



# Explore Mont Blanc with CGA & Pride



## LGBTQ+ Hiking Adventure Through France & Italy

July 21 – 28, 2026

An unforgettable alpine journey featuring iconic hikes, charming mountain villages, cozy hotels, breathtaking scenery, and the joy of traveling with LGBTQ+ community.

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### Trip Guide Disclaimer

All trip details are accurate at time of publishing but are subject to change. Alpine itineraries are weather-dependent, and your **Host and G Adventures Chief Experience Officer (CEO)** may adjust hikes or activities to prioritize safety or improve the overall experience. Travel times listed are approximate. We recommend downloading or printing a final copy of this Trip Guide before travel.

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### What to Expect

This is a **moderate, active alpine adventure** designed for travelers who enjoy hiking, mountain scenery, and exploring picturesque European villages.

#### Important:

All daily hikes are **optional**. While the trip is built around hiking, you are always welcome to skip a hike and enjoy rest days, spas, cafés, scenic cable cars, or time exploring town. There is no pressure — this is *your* adventure, your way.

#### Expect:

- Early mornings on hiking days
- Daily hikes of 5–10 miles (8–16 km)
- Elevation gains up to ~2,800 ft (850 m)
- Rapidly changing mountain weather
- Free days for spa visits, cable cars, or relaxation

- Cozy village hotels and excellent local cuisine
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## **Altitude Note**

Most hikes reach elevations between **1,800–2,200 meters (5,900–7,200 feet)**. While this is below what's typically considered high altitude, you may notice mild shortness of breath during exertion. Pace yourself and consult your doctor if you have underlying health conditions.

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## **Transportation & Transfers (Arrival & Departure)**

### **Arrival – Geneva → Chamonix (July 21)**

Fly into **Geneva International Airport (GVA)**.

We are planning a **shared group transfer from Geneva Airport to Chamonix at approximately 3:00–3:30 pm on July 21**. This timing allows everyone to arrive in Chamonix, check into the hotel, and be settled in time for our **welcome meeting (6:00–7:00 pm) and hosted welcome dinner**.

If your flight **arrives after 3:00 pm**, you will need to arrange your own transportation (taxi, private transfer, or shuttle) directly to our **start hotel in Chamonix**.

*Arrival transfers are not included in the trip price.*

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### **Departure – Chamonix → Geneva (July 28)**

On **July 28**, we will coordinate **shared transportation from Chamonix back to Geneva** for travelers catching flights, as well as for those **picking up rental cars** to continue onward travel.

#### **Please note:**

- Departure transfers are **not included** in the trip price
- Transportation costs will be **split among participating travelers**

- We will coordinate **shared shuttles or vans** based on flight times and onward plans
- Final logistics and estimated per-person cost will be shared closer to departure

If you are continuing onward (such as traveling into Switzerland or heading to Amsterdam), this same shared transportation will bring you to **Geneva Airport or a designated rental car pick-up location**.

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### **Pre-Night Option (July 20)**

Host **Chris Smith** will be arriving one day early and staying overnight in Geneva. If you'd like to coordinate a pre-night or arrival logistics, contact [chris@prideadventures.com](mailto:chris@prideadventures.com).

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### **Welcome Meeting & Welcome Dinner**

Our G Adventures CEO will host a **Welcome Meeting from 6:00–7:00 pm on Day 1** to review the itinerary, go over safety details, and answer questions.

Our **hosted Welcome Dinner** will take place **immediately after the meeting**, giving everyone a relaxed start to the week and a chance to connect as a group.

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### **Daily Itinerary & Hike Details**

#### **Day 1 – July 21 | Geneva → Chamonix**

Arrive in Geneva and transfer to Chamonix. Settle into the hotel, attend the welcome meeting, and enjoy a hosted Welcome Dinner.

 Accommodation: Pointe Isabelle Hotel (or similar)

 Included Meal: Welcome Dinner

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## Day 2 – July 22 | L'Aiguillette des Posettes Hike

Our first full hike introduces us to the Alps with forested switchbacks, alpine meadows, and sweeping views of Mont Blanc and the Chamonix Valley.

-  Distance: 8 km (5 miles)
  -  Duration: 6–7 hours
  -  Elevation Gain: 850 meters (2,788 feet)
  -  Highest Point: 2,201 meters (7,221 feet)
  -  Trail Notes: Moderate; steady ascent with frequent scenic stops
  -  Included Meal: Breakfast
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## Day 3 – July 23 | Free Day in Chamonix

Enjoy a full free day to relax or explore at your own pace. Optional activities may include:

-  Aiguille du Midi cable car
-  QC Terme Chamonix Spa
-  Rafting or paragliding
-  Optional easy walk from **Le Praz to Argentière**

-  Included Meal: Breakfast
  -  Other Meals: On your own
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## Day 4 – July 24 | Val Veny Hike (Italy 🇮🇹)

Travel through the Mont Blanc Tunnel into Italy and hike through dramatic Val Veny, featuring glacier views, alpine meadows, and towering granite walls.

