

PRESS KIT - CYCLING 2025



ANNEY
MOUNTAINS

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



ROAD CYCLING



GRAVEL CYCLING



MOUNTAIN BIKING



ANNECY MOUNTAINS is a key destination in the French Alps for all cycling disciplines.

Its unique landscapes between lake and mountains, its tourist culture and the quality of its heritage make it an exceptional destination.

Annecy Mountains offers a range of routes, from the most sporty to the most accessible, from spring to autumn, as well as a rich offer of events, activities and services for unique experiences.

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1 DESTINATION 3 PRACTICES

ROAD CYCLING, GRAVEL CYCLING OR MOUNTAIN BIKING. The area offers a complementary range of mountain bike trails (cross-country, enduro or downhill), gravel routes and road cycling circuits, starting from the shores of Lake Annecy or from the Bauges or Aravis massifs.

KEY FIGURES



1 580 KM OF
MARKED ROUTES



18
MOUNTAIN PASSES
TO CROSS



60
MTB TRACKS



2
BIKE PARKS



4 PUMPTRACKS
AND PLAY AREAS



9
CYCLING CAFÉS



66 PROFESSIONALS WITH THE
'ACCUEIL VÉLO' LABEL



ROAD



GRAVEL



MTB

ANNECY MOUNTAINS, CYCLING DESTINATION

Ideally located in the heart of the Auvergne Rhône-Alpes region, close to Switzerland and Italy, the Annecy Mountains area is an essential cycling destination.

Along the Route des Grandes Alpes, stop off at Annecy, Les Sources du lac d'Annecy, Thônes or one of the resorts in the Aravis massif: Le Grand-Bornand, La Clusaz, Manigod or Saint-Jean-de-Sixt. From each of these departure points, there are a multitude of cycle-touring and cyclosportive itineraries to choose from.

From secret mountain roads to climbs of the legendary passes of the Tour de France (Col de la Colombière, Col des Aravis, Col des Glières, Col de la

Forclaz) or peaceful strolls along Lake Annecy, the region offers a magnificent setting.

DOWNHILL, ENDURO OR CROSS-COUNTRY: THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

The area also offers a wide range of terrain for mountain biking, covering several disciplines and different levels of ability: mountain bike tours throughout the region, cross-country with many loop trails, enduro or downhill using the ski lifts. There are plenty of options, from the Base VTT des Sources du lac d'Annecy, to the Tournette Bornes Aravis mountain biking area, or the Grand Annecy mountain biking area.

THE CYCLING LABELS



ACCUEIL VÉLO

'Accueil Vélo' offers is a national brand that offers a services adapted to cycling tourists including cycling itineraries, cycling routes, and designated voies vertes (greenways) of France.

VILLE ET TERRITOIRE VÉLOTOURISTIQUES

Set up by the Fédération Française de Cyclotourisme (FFCT), the label recognises local authorities that offer cyclists a warm welcome, services and appropriate facilities.

BASE VTT

This label rewards tourist facilities and local authorities that offer mountain bikers a warm welcome, with services and equipments that they need.

THE ROUTE DES GRANDES ALPES®

The **Route des Grandes Alpes® (RGA)** is a 720km cycle tourism route linking Thonon-les-Bains to Nice, crossing the French Alps from north to south. On its route, the Route des Grandes Alpes® crosses the roads of Annecy Mountains, passing through the Col de la Colombière at Le Grand-Bornand, Saint-Jean-de-Sixt and the Col des Aravis at La Clusaz.

FIND OUT MORE



A GRAVEL VERSION OF THE RGA® ALSO CROSSES THE ANNECY MOUNTAINS AREA:

From Cluses, there is a route to Le Grand-Bornand along picturesque back roads, passing through Romme and Le Reposoir before reaching the Col de la Colombière. On the descent after the pass, head towards Lac du Maroly to reach Le Grand-Bornand Village via wild tracks and small roads.

DISCOVER THE ROUTE



From Grand-Bornand to Flumet via La Clusaz, the route winds its way up the Bouchet valley before reaching the Confins lake. The route then climbs the Col des Aravis before turning off onto the famous Route de la Soif trail to reach Flumet.

