



Val d'Isère
UNIQUE.

WINTER 2019-2020
PRESS KIT



valdisere.com





INTRODUCTION

NOVEMBER 30TH, MAY 3RD

Val d'Isère is a genuine old village with an outstandingly high quality ski area with more than 80 years of history since the first pioneers. These visionaries turned a little community tucked away at the end of a long and remote valley into a world class international tourist destination.

It's this historical backdrop that plays an important role in creating the kind of charming and challenging holiday environment that greets you on arrival in Val d'Isère today. You're skiing in the footsteps of Jean Claude Killy and the other great ski champions of the past who learned their skills here. Your hotel or apartment may well be the former family home of one of those pioneers.

Val d'Isère...

4-7	WHAT'S NEW
8-9	THE VILLAGE
10-13	THE SKIING
14	PRESS OFFICE PICK OF THE PACK
15	HELPING VISITORS
16-17	EVENTS
18	OFFERS
19	GETTING HERE
20	CONTACTS

WHAT'S NEW THIS WINTER



AIRELLES VAL D'ISÈRE MADEMOISELLE

A glamorous new hotel which opens its doors this December is expected to become one of the most sought-after properties in the Alps. Airelles Val d'Isère Mademoiselle has been built on the edge of the piste beside the old village, on the site of the former Hotel Brussel's. It's part of the Airelles Collection, which also owns Hotel Les Airelles in Courchevel and La Bastide de Gordes in Provence.

The hotel has 41 rooms, 11 suites and five apartments with a private butler service. There's a 1200m² Guerlain spa, a special children's kingdom with an enchanted forest, cinema, 200 m² ski room and a gallery of boutiques hosting iconic brands.

Its 860m² south-facing terrace opposite the village nursery slope is a real sun trap and the perfect lunch and après-ski spot.

Its gourmet restaurant, Le VI, is open for dinner and there's live music every evening.

The cosy Le Carnotzet is a traditional Savoyard restaurant serving fondues, raclette and other regional specialities. The celebrated La Grande Ourse on the front de neige is now managed by the hotel. The restaurant serves brasserie-style cuisine to hotel guests as well as being open to the general public. If you are staying in the hotel, you can book your half-board dinner here.

The bar offers a range of rare spirits along with some fine vintage wines and an exceptional choice of Champagne.



CHALET IZIA BY VILLAGE MONTANA

Village Montana, owners of the luxury Chalet Skadi apartments, open a second establishment in the resort this December. Five-star Chalet Izia is located at the foot of the slopes and has 51 large apartments. These vary in size from 60 to 135m² and are built in a warm contemporary style using lots of natural wood.

There's a wellness area with an indoor pool, hot tub, sauna, hammam, and a Cinq Mondes spa for guests. Children are welcome and the spa offers specific treatments for kids. Concierge services include reservation of lift passes and ski equipment, organisation of transfers, and breakfast deliveries. Tour operators offering these apartments this winter include Erna Low, Inghams, Ski Collection and Ski Independence.



THE REFUGE DE SOLAISE IS FULLY OPEN FOR THIS SEASON

Perched on a ledge at an altitude of 2 551m, the Refuge de Solaise has the distinction of being the highest hotel in France. Because of the short summer, work in transforming what was the country's oldest cable car station into a luxurious and unique mountain hotel has taken a year longer than was originally expected. After a partial opening last season, Le Refuge is finally operating at full capacity from November 30, 2019.

The hotel has 16 rooms, four large apartments, and a luxurious (for a mountain refuge!) dormitory, sleeping 14 in single and double beds. There are two restaurants, a bar, and a meeting room for seminars. There's also a spa with a 25m pool. The spa will be open to all. At an altitude of 2551m, the contrast is dramatically marked between the spectacular but sometimes hostile natural environment outdoors and the welcoming, warm ambience of the Refuge's spa. Professional treatments include a range of

Exertier cosmetics. The spa is open to everyone.

In winter the Refuge can only be reached on skis or by the high-speed Solaise Gondola from the village.

You can eat indoors or outside on the sun terrace that provides extraordinary views of the surrounding peaks. The main gourmet restaurant was open for part of last winter and has already established a strong reputation as one of

the best addresses in the resort. It's also open to visitors for dinner on Wednesday and Sunday evenings, with access via the gondola.

The snack bar has been transformed in a genuine Italian restaurant with pizzas and homemade pasta. Also, the new Bar du Refuge will serve breakfast for residents and snacks for skiers with an enticing display of cheeses, charcuterie and desserts.

HOTEL VAL D'ISÈRE

For many years now Le Val d'Isère, located on the main square beside the Tourist Office, has operated as a Mark Warner chalet hotel. This arrangement came to an end in April 2019 as the building was sold to local architect Jean Charles Covarel and his son Adrien in 2017.

