# BORNES MASSIF self-guided

In the footsteps of the Resistance

Reference · 298

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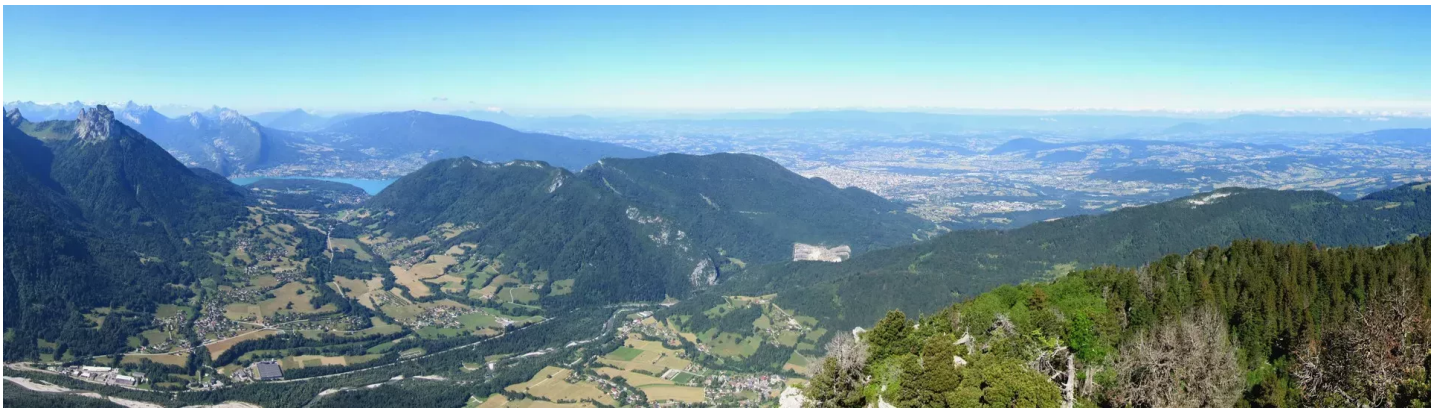

| DURATION | TRAVEL STYLE | LUGGAGE |
|---|---|---|
| **4 days** | **Self-guided** | **Without luggage transfer** |

| ACCOMMODATION | LEVEL | FROM |
|---|---|---|
| **Classic (dormitory)** | **2/4 ★★☆☆** | **355 €** |

In 1943, during the Second World War, France established the Compulsory Work Service (STO). Almost immediately, resistance groups known as "maquis" began forming across the country to oppose and evade the STO. Remote and hard-to-reach locations were needed to shelter and hide the résistants. The Plateau des Glières became one of these iconic sites, thanks to its geography: close to Annecy, surrounded by steep cliffs, and dotted with alpine farms. Many resistance fighters decided to take refuge there during the winter of 1943–1944. In March 1944, the end of the maquis unfortunately came with violent battles, which are still commemorated today.

Nestled in the heart of Reblochon country and offering breathtaking views of Lake Annecy and Mont Blanc, it is now a prime destination for hiking. The final night of the trip is spent at the perched Parmelan refuge, where you'll enjoy a panoramic view stretching all the way to the Jura mountains. A perfect getaway for an extended weekend in the Haute-Savoie mountains!

## You will love

- A mountain range that has preserved its authentic alpine spirit
- A land shaped by history
- A landscape alternating between alpine pastures and remote forests
- Stunning views over Lake Annecy and Mont Blanc

# Day-by-day itinerary

## DAY 1

**Departure from the Chesnet car park Pont-de-Pierre, starting of the "pas du roc" trail. (Thorens-Glières)**
**Meet at La Roche-sur-Foron railway station for a short taxi transfer if arriving by train.**

### PAS DU ROC - PLATEAU DES GLIERES

The hike begins with the famous Pas du Roc, lined with information panels about the local resistance, and then reaches Champ-Laitier, overlooked by Sous-Dine Mountain, which has witnessed many battles. We cross Frêtes Mountain to reach the iconic site of the Savoyard resistance, the Glières Plateau. The motto “live free or die” echoes through the valley, dominated by the large white memorial.

