PRESS RELEASE

2024

ANNECY MOUNTAINS

LE GRAND-BORNAND
LA CLUSAZ
MANIGOD
SAINT-JEAN-DE-SIXT
THÔNES CŒUR DES VALLÉES
SOURCES DU LAC D'ANNECY
GRAND ANNECY

The way to get

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away!

Annecy Mountains promises to be authentic, natural and unspoilt.

An inexhaustible playground where anything seems possible, Annecy Mountains will appeal to epicureans and sports enthusiasts alike. Whatever the season, there's only one watchword: a trip in style!

Discover our new features and favorites for 2024: whether you're looking for a microadventure or a cultural or gastronomic experience, you'll be delighted!

Annecy Mountains... a French art de vivre, but above all a green setting between the turquoise waters of Lake Annecy and spectacular peaks, including the mythical Aravis mountain range.

More than just a destination, it's a diversity of landscapes, activities, traditions and people who make the region tick.

What is Annecy Mountains?

Annecy, the lake, and the surrounding villages and mountains offer you a magnificent **terrain for discovery** ! From the resorts of the Aravis to the Sources du Lac d'Annecy, you can ski, swim, fly, hike, contemplate, stroll, shop, culture, entertain yourself and delight your eyes and taste buds **all in the space of just one day!**

Annecy Mountains is a **collective initiative** bringing together the territories of this fabulous area and seven tourist offices: Le Grand-Bornand, La Clusaz, Manigod, Saint-Jean-de-Sixt, Thônes Cœur des Vallées, Sources du lac d'Annecy and Lake Annecy.

This collective project contributes to four challenges: **diversifying** the tourism offering, **extending** tourist seasons, **helping** to structure the tourism offering and services, and **encouraging** customers to roam. Our common denominator : linking offers and services and promoting the customer experience between Lake Annecy and the surrounding mountains.

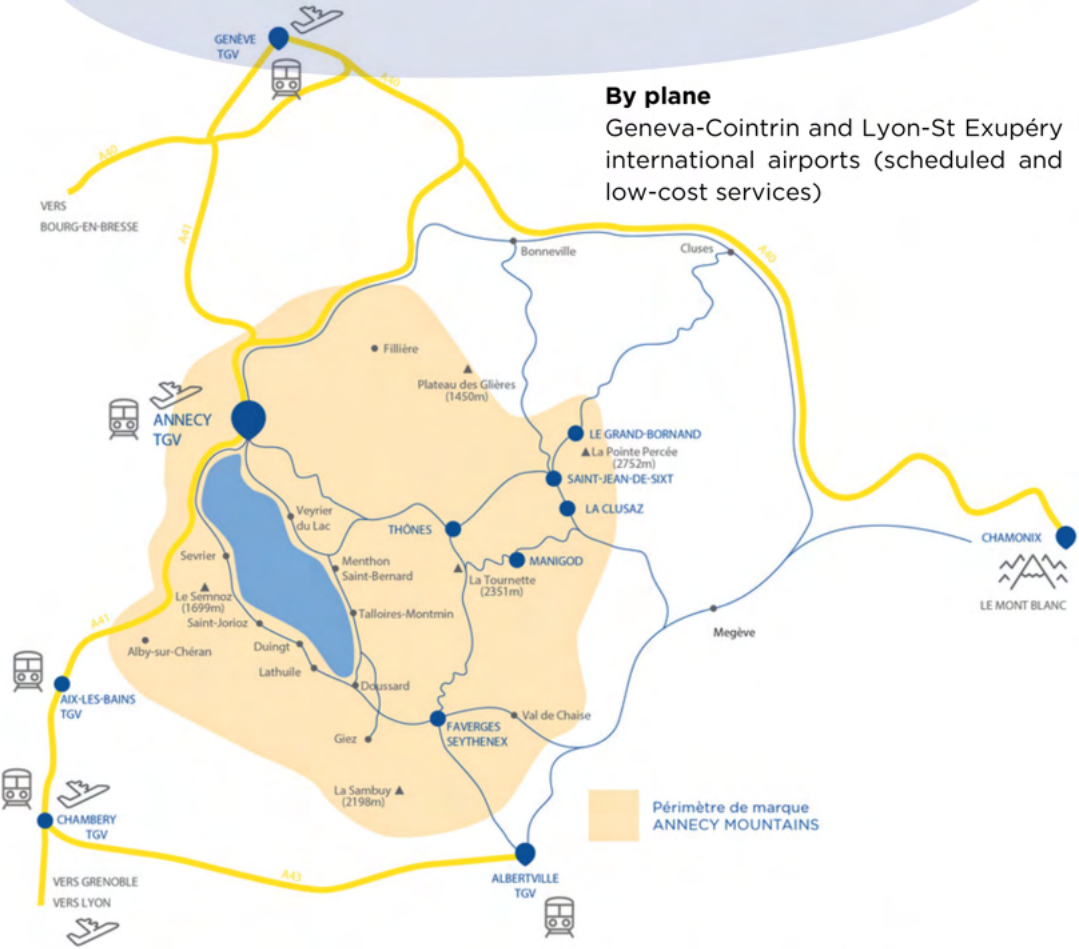
What connects us: the desire to carry out joint projects in the tourism sector, particularly the "outdoor" sector, with **cycling** (cyclo and mountain biking) as the main theme. By the way, did you also get our **cycling press kit**?

available for download here

... or there :

www.annecymountains.com/medias

How to get here?



