

THE VALLEY OF MARVELS

With or without a mountain guide

6 days & 5 nights



6 days in the heart of the Valley of Marvells



Possibility of a comfort option in a hotel and mountain cottage

Archaeological site not accessible for the public

Engravings in the Valley of Marvells

Neolithic engravings of Fontanalba

National Parc of the Mercantour

Breathtaking landscapes

Fauna and flora

One night at the refuge de Fontanalbe

One night at the refuge des Merveilles

From 520 € with full-board

Following the storm Alex on the 2nd and 3rd of October 2020, the access and the roads of the Roya were badly damaged...

The professionals of the valley are eager to offer you hiking trips using safe itineraries.



Partners :

Office de tourisme Tende & vallée des Merveilles

Office de tourisme Menton, Riviera, Merveilles

N° SIRET : 792721 27600014 ; CODE APE 8551Z ; Immatriculation Opérateurs de Voyages IM006130019 - Atout France

ASSISTANCE RAPATRIEMENT : N° 5 630 300 SNAM / PROTOCOLE 582 177

Garantie Financière : 100 000 € GROUPAMA - RCP : HISCOX, 38 Avenue de l'Opéra, 75002 Paris



THE VALLEY OF MARVELS

Option with or without mountain guide

6 days & 5 nights



The Valley of Marvels !

You will spend 6 days visiting this site that is classified as historical heritage.

Our guides will allow you to enter archaeological sites that are not accessible to the public and to admire protohistoric engravings that are more than 5000 years old. This trip will give you a complete approach of the site of Marvels.

Program : **Hike**

Day 1 : The Vallauria Mine

Starting from the Lac des Mesches, a real entrance gate to the Valley of Marvels, a trail in the forest will bring us to the Hameau de la Minière, a renowned mining village that will be our base-camp for the entire trip. Pickup of your luggage and the hike starts off through the different ages... you will discover the local flowers and the landscapes designed by the ice of the glaciers. Depending on your arrival time, you may be able to see the « Gias », a protohistoric shelter.

Depending on your arrival time : Level : 3 to 8 km / Elevation gain + 200 to 500 m / Elevation loss- 60 to 300 m / 1 to 4h00 of effective walking

Night at the gîte Neige et Merveilles

Day 2 : Plan tendasque and Fontanalba

At the foot of Mount Bégo, divinity of the site of Marvels, you will find the prairies suspendues du plan tendasque, an important part for the pastoralism at the gate of the Valley of Marvels. We will walk on an unmarked trail to get as close as possible to the chamois and the traces of wolfs before arriving to the refuge of Fontanalba.

Level : 10 km / Elevation gain + 750 m / Elevation loss- 400 m / 5h00 of effective walking

Night at the refuge de Fontanalbe

Day 3 : Discover the protohistoric engravings of Fontanalba

This hike is a pure delight! On the edges of the glacial lakes, you will discover the protohistoric engravings with a guide licenced by the National Park of Mercantour, in the heart of a natural botanical garden of the « Fountain of the Dawn », surrounded by chamois, ibex, marmots. By crossing the col de Vallaurretta, we return to the mining valley where we will spend the night..

Level : 10 km / Elevation gain + 450 m / Elevation loss - 960 m / 4h30 of effective walking + 2h00 archaeological visit

Night at the gîte Neige et Merveilles

Day 4 : The Val d'enfer and the protohistoric shelters

Departure for the refuge des Merveilles heading along the Vallon de la Minière, and in the afternoon a visit of the first engravings in the archaeological areas. You will admire the natural shelters « Les Gias » that gave refuge to the first humans and to the shepherds during the anger of the God of thunderstorms.

Level : 7 km / Elevation gain+ 650 m / Elevation loss- 50 m / 3h30 of effective walking to arrive at the refuge

Afternoon without backpack : 4 km / Elevation gain+ 150 m / Elevation loss - 150 m / 2h00 of walks in the archaeological areas

Night at the refuge des Merveilles

Day 5 : Visit of the Valley of Marvels

Full visit of the site of Marvels via the restricted area of Arpette. Discovery of the most famous engravings (Tribe chief, the wizard, the man with the zigzag arms etc...). Return to the gîte Neige et Merveilles in the afternoon.

Level : 13 km / Elevation gain + 500 m / Elevation loss - 1 000 m / 5h30 of effective walking

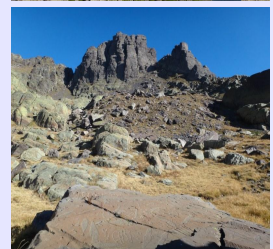
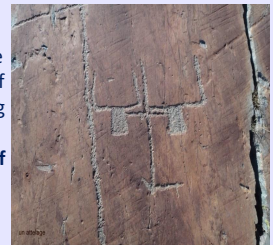
Night at the gîte Neige et Merveilles

Day 6: Tende and the Museum of Marvels

Transfer by car to reach the capital of the high Roya, Tende (30 min), visit of the village, its basilica and its baroque churches. You then go to visit the magnificent Museum of Marvels to review everything you have learned during the hikes and to look closely on the tools and weapons of the protohistoric men.

Level : 4 km / Elevation gain + 100 m / Elevation loss - 100 m / 1h00 of effective walking

End of the stay late morning after picking up your vehicle.



An initiatory journey

Drained by a river of 60 km, the Roya runs all the way along the Italian border and invites you on a wonderful journey.

In just a few kilometres, you will go from the Mediterranean landscape with olive trees to the alpine universe with Swiss pine.

These landscapes, marked by the glacial erosion and limestone offer a [remarkable diversity in the fauna and flora](#), and the human footprint is present everywhere.



