

# STOCKENBRIDGE

BREAKS



## Grand Hotel and Spa, Serre Chevalier, France

Saturday Jan 6th — Saturday Jan 13th 2018

A luxury Ski and Bridge week in the best hotel in the valley with your hosts, Zebedee and Claudia Stocken

*Prices from £1521\*<sub>(pp)</sub> including:*

*\*with 10% early bird discount*

- 7 nights' stay with breakfast in this 4-star luxury spa hotel
- Afternoon tea and 3-course dinner with wine each day
- Reception with aperitif and canapés on the first evening
- 6 days' ski guiding/tuition with ESF ski instructor (*class 3+ skiers*)
- Up to 35% discount on ski hire and ski pass
- Free entry to the hotel's luxury Nuxe Spa
- Transfers from Turin airport (*afternoon BA flight only*)
- All bridge tuition, course notes and prizes

*Very special bridge holidays*

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## Skiing in Serre Chevalier

Serre Chevalier is located in the Southern French Alps and is a jewel of a ski area. Appreciated by many including the editors of Where to Ski and Snowboard (*who rate Serre Chevalier as one of their favourite places, 'Provence in the snow'*), the skiing of Serre Chevalier is suitable for all levels of skiers and has an excellent snow record, despite its famed 300 days of sunshine a year.

Serre Chevalier boasts a big and varied ski area of 250km of pistes stretching from Briancon to Monetier, with 80% of its slopes over 2000m. It has lots of good woodland runs and is one of the few big French areas based on old villages with character; not to mention the friendly and welcoming locals!

The village of Chantemerle is right in the centre of Serre Chevalier valley and two fast lifts (*opposite the Grand Hotel*) will take you directly to the heart of the ski area. You can then ski right back down to the village via the Luc Alphand black piste or a more gentle green run. If you leave on the BA Gatwick afternoon flight, you can also ski an extra half day on Saturday morning.

### Skiing with ESF instructor, Philippe Mennecier

A highlight of previous StockenBridge ski holidays, guiding and tuition with english-speaking Philippe helped guests improve technique and make the most of the ski conditions. He will be joining us for 6 full days and will organise a program adapted to the group. **To join the group you must be level 3 or above** (*happy skiing parallel on red and easy black runs*). With larger groups, there will be a second ski instructor and we will be able to run two groups at differing levels. We can also organise group or private ski lessons or guiding to suit your level (*up to 10% discount for StockenBridge guests*).



### What is my ski level?

**Beginner** never skied before

**Level 1** can snowplough and starting to do parallel turns on green runs

**Level 2** ski parallel on blues and easy reds

**Level 3** happily skiing parallel and feel at ease on red and easy black runs

**Level 4** short turns in mogul fields, steep slopes in all conditions and types of ski area

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## Ski Hire and Ski Pass

Jules Melquiond Sports in Chantemerle is one of the best ski shops in the valley and has a branch in the hotel itself. Not only is this extremely convenient, but the ski material is new and extremely good quality and between the two shops, a huge choice of skis and boots to hire or to buy. StockenBridge guests can benefit from up to 30% discount on public selling prices and if you hire skis/boots for 6 days and decide to ski on the Saturday morning of your departure, there will be nothing extra to pay. There are ski lockers available on site.

A six-day full area adult pass (2017/2018 price: 255€ - age 12-64, 230€ - age 65-74, free for age 75 or over) also covers a day in Montgenevre, Les Deux Alpes and Alpe d'Huez. We plan to organise a day trip to a different resort according to the snow conditions (*transport may be extra*). StockenBridge guests can benefit from up to 35% discount (*if our group size is 20 or more*).

## **Snowshoeing with Mike Rollins**

Snowshoeing is simply walking on snow using lightweight plastic snowshoes attached to your walking boots and is suitable for almost everyone, no matter what your age or fitness level. Mike is a fully qualified hiking and trekking guide and both our summer and winter walking guests have thoroughly enjoyed excursions with him. Having lived nearby for 25 years, he is extremely knowledgeable about the local flora and fauna and will take you off the beaten track to see nature first-hand. We plan to organise at least one optional excursion and more if there is sufficient demand. Price 30€ per person for half-day excursion (*minimum 6 guests*).



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## The Grand Hotel and Spa

The recently renovated Grand Hotel and Spa has arguably the best location in the centre of Chantemerle village. It was one of the first hotels to be built in Serre Chevalier and is right opposite the slopes and lifts. The new building is modern and stylish throughout, whilst still retaining its traditional heart and cosy chalet-style atmosphere. The rooms are the epitome of mountain chic – a real haven to come back to after a busy day.



With comfortable sofas and a cosy fireplace, the bar and lounge area of the Grand Hotel is the perfect place to unwind after a day's activities. There is also a wooden terrace facing the slopes, ideal for relaxing in the sun and watching the world go by. The hotel even has its own luxury boutique, 'Corner Lulli'.

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## Nuxe Spa and Sauna

After a day on the slopes what could be nicer than heading to the hotel's luxury spa? With a pool, sauna, steam room, chill out zone and three treatment rooms, the modern hotel spa has been designed to rejuvenate your spirits and soothe your tired limbs. A huge range of face and body treatments are on offer, as well as soothing massages, all using natural Nuxe products. Free entry to the Spa for StockenBridge guests.



## Food

Following a day out in the elements, you can look forward to a hot drink and a homemade cake before bridge. In the evening, there will be a delicious 3-course meal at the hotel's acclaimed restaurant, served with half a bottle of wine per person. There will be a choice and the chef can cater for any dietary requirements. Lunch is not included in the price of the holiday. Breakfast is a buffet with hot and cold options. Please see sample dinner menu overleaf.

