

CHAMONIX EXPERIENCE

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SAAS-FEE 4000ERS: A HIGH-ALPINE SUMMIT COURSE

Duration 6 days Physical level 3/5 Technical Level 2/4 Price from 3690€

The Saas-Fee 4000m mountaineering course is designed for climbers with prior snow and ice experience who are ready to push their alpine skills to the next level. Based in the stunning Valais region of Switzerland, this course focuses on summiting a series of classic 4000m peaks surrounding the alpine villages of Saas-Fee and Saas-Grund, home to one of the highest concentrations of accessible 4000ers in the Alps.

ITINERARY

Arrival Day : Your guide will meet you at our office in Chamonix on the evening prior to the start of the trip. This is a great opportunity to run an equipment check, discuss the itinerary, weather forecast & conditions, and answer any questions you have.

Day 1: Arrival In Saas Fee And Hike To The Almagellerhütte

We meet at the Chamex office in the morning before driving to Saas-Almagell. From there, a gentle hike of around 3–4 hours takes us up to the Almagellerhütte, where we settle in for the night.

Accommodation: Almagellerhütte

Day 2: Dri Horlini Climb (3,056 M) & Technical Skills Training

Morning: Ascent of Dri Horlini

Begin the day with a climb of this classic alpine training peak, ideal for practicing movement on rock in alpine boots. The route offers excellent terrain for rope work, basic scrambling, and team coordination in a high-mountain environment.

Afternoon: Mountaineering Techniques Workshop

After the climb, return to a suitable training area to focus on key alpine techniques, including rope handling, belaying, short-rope, and movement on mixed terrain. Emphasis will be placed on efficient and safe progression as a rope team in varied alpine conditions.

Accommodation : Night in Almagellerhutte

Day 3: Weissmies Ascent (4,017 M) Via Se Ridge & Descent To Saas-Grund

Early Morning: Alpine start for the ascent of Weissmies via the scenic and moderately technical Southeast Ridge. This classic route offers stunning views and varied terrain, including glacier travel and sections of easy rock scrambling. Ideal for consolidating rope techniques and high-altitude movement skills.

Midday: Summit and return via the same route, followed by a descent to the Hohsaas lift station or directly down to Saas-Grund, depending on conditions and team energy.

Accommodation: Hotel in Saas Grund

Day 4: Ascent Of Allalinhorn (4,027 M)

Morning: Ride the Metro Alpin to Mittelallalin (3,457 m) for an early start. From there, ascend the normal route via the Fee Glacier, a classic high-altitude climb that offers excellent terrain for practicing glacier travel, crampon technique, and rope team movement.

Summit: Reach the summit of Allalinhorn (4,027 m)—a superb 4000er with panoramic views over the Mischabel and Monte Rosa ranges.

Accommodation: Hotel in Saas Grund

Day 5: Ascent Of Lagginhorn (4,010 M) & Overnight At Weissmieshütte

Early Morning: Begin the ascent of Lagginhorn (4,010 m) via the West Ridge (normal route). This climb features a mix of rocky scrambling and exposed ridge sections, providing an excellent opportunity to refine movement on dry alpine rock in high-altitude conditions.

Summit: Reach the summit of Lagginhorn, enjoying spectacular views over the Saastal and surrounding 4000m peaks. Focus on efficient rope techniques, route finding, and partner awareness on exposed ridgelines.

Afternoon: Descend back to the valley or Hohsaas area, then hike up to the Weissmieshütte (2,726 m) for a well-earned dinner and overnight stay. This sets the stage for the final day's objective. Accommodation: Weissmieshütte

Day 6: Ascent Of The Jegihorn (3,206 M) & Return To Chamonix

Morning: Final climb of the week—ascent of the Jegihorn. This peak offers an excellent alpine finale, with options including a classic scramble or the via ferrata (one of the highest in Europe), depending on group ability and preference. The route provides expansive views of the Saas Valley and surrounding 4000m peaks.

Late Morning to Early Afternoon: Descent to the valley and return to Chamonix. Time for a short debrief, equipment return, and farewell drinks if desired.

As with all mountain activities, this itinerary is dependent on weather and mountain conditions and therefore may change. It may also be adapted to the group level.

