



### Highlights

- Learn to ski tour in the spectacular setting of the Chamonix Valley
- Experience the joy of skiing untouched fresh snow
- Explore the Chamonix valley away from the crowded pistes

### Dates:

12th - 14th January  
26th - 28th January  
16th - 18th February  
9th - 11th March

**Price - 385€**

### Introduction

This course has been carefully designed by Robbie Fenlon for skiers who want to learn the skills needed to ski tour. In particular this intensive course offers valuable insight and training for any skiers thinking of embarking on the famous Chamonix to Zermatt Haute Route. We believe that ski touring is the ultimate mountain sport. We hope that this course will open the door for you to many exciting mountain adventures.

This course is designed so that clients can choose to join for 3 of 5 days to suit your needs.

### Detailed Itinerary

#### Day 1 Le Tour

Over an early morning coffee at Le Pichu in Le Tour, your guide will give you a brief run through of what the next 3 days will entail. You will then spend the morning skiing and getting used to ski touring techniques and equipment. In the afternoon you will complete a selection of short ski tours.

#### Day 2 Aiguille du Midi Col D'Entreves and Valle Blanche

Meeting at the Aiguille du Midi lift station you will take the lift to the top. Here you will put your skis on your back and negotiate your way down the steep arête to the Valle Blanche. You will follow the Vallee Blanche to about 3200m. Here you'll put skins on and climb up to the Col d'Entreves. From here you will ski down and onto the Valley Blanche to end your day.

#### Day 3 Crochues Berard Traverse, Aiguille Rouge.

Meet Les Praz and take the lift to Flegere. Then the Index chair lift will bring you to 2396m from here you traverse left to get a drag lift a little higher. Now the skins go on and you make your way up some steep turns that will put your kick turns to the test. Before the top of Col Crochue the pitch steepens and it is necessary to put the skis on your back and hike the remaining section. From the col you will traverse left to col du Berard. From here you have a fantastic ski down the Berard Valley to Le Buet. You will have time for a quick beer at Hotel Buet before getting the train back to Chamonix.



**Trip Price:** 385€

Trip price includes:

All guiding fees,  
All group safety equipment,  
Office support.

Price does not include:

Accommodation and food during the trip.  
Travel to and from Chamonix. (Flights from €70rtn, transfers from €50 rtn)  
3 days ski pass for the valley (approx. 143Euro)  
3 day rental of ski tour and avalanche kit (155 Euro)  
Any thing else not mentioned as included.

### **Optional 2 Day Extension – Mountain Hut Trip in Italy or Switzerland**

For those of you who think you will enjoy the above 3 days and have more time to extend your trip we offer this 2 day extension. This will involve touring to and spending the night at a mountain hut. We do not have a fixed itinerary for these two days as being flexible to suit the weather and snow conditions is essential. We also want to be able to choose the destination with the group's abilities and ambitions in mind

**2 Day Extension Price=** €350 per person based on a group of 4-6.

Price includes:

All guiding fees,  
All group safety equipment,  
Office Support  
Ground Transport  
1 overnight in a mountain hut with Breakfast and evening meal.

Price does not include:

Accommodation and food not mentioned as included.  
Travel to and from Chamonix.  
Ski pass (From no ski pass to approx 25€ depending on where you go)  
2 day rental of ski tour and avalanche kit (approx 80€)  
Any thing else not mentioned as included.

### **Trip Grading Level 2**

To join the trip you should be able to ski linked parallel turns on Black slopes and have some off piste experience. In all cases a good level of fitness will ensure that you enjoy the trip to the full and gain maximum benefit, you should for this reason be capable to a 2-3 hour hill walk. You can expect to be skiing for an average of 4-5 hours per day in a wide range of snow and weather conditions.

### **Why Introduction to Ski Touring, Chamonix with Wilderplaces?**

With a range of off-piste/ski mountaineering weeks and courses available it is difficult to know which one to choose. We believe the key to an enjoyable and safe off-piste experience is a clear understanding and grasp of the ski techniques required.

You will be in the safe in the hands of our guides. They are all highly experienced qualified UIAGM mountain guides who are passionate about skiing and ski touring and great company too. Above all, our Guides will do everything possible to impart their vast knowledge to you and make this an unforgettable experience for you.

### **Group size and guides**

The minimum group size for this trip is 3 and the maximum is 6. As noted above, you will spend this



trip under the guidance of a UIAGM Mountain Guide.

### Getting there and away

The week begins and in the Chamonix Valley, which is easily accessible from the Ireland, the UK and other countries. Transfers from Geneva to Chamonix take approximately 90mins and reservations can be made online at [www.mountaindropoffs.com](http://www.mountaindropoffs.com).

### Important Note

When booking your travel arrangements, you must check with us that the minimum numbers have been reached to enable the trip to run. This can be done either by contacting the office by email or telephone.

### Accommodation and Food

Whilst in the valley, you will be responsible for your own food and accommodation. We designed the course this way in order to give you the freedom to choose how much you want to spend on accommodation. For information on accommodation in Chamonix please see the attached document from us and/or contact the local tourist office [www.chamonix.com](http://www.chamonix.com).

### How to Book

Full details of the booking procedure are set out in our booking form and terms and conditions. We take reservation by email and your booking is confirmed on receipt of a deposit.

### Insurance

It is a condition of booking that you are insured against medical and personal accident risks. This must be for the activities undertaken and include repatriation costs, air ambulance and helicopter rescue services and cancellation and curtailment. We also recommend that you take out insurance which includes baggage cover. You can purchase insurance to cover all your needs from the British Mountaineering council at [www.thebmc.co.uk](http://www.thebmc.co.uk)

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### Backcountry Skiing with Wilderplaces

We are passionate skiers and view backcountry skiing as perhaps the ultimate way to explore the high mountains. Our backcountry ski courses and ski tours are born out of personal knowledge and experience and we have spent many years building partnerships with the best guides and instructors here in the Alps.

Our passion for and knowledge of off-piste skiing and ski touring is combined with our skills and experience as adventure travel professionals. This means that you can be sure of a professional service from start to finish. If you need help with deciding upon the right trip or what type of equipment to bring, then be sure to give us a call. We would be delighted to assist based upon our personal knowledge and experience.

### Climate

Winter in the Alps can bring a wide range of temperatures and weather conditions. During the day it is possible to experience sub-zero conditions through to ambient temperatures in the high 20's. Your personal clothing and equipment should reflect the wide variety of possible conditions.

### Medical Information & Safety

We will provide you with detailed information when you book your holiday. On all our trips each guide is qualified in First-Aid and they will carry a comprehensive first aid kit with them at all times and have experience of treating medical situations in an outdoors environment. In addition, we do encourage clients to bring their own first aid kit. It is your own responsibility to ensure that you are physically fit enough to join an adventurous trip such as this. We recommend that you have a complete medical and dental checkup prior to departure.



**Currency and spending money**

To cover personal expenditure on this trip we estimate that the equivalent of £250 will be sufficient. Further information regarding currency and money matters in France is contained in the Essential Information, sent to you at the time of booking.

**Extending your Trip**

Should you have more time before or after your chosen itinerary, we would be pleased to organise trip extensions customised to your requirements. A wide range of options are available and you could choose from personalised off-piste ski instruction to private mountain guiding and an ascent of a remote alpine peak.