



SKI & SNOWBOARD PROGRAMMES IN SWITZERLAND FOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

A TRUSTED PARTNER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL COMMUNITY SINCE 2002

We like standing on snow-covered mountains.
We enjoy listening to the distinctive crunch of freshly-fallen snow and the flow of clear mountain streams.
We admire scenic mountain views in every direction.
Most importantly, we love negotiating well-groomed slopes, hiking marked mountain paths, climbing rocks and descending muddy trails on two wheels.



“ Robert and his team, have always dealt with our problems, requests and requirements with the upmost professionalism, very efficiently and in a most courteous and friendly way. Indeed, nothing has ever appeared to be too much trouble for Viamonde. Accommodation and food, counsellors and the quality of teaching and supervision have always been of a high standard. ”

– **Mark Silcock**
St. John's International School, Belgium

Viamonde is committed to provide programmes of the highest possible quality and share these fantastic experiences in Switzerland with young people from throughout the world, at all levels of their ability. We are passionate about imparting our knowledge and sense of wonder onto the next generation.

Viamonde is a registered Swiss company and since 2002 we have worked closely with the international community of schools and families and developed unique, high-quality, ski, snowboard, multi-activity and summer camp programmes in Switzerland.



Amongst other membership, we are a proud member of ECIS, the European Council of International Schools, the leading collaborative global network promoting and supporting the ideals and best practices of international education.



OUR CLIENTS

Our clients can be found on every continent. We work exclusively with international schools and families and our clients include some of the longest-established and most prestigious international schools in the world. References can be provided on request.

OUR TEAM

Together with other factors, what sets our programmes apart is the quality of our staff and we take staff recruitment, training and supervision very seriously. Our dynamic, experienced, mature and caring staff are totally committed to offering a personal, flexible and above all quality service. We have a wide range of local contacts and knowledge to make every programme a success and our management team are closely involved with the programmes themselves to ensure a consistently high standard is maintained at all times.

SAFETY & SUPERVISION ROUND-THE-CLOCK SUPERVISION

Safety and supervision is at the core of everything that we offer. We are very conscious of the responsibility of caring for children and are 100% focussed on the safety and well-being of the participants in our programmes.

An excellent ratio between fully-trained counsellors and students guarantees effective supervision at all times and a caring and attentive environment. Complemented by managers, healthcare and hotel staff, we are able to offer 24-hour supervision.

All our counsellors carry mobile telephones as well as a first aid kit and have been trained in basic first aid and CPR. In the rare event of accident or illness, fully-equipped general medical practices are available in every resort, a regional hospital with a paediatric department is a short distance away and a university hospital is available in Lausanne, a short helicopter flight from all of our resorts.

What makes us unique is that at every ski programme, amongst our own team of staff is a qualified nurse. Our nurses have general camp healthcare responsibilities, help the school chaperones with the organisation and distribution of medicines, liaise with doctors and hospitals, if required and keep comprehensive health records.

“ Thanks again, Robert, for a great week. Joey and all the staff made our stay fantastic. Every detail was spelled out, we were treated like old friends and the kids had a ball. Two thumbs up, five stars....whatever the highest superlative is, that’s how I rate them! ”

–Tom Mott
American School of Paris,
France

“ It was evident from the high degree of motivation, sense of achievement and genuine happiness amongst all the students that the ski camp was a truly successful learning experience for all. Please extend my thanks to the ski counsellors who worked so hard to make our trip so great! ”

–Linda Holland
Marymount International
School, London





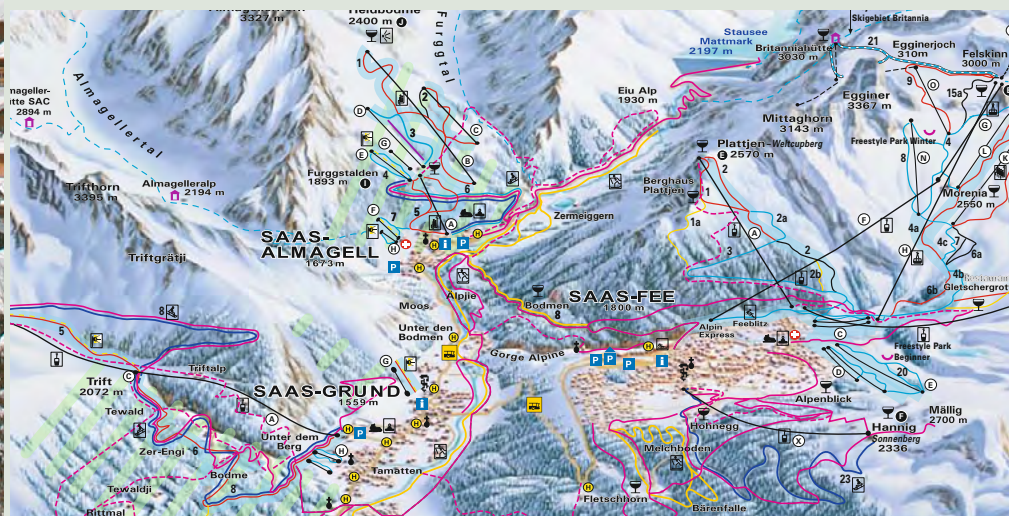
SAAS-GRUND & SAAS-FEE “THE PEARL OF THE ALPS”



