

Hiking across the french Jura From the Hérisson Waterfall to the viewpoint overlooking the Alps

**8 days, 7 nights, 7 days hiking, Night in hotels and mountain
guesthouses**

Level: 3/5



The Jura Mountains have long been associated with the joys of 'active' hiking. No doubt its gentle undulations, panoramic ridges and lush green glades have something to do with it! Two now iconic routes traverse the Jura Mountains: the famous "Traversée du Jura" and "L'échappée jurassienne". However renowned they may be, we believe these routes include sections that are less interesting for hiking. We have therefore chosen to combine what we consider to be the best of both routes, to offer you this unique combination. The incredible parade of the Hérisson waterfalls marks the start of our hike, then the lakes and the Saine will be our guiding thread through the Langouette and Malvaux gorges. Next comes the Jura's high-altitude pastures, between Chapelle-des-Bois, Les Rousses and Lamoura, followed by the crossing of Les Platières, with the bare peaks of the "Haute Chaîne" as a backdrop. A sublime end to the route, with a panorama of the Northern Alps and the Mont Blanc massif – a call to put your walking boots back on soon!

Strengths

- The omnipresence of water: lakes, waterfalls, rivers, gorges and bogs
- The altitude pastures, some idyllic glades
- A signposted route with no technical difficulties
- Return transport to the starting point is included

- The best of the two classic routes : The Traversée du Jura and the Echappée Jurassienne

SCHEDULE

undefined : Meeting and first hike to the famous "cascades du Hérisson" : 7 km - 2h30 - Elevation:
+ 180 m - 180 m

We invite you to meet us at our starting point in the early afternoon. Our accommodation, situated right next to the Hérisson waterfall, gives you easy access to this hike, which is a must-see! A veritable parade of seven 'sauts' (waterfalls) allows the powerful waters of the Hérisson to cross the narrow valley and cascade down the 250-metre drop separating the plateau from the Jura plain. Amidst a constant rustling and a surge of beautiful eddies, the water takes its place and shows no sign of giving it up. Return to our guesthouse (or hotel) for our first night in the Jura.

Auberge

undefined : Bonlieu - Le Pont de la Chaux: Pic de l'Aigle and "Belvédère des 4 lacs" : 12 km - 4h30
- Elevation: + 300 m - 355 m

We leave the area around the Hérisson waterfall and head towards the Pic de l'Aigle, which we reach just before our midday break. At an altitude of just under 1,000 metres, it offers us a magnificent view of the two Maclus lakes, as well as the lakes of Illey and Narlay. Our scenic hike continues along the "Belvédère des 4 Lacs" trail, from which, as the name suggests, the view is well worth the detour. We descend towards Le Pont de la Chaux to find our little hotel for the night.

Hotel

undefined : Le Pont de la Chaux - Foncine : the Saine gorge hiking : 17 km - 6h - Elevation: + 460 m - 315 m

Today we follow the course of the Saine, taking a route that leads us into the Langouette Gorges. A safe nature trail, deep within the Jura forest where moss and ferns create a shimmering effect, reveals an impressive cliff face carved out by the patient work of the water. The presence of an old hydroelectric power station quickly makes us realise the vital role water plays in the Jura... We pass through Planches en Montagne, then follow the Saine upstream through the Malvaux Gorges and a 180-metre tunnel carved into the rock. A lovely atmosphere! Overnight stay in Foncine le Haut, on the border between the Jura and the Doubs.

Hotel

undefined : Foncine - Chapelle des Bois : the call of the Wild ! : 13 km - 4h30 - Elevation: + 400 m - 185 m

Whilst the previous two days have been all about water, we now turn our attention to the Haut Jura. Before setting foot on the meadows and peat bogs, this stage offers us a breath of fresh air in the heart of the Jura forest: here, silence reigns, and the scents given off by the fir and spruce trees have a relaxing effect. On a hot day, this canopy will be particularly welcome. At just over 1,000 metres above sea level, we emerge into the first area of peat bogs and discover Chapelle des Bois, a charming little village that welcomes us for the night. The cheese dairy is a must-visit for a tasting of the cheese that has made the Jura famous worldwide: the famous Comté!

