Snowshoe Traverse of the Chablais

Trip Code: STC

Version:

WINTER	GUIDED GROUP	MODERATE
		6



HIGHLIGHTS

- Snowshoeing in France with hidden valleys and pristine snow conditions
- Stay in traditional Alpine villages in the Chablais Alps
- Small group sizes and fully qualified expert leaders
- Easy access from Geneva and luggage transfer included - Carry only a lightweight daypack

AT A GLANCE

- 6 days snowshoeing
- Max Altitude 1620m
- Join at Geneva, Ends in Evian Les Bains

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE

Introduction

Snowshoeing is growing in popularity as more and more people catch on to this easy to learn, low-impact way to access the beautiful pristine landscapes of a winter-transformed alpine forest or high pasture and even to climb easy peaks. The Traverse of the Chablais is a special journey through the mountains of the Haute Savoie between the French village of Megevette in the valley of the Arve in the west, to the shores of Lake Geneva in the east. The Chablais area is renowned for its marvellous snowshoeing country and many of the high points we cross on this route offer impressive views of the Mont Blanc range.

At the end of each day's snowshoeing, we arrive at our hotel in one of the pretty little alpine villages of the Chablais, where our luggage will be waiting. After a hot shower and change we will be ready to enjoy the evening and taste some superb regional cuisine. Requiring no previous experience of snowshoeing and with snow shoes, ski poles and other items of specialist equipment provided, this is the perfect winter wonderland holiday.

Is this holiday for you?

This week point-point guided snowshoeing is designed to appeal to regular mountain walkers who are used to dealing with all kinds of mountain weather.

You can expect to be in the mountains for a full day, and be comfortable dealing with ascents/descents of up to 1000m. You should also be prepared to occasionally do a longer day. You should be used to walking in the mountains on consecutive days without requiring a ‘rest day’. We will walk on trails, but we may also have sections or days when the trail is not well defined and we will be creating our own track. If there is fresh snow you can expect to help with trail breaking.

We expect you to be used to dealing with winter weather and are not put off by a day when it is snowing, windy and the temperatures are low. You should be used to managing your comfort levels and be able to be self-sufficient when it comes to keeping yourself warm and dry. Expect to be out on the mountain for up to 6-7 hrs per day.

The itinerary will be flexible and during the week the guide will use their expertise and local knowledge to determine the best routes to take advantage of prevailing snow conditions and the group's abilities. A suggested itinerary for the week is given below, but it may be subject to change. If snow conditions do not permit snow-shoeing on any of the routes, the group will follow an alternative winter hiking itinerary.

Itinerary

Version:

Holiday Information

What's Included

- The services of a profesional qualified International Mountain Leader
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as detailed in the Meal Plan
- Baggage transfers between each night's accommodation
- All road transfers required by the itinerary (Not airport transfers)
- All snowshoe equipment and safety equipment

What's not Included

- Airport transfers
- Some meals as detailed in the Meal Plan
- Miscellaneous spending - drinks etc.

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

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.

The group will rendezvous at a pre-arranged meeting point in Geneva Airport. Within the Land Only price of the holiday we have arranged for a single timed transfer from Geneva Airport to the group hotel in the small village of Megevette, north of the town of Saint Jeoire in France (approximately 1 hour drive from Geneva Airport). This transfer will depart Geneva Airport at around 17.30 so you should book flights which allow you to comfortably meet this transfer. It is also possible to join the group in Megevette. The most convenient airport is Geneva and from here it is possible to take a train to Cluses (50 minutes) and a taxi from there to Megevette. The holiday ends in Evian-les-Bains on the shores of Lake Geneva. The easiest way to return to Geneva Airport is to take the morning ferry across the lake and then catch the train from there direct to the airport. A wonderful way to end the holiday! Full joining instructions together with contact and location details of the group hotel and an emergency telephone number, are provided with your booking confirmation.

Meal Plan

All breakfasts and dinners are included in the holiday price. Packed lunches can be ordered at your overnight accommodation (in preparation for Day One, you may wish to bring some muesli bars, chocolate and snacks with you). We suggest you allow 10 Euros per day for your lunches.

Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide for special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your meals with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

Food & Water

When in the towns and villages all tap water is drinkable. In mountain huts there is usually not a sustainable drinking water supply. Water in plastic bottles is brought in to the hut. All huts have a recycling point. If you have to purchase water in plastic bottles please buy the largest bottle you can so as to use less plastic. Please take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a Water-To-Go bottle) to treat your water if you can fill from a local stream. Bottled water is not provided. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles. Local authorities are working to find solutions to using plastic water bottles in huts. We monitor the situation carefully for updates.

As to be expected, the food available in guest houses and hotels in France is excellent. Continental breakfasts and evening meals are provided by our accommodation.

Accommodation

During the holiday the group will spend 7 nights in simple (2 star equivalent) hotels and guest houses. All accommodation is based on twin share and if you are travelling alone you will be paired with another independent traveller of the same sex. Single rooms may be available on request and will incur a supplementary cost.

Where possible we use family run establishments with a reputation for hospitality and food. The Traverse of the Chablais is a point-to-point trip, travelling from one tiny village to another, where there are very few, and sometimes no, alternative options for our overnights. We do not use mountain huts where you will be in dormitories, but we do have to use two basic hotels. However, they do have private bedrooms, and you will have private en suite facilities. On occasions when the accommodation is already fully booked we may have to spend two nights in one location, but will still snowshoe the route from point-to-point.

Group Leader & Support Staff

The group will be led by a qualified, English-speaking International Mountain Leader.

Altitude

This holiday does not involve any significant ascent to altitude and we would not expect any altitude issues with this trip.

