

Peak Retreats (www.peakretreats.co.uk 0844 576 0123), the specialist for ski holidays in traditional mountain villages in the French Alps, has found five more hidden gems to increase its choice to more than 50 ski resorts for the 2014-15 season. New additions are Bessans, Albiez, Doucy, La Toussuire and Chamrousse with Bessans, Albiez and Doucy all exclusive to Peak Retreats.

All prices quoted are for 7 night self-catering and include return Eurotunnel crossing for a car and passengers. Discounts of up to 15% apply on many bookings made before 31 October and can also offer discounts on pre booked lift passes.

- **Bessans 1750:** For the first time Peak Retreats is featuring one of France's most famous Alpine Nordic areas, Bessans, a peaceful village in the heart of the Maurienne Valley with 133kms of marked trails for cross country skiing, while those who want a bigger choice of downhill skiing can go to the neighbouring resort of Val Cenis. Stay in a centrally located residence and pay from £110pp based on 5 sharing a 2 bedroom apartment.
- **Albiez** is another authentic village which is also great value for money so good for a budget, low cost ski holiday with uncrowded slopes and its own 35km ski area. It's a snow sure resort and if flying, it is only about an hour from Turin (cheaper than Geneva too). Prices from only £102pp in a 1 bed apartment for 4 with use of indoor pool, sauna, Jacuzzi for Easter week 28/03.
- With the opening of the new Celliers gondola ski trekkers and snow-shoe walkers staying in **Doucy Combelouvière** can now get to Valmorel and beyond to Saint François Longchamp and have access to 165km of pistes and 50 ski lifts, including a powerful new high-speed 6 seater chairlift and an 8 seater gondola. It's a family friendly resort – stay in a ski-out, ski-in residence and pay from only £85pp, based on 5 sharing a 1 bedroom apartment.
- Alternatively head to **Chamrousse**, famous for hosting the winter Olympic Games in 1968 where French skier Jean-Claude KILLY won 3 gold medals. Only 30km from Grenoble, it has a preserved Nordic plateau with a 360°C panorama and breathtaking views. Stay in a newly built residence with free access to a private outdoor heated swimming pool, Jacuzzi and small fitness room. Prices from £89pp for 5 sharing a 2 bedroom apartment.
- **La Toussuire**, while retaining its friendly tradition, now offers one of the largest ski areas in France, being linked to the giant Sybelles circuit and an impressive 310km of piste. The skiing is suited all standards and snowboarders have the choice of two terrain parks. There is a choice of three residences, all with indoor pools, including two at the foot of the slopes. From £167pp based on 4 sharing a 1 bedroom apartment.
- Peak Retreats also offers hotel holidays. For example the Neige et Roc hotel in unspoilt Samoëns costs from £436pp for 7 nights half board based on a family of 4.