

20
summer
24

PRESS KIT

megeve

visitmegeve.uk

KEY FIGURES

4

number of mountain peaks

500 000

Visit rate: 500,000 overnight stays in summer

1 113 m

altitudes, village

15

chapels and oratories

4

pedestrian lifts opened this summer

37 935

Number of beds

33

Number of hotels/ accommodation

1

golf course (18-hole)

4

routes for trail running

3

Michelin-starred chefs, for 5 Michelin

135

restaurants, bars and venues for festivities

25

horse-drawn carriages

15

mountain bike routes

37

footpaths

204

shops, including 16 art galleries

1

altiport

1

casino

17

wellness and treatment centres



Breakdown of visitors: 60% DOMESTIC 40% from ABROAD including Switzerland, EUA, UK, USA

51

Number of farmers



Megève, iconic, vibrant and inspiring

At the foot of Mont Blanc, nestled between forests and alpine mountain pastures, Megève brings together the French art-de-vivre with a gentle rhythm of life. The fabulous destiny of this location all started more than one hundred years ago, encouraged by Baroness Noémie de Rothschild. She fell so much in love with Mont d'Arbois that she took the decision to build a ski resort there: following along behind in her wake were members of royal families, world leaders, and later on, fashionable Parisian artists. In the words of Jean Cocteau, it was "the 21st arrondissement of Paris". It is a world of horse-drawn carriages, cobbled streets, extremely luxurious chalets, prestigious hotels and designer boutiques where the image of a picture-perfect resort belies the fact that behind all this is a mountain village that lives and breathes all year long, offering miles of paths and trails that transform this destination into the gateway to escapism. The Toquicimes Festival, which takes place every autumn, is becoming increasingly well-known, transforming Megève into the unofficial capital of mountain cuisine, shining a spotlight on its farmers, the rich quality of its terroir and the skills of local artisans. Undergoing a transformation from an agricultural village into an internationally famous ski resort, Megève has charted a course of history that straddles tradition and innovation; one which has been moulded by emblematic figures who aim to continue its unique heritage while welcoming the warm wind of modernity.

With the summer season rapidly approaching, this press pack collates a number of unique experiences to take place in the village of Megève.

ALLOW TIME TO STAND STILL

When experiences offer sensory discoveries that are as exclusive as they are unexpected. 3 unique wellness experiences in Megève.

Discover the secret world of plants

The two elements to this event are sure to enhance any simple hiking expedition: a walk through mountain pastures and forests, followed by a session on how to make a balm. Sabrina is a mountain guide who has a deeply held passion for the magic of plants that she will share with you through anecdotes and nuggets of information. With this event, she invites you to observe, touch, smell and taste a number of plants, all against the backdrop of magnificent panoramic views. Anyone who takes part will be able to take a souvenir back with them in the form of a balm they have made using an oily macerate from mallow or plantain, to which beeswax has been added.

*Private sessions - duration 3hrs - from €175 (group) 1 to 8 people
The "Magic of Plants" option from €12/person.
evolution2.com/megeve*



Experience a therapeutic sound bath

Be at one with your inner self: the Four Seasons Hotel Megève**** offers therapeutic sound bath treatments, providing a unique hotel experience in an intimate setting. The sessions, which are held under a geodesic dome, are all about experiencing pure relaxation. Those undergoing the experience are soothed by auditory vibrations created by bowls or gongs: a genuine auditory massage to help calm your brain and bring about a state of deep relaxation.

*Private sessions are by prior arrangement – duration 1 hour
€150 for 1 person and 40 €/person for any extra people (up to a maximum of 8 people). Group sessions during the “full moon” will take place on 21/07 and 19/08, from 5pm to 6pm. €50/pp
fourseasons.com*

Succumb to a chocolate massage

The Grand Hôtel du Soleil d’Or****, a true institution in Megève, not only transforms cocoa in its chocolate factory, but also in its spa, where it offers a Chocolate Mineral signature treatment. Cocoa is known for its anti-ageing benefits and antioxidant properties. Enjoy a massage that uses Fairtrade 90% dark chocolate: once melted, it is combined with a neutral massage oil. It is then time to lie back and indulge yourself, enjoying the relaxing movements of the masseur, while savouring the cocoa fragrances that infuse the air. The session ends with a chocolate infusion.


50 minutes: €140 - 80 minutes: €185
soleildor-megeve.com

A LITTLE PART OF YOUR SURROUN- DINGS

A jewel in the crown of Megève's history

Dominique Joly-Pottuz, an artisan jeweller from Megève, has taken it upon himself to restore the Cross of Megève to its former glory. The cross bears witness to a bygone era harkening back to 1750, when Savoie was a part of Piedmont-Sardinia and the young men of the village departed for Turin to complete their military service. Following 7 years of loyal service, they would return home with a hand-crafted gold cross as a gift for their bride. This tradition had been long forgotten, however, until the Joly-Pottuz family revived it in the spirit of preserving their heritage. Although it has been updated and now comes in a selection of different designs, the Megève Cross is still crafted and chiselled by hand in the family's atelier. The work is of such a meticulous nature that only a select few jewellers are capable of reproducing it today.

bijouxmegeve.com



Inspired by the mountains,
creativity begins to flow. Take
a look at this collection of
ideas on how to take a part of
Megève home with you.

