

YOUR SCHEDULE

THE BEST OF THE ALPS – 7 DAYS/6 NIGHTS

Non-contractual photos – For logistical reasons and depending on the dates of your stay, the incoming agency may have to change the activity and/or day schedule.

SUMMARY

Day 1 :

*Arrival in Lyon at the beginning of the afternoon – Coach tour including a visit to a silk-craft
Dinner in a « Bouchon Lyonnais » - traditional Lyon-style restaurant
Overnight stay in Lyon*

Day 2 :

*Guided walking tour of Old Lyon
Beaujolais Region « Country of the Golden Stones »
Wine sensory discovery
Overnight stay in Pizay*

Day 3 :

*Visit of Pérouges
Annecy : cruise and night-time guided tour
Overnight stay in Annecy*

Day 4 :

*Local market of Annecy (Tue-Fri-Sun)
Lunch at Col des Aravis
Megève : flight over the Mont Blanc – horse drawn carriage tour
Overnight stay in Megève*

Day 5 :

*Free time for strolling in Megève
Chamonix : Aiguille du Midi or Montenvers-Mer de Glace
Overnight stay in Chamonix*

Day 6 :

*Yvoire
Evian : guided tour ou ½ day Wellness
Overnight stay in Evian*

Day 7 :

Departure

DETAILED PROGRAMME

This tour, "through the lakes and mountains", starts in the regional capital, Lyon, designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and lets you discover such gems as Lake Annecy and Lake Geneva, climbing through the mountain landscapes to the roof of Europe.

Day 1 :

3.30 pm: Tour of Lyon by coach



This tour of the city by coach will give you a 2-hour overview of one of France's most important cities. Its entire history, from the Roman period to the present, can be identified through its architecture, which is why it has been partially designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

You will also visit the only place in Lyon where you can still see "Jacquard" looms in operation. During your guided tour you will discover Jacquard's invention illustrated with demonstrations of weaving on looms, the history of silk, the social contribution of the "canuts" (silk workers) in the 19th century and the realities of the textile industry in the Rhône-Alpes region in the 20th century.

7.30 pm: Dinner at a "Bouchon Lyonnais"

When visiting Lyon, you have to have dinner at a Bouchon to discover part of the city's heritage. What is a Bouchon? It is a restaurant where you can enjoy Lyonnais specialities washed down with wine from the region in a warm, friendly atmosphere!

Overnight stay in Lyon

Day 2

9:00 am: Guided tour of Lyon



Head out (on foot) for a history-filled walk around Mediaeval and Renaissance Lyon through the narrow cobblestone streets and the famous traboules. These passageways running from one street to another reveal superbly renovated architectural treasures: inside courtyards, Italian galleries, wells, spiral stairways, etc. The guide will fill you in on the secrets and anecdotes that have given this historical neighbourhood its reputation, the 1st protected sector

in France listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Free time for lunch

Afternoon: Exploring the Pierres Dorées (Golden Stone) area of the Beaujolais region



The south of the Beaujolais region is a lively, sun-drenched land with remarkable villages built with yellow ochre stone that delightfully reflects the sunlight.

You will spend the evening in a charming 4-star establishment.

You will have fun at its wine cellar's 8 workshops – unique in France – for an initiation to oenology. Learn the basics of wine tasting with quizzes on colours, aromas, flavours, interactions between flavours, tannins, the difference between aromas and flavours, ageing in wood and bottles, etc.

Dinner at the hotel's gourmet restaurant.

Day 3 :

8:00 am: Departure for Pérouges



Northeast of Lyon, at the top of a hill overlooking the Plain of the Rhône, this old weaver town protected by the double walls of its ramparts has preserved traces of its mediaeval past: old houses from the 15th and 16th centuries, narrow uneven cobblestone streets, the fortress-church, etc. This exceptional architectural ensemble is magnified by contemporary lighting. Take advantage of the visit to taste the village's speciality: the galette au sucre (sugar cake, or Galette de Pérouges – a Thibaut trademark).

Don't miss this succulent pastry – so simple and yet so delicious!

11:00 am: Departure for Annecy



Annecy is called the "Venice of the Alps" because of the canals crisscrossing the historical town centre. The Vieille Ville (Old Town) and its maze of cobblestone pedestrian streets, arcades and doors from the Middle Ages, not to mention the Palais de l'Île (better known by the term "Vieilles Prisons" – "Old Prisons"), an emblematic monument of Annecy and one of the most photographed in France, and the Museum-Château, are among the sites not to be missed.

