

The listed Valley of Champagny le Haut's 4 hamlets

Vanoise - CHAMPAGNY-EN-VANOISE



Le vallon de Champagny Le Haut (OTGP)



Destination getaway on the 4 Hamlets itinerary: a family itinerary taking in an authentic site and unspoilt nature!

A series of hamlets grace the slopes of Champagny le Haut Valley, a long valley carved out by glaciers and listed as a National Heritage Site. Following the Doron, an easy itinerary ideal for family outings acquaints you with their architectural treasures typical of the region, providing outstanding views of countless waterfalls and glaciers along the way. Once through the hamlet of Laisonnay, the more athletic among you can make their way into the heart of the Vanoise National Park, a marmots' paradise! The itinerary follows a pastoral trail (change of waymarking, a few rather steep sections) to Glière with its lake and chapel, facing the Grande Casse glacier, and then, after a few twists and turn, on to the Chalet du Grand Plan.

Useful information

Practice : Mountain bike (electric)

Duration : 1 h

Length : 10.9 km

Trek ascent : 162 m

Difficulty : Very easy

Type : Loop

Themes : Architecture, Flora ,
History , Lake and glacier,
Viewpoint

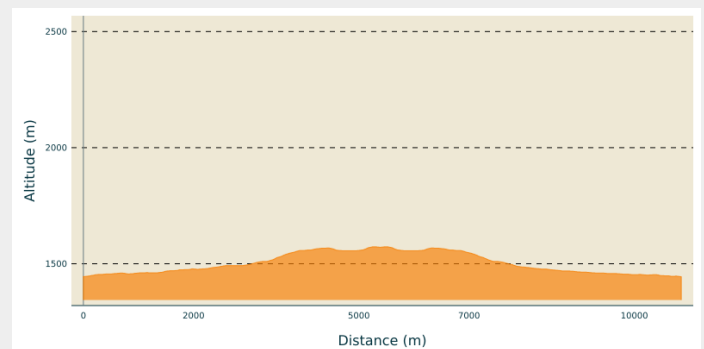
Trek

Departure : The Couaz Dam Hamlet of La Couaz 73350 Champagny-en-Vanoise

Arrival : The Couaz Dam Hamlet of La Couaz 73350 Champagny-en-Vanoise

Cities : 1. CHAMPAGNY-EN-VANOISE

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 1444 m Max elevation 1573 m

The itinerary starts at the entrance to Champagny le Haut Valley, making its way along the left bank on a forest trail before switching to the right bank when you leave the hamlet of La Chiserette, taking you through the hamlets of Le Bois and Friburge, and then, by road, to the hamlet of Laisonnay. After taking full advantage of the tranquillity and beauty of the surroundings, you continue on along the road for a few hundred metres to rejoin a trail in Friburge, which will take you to the hamlet of Le Bois, and then, again by road, to La Chiserette before returning to your point of departure.

Follow the green waymarks: Les 4 Hameaux.

E-bike rental shop:

