There are mountains, and then there are the Alps. This is where cycling mythology was born, from Eddy Merckx's dominance of five Tours to Pantani's record-breaking ascent up Alpe d'Huez, to today's champions like Contador, Quintana and Froome battling it out in the mist and haze of Europe's high peaks. We'll tackle climbs like Col de la Colombiere, Col du Glandon, Col de la Croix de Fer, Alpe d'Huez, and more while we bask in the gorgeous hues of crystal-clear Lake Annecy (Europe's cleanest lake) and the sights from Mont Blanc, a must-stop on any Alps tour. We'll refuel with Savoyard cuisine and recover in some of the most charming and central hotels. If you've ever had a desire to conquer the monsters of France, this is your trip. Ride in the Alps with us on a bike tour from Annecy to Alpe d'Huez.

Learn more about your Perfect Day in Alps »

TRIP WOWS

Fuel your day with traditional alpine favorites: tartiflette, raclette and fondue

Imagine leading the peloton as you ride over the names of your favorite riders painted on the road, and hear the echoes of fans cheering you on

Ride up Alpe d'Huez and time yourself - how do you stack up against TDF winners at the end of the day?

Now is your chance to tackle the same climbs as the pros like Glandon, Alpe d'Huez, Croix de Fer, Colombière
Day 1

TODAY’S RIDE:
Annecy to La Clusaz via Col du Marais and Col de la Croix Fry
Approximately 34 miles with 5,020 feet of climbing

DESCRIPTION:
Welcome to the Alps! A short drive through the bustling heart of Annecy leads you and your new traveling companions around Lake Annecy, the cleanest lake in all of Europe, to the start of your adventure. After some initial introductions and a thorough bike fitting, your guides will take you on a challenging ride through the alpine hills and over the Col du Marais and Col de la Croix Fry. The perfect warm up ride, the Croix Fry climb has been featured in the Tour de France four times, most recently in 2013. We’ll roll into our hotel in La Clusaz in time for a leisurely lunch, and you’ll have time to relax and unpack before reconvening later in the day. This evening you’ll gather with the group for a welcome reception and dinner at the hotel.

View Day 1 Elevation Map»
**TODAY’S RIDE:**
La Clusaz to Col des Aravis, Megève, and Col de la Colombière Loop
Approximately 60 miles with 7,520 feet of climbing

**DESCRIPTION:**
Enjoy incredible riding today over some of the iconic climbs of the Tour de France. Start your day with a plentiful breakfast before heading out for a loop ride that offers spectacular roads and sprawling vistas. You’ll first spin up and over the 7-kilometer climb to Col des Aravis, just as the pro peloton has done some 40 times since the Tour began. Today you will climb the “easier” side from La Clusaz before heading through Megève, Europe’s jet set ski resort village of choice. Continue on our loop through Sallanches, then pace yourself up the 16 km climb with an average 7% grade up the Col de la Colombière. Enjoy a bistro lunch on the Col if you choose or at the base of the mountain in Le Grand Bornand. After we return to our idyllic hotel, relax at the pool or maybe catch up on a well deserved nap. Tonight you are on your own to explore the local culture and enjoy a meal of your choice in the village.

View Day 2 Elevation Map»

**HOTEL:**
Hotel au Coeur du Village

**INCLUDED MEALS:**
Breakfast

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**TODAY’S RIDE:**
La Clusaz to Col du Marais, l’Arpettez, Aravis Loop
Approximately 50 miles with 6,200 feet of climbing

**AVID OPTION:**
La Clusaz to Col du Marais, l’Arpettez, Aravis, and Colombiere Loop
Approximately 71 miles with 9,300 feet of climbing

**DESCRIPTION:**
Today prepare yourself for a gorgeous loop with classic sweeping views of the Alps. You’ll start with a descent out of town, head into the steady 7km climb of the Col du Marais, followed by a 12 km climb with a 6% average grade up l’Arpettez. Choose to have lunch on your own on the Col or after you descend into the village of Flumet. After lunch, you’ll tackle the more challenging side of the Col des Aravis at almost 12km long with an average grade of 5%. Once at the top, enjoy views all the way to the Mont Blanc if the sky is clear, before a lightning fast descent to the village of la Clusaz. If you are up for more climbing, you can climb the Col de la Colombière as well. This evening you’ll share a meal showcasing the best of Savoyard cuisine with your newfound friends. Tomorrow brings a lot of excitement leading into Alpe d’Huez, so be sure to rest up!

