

CLOUD 9 ADVENTURE



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Self Guided Walker's Haute Route

FROM £1495 PER PERSON

TRIP SUMMARY





DAY 1 ARRIVE IN CHAMONIX



European Standard Time Arrival

Option: Airport transfer from Geneva



Central European Standard Time Check-in

Sample 4* hotel: Park Hotel Suisse



PARK HOTEL SUISSE 75 Allée du Majestic, Chamonix-Mont-Blanc, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, FR, 74400 04 50 53 07 58



European Standard Time Check-in

Sample 3* hotel: Hotel Oustalet



Hôtel L'Oustalet 330 Rue du Lyret, Chamonix-Mont-Blanc, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, FR, 74400 04 50 55 54 99



Explore Chamonix

You can normally check-in to your accommodation from around 4pm, but if you arrive earlier, it's no problem to leave your bags at the hotel and explore the famous mountain town of Chamonix. There's a wealth of outdoor shops so you should have a little time for last minute supplies before your trip

DAY 2 TREK FROM MONTROC TO TRIENT



Trek from Montroc to Trient

We start the day with a train journey on the famous Mont Blanc Express. At Montroc you begin your trek over the Aiguillette de Posettes, from where you can choose several different routes down to the Swiss hamlet of Trient.



Hotel Grande Ourse, Trient



Hotel Grande Ourse



Option: Add a day from Chamonix to Argentière

It is possible to extend your trip by 1 day, and start in Chamonix rather than catching the train. If you did this, you'd hike up to the famous Lac Blanc, then descend to Argentière for the night. This is part of the Tour du Mont Blanc, so if you've already done the TMB you might not want to do this day.

DAY 3 TRIENT TO CHAMPEX



Trek from Trient to Champex

You can either trek via the famous and tricky Fenetre d'Arpette, or you can take an easier route via Bovine. Both routes are stunning and will lead you to the lakeside mountain village of Champex.



Hotel du Glacier, Champex (Family run 3* hotel)



Hotel du Glacier, Champex

DAY 4 TREK FROM CHAMPEX TO THE CABANE DU MONT FORT



Trek from Champex to Le Chable

A much more relaxing start to the day as we travel through traditional Swiss farmland down to the Sembrancher valley and along to Le Chable. From here we take the cable car via Verbier to Les Ruinettes



Cable car from Le Chable to Les Ruinettes



Hike from Les Ruinettes to Cabane du Mont Fort

After the cable car it's around an hour's hike to the Cabane du Mont Fort.



Cabane du Mont Fort Tortin, Bagnes, Valais, CH, 1936 027 778 13 84



Option: Extend the trip by a day to miss out the cable car

For those who do not wish to take any mode of transport, you can choose to stay the night in Le Chable, and the next day you can do the strenuous hike from Le Chable to the Cabane du Mont Fort, therefore missing out the cable car journey. It's a tough climb, entirely uphill for the day. It's a beautiful hike with amazing views, but it's very steep and many claim it is more pleasant from the cable car!

DAY 5 TREK FROM CABANE DU MONT FORT TO CABANE PRAFLEURI



Trek from Mont Fort to Prafleuri

3 cols today - it's one of the most challenging days of the trip. Either the Lachaux or the Termin to start with, then a good ascent to the Col de Louvie with a few delicate passages. After the Louvie you cross the Grand Desert, an expanse of glacial moraine. After another climb to the Col de Prafleuri, you'll descend to the Cabane de Prafleuri.



Cabane de Prafleuri Hérémence, Valais, CH, 1987 027 281 17 80

DAY 6 TREK TO AROLLA



Prafleuri to Arolla

Just the 2 cols today! A short ascent leads us over the Col de Roux, from where we descend to the Lac de Dix. We follow the lake shore to take us to the start of our next climb. We can choose to do either the Col de Riedmatten, or take the ladders over the Pas de Chèvre. From here there's a couple of hours down to the pretty mountain village of Arolla.



Hôtel du glacier **
3 Rue de l'Évêque, Arolla, Valais, CH, 1986
027 283 12 18



Upgrade Option: Grand Hôtel & Kurhaus, Arolla



Grand Hôtel & Kurhaus, Arolla Evolène, Wallis, CH, 1986 027 283 70 00

DAY 7 AROLLA TO LA SAGE



Arolla to La Sage

Today is a much more relaxed day as we trek via the Lac Bleu to Les Haudères, and then a short hour uphill to the delightful Hotel de La Sage.



Hôtel de la Sage - Boutique Hôtel La Sage, Wallis, CH, 1985 027 283 24 20

DAY 8 LA SAGE TO ZINAL



Trek La Sage to Zinal

It's a fairly long day today as we trek over the Col de Torrent, descend to the Lac de Moiry, and then have a second col after lunch - the Col de Sorebois. This takes us to the Zinal ski area. Those who are tired can walk down to the cable car to miss out an hour and a half descent to Zinal.



Check-in

Hotel Trift, Zinal

A simple hotel, most rooms do not have en-suite facilities, but it is clean, a reasonable price and has good food. It's a more traditional hotel than the Hotel Europe, but if you'd like more comfort then you might like to choose the upgrade.