The hotel was built in 1968 by local businessman Paul Raymond and used to be a popular and central meeting place during the last three decades of the 20th century. In order to restore the hotel to its previous exalted status in the resort, the new

owners plan to give it a complete makeover during the next couple of years. The south-facing views across the village are exceptional and it's only a 100m walk from the front de neige. It re-opens with a few cosmetic changes on November 30 before the renovations get fully underway.

Adrien Covarel plans to breathe new life into the rooftop Sur Le Toit restaurant with a serve-yourself buffet each evening featuring local produce and homemade dishes. La Crêperie d'Adrien will be open on the spacious ground floor where there's also a welcoming bar and a sitting room with an open fireplace.



NIGHT EXPERIENCE EVENINGS AT THE FOLIE DOUCE

« A sensual experience where art meets gastronomy ». Night Experience is a highly unusual evening where food, music, and visual arts all combine to create a grand spectacle. Diners are not just part of the audience, from apéritif to dessert they become personally involved in what can only be described as a multi-sensual happening.

Night Experience takes place each Tuesday from December 24, 2019 to April 14, 2020. Places are limited for the evening which includes canapés, starter, main course, cheese and dessert. Meeting place is 7pm at the bottom of the La Daille gondola. Return journey is 10.30-11pm.



VAL D'ISÈRE UNVEILS ITS NEW MARKETING CAMPAIGN

Val d'Isère is proud of its pioneering history.

Val d'Isère has been welcoming visitors for nearly a century and local inhabitants are justly proud of how the resort has developed from those early pioneering days into the world-class ski resort that it is today. This autumn sees the launch of an emotive digital publicity campaign of video and still images that has been built around the past and the present.



L'HÔTEL LE YULE * * * * * OPENS YEAR-ROUND HEALTHCARE CLINIC

On top of its Nuxe spa, from December 1 Le Yule is creating a new level of paramedical expertise, run by healthcare specialist Pôle Santé France. On hand, there will be four osteopaths, a psychologist, and two sports coaches. The new healthcare centre offers training sessions and personalised fitness programmes. It is equipped with state-of-the-art machines (Technogym, Miha Bodytech, and INDIBA Activ Therapy).

TOUR OPERATOR NEWS



VIP SKI

VIP SKI has opened a new luxury apartment complex in the heart of the old village between the church and the chapel, a couple of minutes walk from the main street in one direction and the piste in the other. Aspen House replaces Aspen Lodge, the company's previous flagship complex near the bus station roundabout. The new building houses eight super-cool suites, each of the apartments is sumptuously designed creating a timeless aura.

After a hard day on the slopes, Aspen House has a funky spa on the ground floor with hammam, sauna and a grand tiled Jacuzzi – more Turkish bath than hot tub – in which to relax. In keeping with VIP SKI's style, there is an elegant reception and concierge, cool décor, wall-mounted TVs in the bedrooms and bunk beds in some of the family suites.

HIP HIDEOUTS

Hip Hideouts adds the Rocca Penthouse, a new luxury chalet for ten people. Rocca, located near the village centre, is a stunning penthouse set on four levels with amazing views – you can see up to Le Fornet and down to the gorge at La Daille. It has its own underground parking, an 8m x 3m pool and a Moroccan hammam.

Huge reclaimed wood beams and wrap-around balconies give depth and character. The entrance level features an expansive open-plan living and dining space with a centrally located fireplace and a beautiful dining table. The furnishings are pared back: beautiful ceramics mixing with reclaimed wood and cathedral windows on three sides. Oversized lamps and bespoke art feature throughout this floor and compliment the wooden interior.

ALPINE ELEMENTS

Alpine Elements has four new chalets for this winter :

- Chalet Cascade
- Chalet Vallon
- Chalet Charvet
- Chalet Santons

All are located on the final homeward stretch of the Santons piste, the easier option from the top of Bellevarde if you don't feel like the idea of tackling the notoriously black La Face. Chalets sleep 10-14 with Classic or Premium Plus service.

There's an Earlybird group booking offer with free leader places from 10+ with free lift pass and ski/board hire packs for groups of 8 or more.

YSE

YSE has two new chalets in the Manchet area above Club Med. Chalet Lucaval (sleeps 12-14) is being completely rebuilt and has the advantage of having two single rooms. Chalet Sanville (sleeps 8) has a swimming pool. YSE will operate a shuttle service between the chalets and the main street every evening before dinner. The company will be catering on five nights each week, rather than six.

LE SKI

Le Ski is offering a new courtesy car service around the resort this winter, ferrying guests to and from chalets, ski shops, and the slopes. Three of their – chalets are undergoing a major upgrade this summer.



