

Chamonix Experience Ski Courses Winter 2015-16

All courses are run by qualified ski instructors and mountain guides

SKI VALLEE BLANCHE

Ski the most famous off-piste descent in the world with a Chamonix mountain guide. Experience 20km of off-piste skiing amongst the peaks of Mont Blanc and finish on the Mer de Glace, the longest glacier in France.

If you are not sure about your ski level then the two day Vallée Blanche package is great preparation to ensure that you are ready for your descent. Our off-piste ski guide will practice off-piste skiing techniques with you on the first day, usually at Les Grands Montets, where the off-piste terrain is perfect for practising your skills and gaining confidence. You will then be ready to ski the Vallée Blanche on the second day with no hesitation! The season for Vallée Blanche skiing usually begins later in the winter, often mid-January.

Dates: Thursday and/or Saturday (weather dependent)

Price: 95€ per person for groups of minimum 4 skiers

Private groups: 340€ for groups of up to 2 skiers, extra 15€ for every extra skier (up to 6 skiers)

OFF PISTE INTRODUCTION 5 DAY COURSE

This course is designed for experienced piste skiers (black runs and moguls) and beginner off-piste skiers who wish to improve their level. With your ski instructor you'll improve your backcountry skiing technique and receive an introduction to the skills needed to negotiate all-mountain terrain.

This freeride course is dedicated to improving your off-piste skiing and to pushing your limits. You will have the advantage of being looked after and taught by UIAGM qualified mountain ski guides and ENSA qualified ski instructors, ensuring an excellent quality of ski instruction coupled with access to all of the incredible Chamonix off-piste terrain, you'll explore everything that the valley had to offer and ski beautiful couloirs, forests and glaciers.

Your instructor will use video analysis to help you to focus on areas where you need to improve your skiing. The aim is to have you confidently skiing some of the epic backcountry descents for which Chamonix is famous, such as Petit Envers du Plan on the Vallée Blanche or Pas de Chèvre at Les Grands Montets. Our goal is for you to leave this course with a sense of achievement as well as memories of a great backcountry ski week.

Price: 650€ per person

ADVANCED OFF PISTE SKIING 5 DAY COURSE

This course is designed to transform your off-piste skiing from good to excellent. You will have tuition from an internationally qualified UIAGM guide and European qualified ski instructor. The focus for the week will be improving your off-piste ski technique, improving your avalanche awareness skills and skiing as many of the best descents as possible!

Your ski instructor will tailor the programme to suit weather, snow conditions and the overall level of the group; we will use video analysis to ensure the maximum learning curve. Each day your guide will choose the area offering the best off-piste skiing at the moment.

This course is designed for off-piste skiers who wish to improve their ski level. Previous off-piste experience is required.

Price: 690€ per person

STEEP SKIING 5 DAY COURSE

This course teaches the specific techniques for skiing steep couloirs and snow faces; it is specifically designed to improve your off-piste skiing skills and push your ability up to the next level. In the safe hands of UIAGM mountain guides you will gain confidence and strengthen your technique to tackle steeper and more challenging terrain than you've ever skied before.

Chamonix is well known for its steep skiing terrain - the Rectiligne Couloir at Les Grands Montets, the ENSA couloir and Hotel Face at Brevent, the Grand Envers on the Vallée Blanche - need we say more?!

We will choose slopes that will be challenging for you but not too far above your limits, so that you progress at a steady rate over the 5 days of your steep skiing course in Chamonix.

Group sizes are limited to 3 skiers per guide to maximise the intensity of the programme.

Price: 950€ per person

SKI TOURING COURSES

These courses teach the basic and essential ski touring techniques over 1, 2 or 5 days. The longest course includes a multiday ski tour with a night spent in a mountain hut! You will learn essential ski touring techniques such as how to fix skins and couteaux (crampons for skis), how to travel uphill and how to perform kick turns for traversing on steeper terrain. The course will also cover invaluable mountain skills, such as avalanche awareness and crevasse rescue.

Ski touring is the key to discovering all the secrets of the Mont Blanc Massif; discover classic Chamonix ski tours such as Col du Tour Noir, Crochues Berard, Col du Passon and Col du Belvedere. With the right equipment and skills, no peak, hidden valley or remote mountain pass is out of reach! This course is ideal preparation for multi-day ski tours such as the Haute Route from Chamonix to Zermatt.

No ski touring experience is necessary but you will need to be confident skiing off-piste in all snow conditions. Split-boarders are also welcome on this course.

1 day course: 95€ per person

2 days course: 235€ per person

5 days course: 695€