

TOUR OF THE OISANS



**Self-guided tour
8 days, 7 nights**

Nothing to carry except for one night

The largest French National Park, Parc des Ecrins, a magical name, with legendary summits: Meije Les Agneaux, the Barre des Ecrins, but also villages with typical mountain architecture. One of the wildest and most beautiful GR.

This hike goes around the famous massif of the Oisans. From the plateau of Emparis, a balcony path over the Meije to the pass of Muzelle, you will at least cross on pass per day. You will discover the Agenaux, Pelvoux and the Ecrins, legendary summits.

The landscape is constantly renewed, where marmots, chamois, ibex, golden eagles and black grouse have chosen to live for the delight of hikers.

Highlights

- Beautiful landscapes, a wonderful look at nature and mountain, men and fragile villages that were built
- The pleasure of hiking in mountain without the weight of the bag

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CERTIFICATION
EUROPARC
FEDERATION
EUROPEAN CHARTER
FOR SUSTAINABLE TOURISM IN
PROTECTED AREAS

atr

PROGRAMME

Day 1 Arrival in Besse en Oisans, a small mountain village at 1550m height.

Day 2 Besse en Oisans - La Grave

Ascent and crossing of the plateau of Emparis (2365m) : one of the most beautiful plateaux in the Oisans, beautiful view over the Meije ! Descent to the village of La Grave, the capital of mountaineering, you will pass by the village of Chazelet. Diner and overnight in a cottage. 6h walk, + / - 900m.

Day 3 La Grave - Monétier les Bains

Short transfer to the Pont d'Arsine, 1667m.

Direction Le Casset (1550m) by the Pas d'Anna Falque, the sources of Romanche and the pass of Arsine (2340m). The panorama over the mountains of Agneux is beautiful, that culminates at 3664m and you will have the opportunity to meet plenty of marmots. A little tour by the glacier lake of Arsine, 2455m and descent among larches to the village of Casset, and to the village of Monétier les Bains. Diner and overnight in a cottage.

6h30 walk, +800m, -985m

Day 4 Monétier - Vallouise

Pass of Eychauda (2425m) or the pass of Grangettes (2684m), interesting alternative, wilder than the GR, it passes by a beautiful lake. The day continues with a long descent to the valley of Pelvoux and to the beautiful village of Vallouise, opened on the Ecrins, the Pelvoux and Bans. Diner and overnight in a cottage.

By the pass of Eychauda: 7 h walk, +100m, -1250m

By the pass of Grangettes and the lake of Eychauda: 7h45 walk, +1250m, -1485m (difficult)

Day 5 Vallouise - Champoléon

Transfer by bus (10km) to Entre les Aigues, and the stage continues to Champoléon to the beautiful cottage of Chaumette, 1790m, you will cross the pass of Aulp Martin (2761m). Diner and overnight in a cottage.

7h30 walk, +1150m, -970m.

You carry your belongings for the night, you will get the rest of your luggage on the evening of Day 6.

Day 6 Champoléon - Villard Loubière

You will cross 3 passes: La Valette, 2668m, Goiran, 2597m, Vallompierre, 2607m. A superb stage with beautiful views over the wild summits of Sirac 3441m, Chabournéou 3248m and Joselme 3458m. Descent by the refuge of Vallompierre on the shores of a little lake, the hut of Surette and towards the valley of Valgaudemar. Short transfer to Villard Loubière. Diner and overnight in a cottage.