THE VILLAGE

Val d'Isère is much more than a ski resort with a worldwide reputation. It's a land of heritage set around the story of the pioneering families who built it and still live here. They turned their little village, buried under a blanket of snow for six months of the year, into a sporting holiday destination set in beautiful natural surroundings.



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE PIONEERS

For more than 80 years Val d'Isère has continued to evolve. But, at the same time, it's managing to retain its authentic charm, as visitors discover when they explore the streets of old stone buildings at the heart of the village.

Village life revolves around the landmark clocktower that's been watching over Val d'Isère since the 11th century. Leaving the Place Jacques Mouflier, you pass between the imposing stone columns of Val Village, a perfect illustration of local architecture. From there, you can make your way back down to the Avenue Olympique, past the Maison de Famille des Cinq Frères and the Maison Moris, one of the oldest buildings of Val d'Isère, dating from the 17th century. Alternatively, you can carry on from the church down the rue Nicolas Bazile admiring the original old chalets and immerse yourself in the history of the village.

LEARN ABOUT THE SECRETS OF VAL D'ISÈRE

Qualified tourist guides offer tours of the village each week. Book through the Tourist Office. The Val d'Histoire Museum, located in the Maison de Val tells the Val d'Isère story through period objects and photos.

If you don't have time to visit the museum in person, you can catch podcasts on the history of the resort on the Val d'Isère app.

“ Val d'Isère is a land of heritage set around the story of the pioneering families who built it and still live here. ”



THE GOOD THINGS OF LIFE

It's not by chance that Val d'Isère is well known for its art de vivre. With Michelin-starred and traditional restaurants along with cool bars nothing here is actually left to Lady Luck. These factors all add up to make Val d'Isère a favourite destination for people who truly appreciate the good things in life.

This winter there's no shortage of new establishments.

Near the top of Solaise, at an altitude of 2551m, Hotel Le Refuge is opening **La Cantinetta**. This new Italian restaurant offers simple, high quality cuisine – essentially pizzas and pasta – prepared by the ever-smiling Sergio.

New hotel **Airelles Val d'Isère – Mademoiselle** opens this winter with four restaurants at the foot of the pistes on the edge of the Old Village.

Open for lunch and dinner, **Le VI** offers gourmet fare with a giant dessert buffet and a prestigious wine list. There's live music each evening.

A giant 860 m² sun terrace overlooks the slopes faces due south and **La Terrasse** is open for lunch and après-ski. The restaurant seats 280 and there's music in the afternoons.

Le Carnotzet is the hotel's Savoyard restaurant serving raclette, fondues and other regional specialities.

The adjoining **Grande Ourse** is one of the resort's most famous lunch and dinner spots. It is now run by the hotel as a brasserie, open to the public as well as hotel guests.

Le Bar caters for aficionados of rare spirits and fine vintage wines. There's a Champagne list created exclusively by women winemakers. The hotel also has a smoking room where cigar-lovers can relax with a glass in hand.

MADE IN VAL D'ISÈRE

It was in the pioneering resort of Val d'Isère where these concepts were turned into realities.

THE FOLIE DOUCE, SINCE 1969

The cabaret takes place in the open air and is for visitors of all ages who want to combine hearty food with the joys of clubbing and watch exceptional shows that are unique to their genre. The Folie Douce concept is enjoyed by, the young...and the less young.

COCORICO, APRÈS-SKI ON THE EDGE OF THE VILLAGE

For the past five years Cocorico has been the après-ski spot in town, with live music and DJ sets at the foot of the pistes.

ARCTIC CAFÉ, FOR A HEALTHY BREAK

The Arctic Café offers a refreshing menu with fresh juices, scented coffees, salads and sandwiches, and of course, avocado toasts for vitamin-rich brunches. Because you are what you eat, Arctic Café is committed to respecting the planet through its Responsible Consumption Charter.

MICHELIN FOUR-STAR MEALS IN LE FORNET.

In April 2020 Benoit Vidal, the charismatic two-star Michelin chef at the Atelier d'Edmond in Le Fornet is joining forces with two other celebrity chefs to create a unique meal. He will be joined in the kitchen by Antoine Gras from Val d'Isère's Table de l'Ours and Clément Bouvier from Restaurant Ursus in neighbouring Tignes – both these chefs have a Michelin star. So what they plan to create is a very special six-handed four-star feast. Throughout the season, Benoit Vidal has a range of gastro surprises in store.





THE SKIING

The name Val d'Isère is synonymous with skiing. The high altitude French resort (1850 – 3456m) is internationally famous for the extent of its ski area that's suitable for everyone from complete beginner to veteran powderhound.