PRICE DETAILS

2026: Collective groups from 3690€ per person for groups of minimum 2 participants

Private groups: contact us for personalised program and pricing

Included in trip package:

- 6 days of guiding & tuition
- 3 nights in mountain huts with breakfast and dinner
- 2 nights in hotels with breakfast and dinner
- Lift passes as per the itinerary
- Transport as per the itinerary (including return journey Chamonix/Saas-Grund)
- Group safety equipment
- Office based support

Not Included in the trip package:

- Drinks, lunches and snacks in huts
- Personal equipment
- Accommodation in Chamonix
- Travel to Chamonix
- Mountain rescue and travel insurance (covering course cancellation for any reason)

DATES

The best time of year for this trip is usually June to September, see our [web page](#) for dates and availability. For private trips, contact us for availability.

EQUIPMENT

- **Neck gaiter (Buff)**
- **Warm hat**
- **Thermal underwear** (top preferably with long sleeves and long johns - wearing cotton next to your skin can mean you get cold as it does not disperse moisture in the same way as a thermal, wicking garment)
- **Fleece layers** (better to carry several thin layers than thick bulky ones, to allow you to adjust your clothing according to temperature, weather and activity)
- **Light down jacket**
- **Wind & waterproof jacket** (Gore-Tex or similar breathable material with a hood, a shell jacket is good)
- **Wind & waterproof trousers** (Gore-Tex or similar breathable material, preferably with leg zips to make them easier to take on and off without having to remove your boots)
- **Thick gloves** (insulated warm gloves or mitts, gloves make it easier to fiddle with climbing gear but mitts tend to be warmer)
- **Thin gloves** (a fleece wind stopper glove with reinforced palms gives better grip)
- **Gaiters** (to keep snow out of your boots, best if they are made of a breathable material)
- **Sun hat**
- **Climbing trousers**
- **Mountaineering boots**
- **Ice axe** (normal mountaineering/walking axe, should be 50-70cm depending on your height)
- **Harness** (with adjustable leg loops to fit over your waterproof trousers and jacket)
- **Ski goggles**
- **Crampons** (12 point clip-on crampon recommended; anti-balling plates are a must, plus safety traps)
- **20 litre climbing rucksack** (important that it fits you and is comfortable to carry even when heavily loaded)
- **Walking poles** (folding or telescopic so that you can pack them away when not in use)
- **Climbing helmet** (should be big enough to fit over your hat)
- **Water bottle** (ideally 2 x 1 litre bottles)
- **Sunglasses** (factor 4)
- **Sun cream** (high factor for lips and face)
- **Headlamp** (with fresh batteries)
- **Sleeping bag liner** (not a sleeping bag!)
- **Ear plugs** (not essential but useful when trying to sleep in mountain huts)

PHYSICAL & TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Good physical fitness is essential for this course. You will be climbing four 4000m peaks over six days, so thorough preparation and training are strongly recommended.
- Prior experience using crampons and an ice axe is required. If you haven't climbed before, we recommend starting with our 3-day First Steps to Mountaineering course.
- If possible, spend some time above 3000m before the course. This will help you feel more comfortable and strong from day one.

This is a physical ascent at high altitude, and participants must be prepared for long demanding days in alpine conditions. If you would like a training plan specific to mountaineering, we recommend [Uphill Athlete](#).

ACCOMMODATION

This trip includes 3 nights in mountain huts and 2 nights in hotels, with breakfasts and dinners provided. We do not include accommodation prior to or after this trip, but can organise it for you on request.

HUTS

The high alpine huts are one of the big attractions to mountaineering or trekking in the Alps. They allow us to enjoy the mountains with only light packs and without having to worry about meals or finding somewhere to sleep! Most huts have only very basic facilities.

Sleeping arrangements are in mixed sex dormitory-style rooms with bunks. Washing facilities are limited and generally there is no running water in any of the huts although this may vary in some huts. There are basins in which you can use bottled water to wash the best you can and clean your teeth, but they are NOT generally in private cubicles and are mixed sex. Toilets are generally septic-tank type (non-flushing) and again mixed sex. You need to be prepared for simple living in the huts and appreciate they are located at high altitude and in inhospitable terrain.

Breakfasts and evening meals are served by the guardian and his team and the food is usually nourishing and filling. Beer, wine, soft drinks and snacks are also available to buy. All food and drink in the huts is delivered by helicopter and consequently prices will be high e.g. around 10€ for a 1.5litre bottle of still water.

