



CLOUD 9 ADVENTURE



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## Family Tour du Mont Blanc

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This "mini" TMB is a fantastic family adventure. A chance to hike in 3 countries (France, Switzerland & Italy), sampling the local cuisine on the way. The scenery is outstanding and if we are lucky we may encounter wild ibex, chamois and marmots en-route.

We stay in comfortable hotels and a lovely chalet in the Chamonix valley. One of the highlights of the trip is a night spent in the Walter Bonatti mountain refuge, high up in the mountains over looking the Italian side of the Mont Blanc massif.

All luggage is transported for you so this is a great introduction to multi-day hiking.

## TRIP SUMMARY

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### — **Arrive in the Chamonix Valley**

Arrive in Argentière - Argentière

Option: Airport transfer from Geneva

### — **Walk to the famous Lac Blanc**

Trek to the Lac Blanc

### — **Walk Argentière to Trient**

Hike from Argentière to Trient - Trient

### — **Walk Trient to Champex via the Bovine Trail**

Hike from Trient to Champex via Bovine - Champex-Lac

### — **Walk Champex to La Fouly (Optional Rest Day)**

Trek from Champex to La Fouly (or optional rest day) - La Fouly

### — **Walk La Fouly to Bonatti Hut via Grand Col Ferret (2537m)**

Trek from La Fouly to the Bonatti hut - Rifugio Alpino Walter Bonatti

### — **Bonatti Hut to Courmayeur via Mont de la Saxe - Transfer to Argentiere**

Courmayeur

Transfer Courmayeur to Chamonix

### — **Departure Day**

Option: Airport transfer to Geneva

## ARRIVE IN THE CHAMONIX VALLEY

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### Arrive in Argentière

The group chalet is situated in Argentière in the Chamonix valley. The chalet has a great view over the Mont Blanc massif and its impressive glaciers. Tonight you will have chance to meet your guide for the week.

Meals included: Dinner

Accommodation: Chalet



#### Argentière

Chamonix, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, FR, 74400



Arrival

### Option: Airport transfer from Geneva

We can organise an airport transfer for you if needed.

## WALK TO THE FAMOUS LAC BLANC

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### Trek to the Lac Blanc

We start our trip with one of the most famous walks in the Chamonix valley - the Lac Blanc. We use the Flégère cable car to take some of the work out of the height gain. From the cable car we follow a well-established path and climb up to the Lac Blanc. This is a spectacular walk with amazing views over to Mont Blanc, the Aiguille Vert, the Drus, the Argentière glacier and the Mer de Glace. The majority of today's walk is through the Aiguilles Rouges Nature reserve, home to ibex, chamois and marmots.

At the Lac Blanc there is chance to stop for coffee & cake at the refuge before we return via a different route to the Flégère cable car and back to the chalet.

Ascent: +240m

Descent: -750m

Distance: 8km

Walking time: 3-4 hours

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Chalet



## WALK ARGENTIÈRE TO TRIENT

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### Hike from Argentière to Trient

Today we say "au revoir" to France and head to Switzerland. From the chalet we walk along the Petit Balcon Nord and up to the Col de Balme where we cross the border into Switzerland. There is the option to use the cable car to take you from Le Tour up towards the Col de Balme in order to shorten the climb to the col (payable locally).

We have lunch at the col where we have our last view over the Chamonix Valley, before descending to Trient and our auberge for the night.

Ascent: +450m

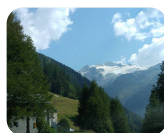
Descent: -920m

Distance: 10km

Walking Time: 4-5 hours

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodation: Auberge



**Trient**  
Trient, VALAIS, CH

## WALK TRIENT TO CHAMPEX VIA THE BOVINE TRAIL

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### Hike from Trient to Champex via Bovine

Today we walk along the historic "Bovine" route, famous for its Swiss fighting cows. We stop for lunch at a traditional working cow farm en-route. The views today over the Rhone Valley and the Grand Combin. The wild flowers in this section are also very beautiful.

After lunch we head to Champex-Lac, a beautiful Swiss village located next to a lake.

