

Chamonix

# Chamonix 2026 - Philly Freeriders

March 7th - 14th, 2026 (fly out on Friday the 6th, land on the 7th, check-in @ 5pm on March 7th.)

Currently there are only private rooms open. Those could be filled by a couple sharing a bed, or as an individual paying double (\$950) for their own room

Trip Chat: <https://m.me/j/Abaz37OyhTMei-l8/>

In March 2026, the Philly Freeriders Ski and Snowboard Club will head to one of the most iconic ski destinations in the world: Chamonix-Mont-Blanc. Nestled in the French Alps, this legendary resort offers epic ski terrain across five ski areas, a vibrant alpine culture in an authentic town, world class dining, and easy access from the Geneva airport; all at incredible value for your money.

If you haven't been with us on a European trip yet, I highly suggest joining us on this one. Our trips to Val Thorens in 2024, and Zermatt 2025, were in my opinion, the best PFR trips yet. American ski resorts significantly lack behind the Alps, in both skiing terrain, and ski town atmosphere. Make sure to check out the [Val Thorens trip video](#).



## Lodging



Lodging will be at the [Pierre & Vacances Premium Residence La Ginabelle](#). Cost is \$475 per person, double occupancy (two people per bedroom) + an additional 17.5 euros tourist tax payable at the resort. **AS OF SEPTEMBER 1ST I ONLY HAVE PRIVATE ROOMS AVAILABLE FOR \$950. ROOM CAN BE SHARED WITH ANOTHER PERSON BUT YOU MIGHT BE SHARING A BED.** These condos are right in the center of town and have access to a pool and hammam. We reserved their larger 2 and 3 bedroom condos with full kitchens. Check in time is at 5pm on Saturday the 7th.

Please note that I expect the condos to be nice, but they are in no way luxury. The price we are paying for this trip is pretty low, so if there's a little dirt in the bathroom, or the bedrooms are small, please don't complain. The price is low for a reason.

It is possible, but unlikely, that a few people end up on the sofa beds in the living room of these condos. I'll put only 2 people in each bedroom, but some bedrooms only have a European double, so if no-one wants to share a bed, or pay for their own room, you might be on the sofa-bed.

Some twin bedrooms might be small with European style twin mattresses close together. It is also possible we end up with bunk beds. I requested no bunk beds but you never know until you get there. Some rooms might be as small as this. I suggest paying for your own room if you want more space:



### Other amenities include:

Housekeeping at the end of your stay

(excludes kitchenette)

Towels

Bed linen

Beds made on arrival

Baby kit (pre-book free of charge)

Wi-Fi available in accommodation

Welcome cleaning kit

Loan of equipment and games

Ski lockers

Kids' area

Newspapers

### **Not included in the price:**

Parking

Possibly wifi for a few of the condos

A damage deposit of between 200 and 800 euros, most likely 300 will be required for each condo. Someone in each condo will have to put down their credit card for this.

To join, send me (Matt Patel-Schneider) a deposit of \$200 via PayPal (use sending to a friend payment) to [maps412@gmail.com](mailto:maps412@gmail.com), or Venmo (friends and family, not goods and services) to @Matthew-Patel-Schneider; last four of phone # is 3296. Then DM me on Facebook messenger, and tell me your email address and let me know if you want your own room or not (double the price for your own room). Important communications will be sent via email.

The final payment of \$275, \$475 total, is due on October 31st.

Refunds are only given once I fill your spot with another paying participant. This is usually not a problem if you cancel early, but if you cancel a month or two before the trip, you might not get a refund.

If you know who you want in your condo, and everyone in the condo agrees with the bed situation, let me know.

If the exchange rate gets significantly less favorable, you might have to pay more. By signing up you agree to this.

## **Flights**

You are responsible for buying your own flight. Geneva is the best airport to fly into. It should cost \$600-\$1,100. Bags are maybe free for intercontinental flights if you don't book basic economy. Swiss airlines allows a free checked ski bag if you don't book the econ-light fare.



