

ANNEY MOUNTAINS

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

A N N E C Y M O U N T A I N S

AN ESCAPE DESTINATION, 365 DAYS A YEAR

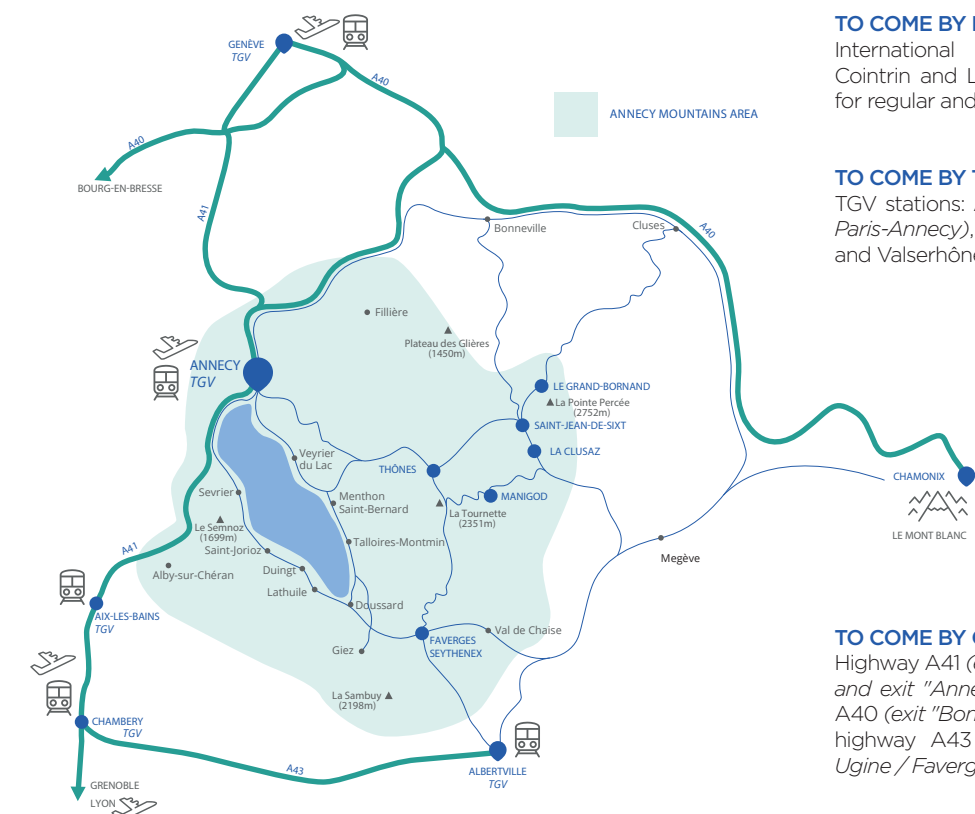


Annecy, officially a Town of Art & History, instantly appeals with its wealth of architectural and cultural heritage, all tucked between a crystal-clear lake and the surrounding mountains. In this outstanding setting, **Annecy Mountains** unfurls in an amazing diversity of landscapes, activities and experiences. A unique destination that combines nature, culture, sport and the art of living. Here, there are hundreds of ways to escape... and each season invites you to savour its joys.

There's something to appeal to every visitor, from the timeless charm of the old town of Annecy to the snow-covered slopes of La Clusaz, Manigod and Le Grand-Bornand. Not forgetting the trails of the Massif des Bauges Regional Nature Park, the mysterious cave of Seythenex and the highly popular cycling routes.

All year round, you'll find local farmers' markets just a short distance from the sledding slopes, and lakeside relaxation spots within easy reach of the mountain peaks.

Annecy Mountains are the destination of your dreams, embodying the promise of escape in multiple forms!



TO COME BY PLANE:

International airports (Geneva-Cointrin and Lyon-Saint Exupéry) for regular and low cost airlines.

TO COME BY TRAIN:

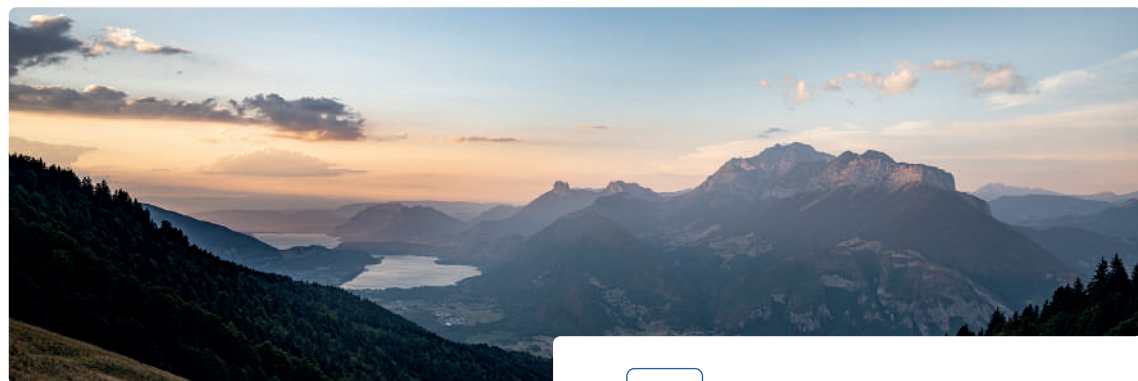
TGV stations: Annecy (*direct line Paris-Annecy*), Geneva, Albertville and Valserhône.

