



SKI RESORTS IN EUROPE



TOP 10

**BIGGEST DESTINATIONS
& 135 BEST SKI RUNS**

LES 3 VALLÉES

LES PORTES DU SOLEIL

PARADISKI

4 VALLÉES

SELLARONDA

**VAL GARDENA/ALTA BADIA/
VAL DI FASSA/ARABBA**

VIA LATTEA

MATTERHORN SKI

PARADISE -ZERMATT
-BREUIL-CERVINIA

LES SYBELLES

SKI ARLBERG

TIGNES - VAL D'ISÈRE

THE ULTIMATE SKI GUIDE

- ✓ MAPS & DETAILS OF SKI RESORTS
- ✓ RECOMMENDED SKI RUNS OVERVIEW
- ✓ SKI RUN MAPS

by  **skicrown.eu**



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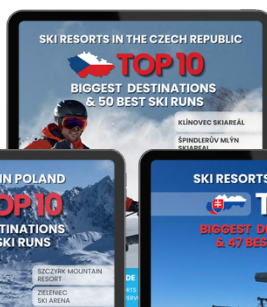
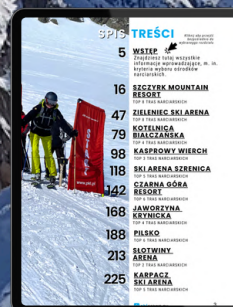
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EXPLORE ALL

OUR SKI RESORT GUIDES!



TOP 100 BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN EUROPE & 617 BEST EUROPEAN RUNS

Explore now



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Top 10 Biggest Ski Resorts in Europe! In this eBook, we've compiled everything you need to plan an unforgettable skiing adventure on the slopes of Europe.



Here, you'll find:

- Detailed descriptions and parameters of the resorts, complete with maps
- Specifications of the top ski runs
- Ski run maps

We have skied in more than 100 ski resorts across Europe. Our collected experiences, along with our own photos and videos, were used to create this guide.



EUROPE – A TOP DESTINATION FOR WINTER SPORTS

Europe offers some of the most diverse and well-developed ski areas globally, thanks to its extensive mountain ranges, excellent snow conditions, and modern infrastructure. With world-class resorts catering to all skill levels, the continent provides everything from scenic beginner-friendly slopes to advanced freeride terrains and international competition venues.

There are approximately **6,000 ski resorts worldwide**, distributed as follows:

- ✓ **Europe** – around **3,950** ski resorts
- ✓ **North America** – around **800** ski resorts
- ✓ **Asia** – around **1,200** ski resorts
- ✓ **Australia & New Zealand** – around **50** ski resorts
- ✓ **South America** – around **45** ski resorts

Key Advantages of Skiing in Europe

1 Geographic Diversity & Major Mountain Ranges

Europe boasts a variety of mountain ranges, each offering unique skiing experiences:

- ✓ **The Alps** – Spanning France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Germany, and Slovenia, the Alps feature the highest peaks and the longest ski runs, including Mont Blanc (4,810 m).
- ✓ **The Pyrenees** – Forming the border between France and Spain, these resorts offer stunning landscapes and a milder climate.
- ✓ **The Carpathians** – Covering Poland, Czechia, Slovakia, Ukraine, and Romania, this region offers affordable skiing options.

2 Favorable Climate & Snow Conditions

- ✓ **Long Ski Seasons** – In high-altitude resorts, the season lasts from November to May, while glacier skiing (e.g., Zermatt, Hintertux) is available year-round.

✓ **Reliable Snowfall** – Alpine regions benefit from consistent natural snowfall, with many resorts ensuring snow reliability through advanced snowmaking systems.

3 **Advanced Ski Infrastructure**

Europe is home to some of the most modern ski facilities: ✓
High-speed lifts – Gondolas, chairlifts, and T-bars ensure smooth access to slopes.

✓ **Artificial snowmaking** – Guarantees good skiing conditions even in low-snow seasons.

✓ **Diverse accommodations** – From luxury hotels to budget-friendly chalets, there are options for every traveler.

4 **A Wide Variety of Ski Runs**

✓ For beginners – Gentle slopes in the Dolomites (Italy), the French Alps, and the Slovak Tatras.

✓ For advanced skiers – Challenging runs in Zermatt, Chamonix, St. Anton, and Cortina d'Ampezzo.

✓ Freeride & Off-Piste – Epic off-piste areas in Verbier (Switzerland) and La Grave (France).

✓ Snowparks – Freestyle parks in Laax (Switzerland) and Tignes (France).

5 **International Competitions & Events**

Europe is at the heart of the skiing world, hosting top-tier competitions, including:

✓ FIS Alpine Ski World Cup events.

✓ Olympic Winter Games, previously hosted in Albertville (1992), Turin (2006), and Innsbruck (1964, 1976), with Cortina d'Ampezzo (2026) as an upcoming venue.

✓ Freeride World Tour – Iconic events in destinations like Verbier.

Best Skiing Regions in Europe

The Alps remain the top skiing destination, with the best resorts located **in France, Switzerland, Austria, and Italy.**

Why Choose Europe for Your Skiing Holiday?

- ✓ Diversity – A vast number of resorts offering varied terrain and experiences.
- ✓ Easy Accessibility – Well-developed transport networks, with many resorts near major cities.
- ✓ Après-Ski Culture – Enjoy restaurants, bars, and cultural events like Alpine music festivals.
- ✓ Year-Round Skiing – High-altitude resorts and glaciers allow skiing even in the summer.



Challenges & Considerations

- ✓ Costs – Resorts in Switzerland and France can be expensive, especially in peak season.
- ✓ Crowds – Popular destinations may be crowded during school holidays and weekends.
- ✓ Climate Change – Shorter winters in lower-altitude resorts impact snow conditions.

Europe offers some of the world's best skiing conditions, making it an ideal destination for winter sports enthusiasts. Whether you seek family-friendly resorts, thrilling freeride terrain, or high-altitude glacier skiing, you'll find a perfect location to suit your style. With top-notch infrastructure, breathtaking landscapes, and a rich après-ski culture, Europe remains a skier's paradise.

