Hikes of the Haute Savoie Alps - Rail Travel from London



Trip style:	Destination:	Walking Grade	Carbon Footprint:
Rail Adventures	France	4 & 7	229kg CO2

HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Spectacular views and superb walking trails are a given in the Alps. So it's easy to see the appeal of staying in Morzine, the charming Alpine village set deep in the Chablais mountain range, between Lake Geneva and Mont Blanc. This remarkable guided walking holiday showcases the very best of this outdoor playground; lush pastures, glimmering rivers, freshwater lakes, and soaring mountains. Another highlight is travelling from London to Paris on Eurostar and onwards to Geneva on the high-speed TGV Lyria service, making it more magical for those who like to gaze out and watch the landscape change.

WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Rail travel from the UK to Geneva
- Staying in the charming French alpine village of Morzine
- Soaking up views of the Chablais mountains and the mighty Mont Blanc
- Walking the Super Morzine ridge
- Climbing the Col de Joux Plane
- Discovering the peaceful and nature-rich La Manche Valley
- Sampling authentic French and Savoyard cuisine

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- A choice of 2 guided walks per day with local leaders (on walking days)
- Fully escorted travel from London with an HF Holidays Tour Manager
- 7 nights' accommodation in Morzine
- 7 breakfasts & 7 dinners
- Return rail travel from London to Geneva and transfers to/from the hotel

ITINERARY - ITINERARY 2026

Day 1 LONDON TO GENEVA BY TRAIN AND TO THE FRENCH ALPS

Meet your HF Holidays Tour Manager and fellow travellers at London St Pancras International railway station. After check-in, baggage checks, and passport control, we'll wait for our train. We'll board the Eurostar to Paris Gare du Nord station, where we'll disembark and transfer across Paris by coach to Paris Gare de Lyon station. Here, we join the high-speed TGV Lyria service to Geneva in Switzerland. From Geneva, the final part of our journey will be by coach across the border into the French Alps. Our base for seven nights is the Alpine village of Morzine.

Day 2 Morzine

Option 1 - Above Morzine

Distance: 5.5 miles (9km)

Total Ascent/Descent: 1,150 feet (350m)

Leaving directly from the hotel on foot, we'll enjoy a circular walk above the town through forest and ski slope. We'll walk to Nyon waterfall and pass hamlets such as Attray. Continuing north we'll pause at a viewpoint above Les Mouilles before descending through Les Lys farm and back to the hotel.

Option 2 - Le Pleney

Distance: 8 miles (13km)

Total Ascent/Descent: 1,900 feet (570m)

This walk follows the same route as option 1 to Attray. From there we'll climb to the top of Le Pleney and walk on the wide ridge which offers magnificent views of the Chablais mountains and the mighty Mont Blanc range.

Day 3 Col de Joux Plane

Today starts with a short transfer to the Col de Joux Plane (1,712m) for the start of our walk, with breathtaking views of the Mont Blanc mountain range.

Option 1 - Chamossière Peak

Distance: 5.5 miles (9km)

Ascent: 1,000 feet (310m)

Descent: 2,200 feet (670m)

We'll first climb the Chamossière Peak (2,010m) from where we'll be treated to views of the north face of the Mont Blanc range. A pleasant walk to the hamlet of La Combe then sees us going down to the hamlet of Le Grand Pré for our transfer back to Morzine.

Option 2 - La Bourgeoise and Pointe de Nyon

Distance: 7.5 miles (12km)

Ascent: 2,150 feet (650m)

Descent: 2,600 feet (790m)

Climb of La Bourgeoise Peak (1,772m) before following a circular walk to Pointe de Nyon (2,019m). Our local guide will lead us through a relatively technical ridge walk down to the hamlets of La Combe and Le Grand Pré for our transfer back to Morzine.

Day 4 **The Manche Valley**

After a short bus transfer, today's walks explore the wild areas at the foot of the Terres Maudites (Cursed Lands) ridge and the Tête de Bostan peak.

