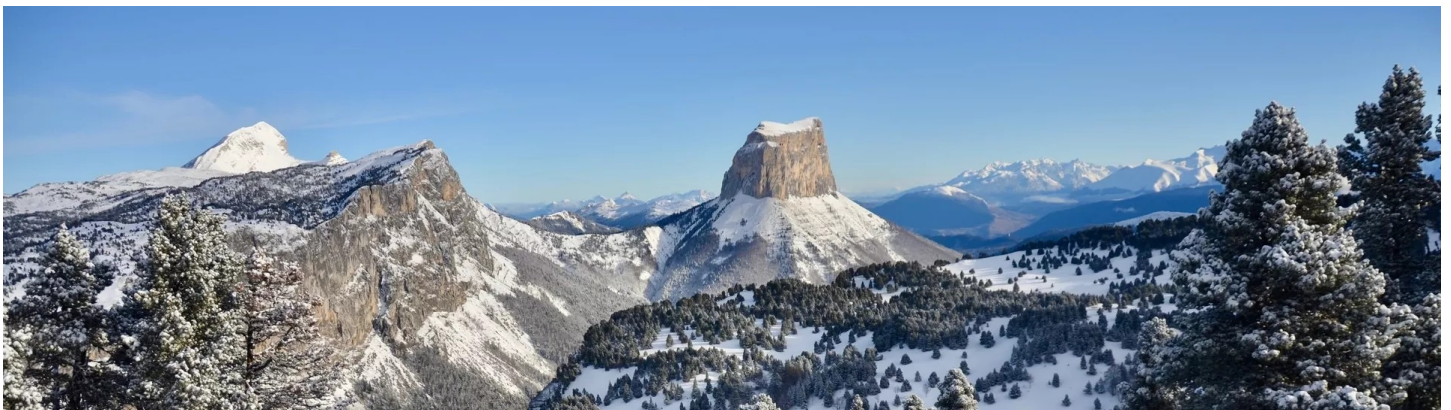




SNOWSHOEING IN THE HIGHLANDS OF VERCORS

Huts and pulkas under the sun of the Vercors



In the heart of the Vercors Regional Natural Park, explore the wild area of the Vercors Highlands. Perched at an average altitude of 1600 m, this reserve, the largest in metropolitan France, is a formidable playground for those who want to go on an adventure in complete safety.

The snow is exceptional all winter, the relief is mild which allows you to navigate in total serenity in a preserved natural space, in the heart of nature.

You will make your own trace, from refuge to refuge, in an environment perfectly adapted to the practice of snowshoeing. Your guide will always be at your side to guide you through these vast white and wild places for a long weekend.

This route is ideal for those who want to prepare for the great Nordic raids of the Scandinavian countries or simply to enjoy good times in the largest natural reserve in France.

 4 Days

 Guided / with a guide

 Without baggage transportation

 Accommodation : Refuge

 Level : ***

 From : 475€

You will like

- Hike safely in the largest nature reserve in France
- Refuges located in exceptional settings
- An ideal terrain to prepare for major Nordic raids

The route

Day 1

Meeting at 2pm on the first day at your accommodation in Rousset en Vercors.

ROUSSET EN VERCORS

You guide welcomes you at your accommodation in Rousset en Vercors, at the foot of the nature reserve of the Vercors highlands. Check of your equipment, snowshoes, pulkas, bags. First short walk to test the equipment.

Dinner and night in a cosy accommodation at Rousset en Vercors.

1 to 2 hours walk / 3 to 5 km / Elevation: +150m -150m

Day 2

HIGHLANDS OF VERCORS - REFUGE OF PRÉ GRANDU

Departure for the high plateaux of the Vercors with pulkas and snowshoes to the Pré Grandu refuge. We settle into this refuge, which has been well equipped by the ONF and reserved just for us. We spend the afternoon making our igloos (not far from the refuge). Let's live the unforgettable experience of a day in the shoes of an Inuit! Depending on the conditions, we may be able to set off from the Col de Rousset. Dinner and overnight at the Pré Grandu ONF hut on the high plateaux. You'll carry some of your gear, along with the pulkas, as most of the food has already been transported to the hut.

3 hours walk / Elevation: +400m

Day 3

THE HIGHLANDS OF VERCORS

A beautiful walk beneath the Grand Veymont (highest peak in the Vercors: 2341m), in the heart of France's largest nature reserve: exceptional scenery. On the way back, igloos can be perfected if required. Dinner and overnight at the Pré Grandu ONF refuge.

5 hours walk / Elevation: +250m, 150m

Day 4

PRÉ GRANDU - ROUSSET EN VERCORS

Nice descent via the Coche to the village of Rousset. On the way back, we'll have a snack at the gîte where we stayed on the 1st day.

2h30 hours walk / Elevation: -400m

End of the trek in the middle of the afternoon.

Snow cover in the mid-range mountains is sometimes unpredictable. You are first and foremost hikers, so in the event of a lack of snow on certain parts of the itinerary, we will still ensure the departure of our tours. Remember to bring walking shoes.

We may sometimes have to make slight changes to the itinerary indicated, either due to organisational reasons (overcrowding of accommodation, groups being split, changes in the state of the terrain, etc.) or directly due to the guide (weather conditions, level of the group). Trust us, these changes are always made in your interest, for your safety and greater comfort.

The trip

LEVEL ***

Elevation: +/- 400m approximately per day.

Walking time: 4 to 6 hours per day.

