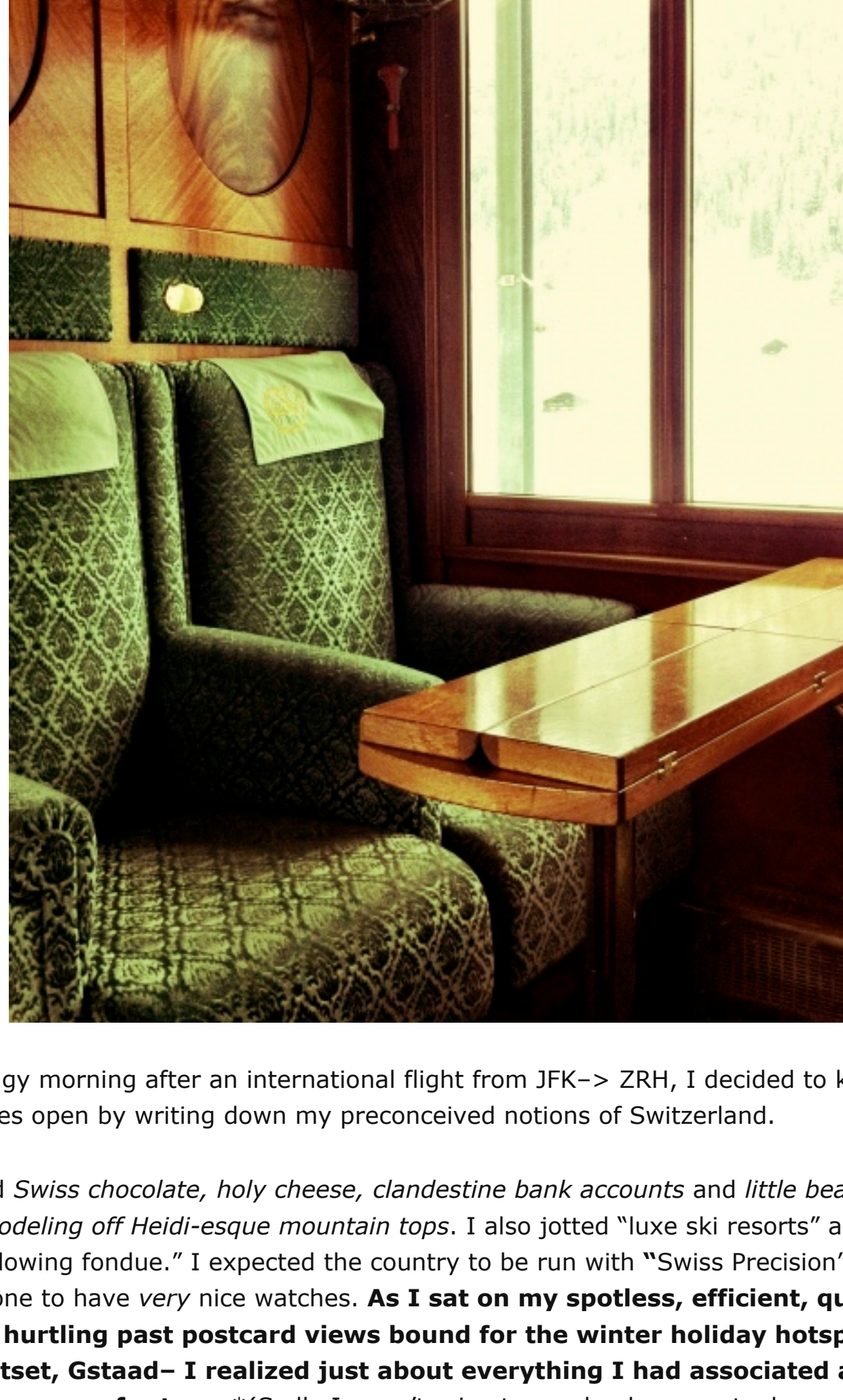


A Swiss Miss for a Week: Zurich to Gstaad

3

— FEBRUARY 14, 2012



A groggy morning after an international flight from JFK-> ZRH, I decided to keep my eyes open by writing down my preconceived notions of Switzerland.

