



TEXAS  **EXES**[®]
— FLYING LONGHORNS —

Village Life French Alps

September 22, 2027 - September 30, 2027

Program Overview

The Savoie region of France, nestled in the Alps and bordered by Switzerland, beckons with its sublime vistas of shimmering glacial waters, soaring Alpine peaks and cozy, inviting villages. This 9-day, 8-night French land trip boasts medieval sites to discover and stunning natural beauty to admire. Unpack once at the lovely Imperial Palace Hotel on the shores of Lake Annecy, then spend your week exploring this beautiful area. Discover the spectacular Chateau de Menthon-Saint Bernard, an architectural jewel, and take a private tour of a bell foundry. Marvel at mountain vistas, a glacier, an ice cave and a river-carved gorge. In delightful towns, sample and learn about delicious provisions created by local artisans — wines, cheeses, coffee, and hazelnut and walnut oils — and dine on delectable specialties such as raclette and tartiflette. On a boat, cross deep-blue Lake Annecy; on a cable car, soar high above Chamonix for views of Mont Blanc; on a cogwheel train, ascend to Europe's largest glacier. Throughout, delight in the incredible scenery, mouthwatering cuisine and welcoming culture.



A castle on a hilltop with towers and stone walls, overlooking a valley with mountains in the background



A red vintage train travels through a mountainous landscape with snow-capped peaks in the background



A scenic lakeside village with historic buildings, a stone path, and several boats moored in clear water

Program Highlights

- Exclusive journey to the southeastern region of France, featuring first-class accommodations for 7 nights at the Imperial Palace Hotel.
- Specially arranged boat cruise on Lake Annecy, ending in the picturesque town of Talloires.
- Private guided visit to the spectacular Château de Menthon-Saint-Bernard, one of the architectural jewels of Savoie, occupied by the same family for almost 1,000 years.
- Specially arranged cable-car ascent at Chamonix for unforgettable panoramic views of Mont Blanc. Test your mettle at "Step into the Void," a glass-room attraction.
- Included meals | 1 reception, 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 2 dinners.



Day-by-Day Program Itinerary

Day 1 | Depart Home City

Depart for Geneva, Switzerland. Please check your bags from your gateway city to your arrival city. Be sure to attach the provided Gohagan & Company luggage tags for each piece of luggage, including carry-ons. Your claim checks should have the following airport code: GVA.

Day 2 | Geneva, Switzerland | Annecy, France

Arrive at Geneva International Airport in Geneva. Proceed through the immigration checkpoint to the baggage claim area and retrieve your luggage. After completing a customs screening, meet a Gohagan & Company representative.

Transfer to the beautiful Imperial Palace Hotel, situated on the shore of Lake Annecy in Annecy, France. Unpack for the week and settle in. Enjoy lunch on your own. Perhaps you'd like to wander the grounds and explore the hotel, which has hosted famed visitors over the years, including Winston Churchill, Edith Piaf and Charlie Chaplin.

Visit the Gohagan Travel Hospitality Desk for information about the area and for dining and sightseeing recommendations.

This evening, join your fellow travelers for a Welcome Reception and Dinner at the hotel.

Day 3 | Annecy

After enjoying breakfast at the hotel (included every morning), venture out for today's excursion.

Explore Annecy, sometimes called the "Venice of the Alps," known for its picturesque canals, pastel-colored houses and cobbled medieval streets. Stroll through the Vielle Ville (Old Town), and see the famed Palais de l'Isle, built on a small rocky island, and Cathedrale Saint-Pierre. Cross Lover's Bridge, an ironwork footpath in the perfect spot — with Lake Annecy and the mountains on one side, and the Canal du Vassé, lined with plane trees, on the other. Here there's romance in spades! Chateau d'Annecy, built in the early 1200s, is set high on a hill, with fine views of the town and the beautiful lake beyond. Stroll the local market, filled with fresh produce, cheeses, meats, flowers and herbs, as well as textiles and handmade goods.

Stop for coffee and cake at Au Fidèle Berger, a renowned pastry shop and chocolatier that has been operating since 1918. Wrap up with a visit to the fromagerie (cheese shop) Pierre Gay, awarded the "Meilleur Ouvrière de France" (Best Craftsman of France) for the past 10 years. Browse the shop, which boasts a large assortment of delectable cheeses and a friendly staff. (Moderate)

After the tour, enjoy lunch on your own. Spend the afternoon at leisure, perhaps revisiting some sights in Annecy that caught your eye earlier. If you're a history buff, you might explore the town's iconic five bell towers or the fortified gates.