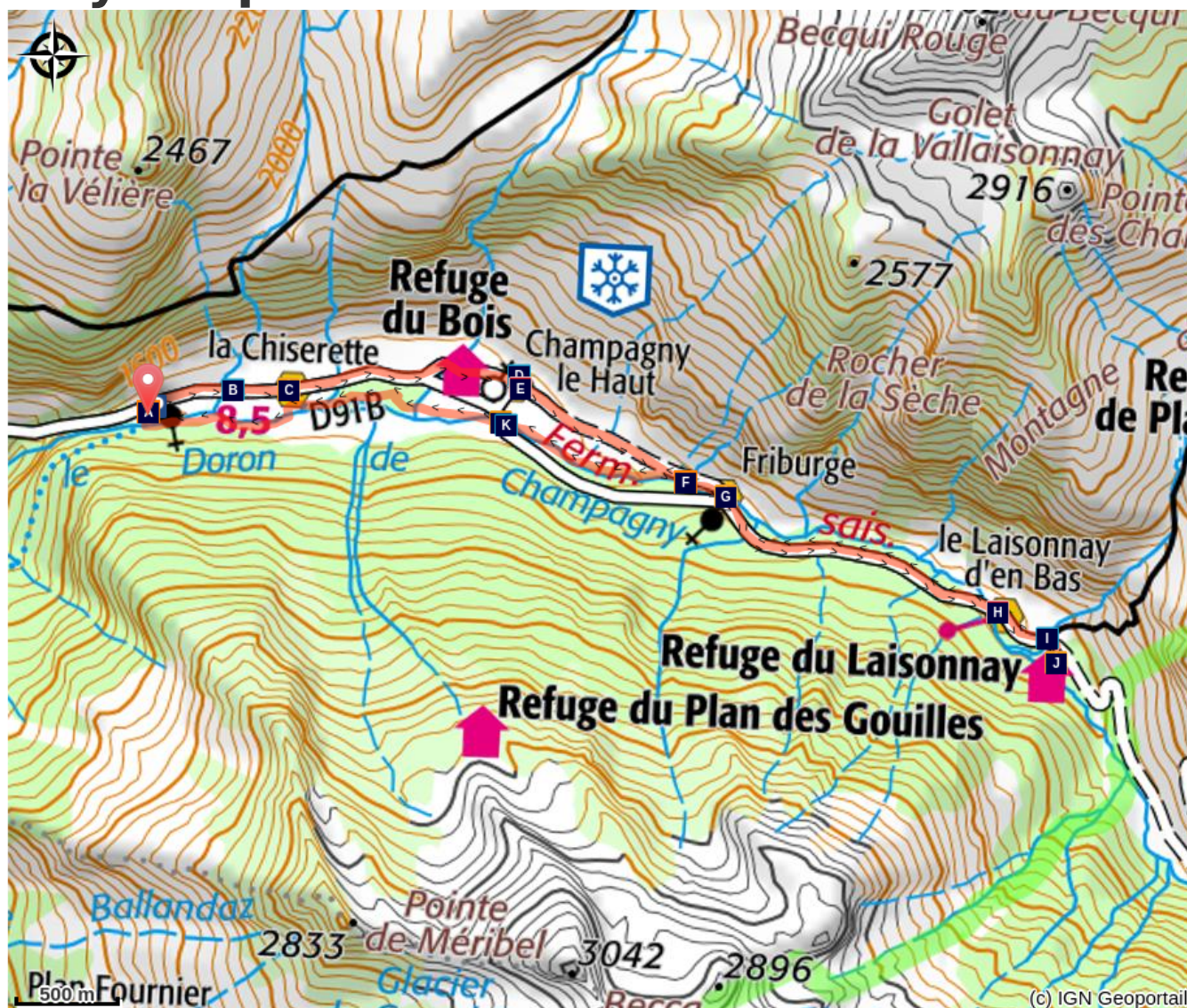
Belvédère Sport 2000



Le Crey

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On your path...



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|---|---|
|  Water's journey in Savoie (A) |  Champagny le Haut Valley (B) |
|  Hamlet of La Chiserette (C) |  Espace Glacialis (D) |
|  Hamlet of Le Bois and Saint-Clair Church (E) |  Doron de Champagny (F) |
|  Hamlet of Friburge (G) |  Le Laisonnay d'En Haut (H) |
|  Glacier Trail (I) |  Hamlet of Laisonnay (J) |
|  Trail of Gorzdérès (K) |  Nordic Ski Area in winter (L) |

All useful information

Advices

Rando Vanoise has been designed to help you pick and choose your outings, but cannot be held liable where they are concerned. The mountain offers up a wide range of routes and trails for cyclists of all levels, but remember, it is a living, unpredictable environment and it is important that you head out suitably equipped. Ask advice from cycle rental operators.

If in doubt, you can take an introductory lesson in how to ride an electric bike with an instructor.

The route is popular with hikers and mountain bikers . Please stay on the trail.

