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 - TOUR GLACIER

Duration: 3 | Fitness: ▲▲▲△△ | Technique: ▲▲▲▲△ | Price from: 700 €

A SKI TOUR IN THE HEART OF THE MONT BLANC MASSIF

At the northern end of the Mont Blanc massif, the mountains between the villages of Le Tour in France and Trient in Switzerland offer wild and unusual descents accessible from the Tour Glacier. This cleverly designed itinerary explores a lesser-known part of the massif. You will ski successively on the Argentière Glacier, the Tour Glacier, and finally the Bron and Grands glaciers, in a particularly remote area. Throughout the tour, the itinerary offers unusual views of the mountains surrounding the Chamonix Valley and access to slopes renowned for the quality of their snow.

A SKI TOUR AVAILABLE FROM EARLY IN THE SEASON

One of the particular features of this ski tour is that it can be offered **from early in the ski touring season, before the mountain huts are fully open**. We adapt the itinerary and accommodation accordingly: the first night is spent at the Lognan hut, while the second is spent in the unguarded Albert I winter hut, which is equipped with a wood-burning stove. This arrangement provides a genuine winter ski touring experience in mountains that are still relatively quiet.

Once the huts open for the season, the itinerary returns to its classic format, with nights at the Argentière and Albert I huts. The overall journey remains the same throughout the season, with the logistics and some sections adapted according to conditions and hut opening dates. If you only have two days available, our Col du Passon ski tour also links the Argentière Glacier with the Tour Glacier.

ITINERARY

Day 1

We take the Grands Montets lifts to the top of the Bochard gondola (2,766m). A short descending traverse takes us to the Lognan Glacier (2,700m). We then climb via the Col des Rachasses to reach the Rognons Glacier (3,050m). From here, we begin a magnificent descent to the Argentière Glacier (2,550m), where we put our skins on and climb to the Argentière Hut (2,771m). Throughout the ascent, we enjoy spectacular views of the surrounding north faces.
Vertical ascent: 575m / Vertical descent: 750m

Itinerary before mid-March: The ascent to the Col des Rachasses is extended to the Col des Grands Montets (3,225m), and the night at the Argentière Hut is replaced by a night at the Lognan Hut.
Vertical ascent: 525m / Vertical descent: 1,200m

Day 2

We begin with a short descent to the Passon moraine (2,380m). We cross the moraine on foot and may need to use crampons. We then continue the ascent on skis to the foot of the Col du Passon (3,028m), which we reach using crampons. We then ski beneath the north face of the Chardonnet. We put our skins back on to cross the magnificent Tour Glacier towards the Col Supérieur du Tour (3,100m). A gentle descent then takes us down the Tour Glacier towards the Albert I Hut (2,700m), which we reach after a short climb. Overnight at the hut.
Vertical ascent: 800m / Vertical descent: 700m

Itinerary before mid-March: The Passon moraine is reached on touring skis from the Lognan Hut. Overnight at the Albert I winter hut, which is equipped with a wood-burning stove.
Vertical ascent: 1,100m / Vertical descent: 350m

Day 3

From the hut, we climb on skis to the foot of the ridge above it (3,094m), which we cross using crampons. On the other side, we discover the gentle, already sunlit slopes of the Grands Glacier. We enjoy a wild descent alongside the Pointe des Grands and Pointe de Bron to the Combe de la Chaux des Grands (2,400m), at the foot of the Grandes Autannes (2,680m). We reach the summit of the Grandes Autannes with an ascent on skis followed by a final section on foot. We then begin the remarkable descent of the north-facing slopes to Les Herbagères (2,033m). Finally, we climb back to the Col de Balme (2,200m), which gives access to the slopes of the Le Tour-Vallorcine ski area. We follow these down to the village of Le Tour and return to Argentière by public transport in the middle of the afternoon.
Vertical ascent: 850m / Vertical descent: 1,750m

Itinerary before mid-March: The itinerary remains unchanged.

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
700€ 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 the mountain huts for both nights (dinner, breakfast and overnight stay). **Before mid-March, the second night is spent in the unguarded Albert I winter hut**
- Ski lift access as per programme
- Rental of a safety kit: avalanche transceiver/DVA, shovel, probe and harness

This price does not include
- Packed lunches and daily snacks
- Repatriation and cancellation insurance
- Personal drinks
- Personal technical equipment

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 : 1 545€ per person
3 people : 1 120€ per person
4 people : 910€ per person
5 people : 785€ per person
6 people : 700€ per person

This price includes
- IFMGA English-speaking mountain guiding service
- Half-board in the mountain huts for both nights (dinner, breakfast and overnight stay). **Before mid-March, the second night is spent in the unguarded Albert I winter hut**
- Ski lift access as per programme
- Rental of a safety kit: avalanche transceiver/DVA, shovel, probe and harness

This price does not include
- Packed lunches and daily snacks
- Repatriation and cancellation insurance

- Personal drinks
- Personal technical equipment

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 in front of the Grands Montets ticket office in Argentière. Return to Argentière from Le Tour by public transport.

Itinerary
This is provided as a guideline and may be adjusted according to the group's level and mountain conditions. Before mid-March, the itinerary and accommodation are adapted according to hut opening dates.

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 sections requiring the use of crampons.

Physical Level
Designed for individuals who regularly engage in physical activity. Expect a positive elevation gain of up to 1,000 metres per day and 5 to 6 hours of effort each day.

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

Accommodation
During the trip: half-board in mountain huts. Before mid-March, the nights are spent at the Lognan hut and then at the unguarded Albert I winter hut. No drinking water is available at the hut. Before & after the trip: benefit from preferential rates with our hotel

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 and an ice axe, *rentable*
- A helmet suitable for ski touring / mountaineering is recommended
- A safety kit: harness, avalanche transceiver/DVA, shovel, probe (kit provided by your guide *under your responsibility*)

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 euros

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