### **GEEO ITINERARY**

Mont Blanc 6/14/2025

### Day 1: Chamonix Arrive in Chamonix at any time.

Arrive in Chamonix at any time. The closest airport to Chamonix is the **Geneva Airport (GVA)**. Due to the potential for flight delays or cancellations, we recommend that you plan to arrive in Europe at least a day in advance. This will also give you time to adjust to the time difference and overcome any jet lag. We can book extra hotel nights for you in Chamonix before and/or after the trip. Your alpine hotel is in the center of Chamonix, giving you an opportunity to enjoy the area and rest before and after the hikes. Hotel Check-in and Welcome Meeting Please note that check-in at the hotel is usually around 2:00-3:00 p.m. There are no planned activities until an intro meeting around 6:00 or 7:00 p.m., usually in the hotel lobby. Check for a sign or ask at the reception desk about the exact time and location of the group meeting. Please make every effort to arrive in time for this meeting. If you are delayed and will arrive late, please inform us. Your tour leader will then leave you a message at the front desk informing you of where and when to meet up tomorrow. After the meeting, you might choose to get dinner at a nearby restaurant with your traveling companions and your tour leader to further get to know one another. It will be hard to choose from alpine specialties like cheese fondue, tartiflette, or raclette—perhaps accompanied by some famous "Vin de Savoie" wine. Joining Instructions Getting to Pointe Isabelle Hotel (please check your vouchers to ensure this is your start hotel): A public bus runs four times per day between GVA airport and Chamonix. The cost is €19 EUR each way. See this site for more information. This bus can also sell out, so we recommend purchasing tickets in advance. Alternatively, you can arrange arrival and departure transfers between the Geneva Airport and the hotel in Chamonix through G Adventures. We advise that you book these arrival and departure transfers in advance, as they will likely sell out within a few days of travel. Please make sure you have the following travel details before booking: - Flight number - Flight arrival date and time - Flight departure date and time - Number of Passengers - Name(s) of Passengers - Email address - Valid mobile phone number -Drop off and/or pick up address (i.e., hotel address) Accommodation: Pointe Isabelle (or similar) \* For the actual hotel your specific departure will be using, please check your voucher.

### Day 2: Chamonix Enjoy a full-day hike into the Chamonix Valley's L'Aiguillette des Posettes trail.

Today we will head out in the Chamonix valley for our first hike. The L'Aiguillette des Posettes Trail takes us through alpine forests dotted with impressive rock formations. We will hike up the steep-sided valley for splendid views across to the peaks and glaciers. The ascents and descents on this day are quite long but the ground is relatively easy. We gain height gently in switchbacks, on a narrow trail across mountain turf and rock. There are superb views across to Mont Blanc, and the relatively easy ground underfoot makes this an easier day than the elevation gain may at first suggest. Please note that the hike can change depending on weather conditions. Hiking Info: 6-7 hrs, 8km Elevation gain: 850m (2,788 ft). Highest elevation: 2,201m (7,221 ft). **Accommodation**: Pointe Isabelle (or similar) **Meals included**: Breakfast

# Day 3: Chamonix Enjoy a free day to explore. Opt to take a breathtaking cable car ride up the Aiguille du Midi pinnacle, visit the Mer de Glace, take a walk through the Ice Cave, or go for a dip in the local thermal spa.

Taking a break from our walking, we'll spend today exploring the Chamonix region with various optional activities to suit everyone's interests. Why not take a recommended cable car ride up the famous Aiguille du Midi and across the glaciers to Punta Helbronner in Italy? Or if you want some excitement, opt to join a rafting trip, or go parapenting - these activities are available and bookable locally, and your tour leader will have suggestions for where to do this. If you are itching for more hiking, there are plenty of trails in the area. Don't miss the chance to try some of the local specialty food that this region is famous for in one of the town's many excellent bars and restaurants. See our optional activity list further below for more information. For a more relaxing day, you can choose to stay at resort level and enjoy some local

hikes in the area or perhaps visit the local leisure centre. One good hike in the area starts in Les Praz by the pretty medieval church. Don't miss the chance to try some of the local specialty foods that this region is famous for in one of the town's many excellent bars and restaurants! **Accommodation**: Pointe Isabelle (or similar) **Meals included**: Breakfast

## Day 4: Chamonix/Courmayeur Set out on a full-day walk and arrive in Val Veny. Take in the amazing panoramic view of the surrounding landscapes, including a view of the Italian side of Mont Blanc.