Val d'Isère is equally lauded for the certainty and **excellence** of its snow – especially in early and late season. **Cover is guaranteed** from late November when the resort opens for the season until the beginning of May when the winter lifts finally close. The glacier reopens in June/July for summer skiing. In these troubled years of climate change and global warming it's become essential to know, when you book your holiday months ahead, that there will be sufficient snow rather than green fields when you actually arrive in your resort...few destinations in the Alps can promise this.

HISTORY

More than 80 years have slipped by since early tourists to Val d'Isère made their first turns. Way back in 1936 The original drag lift was built on the Rogoney slope at the foot of the Solaise massif and work started in the same year on the Solaise cable that took more accomplished skiers up to a heady altitude of 2500m for long and challenging runs back down the village. **Charles Diebold**, one of the founding fathers of the resort, gave the first lessons on the slopes here in **1932** and the ESF started in Val d'Isère in 1938.

The Val d'Isère-Tignes ski area now comprises a mighty **300km of pisted skiing** served by 75 lifts, along with endless off-piste and ski touring opportunities. Val d'Isère's ski area divides naturally into **four linked sectors**. The **free ski bus service** that circles the village every few minutes and its outlying satellites of La Daille and Le Fornet acts as an extension of the lift system. There's no less than six main mountain access lifts, so even at peak times queuing need never be a problem.



RACERS OF THE PAST

Some of the great champions of Alpine skiing learned their skills on the challenging slopes of Val d'Isère. In 1948 **Henri Oreiller** put Val d'Isère on the map of the entire world at the St Moritz Winter Olympics when he won gold and became France's first Olympic ski champion. In 1964 at Innsbruck, the **Goitschel** sisters took gold in the GS and Slalom. Four years later, at the Grenoble Olympics, Marielle Goitschel won the slalom and **Jean Claude Killy** swept the board with all three medals. It was a feat that firmly endorsed Val d'Isère as the ski-racing capital of the world. Present-day athletes: Val d'Isère's Club des Sports has trained some great sportsmen and women down the years, including alpine snowboarder **Mathieu Bozetto** and freerider **Léo Taillefer**. The World Cup stars of today are **Victor Muffat Jeandet**, who won bronze in the combined at the Pe Yongchang Games in 2018, along with **Clément Noël**,

who took second place in the general classification in World Cup Slalom in 2019. Both athletes continue to fly the flag for Val d'Isère.

WORLD CUP

In 1955 the founders of the **Critérium de la Première Neige** created a new ski competition. By launching it in December (in the days before snow cannons) as the first race gathering of the winter, they caused a media sensation. You mean, Val d'Isère has **guaranteed snow in December**? Yes, it does. The message stretched beyond racing to holiday skiers. Le Critérium was recognised by the FIS in **1968**. Even though it's no longer the first European competition of the season, the annual races here are a crucial component of the World Cup calendar. At the beginning of each winter, the top technical skiers and the strongest downhillers compete against each on the sensational FIS racecourses of Val d'Isère: The **Face de Bellevarde** and the **OK** (Oreiller-Killy).



GREEN GLOBE

Val d'Isère-Tignes is the **largest ski area in the world to receive the Green Globe certificate for social responsibility and sustainable development**. In 2016 the lift company set a target of removing **100 pylons** from the Val d'Isère side of the ski area by 2022. It has already achieved 70% of its objective.



**NEW EVENT
LADIES NIGHT TOUR.**

This women's ski competition is taking place in the resort this winter for the first time. The Ladies Night Tour is an international circuit of women's Alpine skiing, with five races in five different resorts. The second stage of the competition is being held in Val d'Isère. In this night-time parallel FIS slalom French skiers compete against athletes from other countries in front of a cheering home crowd.

February 11, 2020

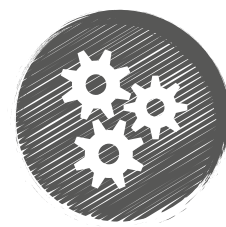
Investing in the mountain

At its very first board meeting on December 19, 1938 the local lift company, the Société des Téléphériques de Val d'Isère (later **Val d'Isère Téléphériques**), decided on a **reinvestment policy to put back into the mountain what the company takes out of it**. It's a policy that still continues today, 81 years later. Each year at least 20% of turnover is reinvested in infrastructure and facilities. It's the same for the whole of Val d'Isère. **All the essential players in the resort** – the pisteurs and the town hall along with the lift company seek to maintain the high quality of the slopes on which the resort has based its reputation since its inception.



Artificial snow network

Just to give some man-made back-up to whatever nature decides provide, Val d'Isère has **one of the best-performing artificial snowmaking facilities in Europe** and is constantly being upgraded. For this winter, pipes and cannons on the **OK FIS** downhill course have been replaced at a cost of 1.5 million euros. The objective is to reduce the quantity of air and water required to allow the new generation of cannons to **produce more snow in less time than the old ones**. Technological advances mean that the latest cannons today use two times less water to produce twice the amount of snow than they did 20 years ago.