TOP 10 BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN EUROPE

No.	Ski Resort	Region	City	Ski run length (km)	Altitude difference (m)
1	Les 3 Vallées - Courchevel/Méribel /Val Thorens [FR]	Auvergne - Rhône - Alpes	Courchevel, Méribel, Brides-les-Bains, Les Menuires, Saint-Martin-de-Belleville, Val Thorens, Orelle	600	1930
2	Les Portes du Soleil [FR+CH]	Auvergne - Rhône - Alpes /Valais	Avoriaz 1800, Châtel, La Chapelle d'Abondance, Les Gets, Montriond, Morzine-Avoriaz, Champéry, Morgins, Torgon, Les Crosets-Champoussin	533	1560
3	Paradiski - Les Arcs /Peisey-Vallandry /La Plagne [FR]	Auvergne - Rhône - Alpes	Les Arcs, Peisey/Vallandry, La Plagne	425	2026
4	4 Vallées - Thyon /Veysonnaz/Nendaz/La Tzoumaz/Verbier [CH]	Valais	Thyon, Veysonnaz, Nendaz, La Tzoumaz, Verbier	412	2509
5	Sellaronda - Val Gardena /Alta Badia /Val di Fassa /Arabba [IT]	South Tyrol	St. Christina, St. Ulrich, Wolkenstein, Badia, Corvara, Colfosco, Pozza di Fassa, Arabba, San Cassiano	406	1478
6	Via Lattea - Sestriere/Sauze d'Oulx /San Sicario /Claviere/ Montgenèvre (IT+FR)	Piedmont /Provence - Alpes - Côte d'Azur	Sestriere, Sauze d'Oulx, San Sicario, Claviere, Montgenèvre	400	1425
7	Matterhorn Ski Paradise - Zermatt /Breuil-Cervinia (CH+IT)	Valais / Aosta Valley	Zermatt, Breuil-Cervinia, Valtournenche	359	2263
8	Les Sybelles [FR]	Auvergne - Rhône - Alpes	Toussuire, Le Corbier, Saint-Sorlin-d'Arves, Saint-Jean-d'Arves, Les Bottières, Saint-Colomban-des-Villards	310	1520
9	Ski Arlberg - St. Anton-St.Christoph-Stuben /Lech-Oberlech-Zürs /Warth-Schröcken [AT]	Vorarlberg	St. Anton, St. Christoph, Stuben, Lech, Oberlech, Zürs, Warth, Schröcken	302	1496
10	Tignes - Val d'Isère [FR]	Auvergne - Rhône - Alpes	Val d'Isère, Tignes	300	1906

CRITERIA FOR THE „TOP BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN 10 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES” RANKINGS

1. **The ranking includes the largest ski resorts, in terms of the length of ski runs counted in kilometers.** The results of the ranking have been compiled taking into account the following principles:

a. **The runs in the resort are connected by a network of ski lifts** and do not require travel by bus or car.

b. **Only the groomed ski runs marked as blue, red and black are taken into account.** Ski touring and freeride routes are not included.

c. **If the length of the ski runs in the resorts is comparable, the parameter of elevation**, i.e. the difference in height between the highest and the lowest point on the runs in the resort, is also taken into account. The resort with the higher elevation has a higher ranking.

d. **The resort was open (most runs open) for more than 30 days in the 2022/23 ski season.**

e. If the resort is located on the border of two countries:

- The entire resort is included in the TOP 10 Europe ranking;
- Only the part of a resort that is located in a particular country is included in the TOP 10 Country ranking;
- Only the part of a resort that is located in a particular region is included in the TOP 10 Region ranking.

f. In the case of resorts situated on the border of two regions, only the part of a resort that is located in a region (the region where the majority of the resort is situated) is taken into account.

g. **Each of the ten countries was divided into Ski Regions with the highest number of ski resorts and ski runs.** If a country has a small area or less than 3 ski regions meeting the minimum criteria, then the whole country is regarded as one Ski Region, e.g. Slovenia, or is combined with a neighboring country like Andorra, added as an Andorra Ski Region of Spain.

2. The compilation covers 10 European countries: **Austria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland.**

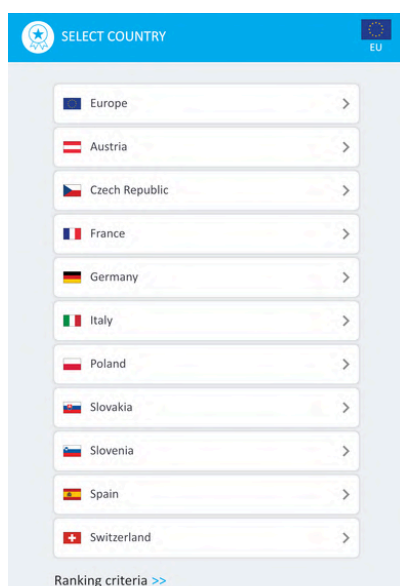
3. TOP 10 BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN EUROPE ranking - a list of the ten largest ski resorts in terms of the number of kilometers of ski runs in Europe.

4. TOP 10 BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN ONE COUNTRY ranking - a list of the ten biggest ski resorts in terms of the number of kilometers of ski runs in each of the 10 countries separately:

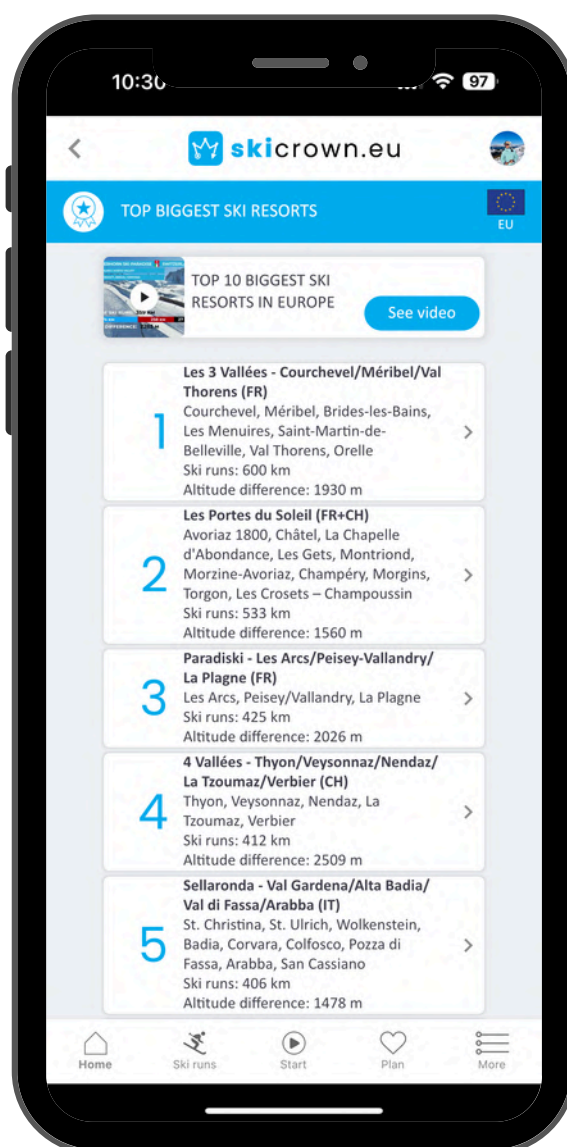
- TOP 10 BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN AUSTRIA
- TOP 10 BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN CZECH REPUBLIC
- TOP 10 BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN FRANCE
- TOP 10 BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN GERMANY
- TOP 10 BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN ITALY
- TOP 10 BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN POLAND
- TOP 10 BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN SLOVAKIA
- TOP 10 BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN SLOVENIA
- TOP 10 BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN SPAIN
- TOP 10 BIGGEST SKI RESORTS IN SWITZERLAND

5. The TOP Region ranking is a list of the largest ski resorts in terms of the number of kilometers of ski runs in the country's largest Regions.

