

E-MTB ALPS TRAVERSE

SWITZERLAND, ITALY & FRANCE



GROUP SIZE 4-6

DURATION 7 nights, 8 days

TYPE E-MTB

SKILL LEVEL & FITNESS LEVEL Level 3

THE QUEEN OF ALL E-MTB ADVENTURES. THIS LEGENDARY ROUTE IS A COMBINATION OF THE FAMOUS HAUTE ROUTE AND CIRCUM-NAVIGATION OF MONT BLANC. AN AMAZING AND CHALLENGING TRIP VIA SWITZERLAND, ITALY AND FRANCE THROUGH EUROPE'S MOST SPECTACULAR MOUNTAINS.

WHY BIG MOUNTAIN?

Professional Leaders. Mountain bike trips to far-away places requires local knowledge. We work with the best guides in all destinations, many since 2001.

Your Safety. Our guides have first-aid certification, our trips have safety management plans and our riders' wellbeing is the number one priority on all of our trips.

Groups that Work. All riders complete a detailed Rider Questionnaire to ensure that they are well matched for the trip physically and technically and with the rest of the group. We almost always have optional rides just in case.

Preparation is Key. We offer excellent pre-trip support and all departures include a detailed Preparation Guide specific to the destination. Of course we've been on every trip that we offer.

Expert Trip Design. We know how to create exceptional mountain bike trips. And, we're constantly reviewing and improving itineraries if we feel that it's needed.

Piece of Mind. Travel & Medical Insurance is mandatory on our trips and Big Mountain Bike Adventures Ltd. has commercial general liability insurance.



OUR GUIDE

This traverse requires local knowledge and a Swiss Army knife of skills and expertise. Our Italian leader is just the person who can guide any group on this three-country epic.

CHROMAG

EVOC

TREK

BIG MOUNTAIN
BIKE ADVENTURES

ITINERARY

E-MTB ALPS TRAVERSE

The following is a general outline for the Swiss Cloudraker trip. Big Mountain reserves the right to make alterations and substitutions to the itinerary as weather or terrain conditions dictate or as necessary to improve the trip quality or to accommodate the comfort, convenience, and well-being of our guests.

This trip has become a classic that leaves its participants blown away. Don't be deceived by the big descents and lifts, Cloudraker's daily schedule is jam packed and requires a high level of fitness, technical ability and being 'OK' with bit of exposure at times. This trip is for those who like to pedal up and descend, one epic trail after another. Fasten your seatbelts; this is going to be fun!



DAY 1

Welcome to Geneva, Switzerland. Transfer to Sierre, ride to the Val d'Anniviers. Upon arrival hop the two-hour fifteen-minute train from Geneva Airport to Sierre where we'll leave our suitcases, acquaint ourselves with our e-mtb's then transfer to the Val d'Anniviers. After a lift to 2180m it's a short ride to our historic hotel, built in 1882 situated at 2337m. No luggage tonight.

Ride: 6 km, 550m+

Overnight: Hotel Weissshorn

DAY 2

Ride to Val d'Herens, Switzerland.

Set out on the sweetest singletrack that you can imagine to the mountain town of Zinal with views of the Matterhorn. After a morning coffee break in the classic Swiss town of Grimentz we'll take a tram to 2895m, descend and then climb up to an alpine cabin at 2985m for a pastry. Massive singletrack descent to the remote hamlet, Ossona in the Val d'Herens. No luggage tonight.

Ride: 41 km, 1550m+, 3875m-

Overnight: Ossona Gites

DAY 3

Ride to Val de Bagnes, Switzerland.

Depart this morning with a descent followed by a long contouring pedal in the direction of Verbier. We'll grab a lift to a great singletrack descent to a nice lunch, then another lift up to 2950m to a massive 2150m descent the iconic Cabane du Mont Fort for a break, and beyond to our hotel with a deserved hot tub at the hotel spa.