TO COME BY CAR:

Highway A41 (exit "Annecy centre" and exit "Annecy nord"), highway A40 (exit "Bonneville/Aravis") and highway A43 (exit "Albertville / Ugine / Faverges-Seythenex").

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1 A DESTINATION FOR EVERY DELIGHT

Here, you don't have to choose between exploring the mountains and taking a dip. You can do both in a single day! Take to the hiking trails in the morning, then spend the afternoon strolling around Lake Annecy. Unless of course you prefer cooling off in one of the many rivers that wind across the region. In spring, visitors can expect an alternative experience: two seasons combine in a single day when you ski down the snowy slopes before taking to the Fier or Chéran rivers in a kayak.

Annecy Mountains, where every pleasure can be enjoyed at a single destination!

2 MULTIPLE TASTES BUT A UNIQUE FLAVOUR

From mountain eateries to gourmet restaurants, Annecy Mountains invites food lovers to enjoy a whole range of local specialities, from famous dishes to more unexpected flavours.

Cheese lovers, your mouth will water at the very thought of a delicious Reblochon AOP farmhouse cheese, or a fondue made for sharing in the mountains. You'll (re)discover with delight Chevrotin AOP, Manigodine, Tomes des Bauges AOP and the famous Délice de Sainte Colombe. A wealth of cheeses that contribute to the destination's richness and are a pleasure to enjoy with a glass of Roussette or Mondeuse from the vineyards replanted on the banks of Lake Annecy.

But there's more in store for your taste buds, because this region has mountains of flavour! And you simply cannot leave before tasting the delicate flavour of fish freshly caught from the lake, or enjoying a piece of bescoin (local brioche-type speciality) with a glass of Biscantin.

Tip: The Saveurs des Aravis quality label, created in 2012, identifies ambassadors of the region's culinary heritage and guarantees the authenticity of the expertise behind local produce.



3 A LAND OF MEMORY

As you explore the valleys and villages, a living heritage unfurls. The evidence of a rich past ranges from chapels, onion-dome steeples, baroque altarpieces and oratories, to ancient farmhouses, centuries-old chalets, fountains and bread ovens.

In Le Grand-Bornand, in particular, many artists and craftspeople have found inspiration in the peaceful setting of these old farms, reviving the tradition of noble trades such as cabinetmaking, saddlery, ceramics and upholstery. The Hameau des Alpes, the Maison du Patrimoine, the Écomusée du lac d'Annecy, and the Maison de Pays du Laudon all share the secrets of this heritage in engaging and educational ways.

From more recent memory, the Plateau des Glières, located on the heights of the Bornes massif, stands as a powerful symbol of the Haute-Savoie Resistance during the Second World War. A historical trail retraces the lives and struggles of the men who fought against German troops, while a national monument pays tribute to them. At the entrance to Thônes, Morette is also a key memorial site, featuring the National Necropolis of Glières, the Departmental Museum of the Resistance and the Deportation Memorial.

4 A LIFE-SIZED SPORTS PLAYGROUND!

All year round, Annecy Mountains makes an exceptional destination for sports lovers, whatever the season.

Adrenalin addicts, fans of the great outdoors and lovers of more gentle activities, every season beckons you to align with the pace of nature. Summer is the time to enjoy watersports on the lake and rivers, cycle up mountains or hike to the peaks, a perfect opportunity to spend a night in a mountain refuge or try a via ferrata course. Autumn and spring provide ideal conditions for trail running and paragliding, unless you prefer to try the 52-metre pendulum jump from the Seythenex bridge, a larger-than-life swing! In winter, downhill skiing, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing take over. Here, every season is an invitation to adventure.



THE ARAVIS MOUNTAIN RANGE



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5

BETWEEN MOUNTAIN PASTURES, LIVING TRADITIONS AND FLAVOURS

In the heart of Annecy Mountains, agropastoralism isn't just about farming. It is about culture, the landscape and meeting people. In spring, herds of goats and cattle move up to the high pastures. Farms open their doors to visitors. Trails lead to the mountain pastures where you can meet the farmers. Watching the milking and tasting cheeses made on the premises are all opportunities to discover a deep-rooted lifestyle that is both sustainable and full of flavour. From farmhouse Reblochon, of which Thônes is the capital, to fresh goat cheeses, every visit is a delicious, real-life immersion. An authentic experience not to be missed.



