



SKI AND SNOWBOARD WITH ADVENTURE BASE

When the temperature starts to drop and the air turns crisp and fresh, you know it's time to start thinking about dusting off your skis and snowboards. When the important task of trying on your entire kit in your living room has been completed, your mind starts to wander to where and how will the magic moments take place this year. Our Adventure Base team may well be able to help you with that. We have all been skiing and snowboarding in the mountains around Chamonix for years and we love it!

We use Evolution 2 as our ski school for those wanting private lessons, ski courses, snowboard courses or the children's PANDA club. The guys and girls at Evo2 are true experts in their field, yet they all still have one priority; to have fun on the mountain. Week long group courses start at €145 or for private tuition rates start from 95€ for two hours.

Out of the five resorts in the Chamonix valley, **Les Houches** provides a gentle tree lined terrain ideal for a docile day. Having said that, once a year Les Houches host the down hill Kandahar race of which there is nothing 'docile'! Up above the town of Chamonix lie the resorts of **Brevent and Flégère**. These two areas are linked and provide miles of piste runs for all levels of skier. They also feed the off piste junkies with unbelievably good terrain, and host the Helly Hansen Freeride competitions. All this with a jaw dropping view of the Mont Blanc massive and a warming sunny south facing aspect. A little further up the valley, near the town of Argentiere, lies what many people claim to be the 'creme de la creme' of resort skiing. **The Grands Montets** is one Big Mountain, where 2000m of descent in one go is quite the norm! Its north facing aspect keeps the snow in great condition and the glaciers surrounding it make it more of a wonderland than a ski resort. The annual 'Boss des Bosses' competition and famous 'Freeride days' end of season parties alone are enough to put this place on the map. **Le Tour** sits at the head of the valley, bordering Switzerland. This resort has something for everyone, from the 'Vormaine' beginner slopes, to incredible terrain stretching into Switzerland. Its views of the entire valley are awe inspiring and with the Swiss feel it provides a slight change to the other resorts.

It would be lacking to talk of a winter in Chamonix without mentioning **après ski**! Come early afternoon the bars start filling up with satisfied sliders, and the rosy cheeks and sparkly eyes tell stories of the day's frolics. Many don't make it past the resort bars, such as the Grand Montets 'Marmetton' bar and the 'Rhodedendrons' at the bottom of Flégère. The ones that do tend to migrate to the Swedish Chambre 9 for live music and table dancing. Wherever your location, you would not be to blame should you find yourself still in your ski clothes at 10 pm!

