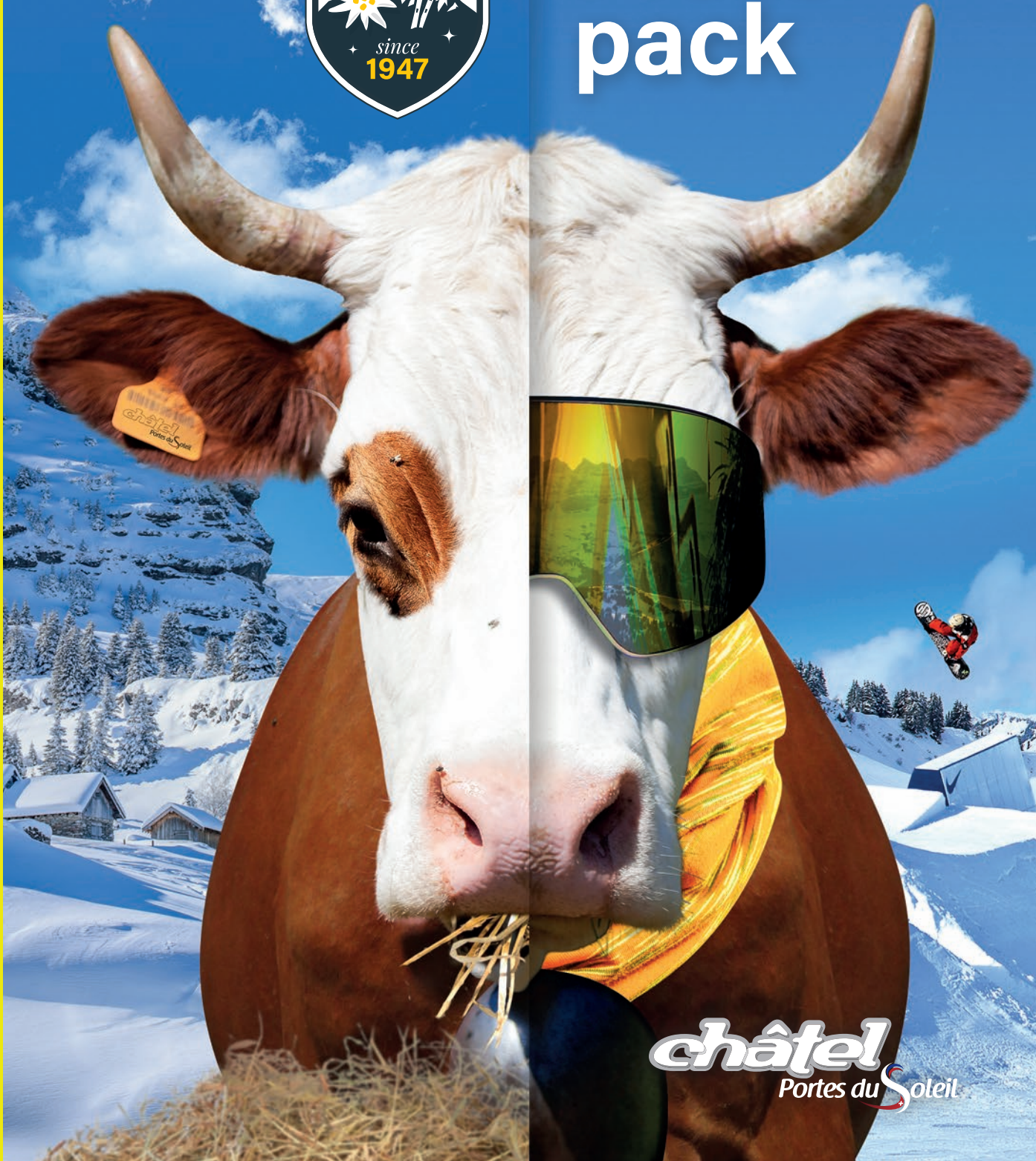


Winter 2018 - 2019



Press pack



châtel
Portes du Soleil

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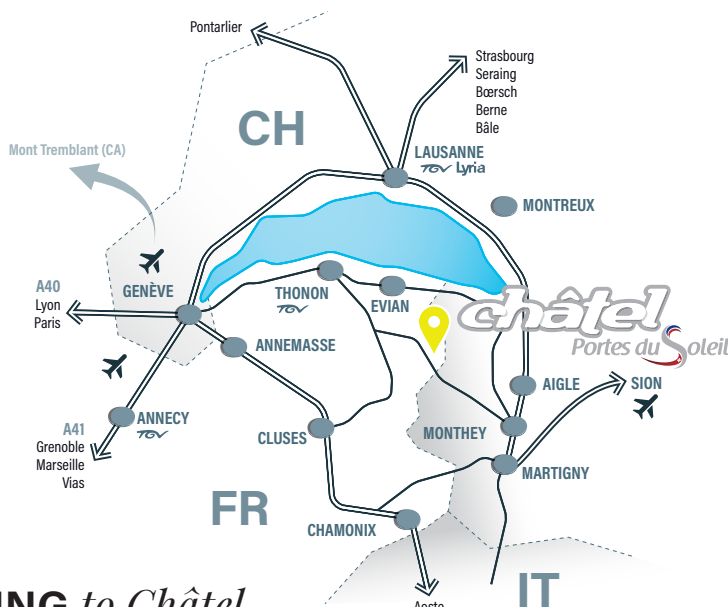
Châtel tourisme

Opening hours

- › **Mid-December to April:** open daily 8.30am-7pm.
- › **May, June and September to Mid-December:** Monday to Friday 9am-12pm and 2pm-6pm. Saturday 9am-12pm and 2pm-5pm. Closed on Sundays and public holidays.
- › **July and August:** open daily 9am-7pm.

Contact

- › 14, route de Thonon
BP 40 - F - 74 390 Châtel
Haute-Savoie - France
Tel. 33 (0)4 50 73 22 44
Fax. 33 (0)4 50 73 22 87
touristoffice@chatel.com
www.chatel.com



GETTING to Châtel

Located in the heart of the Portes du Soleil between Lake Geneva and Mont-Blanc, Châtel is just 20 minutes from the Swiss motorways, 30 minutes from Aigle railway station, 1.40 hours from Geneva Cointrin international airport and 45 minutes from Thonon-Bains railway station.

GPS coordinates

Latitude: 46.269966
Longitude: 06.840753

By road

From France: follow signs for Geneva, exit the autoroute at Annemasse, continue to Thonon then follow signs for Vallée d'Abondance/Châtel.

From Switzerland: follow signs for Monthey - Grand Saint Bernard, exit the autoroute at Monthey (Portes du Soleil exit) then follow signs for Morgins.

Car sharing: the Haute-Savoie Departmental Council has set up a website that enables people travelling to Châtel to find a car-sharing partner just a few clicks!

› www.covoiturage-leman.org

By rail

From France: Thonon railway station is the closest to the resort, with connecting taxi and bus services.

From Switzerland: there is a daily rail service between Geneva airport and

Aigle. Transfers between the station and resort are by taxi.

During school holidays, the Buski service operates transfers between the Valley resorts and the TGV Lyria rail service at Aigle station.

› www.oui.sncf
› www.tgv-lyria.com

By air

Geneva Cointrin international airport is only 1.40 hours from Châtel. Travel to Châtel is by train to Aigle or Thonon then by bus or taxi.

News



IN THE MOUNTAINS

Discover the beautiful new snow shoe track from Petit Châtel to the Mouët chalet at 1,800m altitude.

Allow about 2 hours to complete this (500m elevation) walk through forests and pastures to chalet Mouët. The chalet is owned by Michel and Beatrice Cruz, two Châtellans who offer the warmest of welcomes.

The views of Châtel, the Abondance valley and surrounding French and Swiss summits are exceptional.

Get your breath back as you enjoy generous helpings of delicious, local food including imaginatively served homemade Abondance cheese.

The perfect way to pass a winter's day!

IN THE VILLAGE

From the 1st November 2018, the bar l'Isba will change hands and name and become "Le Poste Frontière".

