcome section alongside the busy road from Arth to Goldau and the station. In short, a lovely, but not too difficult walk with excellent views of Lake Zug and three locations where you can take line side pictures of both freight and passenger trains. 



TOP RIGHT: Two DB locos on a freight.

MIDDLE RIGHT: Sometimes you get lucky. NO – it's not done in Photoshop!

BOTTOM RIGHT: Three Crossrail locos on a freight.

BELOW LEFT: SBB CARGO combo on a freight.



SwissTip *Good ideas and information about Switzerland from travellers.*

Need a Swiss fix on the Wirral? After giving Zügers in Chester as a SwissTip in the June magazine we were reminded that the family, originally from Schaffhausen, has a second outlet for good Swiss fare in the NW of England. Only 2 minutes walk from Bromborough Station on Merseyrail's Wirral Line is another branch of this excellent family-run business. All the usual Swiss staples are available in this outpost of the Confederation just 20 minutes by train from Central Liverpool. Be warned though – it gets busy and you may have to wait to enjoy the best meringues this side of the Jura. 