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World's Most Precarious Places

April 15, 2012 by **Jamie Moore**

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(Photo: KWO/Bosch)

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Trift Bridge, Switzerland

Trift's three-plank-wide catwalk and steel cables are the only things that separate adventurous hikers from the glacial lake 330 feet below. Strung 560 feet across a windy gorge near Gadmen, Switzerland, it's one of the Alps' longest and highest suspension bridges. Even if no one in your group tries to jiggle it, windy or foggy conditions can still be unnerving. Chances are, though, you're not afraid of heights if you've made it this far. Reaching the bridge 40 miles south of Lucerne requires a ride in a **freight cable car** (standing room only for eight) over a ravine, plus a 90-minute hike. Trift Bridge was originally built in 2004 to reconnect hikers with the **Windegg Hut** made inaccessible when Trift Glacier melted and flooded the gorge. The current bridge is a 2009 replacement that sways less but still delivers a thrill and links hikers with local food and drinks in the hut.

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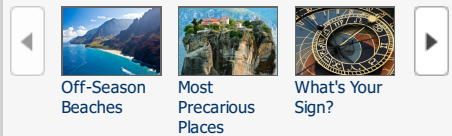
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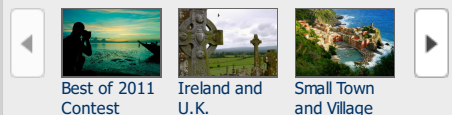
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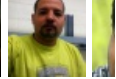
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