There are a few basic hut 'rules' that you need to follow so that you (and your fellow climbers) have a pleasant stay:

1. On arriving at the hut you must take off your boots and leave these together with your ice-axe, crampons in the foyer. Be sure to store these carefully as the hut is likely to get very busy and you'll need to find all your kit in the morning rush!
2. House slippers are provided and must be worn in the hut
Your guide will register you with the guardian and will assign you your bunk.
3. Follow the instructions of your guide and keep requests to the guardian and his team to a minimum – they are usually very busy sorting out groups, cooking meals, keeping the hut clean.
4. In the morning your guide will often want to leave early – be sure to have all your kit ready to go the night before. Be organised and everything will be much easier!
5. It is recommended to bring ear-plugs for the nights – but make sure that you get up on time!

FOOD

Breakfasts and dinners are provided by the huts and hotels, on the nights that we stay in them.

If you have food allergies or specific dietary requirements—especially if you're Coeliac (gluten-free) or have a dairy allergy—we strongly advise bringing additional food to supplement your hut meals. While huts generally cater well to vegetarians, they are less equipped for other dietary needs.

Huts can provide a basic packed lunch (typically bread, salami, cheese, and chocolate), but it's important not to rely solely on this option. We recommend bringing snacks to take into the mountains : cereal bars, dried fruit and nuts, chocolate, sweets, or your favourite trail mix. Huts do sell these items but can be expensive and stock may be limited. It is important to eat in between meals to maintain your energy levels throughout the day.

OUR GUIDES

On this trip, we will take a maximum of 2 clients per guide. All the guides for this trip are IFMGA qualified and English speaking.

DOCUMENTS

Mountain search and rescue and repatriation insurance is mandatory on all our trips. We highly advise you to also have a travel insurance policy covering the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your trip in the event of cancellation or curtailment. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary. You will need to bring your ID with you.

SPENDING MONEY

The package price includes transport between Chamonix and Saas-Grund, lift passes, 5 nights accommodation with breakfast and dinner, and 6 days of guiding. You will need to allow an amount for lunches, drinks and snacks. Please note that you will need to have €/CHF in cash when paying for items at the huts, as they cannot always take payment by bank card. Your guide will advise you how much you need; there are numerous cash points in Chamonix.

TRANSPORT DURING THE COURSE

All transport during the course, as outlined in the itinerary, is included in the price. When travelling around the Chamonix valley we use public transport as much as possible. When travelling to Saas-Grund and back your guide will take you in their car.

BAD WEATHER AND CONDITIONS

If the weather forecast is poor or the conditions are not favourable, your guide will propose an alternative plan. We have France, Italy, and Switzerland within reasonable driving distance and many peaks to choose from. Please note that additional transport costs may apply if we go further afield.

Weather and mountain conditions are variables which sometimes force climbers to change the objective of the trip – this is normal in the world of mountaineering - we do not offer reschedule or refund in these cases.

BOOKING AND CANCELLATION

Please send us an enquiry stating your preferred dates and your previous mountaineering experience. We will require 30% deposit to confirm your booking. The remaining balance is due 12 weeks prior to the start of the trip.

ALTERATION OR CANCELLATION POLICY

Mountain Activities are subject to unpredictable factors: weather, snow conditions, terrain, participant fitness, etc. Chamonix Expérience and the Instructor cannot be held liable.

They are also not responsible for strikes, illness, government actions, lift/refuge closures, or force majeure.

To ensure safety or respond to unforeseen circumstances, the Activity may be changed or cancelled at any time.

- **If modified by Chamonix Expérience or the Instructor:** A new adapted program will be proposed at no extra cost. If the Participant does not meet required ability levels, the original price may still apply.
- **If cancelled by the Participant:** Notice of cancellation must be given in writing or email to Chamonix Experience SARL and will be effective when it is received by Chamonix Experience SARL. The following cancellation charges apply (percentage of total price of course or activity):
 - a) More than 90 days before start date : Loss of deposit (30% of total price)
 - b) Less than 60 days before start date : 100% of total price

If you wish to change the date of your course or activity more than 90 days before the start date there is a 100€ administration fee plus any costs related to the booking and reschedule (e.g. hut deposits, hotel costs). This is possible for private trips only.

No amendment is possible within 90 days of the course or activity start date unless agreed otherwise with Chamonix Experience SARL.

Chamonix Experience SARL reserves the right to cancel any course if there are insufficient group numbers. If the course you have booked is cancelled you will be given 30 days notice and the opportunity to change your course date at no extra charge. Chamonix Experience SARL will give a full refund if other course dates are unsuitable (less 1.5% if paid by credit card).

If you can not continue a course or activity for whatever reason (e.g. personal issues, insufficient physical or technical level, illness / injury, etc.) at any stage during the course or activity, you are not entitled to any refund.

Please read our [TERMS & CONDITIONS](#) carefully before booking your trip.