View Day 3 Elevation Map»

**HOTEL:**
Hotel au Coeur du Village

**INCLUDED MEALS:**
Breakfast | Dinner
**TODAY’S RIDE:**
La Chambre to Col du Glandon
to Col de la Croix de Fer to
Alpe d’Huez
Approximately 45 miles with 10,180 feet of climbing

**DESCRIPTION:**
We’ll begin our adventure via the 21km climb of Col du Glandon with an average gradient of 6.9% and featured in the Tour de France 14 times. Just because we can, take a little jaunt to the summit of the Croix de Fer before starting the long descent of Glandon. After a lunch stop along the descent, feel the energy resurge as you make your way up along the side of Alpe d’Huez. You'll make your approach from the western side before hitting the last few switchbacks to the top. Tomorrow you'll make a full ascent from the classic route, and you will have experienced some of the most breathtaking scenery the Alps has to offer from the saddle of your Trek bicycle in signature Trek Travel fashion.
Tonight, you're free to explore the lively mountain ski town known as Alpe d'Huez. Grab a quick pizza at a local brew pub, indulge in a hearty Raclette, or saddle up to some pasta. There's plenty of variety to be found tonight and your guides are more than happy to help you choose.

**HOTEL:**
Chamois d’Or or Les Grandes Rousses

**INCLUDED MEALS:**
Breakfast | Lunch

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**TODAY’S RIDE:**
Alpe d’Huez via Col de Sarenne
Approximately 35 miles with 6,630 feet of climbing

**AVID OPTION:**
Alpe d’Huez Double to Col de Sarenne to Villard Reculas
Approximately 62 miles with 10,800 feet of climbing

**DESCRIPTION:**
Today will be a “King/Queen of the Mountains” day with the opportunity to tackle Alpe d’Huez from its traditional route, much like the pros have done so ferociously Tour after Tour. Don't worry, Trek Travel van support will be available to help fuel your bodies for the time you'll spend in the saddle, whether you are chasing the hands of time, or marveling at the alpine beauty around you. If you haven't had enough, why not tackle the Alpe d’Huez double? This ride includes one of our favorite descents through the village of Villard Reculas. Tonight, you'll meet for drinks with a striking view of the mountains before you savor a hearty, well-earned Savoyard dinner with your mountain goat companions, reliving all the great climbs and descents you've tackled together.

**HOTEL:**
Chamois d’Or or Les Grandes Rousses

**INCLUDED MEALS:**
Breakfast | Social Hour | Dinner

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**TODAY’S RIDE:**
Alpe d’Huez to Alpine lake Return
Approximately 11 miles with 1,480 feet of climbing

**DESCRIPTION:**
After a long week of traversing some of the most magnificent climbs in the Alps, you may be tempted to sleep in. If you're feeling up to another ride though, make your way behind the village of Alpe d'Huez along a narrow ribbon of road and enjoy five-star views of the alpine lakes, stunning mountains, and tumbling glaciers from the best seat in the house before returning to the hotel. You'll have some time before departing for the Grenoble Train Station on a private shuttle at 11:00 AM.

**INCLUDED MEALS:**
Breakfast

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**WHAT’S INCLUDED**

For us, the details matter most.
For us, the details matter most. Every moment of a Trek Travel bike trip has more than you could have ever dreamed. More romance. More scenery. More choice. It’s the little additions to every Trek Travel cycling vacation that make it truly special. And that’s how we help you create more memories.

