

General

Where is the course?

We are located in Chalet Maignet/Clouseau, in the village of Le Chinaillon. Le Chinaillon is part of Le Grand-Bornand ski area – and whilst this is great for snow sports in the winter, it is also lush, sunny and green during the summer months.

Are there any age limits?

All attendees must be 13 or over if they are staying in the course chalet, but younger students are allowed if staying in family accommodation elsewhere and attending as a day visitor. Remember, you can get 10% off a private chalet booking through our partners Aravis Holidays when at least one guest is taking part in the course.

I haven't played in a while - will I be good enough?

Please don't worry - this is the perfect opportunity to dust off the cobwebs. You'll be amazed at the progress you can make in just a few days. We are definitely not a high-pressure course - we focus on development through your enjoyment.

Is there Wi-Fi?

Absolutely!

Travel

How do I get there?

Have a look at the 'Location' page on our website, which gives you information on all possibilities.

Where is the nearest airport?

The nearest airport is Geneva, which sits over the border of Switzerland and France. It is approximately 1h15m by car to the course.

Do I land on the Swiss-side or the French-side of Geneva airport?

Only French internal flights will land on the French side of the airport – everyone else will land through the Swiss side and clear customs in Switzerland. Within the airport you can

easily cross into the French sector, but you can only pass back from France into Switzerland if you have a flight booking or car hire reservation from the Swiss side on that date.

How do the transfers work?

We can arrange shared transfers on your behalf, which can be paid to the driver individually. If you are arriving on our recommended flights, we will arrange a shared transfer with others arriving for the course. The driver will divide the cost of the transfer equally by the number of people. Credit/debit cards are accepted. We will contact you nearer the time to arrange transfer options and confirm details/prices.

How easy is it to hire a car?

Car hire is available from both the Swiss and French sides of the airport. The prices can vary drastically, so we suggest you look at both options. If you hire a car on the Swiss side, this usually includes a 'vignette', which is a tax disc permitting you to drive on Swiss motorways. Cars from the French side normally do not, and to get one costs around £30. If you cross the border at a motorway you will normally be made to purchase one by the border patrol. However, you can avoid the Swiss motorways by going through the city of Geneva and crossing into France at Thonex-Gaillard.

Packing

What should I bring for flute activities?

Flute, music stand, flute stand (if you have one, not essential), pencils, any pieces you have been recently working on, and a small notebook.

What is the weather like?

The weather is mostly warm and sunny, so you should bring light clothing for hot days as well as sun-tan lotion as the sun is very powerful at this altitude. Being in the mountains however, the weather is very changeable but any bad weather is usually short-lived. Bring something warm and ideally waterproof just in case we get caught out!

What should I bring for afternoon activities?

You should bring some strong shoes or walking boots for alpine walks, and swim wear for the heated outdoor pool in Grand-Bornand. Word of warning to the boys – the French insist you wear speedos in their pools or they won't let you in!

How should I transport my flute?

We recommend that you always carry your flute with you as hand luggage. This reduces the likelihood of damage or theft during travel. However, if you need to check your flute in to the aircraft hold, it should be inside a locked suitcase and very well protected with padding/clothes. You should check whether your insurance covers transit in the aircraft hold.

Are towels provided?

Yes – there is no need to bring these.

Insurance & Safety

Do you have insurance?

We hold public liability insurance to cover our music and education activities. This is not travel insurance – we recommend you take out a suitable policy to cover you for any non-musical activities and provide peace of mind in the event of any flight cancellation, trip abandonment or should the course be cancelled for any reason. If you are an EU citizen, we recommend you carry a valid EHIC card.

Do you have safeguarding checks?

Andrea has a PVG check (Scotland), and Chris has a DBS check (England & Wales). We also have a safeguarding policy which is available on request.

What are your health and safety arrangements?

Chris is a qualified first aider, and also has fire emergency training. We have a health & safety policy, robust risk assessments for all of our activities, and emergency procedures specific to the course chalet. We also hold information on the nearest doctors and pharmacies.

What are the emergency contacts for the course?

You will have 2 emergency contact numbers for the team in France during the course, which we will send to you prior to your departure. We will also ask you to complete an emergency contact sheet closer to the time, which the team will have access to at all times.

What is the full address of the course chalet?

Chalet Maigret/Clouseau,
42 Chemin du Lac,
74450 Le Grand-Bornand,
France

Booking & Payments

When do I need to pay by?

To secure a place on the course we take a deposit of £150, which is payable at the time of booking via our website. This can be paid by credit/debit card, bank transfer (for £GBP payments), or via Transferwise (for non-Sterling payments).

The balance of your booking should be paid by bank transfer or Transferwise on or at any time before 21st June 2019.

When will my place be confirmed?

We will send you a welcome email within 24 hours of paying your deposit, confirming your place on the course.

Anything we've missed?.. info@flutesdusoleil.com