Traditional Swiss mountain villages with impressive facilities

Nestled close to the Dom and Allalinhorn glaciers as well as the Weissmies, Nadelhorn and Lenzspitze mountains, Saas-Grund and Saas-Fee together form one of the most popular year-round mountain destinations in Switzerland.

Saas-Grund, where our accommodation is located, is a small village with very good amenities, including an impressive outdoor ice-rink. Saas-Fee is a cosmopolitan resort without cars, where only small electric vehicles and horse-drawn sleighs and carriages allowed and offers many famous-name shops along its snow-covered streets.



EXTENSIVE, HIGH-ALTITUDE, SKI REGION

Together, Saas-Grund and Saas-Fee offer some of the highest-altitude skiing available anywhere in Europe. Superb snow conditions are guaranteed throughout the winter and Saas-Fee also has one of the longest ski seasons in Europe, offering skiing on its glacier throughout the year. It is no surprise that the area is used extensively by international ski teams to train for their World Cup events.

The extensive, well-marked and safe runs provide a paradise for skiers and snowboarders of all abilities, challenging those more confident, but providing an ideal, progressive, environment for those new to these winter sports.

Some of the most sophisticated mountain infrastructure in the Alps is on offer in Saas-Grund and Saas-Fee, including the highest underground funicular in the world, the Metro Alpin and the highest revolving restaurant in the world, the Mittelallalin.

“ We’d like to say a big “thank you” for a wonderful ski trip! We found every aspect of the trip to be well organised, suited to our needs and loads of fun. I would highly recommend Viamonde’s programme to any group seeking a high quality and safe ski trip! ”

– **Beverly Sortland**
Southbank American International
School, London

HOTEL RODANIA CHARM, COMFORT & A FAMILY ATMOSPHERE



The purpose-designed Hotel Rodania is built to traditionally high Swiss standards and is situated in safe, peaceful surroundings, close to the traditional original village of Saas-Grund, with its wooden and stone chalets.

The Hotel Rodania is ideally located for our programmes, close to both the village-level beginner ski area of Saas-Grund as well as the Saas-Grund gondola, taking skiers to the centre of Saas-Grund's high-altitude skiing. Saas-Fee is only 10 minutes away by bus.

Girls and boys accommodation is separated and bedrooms are warm, comfortable and with ensuite facilities.

A welcoming reception area leads to two spacious, sunny, dining rooms and the sun terrace with magnificent views to the surrounding mountains.

A games room, cinema room and infirmary compliment the impressive facilities at this very popular group hotel.

ALTERNATIVE DESTINATIONS

We operate in a number of different mountain resorts in Switzerland, each selected for their suitability for international school groups and all offering a warm welcome, good amenities and proximity to excellent medical facilities. Please visit our website or contact us for more information.

