



Compagnie des Guides de Chamonix

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SKI TOURING - GRAN PARADISO

Duration: 3 days

Level: ▲▲▲▲▲

Price from: 520 €

The Gran Paradiso is very well known probably because it is one of the most accessible of the 4000m Alpine peaks. The Madonna on the summit also bears witness to the prominent place the mountain occupies in the Italian psyche, as it is the only 4000m peak entirely in Italy. It is located in the heart of a national park created in 1922 and provides frequent encounters with a rich variety of wildlife, such as chamois and ibex.

The Victor Emmanuel hut is the ideal starting point for the ascent of the Gran Paradiso. It gives access to the wide, low gradient slopes that are perfect for skiing. Only the last 50m require crampons to reach the summit.

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Transfer by minibus from Chamonix to Pont (1960m). We commence our climb to the Victor Emmanuel hut on a steep path through larches. The gradient now eases off and gentle slopes lead to the hut.
Vertical ascent: 770m

Day 2 : We climb the Gran Paradiso in a round-trip from the hut. This allows us to take our time and make the most of the atmosphere here. From the hut a climb over an even gradient leads us to the Gran Paradiso glacier (3200m), then the junction with the Lavaciau glacier (3600m) and finally the foot of the Gran Paradiso (4060m). The final 50m require crampons and rope. We are greeted on the summit by a statue of the Madonna and a breath-taking panorama. Superb descent to the Victor Emmanuel hut.
Vertical ascent: 1350m / Vertical descent: 1350m

Day 3 : We climb up to the base of the northeast arête of Le Ciarforon (2935m), from where reach the Grand Etret glacier via a long descending traverse. We put our skins back on to reach the Col du Grand Etret (3150m) from where we are afforded handsome views of the Southern Alps. We descend the untouched valley of the Grand Etret to rejoin Pont. Transfer to Chamonix, which we reach by mid-afternoon.
Vertical ascent: 550m / Vertical descent: 1300m

This programme is meant as a guide only. Depending on the abilities of the group and the conditions in the mountains, your mountain guide may alter the route.

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 2021 : *From Friday to Sunday*

From March 12* to April 30

* *Validated depending the opening dates of the hut.*

Price 2021 : 575€ per person based on minimum of 4 participants.

Included in the package :

- IFMGA English speaking mountain guiding service
- Half-board in mountain huts (dinner, breakfast and night)
- Ski lift access as per programme
- Transfers as per programme
- Rental of full safety kit (avalanche transceiver/DVA, shovel, probe)

Not included in the package :

- Take out lunches and daily snacks
- Personal drinks in huts and other personal expenses (we recommend you bring Euros)
- Cost of getting to meeting point (Chamonix)
- Personal technical equipment

FURTHER INFORMATION

Meeting point : Meet at 08:30 at the Compagnie des Guides office in Chamonix. Transfer by minibus to the departure point. (Participants may leave personal belongings in our office until the group returns). Return to Chamonix by minibus.

Ability level : An appropriate choice of destination is essential for you to properly enjoy your holiday. To get the most out of your trip we recommend you take regular exercise throughout the year and, where necessary, undertake specific training a few months before you leave. Try to avoid last minute training that can lead to injury. It is important you do not overestimate your abilities and you understand that the weight of your backpack, the altitude and the snow conditions can negatively impact on your normal skiing ability.

Fitness level : For people who regularly exercise/take part in sports and who have a previous ski touring experience. Vertical ascent of up to 1300m per day. Seven to eight hours of exercise per day. Backpack includes mountaineering equipment (crampons and ice axe). Carrying skis. Altitudes of under 4000m.

Technical level : For off-piste skiers making their first forays into ski touring. Wide slopes with short sections of narrow passages (up to 30°). Able to ski in all snow conditions. Some knowledge of basic mountaineering techniques (walking with crampons and ice axe) and kick turns.

Guiding policy : 4 to 5 people maximum per guide. The Compagnie des Guides de Chamonix's guiding policy is one of the strictest in the mountain guiding business. It guarantees the most balanced groups as possible as well as high-quality personalised advice.

Accommodation : During the trip: half-board in huts. Before & after the trip: We have some hotel partners in Chamonix with special prices for our customers.

Documentation : Participants must have mountain sports insurance with repatriation cover. We strongly recommend that this also includes cancellation cover. You can take out insurance offering both of these types of cover when you sign up. Participants must also take valid ID with them.

Preparing for the trip : One week before the trip, the mountain guide will be in contact to answer any questions you may have.

EQUIPMENT

We recommend you to pay particular attention to the choice of your equipment. It contributes greatly to the success of your stay. Weight is decisive: you always have to evaluate the ratio weight/comfort, to find the best compromise. In a general way, it is better to pile up several light coats rather than wear one big clothing.

Equipment

- Comfortable frameless rucksack of 35l on which you could fix your skis & ice-axe
- Ski touring skis & shoes, *rentable*
- Adhesive climbing skins & ski knives adapted to your skis, *rentable*
- A pair of poles with large discs, *rentable*
- A pair of light crampons & an ice-axe, *rentable*
- A security pack including harness, DVA, shovel & probe - this pack will be lend by your guide

Clothing

- Waterproof and windproof, non-insulated parka with hood (Gore-tex or equivalent), *rentable*
- Waterproof and windproof, non-insulated pants, *rentable*
- Thick polar-pile fleece jacket or equivalent
- A light down jacket
- 1 long-sleeve shirt
- Medium weight thermal underwear (top + bottoms, silk or polypro, double as pyjamas)
- Warm ski socks
- Warm ski hat and light sun hat with brim
- Warm ski gloves or mittens
- A pair of adjusted gloves (in leather or fleece)
- Neck protection
- Spare thermal underwear (for sleeping and change)

Accessories

- High-altitude sunglasses (grade 4 is recommended)
- A goggle
- 1.5 quart water bottle
- An isotherm bottle
- A mini toilet bag including: sun block for face and lips, aspirin, elastoplast, 2nd skin kit, earplug, toilet paper
- A headlamp with spare batteries
- A cotton or silk sleeping sheet: compulsory in every hut. - Hut provide blankets, slippers or clogs
- A plastic bag contains your ID card & Euros for extras

Partners : You can rent your equipment with our rental shops partners and benefit from special price [Sanglard Sports & Ravanel & Co](#)

A 10€ discount voucher coming from the shop [Au Vieux Campeur](#) will be given to the first 500 clients from the 'Cie des Guides' (voucher to be collected at our office). Closest shop 'Au Vieux Campeur' : Sallanches.

PRIVATE BOOKING

Private hiring 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 (depending on the availability of the huts) and the itinerary can be adjusted, according to your specific expectations.

Prices 2021 :

- 2 persons : 1050€ per person
- 3 persons : 755€ per person
- 4 persons : 610€ per person
- 5 persons : 520€ per person

These prices include the same conditions as mentioned above.

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