

The French Alps

The Vanoise, an unspoilt area of the French Alps

A summer expedition for Gold DofE groups



The Vanoise is a French National Park largely ignored by the majority of European Climbers and Walkers who tend to head to Chamonix and the main mountains on the French, Italian and Swiss border.

The Vanoise is one of the most beautiful mountainous areas in France with a network of good paths which makes keeping multiple groups discrete easy whilst ensuring that there is a network of safety through the regularly spaced mountain refuges.

The Tour of the Vanoise or “Tour of the Glaciers” is a fantastic trip which will give the participants a feeling of real isolation and achievement whilst giving the groups leaders the confidence of safety throughout.

Vanoise – Terrain Difficult - 8 Day Option (7 Days Camping 4 Day expedition)

The expedition starts and finishes from the municipal campsite in Pralognan la Vanoise, a small but busy Alpine village, There are two options, one which follows part of the Tour de la Vanoise and one which visits the Winter and Summer resort of Val d'Isere

Accommodation is by camping near refuges and on village campsites

Day 1

Travel to Geneva (Early morning flight). Private coach to Pralognan la Vanoise and campsite

Day 2

Acclimatization Day walk to the Refuge de la Col de la Vanoise

Day 3

Shop and prepare for expedition. It may be possible to organise a Via Ferrata, next to the campsite for this day

Day 4 -7

Start the expedition. Option one follows the circular route around the glaciers whereas option two, spends the second night at a campsite in Val d'Isere

Day 8

Return journey via Geneva and onto the UK

Cost £650 exc flights. Based on a group of 12 and with one free teacher place.

There are many opportunities to extend the trip to include additional activities, Via Ferrata, additional acclimatization days or just simply rest days. We would be happy to build an itinerary to suit your needs and discuss costs with you on a no obligation basis.

What do the costs include ?

- A qualified supervisor (IML) and accredited assessor for the expedition,
- One free teachers place per 12 students
- Budget for Expedition food
- Private Airport transfers in France,
- Maps, campsite and teachers bunkhouse costs.
- Detailed Kit lists,
- Risk assessments
- Pre expedition visit to the school to assist with route planning
- Blue form completion and liason with DofE panel
- On going advise from our office in Somerset

What is not included (The honesty section)

- Any additional soft drinks or personal expenditure
- Air fares and UK airport transfers
(There are various options for flights depending upon your point of departure)
- Personal travel insurance
- Personal spending monies



Why book with Wildcountry Consultants.

As one of the first Approved Activity Providers licensed in the UK to provide UK and overseas DofE expeditions WCC have built a solid reputation for quality and safety.

All of our instructors are mature individuals who have a considerable depth of experience in working with youth groups and they all hold the appropriate qualifications for the terrain in which they are operating. We do not use trained only individuals.

Our Employers Liability Insurance covers all our instructors and we are covered for £10M Public Liability Insurance through Activities industry Mutual, the leading provider of Insurance to the adventurous activities market.

We are also fully licensed by the Adventurous Activities Licensing Service (A division of the HSE) to provide mountaineering and trekking expeditions across the world.

We provide a holistic service from our office in Somerset for all our expeditions: from comprehensive advice on expedition equipment to personal fitness, risk assessments, declaration of risk documentation, booking paperwork and participant medical declaration forms.

The areas in which we operate we have first hand experience through having run expeditions previously and the instructors involved will have operated in this environment before. We will not take any individuals on our expeditions where we have concerns over their physical abilities or level of personal preparation to cope with the physical demands of the terrain they intend to cover.

Our commitment to you is one of safety first through meticulous planning and continual assessment of both the participants and the environment in which they are operating. Whilst the expedition will be demanding and place the participant in an environment which is generally outside of their comfort zone we will try to ensure they enjoy the experience as fully as possible by checking they are fully prepared for the experience. Finally we will turn the experience into a learning environment for them by assessing their understanding of the role they play within the team and the environment through which they are travel