Option 1 - Chardonnière hut and Chalet Les Mines d'Or Lake

Distance: 5 miles (8km)

Total Ascent/Descent: 1,100 feet (340m)

This circular walk first takes us to the Chardonnière hut situated amongst beautiful meadows, surrounded by jagged peaks where cattle graze. We follow part of the famous GR5 trail that goes from Lake Geneva down to the Mediterranean. We'll reach the lovely, small lake of Chalet Les Mines d'Or before heading back down to our starting point.

Option 2 - Golèse Pass

Distance: 7 miles (11km)

Total Ascent/Descent: 2,150 feet (650m)

Also a circular walk, this route heads up to the chalets of Vigny at the foot of the impressive Golèse ridge. We continue our climb to the Golèse pass (1,662m) to be rewarded with beautiful views toward Samoëns. We continue following part of the famous GR5 trail and reach Chalet des Mines d'Or lake before heading back down to our starting point.

Day 5 Free Day

Each week there is a free day when no guided walks are offered. This is an ideal opportunity to relax around the hotel, walk independently, or visit local places of interest. Options include:

Morzine: You may wish to relax and make use of the hotel's spa or explore more of Morzine, the location of our accommodation.

Montriond: home to a beautiful emerald-green freshwater lake, this charming village is just a five-minute drive from Morzine or a 1.6-mile (2.7km) walk away.

Les Gets: A popular ski resort in winter but equally popular during the summer. Less than a 15-minute drive from Morzine, Les Gets offers upmarket shops, restaurants, laid-back cafés and artisanal shops, not to mention an unusually charming Mechanical Music Museum.

Local transport: Throughout summer and winter, local buses run along the Aulps valley connecting St-Jean d'Aulps, Montriond, Morzine, Avoriaz and Les Gets

Day 6 West of Les Gets

A short transfer takes us to the Col de l'Encrenaz (1,433m), from where we'll walk to the more undiscovered west of the village of Les Gets.

Option 1 - Mont Chéry

Distance: 5 miles (8km)

Ascent: 1,300 feet (400m)

Descent: 1,300 feet (400m)

We'll make a relatively steep ascent to the top of Mont Chéry peak (1,826m), with its orienteering table. We'll then descend a gentle track with open views across the Taninges valley. When we reach the hamlet of Mont Caly we'll head north back to our starting point.

Option 2 - Col Ratti and Golette

Distance: 6 miles (10km)

Ascent: 2,100 feet (650m)

Descent: 1,700 feet (520m)

We walk on the north side of the Col de l'Encrenaz. The first part climbs the south face of Les Pré de l'Aup meadow up to the Col Ratti pass (1,916m). We'll savour the impressive Alpine views as we make our way up to Golette (1,992m). The descent follows a similar route, offering views into Switzerland.

Day 7 The Super Morzine Ridge

After a short transfer to Avoriaz we'll walk the Montagne de Séraussaix before walking back to the hotel.

Option 1 - Avoriaz to Morzine (shorter walk)

Distance: 5 miles (8km)

Ascent: 230 feet (70m)

Descent: 2,600 feet (800m)

From Avoriaz we'll walk up to the Col de la Joux Verte on the Super Morzine Ridge and the Zore viewpoint (1,764m). From here we'll see Morzine with Mont Blanc in the background. We'll then descend to Morzine along an easy gravel road.

Option 2 - Avoriaz to Morzine (longer walk)

Distance: 8.5 miles (14km)

Ascent: 750 feet (230m)

Descent: 3,500 feet (1,070m)

From Avoriaz we'll walk to the Montriond viewpoint, offering superb lake views. We'll then walk up to the Col de la Joux Verte on the Super Morzine Ridge to the Zore viewpoint (1,764m). From here we'll see Morzine with Mont Blanc in the background. We'll then descend to Morzine along an easy gravel road.

