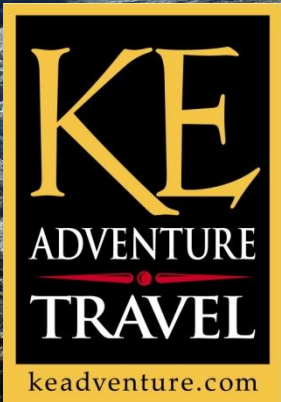


# Monte Rosa Climb

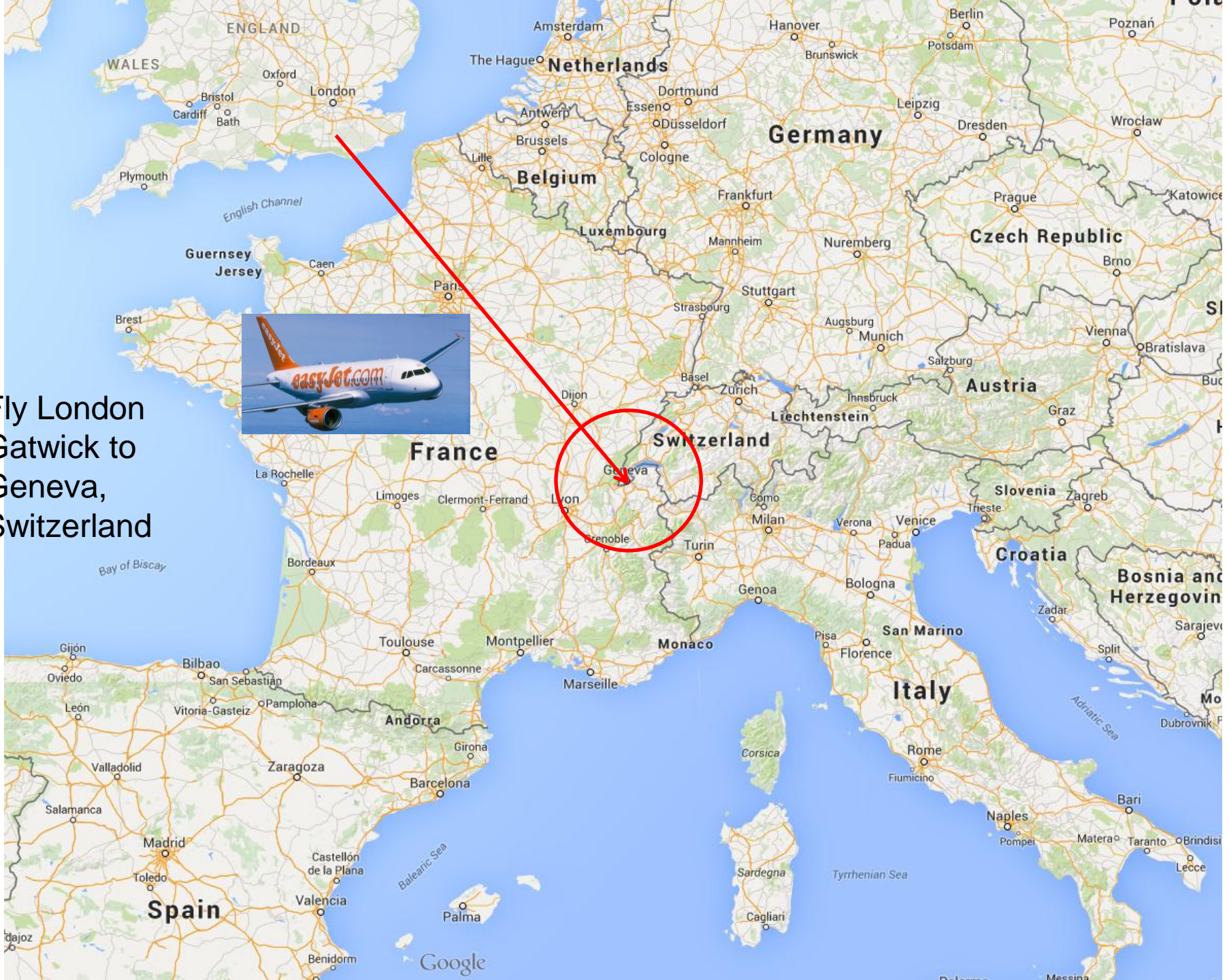
Andy French. 20-27<sup>th</sup> August 2016