Additionally, in the skicrown.eu ski app, we have introduced the TOP Region ranking, which lists the largest ski resorts based on the total number of ski run kilometers in the major regions of each country.



ENJOY THE GUIDE,
and see you on the slopes!
AGA AND ARTEK



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A photograph of two men in a ski rental shop. The man on the left, wearing a brown t-shirt, is holding a pair of skis. The man on the right, wearing a green and yellow jacket, is gesturing with his hands. The background shows shelves with ski gear and a computer monitor.

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LES 3 VALLÉES



Courchevel, Méribel, Brides-les-Bains, Les Menuires, FR
Saint-Martin-de-Belleville, Orelle, Val Thorens

1300 - 3230 m AMSL

Altitude difference 1930 m

SKI RUNS: **600 km**

312 km

216 km

72 km

SKI LIFTS: **156**

Click to visit the website



Ski Resort Website >>



Live Webcams >>



Weather >>

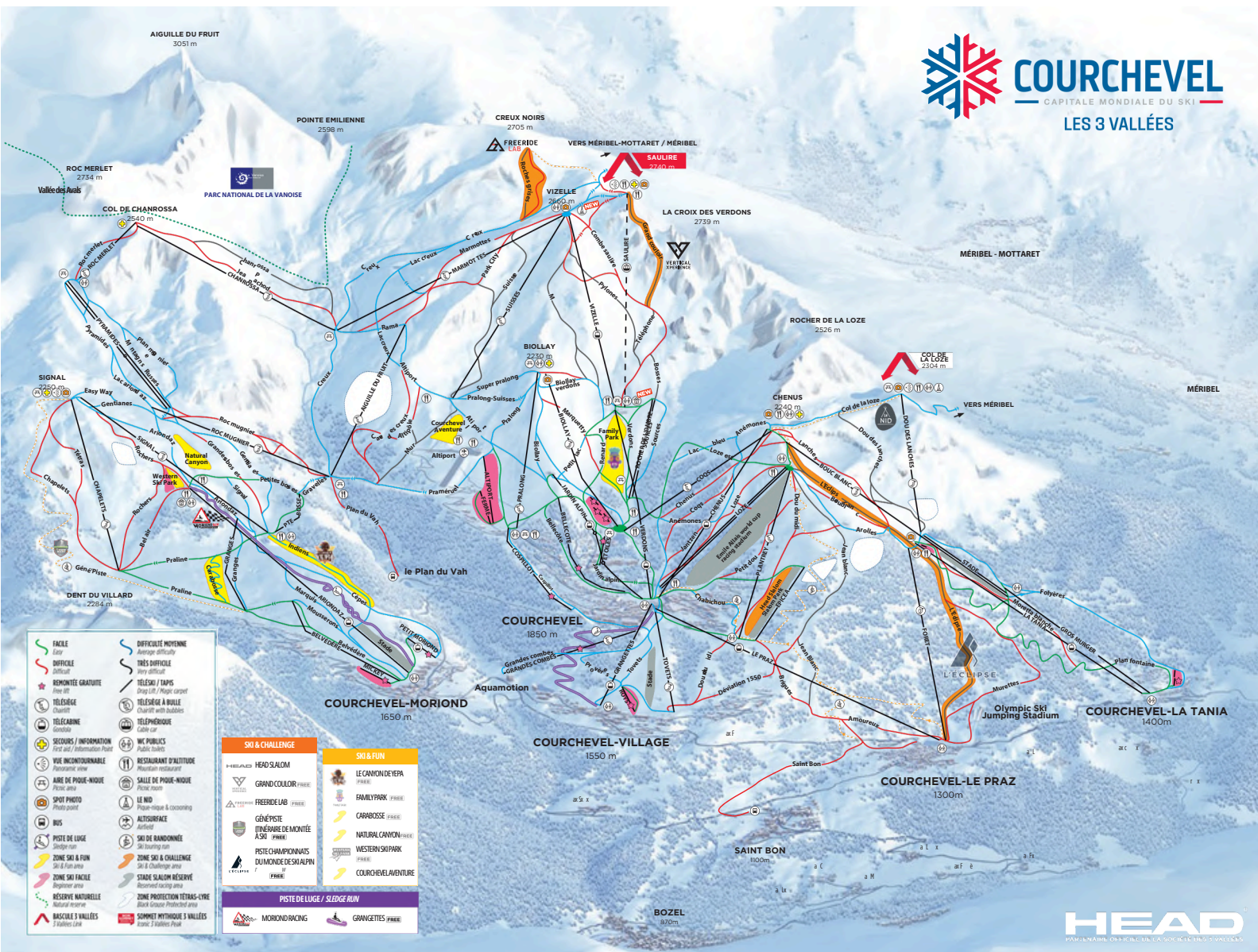


Status >>



Ski Map: <https://www.les3vallees.com/en/guide/the-world-s-largest-ski-area/ski-area-map>