anzère
VALAIS SWITZERLAND

NENDAZ
4 VALLÉES

LEYSIN
OXYGENE
DES ALPES



	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	
WAKE UP		07:30	07:30	07:30	07:30	
BREAKFAST		08:00 - 08:30	08:00 - 08:30	08:00 - 08:30	08:00 - 08:30	
MORNING 09:00 - 12:00	Arrive Geneva (GVA), Zurich (ZRH) or Milan (MXP) Transfer to Saas-Grund	3 hours fully-supervised skiing or snowboarding	3 hours fully-supervised skiing or snowboarding	3 hours fully-supervised skiing or snowboarding	3 hours fully-supervised skiing or snowboarding	
LUNCH 12:00 - 13:00	On arrival at the Hotel Rodania	Picnic at a mountain restaurant	Picnic at a mountain restaurant	Picnic at a mountain restaurant	Picnic at a mountain restaurant	
AFTERNOON 13:00 - 16:00	Meet the counsellors Settle into bedrooms Ski equipment & clothing fitting	3 hours fully supervised skiing or snowboarding	3 hours fully supervised skiing or snowboarding	3 hours fully supervised skiing or snowboarding	3 hours fully supervised skiing or snowboarding	
SUPERVISED FREE TIME	17:00 - 18:30	17:00 - 18:30	17:00 - 18:30	17:00 - 18:30	17:00 - 18:30	
DINNER	18:30 - 19:30	18:30 - 19:30	18:30 - 19:30	18:30 - 19:30	18:30 - 19:30	
EVENING	Torchlight walk through old Saas-Grund	“Cluedo”	Sledding	“Stock exchange”	Ice skating	
BEDTIME & LIGHTS OUT	21:30 - 22:00	21:30 - 22:00	21:30 - 22:00	21:30 - 22:00	21:30 - 22:00	



“ I would like to pass on our thanks to you and all the Viamonde staff for the wonderful ski trip. Your staff all worked incredibly hard and were extremely patient with all our students. ”

– **Bridget Penrose-Lyall**
British School, Riyadh



	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	07:30	07:30	
	08:00 - 08:30	08:00 - 08:30	
	3 hours fully-supervised skiing or snowboarding	3 hours fully-supervised skiing or snowboarding	Transfer to Geneva (GVA), Zurich (ZRH) or Milan (MXP)
	Picnic at a mountain restaurant	Barbeque in the snow	
	3 hours fully supervised skiing or snowboarding	3 hours fully supervised skiing or snowboarding including slalom race	
	17:00 - 18:30	17:00 - 18:30	
	18:30 - 19:30	18:30 - 19:30	
	Talent show	Prize giving, certificate presentation & disco	
	21:30 - 22:00	22:00 - 22:30	



Participants must choose whether to ski or snowboard for the full period of the programme. It is not possible to switch between these different disciplines during the programme.





An excursion can be included in a school's programme to replace one of the ski days. A diverse choice of activity can be combined to create an exciting and educational excursion and a full list is available on request, but these are the most popular.

AQUA PARC

With an air temperature of 28°, a water temperature of 28°-32°, three themed areas with pools and slides as well as saunas and Turkish baths, AquaParc is deservedly popular with students and chaperones alike.

CHATEAU DE CHILLON

This stunning 13th century castle, immortalised by the poet Lord Byron, is located right on the shores of beautiful Lake Geneva and considered one of the best-preserved medieval castles in Europe. A guided tour through the buildings and grounds, including the grand ballroom, great hall, courtyards and bedrooms explains why the Château de Chillon is Switzerland's most visited historic monument.

CAILLER CHOCOLATE FACTORY AT BROU

A guided visit immerses the senses in the world of chocolate whilst learning something of the history of chocolate as well as how it is manufactured in the 21st century. There is also a welcome opportunity to sample the company's world-famous chocolates.

CHEESE FACTORY AND MUSEUM AT GRUYÈRE

Located near beautiful Alpine pastures, "La maison du Gruyère" provides a fascinating insight into how this world-famous cheese is made, with the experienced cheese-makers demonstrating how culture and rennet is added to the rich milk, how the resulting curd is cut and then finally transferred and pressed into moulds to develop and mature.

OLYMPIC MUSEUM

Lausanne is the home of the International Olympic Committee and since 1993 the Olympic Museum. Completely renovated and updated in 2013 and 2014, the museum explains the history of the Olympic movement from ancient Greece to the modern games and how the organisation operates today. The permanent exhibits are designed to let students relive the emotions experienced during the Olympic Games. Through hands-on exhibitions of works of art, documents, films and precious objects, the museum pays tribute to the marriage of sport, art and culture which Baron de Coubertin called Olympism.

"I was very impressed by the counsellors' impeccable behaviour and appearance. I was very pleased with the safety standards, the instructors' involvement in teaching and interaction with the children, motivating them and giving them a fun – experience."

Kiran Islania
Trailblazers Adventure Travel,
India

What's included in the price?



