

# Walking Trails of Chamonix

Trip Code: MBW

Version:



WALK & TREK



GUIDED GROUP



MODERATE



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Take the stunning cable car up to the Aiguille du Midi on the Mont Blanc massif
- Walk beautiful sections of the famous 'Tour du Mont Blanc'
- Explore the mountain town of Chamonix and relax in open-air cafés
- Fantastic centre based hotel accommodation in Chamonix

## AT A GLANCE

- 5 days walking
- Max altitude 3842m
- Join at Chamonix

## ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

# Introduction

At the heart of the European Alps, the massif of Mont Blanc includes some of the most spectacular mountain scenery imaginable. Walkers are spoiled for choice in this part of the world and we have devised a truly wonderful week of walks amongst the superlative scenery of the Mont Blanc Massif, but with no big ascents, descents or technical terrain these can be easily enjoyed by the casual weekend walker, with glorious views of Mont Blanc itself (4807m), the highest peak in Western Europe.

Witness the majesty of the Mer de Glace, the famous views of Mont Blanc from Lac du Brevent, the breathtaking cable car ride up to the Aiguille du Midi and walk along the 'Grand Balcon Nord' (giving unbeatable views but using uplifts to save the knees!), relax at lunch time in vast alpine meadows and stop off at a number of picturesque hamlets and villages - all whilst learning of the history and traditions of the area from an expert guide. At the height of the summer, the trails are also coloured by an abundance of wildflowers and alpine wildlife species, including chamois, marmot and the iconic ibex. After all of this, relax each evening in the wonderful hotel accommodation - sit back with a glass of wine in hand and unbeatable mountain views all around.

## Is this holiday for you?

This holiday is a series of day walks along mountain trails and footpaths. The walks themselves are on good trails and generally each day's walk will be around 3 - 5 hours allowing plenty of time for sightseeing, photography and scenic lunch stops. All of the days are optional as the holiday is centre based. Our accommodation each night is Chamonix, so gives plenty of opportunity to explore Chamonix itself.

# Itinerary

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Version:

## Holiday Information

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### What's Included

- An experienced professional leader
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- All cable car lifts which are part of the itinerary
- Mountain railway and valley transport (not airport transfers)
- Museum entry in Chamonix

### What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Tips for local staff
- Airport transfers
- Some meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Miscellaneous personal expenses

## Joining Arrangements & Transfers

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### TRAVEL TO YOUR DESTINATION

In some cases you may choose to take a ferry and/or train to your holiday start and end destination. Please see further information on [Travelling by Train](#).

If flying from the UK there are low cost airlines available to the start and from the end of your holiday.

To benefit from full financial protection, ease your holiday planning, and avoid dealing with airlines, we can book scheduled flights from the UK as part of a flight inclusive package. Scheduled flights are usually more expensive than low cost alternatives, however potentially less stressful if your flight is cancelled or delayed. If you book flights through KE Adventure Travel we will [offset the carbon of your flight](#).

You should arrange to meet the group at the Aiguille du Midi Hotel, Chamonix on Day 1. The welcome meeting will be at approximately 19:00 followed by the evening meal, so you should aim to be there for this time.

For clients arriving by air, the easiest way to get to Chamonix is to fly to Geneva Airport and make use of an airport transfer service. We recommend Mountaindropoffs. Transfers are available from around 27 Euros per person each way. ENTER PROMO CODE YETI.

Please note that transfers are subject to availability and your flight details are required a minimum of 72 hours before your arrival in Geneva. Please find more information here:  
<http://www.mountaindropoffs.com/en/home/>

### Meal Plan

All breakfasts and five dinners are included in the price of this holiday.

### Food & Water

Water from the taps is perfectly drinkable on this holiday - please use this to fill your personal bottles for your daily activities. We do not encourage the purchase of single-use plastic bottles.

As might be expected, the food available in restaurants and hotels in France is excellent. Breakfasts at the hotel include cereal, bread, croissants, yoghurt with juice, tea and coffee. The evening meals included are all also taken at the hotel, where you will be treated to fantastic 2 course meals each evening; if you would like to purchase some wine with your meal do just ask the staff. On day 4 the evening is left free as there are many wonderful restaurants in Chamonix to try. Lunches can easily be purchased from the lovely bakeries in town or along the route each day from a mountain hut, your guide will let you know each day which is the best option.

### Accommodation

During this trip, the group will spend 6 nights at the Aiguille du Midi hotel in Chamonix. This is a short walk to the centre of Chamonix and boasts a heated swimming pool. Accommodation is on a twin share basis, single rooms are available at an additional cost.