COURCHEVEL



 **Ski Map:** <https://www.les3vallees.com/en/guide/the-world-s-largest-ski-area/ski-area-map>



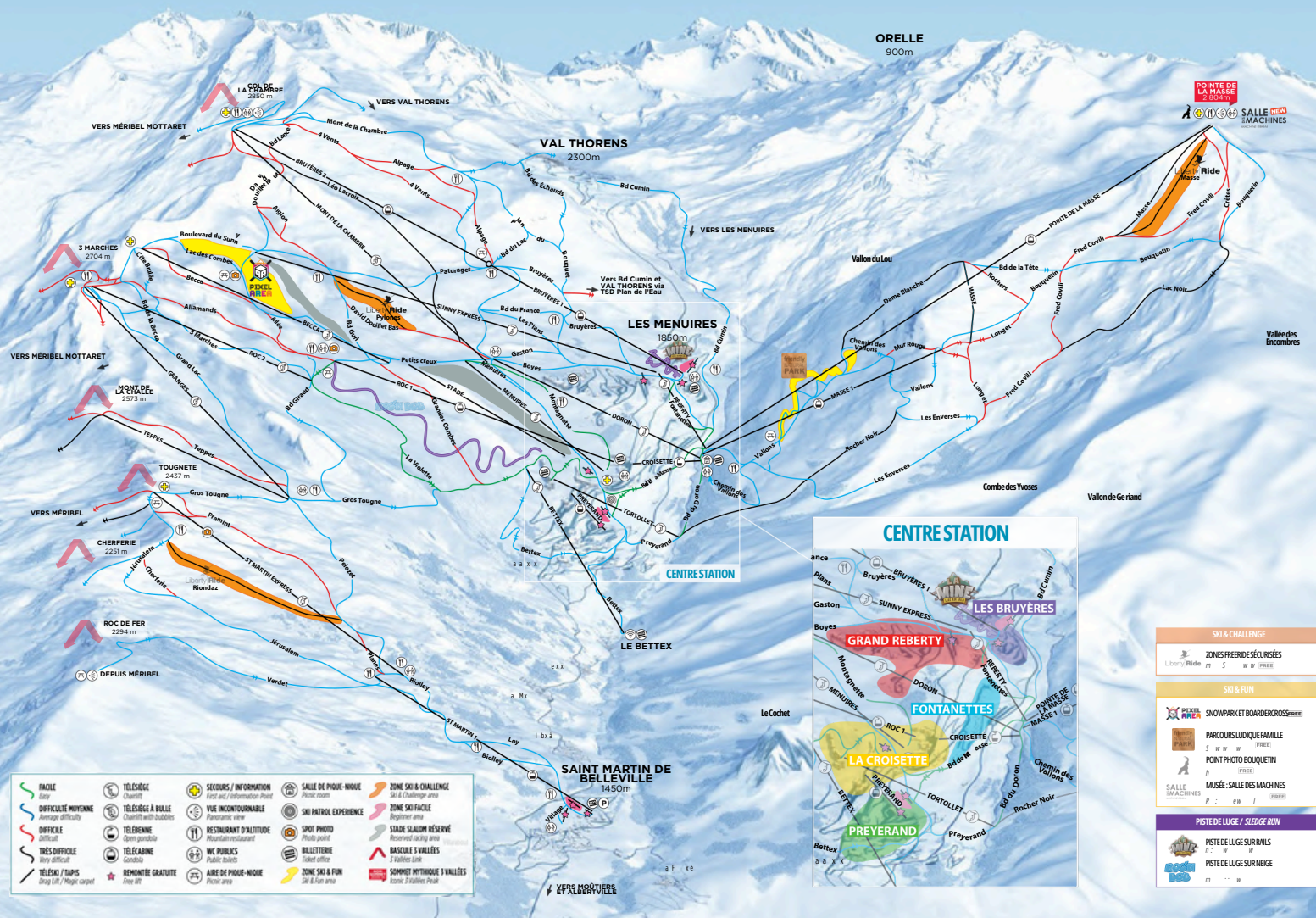
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LES MENUIRES - SAINT MARTIN DE BELLEVILLE



friendlyMenuires BE MY GUEST-MARTIN
LES 3 VALLEES



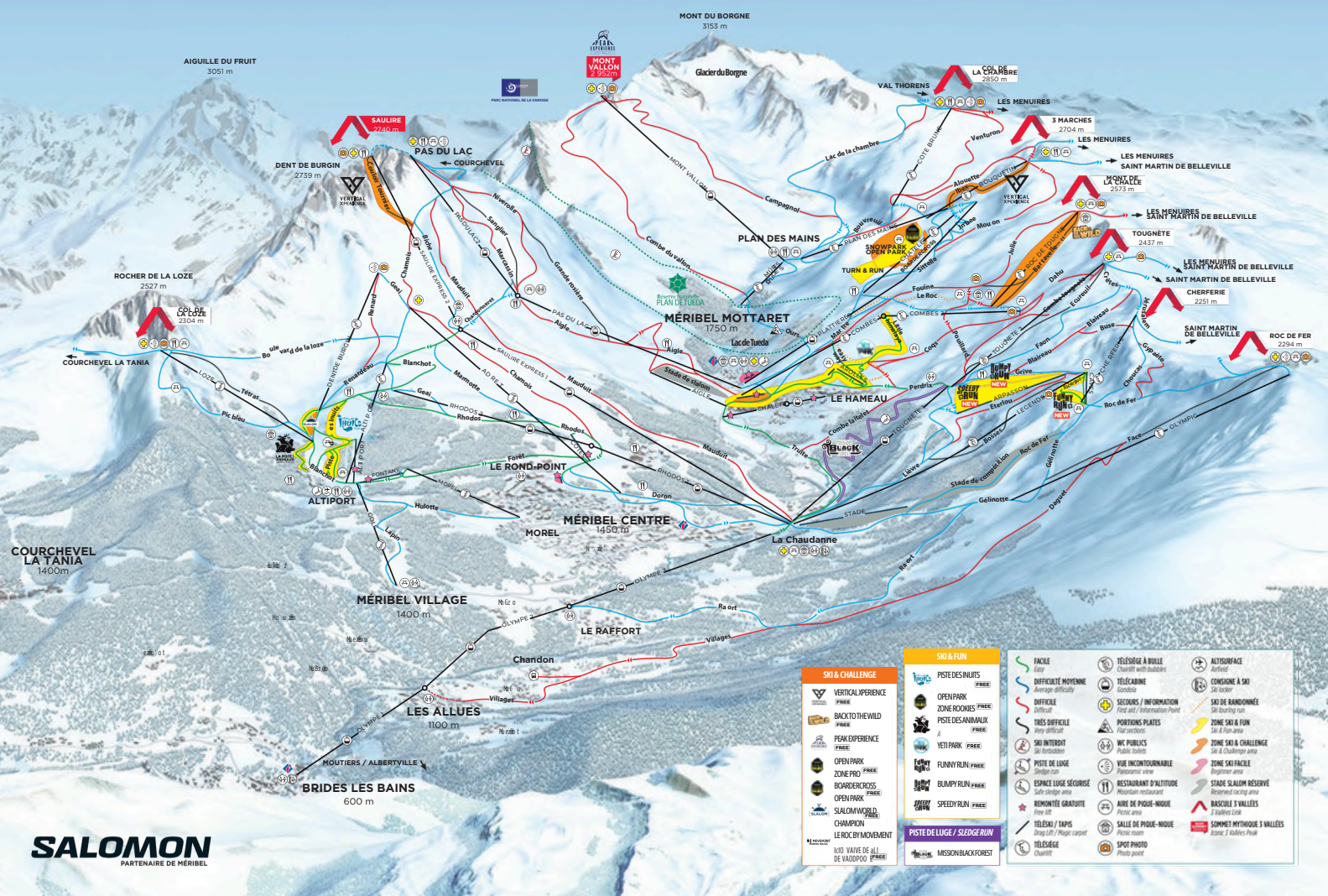
 **Ski Map:** <https://www.les3vallees.com/en/guide/the-world-s-largest-ski-area/ski-area-map>




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MÉRIBEL



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ORELLE



Orelle
LES 3 VALLÉES



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VAL THORENS



[Ski Map: https://www.les3vallees.com/en/guide/the-world-s-largest-ski-area/ski-area-map](https://www.les3vallees.com/en/guide/the-world-s-largest-ski-area/ski-area-map)



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Les 3 Vallées ski resort is the largest in Europe — and the world!