Hotel Trift



Central
European
Standard
Time
Check-in

Upgrade option: Hotel Europe



Hotel Europe Zinal, Valais, CH, 3961 027 475 44 04



Route option: Stay at Hotel Weisshorn

If today is too long, then it is possible to add a day and stay at the spectacularly-located Cabane de Moiry. From the Moiry, you can then simply trek to Zinal the next day if you'd like some comfort, or for a slightly longer day, you can continue to the Hotel Weisshorn or the Cabane de Bella Tolla.



Hôtel Weisshorn Saint-Luc, Valais, CH, 3961 027 475 11 06

DAY 9 TREK FROM ZINAL TO GRUBEN



Trek from Zinal to Gruben

A beautiful day today - we trek over the Col de Forcletta, then descend to Gruben.



Hotel Schwarzhorn, Gruben



Option: Extend by 1 day to stay in the mountains

People often want to add a day and stay either at the famous Hotel Weisshorn, or stay at the Cabane de Bella Tolla. If you're interested in these options just let us know - we'd either swap Zinal for the Cabane de Moiry, or simply split the Zinal to Gruben day into 2 short days.

DAY 10 GRUBEN TO ST NIKLAUS



Trek from Gruben to St Niklaus

A stunning day's trek over the Augstbordpass and down to the village of St Niklaus.



European Standard Time Check-in

Check in at Hotel la Réserve



Hotel la Réserve Stock, Sankt Niklaus, Wallis, CH, 3924 027 955 22 55



Time

Option - stay in Grachen

Some people like to take the bus to stay in Grachen tonight. If you want to walk every step of the Haute Route, then we would definitely recommend staying in Grachen otherwise the day would be very long tomorrow. Grachen is around an hour and a half's walk from St Niklaus. Grachen is a prettier village than St Niklaus, and it would allow you an early start tomorrow morning without having to catch a bus - but it does add a time constraint on today's walk over the Augstbordpass, and if walking the whole thing, it is a long day!



Hotel Hannigalp 468 Heiminen, Grächen, Wallis, CH, 3925 027 955 10 00

DAY 11 ST NIKLAUS TO THE EUROPAHUTTE



Departure

Bus to Grachen



We start the day with a bus ride to Grachen, from where we will begin the Europaweg. The Europaweg is a difficult section of the trek - it has spectacular views and is a fantastic way to finish the Haute Route. HOWEVER. It is important to know that it has exposed sections, and can be prone to rockfall. Various sections of the route have closed since it was built. So if you are unsure about your suitability for this section, then we recommend that you miss it out, and simply walk up the valley to Zermatt from St Niklaus - this would make your itinerary a day shorter.

If you are keen to do the Europaweg, then you'll stay tonight at the spectacularly located Europahutte.



Europahütte Randa, Valais, CH, 3928 027 967 82 47



Option - miss out the Europaweg

For those choosing to miss the Europaweg, you can walk along the valley floor and reach Zermatt today, making your itinerary a day shorter. If you wanted to do something more exciting - and make up for missing out the Europaweg, you could take a taxi to Taschalp (we would organise this in advance), and from here hike over the absolutely stunning Pfalwe pass to reach Zermatt in style. For experienced hikers only, and for good weather only. Now that the final Europaweg is closed, this is a magnificent alternative.

DAY 12 EUROPAHUTTE TO ZERMATT



Europahutte to Zermatt

After several incidents of rockfall and landslide, the section of the Europaweg shortly after the Europahutte is now closed, and a second section between Taschalp and the Sunegga above Zermatt is now also closed. As a result, today's walk will be down to the village of Randa, and then along the valley floor to Zermatt. For the more adventurous, we can organise you a taxi to Taschalp, from where you can trek over the Pfalwe pass - a truly stunning alternative finish to the Haute Route.



Check-in

Check-in



Hotel Jägerhof 85 Steinmattstrasse, Zermatt, Wallis, CH, 3920 027 966 38 00



Option: Upgrade to 4* Hotel Alpenhof



Hotel Alpenhof 43 Matterstrasse, Zermatt, Wallis, CH, 3920 027 966 55 55



Option: Extend your stay in Zermatt

There are some amazing walks to do in Zermatt - and now that the Europaweg has so many closed sections, it can be a good idea to head straight to Zermatt and instead do the Hohenweg. We'd rate it as one of the most spectacular walks in the world!

DAY 13 DEPART ZERMATT



Depart Zermatt

It's easy to take the train to Geneva or Zurich from Zermatt and takes around 4 hours.

TRIP INFORMATION



What's Included

- All accommodation in the itinerary (please note that we aim for the suggested hotels, but where they are fully booked we choose an equivalent alternative)
- All breakfasts
- All evening meals apart from in Chamonix and in Zermatt (we can include these
 if you prefer, just let us know)
- Expert office support
- Detailed notes with our expert tips
- Walker's Haute Route guide book
- 1:50,000 Swiss Maps



Not Included

- Flights
- Airport transfers (but we can add these if required)
- Luggage delivery (but we can organise this if required)
- Cable cars
- Buses or trains
- Evening meals in Chamonix or Zermatt
- Packed lunches
- Personal snacks and drinks