

## **Mt. Blanc Tour - Daily Itinerary**

- Day 1 We personally meet you at the Geneva airport on the morning of June 16 where we hire a private bus to drive us directly to our wonderful hotel in Chamonix. After checking in and getting settled in our rooms, we will walk through town to get you oriented to your surroundings, and enjoy a light lunch (provided by Yankee Travels) in the town square. Depending on the weather, we will then either stroll up the valley along a scenic river walk or ride one of the high alpine lifts to take in the first of many breathtaking views that you will experience on this tour. You are then free to explore on your own as you work your way back to the hotel, where we will enjoy a welcome toast and a delicious meal prepared by the hotel chef.
- Day 2 Everyone takes a cable car from town to the start of a high level walk above the Chamonix Valley, with a quick visit to a small mountain tarn (pond) surrounded by jagged peaks and glaciers. We work our way across this high terrace, enjoying views of the Brevent and Flegere Mountains, to an overlook above the famous Mer de Glace. From here, everyone will have the opportunity to ride a gondola down to the glacier to explore the manmade ice caves. The light hikers will ride a cog train back to town, while the rigorous hikers will walk down through a sloping alpine forest back to town.
- Day 3 The light hikers go by cable car from Chamonix to a high plateau overlooking the town. From there they hike to a sparkling ice covered lake to enjoy their lunch in a sea of white. The rigorous hikers will take a train up the valley to a small hamlet and from there will also hike to the lake for lunch from the opposite direction. Both groups will hike back to the top of the cable car with magnificent views of Mont Blanc along the way and descend by the lift back to town.
- Day 4 Both groups will travel by bus to the quaint town of Le Tour up the valley from Chamonix. The village is situated in a remote but glorious bowl looking back on the impressive peak of Mont Blanc and the Aiguilles. As we hike around the bowl we will receive ever-changing views of these rugged peaks and even get a glimpse into Switzerland. Beautiful wildflowers dot the alps along this exciting hike.
- Day 5 FREE DAY. You will have the option of exploring all that Chamonix has to offer today. You can choose from using your all-inclusive hiking pass to explore the Chamonix valley, riding the lifts and trains to high mountain vistas and restaurants, shopping or eating in the cafes of the bustling streets of Chamonix, or taking a lesson in one of the outdoor sports such as rock climbing, paragliding, or glacier travel that make Chamonix so famous. In any case, it is a day to allow your legs to rest and re-energize.
- Day 7 The light and rigorous hikers first ascend by cable car for an exciting panorama hike above Chamonix. They will be treated to magnificent views of Mont Blanc all day along this famous high mountain route. Everyone will be able to take advantage of a sun washed terrace with refreshments and amazing views of Mt. Blanc at the end of the day. We always end our tour with an "awards night" and a celebratory dinner.
- Day 8 We board an early morning bus back to Geneva for your flight home. Some of you will travel to Zurich to begin your next week with Yankee Travels. We will arrive at the Geneva airport by 9:50 AM.