Ride: 44km, 466m+, 3357m-

Overnight: Hotel La Vallée

DAY 4

Ride to Val de Bagnes, Switzerland to Chalgine, Italy

A little help with a van shuttle to the impressive Barrage de Mauvoisin dam. From here we'll ride through tunnels, then dirt road then singletrack to the Fenetre du Durand pass at 2797m, and the Italian border. A long and amazing downhill from here and final climb to the Rifugio Chalgine for a well-deserved Italian feast. No luggage tonight.

Ride: 60km, 1867m+, 1750m-

Overnight: Rifugio Chalgine

DAY 5

Ride Chalgine to Courmayeur, Italy.

Morning climb onto an amazing alpine ridge trail with views of the city of Aosta and mountains in all directions. After a delicious lunch at a well-known restaurant we'll ride up and down and across this spectacular region. Our last descent brings us to one of Italy's most famous ski resorts, Courmayeur, on the doorstep of Europe's highest peak, Mont Blanc.

Ride: 45km, 1815m+, 1980m-

Overnight: Hotel Berthod

DAY 6

Ride Courmayeur to Les Contamines, France

After a few espressos we begin the circumnavigation of Mont Blanc as we climb to the border of France on the Col de la Seigne, 2516m. We'll then turn the corner and traverse the Mont Blanc massif's southern flanks with jaw-dropping views of the Chamonix Valley to the ski resort of Les Contamines.

Ride: 55km, 1900m+, 2900m-

Overnight: Hotel Gai Soleil

DAY 7

Ride Les Contamines to Chamonix, France.

Wake up to killer views of the Chamonix valley. Our final day of riding, we'll dip into the Les Houches bike park for some buffed berms and then roll into spectacular Chamonix. This afternoon we pack bikes, check out this amazing mountain town, maybe go up the Aiguille du Midi lift to 3842m, and go for a swim at the hotel pool before last night celebrations.

Ride: 24km, 880m+, 980m-

Overnight: Hotel La Folie Douce

DAY 8

Transfer to Geneva Airport. Au revoir!

One-hour transfer to Geneva Airport for flights home. One transfer for the whole group this morning. Please do not book flights to depart any earlier than 10:30 AM. For earlier or later flights transfer an additional cost.

DETAILS

BIKE AND EQUIPMENT

We know that quality bikes and components are paramount. We take the time to ensure that our rental bikes are inspected, well-maintained and have appropriate tires, brakes, extra parts and more. We communicate all aspects of the bike to riders. This trip requires an extra battery which is included in the trip price. Three nights on this trip are spent without your luggage. Riders will need 18-20L riding packs where they can carry appropriate gear. We will send you a detailed list of required equipment and clothing before departure.

SUGGESTED BIKE FOR THIS TRIP:

TREK RAIL



WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Expert leadership.
- Two nights mountain huts & five nights hotel accommodation.
- All transportation from Siere train station (Day 1 meeting) to Geneva Airport (Day 8 drop off).
- All luggage transport.
- All breakfasts & four dinners.
- E-MTB rental with extra battery (if needed).

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED?

- All lunches, three dinners, ride snacks & extras like coffee & alcohol.
- International airfare; personal travel and medical insurance.
- Required equipment such as helmet, backpack, pedals/shoes, etc.
- Train transfer from Geneva Airport to Siere on arrival.
- Unexpected additional costs if itinerary is amended due to rider injury or weather, or a mechanical and parts need to be delivered due to a bike mechanical.

TRAVEL INSURANCE



Medical Insurance is mandatory on all Big Mountain Bike Adventures' trips and Travel Insurance is strongly recommended. Please [visit our recommended insurance provider](#) World Nomads to learn more.

ACTIVITY LEVEL

The technical ability required for Cloudraker is rated as 'strong intermediate and above.' In other words, the trails are technically challenging, with hiking sections and exposure. There are long and technical descents each day. For fitness level, participants must be fit to very fit. All participants must train accordingly to fully enjoy this trip. Even though we will be riding many lifts and stopping quite often (to enjoy the view, eat and drink, wait for others, repair our bikes etc) – the altitude, jet lag recovery and accumulation of multiple, long days of riding will add up. This trip is a true all mountain adventure – the rewards are FANTASTIC.