Optional, in the morning from Foncine le Haut: a round-trip hike to discover the source of the Saine (+3km / 50m elevation gain).

Hotel

undefined : Chapelle des Bois - Les Rousses : lakes, bogs and Risoux. : 19 km - 6h30 - Elevation: + 450 m - 475 m

We set off from Chapelle des Bois this morning along a stunning route through the heart of the Bellefontaine Lake peat bogs. This ecosystem, both rich and fragile, is a veritable haven for flora and fauna. For us hikers, it's a chance to soak up the wilderness. If the weather is fine, the sun's rays glistening on the damp meadows create a very special atmosphere. With Lac des Mortes and Lac de Bellefontaine behind us, we climb through the Risoux forest before descending on the other side, at Les Rousses. Switzerland is just a stone's throw away here... Les Rousses and Bois d'Amont, linked by the River Orbe, are home to some of France's greatest skiing names (particularly in cross-country skiing): Jason Lamy Chappuis, Quentin Fillon Maillet... Overnight stay in Les Rousses. Sporting option: route via the summit of La Roche Champion (viewpoint over the peat bogs and lakes): +3km/150m elevation gain.

Hotel

undefined : Les Rousses - Lamoura : the wild glades of the Jura :16.5 km - 6h - Elevation: + 400 m - 365 m

If one word were to sum up this day, it would be 'idyllic': after a visit (highly recommended) to Fort des Rousses and the Comté maturing cellars, we head towards Prémamanon and its extensive pastures. Here, nature displays its creativity in colouring the landscape: columbines and orchids add touches of mauve, gentians bring yellow, thistles bring blue... all set against the rich green backdrop of the meadows. Simply magical. From clearing to clearing, we reach Lamoura (or Lajoux) and its small mountain lake. Overnight stay in the heart of the Haut Jura. Optional: a more challenging route through the Massacre Forest and the Combe à la Chèvre (+6.5km / 225m elevation gain)

Hotel

undefined : Lamoura - Bellecombe : the Platières hiking :20 km - 7h - Elevation: + 430 m - 350 m

Probably one of the five most beautiful hikes in the Jura (we'd done the other four in the previous few days!), the Platières hike offers a total immersion in what makes this mountain range so authentic. The undulating, deep-green meadows, mountain chalets and fir forests form the backdrop to our day. After passing through Les Platières, the little village of Les Moussières welcomes us and we spend the night in a cosy inn in the middle of a pretty valley "far from it all". After all, this is already our last evening, and we must make the most of it to sample any local specialities we might have missed!

Auberge

undefined : Bellecombe - La Pesse : a stunning view to the northern Alps :14.5 km - 5h30 - Elevation: + 450 m - 500 m

The final stage of our wonderful trek through the Jura region! We've seen so much since setting off from the Hérisson waterfall! But we must bring our hike to a close, and in the most beautiful way possible: along the ridges! We head to La Borne au Lion, then begin the ascent of the Crêt de Chalam: a short climb of 250 metres in elevation, at the top of which we are rewarded with a 360-degree view of the ridges of the Haute Chaîne du Jura, the Haut Jura and the Mont Blanc massif. Indeed, even though we seem to be far from everything, Geneva and Lake Geneva are only about twenty kilometres away as the crow flies, so Mont Blanc is just around the corner!

Descent to La Pesse and return transfer to Bonlieu, our starting point (approx. 1 hour 15 mins' drive).

Please note: as the ascent of the Crêt de Chalam is a round trip, you may choose not to do it. In this case, the day's walk covers a distance of 9km and a total elevation gain of 200m.

TRAVEL CONDITIONS

Luggage:

You only need to carry what is needed for the day and your picnic. Your other luggage is transported by vehicle. Please respect the luggage limit of one bag per person, maximum weight of 13kg/bag.