Gîte Neige et Merveilles

Option mountain cottage : room for 2 to 4 persons, private bathroom

Option mountain refuge : dormitory and shared bathroom

Bar, terrace, library, group meals, souvenirs

www.neige-merveilles.com

You can choose between individual or group accommodation with meals; our label "Qualité Tourisme" is a sign of confidence.

90 beds available spread out in 2 buildings.



Refuge de Fontanalba

Option refuge : dormitory, rooms and shared bathrooms with hot showers

In the heart of the National Park of Mercantour

Drinks, terrace, group meals, blueberry pie

www.refugedefontanalba.com

Located in the sister Valley des Merveilles, the refuge welcomes you since 1986 and offers you a pleasant stay.

35 beds available.



Refuge des Merveilles

Option refuge : dormitory, rooms and shared bathrooms, possibility of hot showers

In the heart of the National Park of Mercantour and the site of Marvels

Drinks, terrace, group meals, blueberry pie and more.

Dormitory with 12 to 35 beds

79 beds available



FORMULE DE CONFORT AU CHOIX

2 options of comfort for the accommodation :

- Refuge or Cottage Hotel

N.B. On Day 2 and 4, the nights at the refuge de Fontanalba and refuge des Merveilles are mandatory

2 options for the itinerary :

With a certified Valley of Marvel mountain guide or on your own with a roadbook



Backpack of 40 to 50 liters
Hiking shoes or boots
Hiking pants, fleece sweater
Windbreaker or raincoat
Tee-shirt or extra sweater
Cap, sunglasses, sunscreen
Knife and water bottle (1,5 litre minimum)
Personal snacks : dried fruits and chocolate bars
First-aid kit
For the picnics : Hermetic box, plates, cutlery and mug
Your camera
An umbrella ... it might rain

Option accompanied by a certified guide

Trip supervised and led by a mountain guide, which ensures the smooth running of your hiking trip.

- Alpin guide certified by the French State , specialist and certified Valley of Marvels.*
- Passionate by the human and natural heritage of the Alpes-Maritimes*

A guide = Security, tranquility and sharing of knowledge



Pack Liberty / Journey organised from 2 persons minimum

A detailed roadbook day by day

The hiking maps and their descriptions, a list of tested and recommended restaurants

The vouchers for the hotels

The documents and the contacts for the insurance

The phone number of your contact at the agency available from 9am to 7pm

Choose your dates from June 19th to September 15th!

Does not include the guides for the visit of the archaeological areas not accessible to the public, supplement of 30 euros / Reservation : www.vallee-merveilles.com



Access to the Valley of Marvels

Following the storm Alex on the 2nd and 3rd of October 2020, which destroyed a large part of the roads and infrastructure, the access to the Valley of Roya is subject to a few constraints.

- The tunnel of Tende is closed: you have to take the A8 motorway, exit Vintimille, then head up the Valley of Roya.*
- Access by bus from Menton, line 25 to Saint-Dalmas-de-Tende then line 23 to Lac des Mesches*
- Access by train: le Train des Merveilles from Nice then bus 23 to Lac des Mesches*
- The road is closed at Lac des Mesches: no access to Casterino at the moment*



OPTION 6 days and 5 nights	GUIDE	Option liberty	REFUGE	HÔTEL / GITE	MUSEUM OF MARVELS	FULL BOARD	PRICE
ACCOMPAGNIÉ REFUGE	X **		X		X	X	630 €
ACCOMPAGNIÉ CONFORT	X **			X	X	X	685 €
LIBERTY REFUGE		X *	X		X	X	520 €
LIBERTY COMFORT		X *		X	X	X	575 €

** Access to the engravings in the archaeological areas not accessible to the public included in the price

* Access to the engravings in the archaeological areas not accessible by the public not included in the price (15 €/pers.) /

Reservation : www.vallee-merveilles.com

Included in the price

- The organisation of the stay, the reservations on site
- Transport of the luggage to the gîte
- A welcome aperitif
- Supervision by a state licenced guide (maximum 15 participants) or Option Liberty
- 6 days of hiking
- Half-board accommodation in the chosen option
- Lunches from D2 to D5, local dish menu
- Evening meals at restaurant from D1 to D5
- Civil liability insurance

Not included in the price

- Transport to Saint-Dalmas de Tende (possibility to ask us for a quote)
- Lunch D1 and D6
- Drinks and personal snacks
- Drinks in bars and at restaurants
- Supplement for single room (+75 €) in the Comfort option
- Personal expenses and tips
- Individual liability insurance
- Cancellation insurance
- Anything that is not mentioned in «Included in the price».

Cancellation-repatriation insurance

Our insurance cover the organisation and the supervision of our hikes, and the cultural visits.
We kindly ask our clients to have an individual liability insurance.
You may book an insurance for assistance and repatriation and cancellation with us, either in a group option (10 persons) or individually.
The product Assurance Loisirs Confort is aimed to guarantee damages suffered by the insured before and during the trip and also the remaining costs at his expense.
The product may include assistance services, cover in case of cancellation of the trip, cover for luggage, cover for interruption of the stay and also the payment of an indemnity in case of an accident involving injury, according to the details if the chosen contract.*

Price per person :

Option « Multirisque "Confort » 42 €

Option « Cancellation « Confort » 25 €

Group discount

« Accompanied option »

- Group of 10 persons, 50 € reduction per person
- Group of 15 persons, 90 € reduction per person



INFORMATION

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OPERATEUR DE VOYAGES

IM006130019 - Atout France

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RESERVATIONS

Deposit of 30 % when booking

Balance : 21 days before the
departure date

We also offer tailor-made trips !