-  Distance: 10–13 km (6–8 miles)
-  Duration: 5–8 hours
-  Elevation Gain: 820 meters (2,706 feet)
-  Highest Point: 2,020 meters (6,627 feet)
-  Accommodation: Hotel Cristallo (or similar)
-  Included Meal: Breakfast

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### Day 5 – July 25 | Free Day in Courmayeur

Relax in Courmayeur or choose from optional experiences such as thermal spas, scenic cable cars, visiting Aosta, or short local hikes.

 Included Meal: Breakfast

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### Day 6 – July 26 | Val Ferret → Rifugio Bertone

One of the most iconic hikes of the trip. After a steep initial climb, the trail traverses Mont de la Saxe with unforgettable Mont Blanc views.

-  Distance: 10–16 km (6–10 miles)
  -  Duration: 5–7 hours
  -  Elevation Gain: 776 meters (2,546 feet)
  -  Highest Point: 2,000 meters (6,561 feet)
  -  Trail Notes: Steep start, then scenic ridgeline traverse
  -  Included Meal: Breakfast
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### Day 7 – July 27 | Planpraz Ridge Hike & 🎉 Farewell Dinner

Return to Chamonix for a final alpine adventure. Hike through pine forest and high alpine terrain before descending by scenic cable car. Celebrate the journey with a Farewell Dinner.

-  Distance: 6–15 km (4–9 miles), route dependent
  -  Elevation Gain: Up to 1,080 meters (3,543 feet)
  -  Included Meals: Breakfast, Farewell Dinner
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### Day 8 – July 28 | Trip Concludes

The Mont Blanc trip officially concludes today.

 Included Meal: Breakfast

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## ➔ Post-Trip Travel Options After Mont Blanc

At the conclusion of our Mont Blanc adventure on **July 28**, travelers will continue onward in a few different ways.

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### 🏔️ July 28–30 | Switzerland Scenic Continuation (Informal Option)

#### Grindelwald → Zurich → Amsterdam

Some travelers will continue first into Switzerland before heading on to Amsterdam.

This informal continuation includes:

- 🚐 Travel by rental vans
- 🏞️ Scenic alpine drive through Switzerland
- 🏠 Overnight stay in Grindelwald
- 🏙️ Time in Zurich
- 🚆 Overnight sleeper train to Amsterdam (arriving July 30)

#### Important notes:

- This is **not an official Pride Adventures extension**
  - Lodging, transportation, and meals are handled separately
  - Participation is limited to a subset of travelers
  - A separate detailed PDF outlines the full plan
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### 🌈 July 28 – August 3 | Official Post-Trip Extension: Amsterdam WorldPride

Amsterdam is the **official Pride Adventures post-trip extension** following Mont Blanc.

Expect Pride events, canal cruising, group meals, sightseeing, and free time in one of Europe's most LGBTQ+ friendly cities. A dedicated Amsterdam Trip Guide will be provided separately.

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## Independent Departures

Travelers not participating in post-trip options are free to depart independently on July 28.

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## Packing & Gear Guide

July in the Alps brings warm days, cool nights, and rapidly changing conditions. **Layers are essential.**

Key items include a valid passport, travel insurance, reusable water bottle, daypack (20–30L), manageable luggage, broken-in hiking boots, waterproof jacket, warm layers, hiking poles, sunscreen, snacks, and a swimsuit for spa visits.

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## Meals

Included in your trip:

- Welcome Dinner (Day 1)
- Farewell Dinner (Day 7)
- Seven breakfasts

All other lunches and dinners are on your own.

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## Money, Tipping & Practical Notes

Currency used is the Euro (€), with Swiss Francs (CHF) common in Geneva. Bring €200–€300 in cash to start.

Pride Adventures has included tipping for drivers, daily hiking guides, and included meals. Tipping your G Adventures CEO at the end of the trip is optional.

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## **Hotels & Luggage**

Hotels are centrally located, LGBTQ+ welcoming, and chosen for alpine charm and comfort. Rooms may be smaller than North American standards and may not have air conditioning. Pack light.

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## **Responsible Travel**

This journey supports local communities and sustainable tourism. A portion of trip proceeds supports the **Planeterra Foundation**. We also follow **Leave No Trace** principles on all hikes.

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## **Trip Leadership & Contact Information**

### **Pride Adventures Host**

**Chris Smith** – Founder & Chief Adventure Officer

 [chris@prideadventures.com](mailto:chris@prideadventures.com)

 WhatsApp/Text: +1-310-854-2556

### **Pride Adventures Leader Support**

**Kevin Smith** – Adventure Officer

Kevin supports traveler logistics, including flights, transportation coordination, and trip details.

 [kevin@prideadventures.com](mailto:kevin@prideadventures.com)

### **Emergency Support (Europe)**

**G Adventures** – 24/7 Global Support

 +44 1858 378 000