DISCOVER THE ROUTE



ROUTES

> ROAD & GRAVEL CYCLING



The Annecy Mountains area it is :
35 ROAD CYCLING ROUTES
& 4 GRAVEL CYCLING ROUTES.

A variety of routes for all levels,
 from **20km to 185 km.**

**INTERACTIVE MAP
 FOR ROAD CYCLING**



**INTERACTIVE MAP
 FOR GRAVEL CYCLING**



JULIEN AUDIGIER



JULIEN AUDIGIER is a lover of the destination, and has become a local reference who travels all over the region, revealing its bright and intriguing secrets. He is the author of two books: 'Annecy et son lac' (Annecy and its lake) and 'Haute-Savoie entre lac et montagne' (Haute-Savoie between lake and mountain), both of which offer ideas for escapades and itineraries to discover our region.



“ A cycling tour around Annecy and the Aravis mountains is a real nature break. An idea for an itinerary? Start from the peaceful shores of Lake Annecy, heading for the Château de Menthon-Saint-Bernard, standing proudly against the mountains. Then head for the Col de Plan Bois, an almost deserted nugget, far from any traffic.

The view of the Aravis range, La Tournette and the surrounding mountain pastures is simply magical. Manigod, La Clusaz, the dark wooden chalets of yesteryear... a postcard impression at every turn. Then the long descent begins, with our eyes still fixed on the summits. Back to Annecy after 83 km of peace, beauty and fresh air. The only words that come to mind are: «Can't wait for the next outing!

”

CYCLOSPORTIVE OR CYCLOTOURIST, DISCOVER ANNECY MOUNTAINS

THE TOUR DE FRANCE MOUNTAIN PASSES

In the heart of the Aravis massif, start your ascent from Thônes towards Le Grand-Bornand to reach the **Col de la Colombière** (1,618 m).

Accessible from 1st June, this legendary pass, climbed 23 times by the Tour de France riders, takes you through mountain pastures with the Aravis range in the background.

You can also choose the route to Manigod, with the **Col de la Croix-Fry** (1,477 m) and then the **Col des Aravis** (1,487 m), and its rewarding views of Mont-Blanc.

A more recent addition to the Tour de France route, the **Col des Glières** (1,390 m), also open from 1st June, promises a demanding ascent for the most experienced riders.

PASSES WITH VIEWS OVER LAKE ANNECY

A number of passes of varying degrees of difficulty take you up to the heights of Lake Annecy.

The **Col de la Forclaz** (1,157 m) and the **Col du Semnoz** (1,673 m) require a good workout, but reward the effort with spectacular views over the lake and mountains.

For a more accessible approach, the **Col de Bluffy** (639 m) and **Col de Leschaux** (897 m) offer a nice alternative, ideal for a hilly circuit around the lake.

SECRET MOUNTAIN PASSES

Do you enjoy riding on roads with low traffic, in the heart of unspoilt countryside?

The Annecy Mountains are home to a number of discreet passes, perfect for a peaceful getaway, but still challenging!

The **Col de Plan Bois** (1,299 m), on the slopes of the Montagne de Sulens, offers a superb view of the back of the Tournette and leads to the **Col de la Croix-Fry**. Around Mont-Charvin, the **Col de l'Épine** (947 m) and the **Col de l'Arpettaz** (1,581 m) wind between hamlets and mountain pastures in an authentic atmosphere. The **Col de Tamié** (907 m) is part of the Tour de la Belle Étoile, a wonderful immersion in the Parc Naturel Régional des Bauges.

ROAD & GRAVEL



GRAVEL ROUTES RESOLUTELY SPORTY



Into the heart of the secret trails of the Aravis mountains, the gravel routes cross the trails of the Bauges Regional Nature Park and lead to the mythical Plateau des Glières. Here are four gravel routes immersed in unspoilt nature.

- **LA TRAVERSÉE DES GLIÈRES**
(CROSSING THE GLIÈRES)

Leaving from Annecy, this demanding 81km route follows the footsteps of the French Resistance. It crosses the famous Plateau des Glières on a gravelled mountain pasture track.