Trip code MRA

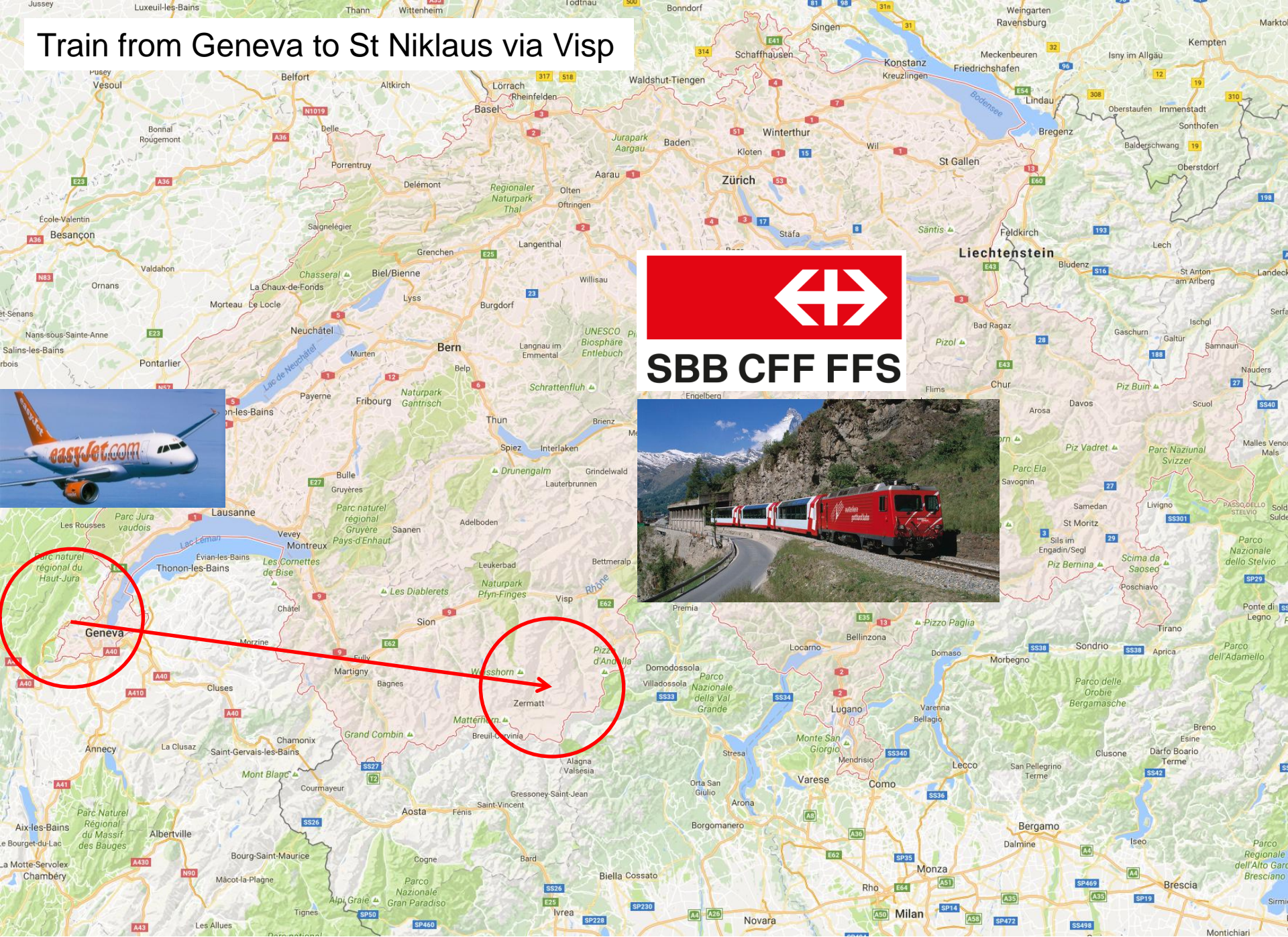


Fly London  
Gatwick to  
Geneva,  
Switzerland

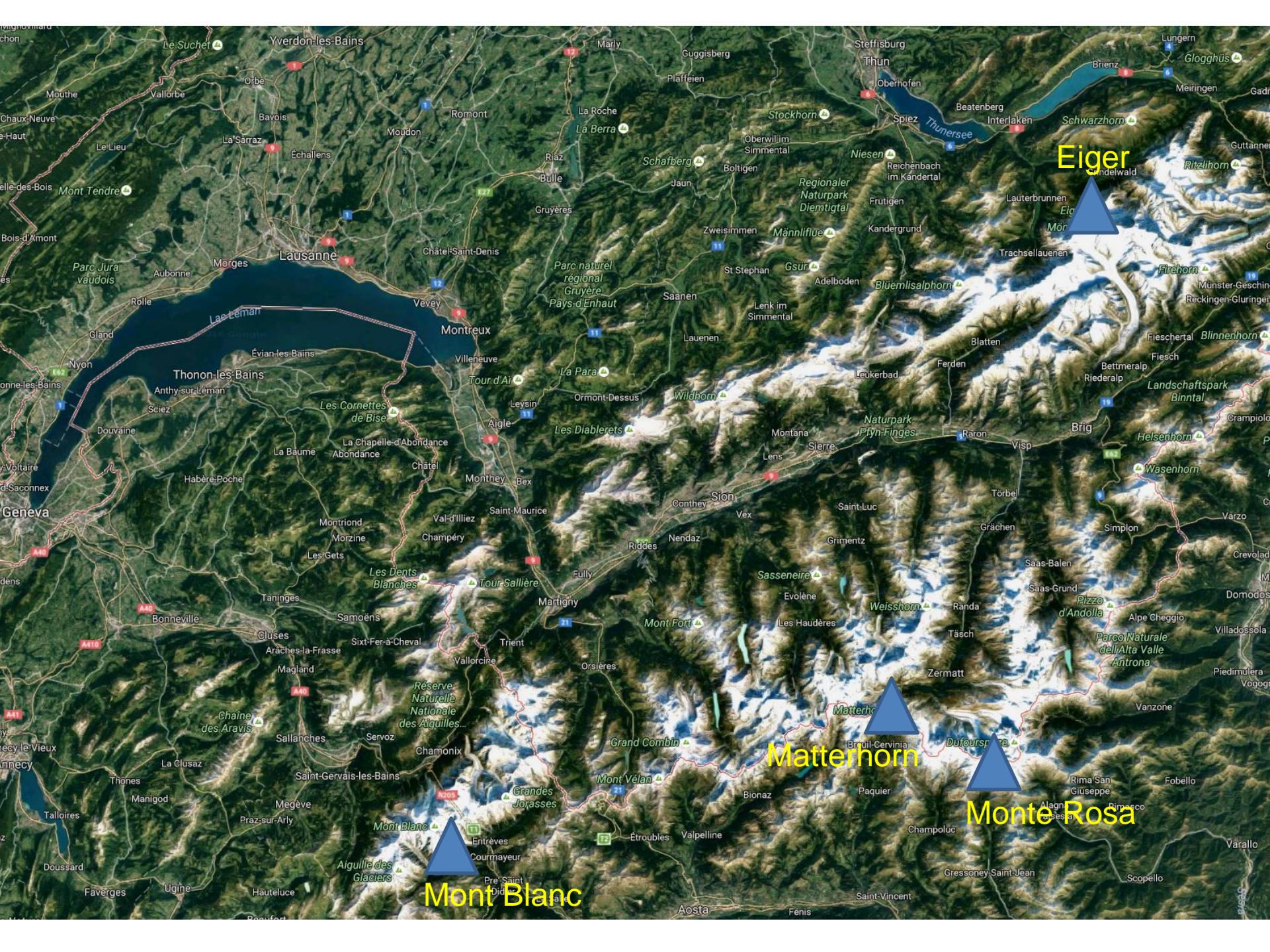




