



#19 As you leave the chapel go back down the slope then turn right and go under the railway bridge. You will soon be on the Chemin des Jorasses.

What are the Jorasses?
Just how "Grandes" are they?

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#18 Enter the chapel and admire the décor and the stained-glass windows. The most recent restoration of this historic building took place in 2017/2018.
Saint Théodule takes pride of place on the altar, but who is the saint with a dog on the right-hand wall? Of what illness is he patron saint?



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#20 Keep straight on and when you have crossed the river Arve, turn left. Now simply enjoy this idyllic forest trail alongside the river until you reach the Paradis des Praz; another timeless and enchanted location, whose benches invite you to take a well-deserved rest!

What is the flag flying on the refreshment chalet?

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CHAMONIX-MONT-BLANC

NATURE AND HERITAGE QUIZ

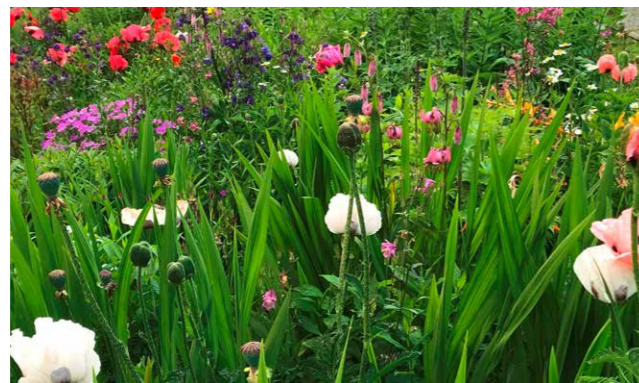


RAIL & TRAIL

**Thank you for taking part in our quiz!
We hope you have had a good time.**

To return to Les Praz station, continue along the path which takes you alongside and across the magnificent golf course. Just before you reach the main road you will see a large sign relative to the golf course. Follow the direction "Départ trou n°1" as this will lead you to a safe walkway alongside the main road. You can now take the pedestrian crossing to join the Chemin des Lanchers opposite just before the car park. This enables you to return to Les Praz station without going along the main road.

**Now all you have to do is pop into the Argentière or Chamonix tourist offices to get your answers checked.
GOOD LUCK !**



Conception : Cybergraph Chamonix

DISCOVER LES BOIS, LES TINES AND LE PARADIS DES PRAZ

Take advantage of the historic Mont-Blanc Express and explore the villages and hidden treasures of the Chamonix Valley.



For families and friends of all ages
Allow 3h if on foot and 2h (with pauses) on bikes.



All year round, subject to snow conditions, departing from Les Praz train station.

SERVOZ - LES HOUCHES - CHAMONIX-MONT-BLANC - ARGENTIÈRE - VALLORCINE

#1 Exit the train station at les Praz and turn right. In front of you is the Hotel Eden, previously known as the station hotel, built in 1910. Cross the railway crossing and immediately after, turn left along the Route des Lacs. Shortly you will see the first lake on your right.

This lake is stocked with trout, but one can also catch a small fish and a shellfish.

Can you unscramble their names?
a b c c e i k k l s t • a c f h i r s y

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#2 When you reach an intersection, go right along the Avenue des Bois and admire the panorama – you can see that the village of les Bois is overlooked by the impressive and renowned west face of the Drus! In 1955, Walter Bonatti opened a remarkable route, climbing solo, on the south-west pillar of the Drus.

Observe the mountain and try to imagine why part of this route no longer exists

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#3 When you reach a T-junction, go right and follow the road that will take you into the charming village of Les Bois. In front of you, an oratory which dates from 1860. Like many traditional “Savoyard” homesteads, its roof is made of wooden tiles.

What are they called?

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#4 Keep going and on your left, you will see a traditional stone farmhouse, a good example of a Chamonix homestead. Admire the typical entrance space which in its “hayday” provided access to the cowshed, the lodgings and, on the upper level, to the hay barn

When was this farm built?

