

Hiking in the Vosges

Alsace stands for medieval towns, picturesque half-timbered houses, storks' nests on church towers and wine, paired with hearty cuisine that combines Germanic heartiness with French finesse. Travelers don't have to do without any of this if they turn away from the Route des Vins d'Alsace and the Upper Rhine lowlands and set out for the hilly landscape of the Vosges. Two examples of hikes in the Vosges.

Broadening horizons with Horizons d'Alsace

In the middle of the Alsatian Wine Route, which stretches from Marlenheim near Strasbourg to Thann, there is a remarkable cooperation. In the Kayersberg valley, in the heart of the Ballons de Vosges Natural Park, nine hoteliers work closely together. The concept sounds like it was created during the pandemic to cater to people's newly reignited wanderlust. But [Horizons d'Alsace](#) has been around for more than 30 years. Nine hotels with a total of 220 rooms, 400 restaurant seats and over 100 hiking routes are the sober numbers behind a very charming idea.

Horizons d'Alsace would like to bring guests closer to two facets of the region. On the one hand the medieval towns and their architecture and on the other hand the landscape of the Vosges. The tours with Horizons d'Alsace do not focus on the Rhine plain with the wine villages, but on the side of the region facing the Vosges. The daily stages from one hotel to another and with luggage service go over high pastures, through beech forests or along picturesque mountain lakes.

Hike to the Grand Ballons – Großer Belchen

Stage hikes to the Großer Blechen. The daily stages are designed for around 15 to 20 km and overnight stays are in inns or simple hotels. The highlights of these hikes include the ascents of Petit Ballon, Markstein and Grand Ballon at 1424 altitude) It is possible to transport luggage to the stage destinations. The hiking routes are varied and reward you with a fantastic view and hearty meals, often with the inns' own products. More information at [Massif des Vosges](#)

Other aspects: Interview with co-founder of Horizons d'Alsace Christiane Keller from Hotel des Remparts in Kayersberg / the process of hiking from hotel to hotel / descriptions of the stages of the hike to the Grand Ballon / luggage transport

material





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February 22, 2022