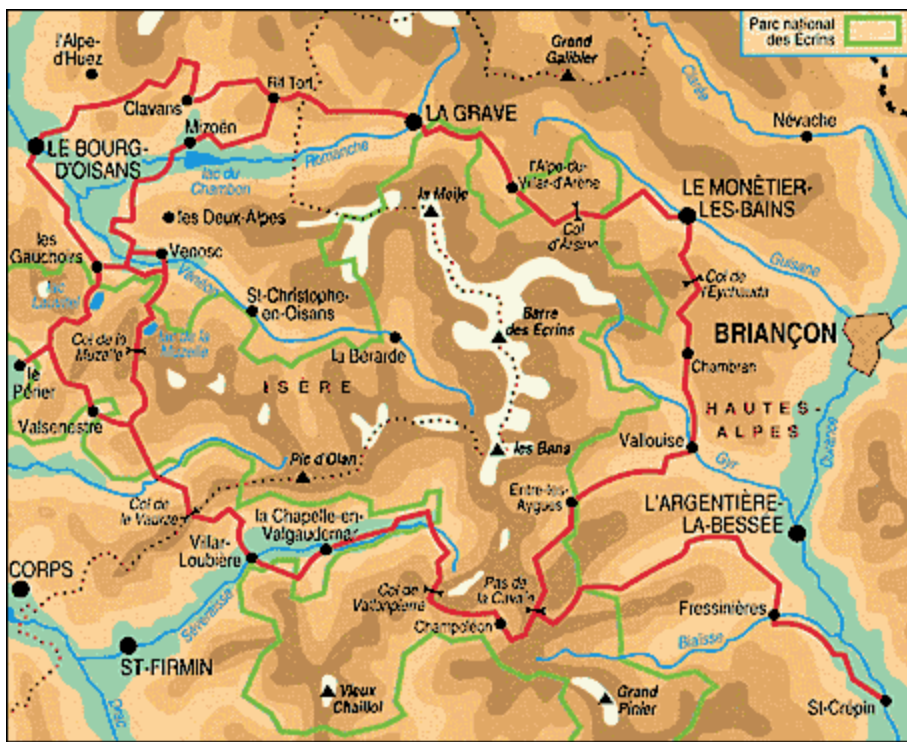
7h30 walk, +1200m, -1360m

Day 7 Villard Loubière - the Désert en Valjouffrey

Crossing of the pass of La Vaurze (2500m) with views over the Olan summit and the Pic des Souffles. The desert of Valjouffrey (1267m) is one of the wildest valleys in the Oisans. Even if it's inhabited there are no more cottages in this valley, you will be transferred by private bus to Valsenestre (13215m), a beautiful village with stone and wooden houses.
7h walk, +1450m, -1235m

Day 8 Valsenestre - Venosc

This is the last day but it's also a beautiful one, you will cross the pass of Muzelle (2693m), open your eyes, eagles and ibex are not far!), panorama over the lake of Muzelle and descent to Venosc.
7h30 walk, + 1330m, -1670m



DETAILS

LEVEL 3+

Good to very good walker, 5h30 to 7h30 walk per day.

A few snow-covered passes and schistose passes.

Average positive ascent: 800m to 1450m...

LUGGAGE

You only carry your daily belongings and your picnic. You will get your luggage at your hotel in the evening.

Except on day 5, you will carry your belongings for the night of day 5 to day 6.

ACCOMMODATION / FOOD

Accommodation: cottage and guarded refuges (little dormitory)

You can shower every day

Food: dinner and breakfast

ORGANISATION

Self-guided tour, you will get a travel pack with maps, roadbook and vouchers.

GROUP

Possible from 4 person

DATES

Departure on a Saturday from July to beginning of September

BEGINNING / END

- **Start** : on Saturday in Besse en Oisans
- **End**: on Saturday in Venosc.

ACCESS

After the recent events in the tunnel of Chambon, the D1091 road is now closed at the level of the tunnel. To reach La Grave you have to take the pass of "Col du Galibier" or go through the town of Gap. Works have been undertaken for the reopening of the tunnel.

By train

Arrival: train TGV from Paris to Grenoble and regular bus to Bourg d'Oisans (the bus station is close to the train station in Grenoble). <http://www.transisere.fr/>

Bourg d'Oisans / Besse en Oisans : Taxi de l'Oisans Mr. Saccucci, tel : + 33 (0) 6 09 37 94 90 / + 33 (0) 6 11 34 42 52.

Departure: regular bus from Venosc to Bourg d'Oisans www.vfd.fr or we can organise a taxi transfer.

Regular bus from Bourg d'Oisans to Grenoble and train TGV to Paris.

To park your car:

You can leave it in Besse en Oisans

USEFUL INFORMATION

- Maison du Parc National des Ecrins, Oisans region, BP47, 38520 Bourg d'Oisans, Tel : (+33 0) 4 76 80 00 51
- Tourism Office of Bourg d'Oisans: Tél. (+33 0) 4 76 80 03 25

ITINERARY

We might be led to change a little bit of the itinerary: because of the organisation (the hotels are full, damaged paths or collapse...). Please trust us, these changes all act in your interests, it is for your safety and a better comfort!

MAPS

Maps : IGN, Série Top 25 1/25000^{ième}

3335 ET, 3336 ET, 3437 OT et 3437 ET
3435 ET, 3436 ET

PRICE per person

From 4 to 7 persons : 675 €

8 persons and more : 655 €

Included :

- 7 nights accommodation in half-board
- Luggage transportation as described in then programme
- The travel pack
- Transfers as described in the programme
- Tourist tax

Not included:

- Bus on Day 5
- Drinks
- Lunches
- Visists
- Other transfers
- Insurance

RECOMMENDED CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

- A small comfortable backpack for the day (40 to 50L)
- Good hiking shoes with good soles
- A pair of sneakers
- A good sweat shirt or a fleece shirt
- A windbreaker
- Comfortable trousers to hike
- A short
- Sweats
- A light shirt with long sleeves
- Woollen socks
- A hat and sunglasses
- A flask
- Sunscreen
- Toilet bag
- A first-aid-kit (aspirin, gauze bandage, disinfectant...)
- A bathing suite
- Cutlery, a plastic plate and a Tupperware (for the salads).
- + Another bag: a backpack or a travel bag (not too big)