Piste grooming

On the technical front, piste grooming machines have been fitted with **LIDAR radar**. This allows the precise measurement of the height of the snow **in real time**. This means that there are no ridges breaking up the corduroy after each pass of the machine, this ensuring **the best and smoothest snow cover throughout the season**. To care for the machines, **a new garage for storage and maintenance** has been built at the foot of the Face de Bellevarde. This project, costing an estimated 2.5m euros, will reduce the number of breakdowns caused by parking outdoors in bitter weather conditions.

Lifts

Two important gondola upgrades have taken place over the past three years in two different sectors of the ski area: some 11m euros has been invested in the new **La Daille** gondola and 16m euros in the **Solaise** lift.



Le Lounge on Solaise

'Picnics Forbidden' is a familiar sign outside restaurants and other buildings across the Alps. But, mindful of the cost of mountain lunches for many families, Val d'Isère actually **welcomes picnic-ers at Le Lounge**, which opened in 2016 at the top of the Solaise gondola. This is a comfortable warming hut, particularly enjoyed by adults and children spending time on the adjoining **nursery slopes**. There's comfortable seating, tables, a games area, cinema for kids, and loos with the **best views in the Alps**. A simple café serves pastries and the cheapest coffee on the mountain. There's also a microwave for warming up your picnic and an exhibition of the 80-year history of the lift company, Val d'Isère Téléphériques.



Ticket windows

One year after the opening of the new lift pass sales point at La Daille the original ones at Val Village and Solaise have now been **completely modernised**. Screens show real time information and digital technology allows easy collection of passes booked online and encourages skiers to book by mobile.



GAMES FOR CHILDREN

VAL KIDS SKI AREA

Val Kids was started in 2017 and continues to grow. **This winter** there's an **igloo** a fixed binoculars' point for checking out the mountain at close range, as well a **mini zip wire** providing thrills on the heights of Solaise. Val Kids is aimed at the resort's youngest visitors, an opportunity to go 'backstage' in a major ski area and see how it all works: the mountain, the skiing, and the people who work there.

It is split into four sectors:

- **A games area** for learning about all the various jobs in the ski area: a mini snow factory, First Aid post, and a control desk and toy piste machines.
- **A play piste** for learning how to ski and have fun at the same time: foam figures and archways set on the gentlest of nursery slopes form an ideal and enjoyable practice course for beginners.
- **A toboggan piste** for discovering the first sensations of sliding on snow.
- **Ski cross:** a mini ski cross course for little ones to perfect their ski technique. It's located on Belvedere with a series of fun and games exercises on the way down.

Throughout the season in Val d'Isère there's **entertainment on offer** to give kids the chance to become real mini mountain men. An essential one of these for Val Kids is to meet up with one of the resort's **avalanche rescue dogs**.

MINI ELECTRIC SNOWMOBILES

New activity for kids from 5 to 12 years olds! In front of the aqualeisure center there's now a mini electrical snowmobiles circuit open for après-ski.



WIDE OPEN EXPANSES FOR SKIING AND SKI TOURING

If you want to try a little **gentle off-piste or go ski touring**, Val d'Isère is the place for you. The ski area in the beautiful and unspoilt **Vanoise National Park** is ideal. There are internationally recognised freeride itineraries and mountain refuges.

Essential info: follow the basic rules of safety in the mountains, make sure you have all the appropriate gear, check the weather forecast and the avalanche risk factor. The various Val d'Isère ski schools and the Bureau des Guides are on hand to accompany you..

NEW FORMAT FOR AVALINE TRAX

The **night-time ski-touring race** comes back this winter with a new format: 3 races during the winter and a finale in April. The competitors start on their own or as a team to get to the top of the mountains where a festive prize giving is organized before going down the empty slopes by the light of head torches.

SKI TOURING MEET.

Three days in springtime set aside for ski touring from March 24 to 26, 2020. You get the chance to test all kinds of gear from different manufacturers and the Val d'Isère ski schools provide introductory lessons for first timers. Mountain pros host workshops and there are also concerts and film shows during the three day.

March 24 to 26, 2020



FAMILY PLUS

Since 2009 Val d'Isère has been the proud bearer of the Family Plus label, which is supported by the French government for resorts that take particular care of families. The award is renewable every three years and takes into account the essential features of the resort in terms of comfort and safety for families. From arrival in the resort to all the activities on offer, everything in Val d'Isère is geared towards helping parents and children with their stay.