- **LE TOUR DE LA TOURNETTE**
(AROUND THE TOURNETTE)

It's impossible to miss! Overlooking the Lake Annecy, La Tournette is an iconic landmark. Leaving from Thônes, this 68km loop trail offers exceptional panoramic views of the lake, the Bauges and the Aravis mountains.

- **LA ROUTE DE LA SOIF**
(THE THIRSTY ROAD)

Linking the Col de l'Arpettaz to the Col des Aravis via a mountain pasture path, this 78km route starts in Thônes and winds its way along a balcony overlooking Mont Charvin, offering breathtaking views of Mont Blanc.

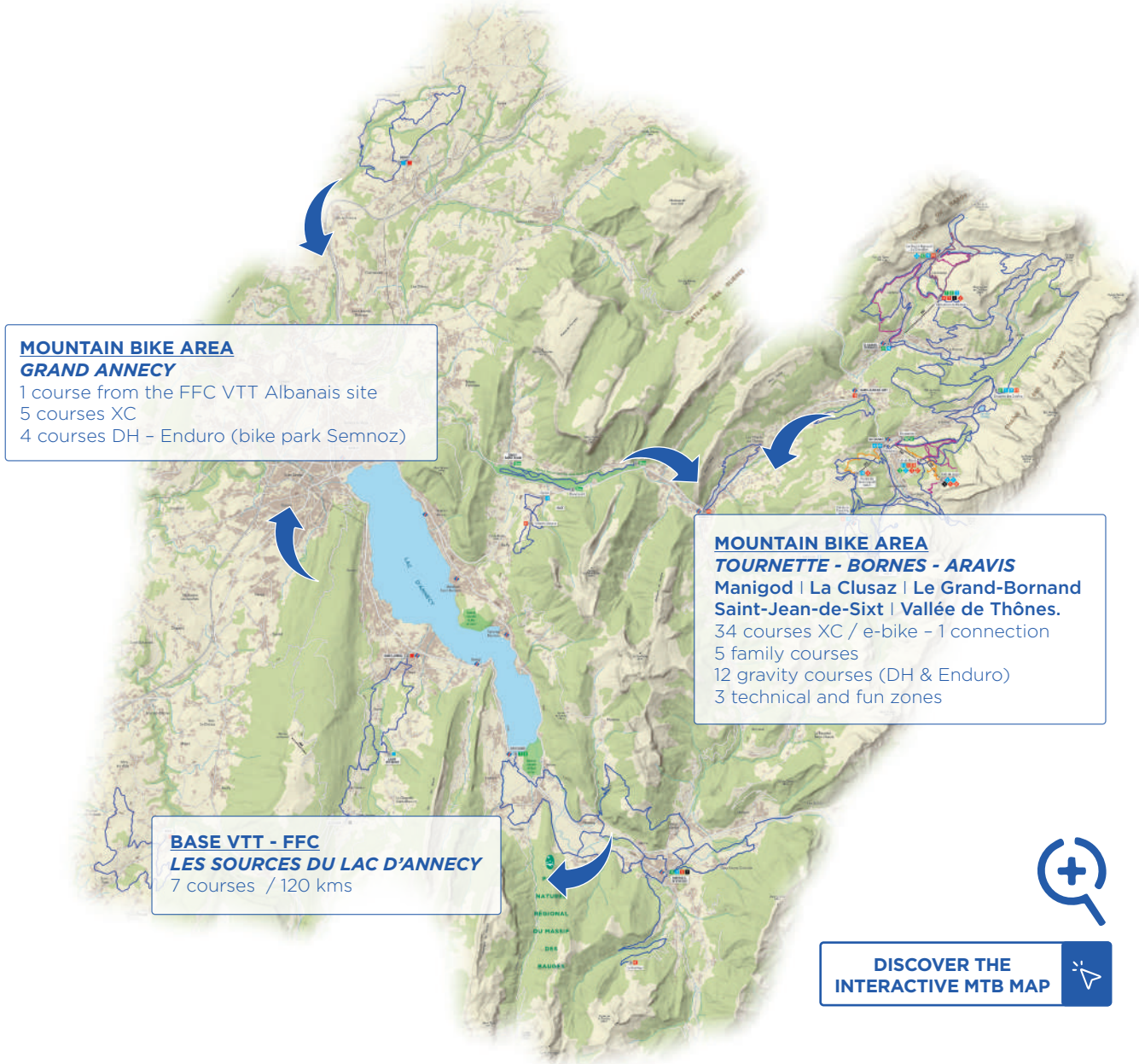
- **LA COMBE D'IRE**
(THE 'IRE' VALLEY)