# Train from Geneva to St Niklaus via Visp







Eiger



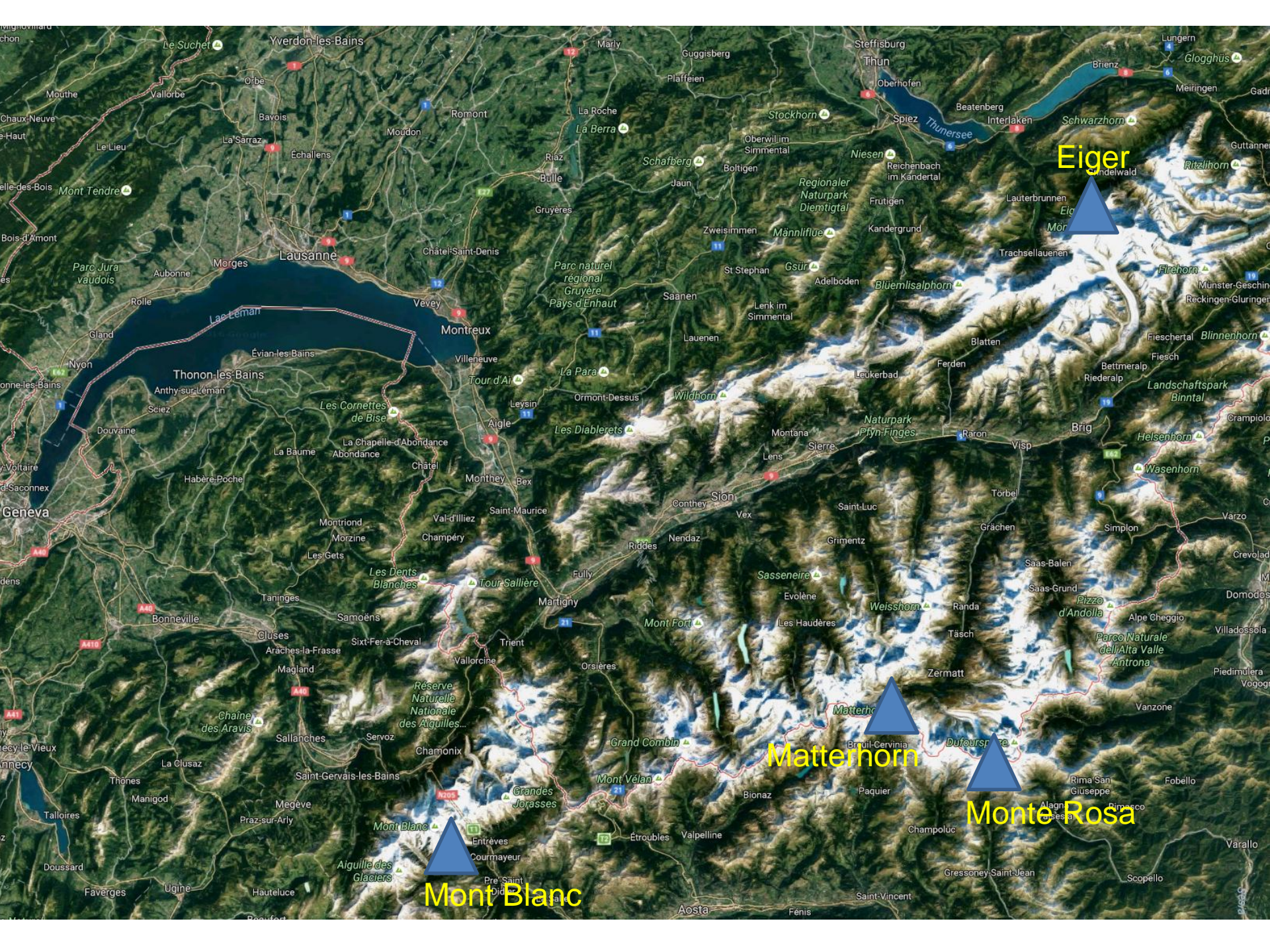
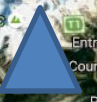
Matterhorn