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#5 A little further on your right you will see the old sawmill. It was opened in 1923 by Jules Balmat and is now a carpentry business run by Charlet Montant.

What wooden object is hung on the facade of the property?
In the past, a whipsaw was used to fell trees. What is the particularity of this saw?

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#6 After the next bend, you will see a charming house with red shutters. It was built in 1924 and was one of the first holiday homes to be built in les Bois.

What is its name?
What major event has made the year 1924 historic for Chamonix?

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#7 Beyond the villa on your right is the village square. Take the path in the woods opposite the square and follow the directions for La Pierre d’Orthaz. After about 150m, you will re-join the road where you turn immediately to the left. You will walk alongside the helipad - it is from here that the helicopter mountain rescue operations are carried out.

It is called the DZ. What do these letters stand for?

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#8 Keep straight on towards the bridge which crosses the river Arveyron. On your left you will see a sign indicating the “Desert Blanc” (white desert). This large open space was cleared and levelled in 1970 to create an alti port. The project did not get the necessary authorisations!

What is this area used for in winter?

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#9 Cross the bridge and then go left. Admire the panorama and the farm animals that you may see along the way. The mountain chain of the opposite side of the valley is the Aiguilles Rouges.

What is the name of the cable car which departs from the village of Les Praz?

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#10 You will go past several small farmsteads on your left. Once past them keep straight on until you come to the sign for “Le Sentier du Granite” (the granite trail).

Between the 16th and 19th centuries, during a period known as the Little Ice Age, several glaciers reached the floor of the Chamonix Valley. When they eventually receded, they left behind enormous granite boulders.

What is the name of this particular glacier?
What was the nationality of the men who worked in this quarry?

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#11 Now take the Chemin des Rantourneurs and re-cross the Arveyron via the double bridge.

Who or what was a “Rantourneur”?
a. A woodturner
b. A migrating bird
c. A mule boy
d. A pizza chef

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#12 After the bridge, take the middle path, alongside the EDF sign, and keep going along the Chemin des Rantourneurs.

Before long you will see a shooting range on your right.

What is the name of the winter sport which combines cross-country skiing with rifle shooting?

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#13 Continue on the path alongside the rifle range and keep straight on until you reach a small car park by the road. Turn right along the road for about 60m and turn left just before the no-entry sign.

Just beyond another small parking area you will spot a large boulder, known as “Pierre n° 6”. This rock attests to the fearful advance of the glacier in the early 1800s.

What date is engraved in the granite?

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#14 Just beyond the boulder, take a narrow path called the Chemin du Sangeon. It will bring you to the charming and timeless Hotel de la Prairie. This family hotel was built by mountain guide Henri Claret-Tournier in 1900, and it is still run by his descendants.

Which summit did Henri Claret-Tournier climb 99 times, always setting off on foot from the hotel?

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#15 Now continue north (direction Les Tines) along the Chemin du Lavoussé. This path soon leaves the road and enters the forest. Formerly the children of Les Bois took this path to go to school in Les Tines. Where the trail separates in the forest, opt for the right-hand fork if you are on a bike.

Le Lavoussé has abandoned its bed! What was it?

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#16 When you exit the forest turn left along the Chemin de la Pierre N° 2; you will shortly reach the main road, so descend cautiously if on bikes. Cross the main road, go right and then take the first left along the Chemin de Saint Roch. After approximately 100m along the road you will see the old school of Les Tines on the right.

This school used to provide instruction for the children of Les Tines, but also for a village below and a village above Les Tines. Can you name them?

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#17 Continue to the end of the village and you will see before you the Chapelle des Tines. Built on the site of an oratory in 1777, the chapel is dedicated to Saint Théodule, a 4th century priest from the Valais in Switzerland. A distinguishing feature of the doorway is that it is framed with calc-tufa stone.

What kind of rock is this?

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