From Annecy, this 86km adventure heads to the heart of the Bauges Regional Nature Park. Between the majestic peaks of the massif, it crosses the Col de Chérel and the Col de Leschaux.

DOWNHILL, ENDURO
OR CROSS-COUNTRY:
THERE'S SOMETHING
FOR EVERYONE!

4 ski lift-equipped sites give you access to downhill and enduro trails.

2 bike parks (Le Semnoz and La Clusaz) and numerous cross-country trails await you in the Annecy Mountains area.



KILIAN
BRON

KILIAN BRON is a mountain biker champion based in Annecy. He discovers the most unusual places on the planet on his bike. A forerunner in his field, he films his exploits and produces videos followed by millions of people.

“ I love the mountain bike terrain at La Clusaz. The bike park offers flow trails, or more winding handmade trails in the undergrowth. There are also shared trails throughout the area. Annecy Mountains offers a variety of landscapes, from the steep peaks of the Aravis to the more wooded areas at the bottom of the valleys. I also like the atmosphere of the mountain villages, which can be found all year round. ”

EVENTS 2025



RANDO CYCLO DES SOURCES DU LAC D'ANNECY

MTB Road Gravel

May 18, 2025 | Start St Ferréol

Take the start of one of the three cyclo routes of the Rando des Sources du lac d'Annecy. Mountain bikers can set off on four courses of different levels. There's also a 45 km gravel course.

X-FRY DOWNHILL CUP - AURA DH CUP

MTB

May 24 & 25, 2025 | Manigod

First round of the AuRA DH Cup regional championship (Col de la Croix-Fry, Manigod). For the 6th year running, the Manigod Hardloop Racing team refreshes the track for a memorable DH mountain bike race.

LE BÉLIER VTT

MTB

June 14 & 15, 2025 | La Clusaz

On the program are XC races over several distances, a Randuro to kick-start the enduro season without a stopwatch, and kids' races dedicated to future champions. Whether timed or not, these races allow everyone to express themselves, challenge themselves and, above all, have fun.

GRIMPÉE CYCLISTE LE BOUQUETIN

Road

August 15, 2025 | Le Grand-Bornand

Come and compete in the timed cycling ascent of the Col de la Colombière.

L'ULTRA RACE DES GÉANTS

Gravel Road

August 15, 2025 | Annecy

Two road bike routes in a limited time: 300 km and 7,000 m of D+ in under 30h or 700 km and 17,500 m of D+ in under 72h.

DVÉLOS LAC D'ANNECY

Gravel Road

August 23 & 24, 2025 | Annecy

A time-trial ascent of the Semnoz on Saturday and three cyclosporifs courses on Sunday. Choose the one that's right for you: from the 55 km, (1,150 m D+) discovery route to the most demanding 125 km, (2,850 m D+) route.

L'INFERNO FRANCE

MTB

September, from 3 to 7, 2025 | Annecy

In teams of two, link Annecy to Menton in 3 stages: 625 km and 15,000 m of ascent. An extreme and extraordinary adventure that will take you up the giants of the French Alps.

COUPE DE FRANCE VTT & VTTAE ENDURO

MTB

September 20 & 21, 2025 | La Clusaz

The French Cycling Federation's Enduro Mountain Bike Cup has 5 rounds, and the Haute-Savoie resort is hosting the finals to round off the 2025 season.

HAUTE-SAVOIE, LAND OF CYCLING



UCI CYCLING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2027 HAUTE-SAVOIE MONT-BLANC AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 5, 2027



In summer 2027, Haute-Savoie will host the World Cycling Championships. This exceptional international event will showcase the world of cycling.