I listed *Swiss chocolate, holy cheese, clandestine bank accounts and little bearded men yodeling off Heidi-esque mountain tops.* I also jotted "luxe ski resorts" and "free flowing fondue." I expected the country to be run with "Swiss Precision" and everyone to have very nice watches. **As I sat on my spotless, efficient, quiet train, hurtling past postcard views bound for the winter holiday hotspot of the jetset, Gstaad- I realized just about everything I had associated as Swiss, was so far true.** *(Sadly I wasn't privy to any bank accounts, however I swear I saw a yodeler as I passed through the alps on the Glacier Express.)

I then decided to note my first impressions, something I continued to do in each new town that I visited. Everyone spoke perfect English. I was looking forward to using my dusty French but when running from platform to platform, English found it's way out. I found every Swiss locals that I asked for help to be *extremely nice and helpful, have great eyes and speak perfect English*, though when asked if they do, they ALWAYS respond, "only a very little"-in perfect English. So add humility to the list.) How I wish I was as comfortable with German, French, English and Swiss German, as almost every Swiss I met. I suppose that part of their nationality is being international.

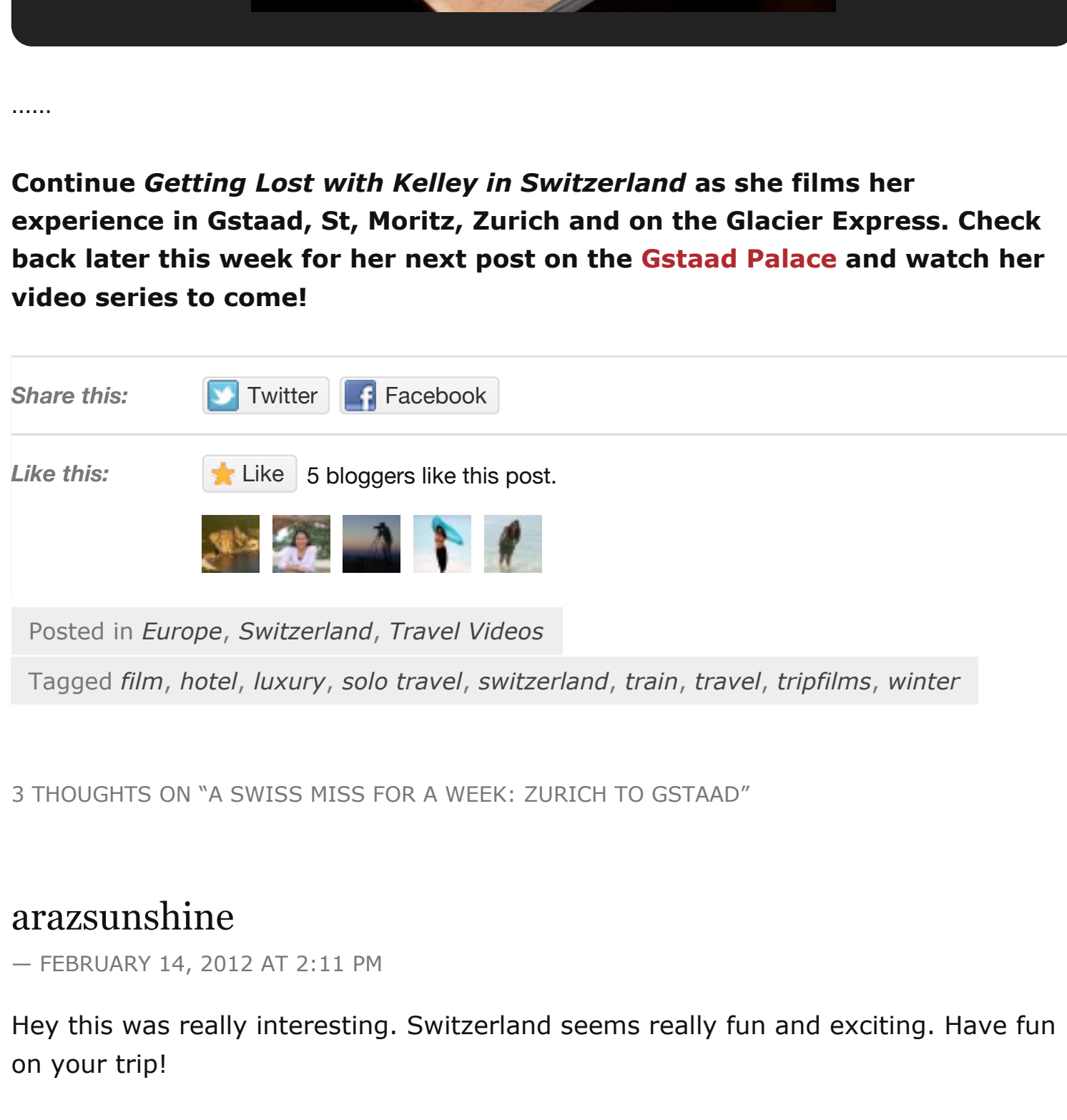
I boarded my third train in 5 hours, the GoldenPass Railway, and I felt like I was riding in alpine version of the Harry Potter train car. Maybe it was the jetlag or the altitude, but did that man just board from a small hut surrounded by nothing but mounds of snow, and wearing ski boots?