Formalities:

- Passport or ID is compulsory
- We recommend getting a European Health Insurance card (check with the NHS)
- Repatriation insurance is compulsory

Advised equipment (non-exhaustive list):

RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT TO BRING

As good preparation is often key to a successful trip, here are a few tips on what to pack to ensure your journey goes as smoothly as possible (non-exhaustive list):

YOUR LUGGAGE

One piece of luggage per person, weighing no more than 13kg: a soft sports bag of around 55 litres. This luggage will be transported by vehicle.

We will provide you with address labels to attach to your luggage.

THE BACKPACK

1 medium-sized backpack for your day's essentials

ESSENTIALS

Compass and altimeter for independent hikes

- Rainwear.
- Two water bottles, each holding at least 1 litre of water.
- A first-aid kit: double-layer plasters, antiseptic wipes, bandages, gauze, water purification tablets, aspirin, personal medication and a survival blanket.
(To be put together in consultation with your doctor.)
- Your personal items: camera, hats, binoculars, etc.

FOOTWEAR

Good hiking boots that come up above the ankle. Above all, they must be comfortable, waterproof and breathable. Good ankle support is essential. If you need to buy a new pair, we advise you to try your boots on before your trip begins. Do not choose a size that is too small, as your feet will tend to swell.

CLOTHING

- A waterproof windproof jacket (Gore-Tex, poncho, etc.)
- A thick jumper or fleece jacket
- Comfortable trousers for walking
- Shorts, t-shirts, as well as breathable underwear
- A change of clothes and personal toiletries
- A hat and a pair of gloves.
- A swimsuit (for certain trips).

FOR THE PICNIC

- Cutlery (fork, folding knife, spoon).

- Snacks (energy bars, dried fruit, etc.).

SMALL ITEMS

- Lightweight, breathable shoes for the evening (trainers or sandals)
- A pair of telescopic walking poles or 'shepherd's crook'
- Sunglasses and sun cream
- Lip balm
- Hat, cap or sun hat
- Camera, binoculars, etc.
- A small toiletries bag, with a towel
- A torch or headlamp + spare batteries.
- Toilet paper.

Departure and meeting point :

Departure from Bonlieu (39). The exact location will be provided in your invitation.

How to get there:

By car: Take the A39 to Lons-le-Saunier (exit 8), then the D678 to Clairvaux-les-Lacs and on to Bonlieu (allow approximately 45 minutes' drive from the motorway exit) .

By train: Lons-le-Saunier SNCF station, then take the regular bus service 309 (Mobigo) to Bonlieu, or a taxi (please do not hesitate to contact us).

Accommodation :

7 nights half-board accommodation, based on two people sharing a room (double or twin room), with en-suite bathroom and toilet. Bed linen and towels are provided.

- 1 night in a guesthouse with bed and breakfast
- 4 nights in 2- and 3-star hotels
- 2 nights in a guesthouse

Accompanying :

Self-guided:

You set off on your own, as a couple, with family or with friends. We take care of accommodation, meals and luggage transfers.

You have good hiking experience and know how to find your way using a map and a compass. From one stage to the next, you follow the GPS tracks, and where necessary the maps and guidebook that we have carefully prepared.

Travelling independently means hiking light, at your own pace, and fully enjoying the pleasures of nature without worrying about the logistics of your trip. It also means being free to interpret and imagine the stories told by the region you're passing through.

With a guide:

Discovering a region or a country, learning about its natural environment, its history, the lives of its inhabitants, and the relationship between humans and nature... mountain guides specialising in these regions are there to shed light on the world around you and bring the mountains to life.

The guides at LaRébenne are here to share their passion for the mountains with you.

Food :

Dinners and breakfasts are served at your accommodation. We take particular care to recommend stopover gîtes, guesthouse restaurants and local eateries that specialise in simple cuisine made with local produce.

Self guided version : lunch is not included. You can either order it from your accommodation provider or stock up at the few grocery shops along the route (we will indicate these in your travel documents).