This evening, gather with your fellow travelers for an included dinner at a traditional Savoyard restaurant. Try local specialties such as raclette — melted cheese served with potatoes or bread — or tartiflette — a casserole made of potatoes, cream, cheese, bacon and onions. What could be better?

Day 4 | Talloires | Sévrier

After breakfast this morning, depart the hotel for a scenic boat cruise on Lake Annecy.

Boat Cruise. Cross the crystal-clear, turquoise-colored water, taking in gorgeous mountain views. The lake was formed 18,000 years ago by melting Alpine glaciers (thus the turquoise color). The vistas have inspired poets and artists over the centuries, including Paul Cezanne, who painted "Lac d'Annecy" here in 1896 during a visit with his family.

Walking Tour of Talloires. Disembark the boat across Lake Annecy in the picturesque town of Tallories, nicknamed "The Pearl of the Lake." On a guided walking tour, learn the history of the town and its storied 17th-century abbey, Abbaye Talloires.

Farm Visit. Head to La Ferme de Charbonniere, a local farm specializing in producing mountain cheeses. Explore the farm and discover its rich traditions and modern innovations. Meet the cows, indulge in a cheese tasting and then enjoy a farmhouse lunch.

Bell foundry. Next, travel to Sévrier for a delightfully unique experience at the Paccard Bell Foundry. Enjoy a guided tour of the workshop, visit the on-site museum and savor a tasting of local wines, cheeses and sausages. (Mild)

Enjoy dinner on your own this evening.

Day 5 | Chamonix & Mont Blanc

Chamonix-Mont Blanc. Depart via motorcoach for the charming resort town of Chamonix, site of the first Winter Olympics in 1924. Board the Aiguille du Midi for a specially arranged cable-car ascent to a terrace offering unforgettable panoramic vistas of the French, Swiss and Italian Alps. From there, ride an elevator to the Summit Terrace at 12,605 feet, to experience a breathtaking view of Mont Blanc. Test your mettle at "Step into the Void," a glass-room attraction. (Moderate)

Savor a delicious lunch in Chamonix at a local restaurant specializing in Savoyard specialties in a unique, mountain lodge setting. After lunch, enjoy your chosen excursion.

Traveler's Choice | Choose ONE of the following included excursions.

Montenvers Railway & Mer de Glace. Ride the iconic rack-and-pinion train from Chamonix to Montenvers. Continue by gondola to the Mer de Glace glacier and enter the cave beneath the glacier. (There are approximately 430 steps in and out of the cave.) (Moderate to Active)

Chamonix walking tour and free time. During a guided tour, discover this picturesque Alpine town, which boasts rustic architecture, charming shops and inviting cafes. Then spend free time exploring on your own. (Mild)

Return to the hotel and make your own dinner plans this evening.

Day 6 | Les Gorges du Fier | Chanaz

This morning after breakfast, depart for today's excursion.

Scenic gorge. Today, explore more of the natural beauty of the area surrounding Annecy. Travel to Gorges du Fier, where the Fier River has carved out a spectacular narrow gorge, edged with boulders, some pitted and grooved by the river's movement over the centuries. Walk through the gorge on a suspended walkway affixed to the rock face, some 75 feet above the river. (Active)

Chanaz. Visit this picturesque canal-side village in the Savoie region, known as the "Little Venice of Savoie." Visit traditional workshops to observe local artisans at work and sample their products. Stop by a local mill that produces walnut and hazelnut oils, as well as a coffee roaster, to observe their roasting process and sample their fair-trade coffee. As you stroll the charming streets, watch potters and ceramists at work. (Mild)

Enjoy lunch on your own this afternoon. Return to Annecy and spend the afternoon at leisure. Feeling energetic? You might explore the Lake Annecy Greenway, a lakeside route that runs nearly 20 miles along the western shore between Annecy and Val de Chaise. Rent a bicycle or simply stroll the greenway, admiring views of the surrounding mountains or stopping off at one of the tiny villages or beaches along the way.