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## Menu at the Grand Hotel

*Crème d'oignon doux à l'aneth  
Croustillants de brandade  
Brioche de saumon fumée*

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*Bavette Black Angus, gratin dauphinois et jus vin rouge  
Gigot d'agneau, crème d'ail, gratin de raviole, royan à la tomate  
Daurade basse température, mousseline de carotte et beurre d'orange*

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*A selection of delicious desserts including éclairs, flans au caramel, tarte aux noix  
caramel, cake mousseux au chocolat, tarte citron, montblanc, tiramisu fruits rouges.  
Les fromages des Hautes Alpes*

## Accommodation

All bedrooms at the Grand Hotel are beautifully furnished with stylish and comfortable fittings. They are all equipped with flat screen televisions, free wifi, mini-bar, safe, hairdryer, Nespresso coffee machine and a direct dial telephone. The en-suite bathrooms have fluffy towels, bathrobes and their own bathroom products. The hotel has a lift. *Rooms are ready from 4pm and check out is 12pm*



Classic Room ♣	These rooms are very small and compact (13m <sup>2</sup> ) with a view to the village (north-facing). Shower. Small double bed (140cm) and only really suitable for single occupancy.
Deluxe Room ♦	Larger rooms (20m <sup>2</sup> ) with a view to the village (north-facing). King-sized bed (180cm) or twin. Shower or bath.
Superior Room ♥	Larger rooms (20m <sup>2</sup> ) with a view to the pistes (south-facing). King-sized bed (180cm) or twin. Shower or bath. Balcony.
Suite ♠	Largest rooms (40m <sup>2</sup> ) with a view to the pistes (south-facing). King-sized bed (180cm) or twin. Bath and shower. Sitting room with sofa bed. Two balconies.

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## Bridge with Zeb & Claudia

Zeb Stocken has many years experience of teaching and hosting bridge events, and whether you come as a group, in a pair or on your own, you can be certain of an instructive and enjoyable game adapted to your level.



Claudia – Zeb’s sister – will be on hand to ensure the smooth running of your holiday and, as a keen and experienced bridge player herself, she will also be supervising bridge sessions. The bridge programme will be a mixture of teaching, supervised play and some duplicate – all played in a fun and friendly environment. The tuition sessions will use CompassCards (*set deals*) and a fun topic tailored to the group.



We will be playing bridge in the south-facing conference room, overlooking the pistes. There will be a bridge tuition session (*or duplicate*) every day from 5.30pm - 7.30pm, and then after dinner supervised bridge. If there is demand, we can also schedule bridge sessions in the daytime.

All bridge sessions are optional and open to all standards of play although we can only accommodate complete beginners if booked as a group of four. Non-bridge playing partners are of course welcome.

It is important to stress that our holidays are not aimed at the type of player who likes a serious 24-board duplicate every night. Our ethos is that bridge should be a friendly and social game where you can meet like-minded people, and our holidays reflect that.

No partner is needed on a StockenBridge holiday.



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## Travel Details

### By Air:

Turin airport in Italy is the nearest airport, with a transfer time of 1 hour 45 minutes. The afternoon British Airways flight from London Gatwick has good timings (*arrives Turin 18.30, leaves Turin 19.15*) meaning that you can even benefit from an extra half-day skiing on the day of departure. We will include airport transfers for anyone on this flight. Alternatively Ryanair fly to Turin from London Stansted and Easyjet fly from London Gatwick and London Luton. We can organise transfers from 45€ per person each way, depending on the number of people travelling. Otherwise there is a good choice of car hire companies for self drive from the airport. Although Grenoble airport seems closer, the transfer time is longer (*approx 2.5 - 3 hours*).

### By Train

There are scheduled services using Eurostar from London to Paris, Gare du Nord and then a direct TGV train from Paris, Gare de Lyon to Oulx (Italy) for Serre Chevalier. At Oulx there is a transfer coach to Briançon taking about 50 minutes and then we can organise a pick-up. There is also an overnight sleeper train direct from Paris to Briançon.



### By Car

After crossing the Channel by Eurotunnel or by ferry, Serre Chevalier can be reached in approximately 10-12 hours, via the Frejus tunnel and Montgenevre.



<b>PRICES</b> <i>(NB flight not included)</i> (*per person, based on 2 sharing)				
Full Price*	n/a	£1690	£1850	£2150
With 10% early bird discount*	n/a	£1521	£1665	£1935
Single occupancy	£1850	£2050	£2350	n/a
Single occupancy with early bird discount	£1665	£1845	£2115	n/a

### *Early Bird Discount and Non-Skiers*

We are offering a 10% 'early bird' discount on the holiday price for guests who book before the 31st July 2017. You are more than welcome to join us on this week even if you don't plan to join in the skiing. The mountains can also be enjoyed next to a roaring fire or from the terrace, and if we have enough guests wanting to participate, we can schedule extra bridge sessions in the daytime. There are no limits on single occupancy.

### *How to Book...*

To book your holiday, please fill out the booking form - stating your room preferences - and either scan and email to [claudia@stockenbridgebreaks.com](mailto:claudia@stockenbridgebreaks.com) or post to the address at the bottom of the page, together with the deposit of £200 per person. The full payment will be due by October 31st 2017. See booking form for Terms and Conditions.

### *Payment*

- where possible an on-line transfer is preferable for a speedy transaction that is easy to track.

#### On-line Transfer:

Account name: 'Stockens Ltd' Account Number: 27452468 Sort Code: 30-11-75

Please quote 'GrandSCV18' or your invoice number if you have one

#### Cheque:

Please make cheques payable to 'Stockens Ltd'

#### Financial Protection

Your money paid to us is fully protected against the insolvency of StockenBridge Breaks, in compliance with the Package Travel Regulations 1992. In this unlikely event, you will receive a full refund of your money.

#### For more details:

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