The mountain is living, please respect it by staying on the paths and tracks.

How to come ?

Transports

Train services run as far as Moûtiers-Salins-Brides-les-Bains. Find out more at: www.oui.sncf.com

You can then get a coach to Champagny en Vanoise.

Find out more at: www.transavoie.com

Have you also thought about car sharing?

Access

From Moûtiers, take the RD915 to Champagny-en-Vanoise.

Advised parking

Couaz Dam car park

Information desks

Tourist Information Office - Champagny en Vanoise

Le Centre, 73350 Champagny-en-Vanoise

info@champagny.com

Tel : 04 79 55 06 55

<http://www.champagny.com/>

On your path...



Water's journey in Savoie (A)

Photo Exhibition: “Derrière la retenue, les chemins de l’eau en Savoie” (Behind the reservoir, the roads of water in Savoie). In 2015-2016, at the request of the FACIM Foundation, visual artist Sylvie Bonnot created a photo essay in Savoie’s high valleys (Maurienne, Tarentaise, Beaufortain and Val d’Arly). The artist spent a year following water’s journey from season to season, producing an impressive set of images that show how dams, pipes and hydropower plants integrate with other ways in which the mountains are put to use. The fruit of her work is presented in a series of 24 large-format photographs (2 metres x 2 metres) exhibited in the open air and forming an itinerary leading to fresh discoveries in the heart of Beaufortain and Val d’Arly, around hydroelectric sites, in villages, and alongside the Arly and Doron rivers. You’ll also be able to stop off for a bite to eat at the “Le Canada” Restaurant.

Attribution : OTGP



Champagne le Haut Valley (B)

A magnificent glacier valley 1,500 metres above sea level, Champagne le Haut Valley was listed as a National Heritage Site in 1992.

Through determined and patient human endeavour, nature has been organised to ensure the mountain dwellers' survival, with every possibility provided by a hostile environment turned to their advantage. The hamlets are all located on the right bank of the stream, to the south in order to make best use of the sunlight, close to the few areas of arable land and the grassland necessary to stockbreeding, near the woods that provide fuel for heating, and on sites chosen in order to keep their inhabitants safe from avalanches, rock falls and landslides. All of them at the feet of some of the highest ice-capped peaks in the Vanoise, close to 4000 metres above sea level, including the Grande Casse and the Grande Motte.

Attribution : OTGP



Hamlet of La Chiserette (C)

In this hamlet, set in the shadow of an impressive waterfall and home to the little Chapel of the Holy Trinity, there’s a street called “Rue des Cocottes” as it was often overrun by hens and also pays tribute to Gaston and his mare Cocotte.

Attribution : OTGP



Espace Glacialis (D)

Come and acquaint yourself with the ice giants! In this era of global warming and untimely melting of the planet's ice, it's all the more important to (re)discover glaciers and wonder at their incredible beauty and multiple attributes. In this light-hearted, educational museographic facility with 200 m² of exhibition space, the subject of glaciers is tackled from all angles: scientific, geological, historical, mythological, environmental, landscape and human. There's a range of activities to enjoy, including guided visits, exhibitions, scavenger hunts and presentations.

Information:

<https://espaceglacialis.fr>

04 79 01 40 28

Attribution : OTGP



Hamlet of Le Bois and Saint-Clair Church (E)

The last little hamlet accessible by car in winter and Champagne le Haut Valley's main village, Le Bois boasts an outstanding natural setting. Its houses are perfect examples of traditional architecture, with their stone slate roofs, balconies with wooden balusters and cantilever barns...

You'll also find much to appreciate at Le Bois' mountain hut, with its stretch of tree-shaded lawn, children's games and excellent restaurant, along with Espace Glacialis, which is dedicated to the discovery of mountain glaciers, and finally, Saint-Clair Church, built thanks to donations from the parish's inhabitants.

Each hamlet has its own chapel, but the biggest has a full-fledged church.

