

# LAKES AND HIGH PASSES OF VANOISE self-guided

6 days at the heart of France's first National Park




First of its kind in France, Vanoise National Park was established in 1963. A vast territory where flora, fauna and rocky mineral world are all preserved. Between Maurienne and Tarentaise valleys, its borders meet Gran Paradiso massif in Italy, forming the largest nature reserve in Europe. At the centre of this mountain range lays the icecap of Dômes de la Vanoise, extending over twenty kilometres.

This journey, at the heart of the park, takes a path via high mountain passes which connects Aussois, Pralognan and Haute Maurienne. Trails at high altitude in a fragile mineral world, the vast mountain pastures of Vanoise and the dry-stone buildings punctuate this beautiful journey.

 6 Days

 Self-guided / without guide

 Without baggage transportation

 Accommodation : Classic (dormitory)

 Level : \*\*\*

 From : 595€

## You will like

- The wild and protected area of the first National Park in France
- A route over high mountain passes along glacier of Dômes de la Vanoise
- A great variety of landscapes between Maurienne and Tarentaise
- Stages at Pralognan and Bonneval-sur-arc villages
- Accommodation in gites, refuges and small friendly hotels

# The route

## Day 1

Departure of the hike at Orgere refuge.

### **REFUGE DE L'ORGÈRE - CHAVIERE PASS - PECLET-POLSET REFUGE**

From Orgere refuge, ascent to the Chaviere pass, entrance to the heart of the Vanoise National parc. The path goes across green pastures and rocky landscapes to the gorgeous refuge of Peclet Polset. Night in refuge.

4.30 hour walk / Elevation: +950m ; -400m / 9km

## Day 2

### **SOUFFRE PASS - PRALOGNAN LA VANOISE**

From the refuge, the path goes near the sumptuous "Lac Blanc" before rising towards the Souffre pass behind which is the large Gibroullaz glacier. Descent by the same path before going along the large valley of Chavière to reach Pralognan la Vanoise, capital of hiking. Possibility to shorten the stage from Les Prioux, with a bus or a taxi. Night in hotel / gite.

7 hour walk / Elevation: +500m ; -1550m / 18km

## Day 3

### **VANOISE PASS - PLAN DU LAC REFUGE**

Short transfer possible to "Les Fontanettes". Climb to Vanoise pass (2517m). Amazing view over the "Aiguille de la Vanoise" and the "Grande Casse" (3855m), highest point of the mountain range. Going to "Lac des Vaches" and its famous ford, and then Long lake and Rond lake. Arriving in Leisse valley and Plan du Lac refuge. View over the "Dômes de la Vanoise". Night in refuge.

7.5 hour walk / Elevation: +1550m -570m / 18km

## Day 4

### **ROCHEURE LAKE - FOND DES FOURS REFUGE**

Departure towards Rocheure valley, climb up to the lake and to the mountain pass at 2900m high. Cross the desert and wild Méan Martin high glacial plateau to reach Fond des Fours refuge, at the the foot of the north face.

7 hour walk / Elevation: +950 m ; -780 m / 18km

## Day 5

### **COL DES FOURS - BONNEVAL SUR ARC**

Climb to Col des Fours (2976m), then descend to Pont de la Neige below Iseran mountain pass. Cross mountain pastures to arrive at the very pretty Bonneval-sur-Arc village. Option to shorten the stage by walking directly to the village (10km, +450m-1150m, 4.30 walk). Night in a gite.

6.5 hour walk / Elevation: +780 m ; -1500 m / 15km

## Day 6

### **L'ÉCOT - EVETTES VALLEY**

Last day in the upper Arc valley. Climb up the Vallon des Evettes to the refuge, passing through the pretty village of l'Ecot (listed village) and, conditions permitting, through the gorges of La Reculaz.

6 hour walk / Elevation: +/- 820m / 14km

End of the tour around 15:30 and bus transfer.

*The itinerary is established according to the latest information available, unknown factors and situations beyond our control can affect this itinerary and may change the route, timings etc.*

Personalised tour available, contact us...

# The trip

## LEVEL \*\*\*

Elevation: +/- 900m approximately per day.

Walking time: 5 to 7 hours per day.

Type of trek: mountain hike on marked trails including gravel paths.