1:00 pm: Lunch

3:30 pm: One-hour cruise on Lake Annecy.



You will set sail from Annecy for a guided cruise. This is the perfect way to contemplate the purest lake in Europe and to enjoy its majestic setting. You will discover the surrounding villages at the foot of the mountains: Veyrier du Lac, Menthon Saint Bernard, Talloires and its famous bay, Saint-Jorioz and Sevrier. You will also see some of the lovely residences lining the shores.

Optional: You can take a bike ride (conventional or e-bikes) and enjoy the Voie Verte (greenway): a secured path along the lake exclusively reserved to pedestrians, cyclists and skaters. Weaving your way along the lake, sometimes through the countryside, you will love the magnificent views over the surrounding mountains.

In the evening (times will be adapted to the season): night-time guided tour.



An unusual way to explore the flowery canals, narrow streets, monuments and churches of this charming city. Your guides will show you "their" Annecy.

Day 4 :

Morning: Take advantage of Annecy a little more before moving on to the mountain landscapes.

Discover the local products and specialities at the market in the old town (Tues., Fri. or Sun.) or take a stroll through the pedestrian streets.

11:00 am: Departure for the Col des Aravis

You will leave Annecy along the eastern shore of the lake, quickly overlooking the lake with breath-taking views on your way up to the Col de Bluffy, the road opening up between the lake and the mountains. On your way, you will have a beautiful view over the Château de Menthon, whose towers overlook the lake!



12:00 pm: Lunch at the Col des Aravis

Enjoy the mountain landscapes and a breath-taking view.

Lunch with Savoyard specialities.

3:00 pm: Megève



Megève is an authentic Alpine village that has managed to preserve its identity while developing world-class services. In every season the village offers its visitors activities and outings in a gorgeous setting facing Mont Blanc.

Depending on the weather, you will take off from Megève Altiport to explore the most beautiful mountains in Europe. The professional pilots will let you safely admire the glaciers on Mont Blanc from an airplane with panoramic windows. You are sure to experience unforgettable sensations, emotions and images.

7:30 pm: Dinner

For a smooth landing back in the real world, a horse-drawn carriage will take you to the restaurant.

Day 5

Stroll through the typical streets of Megève and take advantage of your visit to do some shopping before hitting the road to Chamonix, a mountain town surrounded by amazing glaciers.



Take the aerial tramway to the top of the Aiguille du Midi and have lunch at the summit, at an altitude of 3,842 m (12,605 feet). Are you a thrill seeker? You will love the unique experience of the Pas dans le Vide ("Step into the Void" glass skywalk) or you can enjoy the breath-taking view over the mountain landscapes.

OR

Take the rack railway to the Mer de Glace and have lunch. You will easily be able to understand how glaciers are formed and evolve with this magnificent example right in front of you.

Enjoy the evening before dinner and the overnight stay in Chamonix.

Day 6 :

8:00 am: Today you will explore Lake Geneva.

10:00 am: Yvoire



This mediaeval village on the shores of Lake Geneva was already a lordship when Amadeus V, Count of Savoy, decided to make it an impregnable fortress at the start of the 14th century. The essential vestiges from the period have survived: the château, gates, ramparts, etc. This village, now a member of the Association des Plus Beaux Villages de France ("The Most Beautiful Villages of France" Association), celebrated its 710th anniversary in 2016. Your guide will introduce you to the history of this old fishing village.

For lunch, check out THE speciality of Yvoire: Perch fillets.

2:30 pm: Departure for Evian

3:15 pm: Guided tour of the town



Evian is world-famous for its mineral water. The tour will present the history of this water city, from the Middle Ages to the present, and you will be able to drink the famous water from the fountains along the itinerary.

If you would like to have a beautiful view over the town and off toward Lausanne and the

Lavaux vineyards, all the way over in Switzerland, head up the mountain with the funicular (open from May to September).

or (by reservation only and depending on availability)

Spend a half-day enjoying the benefits of the thermal spring waters for a wellness break:



Today, the Thermes d'Evian®, completely renovated in 2012, seek to provide everyone who wants to relax and protect their health capital in a sustainable, natural way with the opportunity to come and draw upon the spring's therapeutic benefits, recognised by the National Academy of Medicine. A wide menu of hydrotherapy, beauty and wellness care is available.

Your wellness programme will include care in a shared swimming pool and individual care (water jet), as well as access to the sauna, hammam and relaxation rooms. Other care possibilities are available (for an additional fee).

Departure from Geneva at the end of the day OR

Day 7:

Departure after breakfast.