Located in the village centre on the route du Linga, the bar, which will also be a wine and champagne bar will be open every day from 7am to 9pm.

There will be music and televised sports events; skiing, motor sports, rugby and golf... everything to ensure clients feel relaxed and at ease in this friendly village bar.



CHRISTMAS 2018
NEW
COSY-LIFT
6-PLACE DETACHABLE
CHAIR LIFT AT PIERRE
LONGUE

POMA

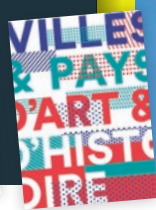
Relax
let the fun start
on the way up!

On the slopes

The existing 4-place detachable chair lift at Pierre Longue has been replaced by a new 6-place detachable chair lift: the « Cosy-Lift » by Poma.

Located at Pré-la-Joux it takes skiers and non-skiers to Plaine Dranse, one of the busiest liaison points in the Portes du Soleil. From Plaine Dranse skiers can connect to the French resorts of Avoriaz, Morzine and Les Gets as well as enjoy the superb pistes in Châtel.

Two labels *and a quality welcome*



#CHÂTEL

FAMILLE *plus*

The Famille Plus label confirms Châtel's positioning as a holiday destination that welcomes parents and the younger generation by providing specific infrastructure and activities.

Attention has been given to accommodation, services, a wide variety of activities and events as well as surprising novelties to ensure that a holiday in Châtel will be appreciated by every member of the family.

A winter season full of events:

- › the fun, age-specific wood decoration sessions (for 3/6 years, 4/8 years, 7/13 years and 8/12 years) during the school holidays,
- › enjoy family fun playing on the giant wooden games or in the under 6 years play area (with foam pit, Lego...),
- › discover the secrets of Châtel on a treasure hunt for adults and children from 6/12 years,
- › fun, themed weeks (Christmas, Carnival and the annual Agricultural fair)
- › afternoon tea and farm visits to try delicious home-produced food,
- › children's shows during school holidays,
- › the wooden merry-go-round,
- › the little train,
- › various craft and creative workshops,
- › the all-important rendezvous with the purple Milka chocolate cow either on the purple piste or for a tasty treat at the bottom of the slopes.

PAYS D'ART *et d'histoire*

The Vallée d'Abondance is proud of this national accreditation, awarded in recognition of its exceptional heritage, architecture, landscape and agro-pastoralism.

These areas were considered in both their natural state and in how they are presented and explained to the public through activities, exhibitions, specialist experts and guides.

In Châtel, the Old Customs House has been transformed into a mountain contraband information centre and museum. It retraces the history of contraband and smuggling in Châtel, the Abondance Valley and the Portes du Soleil over many decades. A fascinating array of local history is on permanent display complemented by various temporary exhibitions. To mark 70 years of tourism in Châtel, the current exhibition traces the evolution of Châtel as a tourist destination from its beginnings in 1947 to the present day, featuring photos, artefacts and personal records.

Other interesting sites such as the Crépy saw mill at Villapeyron, the Très-les-Pierres chapel, and various other ancient chapels and shrines give amateur historians a broad insight into the area's past.



Environment



THE FLOCON VERT LABEL and "Cimes durables" trophies

The resort has been committed to an environmentally-friendly development plan for over 10 years.

Châtel was the third resort to receive the "Flocon vert" accreditation in 2015 and won the "Cimes durables" (Sustainable Peak) Trophy in 2016, in recognition of its mission to involve schools and children in environmental projects. An annual action plan has been drawn up encouraging schools, the local council, clubs and associations and personnel involved in the day-to-day running of the school (chefs, service personnel, the local hunt) to cooperate on environmental issues.

The second mission concentrates on the relationship between agriculture and the resort (local council, ski-lift operating company and the tourist office). Agriculture is extremely important in the area and an open exchange between farmers and the local authority enables each party to appreciate the perspective of the other and move forward while maintaining and respecting local tradition.

The Forme d'O water park which was built following strict environmental guidelines plays its part in the sustainable development of the resort.



