Compagnie des Guides de Chamonix

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AUTHENTIC HIKING - TOUR OF COMBINS

Duration: 6 | Fitness: ▲▲▲▲▲ | Technique: ▲▲▲▲▲ | Price from: 1 250 €

This trek straddling Switzerland and Italy promises breathtaking panoramas. Immerse yourself in a wild and unspoiled natural environment for a truly unique and unforgettable experience.

Benefit from the expertise of a mountain guide without worrying about logistics. Carry your belongings for the week in your backpack and fully enjoy the mountains. Accommodation is in mountain huts. Nights are spent in dormitories.

ITINERARY

Day 1

Bourg-Saint-Pierre - Refuge de Milles

We set off from Bourg-Saint-Pierre and take the Balcon trail located west of the Petit Combin. We quickly gain altitude to reach the alpine pastures of Creux du Ma. We will have lunch with a view of the Mont Blanc massif and Mont Dolent. In the afternoon, a few short climbs will lead us to the Refuge des Milles, where we will spend the night.
Elevation gain : 1010 m (3,315ft) - Elevation loss : 230 m (755ft) - Distance : 14.2 km (8.7 miles)

Day 2

Cabane de Mille - Cabane de la Panossière

From the Mille hut, we set off to explore the north face of the massif. We descend below the Becca Miezzo to reach the Brunet refuge, where we will have lunch. After lunch, we will climb below the Becca de Sery to reach the Plan Goli. We are now on the foothills of the Corbassière glacier, and we will spend the night at the Panossière hut.
Elevation gain : 930 m (3,050ft)- Elevation loss : 780 m (2,660ft) - Distance : 14.8 km (8.7miles)

Day 3

Cabane de la Panossière - Cabane de Chanrion

This morning we must reach the Col des Otanes at 2,846 meters altitude. The scenery is breathtaking, offering a view of the Rosablanche peak ahead. Soon after, during the descent, we spot Mont Blanc de Cheilon (3,870 meters), which will be our constant companion throughout the day. We descend to the shores of Lake Mauvoisin, where we will have lunch. The afternoon will be dedicated to the ascent to the Chanrion hut, where we will spend the night, facing the Grand Combin.
Elevation gain : 1020 m (3,345ft) - Elevation loss : 1200 m (3940ft) - Distance : 18.4 km (11.2 miles)

Day 4

Cabane de Chanrion - Rifugio de Champillon

We set off for a long day on the southern slopes of the Grand Combin. We'll quickly reach the Durand window (2797m), between Mont Avril and Mont Gelé. We'll then descend to the heights of Ollomont, where we'll have lunch. In the afternoon, we'll climb back up below Mont Chénaille to reach the Champillon refuge where we'll spend the night.
Elevation gain : 1130 m (3710ft) - Elevation loss : 1180 m (3870ft) - Distance : 22 km (13.7 miles)

Day 5

Rifugio Champillon - Saint-Rhémy

We set off from the refuge this morning with the firm intention of crossing the Champillon Pass, which we began climbing yesterday.
From there, the Great St. Bernard Valley in Italy unfolds before us. We will descend the Menouve Valley, then cross over towards Saint-Rhémy, where a taxi will take us to the Great St. Bernard Pass, where we will spend the night.

Elevation gain : 700 m (2,300ft) - Elevation loss : 1450 m (4760 ft) - Distance : 14.4 km (8.7 miles)

Day 6

Hospice du Grand-Saint-Bernard - Val Ferret
We begin our day with a climb to the Fenêtre de Ferret to cross back into Switzerland. From there, the road leads us onto a trail outside the Combins circuit, but one we'd love to share with you: the Swiss Val Ferret. This route, with its countless hanging lakes, will be the perfect companion for the end of our trip. At the bottom of the Val Ferret, a taxi awaits to take us back to Chamonix.
Elevation gain : 340 m (1115ft) - Elevation loss : 910 m (2985ft) - Distance : 7.7 km (4.4 miles)

GROUP BOOKING

The group option brings together participants who may not know each other. For a set program, it offers an attractive price on fixed departure dates. This option is ideal for those who enjoy the friendly atmosphere of a group. Already a group of friends and looking to share a special experience together? Consider the private option!

