Compagnie des Guides de Chamonix

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MOUNTAINEERING - AUTONOMY & SAFETY COURSE - LEVEL 2

Duration: 4 | Fitness: ▲▲▲△△ | Technique: ▲▲▲▲△ | Price from: 1 020 €

Our Autonomy & Safety courses are designed to help you achieve independent ascents. A key feature of our courses is the exclusive ratio of 3 to 4 participants per guide, ensuring personalized attention and a program fully tailored to your needs. These courses are ideal for those looking to progress step by step, through a learning process focused on self-reliance. Each course includes at least one night in a mountain hut, allowing you to fully experience the atmosphere and unique moments of exchange.

Our Autonomy & Safety Course - Level 2 focuses on ridge climbing. After two days dedicated to learning multi-pitch and ridge climbing techniques, you will head to the Cosmiques Hut, located in the unique area of the Vallée Blanche. There, you will consolidate your glacier safety skills with crevasse rescue in real conditions and embark on a ridge climb. This program is the logical continuation of our Autonomy & Safety Program - Level 1. Enrollment requires essential prerequisites to ensure optimal skills development: you must master belaying techniques for climbing, including abseiling and leading at a French grade 4c level, have prior training in crevasse rescue, and have independently completed a glacier route of F/PD- level or similar.

Objectives of the Autonomy & Safety Program - Level 2
- Consolidation of glacier safety skills
- Mastery of basic safety techniques for ridge climbing
- Risk management: decision-making tools

ITINERARY

Day 1

Rock Climbing in the Valley
Day at the Gaillands climbing crag. Review of belaying and roping techniques, along with an introduction to multi-pitch route techniques. Overnight in the valley.

Day 2

Brévent Foothills (2 525m)
Introduction to belaying on rocky terrain and progression in short pitches. Placement of cams and use of chocks. Overnight in the valley.

Day 3

Aiguille du Midi (3,842m) | Cosmiques Hut
Consolidation of glacier safety skills with crevasse rescue in real conditions followed by a ridge climb. Overnight stay at the Cosmiques Hut. Examples of completed ascents include: Arête à Laurence (3,613m).

Day 4

Ascent from the Cosmiques Hut
Climb in the Vallée Blanche basin, focused on ridge climbing. Return to the valley in the early afternoon. Examples of completed ascents include the North Ridge of Petit Flambeau (3,440m) and the Pointes Lachenal (3,613m).

GROUP BOOKING

Group session associates several people who don't know each other. It allows for a planned program to benefit from an attractive price on fixed dates. This formula is ideal for people looking for the friendliness of a group.

Dates : See below for the group booking module

Price 2027 : 1020€ per person based on minimum of 3 participants
Registration possible from age 18

Included in the package :
- IFMGA English speaking mountain guiding service
- one half-board to the Cosmiques hut (dinner, breakfast and night)
- lift access as per programme

Not included in the package :
- personal drinks and other personal expenses (we recommend you bring Euros)
- take out lunches and daily snacks
- cost of getting to meeting point
- personal technical equipment including your mountaineering shoes

PRIVATE BOOKING

Private guiding is the historical relationship that binds a guide to his/her client. It allows you to be alone, or in a constituted group, with your guide that meets your specific needs. It is undoubtedly the ideal formula to realize your projects because it guarantees you a maximum of comfort. You are free to choose your departure date and the itinerary can be adjusted, according to your specific expectations.

Prices 2027 :
2 people : 1765€ per person
3 people : 1265€ per person
4 people : 1020€ per person

Included in the package :
- IFMGA English speaking mountain guiding service
- one half-board (dinner, breakfast and night)
- lift access as per programme

Not included in the package :
- personal drinks and other personal expenses (we recommend you bring Euros)
- take out lunches and daily snacks
- cost of getting to meeting point
- personal technical equipment including your mountaineering shoes

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, ensuring you have a great experience.

Meeting point : Meet at 8.30am at the Chamonix Guides Company: 190 place de l'église

Physical level : For people who regularly exercise/take part in sports. Six to seven hours of exercise per day

Technical Level : You should have prior mountaineering experience and aspire to achieve autonomy

Prerequisites : I master belaying techniques for climbing, including abseiling. I lead at a French grade 4c level, I have prior training in crevasse rescue basics, and I have independently completed a glacier route of F/PD- level or similar

Guiding policy : 3 to 4 people. The Compagnie des Guides de Chamonix's guiding policy guarantees the most balanced groups as possible as well as high-quality personalised advice
Registration possible from age 18

Accommodation : One Half-board in hut on Day 3 (Dinner, breakfast & night)

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 take valid ID with them.

EQUIPMENT

We recommend you take particular care over you choice of equipment, as it plays a large role in the success of your trip. Weight is critical, and you must always evaluate the weight-to-comfort ratio to find the best compromise.

Equipment
- 35-litre backpack
- Climbing shoes, *rentable*
- Mountaineering boots, *rentable*
- Gaiters, if needed for your trousers
- Telescopic trekking poles, *rentable*
- Crampons with anti-balling plates; helmet, harness and straight ice axe, *rentable*
- Mandatory technical equipment : 1 double lanyard, 1 directional screwgate carabiner, 1 belay device with a screwgate carabiner, 2 ice screws (13 cm) with straight-gate carabiners, 2 slings (120 cm) with straight-gate carabiners, 1 Micro Traction pulley with a screwgate carabiner, 1 Tibloc device with a screwgate carabiner, and 1 prusik (minimum 50 cm) with a screwgate carabiner, 5 quickdraws, 3 Camalot-type cams (0.3, 0.5, 0.75) with straight-gate carabiners, 1 pearlock screwgate carabiner.

Clothing
- Warm hat that can be worn under a helmet
- Sun hat or cap
- Neck protection such as a 'Buff'
- 'Micro-fibre' style long-sleeve base layer
- Fleece
- 'Gore Tex' style shell jacket with hood, *rentable*
- Down jacket
- Base layer leggings
- Durable summer mountaineering trousers (not ski trousers)
- 'Gore Tex' style over-trousers, *rentable*
- Warm specialist walking socks
- Lightweight specialist walking socks
- Ski gloves or good quality mitts
- Leather or fleece gloves
- Change of clothes at your discretion

Accessories
- Category 4 sunglasses
- Headtorch plus spare batteries
- Sheet sleeping bag
- Water bottle (minimum 1.5l) and thermos bottle
- Personalised first aid kit with a minimum of: sun cream, lip balm, cotton buds, blister kit, antisickness medication
- Watertight bag to contain your ID/passport and Euros

Our Rental Partners : You can rent your equipment with our rental shops partners and benefit from special price Millet (excluding crampons, ice axes and helmet), Sanglard Sports, Ravanel & Co & Concept Pro Shop
Our Equipment Partners : Millet, Dynastar, Julbo, Grivel & Monnet