Spending Money

We estimate that 200 - 250 Euros should be sufficient to cover all personal expenses including your non included meals, snacks and a reasonable amount of drinks including wine with your meals. There are cash point facilities in Megevette and in most of the places we stop on the route. If you intend to purchase items of equipment, you should budget accordingly (credit cards can be useful in this respect).

Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. For international flights please check your baggage allowance with your airline.

You will only need to carry a daysack on the ski days and your main baggage will be transferred every day between accommodation points. Luggage will be mainly transported in cars and small vans so we would ask that you keep both size and weight of luggage to a respectable limit of around 12 kg (and only one bag per person). It is worth noting that you will be required to carry your own bag up and down from your accommodation every day; luggage with wheels can be useful for this holiday.

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

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.

For other nationalities, please refer to your own Government website for the latest information.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates *(see Health & Vaccinations below),* **and visas for your holiday.** Please ensure that you check the FCDO for the latest advice for **each country visited** before travel.

Health & Vaccinations

Vaccinations:

You should be up to date with the routine vaccinations recommended in the UK for overseas travel.

You must also contact your doctor or travel clinic to check if there are specific vaccinations or other preventive measures that you need for the area you are visiting, in good time before you are due to depart.

Please ensure you are looking at the recommendations for all countries visited on your holiday plus recommendations for any borders you cross.

On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dental check-up.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates.

Please check the FCDO and Travel Health Pro. For all of your intended destinations for up-to-date advice.

Severe Allergies:

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.

Currency

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

Preparing for your Holiday

It makes a lot of sense to spend some time before coming on an active holiday getting some additional exercise. The fitter you are, after all, the more enjoyable you will find the experience. While regular hiking is the best preparation for this holiday, a weekly exercise plan (running, cycling, swimming etc.) is good for developing cardio-vascular fitness. Before setting off we recommend that you make time to fit in several long walks in hilly country. It is not necessary to have any previous experience of snow shoeing as the techniques required are simple and easy to learn.

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 and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. All other nationalities should check their government websites for relevant information.

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.

Books

- Walking in the Haute Savoie: North. by Janette Norton. Cicerone Guides

Maps

IGN 1:25K maps

For this holiday you will need two sheets: 3528ET and 3429ET

Private Groups Information

Make this KE Adventure holiday your own!

- Do our normal group departure dates not fit?
- Would you prefer to travel with just friends and/or family?
- Are you looking to organise a trip for your local walking, biking or mountaineering club?

It's really easy to make a trip your own. Simply select from our full range of adventure holidays and choose the dates that work for you and your group.

We are experts in creating holidays for groups of friends, families, charities and clubs. Our personal service means you'll be fully involved as we make the arrangements for your perfect adventure holiday.

Independence with Security

Travelling as a KE Private Group allows you more flexibility and choice, but still with the peace of mind that everything is pre-planned and arranged for your group by a reputable adventure travel company.

To take your first step to an amazing adventure with your friends and family complete the private group enquiry form, or call our **Sales Experts on: 017687 73966**

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.

Explore International

This holiday is part of our Explore International range. Participants on these trips can book through KE or through our international partner. This helps us to gather together sufficient numbers of like-minded adventurers to get your holiday up and running quickly. Led by an English-speaking guide, the cosmopolitan nature of these groups can be an important part of the experience!

Equipment Information

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 must bring the following items:

- Hiking boots (must be waterproof)
- Gaiters
- Trainers (for valley use)
- Socks
- Walking socks (2 or 3 pairs)
- Trekking trousers
- Lightweight waterproof overtrousers
- Underwear
- Thermal baselayer - leggings
- Thermal baselayer shirts
- T-shirts and/or casual shirts
- Fleece jacket or warm jumper
- Waterproof jacket
- Warm jacket (eg. down)
- Daypack of approximately 30 litres capacity (you need to be able to securely attach your snow shoes to your daypack if required)
- Water bottles 1 Litre (x2) (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)

- Water purification tablets
- Warm and waterproof gloves or mittens
- Fleece hat
- Sunglasses with side protection
- Ski goggles
- Headtorch and spare batteries
- Washbag and toiletries
- Antibacterial handwash
- Sunhat
- Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)
- Basic First Aid Kit including plasters, pain killers, and blister treatment.

The following items are optional:

- Spare laces
- Earplugs (particularly if you are not the one snoring!)
- Waterproof liner for your daypack
- Thermos flask
- Camera
- Travel clothes
- Swimming costume

- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

The following Items are provided

- Snow shoes
- Ski poles
- Avalanche probe
- Snow shovel
- Avalanche transceiver

Please note you will be liable for any damage caused to the specialist equipment due to negligence.

If you wish to take your own ski poles, make sure that they have snow baskets fitted.

Land Only Information

Please refer to the 'Joining Arrangements & Transfers' within Holiday Information for further details.

Flights and other transport to your destination should not be booked until you have received your booking confirmation and the departure is showing 'Guaranteed to Run' or 'Limited'.

Land Only Information

The dates above are for the LAND ONLY itinerary, joining at the group hotel in Megevette, near Saint Jeoire. The nearest airport is Geneva. 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 flying from the UK there are a number of low cost airlines offering flights to Geneva. These include Easyjet who have flights from London, Manchester, Liverpool & Glasgow and Jet 2 who have flights from Manchester, Leeds Bradford, Birmingham & Belfast. Other airports may be available.

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

This snowshoe holiday will take you to some of the least visited, yet exceptionally beautiful, regions of the Alps.

Please Note This document was downloaded on 22/11/2026 and the trip is subject to change