Key figures

CHÂTEL *village*

- > 1,282 full time residents
- > 22,854 tourist beds
- > 24 hotels (1x4*NN hotel, 9x3*NN hotels, 12x2*NN hotels, 2 hotels)
- > 3x4*NN holiday apartment complexes
- > 2x3*NN holiday apartment complexes
- > 1 holiday apartment complex with hotel facilities
- > 11 hotels for groups, holiday centres
- > 2 Youths Hotels
- > Other accommodation: 1 offering long or short stays, 1x2* other accommodation, 4 bed and breakfasts
- > 1 winter camping/caravanning site****
- > 60 restaurants (including hotel restaurants)

CHÂTEL SKI AREA *"Châtel Liberté"*

- > 63 ski lifts (3 bubbles, 19 chairlifts, 35 drag lifts, 4 tow ropes and 2 moving carpets)
- > 81 ski runs (7 black runs, 25 red runs, 33 blue runs, 16 green runs)
- > Hourly capacity: 56,667 skiers/hour
- > Facilities: 2 snowparks, 3 boardercross, 300 snow cannons, 16 piste groomers, 44 ski patrollers
- > Wifi zones
- > Minimum altitude: 1,100m
- > Maximum altitude: 2,200m
- > Maximum vertical drop: 1,000m

PORTES DU SOLEIL *ski area*

- > 600km of skiing
- > 197 ski lifts (4 cable cars, 9 gondolas, 78 chair lifts, 102 drag lifts, 4 tow ropes)
- > 300 ski runs (30 black runs, 110 red runs, 123 blue runs, 37 green runs)
- > Hourly capacity: 266,717 skiers/hour
- > Facilities: 10 snow parks, 2 half-pipes, 4 boarder cross runs, 100 piste groomers, 1,300 snow cannons, 174 ski patrollers
- > Minimum altitude: 950m
- > Maximum altitude: 2,400m
- > Maximum vertical drop: 1,100m

One huge *ski area*



CHÂTEL *Liberté*

The Châtel Liberté ski pass currently gives access to 63 ski lifts and 81 ski runs, with a total of 130km of skiing.

It is valid over the entire Châtel and La Chapelle d'Abondance ski areas in France and Torgon and the Corbeau de Morgins sector in Switzerland.

Partial opening of the Châtel ski area is planned on Saturday 15th December 2018 (Linga - Pré-la-Joux) with full opening from the 22nd December 2018 – giving access to a vast ski area!

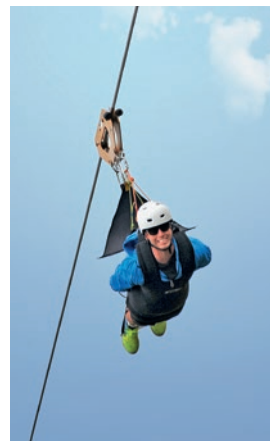
The inter-domaine Super-Châtel – Linga link, with two detachable chair lifts, the “Portes du Soleil” (6 place) and “Gabelou” (4 place) located at Vonnes, are great assets particularly appreciated by visitors.

In addition to skiing and cross-border ski pistes of all levels, the ski area is dotted with facilities where visitors can perfect or try-out their chosen discipline.

The **DVA Park** where the public can learn how to use DVA (Avalanche Victim Detection) and the **Smooth Park** with its rails, kickers, slidebox, hips and boardercross are located at the top of the **Super-Châtel bubble**. There is an exciting enclosure at Chalet Neuf where skiers can monitor their speed. **The mauve Milka run** with its mountain-animal information boards is a fun family area where entertainers delight old and young, handing out chocolates during the school holidays.

And, for those who want to continue skiing under the stars, **the illuminated slalom at Linga is open from 7.30pm to 9.30pm on Thursday evenings.**

The winter “great white” version of the Fantasticable is open for thrills and excitement at Plaine-Dranse!





Other *snow sports*



THERE ARE *many!*

Snakegliss, yooner, snowracer are new types of equipment.

Clients with reduced mobility can also enjoy the landscape and slopes on a **Dualski, Uniski, Kartski or Tandemski**.

Tandemski is also suitable for non-skiers who want to get out on the piste and build fun, snowy memories with family and friends. All the above take place at Pré-la-Joux.