## **Group Leader & Support Staff**

Tracks and trails to provide local leader

## **Altitude**

The altitudes on this holiday are not extreme and the maximum altitude attained is no more than the equivalent of a pressurised cabin on an international flight. You may 'feel' the altitude the first time you trek above 2000 metres but all that is required is a slower pace to compensate. You should pay particular attention to your hydration levels while trekking above 2000 metres.

## **Spending Money**

The package price includes all accommodation, guiding and all breakfasts and 5 dinners. You should make an allowance for additional snacks, drinks etc. Beer, wine and soft drinks are available every night. We estimate that approximately 300 - 350 Euros should adequately cover typical personal spending requirements.

## **Baggage Allowance**

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage (you should be able to comfortably carry / move this bag yourself) and a daypack (of around 30 litres). Luggage with wheels is useful for this holiday. For international flights please check your baggage allowance with your airline.

## **Group Size & Holiday Status**

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in the 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

# General Information

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## Passport & Visas

### Europe

Your passport must meet 2 requirements. It must be:

- less than 10 years old on the day you enter (check the 'date of issue')
- valid for at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave (check the 'expiry date')

For the latest details on visiting countries within the EU or the European Economic Area (EEA), please check the UK Government website

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

**It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday.** Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

## Health & Vaccinations

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

## Vaccinations

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you require any specific vaccinations.

## GHIC / Medical cover

UK residents should carry a free Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC). This entitles you to state provided medical treatment when you're visiting an EU country or Switzerland. This is not a substitute for medical travel insurance which is vital when travelling overseas.

## Currency

The currency for part or all of this holiday is the Euro.

The unit of currency in Switzerland is the Swiss Franc.

## Climate

The temperatures that we can expect to encounter during the day will be reasonably warm, ranging from 15°C to 25°C. The weather is usually stable during the summer months, but mountainous areas do generate their own weather systems and occasional rain and even stormy weather cannot be ruled out. You should be prepared for all eventualities!

## Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at [travelaware.campaign.gov.uk](http://travelaware.campaign.gov.uk) and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

## Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

## Maps

IGN Chamonix-Mont-Blanc - Massif du Mont-Blanc IGN 3630OT 1:25000

## Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

# Equipment Information

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## Equipment List

The following checklist should help you with your packing. As a general rule, you should always try to keep the weight of your equipment to a minimum.

### You should bring the following items:

- Hiking boots
- Socks
- Trekking trousers
- Waterproof overtrousers
- Underwear/Baselayer shirts (1 short sleeve, 1 long sleeve)
- Fleece jacket or warm jumper
- Waterproof jacket
- Thermal gloves
- Warm and waterproof gloves or mittens
- Sunhat
- Warm hat
- Sunglasses
- Daypack 30 litres should be sufficient
- Headtorch and spare batteries
- Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)
- Water bottles 1 litre (x2) (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Washbag and toiletries
- Antibacterial hand wash
- Basic First Aid Kit including: antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium), painkillers, plasters and blister treatment.

### The following items are optional:

- Travel shoes / Trainers
- Spare laces
- Shorts
- Shirts (e.g. T-shirts)
- Swimwear (sauna/hot tub may be available)
- Trekking poles
- Insect repellent
- Camera
- Travel clothes
- Repair kit - (eg. needle, thread, duct tape)
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

## Cotswold Outdoor



Many of the equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive a 12.5% discount with Cotswold Outdoor, Snow+Rock and Runners Need. The discount code can be downloaded from your MyKE account and you can use this code at the checkout, either in store or online.

## Land Only Information

We sell this holiday on a Land Only basis, joining at the group accommodation in the Chamonix Valley. The nearest airport is Geneva, approximately an hour's drive away. Please refer to the 'Joining arrangements & transfers' for further details.

Flights SHOULD NOT be booked until you have received your booking confirmation and the departure is showing 'Guaranteed to Run' or 'Limited'.

If you would prefer to book a 'flight inclusive package' using scheduled airlines from the UK please contact our flights department for a quote. Whilst flight prices are likely to be more expensive you will benefit from full financial protection.

# Why Choose KE

## Why KE

With expert local knowledge, we have created a holiday filled with the walks, views, places and things to do that we love, and that we think really show off this simply stunning area. Our wonderful expert guides are also extremely enthusiastic and knowledgeable about the area. We've also included the cost of all uplifts and cable cars - so you don't need to worry about this extra expense.

**Please Note** This document was downloaded on 24/11/2024 and the trip is subject to change