

# Meribel, France



## Key Facts

- Part of the largest linked ski area in the world
- With 600km of slopes up to 3200m
- State of the art modern lift system
- Only 2 hours from Geneva and just over an hour from Chambéry
- Different villages at different altitudes offering something for everyone
- Attractive resort with convenient skiing
- Excellent restaurants and great après ski
- Plenty to do in the summer





## Trois Vallees

Meribel is the central valley in the largest interconnected ski area in the world, and offers a huge variety of skiing from beginner slopes to perilous black runs. The resort is famously popular amongst families and offers excellent links to both the Courchevel and Val Thorens sides of the ski area as well as the easily accessible local slopes.

## Getting there

The most convenient airport is Chambéry which is just over an hour away, but you can also fly to Grenoble (1hr30mins), Geneva (1hr45mins) and Lyon (2hrs 30m). You can also take the high speed TGV train to Moutiers and a taxis or bus transfer up to the resort.

The new Eurostar train to the Alps also stops at Moutiers, making Courchevel and the rest of the Trois Vallees easier to enjoy than ever before.





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## Resort Information

Founded by British skier, Peter Lindsay in 1938, Meribel is one of the earlier French purpose built ski resorts. It has maintained a traditional chalet style character through the years, with all buildings required to fit the traditional style of the village. There are a number of villages making up the resort of Meribel, including Meribel Mottaret, which is the topmost of the villages, and sits at 1750m.

Meribel sits on the hillside below Mottaret, between 1600m and 1700m, with Meribel Village and Les Allues down the valley below. All of the resorts are family friendly, while each offers a selection of bars, restaurants and shops, as well as easy connections between the Meribel villages and the connecting resorts on either side.

With its selection of small chalets and larger chalet apartment buildings, Meribel is one of the most attractive purpose built ski resorts out there, and it draws hosts of visitors yearly. Mottaret is mostly formed of larger chalet apartments, which means it lacks some of the quaint charm of Meribel, but it offers far more ski-in ski-out convenience.

Constant updates and innovation in the lift infrastructure of the resort means that Meribel has fast access to the slopes whichever part of the resort you are staying in. A shuttle service runs between Meribel centre and the smaller villages further down the mountain, ensuring that even when the lifts stop running in the evenings it is easy to get around the villages.





## Winter

As the most family friendly of the ski resorts in the Three Valleys, Meribel can boast one of the best beginner slopes in the area. The Meribel valley is best for intermediate and advanced skiers, with mostly blue and red slopes, but with access to Val Thorens and Courchevel on either side, experts won't find a shortage of skiing either.

The Trois Vallées ski area has 600km of skiing, and one of the best lift networks in the world. With two terrain parks in the Meribel ski area, and more over in Val Thorens, there is plenty to occupy teenagers and kids. Adventurous types can also enjoy 2km of night skiing, and 80km of snow-making in the immediate area. This means that Meribel is a dependable option when it comes to snow cover.

Activities off the slopes include tobogganing, snow shoeing and ski touring. Helicopter tours give Meribel visitors the chance to sightsee with a difference, enjoying beautiful views across the valleys below.

There are also a number of spas in the resort, open throughout the winter and summer season, where you

can unwind and relax ski sore muscles at the end of a day on the slopes. The best of these is the Clarins Spa des Neiges, which offers an excellent piste side setting with stunning mountain views.





## Summer

As in winter, the spas are a big draw for those looking to relax in the stunning Alpine scenery. Largely, summer activities in Meribel are active, with everything from hiking and hill walking to white water rafting available for visitors. The mountain biking in the area is especially popular and provides a similar thrill to the one you get on the ski slopes in winter.

As with many Alpine resorts in summer, Meribel is a good place for golfers to practice their game at high altitudes. The Altiport golf course is a full 18 hole course, open from June until October. Offering spectacular views over the Saulire and the Meribel Valley, the golf course runs from 1565m up to 1850m. The course was originally built in the 60s and underwent a redesign in 2004/5 that made it more technical.

Meribel is also home to a good selection of watersports including canyoning, which includes swimming, rock climbing jumping, abseiling and scrambling, canoe and white water rafting. Both canoe and white water rafting are popular mountain activities, with tourists tackling the rapids each year.

## Expert's Opinion

According to our Trois Vallees expert, Fenella Hunter-

“As the central resort in the Three Valleys, it’s not surprising that Meribel is the most popular of them. It’s both the most convenient, and arguable the prettiest thanks to the strict regulations. This isn’t the place for buyers on a budget, but it’s a fantastic option for high end buyers.”





## 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.

## Contact

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## Company Profile

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## FAQs

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