What’s Included

- 5 nights of accommodation at handpicked hotels
- Two experienced guides to provide local knowledge, support, and camaraderie
- Daily route support with both guides and our support van
- Daily breakfast, 2 lunches and 3 dinners
- 2 social hours of drinks and hors d’oeuvres
- Ride a Trek Domane SL 7 disc
- Up to three daily route options on riding days
- Snacks and drinks for each day’s ride
- Trek Travel Bontrager cycling jersey to keep
- Trek Travel water bottles to keep
- Cinch sack day bag to keep
- Each bike is equipped with a Garmin Edge 1030 GPS computer, flat pack, front and rear Bontrager Flare R lights, a Bontrager saddle and pedals (Shimano clipless road pedals, Shimano clipless mountain pedals, caged or flat pedals)
- Bontrager WaveCel helmets
- All gratuities for drivers, local experts and hospitality staff
- All luggage transfers and transportation during your trip
- A personalized photobook of your trip
- Entrance fees for all activities, private tours and events

Gear

- Trek Domane SL 7 disc carbon road bike with Shimano Di2 electronic shifting
- Trek Travel Bontrager cycling jersey to keep
- Trek Travel water bottles to keep
- Shimano clipless road pedals, Shimano clipless mountain pedals, caged or flat pedals
- Bontrager WaveCel helmet
- Bontrager men’s and women’s specific saddles
- Bontrager front and rear Flare R lights and a flat pack
- Garmin Edge 1030 GPS computer
- Cinch sack day bag to keep
- Upgrade your bike to include carbon wheels (+$200)
- Coupon valued up to $500 off a new Trek Bicycle. Your coupon will be delivered via email.

For the most comfortable ride, you may choose to bring your own pedals, saddle, and helmet on the trip. Your guides will install your gear on the first day during your bike fit.

THANK YOUR GUIDES, BY TIPPING

Gratuities for your Trek Travel guides are not included in your trip price. We recommend tipping 7.5-10% of your trip price for the guide team. Local currency is preferred and unless you want to tip separately, guides will divide tips amongst themselves. Please tip your guides at your discretion, based on their level of professionalism, guest care and service.

What’s Not Included

- Airfare and transportation to and from the trip pick-up/drop-off locations
- Lodging before and after the trip
- Personal items purchased during the trip
- Optional activities not scheduled by Trek Travel
- On select trips some meals are not included. On these trips, Trek Travel invites you to explore the local cuisine at your leisure.

HOTELS

HOTEL AU COEUR DU VILLAGE  CHAMOIS D’OR  HOTEL VARIATION | LES GRANDES
AU COEUR DU VILLAGE is a Relais & Châteaux hotel and the only 5-star property in La Clusaz. As its name implies, it is in the heart of this ski village nestled in the French Alps. Enjoy its elegant modern rooms and relax in its exclusive spa and wellness center.

A spectacular mountainside retreat. The cozy duvets, the soothing wood, the warm fabrics and the patina of the furniture will prolong the magic of the mountains even in your dreams. Admire the magnificent panorama of the Oisans glaciers, huddled up in a deckchair on the sunny balcony of your room.

Ideally situated in the centre of Alpe d'Huez village, les Grandes Rousses is a contemporary mountain chalet in a chic mountain setting. It is tastefully decorated with a mix of copper, wood, leather and wool details. Enjoy the pool, spa, or some fresh air on the large terrace overlooking the village. You will stay at this hotel instead of Au Chamois d'Or on select dates.

**How To Get There**

We suggest that you arrive at least one day prior to the trip start, which will enable you to adjust to the time zone and minimize the risk of missing the trip start due to flight-related delays.

We recommend that you fly into Paris (CDG) or Geneva (GVA). From Paris’ Gare de Lyon, trains depart daily for Annecy with a travel time of 4-5 hours. The train journey from Geneva to Annecy takes 1-1/2 to 2 hours. However, train options and times are somewhat limited to and from Geneva and can sometimes present more logistical challenges. Alternatively, you can take a taxi from the Geneva airport to Annecy for approximately 100 euros or a bus for 20 euros. Please consult www.SNCF.com or speak with our travel agent for current train schedules.

**Meeting Time And Location**

Your Trek Travel guides will meet you at the Annecy Train Station (Place de la Gare, 74000 Annecy, France) at 9:00 AM on the first day of the trip. A shuttle through the bustling city of Annecy will bring you to your ride start. Please have your first day’s riding gear handy and separate from your other luggage to facilitate the bike fitting and ride.

If you will be late for the pick-up or are going to miss it altogether, please inform your guides. You will receive an email a week before the trip start with their names and contact details. If you cannot reach them, please call our first hotel, Hotel Au Coeur du Village (+33 4 50 01 50 01), and leave a message with your expected arrival time and contact details.