Day 8 From the French Alps back to London via Geneva

We leave the French Alps and transfer by coach across the border into Switzerland. At Geneva railway station, we join the high-speed TGV Lyria service for the journey to Paris Gare de Lyon station. After a coach transfer across Paris, we board the Eurostar service at Paris Gare du Nord station. Sit back and relax as we travel back to London St Pancras.

DAILY WALK OPTIONS



Gentle walking grade 4

The most active Gentle grade, with longer walks, some ascent, and possible steps, stiles, or off-path uneven ground. Typically, 6-7 miles (10-12km) with around 1,000ft (300m) of ascent.



Moderate walking grade 7

The most active moderate grade. Longer distances and short but steep ascents and descents possible throughout the day. Hill walking experience desirable. Typically, 11-12 miles (18-19km) with around 1,800ft (560m) of ascent.

ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Névé

Experience a warm welcome at the Hotel Névé, a family-run establishment in the heart of Morzine. Guests can look forward to comfortable rooms, and an inviting restaurant serving authentic, seasonal cuisine. Relax in the indoor pool and hot tub, unwind with a drink at the bar, or enjoy a rejuvenating spa complete with a sauna, sensory showers, and massage rooms. Whatever way you spend your time at the Névé, you can always expect a cosy home-from-home atmosphere.

Please note that guest rooms at Hotel Neve do not have air conditioning. As is common in many Alpine mountain hotels, air conditioning is not typically required due to cooler mountain temperatures, particularly in the evenings. All rooms are equipped with fans for guest comfort.

VACCINATIONS & HEALTH

Vaccinations & health information

Before booking, you should check with your doctor to see whether any health precautions are needed for your trip. Health advice and requirements can change, so we recommend doing this in good time before travel.

As a general rule, travellers should ensure they are up to date with routine UK vaccinations and boosters, including, for example, MMR and diphtheria, tetanus and polio. Some countries may require you to have specific vaccinations such as Malaria, Rabies and Yellow Fever. Please check with your GP if you are unsure.

Please note that the use or possession of some common prescription or over-the-counter medicines is restricted or banned in certain countries. If you will be carrying medication, you should check with the relevant embassy or consulate before travelling. As an extra precaution, we recommend keeping medication in its original packaging, carrying a copy of your prescription, and, where possible, asking your pharmacist to provide the medication name in the language of the country you are visiting.

For further country-specific health advice, visit www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk or www.traveldoctor.co.uk. If you are travelling from outside the UK, please consult your own doctor and check local entry requirements.

PASSPORTS & VISAS

Passport & Visa information

This information is for those travelling with a full 'British Citizen' passport; for all other nationalities or passport holders, please check with your local consulate for advice.

Passport Requirements

This information applies to travellers holding a full British Citizen passport. Entry requirements vary by destination and can change at short notice. For most EU and worldwide destinations, passports must be valid for the entire duration of your stay. Some countries also require a minimum period of validity remaining on your passport (often up to 6 months beyond your return date), even if you are not staying that long.
We strongly recommend ensuring your passport has at least six months' validity remaining at the time of travel to avoid any issues.

If you hold a different type of British passport or a passport issued by another country, you must check the requirements with the relevant embassy, consulate, or official government website.

Visa Requirements

Visa rules depend on your nationality, destination, length of stay, and purpose of travel, and they can change frequently. It is your responsibility to check whether you require a visa before travelling.
British passport holders should check the latest entry, passport validity and visa requirements for their destination on the UK government's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) website:
https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Packing list

It's best to be prepared for all weather conditions. To make it easier, here is a list of items you should consider packing.