You need to be in a good overall physical condition. Regularly practise an endurance sport such as walking, running, swimming or cycling, 3 to 4 hours a week. Your fitness training will make your walk easier and make it all the more enjoyable. Click here for a description of the different levels: [levels of difficulty](#)

Le roadbook fournit les informations nécessaires pour effectuer votre randonnée.. Il reste cependant indispensable de savoir maîtriser la lecture de carte au 1:25'000 et d'être suffisamment autonome en montagne pour pouvoir aborder l'itinéraire sereinement, quelle que soit la météo (brouillard, neige,...). L'encadrement par un professionnel n'est pas inclus dans le forfait liberté.

Vous risquez de traverser des zones blanches, sans réseau téléphonique. Pour votre sécurité, vous pouvez vous munir d'une radio ou d'un téléphone de dernière génération permettant de communiquer via un satellite.

Please note: some névés will be present on the paths until the end of June, particularly on the North slopes. High mountain boots, gaiters and walking poles are essential. Be prepared!

## ROAD BOOK

Before departure, we send you a travel folder containing:

- IGN maps with the route highlighted.
- 1 road-book containing all the necessary information for the trek.
- 1 waterproof map holder.
- Accommodation list.

## ACCOMMODATION

CLASSIC: 4 nights in dormitory, in refuge ; 1 night in a room of 2/3 people in hotel or gîte.

Accommodation offer hot showers except Fond des Fours refuge. However, due to increasingly recurrent periods of drought, access to showers is not guaranteed.

## LUGGAGE TRANSFER

There are 2 options:

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

**With luggage transfer:** your luggage is delivered to your accommodation on days 2, 3 and 5.

## MEALS

Breakfasts and dinners are provided in each accommodation. Picnics are not included and can be pre-ordered in each accommodation in the evening (except day 1). Possibility to buy picnic supplies in small local shops.

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.

## MAPS

IGN maps 1:25000 : Tignes-Val d'Isère 3633ET, Les Trois Vallées 3534OT.



# Practical information

## ACCESS TO DEPARTURE POINT

**Departure of the hike from the refuge-Porte de l'Orgère.**

### BY TRAIN

Arrival at Modane train station and then bus or taxi transfer to Orgère. Timetables must be checked on the [SNCF website](#).

### BY CAR

Take the A6 motorway to Lyon, then the A43 direction Chambéry and Modane. At Modane follow Aussois direction via the D215. Free parking next to the tourist office.

### CAR-SHARING

Get in touch with people to share a lift ! <https://www.blablacar.fr/> <https://www.laroueverte.com/>  
<https://www.roulezmalin.com/>

**At the end of the tour, bus transfer to Aussois or Modane arriving at 15:30.**

## ACCOMMODATION BEFORE AND AFTER

Tourist Office Aussois: +33 (0)4 79 20 30 80 [www.aussois.com](http://www.aussois.com)

## 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**

# Dates & prices

## DEPARTURE AND PRICES

Departure from June 22 to September 07, 2025

### **Without luggage transfer**

**595€** per person, classic accommodation

Single departure : **80€**

### **With luggage transfer (on nights 2, 3 and 5)**

**2 persons : 1045€** per person

**3 persons : 900€** per person

**4 persons : 830€** per person

**5 persons : 795€** per person

**6 persons : 770€** per person

## THE PRICE

### Includes:

- Accommodation with half board and tourist tax;
- 1 road book file (paper) for a group of 1 to 4 people and the digital version to download for each participant; additional paper road book on request ;
- Organisation and booking fees.

### Does not include:

- Lunch picnic ;
- Shower tokens ;
- Guiding : you are responsible for your own safety ;
- Personal expenses (drinks, visits, etc.) ;
- Travel insurance ;
- Your return journey from home to the point of departure/end point.

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

# 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
- Wind stopper or Goretex jacket
- Lightweight down 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 (0,4 ~ 0,5L)
- 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 (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.

## LEAVE ON YOUR OWN FOR 2 OR 3 DAYS AND MORE

In the 'weight is the enemy' section, here are some tips on how to save a few hundred grams. For example, for your toiletries: a simple plastic bag with a zip or a small plastic box to avoid accidental crushing.

- Hotel-size soap is generally enough for a week.
- A tube of toothpaste 3/4 full will do the trick
- Shaving foam: a small sample can
- A small microfibre towel
- A small bottle of shampoo
- A travel toothbrush

Pharmacy: in addition to your personal medicines, bring:

- Elastoplast or hook-and-loop tape
- "Second skin" tape to protect against blisters, such as Compeed
- A small pair of scissors, thread and needle
- A small tube of sun cream and lip balm



Now all you have to do is apply this recipe to your entire bag!

# Details

## HOW TO REGISTER

- By internet: <http://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.

## 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