

Sussex ski special 2012

Jonathan Bailey
1 Willetts Cottage
Muddles green
Chiddingly
Lewes
East Sussex
BN8 6HR

tel 00 44 (0)1825 872 574
fax 00 44 (0)1825 872298
mb 00 44 (0)7747 11 37 39
info@sussexskispecial.co.uk

September 2011

Something of a change for this season, getting back to our fundamental aim of providing great trips at a very reasonable price. The tremendous success of recent visits to Risoul in the Southern Alps, has led us to include the Espace Lumiere, in that same region, combining the varied slopes of Pra Loup, itself celebrating a 50th anniversary as a ski resort, with the villages of the Val d'Allos, into a very respectable 180 kms of slopes with over 50 lifts.

We have planned our two off peak season adventures in January and March to this very French area offering outstanding value for money.

Knowing that some of our friends need to go away during the peak half term week, we have chosen to go to Austria for a change, as it refreshingly does not seem to need the same huge rise in prices for that week as do the French resorts we typically visit. Austria is re-emerging as a realistically priced alternative again.

Make no mistake though – this is a very serious ski area based around the Hintertux Glacier with huge areas to explore as well as well known resorts like Mayrhofen, all on the same lift pass and all connected together by the free bus system – as well as by the network of lifts in most cases. Chance to go away then at reasonable cost, stay in a great chalet which we got to know when we stayed there whilst summer skiing with a private party during 2010, conveniently situated to give equal access to a splendid choice of slopes and take in the different atmosphere of a different alpine country.

All our information can be found on the updated website along with pictures of our chosen accommodation and resorts. You can make all your bookings and inquiries on-line – but don't forget we like to talk to you as well!

This letter contains ALL the facts – just in case you prefer hard print to the computer screen!

For nearly 2 decades we have been making several trips to the mountains each winter. In particular the half term date quickly fills up and with capacity limited on each trip, so that we can give everyone the space and attention they deserve, definite bookings with deposits are essential to guarantee places, particularly on that most popular school holiday date.

"Sussex Ski Special" offers you 10 day winter sport breaks providing up to 8 days on the slopes in excellent accommodation with good food and a full lift pass for an extensive area included in the cost!

Very little else to pay for – equipment if you need to hire at a special package price - lessons if you are an absolute beginner.

The chance to ski or board with others of a similar standard, with help on hand from our team of experts, is the major advantage of our group holiday and our guests from previous years, often returning many times, are simply the best! Our team is unchanged from last year and includes green run specialist Isabelle, along with skiing & boarding, qualified tour leader Nerissa, making a great contribution on the January & March trips, looking after our hospitality and catering, along with Isabelle. Son Ben helps Nerissa keep a younger outlook to the team, adding hugely to the skiing side of things, with Ben an extremely competent off piste expert with lots of mountain experience. Son Roger, crucial to the back office organisation, as well as being a skilled and adventurous skier, joins us as often as possible to guarantee you extra value on and off the slopes!

Jeremy operates our overnight coach, vital to the whole concept of providing 8 days on the slopes on each of the expeditions, assisted by co-driver Steve, who organises our après ski scene with a couple evening "events" as well as being on hand with guidance, if required, on the slopes.

Ben, Steve and I are all qualified at various levels, with the Canadian Ski Instructors Alliance.

If you can ski in January or March there will always be the advantages of fewer people on the slopes and better value for money. Naturally every trip does include an otherwise expensive lift pass covering a large area and allowing use on all 8 days in the resort.

To make our excellent value more obvious, we show an alternative price NOT including the pass so comparisons are easier. We are happy to take non-skiing guests at that price anyway! Remember though to compare these alternative prices with catered chalet holidays inclusive of transport!

Our usual standard of food provides an extensive buffet breakfast and a 3 course dinner with wine or beer, tea and coffee. If you wish, as an economic alternative to eating in the mountain restaurants, we provide everything necessary for you to prepare for yourself, an interesting picnic lunch to take away. This can be a huge saving, particularly for families joining our trips. We encourage everyone who so chooses, to make their own small contribution to our running of the chalets, as a way of getting to know one another whilst we are skiing, snowboarding, living together and sharing lots of memorable experiences on and off the mountains!

The included overnight travel in both directions on these trips will be in our spacious coach often equipped with tables and toilet, using our team of professional drivers journeying on a cross channel ferry.

Our way of travelling is the crucial feature which allows us to provide skiing on 8 days rather than the 6 of a typical flight based trip – a very significant point to remember when assessing value for money!

The true cost of air travel is easy to underestimate. Even the lowest initial fares grow inexorably with luggage, equipment and transfer costs. The overall door to door travel time always eats into days that could be spent on the slopes and is actually in total only a little less than our overall coach journey times.

