karibu

5 **†** Tripadvisor

A private Bob & Jean Trip to Italy's Alta Valsesia

"On arrival, it's so picture-postcard perfect I feel as if I've walked into a living museum filled with startlingly fresh mountain air."

- The Globe & Mail







Italian Alps Ultimate Hiking

Our uniquely curated small group trip explores one of Italy's true hidden gems – the Alta Valsesia. A UNESCO Geopark nestled at the foot of the Monte Rosa, the second highest peak in the Alps, the Valsesia is a hiker's paradise. It's lush hanging valleys, alpine meadows and panoramic views remain remarkably pristine, and there is always a mountain refuge with flowing wine and a delicious home-cooked meal to welcome you at the top of the trail.



Explore the Rich Walser Culture

The Valsesia is home to the Walser, a Germanic shepherding people, whose iconic wood and stone-hewn Baitas pepper the valley's alpine meadows and mountain slopes. We are based in the Walser village of Alagna (1200 metres), a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and hike to beautifully preserved alpine hamlets and visit the medieval town of Varallo or the French-influenced Gressoney in neighbouring Valle d'Aosta.

A Unique Insider's Experience

This trip is personal for karibu. Our family has lived in the Valsesia for 500 years, and we share our favourite hikes and visit some of the family homes, including a centuries old Baita in the beautiful hanging valley of Otro, a shepherd's hut where freshly made ricotta, butter and cheese are made, and a mountain refuge with a spectacular view of the Monte Rosa.

Our Mission

For the active adventurers and nature lovers who seek raw and real experiences in some of the world's most spectacular wild places, and want to help keep them that way through responsible and inclusive travel. Our carefully curated destinations celebrate what makes life truly awesome.

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7-day Ultimate Hiking Tour in the Italian Alps

Day 1: Arrival in Alagna + frazioni | Tour of Alagna's Walser hamlets (frazioni). Enjoy an al fresco lunch of local artisanal cheeses, charcuterie and wine in the garden of our Baita (weather permitting). Group welcome dinner at a favourite local restaurant.

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Distance: 4.14 km

Elevation: 220 m Time: 1.5 hours

Day 2: Valley of the Larches | We ease into the trip with a hike into the lush Val Vogna, a lateral valley of Valsesia. We'll walk through alpine meadows and Walser frazioni to the centuries old Napoleon Bridge by the church of San Grato before stopping at our favourite café for an afternoon coffee and crostini.

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Distance: 9.4 km

Elevation: 381 m Time: 3-4 hours

Day 3: Monte Rosa up Close | We follow the Sesia river up to Alpe Fondecco (2070 metres), to a family mountain hut, and singular views of the Monte Rosa. We then head to a nearby rifugio run by a local shepherd, for a hearty late lunch overlooking a spectacular glacier carved pasture and waterfall.

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Distance: 6.4 km

Elevation: 600 m Time: 3.10 hours

Day 4: Heaven Among the Walser | We make our way to the spectacular hanging valley of Otro and visit a family-owned stone hut where a shepherd makes fresh butter and ricotta. Lunch at the local rifugio.

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Distance: 6-9 km

Elevation: 569 m Time: 4 hours

Day 5: Village Visit + Gelato | We take a break from hiking and either travel down to the medieval town of Varallo, and the famed Sacro Monte overlooking the Valsesia, or take a gondola to Gressoney, the summer home of the House of Savoie. We'll have lunch, wander cobblestone streets and have some of the best gelato in Italy.

Day 6: The Best | We end on a high note with a strenuous hike up to a gorgeous Alpe (2,068 metres) with panoramic views and a delicious rifugio meal.

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Distance: 7.10 km

Elevation: 785 m Time: 4 hours

Day 7: Free Morning & Departure | Take your time with a leisurely morning before departing for your next adventure.











Accommodations

Guests stay at a charming 4-star chalet-style boutique hotel, chosen for its comfort and quality accommodations. The hotel includes a pool and spa area as well as bar and restaurant.

Date & Price

June 7-13, 2024 CAD \$6100 pp double occupancy

Book Now

What's Included

- Accommodation
- All breakfasts, lunches + 2 dinners
- · Local certified guide & regional expert
- · Excursion transfers, tickets, fees
- Airport transfers
- * Alcohol, 4 dinners, gratuities not included

Getting There

karibu provides a group airport pickup from Milan's Malpensa airport the morning of June 7th, returning June 13th. If arriving/departing outside of these times, an airport transfer can be arranged for an additional charge.