We have been guiding people in the mountains since 1821

Enjoy the expertise and personal attention of our hiking professionals

Travel in a small group of no more than 12 participants

Dates
See below for the group booking module. T*he trip will be confirmed if the minimum number of participants (5 people) is reached by the trip confirmation date.*

Price 2027
1250 € per person

The price includes
- Trip organization
- Guiding by a qualified hiking guide
- Accommodation: 5 nights in mixed-gender dormitories (shared bathrooms)
- Meals (picnic lunches, dinners and breakfasts) throughout the trip (one set menu for the entire group, excluding special diets and allergies)
- Transfers included in the itinerary

The price does not include
- Personal expenses: souvenirs and drinks
- Any costs resulting from a participant’s personal decision to modify the itinerary or inability to complete a stage (additional transfer or lift, accommodation...)
- Mandatory repatriation insurance and strongly recommended cancellation insurance
- Booking fees
- Anything not listed under “The price includes”

PRIVATE BOOKING

Would you like to hike with family or friends? With the private option, you choose your departure dates, subject to accommodation availability. Together with our advisors, you create a trip tailored to your plans. **Duration, itinerary, level, accommodation and pace**: we help you make the right choices to create a program that suits your group, your preferences and your goals.

You can enjoy a **trip designed around you**, while benefiting from our local knowledge and having all the organization and logistics taken care of.

The price decreases according to the number of participants.

Contact us for a quote.

FURTHER INFORMATION

In this section, find all the information about this activity. For further information, please contact our advisor.

Meeting point
Please meet at 7:30 a.m. on the day of departure at the Compagnie des Guides reception desk in Chamonix. An information meeting is held the day before at 6:00 p.m. at the reception desk, giving you the opportunity to meet your group and finalize the last details with your guide. If you are unable to attend, please let us know.

On the last day, your arrival time depends on the group's pace and conditions. For your return journey, we recommend booking your departure as late as possible that evening or for the following day.

Ability level
4/5 - The Tour des Combins is a challenging hike. It follows generally well-maintained mountain trails, though some sections may be off-trail. A good level of fitness and physical condition are essential. Prior hiking experience is necessary.

Accommodation
5 nights in mountain huts in mixed-gender dormitories. Bathrooms are shared.

⚠ Depending on availability, the planned accommodation may be replaced by accommodation offering an equivalent level of comfort . This may result in additional transfers at the beginning or end of the day.

⚠ Accommodation in Chamonix before and after the trip is not included. You can find the list of our partner hotels in you booking contract.

Meals
Breakfasts, picnic lunches and dinners are included from lunch on the first day through lunch on the last day. Please specify any special dietary requirements or allergies on your registration form.

Transfers and Lifts
The transfers required between certain stages are included.

Luggage
You carry all your belongings throughout the trip.

Itinerary
Distances and elevation figures are provided for information only. The itinerary may be adapted by your guide depending on mountain conditions and the level of the group.

Guiding policy
The trip is led by a qualified hiking guide. The group consists of 5 to 12 participants aged 16 and over. Participants under 18 must be accompanied by a legal guardian.

Documentation
You must have insurance covering search and repatriation costs in all countries visited, as well as a valid form of identification. Cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. We offer combined assistance, repatriation and cancellation insurance, which can be purchased when you register (EU and UK residents only).

For European residents, the European Health Insurance Card is also strongly recommended.

EQUIPMENT

Take special care when choosing your gear to maximize your chances of success. Stick to the essentials to keep your backpack as light as possible. This equipment list is provided to help you pack. It has been tested and approved by our guides. We recommend following it when deciding what to pack in your backpack.

Backpack
- A 40-liter backpack

Clothing
- Breathable long- and short-sleeved T-shirts
- A lightweight fleece jacket
- A warm, lightweight and packable insulated jacket
- A waterproof jacket (e.g. Gore-Tex)
- Hiking pants
- Shorts
- Waterproof pants (e.g. Gore-Tex)

- A change of clothes for the evening

Footwear
- Hiking socks
- A pair of high-cut hiking boots with a good sole
- A pair of lightweight flip-flops for the evening

Protection and hiking accessories
- A pair of telescopic trekking poles
- A rain poncho
- A pair of gloves
- A beanie
- A hat or cap
- A pair of Category 3 sunglasses

Personal equipment and essentials
- At least 2 liters of water (water bottle, hydration bladder… one or more containers of your choice)
- Picnic utensils
- A few small waste bags to carry your waste with you
- A flashlight or headlamp
- A sleeping bag liner
- Sunscreen and lip balm
- A basic toiletry kit: towel, earplugs and toilet paper
- A small personal first-aid kit: Compeed-style blister dressings and medication for common ailments such as diarrhea, constipation, sore throat, headaches, aches and pains, and allergies (your guide carries a first-aid kit)

Documents and money
- A valid form of identification
- Money for personal expenses (euros and Swiss francs)

⚠ **The weather changes quickly in the mountains**
Even in the middle of summer, you may encounter all kinds of weather. Make sure you bring adequate protection against rain and cold.

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