



## THE HAUTE ROUTE EQUIPMENT LIST AND FAQ'S

### FAQ'S

#### HOW DO I GET TO CHAMONIX?

**BEST IS TO FLY INTO GENEVA AND TAKE THE BUS WHICH LEAVES RIGHT FROM THE BAGGAGE CLAIM AREA. ONCE YOU LEAVE THE BAGGAGE CLAIM AREA, LOOK ACROSS THE HALL. THE COUNTER IS LOCATED ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE HALL. THE BUS IS CALLED CHAMONIX BUS AND LEAVES FROM JUST OUTSIDE THE BAGGAGE CLAIM AREA.**

#### SHOULD I CHANGE DOLLARS INTO EUROS IN GENEVA?

**IT IS BETTER TO WAIT UNTIL YOU GET TO CHAMONIX. THAT WAY YOU PAY THE CHANGE RATE ONLY ONCE (AS OPPOSED TO FROM DOLLARS TO FRANCS THEN TO EUROS). YOU MIGHT WANT TO GET SOME SWISS FRANCS, SO THAT YOU HAVE SOME FRANCS FOR THE TRIENT HUT. THERE WILL BE ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO CHANGE MONEY IN VERBIER.**

#### HOW WILL I FIND THE HOTEL GUSTAVIA?

**THE HOTEL GUSTAVIA IS LOCATED DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM THE FINAL BUS TERMINAL IN CHAMONIX. YOU CAN'T MISS IT.**

[www.hotel-gustavia.com](http://www.hotel-gustavia.com)

#### HOW WILL OUR LUGGAGE GET TO ZERMATT?

**THIS WILL BE ORGANIZED BY PRO GUIDING SERVICE AND IS INCLUDED IN THE TRIP. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR EXTRA LUGGAGE CONSISTS OF ONE MANAGABLE PIECE. IT WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU AT THE HOTEL CITY WHEN WE GET THERE. [www.cityzermatt.ch](http://www.cityzermatt.ch)**

#### WHAT ABOUT THE CROWDS?

**YOU WILL NOT BE ALONE, BUT THERE ARE MANY VARIATIONS THAT WE CAN TAKE AND IT IS SURPRISINGLY EASY TO GET AWAY FROM PEOPLE. IT IS PART OF THE EXPERIENCE TO BE IN HUTS WITH PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD WHO ARE ALL ENJOYING THE MAYBE MOST FAMOUS SKI TRAVERSE IN THE ALPS.**





**WHAT DO WE DO IF WE CAN'T MAKE IT ALL THE WAY TO ZERMATT DUE TO DIFFICULT CONDITIONS?**

**WE WILL GO AROUND IN THE VALLEY AND DO SKI SOME LIFT ACCESSED RUNS IN WHATEVER AREA SEEMS TO HAVE THE SAFEST AND BEST CONDITIONS. WE KNOW JUST ABOUT ALL THE AREAS.**

**DO YOU SPEAK THE LOCAL LANGUAGE?**

**YES, WE SPEAK FRENCH AND GERMAN**

**HOW MANY TIMES HAS PRO GUIDING SERVICE OR HAVE THE GUIDES WHO ARE WORKING FOR PRO GUIDING SERVICE GUIDED THE HAUTE ROUTE?**

**MANY TIMES IN THE LAST 15 YEARS....**

**IF THE GROUP WOULD PREFER TO COMPLETE THE HAUTE ROUTE VIA SOUTH SIDE OF GRAND COMBIN, CAN WE CHANGE THE ITINERARY?**

**WE WOULD HAVE TO DECIDE THIS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE TRIP, BUT YES - ABSOLUTELY NO PROBLEM.**

## **EQUIPMENT LIST**

### **CLOTHING**

- **BASE LAYER**
  - **1 Bottom** - midweight or lightweight
  - **Non-Cotton Underwear**
  - **1 or 2 Tops** - midweight or lightweight
  - **Sock Liners** - 2 or 3 pair
  - **Ski Socks** - 2 pair
- **MID LAYER**
  - **Windshirt, Soft Shell, Fleece** - only one of these is necessary
  - **Schoeller™ type pants** - soft shell
- **OUTERWEAR**
  - **Lightweight Waterproof/Breathable Jacket**





- **Lightweight Waterproof/Breathable Pants** - may be omitted w/ Schoeller™ type pants
- **Warm Hat** - should cover ears
- **Sun Hat** - baseball type or visor
- **Lightweight Gloves**
- **Ski Gloves**
- **INSULATION**
  - **Down or Synthetic Jacket**

## PERSONAL GEAR

- **Day Pack** - 25 to 40 Liter
- **Headlamp** - lightweight LED recommended
- **Water Bottles** - 1 or 2 liters, wide mouth
- **Sunglasses** - adequate for snow travel
- **Goggles**
- **Sunscreen** - SPF >25, waterproof
- **Lip Balm** - SPF 15+
- **Personal Toiletries** - toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.
  - Waterless hand cleaner- there is no running water in the huts.
- **Small Personal 1<sup>st</sup> aid kit** - blister repair (Compeed™), aspirin, ibuprofen, etc.
- **Ear Plugs** - essential for sound sleep

## SKI GEAR

- **Skis** - Alpine Touring or Telemark
- **Ski Boots** - Alpine Touring or Telemark – no downhill boots
- **Ski Poles** - telescopic poles work well, but not required
- **Climbing Skins**
- **Ski Crampons** - ***THESE ARE REQUIRED!***
- **Ski Brakes** or **Removable Ski Leashes**





- **Transceiver** - single frequency, 457 kHz only, new batteries at start of trip
- **Shovel** - compact, lightweight, metal blade preferred
- **Probe** - dedicated probe only, ski poles do not suffice

## TECHNICAL GEAR

- **Ice Axe** - 55-70 cm length, lightweight
- **Boot Crampons** - **STEEL ONLY; NO ALUMINUM!**, check fit prior to departure
- **Anti-Balling Plates** - fit to crampons
- **Climbing Harness** - lightweight, BD Alpine Bod style (no padding)
- **2 Locking Biners** - (1) large HMS style and (1) regular locker
- **3 Non-locking Biners** - any style, we recommend wire gates
- **2 Cordelettes** - 6 mm diameter, 6 meter lengths, untied
- **1 Sewn Sling** - nylon or spectra, double-length

## OPTIONAL ITEMS *\*We highly recommend these items, but do not require them to participate.*

- **Camera** - we'd like some shots for the PGS website!
- **Skin Wax**
- **Thermos** - vacuum type
- **Note Pad and Pencil** - *Rite-in-the-Rain* brand waterproof notebook works
- **Compass** - adjustable declination a must
- **Altimeter** - Suunto watch works well
- **Sleep Sack** - lightweight silk or cotton
- **Warm Socks** - to sleep in
- **Foot Powder**
- **Cash** - see note below

## GROUP GEAR PROVIDED BY PGS

PRO GUIDING SERVICE • 108 W. NORTH BEND WAY • NORTH BEND, WA 98045  
425-888-6397 • WWW.PROGUIDING.COM





- We recommend bringing cash for use in the huts to purchase snacks, lunches, and drinks. Water must be purchased and costs approximately \$5 per liter. Most Pro Guiding Service customers have found bringing \$200 to \$250 in the local currency allows for a good hot meal in the afternoon and plenty of drinks (including beer) for a six day hut trip.