“ Programme manager Joe is an outstanding leader – dependable, calm, organised, approachable and fun! Your staff worked very hard and had an amazing amount of energy and enthusiasm. ”

– Ann Lee
International School of Kuala Lumpur

“ It is a great responsibility to escort a group of middle school students on a ski trip. It was reassuring for me and the other chaperones to know that our students were well taken care of throughout the day and night. ”

– Anne Haynes
American Community Schools of England

SUPPORT FROM A VIAMONDE PROGRAMME MANAGER

Our programme managers coordinate the different programmes in each resort and manage the team of counsellors. Highly experienced, our programme managers work closely with the school's chaperones to ensure that their expectations are met at all times. Our programme managers are also highly proficient skiers or snowboarders and whenever possible act as ski guides for the school chaperones and share the precious local knowledge they have accumulated.

RESORT TRANSFERS

Viamonde works only with well-established and respected transport providers in Switzerland, who offer modern fleets of vehicles, meeting the very high safety standards in this country. Buses are fully-equipped for winter driving with special winter tyres and snow chains and the wearing of seat belts is compulsory for all passengers.

ACCOMMODATION AND ALL MEALS

Our programmes include large buffet breakfasts, varied lunches, afternoon snacks and 4-course dinners prepared with fresh ingredients, to meet the appetites of our international clientele. Menus have been developed over the many years of working with international schools and have been analysed by dietary consultants to ensure that they are healthy, balanced and satisfying. Our experienced chefs can always accommodate special dietary requirements and portions are generous to reflect the day's physical activities. When the weather permits, a popular barbeque in the snow is organised at the end of the programme.

24-HOUR SUPERVISION FROM EXPERIENCED ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNSELLORS

We carefully recruit our counsellors from all over the world to create a truly international environment. All our counsellors are at least 21 years of age and are fluent in English. For most, English is their mother tongue. We benefit from extremely high staff retention and many counsellors have worked for us for more than 5 years and some have been with us since our inception in 2002. The result is that the team of counsellors is mature and experienced and motivated to work with young people.

INNOVATIVE SKI AND SNOWBOARD INSTRUCTION

Our counsellors, all experienced instructors, create a fun learning environment, balancing games and instruction in a safe, fully-supervised, environment. Utilising modern approaches to sports education, they instil confidence, working closely with those progressing more slowly, while challenging those whose skills are developing more rapidly. In our programmes, children never ski or snowboard without their counsellor and the daily programme includes important warm-up exercises as well as regular breaks for rest and a hot drink. The unique approach to our programmes follows a philosophy of providing challenges, promoting personal development and building a foundation of trust and cooperation that can be taken back to the classroom.

QUALITY SKI AND SNOWBOARD EQUIPMENT RENTAL

Modern equipment is well maintained and great care is taken in choosing the correct sizes of boots and skis/snowboards. Helmets meeting strict safety standards are provided and are worn by all students at all times whilst skiing or snowboarding or participating in a sledding activity.

LIFT PASS FOR THE LOCAL SKI DOMAIN

A contactless lift pass is provided for all participants, which can be safely kept in a pocket whilst passing through lift controls.

CONTINUAL ASSESSMENT, VIDEO SKI CLINIC, SLALOM RACE AND CERTIFICATE

Whilst our programmes are designed to be fun and exciting, we understand the importance that they should also be challenging, with attainment goals for all levels of ability. It is for this reason that our counsellors continually assess the students and adapt their instruction accordingly. For students with a high level of ski or snowboard ability, our counsellors will include a video ski clinic, where students' technique is videoed for analysis and improvement.

At the end of every programme, a non-competitive slalom course is organised for all students to demonstrate the progress they have made and our counsellors will award a certificate to every student indicating the skill level they have attained.

ONLINE PHOTO GALLERY

To allow parents to follow the programme, an online photo gallery is maintained throughout the programme with photos posted every day. Our online parent portal also includes the ability for parents to send e-mails to their child, which are distributed once per day.

VISA SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

At the request of the school, we will provide an official invitation letter and all other required supporting documentation to allow parents to apply at the appropriate Swiss embassy or consulate for a visa, if required, for their child's participation in the programme.



FREE PLACES FOR ACCOMPANYING CHAPERONES

Our ski programme prices include free places for accompanying chaperones on a ratio of 1:10. A higher chaperone ratio as well as free or reduced price places for the party leader's family members can optionally be included.

Optional Extras

QUALITY SKI CLOTHING RENTAL

We appreciate that in many countries where our international school clients are located, it can be difficult or impossible to source ski clothing and even when available, many parents prefer to rent such material. We also understand the importance of staying warm and dry whilst participating in skiing and snowboarding.

