

FRED JACOBSON ALPINE TRAILS, LTD.

presents

THE Magic ♦ OF THE ♦ Alps

Hiking Trips in Austria, France, Italy, Sud Tirol and Switzerland

- ◆ *Specialists in Alpine hiking since 1973*
- ◆ *Small (10-12 hikers), congenial groups*
- ◆ *All trips owner led*
- ◆ *Total reliability – no trip cancellations*
- ◆ *No two-tier pricing*
- ◆ *One week options available*
- ◆ *Satisfied customers = 80-90% repeat ratio*
- ◆ *Multilingual leadership means helpful local contacts & American interpretation of European culture*
- ◆ *Charming inns and four – and five – star hotels*
- ◆ *World-renowned resorts as well as lesser known little jewels*
- ◆ *References on request*
- ◆ *Understated, minimal marketing = maximum value*



Every April, we make our annual pilgrimage to Soglio in Switzerland's Val Bregaglia. Here are views of the village and the gorgeous mountains which surround it, as seen from our hotel rooms, as well as a tiny hamlet over the border near Italy's Lake Como where we've discovered an unforgettable restaurant with mouth watering local specialities.



Our Format

Our trips offer unique in-depth views of one or two beautiful areas. Where space permits, hikers may sign up for the first week only. Registration for all trips is limited to 10-12 hikers. Daily hikes will vary from four to six hours and normally range between five and eight miles. The altitude differences will average 1,500-2,500 feet per day.

Who Should Come

These trips were designed for the experienced hiker. However, if you are in good physical condition and active in other sports, previous hiking experience is not required. This is the perfect trip for active outdoor people who also enjoy their creature comforts at a high – but informal – level.



Visits to mountain huts are always highlights.

Very Special Hotels

Virtually all of our hikers have made remarks to the effect that “You didn’t do justice to the hotels in your brochure. They are truly outstanding – much more than we expected.” Our hotels are, whenever possible, picked for their small size (45-70 beds) and are family owned and managed – providing more personal attention. We stay in hiker-friendly four or five star hotels or upscale country inns, and have long-standing relationships with all of them. They go out of their way to make our guests feel very much at home.

All of our hotels are known for their fine cuisine. In addition, lunches are often highlights, ranging from welcoming Alpine huts to extraordinary village inns of which Fred seems to have an infinite knowledge.



The renowned Ars Amata chamber music players give semi-annual concerts at the five star Hotel Waldhaus in Sils Maria, sponsored by Alpine Trails.

Leadership

Since his days at Yale, Fred Jacobson has hiked, climbed and skied throughout the Alps. Some of these experiences are shared in his critically acclaimed book, "The Meek Mountaineer." He has also authored numerous articles in hiking journals and encyclopedias. Fred has lectured at the National Explorer's Club, the American Alpine Club, and Harvard and Yale Clubs of New York. In 1995, he became the first American to be awarded a gold medal for lifetime achievement by the Valais Alpine Guides Association. Fred is a member of the Swiss Alpine Club and has an unrivaled knowledge of the Alpine valleys and villages as well as the mountains and hiking trails. His deep love of the mountains is infectious, and his daily presence on all trips will heighten your enjoyment of the incomparable Alps!

Our Goal

The Alps offer a unique opportunity to combine the pleasures of hiking with the special enjoyment of fine country inns. Having visited dozens of leading resorts, we have chosen some of the most beautiful climbing centers in the Alps. Each has more than a century of mountaineering tradition. During our thirty plus years of operation, an increasing number of hikers have found that the trail selection and local knowledge of a thoroughly experienced guide can enhance their enjoyment and help them to do and see much more than they might on their own. Since 1973, our primary goal has never changed: to offer the finest possible Alpine hiking trips for people who like lots of exercise combined with plenty of creature comforts. Our goal is to be the best, not the biggest, and we consider ourselves an Alpine "boutique" for connoisseurs.



Recognition

We have been featured on radio and television as well as in a wide variety of publications such as *Travel & Leisure*, *Fortune*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *The Washington Post*, *European Travel & Life* and *Departures*.



Fred Jacobson high in the Austrian Alps...with a group in front of the famed Hotel Mont Blanc in Chamonix.





Sud Tirol

The Sud Tirol has become one of our favorite areas due to its diverse attractions. You'll see castles, ancient churches, a special breed of horses, and magnificent scenery.

Magnificent Hikes

Great hotels and delicious and creative food are guaranteed. But the main attractions are the awe-inspiring mountains and the trails which surround them.



The group enjoys a little "scramble."



On one of Chamonix's famous "balconies," with continuous views to the Mont Blanc.

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HOW TO REACH US

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The insert contains our current trip schedule, as well as terms and a registration form. Our website has detailed descriptions of each of our destinations. If you prefer, our trip coordinator – Sheila Duigan – would be happy to send you printed copies and answer any questions.