Compagnie des Guides de Chamonix

190 place de l'église - 74400 Chamonix – France - Tél : + 33 (0)4 50 53 00 88
www.chamonix-guides.com - e-mail : info@chamonix-guides.com

SKI TOURING - HAUTE ROUTE VERBIER ZERMATT

Duration: 4 | Fitness: ▲▲▲▲▲ | Technique: ▲▲▲▲▲ | Price from: 1 090 €

THE VERBIER-ZERMATT HAUTE ROUTE

The little sister of the Chamonix-Zermatt Haute Route, sharing part of the same itinerary, the Verbier-Zermatt Traverse is a magnificent **journey through the Swiss Valais**. It is an attractive alternative to the Haute Route if you are short on time or would like to focus on exploring the mountains of this region. The itinerary offers a true sense of escape through exceptionally beautiful landscapes, particularly during the descent to Zermatt across the Stockji and Zmutt glaciers, dominated by the Dent d'Hérens and the Matterhorn. Despite its popularity, this tour is a serious undertaking requiring good ski touring experience and excellent physical fitness. The traverse takes you through some of the most spectacular parts of the Valais.

OUR SKI TOURS IN THE SWISS VALAIS

This trip is part of a series of ski tours we have designed to help you discover the **mountains of the Swiss Valais** and enjoy an exceptional skiing experience in a magnificent setting. Spend an extraordinary night at the Dents du Midi bivouac, near Lake Emosson, enjoy the majestic atmosphere of the 4,000-metre peaks of Saas-Fee, or continue your Chamonix-Zermatt Haute Route adventure among the 4,000-metre peaks of Monte Rosa.

ITINERARY

Day 1

Verbier - Cabane de Prafleuri

From the Verbier ski area, the ski lifts take us to the foot of the Col de la Chaux (2940m), which is our first climb. Next we reach the Col de Momin (3003m), which gives access to the magnificent Grand Désert glacier. We continue to the lower slopes of the Rosablanche (3336m), which we can climb as a round-trip from here, before descending to the charming Prafleuri hut (2662m).
Vertical ascent: 700m / Vertical descent: 900m

Day 2

Cabane de Prafleuri - Cabane des Dix

We start the day with a short climb to the Col des Roux (2804m) from where we can see the rest of the day's route. A long descending traverse leads us to one end of the Dix lake. From here we climb up via the Pas du Chat (2385m) to the Dix hut (2928m), which is dominated by the Mont Blanc de Cheilon (3869m).
Vertical ascent: 850m / Vertical descent: 400m

Day 3

Cabane des Dix - Cabane des Vignettes

Our days begins with a short descent to reach the Tsena Refien glacier, along which we make our way up to the Pigne d'Arolla (3796m). At around 3600m we might have to use crampons on the 'passage de la Serpentine'. The summit of the Pigne d'Arolla is one of the best viewing points on the Haute Route, with panoramic views across the Alps. This stunning glacier stage concludes with the beautiful descent to the Vignettes hut (3160m).
Vertical ascent: 1000m / Vertical descent: 640m

Day 4

Cabane des Vignettes - Zermatt

Cabane des Vignettes - Zermatt
We start with a short descent to the Mont Collon glacier, which we climb up to reach the Col de l'Evêque (3392m). We next descend the upper Arolla glacier to the Vierge where we put on our skins to reach the foot of the Col du Mont Brulé (3213m), which we climb using crampons. After a short descent, we go to the Col de Valpelline (3554m), which is our last climb. The time has come to commence our descent to Zermatt and probably one of the most beautiful descents in the Alps, passing beneath the Dent d'Hérens (4171m) and the Matterhorn (4478m). We reach Zermatt mid-afternoon.
Vertical ascent: 1130m / Vertical descent: 2730m

GROUP BOOKING

The group formula brings together several people who do not necessarily know each other. For a set programme, it allows you to benefit from an attractive price on fixed dates. This formula is ideal for those looking to enjoy the friendly atmosphere of a group.

Dates
See below for the group booking module

Price 2027
1 180€ per person, based on a minimum of 4 participants
Registration possible from the age of 18.