PRESS OFFICE PICK OF THE PACK

#1

GET UP EARLY TO SKI THE FACE DE BELLEVARDE

No excuse: even those who really aren't morning people, rise at dawn to be among the first to take the Olympique gondola and tackle the Face de Bellevarde. This notorious black run, where so many champions have competed, towers over the village. Make it the first run of the day after it has been freshly groomed overnight. It's a unique experience.



#2

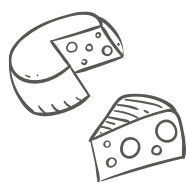
GOURMET DINING AT LE FORNET

The charming hamlet of Le Fornet, a couple of kilometres up the valley from Val d'Isère, is known for some of the best cuisine in the Alps. It's home to l'Atelier d'Edmond, the proud bearer of two Michelin stars. From his chalet overlooking the pistes, chef Benoit Vidal prepares a daily Menu du Marché (market menu) for 55€. This includes appetisers, starter, main course, and dessert as well as extra little cookies and sweets to accompany coffee – quite breathtaking. Alternatively, Benoit's modestly-priced Bistrot Gourmand on the ground floor has a south-facing sun terrace and offers a 33€ menu with starter, main course and dessert.

#4

SAMPLE THE PASTRIES OF A MASTER FRENCH PÂTISSIER

At Patrick Chevallot's bakery the desserts are to die for. There's his personal 'take' on tarte à la myrtille (blueberry tart), or a tropézienne au biscuit de Savoie (light sponge cake with a mouth-watering crème pâtissière filling). But for the most exquisite treat in the whole baker's shop of this Master Chef of France we judges are unanimous – l'Ancolie is the outright winner. This delicious gâteau, a subtle meld of raspberry and hazelnut praline, is remarkable not only for its taste, but for the story that goes with it: when the Face de Bellevarde downhill course was being built for the 1992 Albertville Winter Olympics, workmen came across clumps of rare Ancolie (Columbines). To protect the natural habitat of these wildflowers they changed the racing line, and this section of course became known as the Passage de l'Ancolie. Patrick Chevallot decided to commemorate this by creating a cake of the same name.



#3

GET SOME CHEESE AT THE FERME DE L'ADROIT

Present head of this family-run farm is Xavier Mattis, who summer and winter, looks after his herd of 30 dairy cows (Alpine Browns). In the cheese-making room, you'll find traditional Beaufort as well as Bleu de Val and Avalin, made in summer when the cows are grazing the local meadows in full flower. You can also pay a visit to the farm, eat at l'Etable d'Alain, or buy produce at La Fermette de Claudine – Xavier's sister – in the heart of Val Village.

#5

SPA AT THE REFUGE DE SOLAISE AT À 2551M

This one hasn't actually been tested yet, because it's not quite complete, but it will be open this December. However, after our summer site visit we're absolutely sold on it. Along with spectacular mountain views, it's got two hammams, two hot tubs, and a 25m pool as well as four treatment rooms. The spa uses pure Exertier products from the French Alps, beauty care created with respect for the environment.

#6

TRIP THE LIGHT FANTASTIC WITH FESTI LIGHT

Every Thursday evening from December 31 to March 5* adults and children alike are entranced by Festi Light, which takes place on the Avenue Olympique in the heart of the village. This is a real festival of light with magical shows, ice sculptures, and a DJ set – an grand spectacle for the whole family.

*except Thursday, 23/01/20

#10

DINE IN THE MICHELIN- STARRED HOTEL BARMES DE L'OURS

Young chef Antoine Gras presides over the kitchen here. La Table de l'Ours, the hotel's gourmet restaurant was awarded a Michelin star last year. La Table has an open fireplace and a warm and sophisticated ambience where Antoine and his team strive for culinary perfection.

#8

TAKE TIME-OUT, GO CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING IN THE MANCHET VALLEY

For a change of scenery, cross-country is the perfect sporting alternative. In Val d'Isère there are three places set aside for it between La Daille at 1800m and the Lac de l'Ouillette at 2500m. In the beautiful Manchet Valley three loops take you out of the ski area, with views across the white expanse of the Vanoise National Park. Beginners take first steps on the green Eau Rousse piste (4km). Most skiers will enjoy the blue Manchet (7km) and experts will go for the more demanding red Cascade (8km).

#7

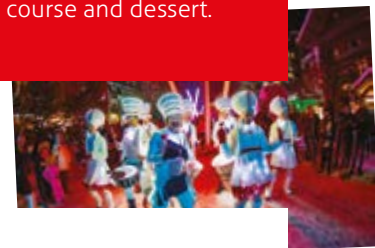
CATCH MAJOR SPORTING EVENTS AT THE GARAGE

The Garage is a lively resort meeting place with giant screens. There's a more peaceful mezzanine for a quieter drink and a children's corner (to keep parents happy as well as kids), and then there's what you eat: simple dishes to share (or not) including meat and cheese boards, bruschettas, pizzas...and a wide choice of craft beers on tap.