Two Anney Mountains spots have been selected to host several events: **Anney** and **Thônes / La Clusaz**.

ANNEY

BMX - BMX Racing :

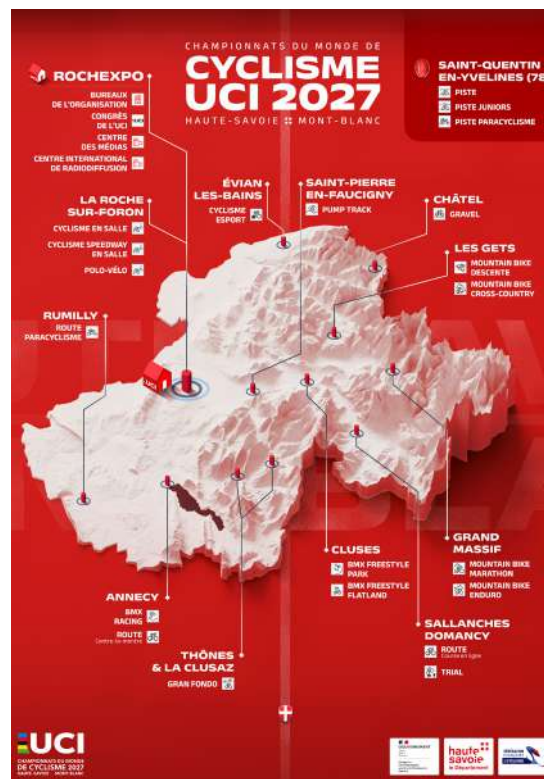
'UCI BMX Racing World Championships 2027'
An explosive event, in the sense that the start is paramount, and the total effort hardly exceeds 40 seconds. After launching themselves from the top of the starting hill, the riders (who compete in groups of 8) must demonstrate perfect jumping technique to get over the successive bumps.

This event was a memorable moment at the last Paris 2024 Olympics, with the French hat-trick achieved by Joris Daudet (gold), Sylvain André (silver) and Romain Mahieu (bronze).

Road time trial:

'UCI Road World Championships 2027'

Anney and its lake will be the setting for the time trials. Athletes will take it in turns to race against the clock on a spectacular course, allowing spectators to admire athlete one after the other.



THÔNES / LA CLUSAZ - MASSIF DES ARAVIS Gran Fondo :

'UCI Gran Fondo World Championships 2027'

A mass event, this cyclosporive road race (which can start en masse or in successive waves) is run over a long distance, and distinguishes between different age categories.

The winners of each age category at the UCI Gran Fondo World Championships wear the rainbow jersey. These events are open to all categories of riders. Jeannie Longo, for example, won the time trial in the 65-69 category at the 2023 event in Glasgow.

FOCUS

CLOSED PASSES «HAUTE-SAVOIE AU SOMMET»

As part of its cycling plan, the Haute-Savoie Departmental Council is opening up a legendary mountain pass to cyclists **every Tuesday, between 9am and 12pm during the summer season.**



This operation is open to a wide audience, from experienced cyclists to beginners discovering the sport.

The aim is to promote this environmentally-friendly mode of transport and to showcase the department's outstanding climbs, by providing safe access that is conducive to cycling.

The event will end with the ascent of the Col des Glières on August 26, 2025.

The programme for all the other climbs is still to come.



