

Lens letter from the Via

Date 18/07/17

Location	Martigny	KM's to Rome	1,155	Steps Today	49,104
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Aigle is an army town and during the night there was a lot of noise and action happening, I was unsure if Switzerland was being invaded or the South of Switzerland was mounting an attack on the North. On our walk to Martigny it was all revealed as we discovered that part of Stonehenge had been moved. I wonder if this is in retaliation for England taking all the Greek statues away from Greece.

I enjoyed the walk today as we slowly got funnelled up the valley to St Bernard's Pass our immediate goal. One of the villages on the way was Saint-Maurice a lovely sub alpine village which would have been a very nice place to stay. I purchased some Bircher Muesli at the local bakery, we have lots to thank the Swiss for. It was beautiful. This is a place certainly worth another visit.

We are starting to meet some fellow walkers now as the population thins out, some from Canada, France and Belgium and it is rumoured that there are two Australians two days ahead of us. Maybe we will catch them at some stage. Most walkers are carrying their travel needs on their back but thankfully I am too old to be able to do this. Even fully loaded up most of the walkers are



outpacing me which is enviable but not disheartening as it is not a race. It certainly is easy to recognize fellow walkers as we peer at maps, electronic devices and signs. The track is generally well marked but you need to decide as to what route you will follow as there are many ways up the valley, I, like most other walkers prefer the shortest way to my nights destination if it doesn't require any walking on major roads.

To complete this set, we only need to find five more small people and a good-looking princess.

Arriving at Martigny crossing an old enclosed wooden bridge my feet were

very sore so decided it was time to implement the strategy developed in Lausanne. This is the result. Tomorrow will be the test if the strategy works. I am persevering with these boots as they are so comfortable. So tomorrow I will lace my boots and sing the songs and marches the marches, and hope.