Stretching 20 kilometers in a straight line between Courchevel and Orelle, this ski area features a remarkable 600-kilometer network of ski slopes, covering over 1,500 hectares. With a ski season that lasts 150 days, or five months, Les 3 Vallées offers endless opportunities for skiing.



The long ski season is made possible by a combination of several factors. The high-altitude location and favorable topography of the resort play a significant role, with ski areas ranging from 1,800 to 3,230 meters in elevation. Impressively, 85% of the ski runs are located at altitudes above 1,800 meters. Additionally, Les 3 Vallées has 2,700 snow cannons positioned throughout the area, ensuring artificial snow coverage when needed. Another advantage is the ski connections between valleys that are situated on mountain ridges, rather than valley floors, at altitudes over 2,000 meters. This unique layout helps maintain exceptional snow quality for skiers traveling between resorts. Every night, 70 snow groomers work to prepare the slopes, ensuring top-notch conditions for the next day.

Thanks to its vast size, Les 3 Vallées allows you to choose an area with the best weather conditions. When fog or snow descends, you can seek shelter in the lower parts of the mountains, or you can head to the peaks and glaciers to ski above the clouds. During the late season, the northern slopes offer better snow quality, while the southern slopes provide warmth on the coldest winter days. The resort also boasts an ideal mix of slopes, with 50% dedicated to beginners and 50% reserved for more advanced skiers.



One of the standout features of Les 3 Vallées is the ability to connect different valleys without using public transportation.

Key ski connections include La Saulire Summit (2,738 m) between Courchevel and Méribel, Col de La Loze (2,304 m) between Courchevel and Méribel, Tougnette Summit (2,434 m) between Méribel and Les Menuires, Roc de Fer (2,290 m) between Méribel and Saint-Martin-de-Belleville, Mont de la Chambre (2,850 m) in Les Menuires, and Cime Caron (3,200 m) in Val Thorens.

Off-piste skiing is another exciting option in Les 3 Vallées.

French ESF ski school instructors and mountain guides can lead you safely through wild routes such as the classic Gebroulaz, Le Borgne, Geffrian, and Lac du Lou routes.

The diverse landscapes and atmospheres in Les 3 Vallées are unparalleled. Start your day with a luxurious experience in Courchevel, then head to Courchevel-Moriond, Méribel Altiport, or Courchevel-La Tania. For a wilder adventure, ski the slopes of Mont Vallon, or enjoy the village charm of Saint-Martin-de-Belleville. You can also explore the rocky terrain of Orelle or join in the fun at La Folie Douce in Val Thorens.

The 3 Vallées ski pass opens the door to a range of exciting activities. Thrill-seekers can tackle the legendary Grand Couloir in Courchevel or three off-piste Liberty Ride safe zones in Les Menuires. Steep slope lovers will be challenged by the Vertical Xperience Méribel, featuring a 37° gully. Freestyle enthusiasts can enjoy VT Park in Val Thorens, Bump'N'Jump in Méribel, or the more accessible Family Park in Courchevel. Families with young children will find plenty of fun areas, such as Yeti Park and Open Park in Méribel Mottaret, Piste des Animaux and Piste des Inuits in Méribel, Friendly Natural Park in Les Menuires, and Western Ski Park and Fun Park in Courchevel.

Les 3 Vallées offers extraordinary experiences both on and off the slopes, from ice skating in Courchevel and Méribel, tobogganing throughout the resort, ice driving in Val Thorens, and zip lining in Orelle and Val Thorens. Whether you're looking for budget-friendly accommodations in youth hostels and apartments or luxury in chalets and five-star hotels, Les 3 Vallées has it all. Dining options are equally diverse, ranging from casual snack bars to Michelin-starred restaurants.

TOP 13 SKI RUNS IN LES 3 VALLÉES



Ski run "Face" **No. 3 of the TOP 10 Black Ski Runs in France**



Ski run "L'Eclipse" **No. 6 of the TOP 10 Black Ski Runs in France**



Ski run "Cime +Plateau+Lagopede+Gentiane+Bd Cumin"
No. 6 of the TOP 10 Longest Ski Runs in France



Ski run "Jean Pachod+Creux "



Ski run "Saulire"



Ski run "Marcassin+Biche+Mauduit"



Ski run "Combe du Vallon"



Ski run "Grand Lac+Pelozet+Biolley"



Ski run "Fred Covili+Les enverses "



Ski run "Col de L'Audzin"



Ski run "Col+Moraine"



