



CHAMONIX TO THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA: THE FIRST STAGE OF THE TRANSALPS TOUR

Imagine the 'Ultimate' Mountain Biking holiday... Traversing the French Alps, starting from the highest peak in Europe, Mont Blanc (4810m), and arriving at the Mediterranean Sea; 650km ride, 20,000 metres of climb and more than 15 alpine cols... Breathtaking scenery, fantastic single tracks, beautiful quaint remote villages, great food, a brilliant ambiance and a swim in the sea! We invite you to join us on this amazing and challenging TransAlps Tour in two stages of 6 days with the final reward... a "plouf" in the big blue at Nice...

Do you want adventure, great Mountain Biking, amazing single tracks and not a person for miles? Then join us on the TransAlps Chamonix to the Mediterranean Sea!

During this first stage, we will start from Chamonix and ride through the Beaufortain, Tarentaise, Maurienne and Cerces areas, which are relatively unknown for mountain biking and continue on to the historic fortified town of Briançon.

This itinerary offers fantastic scenery and great riding giving just a taste of the next stage of the 'TransAlps Tour'.

DAY 1 GENEVA AIRPORT- CHAMONIX

Arrival in Geneva airport, meet and greet. Transfer to Chamonix village.

Physical difficulty: ++++

Technical skills: +++

DAY 2 CHAMONIX – BEAUFORT

We start under the shadow of Mont Blanc and head towards Les Houches where we take the first ski lift of the day, followed by a nice easy descent to Les Contamines Montjoie to take a second lift to bring us up to the Col du Joly. From here we enter into the Beaufortain area with its large open alpine flowered pastures and splendid single tracks. We pass next to the Lac of Girotte and finish for the day in the village of Beaufort.

Ride distance: 50km

Uneven positive: 1100m **Uneven negative:** 1800m

Physical difficulty: +++

Technical skills: +++

DAY 4 TARENTEISE - MAURIENNE VALLEY

Today we will contour the beautiful Vanoise National Parc (unfortunately forbidden to Mountain Bikes) passing by the Col de la Madeleine from where we can see the beautiful glaciers of the Aiguille de Pecllet (3561m) and Aiguille de Polset (3511m). We access the Maurienne Valley by another great descent and finish the day in Saint Jean de Maurienne.

Ride distance: 46km

Uneven positive: 1300m **Uneven negative:** 1500m

Physical difficulty: +++

Technical skills: +++

DAY 3 BEAUFORT – TARENTEISE

Our second day in the Beaufortain area will be quite tough. Three cols await us today and 1800m of climb... Amazing alpine ambiance with the Mont Blanc and its glaciers at our backs and the trails passing through lush meadows, with only the cows to greet us. The reward for the big climb is a fantastic downhill descent of 2000m towards the Tarentaise Valley with a mix of technical single track, jeep tracks and flowing trails. A great day of Mountain Biking!

Ride distance: 45km

Uneven positive: 1800m **Uneven negative:** 2200m

DAY 5 ST JEAN MAURIENNE – VALLOIRE

Today and tomorrow are going to be mainly ascents to pass into the next valley of Nevache, so that is 3200metres of climb in two days! The day starts with a gentle warm up of 1400m of ascent, a mix of road and jeep tracks with a short 'hike-a-bike' section at the end to reach the ski resort of Karrellys. From here a splendid view over the Maurienne Valley opens up, enabling you to realise the climb you've just made! Then a huge traverse on undulating jeep tracks and single tracks, leading us to the village of Valloire, renowned as a regular route of Le Tour de France.

Ride distance: 42km

Uneven positive: 1900m **Uneven negative:** 400m

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Physical difficulty: +++++
Technical difficulty: +++

Physical difficulty: +++++
Technical skills: +++

DAY 6 VALLOIRE - NEVACHE VALLEY

We will start this splendid ride by climbing the famous road towards the Col du Galibier (one of the most difficult climbs in Le Tour de France). From here we will traverse the alpine range of Mont Thabor (3178m) passing the alpine lakes of Grand Ban and Lac Rond at 2500m, then descend on a technical in places single track into the splendid quiet valley of Nevache. A second 600metre climb will bring us up onto a traversing balcony trail above the Nevache Valley for yet another fantastic final single track descent of the day to the village of Nevache.

Ride distance: 45km

Uneven positive: 1600m **Uneven negative:** 1500m

DAY 7 NEVACHE VALLEY - BRIANCON

A final climb of 1000metres on a jeep track in the beautiful Granon Valley, allows us to pass into the Briançon Valley, riding almost hanging over the valley side! Finishing with the super amazing 'natural pipe' descent of Bois de l'ours (the wood of the bear) and arriving directly to a bar to order a well deserved beer to finish this first epic stage of the TransAlps Tour - Chamonix to the sea!

Ride distance: 42km

Uneven positive: 1000m **Uneven negative:** 1500m

Physical difficulty: +++

Technical difficulty: +++++

Total ride distance: 240km!!!

DAY 8 BRIANCON - TRANSALPS PART 2 OR AIRPORT

Return transfer to the airport (see conditions)

DETAILS OF THE TRANSALPS (PART 1)

Description	Stage 1 of TransAlps Tour - Chamonix to the Mediterranean sea Saturday to Saturday, 7 nights accomodation, 6 days riding
Level	Strong Intermediate to Advanced, 'all round rider' - Good fitness level required and able to push/carry your bike. Very good bike handling skills. Able to ride on technical singletracks, confident in any riding situations.
Terrain	All kinds of trails! Cruisy 2 path trails, easy singletracks, technical (some very technical) and challenging singletracks, 'rocky and rooty' trails.
Location	Starts from Chamonix , finishes in Briançon!
Nearest Airports	From Chamonix: Geneva (88km) – Lyon (220 km) – Chambéry (144km) From Briancon: Turin, Italy (123km) – Lyon (203km) Grenoble (235km)
Accommodation	7 nights accommodation in a mix of hotels, bunk houses and a mountain refuge
Included	Daily baggage transfer. Special offers from our guides partners 7 nights accommodation, 7 continental style breakfasts, 6 picnic lunches, 7 evening meals 6 days of guiding with a local professional and qualified, bilingual French/English speaking Mountain Bike Guide 8 clients maximum per group
Not Included	Flights/Travel etc. Expenses of repair and maintenance of bikes, cancellation/medical insurances and repatriation costs, bike hire, alcohol and generally all that is not included/understood in the heading 'Included'.
Physical Fitness	+++++
Technical Skill Level	+++

BOOKING YOUR TRIP

Dates :	July 10th – 17th July 24th – 31st August 14th - 21st August 28th - September 4th Complete TransAlps Tour: July 10th to 24th Complete TransAlps Tour: September 11th - 25th
Price per person :	Stage two from Briançon to Nice: <u>From 980 Euros</u> Complete TransAlps Chamonix to the Sea: <u>From 1900 Euros</u>

[Need more information?](#)

NB: this tour is run with a minimum of 2 clients, lunches on Saturday of arrival and Saturday of departure are not included, but can be arranged at an additional cost.

[**BOOK THIS TRIP!**](#)