Châtel is in the heart of the international Portes du Soleil ski area (197 ski lifts, 300 ski runs and 600km of piste skiing).

The Portes du Soleil comprises 12 Franco-Swiss resorts: Châtel, La Chapelle d'Abondance and Abondance in the Vallée d'Abondance and Avoriaz, Morzine, Les Gets, Saint-Jean d'Aulps, Montriond in the Vallée d'Aulps in France. And in Switzerland: Morgins, Torgon, Champoussin-Les Crosets and Champéry. Châtel has direct links to Avoriaz and La Chapelle d'Abondance in France and to Morgins and Torgon in Switzerland.

... and if you enjoy the **freedom and challenge of virgin snow, the easy off-piste skiing at la Leiche, at Linga** offers a wonderful opportunity to learn and improve!

The Abondance Valley Nordic ski area is located on the banks of the Dranse river and has **40km of marked paths** in Abondance, La Chapelle d'Abondance and Châtel. There are 7 cross-country ski tracks, 8 Nordic tracks (for cross-country skiing, walking and snow shoes), a beginners track, an activity area and a biathlon shooting range.



Hikers

In Châtel 4 ski lifts are accessible to hikers and snow-shoe walkers providing easy access to the marked, secure Nordic tracks:

- › Boucle du Petit-Châtel,
- › Boucle de Super-Châtel (Franco-Swiss),
- › Col de Bassachaux.

Special offers



SKIÉO

A GREAT OFFER COMBINING CHÂTEL SKIING WITH ACCESS TO THE FORME D'O AQUATIC CENTRE

One 6 x 5 hours Châtel Liberté ski pass and 7 entries to the Océane area at Forme d'O.

- > Adult (20-64 years) € 187
- > Child (5-15 years) € 128.80
- > Young (16-19 years) € 175
- > Senior (65 years +) € 175

One 4 non-consecutive days (out of 7) Châtel Liberté ski pass and 7 entries to the Océane area at Forme d'O.

- > Adult (20-64 years) € 164
- > Child (5-15 years) € 109,80
- > Young (16-19 years) € 154
- > Senior (65 years +) € 154

Children are only allowed in the swimming area (inside and outside pools).

INFORMATION:

www.chatel-formedo.com



7 = 8 NIGHT STAY (1 night free-of-charge)

The Chalets d'Angèle**** apartments are offering an extra night for a Saturday-Saturday stay on the following dates:

- Arrive on the 21/12/18 instead of the 22/12/18
- Leave on the 14/04/19 instead of the 13/04/19

INFORMATION:

www.cgh-residences.com



UP TO 18% DISCOUNT ON SKI PASSES WHEN RESERVING AN ALL-INCLUSIVE STAY THROUGH CHÂTEL RESERVATION!

Accommodation offer: 7 nights in an apartment + 6-day Châtel Liberté ski pass (63 ski lifts and 81 ski runs of all levels):

Price per adult from **€255***

*Price per adult from 5th - 19th January 2019, indicative price per person, per week based on 4 people sharing a privately-owned rental studio.

INFORMATION:

www.chatelreservation.com



PORTES DU SOLEIL ROCK THE PISTES FESTIVAL

from 17th to 23rd March 2019

Accommodation offer: 7 nights in an apartment
+ 6-day Portes du Soleil ski pass
(300 ski lifts and 600km of ski runs)

Price per adult
from **€326***

The festival comprises 5 main concerts performed on pop-up stages across the international Portes du Soleil ski area and 30 evening concerts performed in the village resorts to extend the fun!

*Price based on 4 people sharing a privately-owned rental studio.

INFORMATION:
www.chatelreservation.com

SPRING *Skiing*

SKIING YES - BUT SOMETHING ELSE TOO...!

For the fifth consecutive year Châtel, in partnership with France Montagnes, is collaborating in this spring ski initiative beginning on 20th March 2019.

Enjoy this magical time of year when the days get longer and sunnier, snow conditions provide quality skiing and local festivities, concerts and activities heat up for the spring! Check out the websites to make the most of spring colours and slope-side special offers...