*3h30 walk  / Distance : 8km / Dénivelé : +700 m ; -250 m*
*7h walk / Distance : 16km / +1000 m : -250 m*

## DAY 2

### MONTAGNE DES AUGES

Hike through the forests steeped in history on the Glières plateau to the Auges chalets, where you can enjoy magnificent views of the Aravis, Mont Blanc, and the Jura. This is an alpine pasture near Montiévray, the place that sealed the fate of the Resistance fighters on March 26, 1944. Return via the GR de Pays Massif de Tournette et Aravis trail, passing by the Notre-Dame des Neiges chapel. Second night on the Glières plateau, resting place of Tom Morel, leader of the Haute-Savoie Resistance.

*7h walk / Distance : 18km / Dénivelé : +600m ; -600 m*

## DAY 3

### COMBE D’ABLON – REFUGE DU PARMELAN

A long day in the heart of the massif's lapiaz through the Plateau des Glières, the Combe d'Ablon, the Vallée du Pertuis and finally the Plateau du Parmelan, which offers the best views of Annecy and its lake. Overnight in a dormitory at the refuge, on a promontory above the valley.

*6h walk / Distance : 16km / Dénivelé : +950 m ; -500 m*

**DAY 4**

**NAVES PARMELAN – LAC D'ANNECY**

Descent via the Grand Montoir, a steep but well-equipped passage through the cliffs (with the option of avoiding it via the Petit Montoir a little further on) through the forest to Nâves-Parmelan, site of the last Maquis battle in the massif.

*3.30 walk / Distance : 6km / Dénivelé : +50 m ; -1150 m*

*7.30 walk / Distance : 18km / Dénivelé : +280 m ; -1650 m walking down to Annecy*

**Transfer to Annecy or back to the departure's point.**

# Dates and prices

## DEPARTURE AND PRICE

Departure on thursday and friday, from the 13th of May to the 30th of september 2027.

**Without luggage transfer, in classic accommodation**
**For 2 persons : €420** per person
From 3 to 4 persons : **€390** per person
From 5 to 6 persons : **€355** per person
Departure for single travelers : **+€95**

**Information and booking available by phone or email**

## THE PRICE

The price includes:

- Accommodation with half board from dinner the first evening to breakfast the last day;
- The transfer from La Roche-sur-Foron to the starting point of the hike on the first day;
- The transfer from Nâves-Parmelan to Annecy on the last day;
- One printed roadbook provided per group of 1 to 4 people, plus a digital version available for each participant to download; additional printed copies available on request.
- Tourist taxes;
- Organisation and booking fees.

The price does not include:

- Picnic lunches;
- Guiding : your are responsible for your own safety;
- Personal expenses, drinks, touristic visits, etc;
- Cancellation insurance.

**The price is all inclusive from departure to end point.**

# The journey

## LEVEL ***

Elevation: +/- 500m - 1000m approximately per day.
Walking time: 4 to 6 hours per day.
Type of trek: mountain hike on marked trails including gravel paths.

You have to be in a general good fitness level. Please practice a cardio sport such as hiking, running, cycling, from 3 to 4 hours a week.
Your physical preparation will enable you to enjoy your trek to the maximum.
Please find the description of the levels by clicking here: levels of difficulty

The roadbook provides sufficient information on the itinerary of your hike. However, it is essential to be able to read an 1:25,000 map and to be sufficiently autonomous in the mountains to be able to tackle the itinerary with confidence, whatever the weather (fog, snow, etc.). You will be crossing areas with no telephone network. For your own safety, you may wish to bring along a radio or the latest generation telephone with a satellite connection.

## ROAD BOOK

Before departure, we send you a travel folder containing:
- 2 IGN TOP 25 with the route highlighted.
- 1 road-book containing all the information necessary for the trek.
- 1 waterproof map holder.
- Accommodation list.

## TRAIL MARKING

All the paths are well-marked, a part of the trek takes the GR9. You must know how to read a topographical map at 1/25000.

## LUGAGGE TRANSFER

**Without luggage transfer:** you carry all your luggage

## ACCOMMODATION

3 nights in dormitory accommodation in mountain refuges (no showers at the Parmelan refuge).

## MEALS

Breakfast and dinner are provided in each accommodation. Picnics are not included and can be pre-ordered at each accomodation in the evening. Please inform us about your food allergies and special diets **at the time of booking**. We do our best to accommodate special diets (gluten-free, vegetarian, etc.). However, we encourage you to bring some additional products for your own picnics.

## PERSONALISED TOURS

We can personalise a tour according to your requirements (number of days, participants, level of route, accommodation, etc.)