Attribution : JM G



Doron de Champagne (F)

The Doron is formed by the meeting of several watercourses that find their sources in various mountain glaciers. It abounds in fario and brook trout to the general delight of anglers. The stream makes its way between the rocks, watering milieus where fauna and flora can flourish. Water is essential to life: a benefactor that can also be a destroyer.

Over the course of time, the Doron de Champagne has suffered avalanches, landslides and storms, and its tributaries have overflowed, their waters destroying crops and houses alike. As far back as the Middle Ages, mountain dwellers used water's mechanical power to operate their flourmills and sawmills, but it was not until the 19th century that humankind learned how to use water as a source of energy, with hydroelectricity, dams and so on. Even today, during strong storms, the inhabitants can see the Doron rise from its bed!

Attribution : M Guedard



Hamlet of Friburge (G)

Don't miss out on a visit to the craft workshop run by H  l  ne and Patrick Milliat, wood carvers and the hamlet's last year-round inhabitants.

This picturesque hamlet used to be inhabited all year round and contains fine examples of the traditional rural architecture of bygone days. It's located between two avalanche corridors, beneath a rocky outcrop and protected by a "tourne" (deflecting structure), and the mountain dwellers' resourcefulness has ensured the hamlet's survival in its natural environment, respecting the setting and making use of all its attributes.

The pretty little chapel of Notre-Dame-des-Gr  ces provides a panoramic view over the entire hamlet.

Attribution : OTGP



Le Laisonnay d'En Haut (H)

The hamlet of Laisonnay d'En Haut consists of a dozen stone buildings. The traditional roofs are made from lauze (stone) and shingles (wood). More recent materials such as corrugated iron and steel panels can also be seen. The houses are grouped together to use the rare sites not exposed to natural hazards (avalanches, rock falls, flooding from the Doron). This is also done so as not to encroach on the pastures intended for livestock. Note the chapel of Notre Dame des Neiges downstream of the hamlet, and the old baker's oven upstream.

Attribution : PNV - GOTTI Christophe



❄ Glacier Trail (I)

Take in the valley's true magnificence from the Palet Pass, which provides you with views of some of the massif's highest glaciers, with eight numbered marker posts located along the trail by the Vanoise National Park.

The itinerary, which takes around 4 hours to complete, was created and waymarked by the Vanoise National Park. The accompanying booklet contains all the information you might need as you get better acquainted with mountain glaciers. On the itinerary: the Glière mountain hut (restaurant service and beds for the night), the high mountain pastures of the Plan du Sel and the secrets of Beaufort cheese production, and above all, no end of marmots!

You can get a copy of the booklet at the Laisonnay Reception and Information Point.

Attribution : Gouedard



🕒 Hamlet of Laisonnay (J)

Laisonnay is the oldest and most remote hamlet. It was here that the first inhabitants (of Haute-Tarentaise) settled, after crossing the Palet Pass into the valley. It contains a dozen or so stone buildings with traditional stone slate and wooden shingle roofs and a renovated with smattering of more recent materials. Houses are grouped together in order to make use of the few locations not exposed to natural risks (avalanches, rock falls and flooding by the Doron). Notre Dame des Neiges Chapel downstream of the hamlet and the old oven upstream are both well worth a visit.

Attribution : OTGP



❄ Trail of Gorzdérés (K)

A trail with its full share of interpretive signage including anecdotes and games, enabling young and old alike to uncover the secrets of this unique valley and its characteristic flora, fauna and pastoral life.

The trail is labelled "Promenade confort" (Comfort Walk) and is also suitable for people of reduced mobility and pushchairs, due to its very gentle slope and the picnic tables provided along the way, where you can take a well-earned relaxing break.

Excursion time: 1½ hours (loop trail)

Difference in elevation: 30 metres

Attribution : OTGP



Nordic Ski Area in winter (L)

In winter, this peaceful valley is the ideal site for Nordic skiing, dog sledding and skijoring, with a lugging area for younger enthusiasts and ice climbing on a 24-metre-high artificial wall!

Attribution : Jean Maurice Gouedard