As a result we have developed our own line of specially-manufactured, high-quality, ski jackets and pants to meet the demands of our young clients and these are available in all our resorts.

COMPREHENSIVE TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is a requirement for participation in our programmes, as well as a condition for issuing a visa, that every participant is covered by suitable insurance. We are pleased to be able to offer a comprehensive travel insurance policy from Swiss insurer SWISSCARE, developed especially for us to meet the specific needs of our international school clients and including unlimited medical treatment in Switzerland, repatriation to the home country and limited follow-up medical treatment in the home country. Full policy details are available on request.



SWISSCARE



Compare Viamonde to your current provider



Your current provider

Works exclusively with the international school community

Since its inception in 2002, Viamonde has been a trusted partner to the international school community and has worked closely with teachers and principals to develop programmes to meet their specific requirements. We do not offer our programmes to international schools through commissioned agents – we only work directly with schools and develop long-term relationships.



Established company, registered in Switzerland

Unlike many providers who operate outside their country of incorporation, Viamonde is a fully-registered Swiss company, complies with strict Swiss laws and its operations are fully-insured by Swiss insurers. This provides our clients with important protection and peace of mind.



Offers flexible programmes to suit each school's particular requirements

As a small company where the management team is closely involved with the clients and the programmes themselves, we can quickly respond to requests from schools and draw on our local knowledge and contacts to provide a level of flexibility that we believe cannot be matched by other providers.



Employs mature and motivated staff, subject to strict Swiss employment conditions

Unlike many providers who recruit young, inexperienced staff with little motivation to work with young people, our team is filled with motivated and mature individuals and we benefit from an extremely high staff retention level. Our staff also receive generous salaries and employment conditions which is reflected in their commitment and professionalism.



Employs a registered nurse in a healthcare role at every ski programme

Although local doctors and hospitals are always on hand, accidents or serious illness are extremely rare. We believe that it is very important to have a registered nurse on our own staff to manage day-to-day minor healthcare at our ski programmes and provide important support for the school chaperones and liaison between other healthcare providers and parents, if necessary.



Offers supervision of students by ski & snowboard counsellors throughout the day and evening

In our unique, fully-supervised, ski programmes, our counsellors remain with the students in their care throughout the day, from leaving the accommodation in the morning to returning to the accommodation at the end of the afternoon. In programmes from most providers, school chaperones must accompany students to and from the mountain and during lunchtime. The same team of counsellors help the school chaperones with wake-up and lights-out, take their meals with the students, supervise free-time and organise a fun activity after dinner every evening.



Offers up to 6 hours of ski or snowboard instruction per day

Because the counsellors supervising the students are also their ski or snowboard instructors, the ski or snowboard instruction is maximized, with up to 6 hours each day and in addition the students are fully-supervised by our counsellors at lunchtime.



Has a company vehicle available to transport students and chaperones at every programme

Most providers rely on taxis in an emergency situation and do not operate their own vehicles. We own and lease our own vehicles and at every ski programme there is a vehicle available at all times, not just for emergency situations, but to support the programme throughout the day.



Includes option of special diets, including Halal, at every programme

We understand that for religious or health reasons, many students require a special diet and our chefs are able to meet these requirements, working closely with our suppliers to provide a full Halal menu, if required.



Offers a secure online portal and photo gallery for parents

We appreciate that parents like to follow the progress of their child whilst participating in a school programme, particularly when overseas. We provide a personalised secure area of our website for each programme, where parents can log in to view the photos we upload every day and optionally send a message to their child. We also have the functionality in this specially-developed portal for party leaders to upload news every day for parents to be reassured and feel involved in the programme.





MULTI-ACTIVITY PROGRAMMES FOR SCHOOLS

Our fully-inclusive programmes offer a controlled environment for students to learn new values and skills, try new outdoor activities and develop independence. Our comprehensive programmes balance physical activities and challenges with cultural visits and less demanding sports activities and are fully-customisable to meet a group's particular requirements.



“ Thank you, Robert, for the excellent team you provided for our children. Everyone had a fantastic time and is already talking about next year. Please extend our thanks once again to the staff. ”

– **Barbara Baylor-Porter**
Bilingual Montessori School of Paris

To discuss your school's individual requirements and request a personalised quote, please contact us without any obligation whatsoever:

Robert Perris

Viamonde

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View videos of Viamonde's programmes at
www.youtube.com/viamondetv



viamonde

www.viamonde.com