Monte Rosa



Mont Blanc







**Sat 20<sup>th</sup> August 2016.** Fly Gatwick to Geneva.  
Train Geneva to St Niklaus via Visp

**Sun.** Taxi to Zermatt. Cable car to Klein Matterhorn (3883m).  
Climb Breithorn (4164m). Descend to Gandegg hut (3029m)

**Mon.** Cable car to Klein Matterhorn. Transfer glacier south of Breithorn. Climb Pollux (4092m). Descend to Ayas Hut (3420m).



**Tues.** 4am start. Attempted climb of Castor (4228m).  
Retreated 300m from summit due to steep ice.  
Return to Zermatt (1608m).

**Weds.** Gornergrat railway to Rotenboden.  
Hike to Monte Rosa hut (2883m).

**Thurs.** 1.20am start. Climb of Zumsteinspitze (4563m).  
Return to Monte Rosa hut by 2.30pm.

**Fri.** Return to Zermatt from Monte Rosa hut.



**Sat 27<sup>th</sup> August 2016.** Train Zermatt to Geneva.  
Fly to Gatwick then train to Winchester.









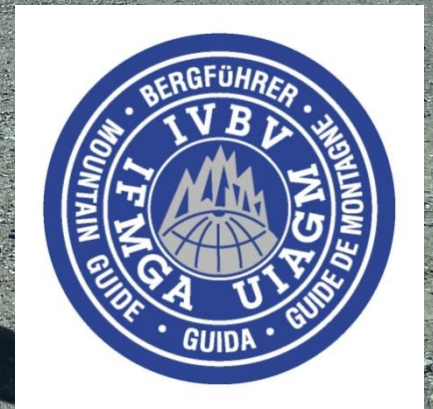
Dave

Paul

Andy

Hannah  
IFMGA  
Guide

Amy







Glacier between Klein Matterhorn ski station (3883m) and Breithorn (4164m)

Summit of the Breithorn





# Monte Rosa

Nordend

Dufourspitze

Zumsteinspitze

Parrotspitze

Liskamm

Pollux

Castor

Summit ridge of the Breithorn (4164m)





Breithorn ridge panorama viewed from the summit



Matterhorn (4478m)





Gandegg hut (3029m)







Monte Rosa, Liskamm, Breithorn and Klein Matterhorn from Gandegg hut



# Alpenglow on Monte Rosa

Nordend (4609m)

Dufourspitze (4634m)

Zumsteinspitze  
(4563m)





Klein Matterhorn cable car from Zermatt







Glacial crevasses underneath the Breithorn





Pollux

Castor





Pollux (4092m)



At the (very windy!) summit of Pollux





Summit ridge of Pollux. *Madonna and Child* statue marks the conclusion of several hundred metres of scrambling and rock climbing!