**Departing Time And Location**

You will say farewell to your guides at 11:00 AM at the Au Chamois d’Or Boutique Hotel. You will be arriving by 12:30 PM at the Grenoble train station. Please do not book a departing train before 1:00 PM on this day. We recommend booking your return flight from Paris (CDG) or Lyon (LYS). Trains run from Grenoble to both Paris and Lyon. For all train travel, feel free to confirm train times on the posted timetable at France’s rail site, www.SNCF.com.

**Before: Annecy, France**

Gorgeous Annecy! Guided tours of historic Annecy allow you to discover the medieval aspects of the town and visit buildings dating back to the Renaissance and 12th century. Hiking trails are numerous, covering diverse terrain, offering spectacular views all around, and water activities are bountiful along the lake. Paragliding is world-renowned in Annecy, boasting some of the world's best and providing, literally, a bird's eye view of the lake and surrounding mountains. Be sure to lounge in the park by the lake.
After: Grenoble, France

Grenoble offers numerous outdoor activities, including via ferrata, a mountain route equipped with fixed cables, ladders, and bridges providing access to otherwise isolated routes to climbers with a variety of skills. Not to be missed in this Rhône-Alpes town is a ride on the téléphérique: egg-shaped cable cars, les bulles, take you across the Isère River to the Bastille, a series of ancient fortifications. Enjoy the view from the summit, then wander the many trails leading down to the city. We recommend the following accommodations for your post-trip hotel:

**PARK HOTEL**
Situated adjacent to the Paul Mistral Park in the center of Grenoble, the city's only 4-star hotel is sure to win you over with its elegance and charm.

www.park-hotel-grenoble.fr/en | ~$150

**LE GRAND HOTEL**
A historic hotel built in 1870, the Grand Hotel Grenoble Hyper Centre is located in the heart of the Alps capital. The Bastille cable railway, the Antique dealers district, the Grenoble museum and its theater are less than 5 minutes on foot from the Grand Hotel. Located close to Grenoble's city center, this 4 star hotel offers you many of the modern comforts you enjoy.

www.grand-hotel-grenoble.com | ~$150

**BEST WESTERN TERMINUS**
This Belle Epoque hotel (1906), with modern conveniences, such as air-conditioning and WiFi, is conveniently located just across the street from the Grenoble train station.

www.Terminus-Hotel-Grenoble.fr | ~$175

* Hotels listed above are local properties we love. We do not have special rates available.

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**FAQS**

**What Are The Daily Rides Like?**

- Rider Type | 4 - Avid
- Average Daily Mileage | 47
- Terrain | Mountainous
- Average Daily Elevation | 7,383 feet
- Total Miles | 283
- Total Elevation | 44,300 feet

Averages and totals are calculated from our "Avid Ride" options.

The terrain is highlighted by stunning views, quiet roads and challenging climbs. We will make an average of 2-3 major climbs per day that combine sustained climbing with several steep sections. Annecy to Alpe d'Huez is best suited for our Type 4 Riders.

**What are the options for a non-rider travel companion?**

This destination is best suited to guests who want to cycle every day. Because of the terrain and/or remoteness of the hotels and riding routes, there are few, if any, non-riding options available. If a non-rider wants to accompany a rider guest on this trip, they would need to spend many hours in the van and/or at the hotels on the trip. Due to this, we strongly discourage non-riders from this destination. As an alternative, call a Trek Travel Trip Consultant at 866.464.8735 for trip suggestions where more non-riders activities are available, such as:

- Provence
- Tuscany
- Costa Brava

**Trip Changes**

See itinerary for specific daily ride distances and elevation options. On all of our vacations, Trek Travel strives to find quiet, paved secondary roads or bike paths to experience a region; busy roads are avoided as much as possible. Our itineraries
Our Trek Travel guides can also easily accommodate Type 3 Riders, who seek less mileage or fewer uphills, with a boost in the van. 

are an approximation of our trips. Trek Travel strives to offer every guest a vacation of a lifetime on every trip. At times routes, hotels, activities, etc. listed here may change at the discretion of the trip designer or guides to improve the trip experience.