By plane

Geneva-Cointrin and Lyon-St Exupéry international airports (scheduled and low-cost services)

By car

- A41 freeway, Annecy center and Annecy nord exits.
- A40 freeway, Bonneville/Aravis exit

By rail

- Annecy TGV station (direct line Paris-Annecy)
- Valserhône TGV station

Distances from Annecy to...

Geneva: 42 km
Brussels: 681km
Chamonix-Mont-Blanc: 101 km
Paris: 561 km
La Clusaz: 31 km
Le Grand-Bornand: 31 km
Lyon: 146 km

Key figures

15

stars in the Michelin Guide for 9 restaurants on Lake Annecy and La Clusaz

7

five-star hotels

and

27

four-star hotels

13

summer refuges

10

unusual accommodation providers (bubbles, cabins, portaledges).

From 320 to 2750 m

altitude (culminating at Pointe Percée)

Farmhouse Reblochon

120 farms

11 refining workshops

5200 cows

5 millions reblochons/year

2nd cheese AOP in volume

2 productions per day per farm

270 km
of downhill ski runs

200 000
paraglider and hang-glider take-offs per year in the region

214 km
cross-country ski trails

1 467 km
hiking trail

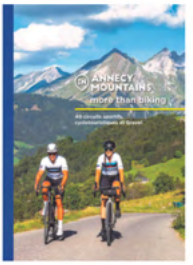
1
World Geopark (Massif des Bauges Regional Nature Park)

2
National nature reserves (Roc de Chère and Bout du Lac)

2
Resistance memorial sites : Plateau des Glières and Morette necropolis and museum

40 km
of shoreline around Lake Annecy

14 collars



1 Cycling guide on sale for € 5 at Tourist Offices

40 sporting and cycling tours and 4 gravel courses

The 7 destinations of Annecy Mountains

Lake Annecy

From gastronomic delights to eco-responsible leisure activities, Lake Annecy and its surroundings can be enjoyed in every season. A destination that plays on contrasts: from an electric boat cruise on Europe's purest lake to lush green pastures, from visits to private chateaux to activities in the outdoor capital, from the Glières Resistance site to the gourmet pleasures of Michelin-starred restaurants... All while enjoying a certain joie de vivre reminiscent of Italy.

In short, the destination of Lake Annecy leaves nothing to be desired by visitors and residents alike... for an unforgettable stay!

www.lac-annecy.com

Thônes Coeur des Vallées

Halfway between Annecy and the Aravis mountains, Thônes and its seven villages in the heart of the valleys offer an unspoilt setting where heritage, local produce, sporting activities, cultural outings and events are intertwined all year round. The region's geographical location makes it an excellent base from which to explore the many facets of the region. Here, Reblochon is much more than just a cheese; it's a symbol of the mountain lifestyle handed down from generation to generation.

www.thonescoeurdesvallees.com

La Clusaz

La Clusaz, a village resort ideally situated in the heart of the Aravis massif, offers a wide choice of summer and winter activities. Hiking, mountain biking, paragliding, farm visits, skiing, cross-country skiing or snowshoeing, you'll find plenty to keep you busy at La Clusaz. All year round, treat yourself to local culture and gastronomy.

www.laclusaz.com

Le Grand-Bornand

Hiking in front of the Aravis mountain range, enjoying the fresh mountain air while admiring century-old chalets, meeting farmers, guides and craftsmen, and enjoying a good farmhouse Reblochon cheese: these are the moments that make a Grand-Bornand holiday a unique experience... and make it a place that belongs to all of us. The BO !

www.legrandbornand.com

Sources du lac d'Annecy

From the south shore of Lake Annecy to the gateway to Savoie, from the Bauges massif to the Bornes massif, and equidistant from the towns of Annecy and Albertville, the Sources du lac d'Annecy destination has much to be proud of. La Sambuy, la Dent de Cons, le Charbon...