Three climbing pitches on Pollux, facilitated by fixed chains





Ayas Hut, Italy! (3420m)







Breithorn ridge viewed from the slopes of Castor



Returning to the Klein Matterhorn from Castor

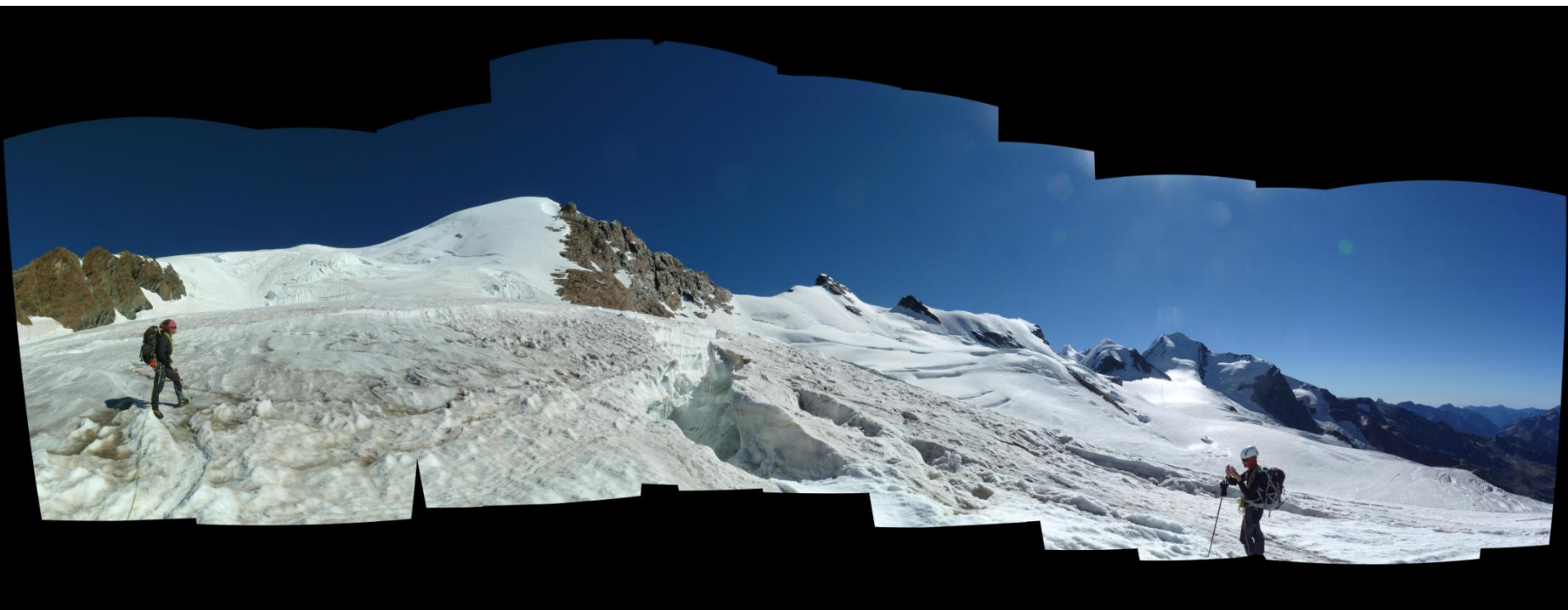






Pollux and Castor





Breithorn ridge, Liskamm, Pollux and Castor











Relaxing at the aptly named Alpen Rose hotel







Sublime mountain panorama from Rotboden station on the Gornergrat railway from Zermatt