## MAPS

IGN Top 25 - 3431OT Lac d'Annecy et 3430ET La Clusaz

# Practical information

## ACCESS TO DEPARTURE POINT

**Departure from the Chesnet car park Pont-de-Pierre, starting of the "pas du roc" trail. (Thorens-Glières)**
Taxi transfer possible to the departure, from La Roche Sur Foron railway station.

BY TRAIN
Direct TGV from Paris to Annecy or Annemasse then TER to La Roche Sur Foron.
Local trains (TER) from Grenoble, Lyon...
*Timetables must be checked on* www.oui.sncf

BY CAR
Take the A410 motorway from Annecy or Annemasse to exit 19. Take the direction of La Roche-sur-Foron, then Thorens-Glières.
You can park at the Pont de Pierre car park (the starting point of the trail).

CAR-SHARING
Get in touch with people to share a lift! www.blablacar.fr www.roulezmalin.com

CLOSEST AIRPORTS
**Geneva (GVA)**
**Lyon (LYS)**

**End point in the afternoon at Nâves-Parmelan.**

## RETURN TO DEPARTURE POINT

**Transfer by taxi to the departure point or to Annecy train station.**

## ACCOMMODATION BEFORE AND AFTER

Annecy hébergements

## TO CONTACT US

If you are late please contact the agency as soon as possible on: **+33 (0)4 50 79 09 16 or +33 (0)6 42 49 76 07**

# Equipment and luggage

## EQUIPMENT LIST

### Clothing

- Walking trousers
- Shorts (Bikini/swimsuit, just in case!)
- Breathable or merino wool t-shirts
- Breathable or merino wool leggings
- Fleece or jumper
- Lightweight down jacket
- Wind stopper or Goretex jacket
- Waterproof poncho + gaiters or Goretex trousers + waterproof rucksack cover
- Pair of gloves and a warm hat
- Sun hat or baseball cap
- Walking socks (1 pair per day)
- Sturdy walking boots with a good sole, already broken in
- 1 change of clothes for the evening
- A pair of comfortable shoes for the evening

### Other Equipment

- Toilet bag
- Quick drying towel
- Sunglasses and sun cream
- Water bottle or Camelback (1.5 litre minimum)
- Knife, fork and spoon
- Plastic lunch box/plate for your picnic lunches (0.40L to 0.50L)
- Plastic cup for coffee
- Small First Aid kit (antihistamine, ibuprofen, Compeed type blister pads...)
- Survival blanket
- Head torch or hand torch
- Sleeping bag liner sheet and pillowcase (blankets provided at accommodation)
- Two adjustable walking poles (highly recommended)
- Identity card or passport

## BACKPACK

Bring a comfortable backpack of 40 to 50 litres for your personal belongings for the day (including warm clothes, waterproofs, water, plate and cutlery for your picnic, sunscreen and your identity papers) and please keep a little room to carry a picnic and snacks.

# Details

## HOW TO REGISTER

- By internet: www.altitude-montblanc.com

- By telephone: +33 (0)4 50 79 09 16

- By post: Please provide your details

- Surname, First Name, Date of birth
- Address
- Email
- Telephone
- Mobile

If you wish to register by post, please complete the form below and return it to:

Altitude Mont-Blanc
62 Passage du Nant Devant
74110 MONTRIOND
FRANCE

Please specify whether you wish to take out an optional cancellation insurance (4.2% of the tour price).

On receipt of your registration we will email an invoice (per couple) with a request for a deposit of 30% in association with your account details at Altitude Mont-Blanc
('My Account'). Payment can be made by credit card, bank transfer or by cheque. On receipt of your deposit you will receive a registration confirmation.
The balance must be paid one month before departure without a reminder from us.
For self-guided tours, we will then send your tour pack (includes maps, descriptive book etc.)

Our terms and conditions of sale can be found on our website.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

# Postal booking form

Complete this form and return it with your deposit.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Last name** | |
| **First name** | |
| **Birth date** | |
| **Address** | |
| **Phone** | |
| **Mobile phone** | |
| **Email** | |
| **Requested trip** | **BORNES MASSIF self-guided** |
| **Number of days** | **4** |
| **Insurance** | |
| **Trip price** | **355 €** |
| **Estimated deposit (30%)** | **106,50 €** |
| **Signed in** | |
| **Date** | |
| **Signature** | |

**Return with your deposit to**

Altitude Montblanc, 62 Passage du Nant Devant, 74110 Montriond

+33 (0)4 50 79 09 16 · info@altitude-montblanc.com