

## Zimba Joch 2387m.

**Brand / Lünensee 1970m. - Douglass Hütte 1979m. - Saula Joch 2065m. - Heinrich Hueter Hütte 1766m. - Zimba Joch 2387m. - Sarotla Hütte 1611m. - Brand 1037m.**

**Starting point:** For our walk we begin at the Douglas Hütte 1979m, Lünensee cable railway. But our real 'start' is in the village Brand nearby a bus stop. [Brandnertal - Brand 1037m.]

**Total time:** 6 - 7 hours.

**Difficulties:** Very long tour on well marked paths. The Saula joch climb is well worn out but partly secured with steel wire ropes. From Saula Joch towards Heinrich Hueter Hütte; easy but reasonably bluff descend. Zimba Joch steig is only for mountaineers with sufficient experience; for the greater part very steep, last part through rocks using iron rungs and steel wire ropes. The descend towards Sarotla Hütte; first bluff downwards on gravel and loose rocks. Later on some steel wire ropes to use as a safety and an iron ladder (10 rungs). Last part, descend towards Brand; through woods, well worn out path, but slippery on the rocks. This tour can only be made when there is no snow on the route at all!

**Rating:** \*\*\*\*\* / I-II

**Why worthy?:** very adventurous tour in a quiet area. Very nice view at Zimba Joch towards Drusenfluh / Drei Türmer / Sulzfluh.

### **ROUTE DESCRIPTION:**

In the Village Brand we take the bus towards *Lünensee* - cable railway. Get on the bus as early as possible so you have plenty of time to do the tour! At the Lünensee we go to the *left* crossing the dam. At the dam we already see our first goal: the green *Saula Joch* at our left. At the end of the dam we go left (*north*), signs: *Saula Joch - Saula Kopf - Heinrich Hueter Hütte*. Now we walk along the steep rock-face, first a bit downwards, then upwards towards Saula Joch with the help of some steel wire ropes. At the Saula Joch we continue in an *eastern direction*. After a short while go left (northeast) and descend towards the *Heinrich Hueter Hütte* (partly bluff descend).

After a break at the Heinrich Hueter Hütte we continue at the back of the mountain hut where signs lead us towards *Zimba Joch and Sarotla Hütte*. First the path goes through Latschen and we face the huge *Vandanser Steinwand*. We will have to overcome this huge rock-face to reach the Zimba Joch. But although you will have the idea that there can not be any route upwards, a well worn out path goes upwards the rock-face (zigzag). After the grass border we follow the marks through large rockery.



To help you climb, there are iron rungs and steel wire ropes you can use (and do use them!). This brisk climb leads us to the Zimba Joch at 2387m. The view is fabulous.

After a well deserved break we descend at the other side of the joch towards *Sarotla Hütte*. First, the route goes bluff downwards on gravel and loose rocks, so be careful. After this part there's a iron ladder (10 rungs) and some steel wire ropes. Then we will arrive at the new builed Sarotla Hütte. The last part of our tour is a descend through the forest towards the village Brand. We walk on well worn out mountain paths. Sometimes rocks can be slippery, so watch out. Next, at a junction (with a cross next to the road) we go left. In just a short while we will arrive at the village.

*My father and I made this tour during the summer of 1999.*

---

***Difficulties:***

\* = Moderately easy tour (also perfect for a late afternoon walk). 2 hours max.

\*\* = With some physical condition, no difficulties. From 1 to 3 hours max.

\*\*\* = Average tour, a moderately, good physical condition is needed! 2 till 4 hours max.

\*\*\*\* = Difficult tour. Sometimes you have to use your hands to climb (not all the way, just some parts). Between 3 and 6 hours.

\*\*\*\*\* = Very difficult tour. Here you're at the boundary of 'real' mountaineering. The 'climbing factor' takes the overhand. Mostly between 5 and 7 hours.

***ps: some tours can be different than these ratings (like: a \*\*\*\*\* tour, with a duration of only 2 hours).***

---