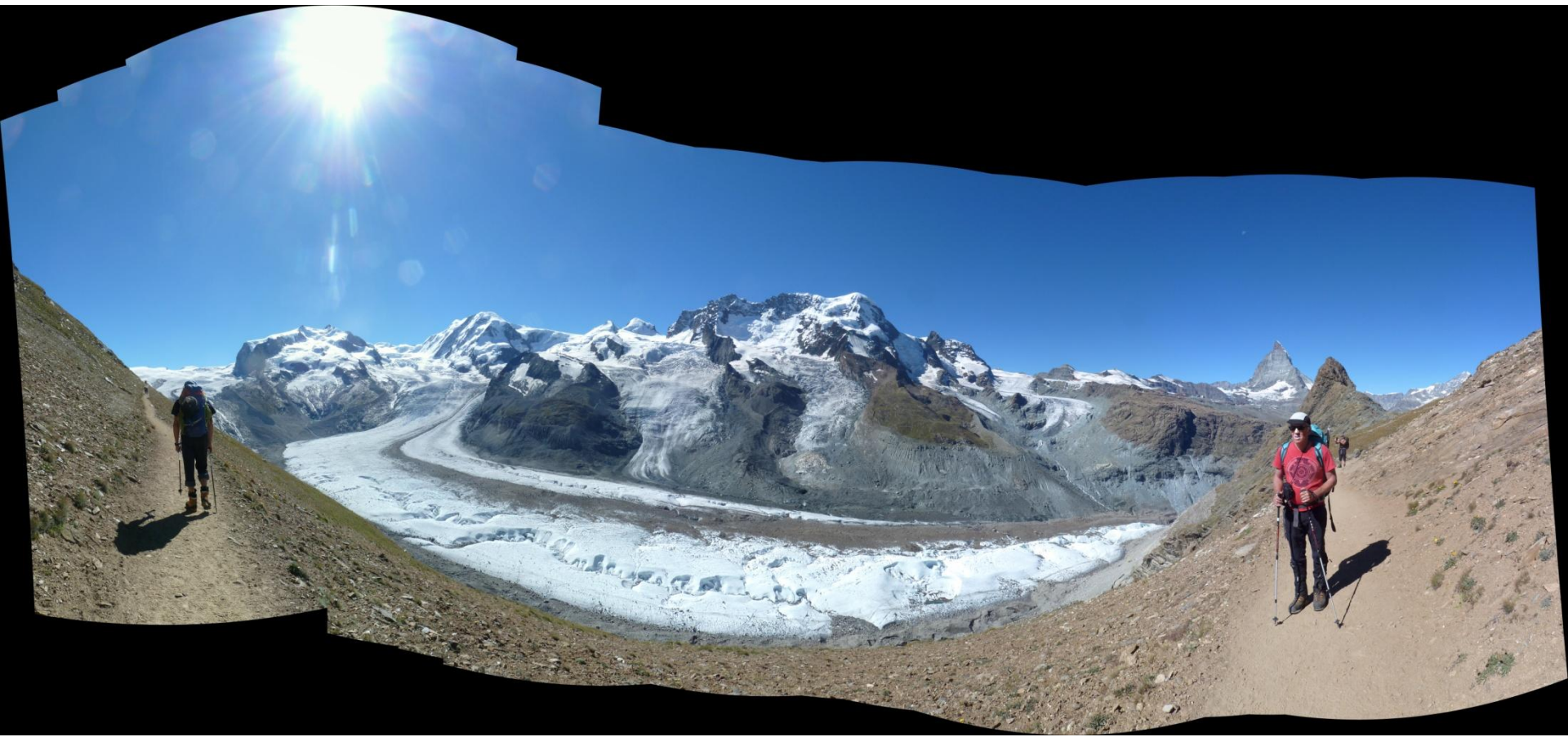


Castor  
(4228m)

Pollux  
(4092m)



