

## HB/OW-001 Titlis

Aug 28, 2018, perfect summer day

Paul, HB9DST/AA1MI

*Titlis is one of Switzerland's most popular tourist destinations. To get there, you can ride the Titlis Rotair, the world's first revolving cable car (one full revolution during the 5-minute trip). It's also one of the highest easily accessible summits in Switzerland. It might look difficult at first, but the receding glacier has exposed a relatively straightforward hiking trail. But make sure to go when the weather is perfect, otherwise I would not recommend even attempting it due to possible danger on the unofficial trail.*

Here's a great one for the family -- while you're doing the activation, there's plenty to keep your spouse and/or kids occupied. For instance, there's a neat footbridge over the glacier, and there's also a chairlift across the glacier to what they call the Glacier Park. The trip up isn't cheap, though: round trip on the cablecar (without a discount like the SwissPass) costs in the range of \$100. Even so, one of your biggest challenges will be fighting the crowds to get up. Tons of tour buses stop here. German speakers are truly in the minority! And expect to stand in line waiting for the ride up.



**SPECTACULAR TRIP TO THE IMPRESSIVE GLACIER WORLD ON TITLIS**

Come and visit our year-round winter wonderland. TITLIS is the jewel in Central Switzerland's crown and the only publicly accessible glacier in the area. Cast your gaze over the surrounding mountains and valleys, and enjoy the stunning panoramic views.

**TITLIS CLIFF WALK**

This experience will take your breath away. Do you have nerves of steel? At 3,041 metres above sea level, the walk over the abyss is sure to set your pulse racing. You will need to place your full trust in the narrow suspension bridge as you embark on the 150 heart-pounding steps and embrace the dizzying heights.

Bravol! On reaching the Ice Flyer, you will find yourself on firm ground once more. If the TITLIS CLIFF WALK leaves you feeling inspired, take a walk to the vantage point at Stotzig Egg and admire the view.

This summit is recommended only when the weather has been really nice for a day or two beforehand so that the trail is absolutely dry. I had T-shirt weather all day, even this high up.

This is an unofficial trail. There are no signs anywhere for it. There are no cairns. It's pretty obvious where the trail leads once you get on track. From a technical standpoint it presents no problems and is an easy T3 -- there is really only one spot where you need your hands to steady yourself. Sturdy shoes or hiking boots are a must, and a pair of hiking poles come in very handy, especially when navigating the snow field on the way down.



*The hike follows the right ridge at the edge of the glacier snow.*



*The summit OW-001 is the furthest peak back. Here you can better see the edge of the snowpack where the trail is located.*

The hike is 1.15 km long and has an ascent of 237 meters. It takes roughly 45 minutes. But again, you want a really nice day with lots of sun and calm winds -- otherwise it can be very uncomfortable on the hike and sitting on the summit, not to speak of slipping on wet rocks with possibly disastrous consequences.



*Getting started: Follow the road from the cable car station, which here you can somewhat make out on the left side (in person you can't miss it). On the right is a signpost. The trail starts in the middle between these two. It takes you to a snow field you follow for about 10 minutes.*



*After you cross the snow field: the Titlis Glacier is receding, thereby exposing a very comfortable hiking trail to the summit.*





*This is the most difficult part of the entire hike, and it's really not terribly tough: hike up towards the middle, then go to the left side (red circle) where there is good footing. The rest of the way there is an easy to follow trail.*



*Even though it's an unofficial trail, somebody placed some wire cables just shy of the summit to help you along -- but the footing was so good I didn't need them at all.*





*The activation zone is comfortably large. I lashed my mast to the display (which identifies various peaks in the distance) and sat on the concrete base of one leg of the triangulation point.*



*Another view of the activation zone and a look down to the cable car station (left) where the many visitors are now just tiny dots. It was soooooo pleasant to have the summit all to myself after having dealt with the multitudes of pushy people down below.*