

Chatel, France



Essential Facts

- The largest linked international ski area covering France and Switzerland.
- On the French side of the Portes du Soleil, with Avoriaz, Les Gets and Morzine
- Huge ski area of over 650km of pistes
- Part of an extensive circular tour that takes you through French and Swiss resorts
- Attractive village on the French side of the Portes du Soleil
- Good for dual season use
- Geneva is roughly an hour and 30 minutes from Châtel





Resort Information

A traditional French village in the popular Portes du Soleil ski area, Chatel one of the few ski resorts around that still has a life outside tourism, with around 30 working farms in the area. With plenty of French character, Chatel is the best resort in the Portes du Soleil ski area for unspoilt Alpine charm.

Sitting close to the Swiss border, with two distinct areas to ski, Chatel was something of a hidden gem until recently. The last two seasons have seen the two sides of the mountain connected via high speed chairlifts, with a blue run down to the lifts from the Super-Chatel section of the mountain. With the newly direct connection with the slopes of Avoriaz, Chatel is ideally situated for the skiing.

With chalet style architecture stretching up the hillside, a pretty centre that oozes traditional French charm and a range of excellent local restaurants that offer Savoyarde cuisine in cosy surroundings, Chatel is the perfect base in the Portes du Soleil. The locals are famously friendly, the setting is exceptional and luxury chalets sit shoulder to shoulder with working farms.

Getting there

The closest resorts to Geneva are Morzine and Les Gets which are just one hour by car. Avoriaz and Châtel are one hour and 30 minutes from Geneva. There are plenty of flights from within Europe by airlines such as www.easyjet.com and plenty of long-haul flights too.





Winter

A part of the huge Portes du Soleil ski area, Chatel enjoys excellent access to a fantastic ski area that offers a range of steep, challenging runs and gentle wooded slopes. The Super-Chatel area is great for beginner and intermediate skiers, while expert skiers can enjoy the shared slopes between Chatel and Avoriaz or hire a guide to take them to the off-piste spots.

With plenty of mountain restaurants, sunny slopes and a variety of different ski areas within easy reach, Chatel is one of the best connected resorts in the Portes du Soleil. The range of blue and red runs across the area is superb, with plenty of well-groomed pistes for those skiers and boarders who are looking for smooth, fast hills.

There are a number of terrain parks in Avoriaz, which are easy to get to thanks to the new lift system, as well as another in the immediate Chatel ski area that offers competitions, BBQs and music to keep the kids entertained. The ski schools and facilities are excellent, with English speaking instructors, and good day care available.

Expert's Opinion

Our ski expert Fenella Hunter says:

“Chatel is the most traditional of the Portes du Soleil ski region. It's got bags of charm, and it's easy to get to the skiing on both the Chatel and the Avoriaz side of the mountain. There are some great little local restaurants in the resort, and it's a fantastic year-round village.”





Summer

Whether you are looking for a relaxing mountain break, or an activity holiday filled with mountain biking, climbing and water sports, Chatel has plenty to offer during the summer. Like many resorts in the Portes du Soleil ski area, Chatel has a large number of walking trails that range from gentle strolls to tricky scrambles.

The resort has a large open-air pool that can offer the perfect place to lie in the sun, enjoying spectacular scenery and grabbing drinks from the on-site bar. Most of the lakes near Chatel are also suitable for swimming, so visitors who are missing the beach can head over there and sunbathe beside the water. There are some stunning chateaux and medieval architecture in the area, which will appeal to anyone who would enjoy a cultural trip.

Adventure lovers can take to the mountain biking trails, or hit the water and go white water rafting or kayaking. There is paragliding off the top of the mountains, while you can also take part in canyoning, caving and potholing.





Viewing

We have an intimate knowledge of all our resorts and we can recommend excellent hotels and local restaurants to ensure you have an informative and pleasurable trip. Simply let us know which dates you have in mind and we will arrange for one of our representatives to meet you and show you around. All you need to do is to book your flight and rent a hire car and we can help organise everything else for you.

There are many cheap flights to Geneva and the transfer is so easy it is possible to make a day trip but if you would like to stay overnight, we can recommend good hotels in the area. Ask for our visits list.

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Company Profile

Investors in Property specialise in the sale of ski chalets and apartments in Switzerland, Austria, France & Italy. We have over 20 years experience and an unrivalled knowledge of well established and up and coming ski resorts. We will provide expert advice and professional guidance through every step of your purchase. If you have any questions or need general advice please do not hesitate to contact us.

FAQs

For everything you need to know about buying a ski property, from legal requirements to rental obligation, please take a look at our **FAQs**.