Checking a ski bag with Swiss on econ-light fares can cost up to \$200 each way. Whatever airline you choose, make sure to verify the cost of flying with a ski bag, before you book

Flight prices as of 4/22/2025

Share

Newark ↔ Geneva

Round trip · Economy · 1 passenger

Lowest total price

\$740

Selected flights

Track prices

Fri, Mar 6 · 5:35 PM – 7:25 AM<sup>1</sup>

United · SWISS, Brussels Airlines

7 hr 50 min

EWB–GVA

Nonstop

526 kg CO2e

+13% emissions ⓘ

▼

Sat, Mar 14 · 9:15 AM – 1:30 PM

United · SWISS, Brussels Airlines

9 hr 15 min

GVA–EWB

Nonstop

461 kg CO2e

+14% emissions ⓘ

▼

Booking options

How options are ranked ⓘ

Book with United

Airline

Hide options

Basic Economy

\$740

✎ Seat selection for a fee

✎ Ticket changes for a fee

✗ No upgrades

✗ No refunds

✓ 1 free carry-on

✎ 1st checked bag: \$150

Continue

Economy

\$940

✓ Free seat selection

✓ Free change, possible fare difference

✎ Upgrades available

✗ No refunds

✓ 1 free carry-on

✓ 1st checked bag free

Continue

Economy Fully Refundab...

\$1,190

✓ Free seat selection

✓ Free change, possible fare difference

✎ Upgrades available

✓ Full refunds

✓ 1 free carry-on

✓ 1st checked bag free

Continue

# Philadelphia ↔ Geneva

Round trip · Economy · 1 passenger



[Share](#)

**\$756**

Lowest total price


## Selected flights

[Track prices](#)

	<b>Fri, Mar 6 · 6:40 PM – 1:50 PM<sup>+1</sup></b> British Airways · American, Finnair, Iberia	13 hr 10 min PHL–GVA	1 stop 4 hr 30 min LHR	463 kg CO2e Avg emissions ⓘ	▼
	<b>Sat, Mar 14 · 10:30 AM – 5:20 PM</b> British Airways · American, Finnair, Iberia	11 hr 50 min GVA–PHL	1 stop 1 hr 45 min LHR	411 kg CO2e Avg emissions ⓘ	▼

## Booking options

How options are ranked ⓘ


 Book with British Airways 

Airline

^ Hide options


Basic Economy

\$756

 Seat selection for a fee

✓

 Standard seat


 Ticket changes for a fee

✗

 No refunds

✓


 1 free carry-on

 1st checked bag: \$140

Continue

Standard Economy

\$956

 Seat selection for a fee

✓

 Standard seat

✓

 Free change, possible fare difference

✗

 No refunds

✓

 1 free carry-on


✓

 1st checked bag free

Continue

Premium Economy

\$1,712

 Seat selection for a fee

✓

 Premium seat

✓

 Free change, possible fare difference

✗

 No refunds

✓

 1 free carry-on

✓

 2 free checked bags

Continue

## Ground Transportation

AlpyBus.com has round trip shared bus rides from the Geneva airport to Chamonix for €20 - €45 (2025 price). **Try code Chamonix25 for 25% off**

Also checkout <https://www.bensbus.co.uk/> for options.



## Lift Tickets

I expect Chamonix to be on the Ikon Base pass for 2026. Even if it's not, lift tickets are extremely reasonable for Chamonix. A 5 day pass costs only \$250 for the 2024/2025 season.

## Guides

I'll be getting a guide to show us the good routes. Cost is around \$560 for groups of up to 6 (so like \$93 a person). Guides are highly recommended if you venture to unmarked routes (so you don't die).

DM me for details on my guide.

If you want to organize a guide for non-experts, or snowboarders, please let me know.

## Dangers of European Skiing

Skiing in Europe, especially when there is new snow, surpasses the experience at American resorts by far. But when going off the marked trails in Europe, you need to have some

knowledge of avalanche danger. Most deaths happen when the avalanche forecast is at level 3. I am in no way qualified to tell you how to prepare for avalanches, but I recommend [Staying Alive in Avalanche Terrain](#) by Bruce Tremper.

There's lessons to be learned from [this incident on April 1st, 2024](#)

Probably more important for anyone leaving the ski trails, is knowing where you are going so you don't ski off a cliff. Please don't be an idiot on this trip, scope out your lines so you don't charge over a cliff.

## Insurance

Do some research to see if you need health, accident, or search and rescue insurance; while in France. Especially if you go off the marked routes. Insurance may also be useful in case you need to cancel the trip.

For rescue, buy the insurance option when you pick up your lift tickets (see lift ticket section).

Here's a traveler health insurance option if your coverage doesn't work overseas:

[https://www.geobluetravelinsurance.com/mobile/voyager-choice-single.cfm?link\\_id=112686](https://www.geobluetravelinsurance.com/mobile/voyager-choice-single.cfm?link_id=112686)

## Club Trips

[Please read the club trips rules before signing up.](#) By signing up you agree to them.