6

THROUGH THE STREETS, A PLUNGE INTO TIME

Art and history enthusiasts will not want to miss these two key sites of Annecy Mountains.

Alby-sur-Chéran is a charming medieval village that nestles amid unspoilt surroundings. As the witness to a rich past of craftsmanship, this former shoemaking capital invites you to take an immersive stroll through history and heritage. Wander along its cobbled streets, admire the elegant arches and cross the Chéran river to reach the chapel. In just over an hour, this exceptional site reveals its secrets step by step, showcasing its architectural and natural treasures.

Old Annecy, a testament to the vibrant past of France and Savoie, offers a picture-postcard setting. Nicknamed the "Venice of the Alps," this fascinating town has a warm atmosphere and rich historical heritage. Worn by the passing of time, its narrow streets wind between colourful façades and picturesque canals. Many of the buildings, such as the medieval castle, the Palais de l'Isle and the five steeples representing five different eras, are open to visitors all year round. Designated a Town of Art and History, Annecy invites you on an unforgettable journey to discover culture, nature and the art of living.



7

MOUNTAIN VILLAGES IN ALL THEIR AUTHENTICITY

From the Bauges Massif to the Aravis valleys, Annecy Mountains is dotted with typical villages. Along the trails, visitors discover the unique atmosphere and architecture of the Bauges farmhouses, with their metal-covered four-sloped roofs, very different from the wooden chalets and farmhouses of Manigod and La Clusaz, for example. Traditionally, wood shingles, known as tavaillons and ancelles, covered the Aravis chalet roofs.

Even today, in Le Grand-Bornand, more than 450 historic houses can be seen on the mountainsides between the villages and alpine pastures. In fact, this the French mountain village that has preserved the largest number of examples of this traditional type of housing, with certain former Reblochon dairy farms dating back to the 17th century!

In Saint-Jean-de-Sixt, the well-preserved hamlet of Lombardes will delight curious visitors. Built between 1903 and 1907, two remarkable avant-garde farmhouses of exceptional craftsmanship break with the traditional 19th-century design, introducing the visionary concepts of hygiene and comfort into rural housing.



8

ACCESSIBILITY MEETS DIVERSITY

In Annecy Mountains, there are activities to suit every taste and age group. Families, seasoned athletes, seniors or active youngsters will all find plenty of ways to enjoy the destination.

Outdoor sports, cultural walks, heritage tours, wellness experiences and culinary delights: here, everything comes together to create unique moments, whether alone, with family or among friends.

Throughout the year, a wide variety of experiences is accessible to all, from the most contemplative to the most adventurous.



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9

LIVING NATURE, A RESTORATIVE ESCAPE



From the shores of Lake Annecy to the surrounding summits, nature invites you to switch off.

Annecy Mountains features a multitude of unspoiled natural spaces: forests and alpine pastures, the Massif des Bauges Regional Nature Park, the Roc de Chère and Bout du Lac nature reserves, the Gorges du Fier and the many rivers, springs and waterfalls that flow through the valleys.

These landscapes inspire wonder, inviting you to explore throughout the seasons to contemplate the changing light. Here, every walk becomes a pause, every panorama a new breath, allowing you to reconnect with what truly matters.

10

A MOUNTAIN OF EVENTS ALL YEAR ROUND

Throughout the year, a whole string of events brings a special, unifying vibe to Annecy Mountains. Music festivals, cultural gatherings, sporting competitions, traditional celebrations and fabulous food markets are just some of the highlights to enjoy through the seasons. These are wonderful opportunities to try an alternative exploration of the region, through festive and inspiring moments of togetherness.

Key events not to be missed:

• **Le Championnat de Paret**

Manigod (from December to March)

• **Le Carnaval Vénitien**

Annecy (February/March)

• **Glisse en cœur**

Le Grand-Bornand (March)

• **Le Défi Foly**

La Clusaz (April)

• **Le Festival de la caricature, du dessin de presse et d'humour**

Saint-Jean-de-Sixt (April)

• **La Terrex MaXi-Race**

Annecy (May)

• **Le Triathlon Half Iron du lac d'Annecy**

Doussard (June)

• **Annecy Festival**

Annecy (June)

• **Le Champ des Platines**

La Clusaz (July, August, September)

• **La Fête du Lac**

Annecy (August)

• **Au Bonheur des Mômes**

Le Grand-Bornand (August)

• **La Guinguette Gourmande**

Thônes (September)

• **La Foire Saint Maurice**

Thônes (September)

• **Le Retour des Alpagnes**

Annecy (October)

• **Les Marchés de Noël**

Annecy Mountains (November/December)

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