The mountains offer breathtaking views of the surrounding area. Still wild and rural, the area abounds in sporting, gastronomic and artisanal discoveries.

www.sources-lac-annecy.com

Manigod

Manigod, the Aravis family destination, is a year-round village resort. Its unique, well-preserved environment blends history and modernity, making it an exceptional holiday destination. A charming destination that will appeal to the contemplative, with one of the most beautiful panoramas in Haute-Savoie. Manigod is a sprawling village made up of numerous mountain hamlets dotted with superb old chalets. In this quintessentially peaceful village, you can feel the soul of a territory attached to its traditions and values.

www.manigod.com

Saint-Jean-de-Sixt

The forward-looking mountain village of Saint-Jean-de-Sixt is just a stone's throw away from the entire Aravis massif.

Marked by the identity of one man, Saint Pierre Favre, and the irreverent humor of the Festival de la Caricature, the diversity of Saint-Jean-de-Sixt is sure to appeal to all generations.

Whether you're hiking the peaks or plunging into the void at the Bun J Ride, you can expect to experience an emotional elevator right where the heart of the Aravis region beats!

www.saintjeandesixt.com

The micro-adventures

Between lake and mountains, at Annecy Mountains, every season brings a new opportunity to push back your limits in an enchanting natural setting!

Sailing on Europe's purest lake

Whether it's the Compagnie des Bateaux du lac d'Annecy (the emblematic red and white boats) or the wooden launches of the Canal du Vassé, all the lake's tourist transport boats are gradually going all-electric. This electrification began a few years ago with the historic L'Espérance III lateen sailboat, and is continuing with many service providers, including the possibility of renting a boat without a license. New for 2024 for children under ten: e-babyskiing, with an electric boat, guided by multiple world champion Clémentine Lucine.

www.bateaux-annecy.com, **www.instagram.com/ebabyski**
https://esperance3.org

The aventure of backpacking

Hiking for several days in the mountains means living at nature's pace, in the midst of richly varied landscapes: high altitude lakes, vast plateaus, peaks (large and small)... With the possibility of staying in one of the seven refuges dotting the Thônes Cœur des Vallées area. From 2 to 4 days, many itineraries allow you to reach them for the night. Treat yourself to a moment of contemplation and sharing in one of these out-of-this-world places, where the wardens love to prepare delicious meals for hikers, in the tranquillity of a preserved environment.

Mountain Bike in the Confins

It's off for a gentle ride over a 14.5 km course. Once out on the trails, you won't even notice the slight gradient of 515 meters, and all you have to do is admire the scenery. Once you've reached the plateau, it's time to make the most of it!
Don't hesitate to leave the trails for a short break at the Paccaly refreshment bar, where Astrid and Greg offer refreshing meals based on flowers harvested in the mountains. An opportunity to learn more about the local flora while enjoying a meal.

Buvette Paccaly +33 (0)6 81 63 33 68
www.alpesaventures.com/laclusaz

An unusual family night in a refuge

Gramusset, also known as the Pointe Percée hut, is the latest major project to be undertaken by the CAF (Club Alpin Français) on its network of refuges, and is both the goal of a hike with the "Refuges en Famille" label and a stopover point for some itineraries through the Aravis mountain range. Close to a Natura 2000-listed lapiaz and situated at an altitude of 2164m, Gramusset is now virtually energy self-sufficient, thanks to an exemplary High Environmental Quality (HEQ) renovation.

refugelapointepercee.ffcam.fr

Geosites, water and *nature bath*

The Sources du lac d'Annecy is a land of rejuvenation and reconnection with nature. Almost 40% of the destination is part of the Natura 2000 network, and even more belongs to the Massif des Bauges Geopark and Regional Nature Park, with six geosites to explore on foot accompanied by one of the six nature guides available. On the water side, the lake, rivers and five waterfalls allow you to discover magical, cool spots all year round.

www.sources-lac-annecy.com

Chen'ous - +33 (0)6 85 05 99 90
SomAventure - +33 (0)6 07 68 71 06
Alexperiencedescimes - +33 (0)6 99 57 19 58
Bureau des guides d'Albertville - +33 (0)4 80 81 98 27
Natur'envie - +33 (0)6 22 54 92 68
Mélaine Bourgeois – +33 (0)6 77 08 65 64

In the saddle in Manigod !

The Manigod valley, a favorite destination for sports enthusiasts, boasts views worthy of the most beautiful postcards. This unique setting is ideal for a wide range of activities, including mountain biking, cross-country and e-bike.
As you pedal along, it's so good to feel the wind of freedom in the midst of mountain pastures and breathtaking scenery! Seven family-friendly downhill routes have been specially designed for mountain biking.