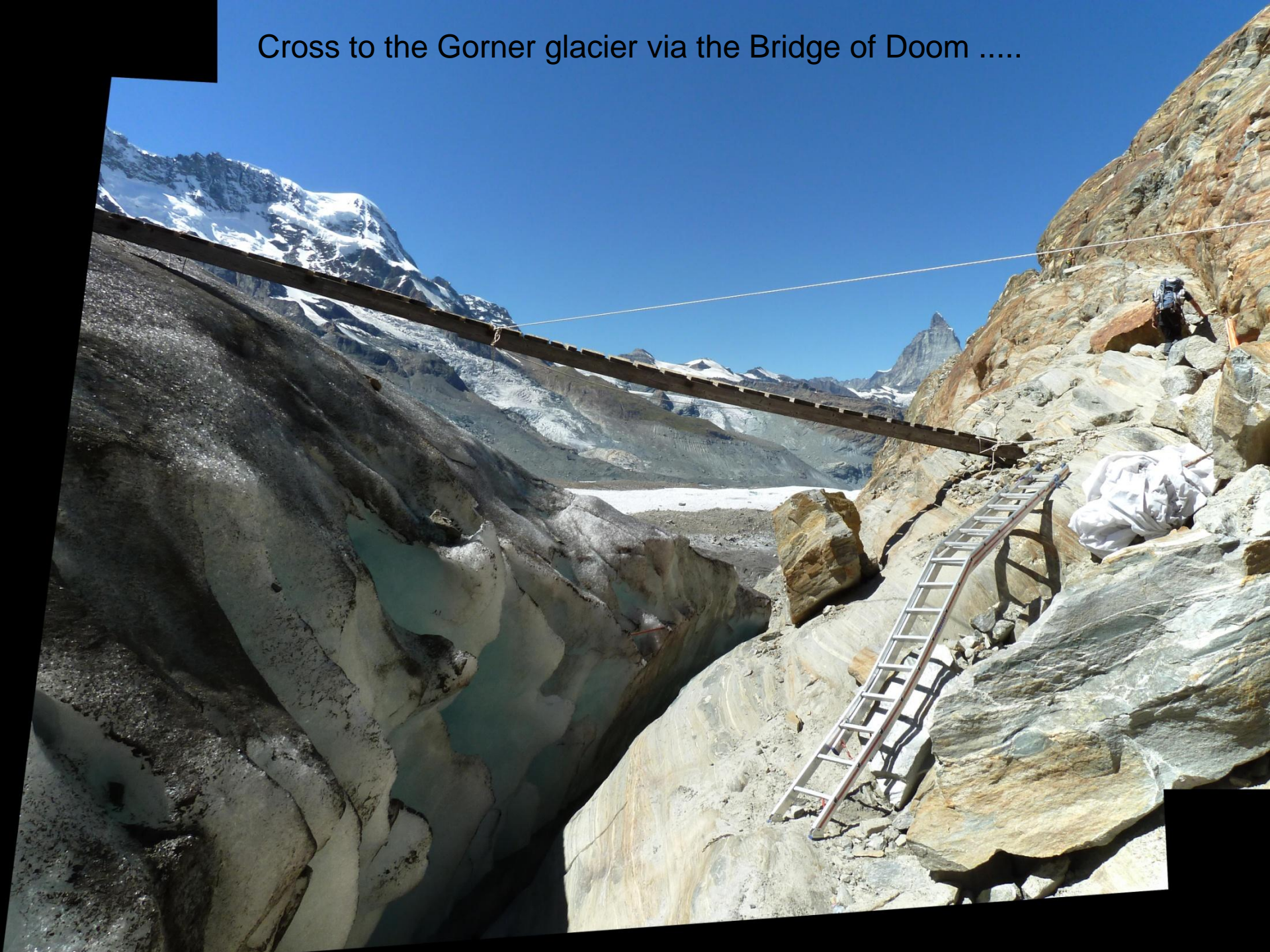




On the trail to the Monte Rosa hut from Rotboden



Cross to the Gorner glacier via the Bridge of Doom .....







.... Or instead practice your cramponing skills!



# Gorner glacier and Matterhorn









# Monte Rosa hut (2883m) and Liskamm (4527m)





Monte Rosa hut above the Gorner glacier











Amazing shadows as the sun sets directly beneath the peak of the Matterhorn





Gretzglecher at dawn, following a night navigation of its labyrinthine crevasse field!  
Sunrise illumination of the Breithorn.