Nevertheless if you wish to fly or drive and organise transport yourself, we will do our best to reduce our package price as much as possible. Do bear in mind that you will almost certainly get less time on the slopes by making your own travel arrangements, unless you allow for extra nights accommodation.

At these resorts very competitively priced packs of equipment will be offered but only when booked and paid for well in advance. We usually obtain stunning deals in some resorts.

The deposit includes membership of the "Sussex Ski Special" club and can be paid by cheque, cash or bank transfer using the information you can obtain by phone or e-mail. We can now take payment by PAYPAL from visitors to our web site, which in effect gives you the option of using a credit card if you wish.

Our prices have been calculated on current currency exchange rates and will only change if the Euro becomes worth more than 90p (at the moment it's around 87p) – in which case we reserve the right to make a small adjustment to reflect our increased costs.

Considering the comprehensive nature of our package, particularly the inclusion of a ski pass covering 8 days and the wealth of experience we can offer you with our guidance on the slopes, within the informal group skiing that is a feature of our expeditions, our value for money remains unbeatable!

FRIDAY JANUARY 13th RETURNING SUNDAY JANUARY 22nd £575
ESPACE LUMIERE 10 days away - ski pass covering 8 days included!
BROCHURE COMPARISON PRICE (WITHOUT LIFT PASS) ONLY £400!

4 new but traditionally styled timber chalets in a quiet but beautiful mountain setting with a new 10 person telecabine close by, linking into to the slopes which covers 180kms in total using over 50 lifts. Espace Lumiere includes Pra Loup 1600 & 1500 (where they are located) and the villages of Val d'Allos. Following the success of Risoul this is another unpretentious southern Alps resort with good slopes and great off piste territory in the larch forests, not too well known to UK wintersports enthusiasts. We have free access to the indoor heated pool at the chalets. The main resort shops and attractions are a short and free shuttle bus ride away IF required!

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10th RETURNING SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19th £795
HINTERTUX 10 days away - ski pass covering 8 days included!
BROCHURE COMPARISON PRICE (WITHOUT LIFT PASS) ONLY £600!

1 spacious chalet in the tiny hamlet of Juns, with a superb free shuttle bus service to the whole of the Zillertal region including closest of all the HINTERTUX glacier area with snow clad runs 12 months of the year. Hintertux is served by a recently developed 3 stage cable car system and the area as a whole covers over 200 kms with over 50 lifts, with every possible type of slope available. Our first trip to Austria enables us to beat the huge rise in prices for this half term week in our usual French destinations. THIS TRIP IS LIMITED TO AROUND 20 GUESTS – unless we take on extra accommodation nearby if requested – should it be available!

FRIDAY MARCH 16th RETURNING SUNDAY MARCH 25th £595
ESPACE LUMIERE 10 days away – skipass covering 8 days included
BROCHURE COMPARISON PRICE (WITHOUT LIFT PASS) ONLY £425!

4 new but traditionally styled timber chalets in a quiet but beautiful mountain setting with a new 10 person telecabine close by, linking into to the slopes which covers 180kms in total using over 50 lifts. Espace Lumiere includes Pra Loup 1600 & 1500 (where they are located) and the villages of Val d'Allos. Following the success of Risoul this is another unpretentious southern Alps resort with good slopes and great off piste territory in the larch forests, not too well known to UK wintersports enthusiasts. We have free access to the indoor heated pool at the chalets. The main resort shops and attractions are a short and free shuttle bus ride away IF required!

Please book online to secure your places. We will not be able to add extra places once any particular trip is full and paying a deposit, just as we have done for the accommodation, is the ONLY way of making a firm commitment. Incidentally we will always take non skiers on any of our trips and deduct the considerable cost of the 8 day lift pass from the balance. WE TRY TO BE AS GENEROUS AS POSSIBLE WITH REDUCTIONS FOR FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN! Do call to discuss what we can offer to help.

Explore our web site with its links, particularly to the resorts own sites, and do take advantage of chatting to us by initially calling Jonathan on 01825 872574.

Whilst we hope many of our old friends will make sure of their holiday we really do want to welcome as many newcomers to our "Sussex Ski Specials 2011" as possible. You won't regret joining us!

PLEASE PHONE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONSIDER ARRANGING A SHORT BREAK SKI TRIP IN THE FRENCH ALPS WITHIN STRIKING DISTANCE OF GRENOBLE, FOR 2 OR MORE PEOPLE AT ANY TIME OTHER THAN DURING OUR MAIN TRIPS. I WILL GLADLY HELP ARRANGE FLIGHTS AND THEN TRANSPORT YOU TO THE ACCOMMODATION AND RESORT WE DECIDE ON, COOK FOR YOU SHOULD WE OPT FOR SELF CATERING ACCOMMODATION AND PROVIDE SKI GUIDANCE FOR YOU IF YOU WISH. ALL FOR THE BEST POSSIBLE PRICE! JONATHAN 01825 872574