

# INDEPENDENT ALPINE TOUR



 Begin today with a cruise



## Day 2:

Yvoire → Chatel



## Distance:

68 Kilometers



## Climbing:

1340 Meters

## Points of Interest:

- ★ Boat cruise across the Lake
- ★ Walk-around the medieval city of Yvoire
- ★ Supper at one of Chatel's best restaurants



Take some time to explore Yvoire

You will begin your trip across Switzerland with a boat ride to France. The pier in Geneva is a short walk from the hotel. The cruise will take you and your bicycle to the medieval city of Yvoire. All tickets and directions will be provided.

Once in Yvoire, take a moment to walk around its ancient streets. You are then off to Thonon, around 25 kilometers down the road. This is the only part of the entire trip in which you will encounter significant traffic and a lack of bicycle lanes. One reason for taking the cruise is to avoid the traffic and dangerous roads on the French side of the lake. The roads simply aren't as well planned or maintained, just be careful and all will be fine.

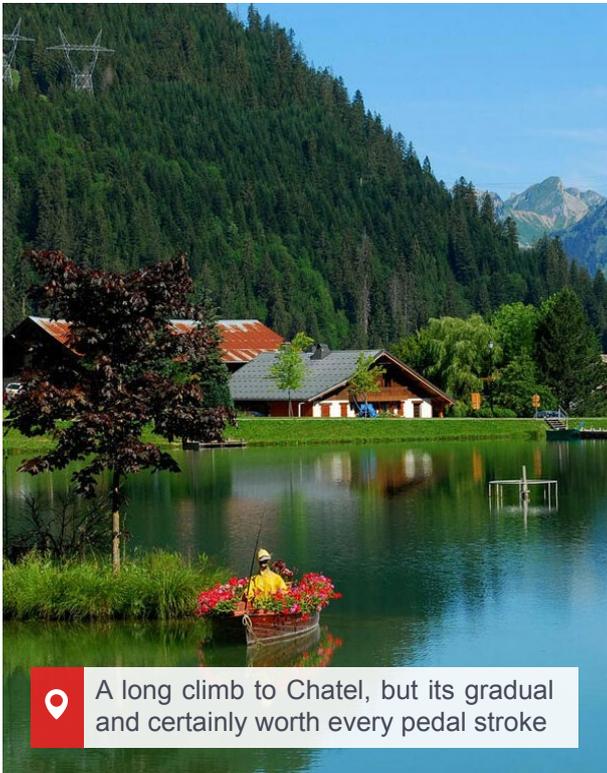
Consider eating in Thonon before you begin climbing. The first section is the steepest, but then things even out so that one hardly notices the grade. You've got 950 meters over the course of 45 kilometers. It is a nice, gradual climb to get your legs in the mood for things to come. You're in the French department of Haute Savoie and this particular region south of the lake is known as Chablais.

Our road follows the Vallée d'Abondance, an appropriate name given the vast resources. Although winter tourism is quite big here, many people also work in forestry, cheesemaking, apiculture, dairy and fruit harvesting.

Although the towns may seem rather sleepy in the summer, the snow brings buses of skiers from Geneva and beyond in the winter months. You've got the roads and scenery to yourself right now.

Keep climbing until our destination: Chatel.

Our hotel has it all, so have a sauna, whirlpool or swim before tucking into a French mountain meal downstairs.



A long climb to Chatel, but its gradual and certainly worth every pedal stroke