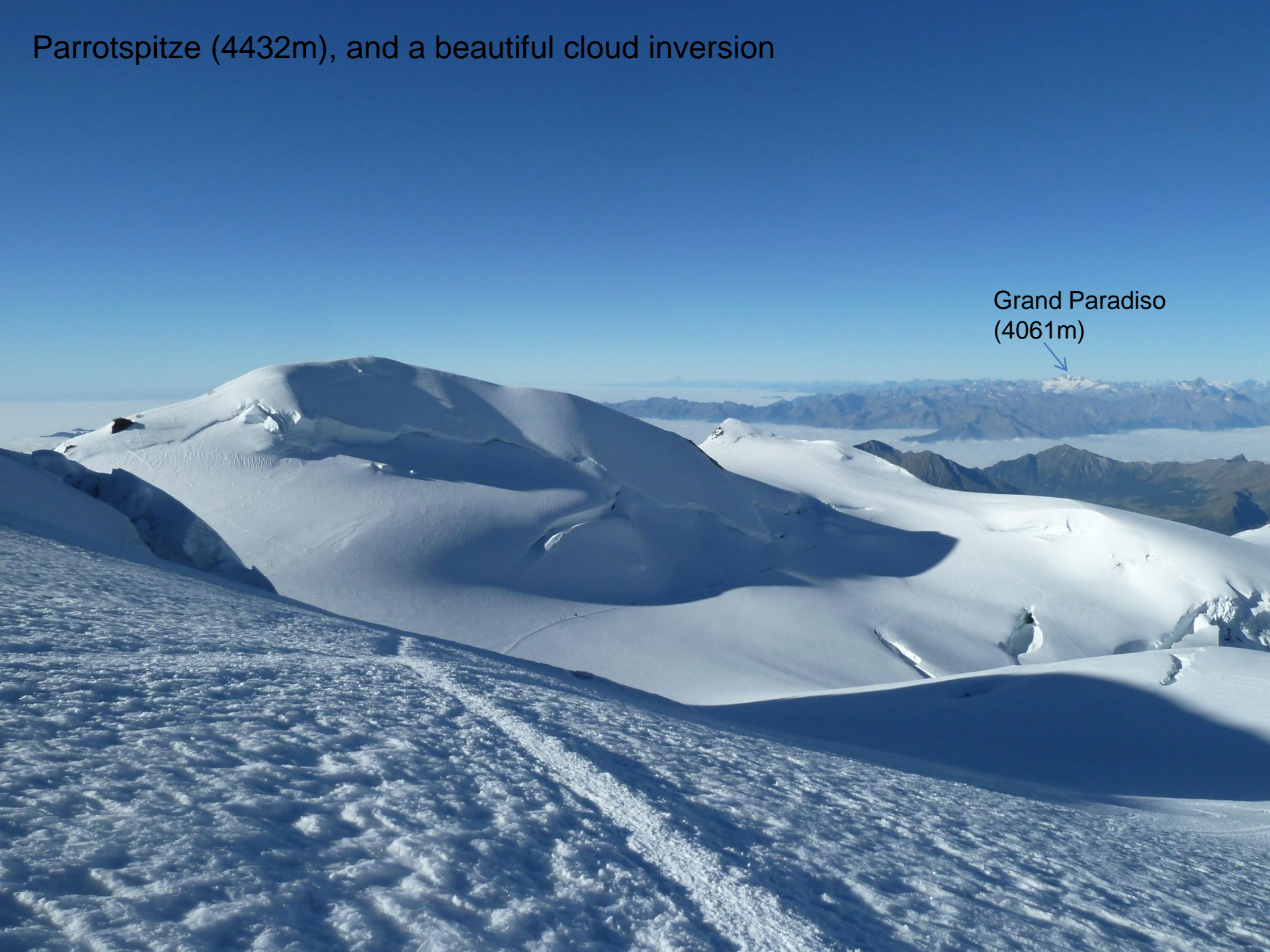


Signalkuppe and the Margherita hut, the highest in the Alps at 4554m





Parrotspitze (4432m), and a beautiful cloud inversion



Grand Paradiso  
(4061m)





# Zumsteinspitze (4563m)







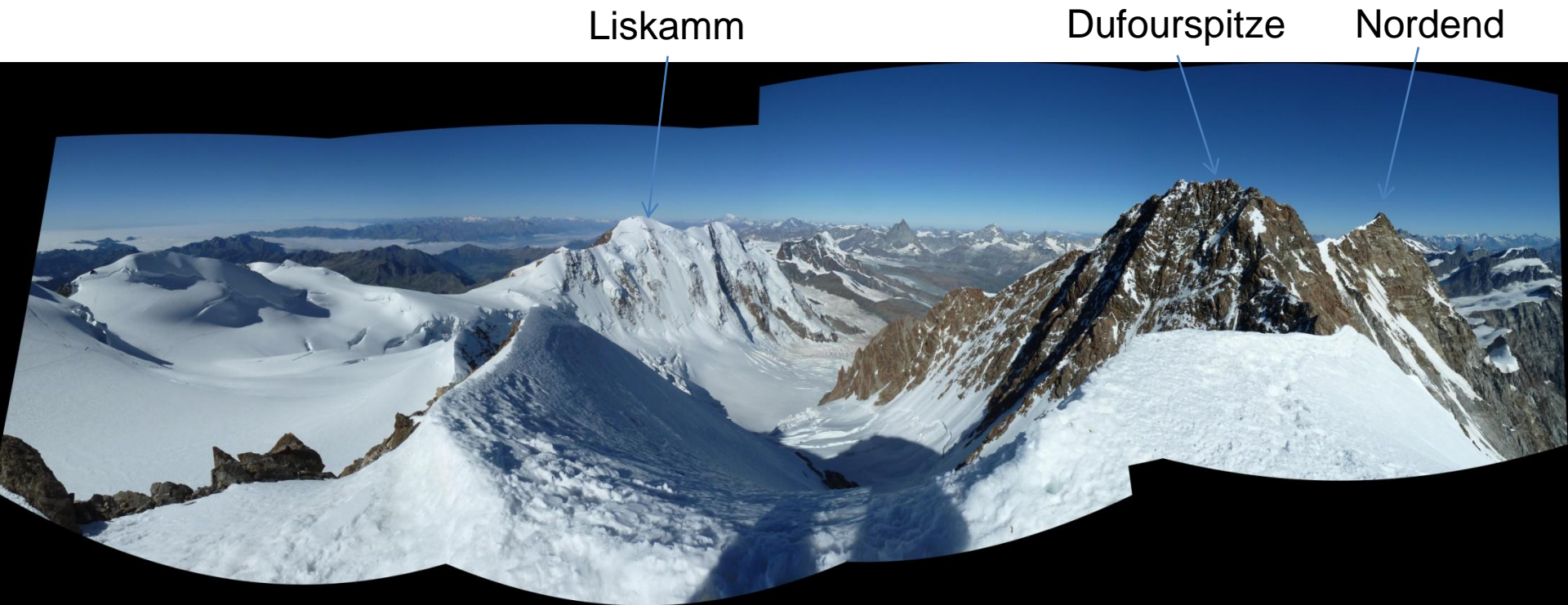
IFMGA Guide Stefano leads Dave and Paul towards Zumsteinspitze



Summit of Zumsteinspitze (4563m). Italy lies beneath the cloud inversion.







Liskamm

Dufourspitze

Nordend

Panorama from the summit of Zumsteinspitze (4563m)



# Liskamm summit crest





Zumsteinspitze summit crest. There is a *very* long drop on the right hand side!













Parrotspitze (4432m)









# Returning to the Monte Rosa hut via the Gretzglecher





Emerging from the Gretzglecher crevasse labyrinth!





Only another hour till the Monte Rosa hut ....





# Brave (or foolish) Brits on the Bridge of Doom





Hannah continues her expert guiding back towards the Rotenboden railway station.





Farewell to the Gorner glacier, Liskamm, Castor and Pollux





Returning to the Matterhorn, and Riffelhorn (2927m) at Rotenboden





# Rest and relaxation in Zermatt





Last glimpse of the Breithorn from  
the train from Zermatt to Visp







Time to reflect on an epic trip!