INFORMATION:

www.leprintempsduski.com
www.chatelreservation.com



Special offers

2018-2019

unmissable winter dates



*23rd December 2018
to 4th January 2019*

Fairytale Châtel

Fairytale mountain magic. Throughout the week children and adults can enjoy a variety of fun shows and activities alongside Father Christmas' friends as they await his arrival in Châtel. Children's workshops and shows, visits to Father Christmas' grotto, treats and surprises and the arrival of Father Christmas himself on the 24th December!

31st December 2018

2019 New Year' Eve

Fireworks display on the feast of Saint Sylvestre to bring in the new year.
Party atmosphere with DJ and music...!

1st to 3rd February

International Ski Federation Kandahar Masters Cup

Alpine ski competition.

2nd and 3rd February 2019

Oxfam Wintertrail

The NGO Oxfam France is organising the 5th Oxfam Wintertrail in the Abondance Valley and Morgins (Switzerland). This 60km snow-shoe trek in teams of 4, is a unique charity sporting event with participants from France and overseas.

4th to 6th February 2019

International Ski Federation Men's Super G

Alpine ski competition.

15th February 2019

Snowbowl

American Football
Tournament.



20th February 2019

Agricultural Fair (Famille Plus)

The highlight of the 'Famille Plus' Agricultural-themed week, is this traditional fair where families can spend a uniquely colourful evening!

A brightly decorated farm-cart will tour the village to the accompaniment of cow bells and in the village hall, Abondance cheese will be the star of the show. There will be a 'best cheese' competition with the public (both old and young) as the jury, cheese-making demonstrations and delicious cheese for sale, a mini farm, wooden games, music and prize-giving ceremony. Another great encounter between farmers and holidaymakers...



**7th EDITION of
Neiges Étoilées**

From 6th to 9th February 2019, this international gastronomy festival explores a new theme: chocolate!

Bringing together professional and amateur chefs for competitions, workshops and demonstrations during which the public have the chance to meet some of the big names in international cuisine.





25th to 28th February 2019

Châtel Classic Festival

The 3rd edition of this classical and jazz music festival based in Châtel's Saint Laurent's church, under the artistic direction of Elena Rozanova.

Throughout the week, world-renowned international artists will perform in various venues in Châtel; not only the church, but in hotels for apres ski or in the ski area during the day. A week where the great classics are accessible to everyone and may even inspire a musical vocation!

5th March 2019

Mardi Gras (Famille Plus)

A carnival parade through the village streets by Châtel primary school children dressed in themed costumes of their own creation!



7th March 2019

Winter Blessing at Plaine-Dranse

In keeping with the Belle Dimanche August tradition of blessing the sheep at the historic site of Plaine Dranse, there is now a winter edition of this local custom. For the second year running, visitors - skiers and non-skiers - are welcomed to the Plaine Dranse chapel for a winter evening blessing. A wonderful moment of communion under the celestial sky...

9th March 2019

Razorsnowbike

A snow ride event of two races: a derby and an eight-cross, for both amateur and professional MTB snow riders. This event offers a glimpse of the MTB world that takes pride of place in Châtel and the Portes du Soleil during the summer.



22nd March 2019

Rock the Pistes Festival - Portes du Soleil - 17th to 23rd March 2019

Since 2011 the Rock the Pistes Festival has welcomed big-name International and Franco-Swiss rock performers to its concert stages. The concerts are performed on the pistes in the ski area at an average altitude of 1,800m.

This year Hyphen Hyphen will star at Plaine Dranse on the 22nd March!

Access to the festival is either with a valid lift pass or €20 pedestrian ticket.

From the 17th to 23rd March, enjoy the Rock the Pistes Off festival taking place in the village centres with musicians creating a great ambiance performing at different venues.

Amateur musicians are welcome to jam with professionals, creating a cool, chilled mood in the village bars and cafes.

CHÂTEL

4 Seasons in the Sun



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thuris - 13976 - Photo crédit: J.-F. Vuaramond (Châtel Tourisme) - JM. Gouillard - S. Cochard - T. Bertrand - M. Viré - V. Thiébaud - A. Thiébaud - Studio Yvon - Unsplash (A. Adams) - X
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