



WINTER SEASON - ACTIVITIES AND EXCURSIONS

Verbier is part of the four valleys, a renowned skiing area in the Swiss Alps. Although skiing is traditionally what most people do when they visit Verbier, there are loads of other activities to get your teeth into.

The Lodge has a full time Activities Coordinator who can organise all activities and excursions for guests staying at The Lodge. They will be able to explain all the different options and to advise on the best combination of things to do for the entire party.



Heli-Skiing

For the advanced skiers in your party we can organise heli-skiing expeditions – this is definitely a way to get the adrenaline pumping. ***The basic hire charge for the helicopter is CHF 1,025 for up to four people. If you hire a guide the cost is a further CHF 510 (remember there will be one space fewer in the cab of the helicopter).***

Paragliding (also available in summer)

Why not take to the sky and see the spectacular sites of The Matterhorn in one direction and Mont Blanc in the other? Take a tandem flight where you can sit back and enjoy the experience, or take a course and go solo. If you would like to book a flight please let the team know and we will arrange this for you.

Skiing in the 4 Valleys

The four valleys, or Vallées in French, include the following resorts: Verbier, Nendaz, Veysonnaz, Thyon, and La Tzoumaz. All of these resorts can be accessed with a single ski-lift pass, offering the avid skier over 400km of skiable terrain both off and on piste – one of the largest areas in the Alps.

Skiing (cross country)

Close to The Lodge lies 4km of cross-country skiing. If you are keen to venture further, another 5km is located at Les Ruinettes/La Chaux and by taking the gondola down the mountain there is a vast network of 45km of cross-country trails in the Vallée de Bagnes.

Skiing in Verbier

The ski area around Verbier includes 195km of pistes of all standards and of every exposure divided over the sectors of Ruinettes, Savoleyres, and Bruson and within the resort. The artificial snow-making system of Les Attelas (2,730m) all the way down to Verbier (1500m) enables not only a descent directly into The Lodge, but an extended ski season from November right up until the end of April. You can take advantage of the 38 lifts which are amongst the most modern in the world, including the Funispace (enclosed cable car), and the area boasts one of the largest snow parks in the Alps.



Beginners - Two nursery slopes lie in the centre of the resort, ideal for starting out or getting back into the swing of things if you haven't been skiing for a while. Les Esserts has 1 ski-tow and 2 magic carpets, and is situated immediately next to a bus stop and a restaurant with a terrace. This is a prime site for beginners with families, with access to the longest magic carpet in Switzerland. Le Rouge has 1 variable ski-tow to enable more confident beginners (after their first stage on Les Esserts) to attempt a more advanced slope. The piste is regularly floodlit at night. When you are ready to venture up the mountain, the areas of Savoleyres, Lac des Vaux and La Chaux offer a number of easy (blue) to moderate (red) runs.

Intermediate - There are over 50 miles of slightly more challenging red runs which make up the Four Vallées, some of which start from the same point as the difficult (black) runs, giving you the chance to peer over the edge before you make your decision! These runs are serviced by the main Médran lifts, only a short walk or drive from The Lodge, rising to Les Ruinettes, where the Attelas, La Chaux, Col des Gentiannes and Chassoure areas are accessible. There are some Verbier classics here, including some great bump skiing down Tourtin, and there are some great itinerary runs slightly off the beaten path!

Advanced - Verbier is renowned for having some of the best off-piste and itinerary runs in the world so there will be plenty to keep the more adventurous skiers amused. The peak of Mont Fort in the middle of the range, at an altitude of 3,330m, is the tallest in the four Vallées! Verbier hosts the annual 'Verbier Ride' and 'Verbier Xtreme' pro-skiing competitions if you're more into spectating, but if you find yourself inspired by the experts to strap on a pair of skis to your feet and hurl yourself down a mountain, we suggest a lesson or two! Our ski school partner, Powder Extreme, has fully qualified instructors for all levels.



Sledging

It's not just for kids! Although you may need the fearlessness of an 8 year old if you're going to give the 10km run in Savoleyres a go! Of all the activities in Verbier, this is probably the one where you're most likely to pick up some bruises – it wouldn't be a bad idea to bring a crash helmet!

Snowboarding

A fresh dump of snow brings with it some of the most extraordinary powder rides, starting at the foot of the Mont Fort peak, and taking you all the way down into Verbier. You can even take some of the tree lines on the way (that's snowboarder speak for boarding amongst the trees!). The nearby Bruson area can also offer some good tree-boarding and off-piste terrain. If you are interested in perfecting your tricks then the table tops, rails and big air jump of La Chaux Park is where you need to go (take the lift from the Médran station in Verbier and then the La Chaux Express).

Snowshoeing

"If you can walk, you can go snowshoeing" is how we understand it! If you'd like to take a break from skiing one day, why not try snowshoeing? It's easy to do, it doesn't require a lot of special techniques, and the fun begins as soon as you put on the equipment! You can choose between a casual hike through the woods or a steep climb up the mountain; it's a great way to get the whole family together. It also allows you to go places where skiers can't! ***The Lodge has snowshoes in house as well as walking poles.***

Verbier Sports Centre (Centre Sportif)

If you've still got a bit of free time and fancy a more energetic swim, the Verbier Sports Centre is only a few minutes drive from The Lodge. Besides a 25m indoor pool, other facilities include: squash courts, a sauna, a professional ice rink, and wellness classes.