#9

HAVE A DRINK AND LISTEN TO MUSIC AT LA BARAQUE

La Baraque needs little introduction – this is a bar and restaurant on the main street, where you'll find the locals as well as regular Val d'Isère visitors. It's got a distinctly laid back atmosphere, cosy yet comfortable – a fashionable spot for a cocktail while listening to live music. The bar leads onto the restaurant which features an inviting à la carte menu. Later on, there's a DJ and bar guests dance much of the night away.





HELP FOR VISITORS TO VAL D'ISÈRE

ONLINE



The Val d'Isère app

The Val d'Isère mobile app is a pioneer, the first in its field to have integrated all ski area and village services into a single application. These include weather forecast, activities, shops, services, pistes, tracking, webcams, buses, what's on, and lift pass purchase. On top of this, there are 10 podcasts on Val d'Isère, its history and anecdotes from those who live there. These inspirational audio clips are from two to six minutes in length. Entitled Murmurs of Val d'Isère, the podcasts tell you the animals you may encounter, the birth of the ski resort, its logo, the mountain gastronomy, past ski champions, the pistes, ski schools, the lift system and also the resort in summer.



Valdisere.com

An ultra-modern, modern platform, the Val d'Isère website has undergone a graphic redesign for winter 2019-2020 winter, with a more streamlined look and embedded photos. Frequently Asked Questions is divided into three sections : Getting ready for my visit, During my visit and «Departure / after my visit». In order to streamline the use of the website on a smartphone, valdisere.com adapts according to the geographical whereabouts of the user: once in the resort, you can find out about the restaurants, bars, and entertainment. Away from the resort, you can book your accomodation and order your lift passes on the first page.

ON THE SPOT



Digital and well-connected resort

Val d'Isère is wired – it's an e-resort for skiers. From this winter 2019-2020, Free Wifi is available throughout the village as well as in the ski area (on lifts). Digital displays at bus stops give you details of the timetable in real time. The village also has two data terminals with hands-on info covering all details of the resort.



Holiday welcome

If you are arriving or departing by bus, there's an information point for holidaymakers at the bus station. Staff are on hand at the info chalet on busy Saturdays to answer your questions and point you in the right direction. A dedicated leaflet explains activities and places for families or groups of friends to visit while waiting for the keys to their apartment. Le Garage bar and restaurant is the 'base camp' for this, with showers, left luggage and a concierge service.





EVENTS WINTER 2019-2020



NOVEMBER 30 & DECEMBER 1

First Tracks



Resort opening weekend with ski and snowboard testing of the new skis and snowboards for 2020 with Ski Force Winter Tour.
Details of special offers on the next page.

DECEMBER 13 - 22

Critérium de la Première Neige

64th édition of this high profile competition on the Alpine Skiing World Cup circuit.
 • Friday, December 13 to Sunday, December 15, 2019. **Men's FIS Alpine Skiing World Cup.** Saturday, December 14: GS / Sunday, December 15: Slalom.
 • Friday, December 20 to Sunday, December 22. **Women's Alpine Skiing World Cup.** Saturday, December 21: Downhill/ Sunday, December 22: Alpine Combined
Details of special offers on the next page.



DECEMBER 23 - 28

The Magic of Christmas

The village sparkles with magic during Christmas week with lights, concerts, street shows and other entertainment. Enchanted highlight is the arrival of Father Christmas on his sleigh.

FESTI LIGHT

31/12 and then each Thursday from 9/1 to 5/3 (except 23/1)

Festival of light, magic shows, ice sculptures, concerts, fanfares and a DJ set on the roadside in the centre of the Village, pedestrianised for the occasion.

JANUARY 8 - 11

The Napoleons

Innovative Communications Summit – 11th gathering of the Napoleons. Their winter summit has been held in Val d'Isère since 2015. This year the Napoleons focus on ubiquity.

AVALINES TRAX

January 14 & 21, March 3 & 24

Night-time Alpine skiing racing, three heats and the final.



JANUARY 20 - 23 & MARCH 9 - 12

Classicaval

26th classical music festival in the heart of Val d'Isère at the baroque church of Saint Bernard de Menton. It takes place in two opus und the artistic direction Anne Lise Gastaldi in January and Helena Rosanova in March.

Details of special deals on the next page.



FEBRUARY 3 - 7

Championnats du Monde de Ski Citadin



FEBRUARY 11

Ladies Night Tour 2020

Women's night-time ski racing (Parallel Slalom and Slalom).



FEBRUARY 8 - 22*

Literary get-together

20th edition of this event organised by the Vivre Livre organisation.

**Provisional dates*



MARCH 14 - 21

Altigliss

10th skiing meet of international students.