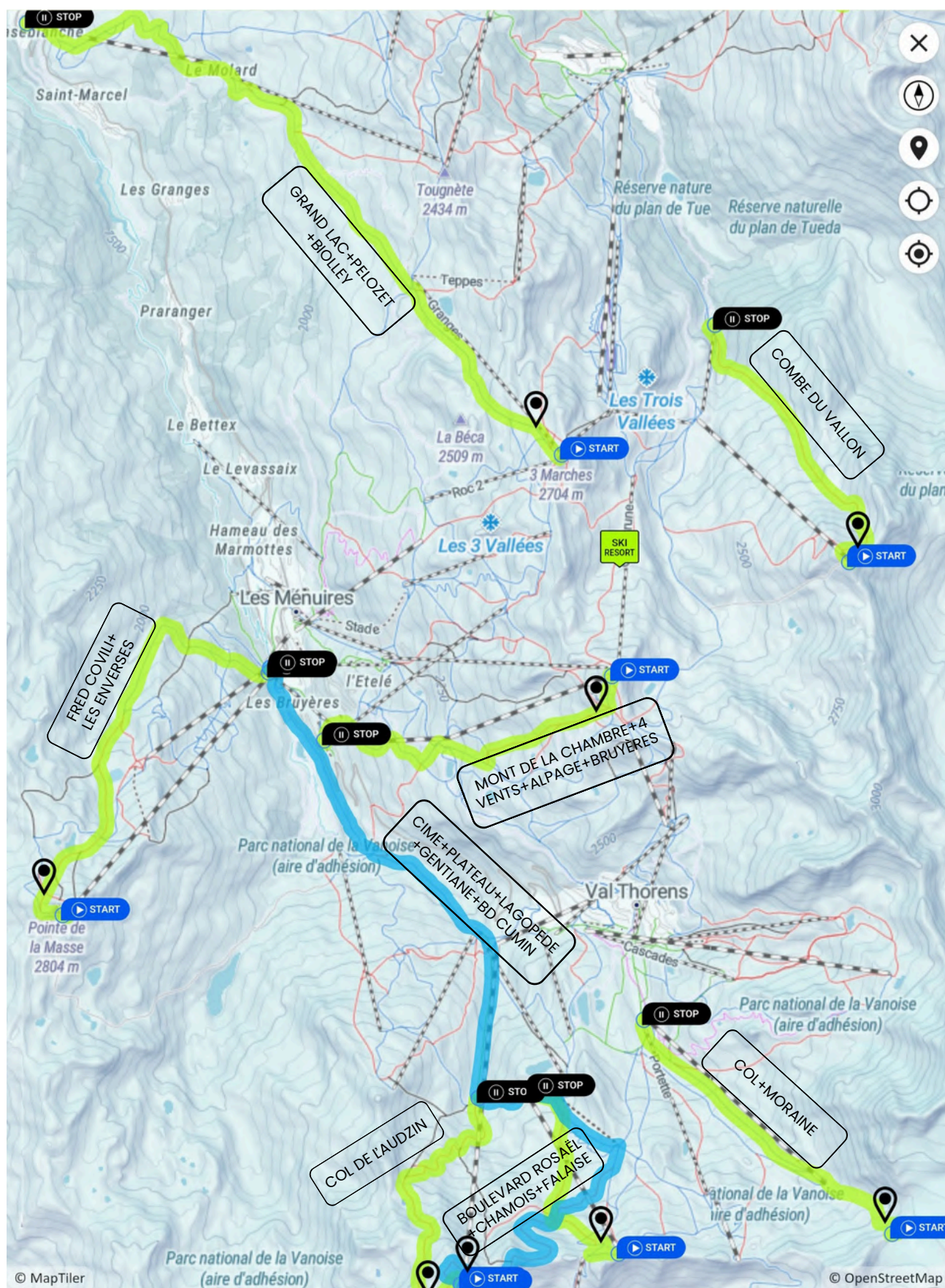
Ski run "Boulevard Rosaël+Chamois+Falaise"



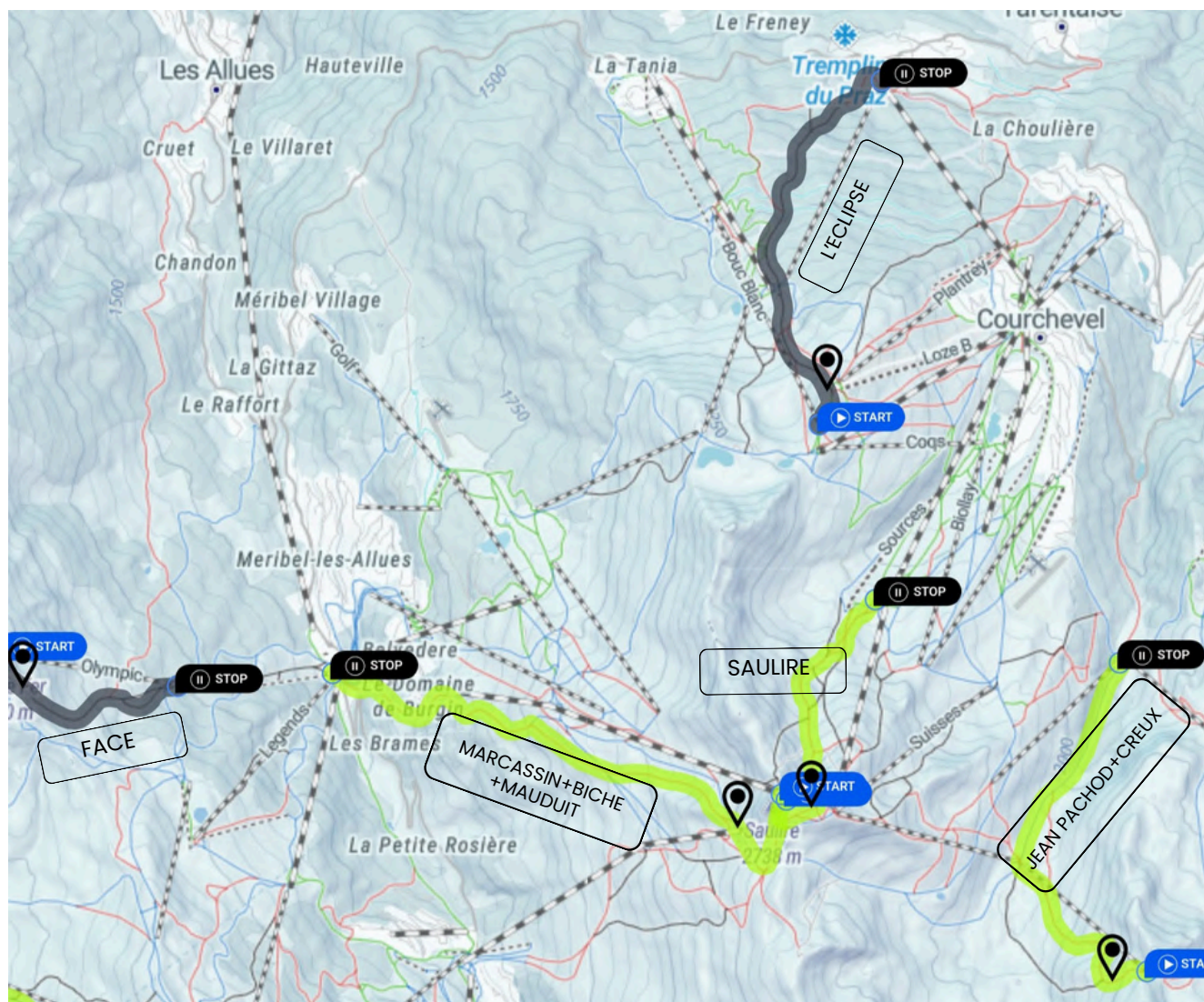
Ski run "Mont de la Chambre+4 vents+Alpage+Bruyères "



TOP 13 SKI RUNS IN LES 3 VALLÉES - PART I



TOP 13 SKI RUNS IN LES 3 VALLÉES - PART II



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SKI RUN "FACE"