Set out on a full-day walk and arrive in Val Veny. Take in the amazing panoramic view of the surrounding landscapes, including a view of the Italian side of Mont Blanc. We travel this morning through the Mont Blanc Tunnel, crossing the Italian border to the town of Courmayeur. Here we will drop off our bags and head out for a day hike in magnificent and wild Val Veny to enjoy some superb views of Mont Blanc and the Brenva glacier. There are a couple of options for more challenging hikes if some of the group want to take them. Hiking Info: 5-8 hrs, 10-13 km Elevation gain: 820m (2,706 ft). Highest elevation: 2,020m (6,627 ft). **Approximate travel time**: 30 minutes by private vehicle **Accommodation**: Hotel Cristallo (or similar) **Meals included**: Breakfast

# Day 5: Courmayeur Enjoy a free day to explore Courmayeur. Opt to take a spectacular cable car ride to Pointe Helbronner or enjoy a day of relaxation at the Pré St Didier spa.

Enjoy a free day in the Courmayeur region to take advantage of some optional activities, such as taking a bus to La Palud, followed by a magnificent cable car ride to Pointe Helbronner and back. Your tour leader will let you know more about other options such as mountain biking, hiking, a day visit to the town of Aosta, or a bit of indulgent relaxation at the wonderful Pré St Didier Spa. See our optional activities list further below for more information. **Accommodation**: Hotel Cristallo (or similar) **Meals included**: Breakfast

## Day 6: Courmayeur Enjoy a day walk in the Val Ferret for fabulous views of the Italian side of Mont Blanc. Descend via the village of Planpincieux.

Walk to the village of Villair from Courmayeur and up a zig-zag path (steep at times) to Rifugio Bertone, a mountain hut situated high above the Courmayeur Valley, where we stop for a refreshing cold drink. The path then contours around the flank of the Mont de la Saxe, where we enjoy a picnic lunch at an elevation of 2,000m (6,561 ft), with magnificent views of the south face of Mont Blanc. Descend to the Planpincieux valley. Hiking Info: 5-7 hrs, 10-16 km Elevation gain: 776m (2,546 ft). Highest elevation: 2,000m (6,561 ft). **Accommodation**: Hotel Cristallo (or similar) **Meals included**: Breakfast

# Day 7: Courmayeur/Chamonix Travel to Les Praz. Enjoy a day hike with views of Glacier d'Argentière, Pic du Midi, and Mont Blanc. In the evening, return to Chamonix.

This morning, travel from Courmayeur back to Chamonix. Hike all day above the Chamonix valley for magnificent views of the Grandes Jorasses, the Dru, and the Mer de Glace glacier. Walk up a zig-zag trail through trees to La Flégère. Then continue the hike in true mountain terrain at 1850-2000m with some steep steps up/down and some boulder fields. From Plan Praz descend to Chamonix by a scenic cable car. It's a tough day of hiking, but the views are extremely rewarding. Hiking Info: 5-8 hrs, 6-15 km Elevation gain: up to 1,080m (3,543 ft). Highest elevation: 2,021m (6,630 ft). In the evening, try out a local Chamonix brewery for a farewell hearty dinner and a pint of lager made from glacial-fed water! **Approximate travel time**: 30 minutes by private vehicle **Accommodation**: Pointe Isabelle (or similar) **Meals included**: Breakfast

### Day 8: Chamonix Depart Chamonix at any time.

There are no planned activities today, so you may depart Chamonix at any time. If you wish to extend your stay in Chamonix, consider booking post-tour accommodation with us. Please note that check-out time from the hotel is usually mid-morning, but luggage storage services are available at the reception desk. Want more adventure? Book two or more GEEO programs in the same school year and receive a discount! GEEO will give you 10% off of the lesser value program(s) (up to 3 programs per year). If you would like to extend your time abroad but don't see another GEEO program that interests you, let us know. We can work with you to find a trip from our tour operator's much larger catalog. Their tours are open to the general public and not designed specifically for educators, but we can still offer you and your travel companions a discounted educator price on any additional tours that you book. **Meals included**: Breakfast

\*Itinerary Disclaimer: While it is our intention to adhere to the routes described on our website, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable, to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The information on our website is a general guide to the tour and region, and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

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