Type of trek: this tour is not technically difficult and is open to children from 12 years. You need to be in good physical condition and have some hiking experience.

This trip is organised in collaboration with our local partners, who share our commitment to offering you an authentic holiday.

GUIDING

From 6 participants and limited to 13. French mountain leader, state-qualified and specialised in snowshoeing.

ACCOMODATION

3 nights in a dormitory

First night in a gîte in Rousset in Vercors, then two nights in unguarded refuges.

In these unguarded, rustic, but warm refuges, the toilets are outside in Pré Grandu, in nature in Chaumailoux, and you have to melt the snow or transport water to make yourself a meal and possibly make a bit of toilet! Wipes are also a good compromise. Solidarity among all members of the group is a guarantee of success. When we get to the huts, we have to make a fire (the wood is on site) to warm up, but the hut is quite small and very quickly hot.

MEALS

Breakfast, dinner, lunch picnic and snacks included.

In the gîte in Rousset-en-Vercors, the group is in half board; in the refuges not guarded, the dinner is made by the group and the guide. Help is always welcome. For lunch, your guide prepares a picnic, usually consisting of a variety of salads and regional products.

Please let us know if you have any allergies or dietary requirements **at the time of booking**.

We do our best to accommodate special diets (gluten-free, vegetarian, etc.). However, we encourage you to bring a few extra items for your own picnics.

TRANSFERS

Transfer in your own vehicle to the start of the trail at the Beure car park.

THE IGLOO IN A NUTSHELL...

Building an igloo requires a bit of technique, which your guide will be happy to teach you! An igloo for 3 or 4 people can be built in around 3 hours. Once built, a simple candle transforms the place into a cathedral of light... why not spend the night?

Don't worry, we have a well-equipped hut nearby that you can use if you don't fancy a night in the igloo.

You'll also learn an incredibly effective safety technique in a hostile environment that you'll never forget!

If the snow conditions aren't good enough to build an igloo, we'll opt for a snowshoe walk on the high plateaux.

MAPS

Practical information

ACCESS TO DEPARTURE POINT

Meeting at 2 pm on the first day at your accomodation in Rousset en Vercors.

BY CAR

Access by Valence then Die.

From Die, drive to the Col de Rousset.

Special equipment (snow tires, snow chains or socks, etc.) are mandatory from 1 November. Practice putting them on before you leave.

You leave your car in the Beure car park or at the Col du Rousset on day 2. You can collect it at the end of your stay.

BY TRAIN

Train station in Die then taxi. Check the timetable on the [SNCF](https://www.sncf.com) website

CLOSEST AIRPORTS

Lyon (LYS) 2h by car to Rousset en Vercors

End point at 4pm at the parking of Beure or at le Col de Rousset.

CONTACT US

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

Dates & prices

Optional/

- Transfer to from Die Station on J1 and back on J4 to the accommodation (3 participants minimum and 7 max): 80€/person

THE PRICE

The price includes:

- Organisation and booking fees, guiding by a qualified and insured mountain leader;
- All meals including picnic lunches and simple snacks during the day;
- Accommodation in gîtes and refuges, including the tourist tax;
- The equipment rental (snowshoes, poles). **Must be specified at the time of enrolment;**
- Lending pulkas to carry your luggage.

The price does not include:

- Personal expenses (drinks, etc.) ;
- Touristic visits ;
- Cancellation insurance ;
- Your return journey from home to departure/end point.

The price is all inclusive from departure to end point.

Equipment and luggage

EQUIPMENT LIST

Clothing

- Waterproof ski or winter walking trousers
- Wind stopper or Goretex jacket
- Breathable or merino wool t-shirts
- Breathable or merino wool leggings
- Fleece or jumper
- Insulating down jacket
- 2 pairs of ski gloves and a warm hat
- Walking socks (1 pair per day)
- Sturdy waterproof walking boots

Snowshoeing equipment

- Snowshoeing in good condition
- Two snowshoeing (or ski) poles

Other Equipment

- **A warm sleeping bag** but not too big (think you will carry it); both refuges are heated by the wood stove, but it can be cool in the early morning
- Rucksack 30-40 liters capacity
- Towels and toilet paper
- Sunglasses and ski mask
- Sun cream
- Water bottle and Camelback (1.5 litre minimum)
- Knife and spoon
- Plastic lunch box/plate for your picnic lunches
- Plastic cup for coffee
- Small First Aid kit (antihistamine, ibuprofen, Compeed type blister pads...)
- A flashlight or headlamp
- Candle, matches or lighter
- Survival blanket
- Identity card or passport

LUGGAGE TRANSPORT

You carry your belongings in pulkas (Scandinavian sledges) and drawn by the participants; we plan a pulka for 2 to 4 people to draw alternately. The pulka slides over the snow and requires less effort than wearing a loaded backpack. The weight of personal belongings in the pulkas must not exceed 8 kg per person.

You also carry your backpack (30 liters max) in which you will have your belongings of the day (a warm garment, a rain cape, a canteen, box and cutlery for the picnic, sun protection and identity papers) and some room to carry a picnic.

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 (inc. 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.



Registration by mail form

Last name:

First name:

Date of birth:

Address:

Phone number:

Mobile phone number:

Email address:

Requested tour:

Number of days:

Insurance:

Price:

x 30% =

Deposit

Locality where signed:

Date

Signature:

Return with your deposit to:

Altitude Mont-Blanc, 62 Passage du Nant Devant, 74110 Montriond, FRANCE