NO. 3 OF THE TOP 10 BLACK SKI RUNS IN FRANCE

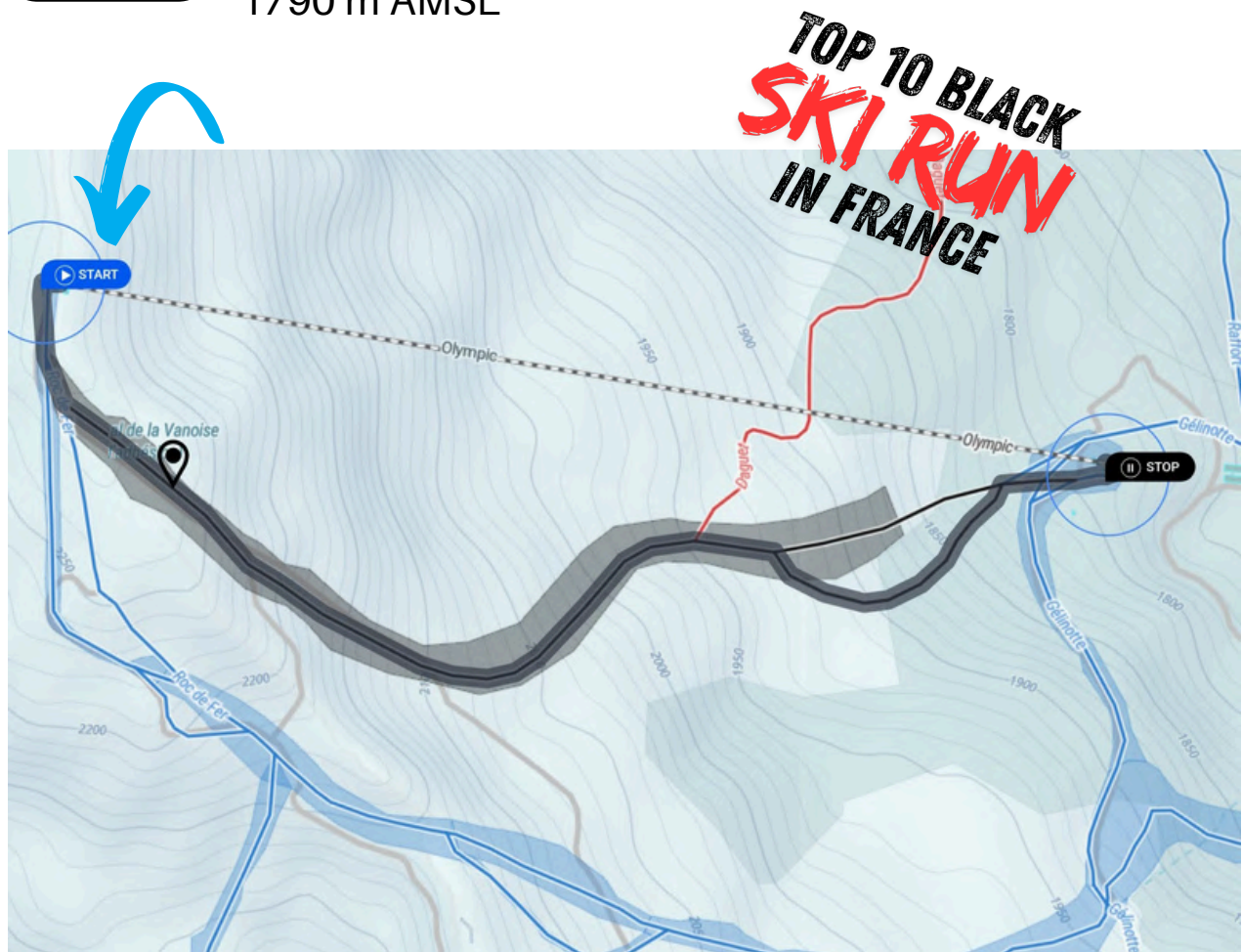
- ❄ Length of the ski run: **1800 m**
- ❄ Altitude difference: **495 m**
- ❄ Average gradient: **28%**

Level of difficulty: ██████████

Ski run details:

 **START** Olympic
2285 m AMSL

 **STOP** Olympic
1790 m AMSL



SKI RUN "L'ECLIPSE"

NO. 6 OF THE TOP 10 BLACK SKI RUNS IN FRANCE

- ❄ Length of the ski run: **3600 m**
- ❄ Altitude difference: **965 m**
- ❄ Average gradient: **27%**

Level of difficulty: [REDACTED]

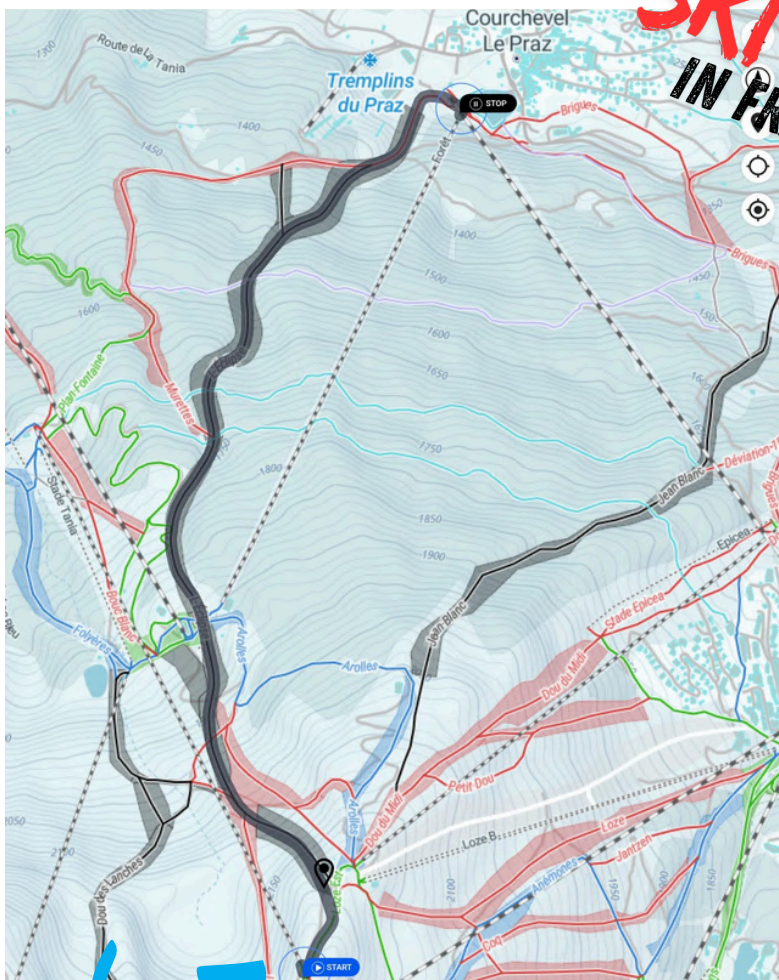
Ski run details:



Bouc Blanc
2225 m AMSL



FORÊT
1260 m AMSL



**TOP 10 BLACK
SKI RUN
IN FRANCE**

SKI RUN "CIME + PLATEAU + LAGOPEDE + GENTIANE + BD CUMIN" NO. 6 OF THE TOP 10 LONGEST SKI RUNS IN FRANCE

- ❄ Length of the ski run: **10000 m**
- ❄ Altitude difference: **1450 m**
- ❄ Average gradient: **15**

Level of difficulty:



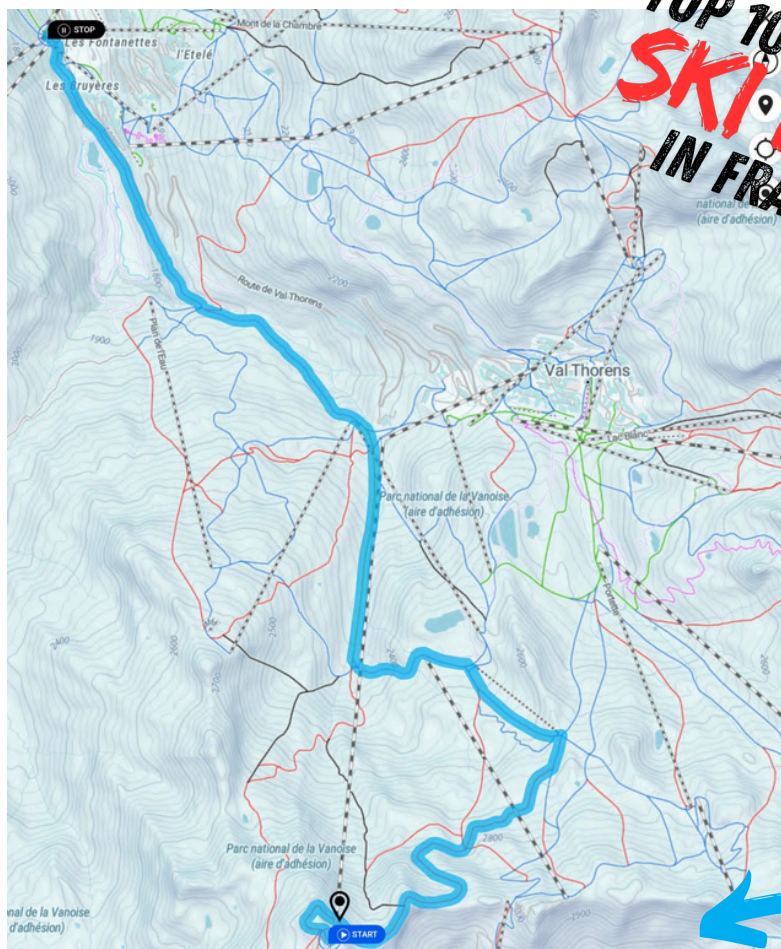
Ski run details:



Cime Caron
3170 m AMSL



Masse 1
1720 m AMSL



**TOP 10 LONGEST
SKI RUN
IN FRANCE**

SKI RUN "JEAN PACHOD+CREUX"

❄ Length of the ski run: **4300 m**

❄ Altitude difference: **700 m**

❄ Average gradient: **16%**

Level of difficulty: 

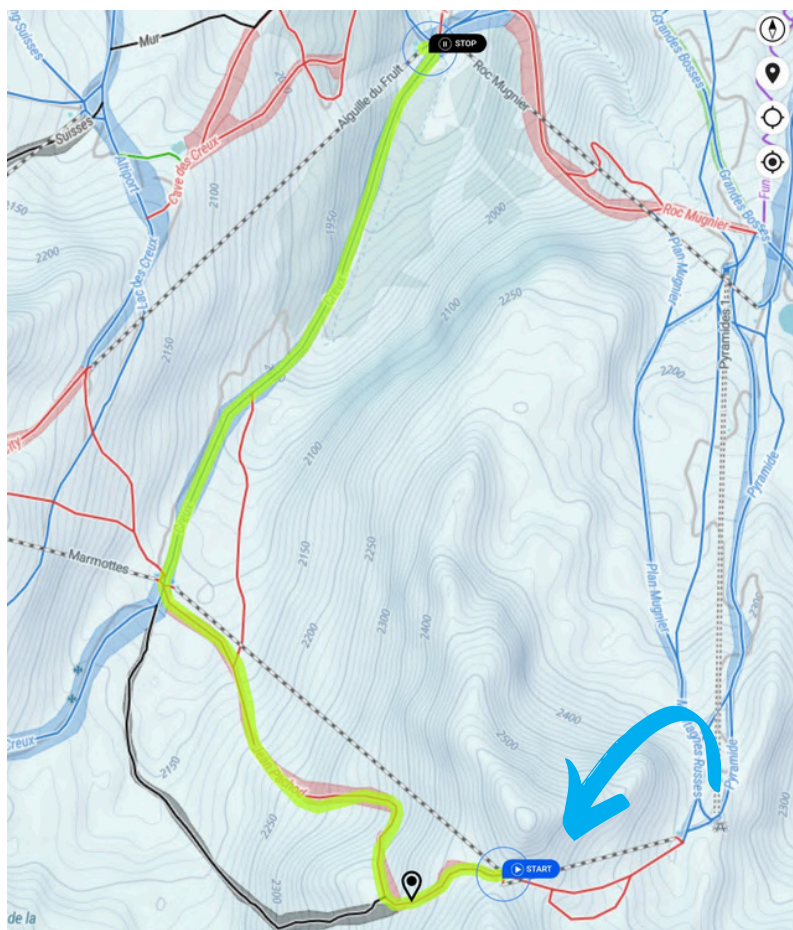
Ski run details:



Chanrossa
2535 m AMSL



Aiguille du Fruit
1835 m AMSL



SKI RUN "SAUILRE"

- ❄ Length of the ski run: **3000 m**
- ❄ Altitude difference: **620 m**
- ❄ Average gradient: **21%**

Level of difficulty: Very easy

Ski run details:



Saulire

2695 m AMSL



Saulire

2075 m AMSL



SKI RUN "MARCASSIN+BICHE+MAUDUIT"

- ❄ Length of the ski run: **5800 m**
- ❄ Altitude difference: **1265 m**
- ❄ Average gradient: **22%**

Level of difficulty: 

Ski run details:



Saulire Express 2
2695 m AMSL



Saulire Express 1
1430 m AMSL

