

Alps Mont Blanc Family Adventure

9 Days



The Adventure Company | EST. 1969

MT-SOBEK

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

Alps Mont Blanc Family ▶ Adventure

The Tour du Mont Blanc is one of the world's most iconic loop trails and what better way to experience it than with your family! Follow ancient paths - once trodden by the Celts and Romans - through France, Switzerland and Italy. Along the way, pass through the idyllic meadows of Contamines-Montjoie Nature Preserve, summit the Col de Bonhomme, look out for eagles and fuzzy marmots, and enjoy the thrills of riding mountain cable cars and crossing suspension bridges. Feel at ease every step of the way as you follow expert mountain guides, who are attuned to the needs of family hikers - and will help build memories to last a lifetime.

Details

Arrive: Geneva, Switzerland

Depart: Geneva, Switzerland

Duration: 9 Days

Group Size: 4-14 Guests

Minimum Age: 13 Years Old

Activity Level:

Testimonials

"Great experience every time with some of the most knowledgeable guides in their fields. We always come home with wonderful memories of the people we meet and things we see."

Bob J.

"MT Sobek took care of everything for our extended family vacation. Not a hiccup in the planning, the itinerary, the lodging or the guide. Everything in life should be so easy."

Kathy J.

Why Take This Trip With Us?

REASON #01

This exciting family version of our classic Tour Du Mont Blanc adventure is perfect for families with kids aged 13 years and up.

REASON #02

Professional MT Sobek guides are the best in the Alps, experienced for their indispensable knowledge and ability to attune to the needs of family hikers.

REASON #03

No one knows the Alps like MT Sobek, with four decades of experience leading trips here and a regular following of Alps-loving guests.

What to Expect



ACTIVITIES

Strenuous hiking on mountain trails covering 5-10 miles per day with maximum elevation gain of 3,300'. Exploration of scenic mountain towns.



LODGING

Charming accommodations in alpine towns and villages, featuring comfortable rooms, on-site restaurants, and stellar vistas of surrounding scenery.



CLIMATI

The days can change from hot to cold and wet. Snow is even possible at the high passes.

Come prepared for everything.

Meet Our Guides

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips' success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

Beatrice is a native of Chamonix, France, and has been guiding professionally in the Alps since 1989. She comes from a family of mountain climbers and her grandfather was also a professional mountain guide. Aside from being an expert hiking guide, Beatrice is also an avid climber and accomplished skier, and is a ski instructor during the winter months. She loves the mountains and will share her enthusiasm and in-depth experience with you during your trip.

Beatrice Mugnier

Itinerary

DAY 1 ARRIVE IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND & TRANSFER TO CHAMONIX, FRANCE

Arrive at the airport in Geneva, Switzerland, and meet your guide promptly at 2pm for a private van transfer to the resort town of Chamonix, France. Please arrive early enough (by 1pm) to allow time to get through customs and immigration before the scheduled pick-up. After a scenic, hour-and-a-half ride into the mountains, take time to rest at the hotel or explore town before orientation. In the early evening, meet your guides and the rest of the group; then enjoy a delicious welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Meals: D

DAY 2 HIKE FROM LES HOUCHES TO LES CONTAMINES

Begin your day riding the cable car to Bellevue, where breathtaking panoramic views of the Mont Blancrange, the Aiguilles Rouges, and the Fiz and Aravis Massifs await. Cross the suspension bridge over Bionnassay Torrent, then descend into the hamlet of Champel before reaching the Chalet du Truc (5,642') and the charming town of Les Contamines-Montjoie (3,828'). Enjoy the gastronomical delights of Les Contamines and the comfort of a hotel in town.

Activity: 6 hours/8 miles hiking with 2,650' elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 3 HIKE FROM VAL MONTJOIE TO LES CHAPIEUX

Relish a hearty mountain breakfast and then take a short drive to Notre Dame de La Gorge. From here, begin a steady climb up to Col du Bonhomme (8,133') amidst spectacular alpine scenery. As you gain altitude, notice how the forest gives way to grassy meadows, then up to boulders and scree fields as you arrive above the tree line at the Col de Bonhomme. Keep your camera ready to capture roaming ibex! Enjoy the descent into the hamlet of Les Chapieux (5,098'), where you'll spend the night.