LODGING AND FOOD

On this adventure we spend three nights at remote hotels where you will not have your luggage. Otherwise, nights are spent at comfortable 3-star hotels with all the amenities. The cuisine on this trip is typical of each region – Swiss, Italian and French. Please notify Big Mountain Bike Adventures if you have any special dietary needs.



CLIMATE

In big mountains, weather can change quickly and drastically – it could be 30 degrees Celsius one day and then freezing on a mountaintop the next day. Summertime in the Alps are typically beautiful, however it can rain and sometimes even snow, so we have to be prepared for all types of weather conditions.

DETAILS *cont.*



YOUR SAFETY

All participants must ride safely and within their limits daily as mountain biking is a dangerous sport with risks and hazards. Most accidents occur at the beginning of a trip due to jet lag, fatigue and unfamiliarity of trail conditions and obstacles; it is imperative that riders especially take it easy at the beginning of the trip. Alcohol and drugs are not permitted while riding. Participants will remain hydrated and rested throughout the trip. Riders will be responsible for their daily bike checks and keeping bikes in good working condition. Everyone is ultimately responsible for their own well being on our trips. Our guides have basic first aid training and if a serious injury is suspected, will call local search and rescue and/or an evacuation helicopter at the cost of the participant. The majority of our trips take place in remote regions with limited evacuation options. Personal medical travel insurance is mandatory on all trips.

THE NEXT STEPS

Call us toll free at 1-866-894-0220, or +1-604-902-1807 for international guests or email at info@ridebig.com to confirm there's space on this trip. If Skype is preferred please send us an email to arrange a meeting. We like to speak to everyone interested in joining our trips. This helps ensure everyone signing up is well matched for the group!

Make sure you have read and understand our [Terms and Conditions](#) and also our [Waiver](#). Both found on our website under registration.

To confirm your spot please complete our secure online [Booking Form](#) found on our website.

Once your online registration form has been received, we'll send you detailed pre-departure information, for review, to ensure you're well prepared for the adventure ahead.

PAYMENT

Once you've completed our online registration form and we've confirmed that we have the needed number of riders to proceed, we'll collect a \$750.00 CAD deposit that is refundable up to 14 days after registering (outside of 90 days before the trip departure), afterwards your deposit becomes non-refundable. At 90 days prior to the departure, the full trip balance will be collected. Please review our [Terms & Conditions](#) for full details on payment, cancellation and refund policies. Please note that while our land costs are quoted in the destination country's preferred currency, the balance and deposit are processed in Canadian dollars. The exchange rate is based on the daily rate quoted using the Bank of Canada. If you are paying with credit card and reside outside of Canada, you may incur a foreign transaction fee. If you wish, there's the option of paying with a wire transfer or you can also send us a cheque. Please contact us anytime to discuss your options.

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

The single supplement of 640 CHF is an additional fee for solo travellers who wish to have their own rooms during the trip. If riders agree to share a room with someone of the same gender BM will pair you up. If there isn't another single participant of the same gender available, you will automatically have your own room and incur the additional single supplement fee.



WHY BIG MOUNTAIN IS YOUR CHOICE

Since 2001 Big Mountain Bike Adventures is the pioneer of performance mountain bike adventures to destinations worldwide. Our itineraries are designed by local professional guides and Big Mountain travel experts and lead by the very best local leaders available. Our mission is to deliver safe, quality trips with the best customer service - ensuring a trip of a lifetime.

REFERENCES

We'll be happy to provide you with references of satisfied past travellers.

QUESTIONS?

Feel free to call us at 1-866-894-0220 or email info@ridebig.com if you have any questions or need any additional information. We are here to help!

CONTACT US

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[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Trip Advisor](#) | [Vimeo](#) | [Pinkbike](#)