MARCH 24 - 26

Ski touring event

Equipment test, introductory lessons, workshops, entertainment, and ski touring competitions.



MARCH 31 - APRIL 3

La Scara

40th international alpine skiing competition for juniors.



APRIL 7 - 17

Low Countries Ski Championships

FIS racing for competitors from Denmark, Belgium, and Luxembourg and the Belgian Championships.



APRIL 14 - 18

Léo's Invitational

Second edition of this unique freeride and freestyle event: speed riding, banked slalom, concerts in the Manchet Valley.



APRIL 20 - 23

Adventure and Discovery Film Festival

24th edition of the international documentary film competition focussed on adventure and discovery. Open to the public with film shows, entertainment, and exhibitions in the presence of the adventurers and film directors. Writer and adventurer Sylvain Tesson presents the 11 films.

Details of accommodation deal on the next page.



APRIL 25 - MAI 3

Spring skiing

Spring skiing, concerts, shows and closing parties with a private train departing from Paris for the final weekend of the season.

Details of package deal on the next page.

OFFERS AND PACKAGE DEALS

PACK #1

FIRST TRACKS

OPENING WEEKEND
NOVEMBER 30 TO DECEMBER 1, 2019

- Accommodation for 2/3/4 and 5 nights
- Lift Pass
- Testing ski and snowboard gear for 2020 with the Ski Force Winter Tour
- Half-day tour of the ski area with a ski instructor
- Free entry to the Centre Aquasportif
- Parking

From 145€ pp

PACK #2

CRITÉRIUM DE LA PREMIÈRE NEIGE

MEN'S FIS ALPINE SKING WORLD CUP
FROM DECEMBER 12, 2019

- Accommodation for 2/3/4 or five nights
- Ski pass
- Special gift from the Critérium de la Première Neige

PACK #3

CLASSICAVAL

JANUARY 18 TO 25 AND MARCH 7 TO 14, 2020

- Accommodation for one week
- Ski pass
- VIP seats for concerts

From 111€ pp

in January

From 154,50€ pp

in March

PACK #4

ADVENTURE AND DISCOVERY FILM FESTIVAL

FROM APRIL 18 TO 25, 2020

- Accommodation for one week
- Ski pass
- Festival entry tickets

From 122,50€ pp

PACK #5

VAL D'ISÈRE SNOW EXPRESS

APRIL 30 TO MAY 3, 2020

- Return train tickets and transfers Paris – Val d'Isère
- Accommodation
- Lift pass
- Closing Parties
- Optional Folie Douce package
- Entry to swimming pool at the Centre Aquasportif

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL

This year Val d'Isère is offering **100% Pleasure Deals** to get the best out of your holidays.

These three deals are available on several dates outside the French school holidays. They include accommodation, ski pass (optional) at a reduced price as well as benefits that are part of your chosen deal.

The **Wellbeing Deal** focusses on the resort's spas, yoga and pilates courses as well as relaxation areas. The **Sports Deal** concentrates on mountain activities. Finally, the **Gourmet Deal** is based around the rich gastronomic life of Val d'Isère with its Michelin-starred restaurants, its Master Pâtissier of France and superb fine dining opportunities.



Offer details:

www.valdisere.com/hebergements/offres-speciales et <https://reservation.valdisere.com>



HOW TO GET THERE



By car

Val d'Isère is situated:

- 30km from Bourg Saint Maurice (40 minutes)
- 86km d'Albertville (1hr 20min)
- 135km from Chambéry (2hrs)
- 240km from Lyon (3hrs)
- 220km from Genève (3hrs)



By train

Closest rail station is at

Bourg-Saint-Maurice (40 minutes).

- It is served by a number of express services (TGV, Eurostar, and Thalys).
- Transfers from the station at Bourg-Saint-Maurice to Val d'Isère with Altibus
 - Taxis Bourg Saint Maurice – Val d'Isère



By plane

Four international airports:

- Genève (3hrs by car)
 - Lyon (3hrs by car)
 - Chambéry (2hrs by car)
 - Grenoble (2hrs 30min by car)
- Airport transfers by bus to Val d'Isère with Altibus or Ben's bus
Helicopter transfers are also available.



And for those who can't make it... there are the webcams !

No less than seven webcams keep watch over different sectors of the ski area through the year. This winter, the one on Solaise mounted on the roof of the pisteurs' cabin gives a 360° panorama of the Solaise massif.



BACKSTAGE.

Installed last winter, the Leissières webcam give a view that takes your breath away from a position that's not easy to reach: if there's a breakdown, pisteurs have to climb on foot to the top of the Leissières ridge before putting on harnesses and climbing the main mast on which the webcam is mounted. At a heady altitude of 3000m conditions can be tough and the climb is not without danger!

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