

The Best of Mont Blanc Scenic Hiking • Mountain Culture • Exquisite Food • Alpine Huts



Trip at a Glance

Start: Chamonix, France (Nearby airport: Geneva, Switzerland – GVA)
End: Geneva, Switzerland (Airport: Geneva, Switzerland – GVA)
Duration: 9 days (8 nights)
Accommodation: 2 nights in alpine huts, 6 nights in hotels or rentals
Transportation on trip: Public transit, private transfers, and hiking!
Physical Challenge: Medium/High



Chamonix, France – Days 0 to 2 Mountain culture, glacier views, and small town charm

Itinerary and activities:

- **Day 0 (Friday):** You'll fly overnight to Europe; most flights to Geneva depart the U.S. after dinner and arrive mid-morning.
- **Day 1 (Saturday):** Welcome to Europe! You'll land in Geneva, Switzerland this morning and take a transfer to Chamonix – soak in your first views on the drive in. After you settle into your hotel, take a walk around town before grabbing dinner. Try not to trip on the cobblestone streets as you admire at the glaciers high above town.
- Day 2 (Sunday): You have the day to explore Chamonix. Options include going for a day hike that starts on the valley floor, grabbing a gondola to start a hike from a higher elevation, riding the world's tallest <u>cable car to the Aiguille du Midi</u>, or relaxing with a croissant at a historic café.

Accommodation: Friday night will be spent on the plane. For Saturday and Sunday night, you'll stay in a hotel, hostel, or rental in Chamonix.



Logistics: On Saturday, you'll shuttle from Geneva (GVA) to Chamonix.

Days 3 to 5

Sample the Tour du Mont Blanc – Days 3 to 5 Famous trails, mountain vistas, and idyllic alpine huts

Itinerary and activities:

- Day 3 (Monday): Today you'll start hiking part of the Tour du Mont Blanc (TMB)! We suggest taking a quick bus from Chamonix to Les Houches (the starting point of the TMB), then riding the Bellevue Cable Car up to start your hike, or, for a shorter hike, catching a train to befin in Les Contamines. Regardless, you'll wrap up at the <u>Tré la Tête refuge</u>; a charming refuge that is much less crowded than most on the TMB.
- **Day 4 (Tuesday):** Today's hike starts by descending to rejoin the main TMB trail in the valley floor. Then, it's a long, rewarding, climb up to the Col du Bonhmme and <u>Croix du Bonhomme hut</u>.
- Day 5 (Wednesday): Today starts with a quick climb up to the Col des Fours and then a long descent to Refuge des Mottets. Stop for a quick coffee if you'd like, then power up the main climb of today summiting the Col de la Seigne and crossing the Italian border. From the border, it's a long descent to a smooth walk along Val Veny where you'll grab a bus to Courmayeur!

Accommodation: For days 3 and 4 you'll be staying in alpine huts along the trail (see above). Day 5 ends in Courmayeur – you'll stay in a hotel or rental downtown that night and the next.

Logistics: Getting to each night's accommodation depends on completing each hike. Our team will follow up to discuss route options and training to ensure you are prepared for three stunning days of hiking.



Courmayeur, Italy: Delicious food and jaw-dropping hikes

Itinerary and activities:

 Day 6 (Thursday): Sleep in if you'd like! After enjoying an Italian breakfast (and a cappuccino or two), you'll have the day to explore Courmayeur – the birthplace of Italy's famous climbing and skiing culture, and a world-renown destination for hikers, skiers, and climbers. Consider taking the bus into Val Ferret and then hiking up to <u>Refugio Bonatti</u> for lunch, or leaving right from town and tackling the tough climb up to <u>Refugio Bertone</u>. Or, if you'd like a day off your feet, do some shopping and check out the <u>Mountain Guide Museum</u>.

Accommodation: You'll spend tonight in the same hotel or rental in Courmayeur as the previous night.

Logistics: There is a great bus system in the summer in Courmayeur. Visit the visitor center, check out the town's website, or ask your hotel front desk to learn more about the bus – it's the ideal way to get around town, and to get out of Courmayeur to explore nearby.



Days 7 to 9

Geneva, Switzerland: History, fine dining, and lakeside relaxation

Itinerary and activities:

- Day 7 (Friday): This morning will be spent transferring from Courmayeur to Geneva (you'll go through the tunnel under Mont Blanc!). Once you reach Geneva, settle into your hotel, take a walk to get oriented and start absorbing the city, and then grab dinner at one of the city's superb restaurants.
- Day 8 (Saturday): You'll have the day to explore the city! There are great museums (check out <u>MAMCO</u> for modern art or take a <u>tour of the UN</u>) and world-class shopping at every turn (try the traffic-free Rue du Marché). Or, if you'd like a change of pace, consider getting out on Lake Geneva by renting a paddleboard or taking a boat tour.
- Day 9 (Sunday): You'll fly back to the U.S. today most flights from Geneva to the U.S. depart in the morning, European time, and land on the east coast mid-afternoon. As you wave goodbye to the Alps from your plane window, start thinking about where you'll adventure next!

Accommodation: You'll stay in a hotel, hostel, or rental in Geneva. While there are lots amazing accommodations in Geneva, one great place to look is on the left bank of the Rhone, in the quieter Old Town.



Logistics: On Friday, you'll transfer from Courmayeur to Geneva.

What's included in each of our two Trip Planning service packages

Creation & Curation

- → Adventure-seekers looking for inspiration and logistical guidance
- Experienced adventurers seeking trip planning support and location-specific insights
- → Initial information gathering survey
- → Private pre-planning video call
- → Initial Trip Itinerary shared for review
- → Private itinerary feedback video call
- → Final Trip Itinerary shared for review
- → Ongoing pre-trip support and advice
- → Custom-planned Trip Itinerary
- → In-depth Trip Plan document
 - Detailed explanation of itinerary (key points of interest, suggested activities, and game-changing local knowledge)
 - Trip-specific supplemental info. (e.g. packing list, GPX route files, etc.)

Note: This sample Trip Plan demonstrates the outcome of the "Creation & Curation" package

Adventure Concierge

- ➔ Individuals seeking a fully planned and arranged, custom adventure trip
- Travelers who desire assistance managing reservations, daily activity planning, and all other trip details
- → All steps of "Creation & Curation" service package
- → Additional private video call before finalizing Trip Itinerary, for review of all accommodations, transportation, and activities prior to booking
- → All features of "Creation & Curation" service package
- → All accommodation, transportation, and activity reservations
- ➔ Pre-trip and on-trip support via email, phone, and text message
- → Unlimited additional guidance and advice, as requested

The Process

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The Outcome