Activity: 7 hours/8 miles hiking with 3,300' elevation gain and 2,650' loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 4 HIKE FROM LA VALLEE DES GLACIERS TO LE COL DE LA SEIGNE INTO COURMAYEUR

The day begins in the alpine meadows of Beaufortain, among herds of happy sheep and cows. Begin your hike to the Col de la Seigne (8,256') and reach the Italian border. The climb is beautiful! As the pass opens up, it gives way to a superb view on the South face of Mont-Blanc. On your descent, pass the crystalline Lake Combal, and soon after, the Italian hamlet of the Visaille. A bus will meet you to transfer you to our hotel in Courmayeur.



Activity: 7 hours/10.5 miles hiking with 2,400' elevation gain and 3,300' loss

Meals: B, L

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DAY 5 HIKE TO ITALY'S VAL FERRET

Beginning from the hamlet of Villair Superior, follow paths towards the Bertone mountain hut. Take the impressive balcony trail and enjoy exceptional views of the Mont Blanc range. The trail continues to the Rifugio Bonatti (6,634'), named after the famous Italian alpinist and adventurer Walter Bonatti. After a short descent, arrive in the village of Lavachey where your hotel for the night awaits.

Activity: 5 hours/7.5 miles hiking with 2,640' elevation gain and 1,650' loss

Meals: B, L, D

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DAY 6 HIKE TO LE GRAND COL FERRET & DESCEND INTO CHAMPEX

After a good night's sleep and breakfast, transfer to the foot of Grand Col Ferret (8,323'), at the Italian-Swiss border. This is the steepest, shortest and most demanding climb of your trip. But fortunately, your efforts are worth it! Through the day, catch impressive views of Grandes Jorasses and Triolet, and Mont Dolent — the meeting point of the French, Swiss and Italian borders. Descend towards La Fouly, passing by the chalet of La Peule. From La Fouly, transfer Champex, a village in the Swiss canton of Valais.

Activity: 5 hours/7 miles hiking with 2,500' elevation gain and 3,100' loss

Meals: B, L, D

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DAY 7 HIKE TO BOVINE & CONTINUE TO COL DE LA FORCLAZ

Through the forest, reach Plan de l'Au. Little by little, climb through a forest overlooking France's Rhone Valley and the charming town of Martigny. Taking the scenic route, discover the alpine pasture of Bovine (6,519'). Continue on to the Col de la Forclaz.

Activity: 5 hours/8.5 miles hiking with 2,000' elevation gain and 1,650' loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 8 HIKE TO COL DE BALME & DESCEND INTO CHAMONIX

Begin the last day's hike by traversing the alpine meadow of Herbagères, then a spruce forest before reaching the Col de Balme (7188'). Cross the border again before starting your descent into the alpine meadows of Balme,

just upstream from the Chamonix Valley, into the village of Le Tour. Your loop around Mont Blanc now complete, $transfer\ to\ your\ hotel\ in\ Chamonix.\ Tonight,\ enjoy\ a\ festive\ farewell\ dinner\ in\ town.$

Activity: 4 hours/5.5 miles hiking with 2,940' elevation gain and 2,970' loss afternoon options for rafting or a rope course at an adventure park

Meals: B, L, D

DAY9 **RETURN TO GENEVA & FLY HOME**

Transfer to Geneva airport. There will be one group departure for the airport at 8:30am. Please schedule your flight after 11am for inter-European destinations, after 12pm for all transcontinental destinations.

Meals: B

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.





Dates

Jul 3 - 11, 2022

Jul 31 - Aug 8, 2022

For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

Inclusions & Exclusions

PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, almost all lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
 - Private guided tours at historic sites, museums,
- wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and porterage

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- **Travel Protection Program**
- Personal expenses

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The World of MT Sobek

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world's most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite--opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum—of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

We are the adventure company.

Awards











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