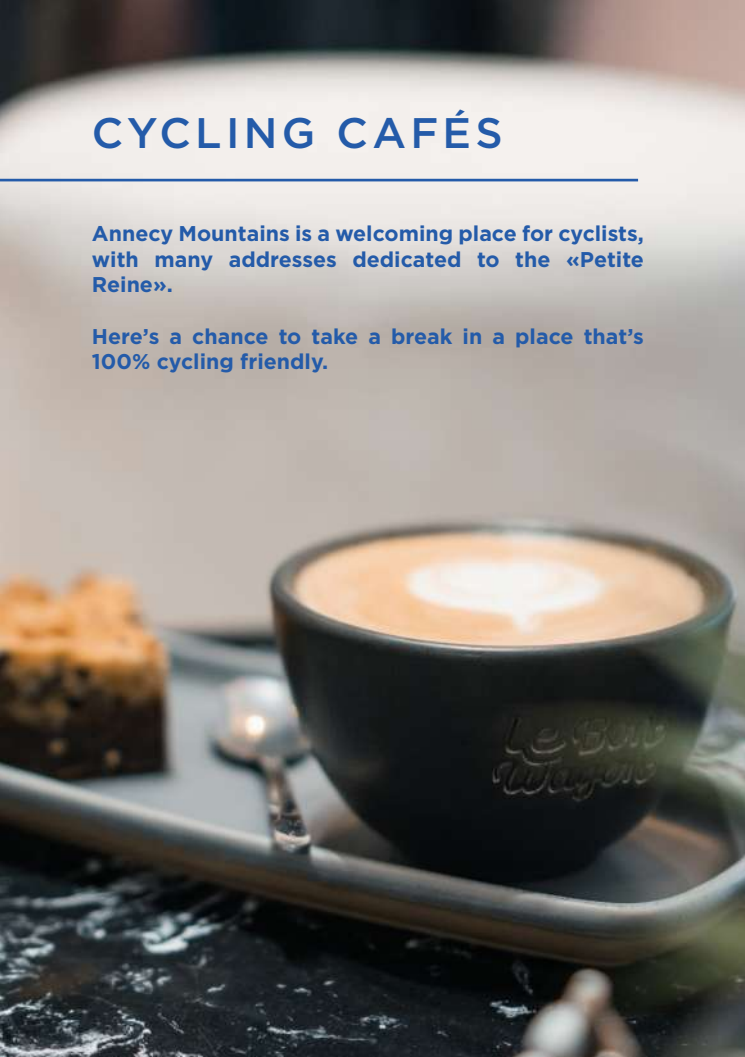
FIND OUT MORE



CYCLING CAFÉS

Annecy Mountains is a welcoming place for cyclists, with many addresses dedicated to the «Petite Reine».

Here's a chance to take a break in a place that's 100% cycling friendly.



AROUND ANNECY

LA PETITE REINE

Veyrier | This café welcomes you in a little green haven of a family garden with views of the lake.

LA CUILLÈRE À OMBLE

Doussard | This café and restaurant by the water's edge, awarded the 'Accueil Vélo' seal of approval, is open all day.

LE BON WAGON | 2 adresses around the lake

Duingt | It offers is in a beautiful setting along the greenway. The perfect place to enjoy a break, under the watchful eye of the former stationmaster. The café also welcomes cyclists in its second location in the **centre of Annecy**.

MATCHY CYCLIST CLUBHOUSE

Annecy | A place where life is good, where you'll feel right at home among fellow cyclists and with a TV for watching cycling races.

ON THE ROADS OF THE ARAVIS

LE COFFEE SHOP - DAKA STORE

Saint-Jean-de-Sixt | This sports shop, specialising in cycling, is located at the crossroads between Le Grand Bornand and La Clusaz. It also houses a café, open all day and serving breakfast, lunch, snacks and light bites. Everything here is homemade, and chocolatier and pastry chef Camille is sure to delight your taste buds with tasty treats!

LES RHODOS - BIKE PLAZA

La Clusaz | You've reached the summit of the Col des Aravis! Now it's time to reward yourself with a well-deserved break and admire the stunning views of Mont Blanc. This mountain bistro gives cyclists a warm welcome with high quality cuisine and a host of practical extras: an outdoor tap, mini repair kits and phone chargers...



LE BISTRO VÉLO & CO

La Clusaz | Swap your saddle for a seat on the south-facing wooden terrace or in the cosy interior. Whether you're looking to fuel up before hitting the road or to refuel after a long day's ride, or simply stopping off for a tasty snack, this pasta bar and delicatessen is the perfect combination of bike shop and bistro.

LO GARÂJO

Manigod | This unique café, is open all day and highly popular among cyclists looking to rest and refuel, and recharge their e-bike.





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