Essentials

- Walking boots
- Waterproof jacket
- Waterproof trousers
- Insulated jacket/top
- Walking clothing
- Walking socks (plus spares)
- Sunhat
- Gloves/mitts and warm hat
- Water bottle (minimum 2 litre capacity)
- Headtorch
- High-factor sunscreen (minimum SPF 30)
- Swimcap (compulsory in Itialian resorts)
- Sunglasses with a dark lens
- Rucksack (15-30 litres)
- Mobile phone
- Personal first aid kit (containing your medication, blister plasters, etc.)
- Passport
- Visa (if applicable)
- Copy of your travel insurance policy
- UK Global Health Insurance Card (**formerly known as EHIC**)

Recommended

- Collapsible walking poles
- Swimwear and travel towel
- Snacks
- Dry bags

- Rubbish bags
- Insect repellent

Optional extras

- Camera
- Sit mat
- Flask for hot drinks
- Durable lunch box
- Gaiters
- GPS device (excluding Bhutan, Georgia and India)

JOINING INSTRUCTIONS (WITH RAIL)

Joining Instructions Haute Savoie (With Rail)

Book your holiday 'with rail' and travel on Eurostar and TGV Lyria with the group.

If you choose this option we automatically include return transfers between Geneva station and the hotel. The coach transfer takes approx 1 and 3/4 hours.

Notes For Rail Travellers

Rail travel will be from St Pancras International Station, London to Geneva via Paris.

Your group meeting point at St Pancras will be the Sir John Betjeman statue on the upper level of the station 2 hours before departure time. Here you will join the rest of your group and meet your HF Tour Manager who will guide you throughout your journey. You will then make your way to the ticket gate as a group.

A suitcase with wheels is strongly recommended as you will be responsible for carrying and lifting your luggage on all parts of the journey. All luggage will be scanned at the departure gate and needs to be clearly labelled. You will need to be responsible for your luggage and belongings at all stages of your journey so it's advisable to have it within eyesight when travelling on the trains and be extra vigilant when moving through busy railway stations.

Please refer to the website below for the latest information on luggage requirements for your journey and trip information: https://www.eurostar.com/uk-en

JOINING INSTRUCTIONS (WITHOUT RAIL)

Joining Instructions Haute Savoie (Without Rail)

Alternatively, tailor your journey to suit you by booking your holiday 'without rail' allowing you the freedom to book your own travel.

If you choose this option, transfers are not included in the price.

You can still purchase a seat on our shared group transfer but it is your responsibility to arrive at the railway station prior to the main group. All train times are subject to change and if your arrival and / or departure time changes and no longer fits our shared group transfer, we will be unable to delay departure for you. Should this occur we will refund you the cost of the transfer and you can either make your own way to the hotel or we can book a private taxi transfer for you (at your expense). HF Holidays cannot be held responsible for your onward travel if you are unable to meet the transfer coach.

If you have made your own travel arrangements and have booked a place on the HF Holidays shared group transfer to the hotel, please meet your Tour Manager and fellow travellers outside Geneva railway station, in front of Pharmacy Amavita. The pharmacy is to the right of the station when exiting onto Place de Cornavin.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is a condition of booking. Therefore, if you have not already arranged insurance, it is imperative that you do so before you travel.

For more information about healthcare and its costs, please visit: https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/

Drinking Water

Drinking Water

Standards for drinking water vary widely around the world. In many destinations, tap water may not be safe to drink, brush your teeth with, or use for making ice. Where advised, you should drink only bottled or treated water and ensure that bottle seals are intact before use. If bottled water is unavailable, water should be boiled or filtered.

Staying well hydrated is particularly important in hot climates and during active holidays. Carry water with you and drink regularly.

If you are unsure about local water safety, check official country-specific health advice before travel, or ask your accommodation or local guides for guidance once you arrive.

LOCAL CURRENCY

The local currency is the Euro (€)

TRIPNOTE VALIDITY

TRIP NOTE VALIDITY These Trip Notes are valid based on the date printed at the bottom of the page. They will occasionally be updated post booking and pre-departure. We will send you the latest trip notes prior to departure through a link in your pre departure documents or we can send you a copy in the post if preferred. In booking this trip

you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call HF Holidays and ask to speak to one of the team about this itinerary. The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; so please be prepared to be flexible where necessary. At times, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned due to weather conditions, political, physical or other factors. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

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