Eight additional routes accessible without lifts also await mountain bikers all summer long, representing 84 km of free, signposted trails. How about a mountain bike sunset perched at the top of the mountain with a mountain guide?

www.manigod.com/a-vivre-en-famille/itineraires-descendants-familiaux.html

Nature and craftsmanship

As autumn gives away to winter, put on your snowshoes and set off for a contemplative walk at Crêt Brûlé, in the heart of unspoilt nature. At the end of the trail, stop off at the Suet farm to discover all the steps and secrets involved in making Reblochon cheese before your very eyes. Learn the difference between Reblochon fermier and fruitier, so you can impress your friends with this jewel of local gastronomy.

See all our snowshoeing trails at **www.saintjeandesixt.com**

Culture and gastronomy

Here, the terroir expresses itself not only on the plate, but also in cultural venues where traditions and fun tours go hand in hand.

Europe's lake with the most *stars*

Lake Annecy's reputation for gastronomy is well established! The Maison Benoît Vidal in Annecy-le-Vieux has been awarded two additional Michelin stars, making it Europe's most starred lake, with 8 restaurants and 14 stars (including 4 green stars). These chefs are creating a real buzz around gastronomy in an area that also boasts 7 Bib gourmand, 6 Ecotable and 52 Gault et Millau-starred restaurants.

Time travel in the land of *wood*

The Ecomusée du Bois et de la Forêt (Wood and Forest Ecomuseum) takes visitors on an authentic journey back in time to the heart of an old 19th-century hydraulic sawmill. Discover the life of the sawyer and his tools, and watch sawing demonstrations. Throughout the year, a wide range of family activities are on offer, including woodworking workshops, escape games, nature outings, stag bellowing, and fun evenings in the woods (owls, bats, etc.).

More recently, the Forêt École has been launched to further enhance the experience. Visit the multi-pedagogical area, with a site that is self-sufficient in energy thanks to the return of hydraulic power (a century later !), and the discovery trail, original and innovative.

www.ecomusee-bois-foret.com

La Clusaz reaches for the *stars*

Hotel *Au Coeur du Village's Le Cin5 restaurant* was awarded its first Michelin star this year. Chef Vincent Deforce and his team brilliantly blend the flavors of Haute-Savoie with hints of Mauritius. The result is a feast of creative, aesthetically pleasing dishes, carefully crafted.

Le Cin5, in the grounds of the *Au Cœur du Village* hotel
www.hotel-aucoeurduvillage.fr/restauration/le-cinq)

Alpes' new *alternative* theme park

Set in an authentic bornandine farmhouse, La Source offers a variety of spaces for mediation and workshops, an educational farm and exhibition and performance rooms. Outside, the vast meadow on the edge of the forest, with its unusual artistic decor, takes children on a journey to the heart of the Alpine heritage.
Free-play and cooperative games follow one another, inviting young and old to join in the fun of life in the Alps mountains... between two rides on environmentally-friendly, parent-powered merry-go-rounds!

https://lasource-legrandbornand.com

The Skill Loop

By bus, bike or on foot, discovering the seven villages of the Sources du lac d'Annecy region is rich in heritage, monuments and history. These villages are home to the artisans and producers of the Boucle des Savoir-Faire, inviting everyone to share an unforgettable moment: workshop visits, guided walks, handcrafted creations...
And for souvenirs, the "Sources du lac d'Annecy-Terroir" brand offers local products created by local producers and craftsmen.

www.sources-lac-annecy.com

Gastronomy as at home

In Manigod, we take the time to indulge our taste buds! Elise Veyrat, 26, took over *La Maison des Bois*, which became *Le Hameau de mon Père* under her leadership. She has simplified the house, lowered prices, but retained the Marc Veyrat heritage with a mountain-style cuisine. While the chalet decor remains the same, the concept has changed. *"The place is designed to make you feel at home. It's a cocoon in the mountains,"* says the new owner. It has retained its magic and now offers snacks with a view of the Aravis mountain range. It's the perfect place to enjoy a walk on the magnificent Plateau de Beauregard after a hard day's work.

www.lehameaudemonpere.com

Prepare your *taste buds !*

From traditional brasseries to gourmet restaurants, Saint-Jean-de-Sixt offers a wide range of local specialties. Enjoy a unique tasting experience at *Le Cairn* (young talent Gault & Millau 2022) or *Le Peille* (maître-restaurateur), two restaurants that elevate local produce with the seasons. Put all the flavors of our alpine pastures on your plate for an extraordinary gustatory and olfactory voyage!

www.lecairn-stjean.fr
www.restaurant-lepeille.com

Photo credits : François Guillermet, Timothée Nalet, Monica Dalmasso, OT Thônes Cœur des Vallées, Lebeau, C.Chabod, Rémi Portier, Mathilde Sauvage, Tilby Vattard, Machet, Pierre Guilbaud, Espérance III, Kenny Cerou, Pierre Maullet, T Milherou, L. Madelon AFTalp, Foudimages, Matthieu Cellard.

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