This price includes
- IFMGA English-speaking mountain guiding service
- Half-board in mountain huts (dinner, breakfast and overnight stay)
- Ski lift access as per programme
- Transfers during the tour
- Rental of a safety kit: avalanche transceiver/DVA, shovel, probe and harness

This price does not include
- Repatriation and cancellation insurance
- Packed lunches and daily snacks
- Personal drinks (we recommend bringing Swiss francs)
- Personal technical equipment
- Transfer back from Zermatt to Verbier (135€ per person)

PRIVATE BOOKING

The private formula reflects the traditional relationship between a guide and their clients. It allows you to be alone or in a private group with a guide who can respond to your specific needs. It is undoubtedly the ideal formula for achieving your objectives, as it guarantees maximum comfort. You are free to choose your departure date (subject to hut availability), and the proposed itinerary can be adjusted according to your specific expectations.

Prices 2027
2 people : 2 305€ per person
3 people : 1 695€ per person
4 people : 1 395€ per person
5 people : 1 210€ per person
6 people : 1 090€ per person

This price includes
- IFMGA English-speaking mountain guiding service
- Half-board in mountain huts (dinner, breakfast and overnight stay)
- Ski lift access as per programme
- Transfers during the tour
- Rental of a safety kit: avalanche transceiver/DVA, shovel, probe and harness

This price does not include
- Repatriation and cancellation insurance
- Packed lunches and daily snacks
- Personal drinks (we recommend bringing Swiss francs)
- Personal technical equipment
- Transfer back from Zermatt to Verbier (135€ per person)

FURTHER INFORMATION

In this section, find all the information about this activity. To prepare your trip effectively, refer to the guides' tips. They share their expertise and recommendations to help you prepare for your trip.

Meeting Point
Meet at 09:00 at the Le Châble (Verbier) gondola ticket office. Once the departure is confirmed, we will share the participants' contact details if you wish to arrange carpooling.
The tour ends in Zermatt. Optional transfer back to Le Châble - Verbier (135€/person).

Itinerary
This is provided as a guideline and may be adjusted according to the group's level and mountain conditions.

Technical Level
Suitable for skiers skilled in off-piste skiing in various snow conditions, with good ski touring experience and the ability to perform kick turns. The terrain features wide slopes with occasional narrow sections and inclines of up to 35°, with mountain passes requiring the use of crampons and an ice axe.

Physical Level
Designed for individuals who regularly engage in endurance activities. Expect a positive elevation gain of up to 1,200 metres per day and 7 to 8 hours of effort each day.

⚠ **This trip is not suitable for splitboarding.** We therefore do not accept splitboarders and recommend our programme in the Argentière area, available in private formula only.

Guiding Policy
4 to 6 people maximum per guide. *Registration possible from the age of 18.*

Accommodation
During the trip: half-board in huts, with no running water. Before & after the trip: benefit from preferential rates with our hotel partners in Chamonix.

⚠ **Documentation**
Participants must have mountain sports insurance with repatriation cover. We strongly recommend that this also includes cancellation cover. You can take out insurance when you sign up. Participants must also carry valid ID.

EQUIPMENT

We recommend that you pay particular attention to the choice of your equipment, as it contributes greatly to the success of your trip. Weight is a key factor; you should always consider the balance between weight and comfort in order to find the best compromise.

Equipment
- A 35L backpack with attachments for skis and an ice axe
- A pair of ski touring skis and boots, *rentable*
- A pair of climbing skins and ski crampons adapted to your skis, *rentable*
- A pair of poles with large baskets, *rentable*
- A pair of lightweight crampons with anti-balling plates and an ice axe, *rentable*
- A safety kit: harness, avalanche transceiver/DVA, shovel, probe (kit provided by your guide *under your responsibility*)
- A helmet suitable for ski touring / mountaineering is recommended

Clothing
- A warm hat
- A sun hat or cap
- A Buff-style neck warmer
- A long-sleeved thermal base layer
- A fleece jacket
- A waterproof jacket with hood (Gore-Tex or equivalent), *rentable*
- A light down jacket
- Thermal leggings
- Trousers suitable for ski touring, *rentable*
- A pair of ski touring socks
- A pair of thin leather or fleece gloves

- A pair of good-quality ski gloves or mittens
- Spare clothing as required

Accessories
- A pair of category 4 sunglasses
- A pair of ski goggles
- A headlamp with spare batteries
- A sleeping bag liner
- A water bottle of at least 1.5 L
- An insulated bottle
- A small personal first-aid kit including sun cream, lip balm, earplugs, blister kit, painkillers and toilet paper
- A waterproof bag containing your ID and Swiss francs

Our Rental Partners
You can rent your equipment at preferential rates from our partner shops: Millet (excluding crampons, ice axes and helmet), Ravanel & Co, Sanglard Sports & Concept Pro Shop

Our Equipment Partners
Millet, Dynastar, Julbo, Grivel & Monnet