Guided version : lunch is included and carefully prepared by your guide (or, in some cases, by the previous night's accommodation). Generally, the packed lunch consists of a cold salad with starchy foods and fresh vegetables,

some cold meats, cheese, bread and a piece of fruit.

Attendees:

The self-guided package is available for groups of two or more, with luggage transported by taxi.

The guided package is available for groups of six or more, with luggage transported by taxi.

Difficulty level:

An average of 5,5 to 6 hours hiking per day, with a total elevation gain not exceeding 500 metres. You should be in good physical condition and prepared for a multi-day hike.

This route is rated between level 2 and level 3.

RATES

undefined	
Individual registration	1595€

undefined	
Individual registration	1195€

The price includes :

Self-guided option :

- Accommodation with half-board: from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 8,
- Return transfer between La Pesse and Bonlieu on day 8,
- Luggage transport,
- Our self-guided app,
- GPX tracks if requested.

Guided version :

- Full qualified English Speaking hiking guide,
- Half-board accommodation: from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 8,
- Packed lunches from day 2 to day 8,
- Return transfer between La Pesse and Bonlieu on day 8,
- Luggage transport.

The price does not include :

Self-guided version :

- Drinks,
- Insurance,
- Personal expenses,
- Picnics,
- Entrance fees to monuments.

Guided tour version:

- Drinks,
- Insurance,
- Personal expenses,
- Entrance fees to monuments.

GENERAL INFORMATION

How to subscribe ? :

No, no automatic forms!

At LaRébenne, we prefer to keep in touch with our travelers. We like to talk to you about our travels, and we want to maintain this relationship with you. Exchange, sharing and pleasure remain our ambition for LaRébenne travels.

Don't hesitate to contact us directly to talk about hiking or biking.

contact@larebenne.com

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+33 681 537 775

Registration, deposit and validation

Once you've chosen your trip, it's quick and easy to register!

* Either go directly to your tour's page on our website and click on registration.

* Or we can work with you to create a tailor-made tour, and send you a personalized link to your registration form.

The registration is effective when we receive your registration form with your acceptance of the general terms and conditions of sale, accompanied by the deposit of 30% of the tour price. You will then receive an acknowledgement of receipt of your registration.

100% secure payment

You can pay by credit card (faster) or bank transfer.



Payment of balance

The balance must be paid one month before the departure date. You will find your invoice on your My LaRébenne space, as well as a payment link to the balance of your stay.

Invitation to depart

On receipt of payment of the balance, your travel diary will be available in your customer area on My LaRébenne, where you will find all the information you need for your trip, as well as your invoice.

Insurance :

In accordance with regulations, each participant in a LaRébenne trip must hold individual civil liability as well as individual multi-risk cover to protect themselves against incidents or accidents that may occur before or during the tour or bike trip.

Assistance mainly covers search and rescue, repatriation and medical expenses. It comes into play as soon as a medical report makes it possible to decide on repatriation. Repatriation, known as "premature return", can also be arranged for reasons other than the insured's own, such as the death of a family member (see cases in the insurance booklet). Beforehand, in regions far from medical facilities and difficult to access, you must agree to the organization of first aid using local resources (4X4, porters, horses, etc.).

This contract also covers loss, theft or delayed delivery of baggage, as well as interruption of stay.

The insurance protects against the financial risk of cancellation. It is very important to have this type of insurance in case of cancellation due to a health problem or for professional reasons.

We suggest you take out one of the three policies we have selected, bearing in mind that we only act as an intermediary between you and the insurer. Any additional insurance is invoiced per person and must be taken out on the day of booking:

- "Multirisque" contract (4.5%), minimum premium 15 euros:
Repatriation assistance + tour interruption + luggage + cancellation.

[See the complete contract](#)

- "Cancellation" contract (2.5%), minimum premium 10 euros:
Cancellation only.

[See the complete contract](#)

- "Repatriation assistance" contract (1.6%), minimum premium of 10 euros:
Repatriation assistance + tour interruption + luggage.

[See the complete contract](#)

As far as "civil liability abroad" is concerned, only French residents are covered.

Informations :

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