My route wound higher and higher elevations, past white valleys, breathtakingly jagged peaks, mountain streams and towns with names that I would never be able to pronounce ("Oeschseite," really?). I was amazed to discover "they really do live in those houses"- uber-Swiss chalets dotted the landscape, a constant reminder that I was in Switzerland and I was getting closer to (cue the music) **Gstaad.**

Enter: Gstaad.

I had heard of Gstaad in wistful whispers, and usually mispronounced by most Americans. Gstaad was where the rich and famous shopped, skied, wine & dined on cheese, but did so "discreetly." Pulling my bags through the cobble downtown street of the pedestrian only village I could see why. Chalet styled buildings, each unique, boasted a designer shopping store on the ground level.* I knew I was going to the **Gstaad Palace Hotel**, but where was that? All I had to do was look up to see the majestic castle radiating over the Gstaad village below. I breathed in the crisp, thin air and made my way up to my stunning palatial home.

**I later discovered that all building in Gstaad must be in the chalet style. Fantastic rule.*



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Continue Getting Lost with Kelley in Switzerland as she films her experience in Gstaad, St. Moritz, Zurich and on the Glacier Express. Check back later this week for her next post on the **Gstaad Palace and watch her video series to come!**

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3 THOUGHTS ON "A SWISS MISS FOR A WEEK: ZURICH TO GSTAAD"

arazsunshine

— FEBRUARY 14, 2012 AT 2:11 PM

Hey this was really interesting. Switzerland seems really fun and exciting. Have fun on your trip!

[Reply](#)

Lichnos Beach Hotel Parga Greece

— FEBRUARY 20, 2012 AT 8:18 AM

The train looks very cozy

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Kelley Ferro

— FEBRUARY 20, 2012 AT 12:12 PM

Switzerland really is amazing. I have more to divulge so stay tuned for a new post today!

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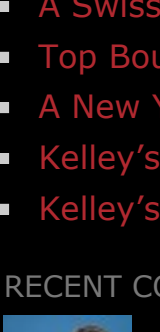
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WHO IS KELLEY FERRO?

I'm all about Travel and I have 4 International Travel Shows around the world. I'm in a new place just about every week so check back to see my latest videos and posts on the world's best places to explore, stay, eat, drink and appreciate this incredible planet!

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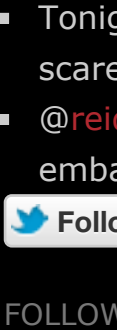
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KELLEYFERRO ON TWITTER


- [@PaulineFrommer](#) Looking forward to meeting you next Thursday Pauline! @TripTati 12 minutes ago
- Tonight's event is an opera/dance party w/ neon, costumes, & cirque du soleil. Im scared/excited for @CosmicOpera This vid will be good. 16 minutes ago
- [@reidonttravel](#) VERY NAUGHTY. Get at me before next week. Or else I'll ask you embarrassing questions. 22 minutes ago

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