Ascent: +1150m

Descent: -1000m

Distance: 15km

Walking time: 6-8 hours

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



### Champex-Lac

Orsières, Valais, CH, 1938

## WALK CHAMPEX TO LA FOULY (OPTIONAL REST DAY)

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### Trek from Champex to La Fouly (or optional rest day)

We start our day with a tour of the lake, before heading into the forest to begin our descent to the valley floor along the "mushroom trail". We follow the river along the Val Ferret, passing through small chocolate-box hamlets towards the small village of La Fouly and our last night in Switzerland.

For tired legs there is an option to stay in Champex enjoying the lake before travelling to La Fouly by bus (around 90 minutes: please note that this transfer is not included in the price of the trip)

Ascent: +700m

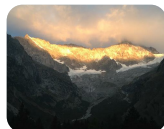
Descent: -430m

Distance: 14km

Walking time: 5 hours

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



**La Fouly**

Orsières, VALAIS, CH, 1944

## WALK LA FOULY TO BONATTI HUT VIA GRAND COL FERRET (2537M)

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### Trek from La Fouly to the Bonatti hut

We have a big day today as we say "au revoir" to Switzerland and "buongiorno!" to Italy and tackle the highest pass on the Tour du Mont Blanc: the Grand Col Ferret (2537m). Leaving La Fouly we follow the path to the end of the valley and begin our ascent. We break our climb on the way up and stop for coffee and cake at La Peule, a traditional dairy farm. We then continue on to reach the Grand Col Ferret. There are fantastic views over to the Grand Combin (4090m) behind you, and the rugged snow capped peaks of the Grande Jorasses and Mont Blanc in front of you. After a picnic lunch we descend to Arnava and another refreshment stop. From here we have our last climb of the trip, up to the balcony path that will take us to the Bonatti Hut (2056m). The hut has absolutely fantastic views of the Mont Blanc massif and its glaciers. The food at the hut is fantastic and hot showers are available.

Due to the location of the refuge there will be no access to your luggage today, so you will need to carry a few extra items with you.

Ascent: +1230m

Descent: -770M

Distance: 16km

Walking time: 5-6 hours

Accommodation: Mountain hut

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



### Rifugio Alpino Walter Bonatti

Courmayeur, Valle d'Aosta, IT, 11013  
0165 185 5523

## BONATTI HUT TO COURMAYEUR VIA MONT DE LA SAXE - TRANSFER TO ARGENTIERE

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Our final day is much easier than yesterday, but with equally stunning views. We start by continuing with our balcony trail directly opposite Mont Blanc. After a while we have a choice: if we're feeling strong and the weather is good, we can ascend over the Col Sapin (2436m) or the Tête de la Tronche (2584m) then onto the Mont de la Saxe ridge. Or we can stay on our balcony trail. Either way, we stop at the Bertone Refuge for refreshments before tackling our steep descent to Courmayeur. We should have time for a well-deserved ice cream and a look around Courmayeur before our transfer back to Chamonix.

Ascent: +250m

Descent: -900m

Distance: 11km

Walking time: 5 hours



Accommodation: Chalet

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



**Courmayeur**

Aosta, IT, 11013



Departure

### Transfer Courmayeur to Chamonix

We then meet our private transfer which takes us through the Mont Blanc tunnel back to chalet in Argentière.

## DEPARTURE DAY

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The trip ends after breakfast.

Meals included: Breakfast



Arrival

### Option: Airport transfer to Geneva

We can organise an airport transfer if needed.

## TRIP INFORMATION & DOCUMENTS

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### What's Included

- Qualified International Mountain Leader
- Transport as per the itinerary
- All accommodation as described
- All meals as per the itinerary
- All cable car lifts which are part of the itinerary
- Luggage transportation



### What's Not Included

- Travel Insurance
- Airport Transfers (we can help arranged these if needed)
- Transport and cable cars which are not part of the itinerary For example if you

opt to take a rest day between Champex and La Fouly you will need to pay for the local bus

- Personal drinks and snacks



### **Minimum Age**

This trip is suitable for children aged 10 and above. The distance walked each day is between 9-16km with daily ascents of around 500 metres and up to 1200m on two days. Therefore you need to ensure that younger members of your family will be comfortable walking these distances and that they already have experience spending full days in the mountains.