Village Forum: This evening, immerse yourself in the local culture and traditions in a conversation with local

residents. Bring your questions! Afterward, make your own plans for dinner.

Day 7 | Savoie Wine Region | Yvoire

This morning after breakfast, depart for your chosen excursion.

Traveler's Choice | Choose ONE of the following included excursions.

Savoie vineyard. Located in the foothills of the Alps, Savoie vineyards benefit from high altitudes, a cool climate and diverse mountain soils. Wines produced here are crisp, light-bodied white wines and fresh, spicy red wines, primarily from grapes such as Jacquère, Altesse (Roussette), Gringet, and Mondeuse. Today, tour a vineyard and indulge in a wine tasting session featuring local varietals paired with regional products. Wrap up with a delicious vineyard lunch. (Mild)

Yvoire village. Situated on the French shore of Lake Geneva, Yvoire is a charming medieval fishing village known for its preserved architecture, cobblestone streets and floral displays. As one of France's "Most Beautiful Villages," Yvoire offers an unforgettable picturesque setting. Wander the narrow, pedestrian-only streets, taking in flower-adorned stone houses and unique shops and galleries. See the 14th-century Yvoire Castle, a former fortress, and the 11th-century Saint Pancras Church, which has an onion dome. Visit the Garden of Five Senses, a labyrinth-style garden that changes with the seasons and is inspired by medieval poetry. Have lunch at a lakeside restaurant — try the regional specialty, fresh perch fillets from Lake Geneva! (Moderate)

Return to Annecy and spend the afternoon at leisure, perhaps exploring Jardin de l'Europe. Adjacent to the Old Town and bordering the lake, this English-style park invites visitors to wander its paths amid an extensive collection of sculptures and centuries-old trees. In 1864, the grounds already featured 650 trees and over 1,000 shrubs, creating a lush, established landscape. Make your own plans for dinner tonight.

Day 8 | Menthon-Saint-Bernard

This morning after breakfast, depart for an excursion.

Château de Menthon-Saint-Bernard. Cap off a fabulous week with a private guided visit of the spectacular Château de Menthon-Saint-Bernard. Perched high on a rocky crest, the castle of Menthon is one of the architectural jewels of Savoy. It is also a living residence, still occupied by the same family for almost 1,000 years. (Active)

Return to Annecy where you can enjoy lunch on your own. Spend the afternoon at leisure, strolling through the town and along the lake, or visiting any shops and galleries you missed during the week.

Tonight, gather with your fellow travelers to enjoy a delicious meal and bid adieu to your amazing French Alpine adventure!

Day 9 | Annecy | Geneva, Switzerland | Return to Home City

Following breakfast, check out of the hotel and transfer to Geneva International Airport for your return flight home.

Village Life - French Alps

Imperial Palace

On the shores of Lake Annecy, bordered by a beautiful green park, the first-class Impérial Palace Hotel welcomes you with a majestic belle-epoque façade. The hotel is ideally located — a few minutes from the Annecy city center and the Geneva airport. The four-star hotel guarantees a luxurious stay in one of the 90 rooms and 14 high-end suites, with a view of the lake and mountains or the adjoining park. Enjoy refined, creative and high-quality cuisine in one of two restaurants overlooking Lake Annecy. Treat yourself to some relaxation at the on-site Cristal Spa. Or visit the Imperial Casino with its slot machines, electronic roulette and table games.



Dates & Rates

Travel Dates: September 22, 2027 - September 30, 2027

All rates are in U.S. dollars per person, based on double occupancy, unless otherwise stated, and include taxes. The deposit is \$2000 per person. The Final Payment is due at least 150 days prior to departure. Single accommodations are subject to availability.

The Optional Extension(s) is available at an additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

For Terms & Conditions, visit: texas.gohagantravel.com/terms/

The Special Savings consist of \$500 Early Booking and \$250 Pay-in-Full savings. The Special Savings rate is valid if you book by January 19, 2027 and pay in full at the time of booking.

Double Occupancy Rates

Category	Description	Standard Rate	Discount Rate
1		\$6495.00	\$5745.00

Single Occupancy Rates

Category	Description	Standard Rate	Discount Rate
1		\$8115.00	\$7365.00

Village Life - French Alps

All information is accurate as of June 9, 2026. For up-to-date details, please visit:

texas.gohagantravel.com/programs/village-life-french-alps-6