Des Glaçons de Megève

These praline-filled sweet treats enveloped in meringue were invented by Barthélémy Vigliengo in 1910 in Megève and still continue to delight those with a sweet tooth today. Isabelle Vigliengo is his great-granddaughter. Having taken on the responsibility for production a few years ago, she has carefully guarded this expertise. She continues to manufacture the Glaçons that have become the signature dish of Megève in the old-fashioned way, piece by piece and step by step, making sure to use top-quality organic ingredients. A centuries-old white treat that hasn't aged a day.

*Boutique workshop: 215 Rte Edmond de Rothschild, Megève
megeve-tourisme.fr/les-glacons-de-megeve*

Flowers in every form

Emmanuel Renaut, a three star chef, makes the perfect use of mountain flowers and plants in his culinary creations. And you can now enjoy this expertise in the forms of jars filled with mountain flower honey (dandelions, lime blossom, acacia) that has been extracted from the 20 beehives he keeps in his garden. Alternatively, enjoy it in bottle form with a range of house spirits (Gin de Montagne, Sapinette, Génépi and Negroni) that Renaut has distilled and bottled himself. These signature products can be purchased at Garde-Manger, which is the delicatessen he runs in the centre of the village. This love of flowers also extends to the Flocons de Sel**** Spa, where you can enjoy being pampered with massage oils that have been enhanced with a selection of seasonal mountain flowers and plants.

emmanuelrenaut.com



EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

A taste of the Alps

Treat yourself to an ultra-gourmet break at the Four Seasons Hotel Megève**** with an experience which combines the gourmet menu and the classic Tea-Time, featuring the best of local seasonal produce. It's a multi-stage 'Alpine Walk', including an appetiser devised by pastry chef Jonathan Chapuy, which he sublimes with his wild pickings to bring freshness and character to the dishes, which are exclusively sweet. Just take a look at the Savoy cake adorned with Aravis honey, hyssop and fresh pollen, rhubarb that is perfectly matched with elderflower, strawberry with mint and mountain celery, or a flan full of Savoy walnuts. You will need to allow at least 90 minutes to take the time to savour each stage of the walk.

"Walk through the Alps" tasting session: €70/pp (or €90 if served with champagne), Wednesday to Sunday from 4pm to 5.30pm, booking mandatory 24 hours in advance.
fourseasons.com/fr/megeve



A unique setting for two intimate eateries

'Nous' opened its doors three years ago and was the brainchild of Julien Gatillon, a former double Michelin-starred chef at the Four Seasons, and his wife Sonia. They set this exclusive executive table d'hôte concept up in their chalet in Megève and now the couple have opened two new restaurants in the heart of the village. Two concepts that coexist side by side: 'Vous' offers gourmet French cuisine that showcases the very best ingredients sourced from exceptional producers; 'Anata' ('Vous' in Japanese) is perfect for fans of Japanese cuisine who can choose from the à la carte menu or the omakase menu, which is only served in the evenings. The underlying concept is an open kitchen and a counter around which customers can sit (maximum of 14 and 12 diners maximum respectively). From there, they can watch their dishes being prepared and served up in front of them by Chefs Jean Pastre ('Vous'), and Keiji Ishii and Yohan Delhommeau ('Anata').

Tasting menu or Omakase: €180 or à la carte.
juliengatillon.fr

Enjoy the magic of exclusive mountain cuisine and excite your taste buds.

A mountain pasture that reaches the peaks

Perched high up at an altitude of 1,800 metres on the Rochebrune massif, enjoying a bird's eye view of the cirque du Col du Véry, Mont Charvin and the Aravis mountains, you can discover the best-kept secret of the Fermes de Marie mountain pasture. With exclusive access for customers of the Maisons & Hôtels Sibuet, you can spend a Friday evening there, followed by a night at the Fermes de Marie****. In the true spirit of a table d'hôtes, it is possible to walk to the refuge along alpine paths that are reached after a cable car ride. The scene is complete with wooden floors and walls covered with wooden shingles (weathered wooden tiles), a fireplace, hay racks and credenzas. One you have sipped on an aperitif, enjoy a meal of authentic mountain cuisine served up at tables bedecked in large red and white checked tablecloths: a starter buffet, Savoyard fondue and dessert buffet.

A night to remember!

*Package including dinner at the Alpage, drinks and an overnight stay at Fermes de Marie**** - only valid for Fridays.*

From €498 for 2 people.

fermesdemarie.com

THE ART OF ENTERTAINING



4 establishments awarded Michelin Keys in Megève

The French art-de-vivre is a true Megève tradition! Starting with Baroness Noémie de Rothschild and her legendary elegance, art-de-vivre has become a complete art form that has continued to develop over the years, particular thanks to the Sibuet family and their innovative concept: spas built into the very heart of chalets. They were pioneers of their time!

Today, the spirit of hospitality is fully rewarded as it has been recognised by the Michelin Guide: the awarding of Keys for hotels that provide exceptional and excellent experiences. The selection criteria for these awards look at how sensitive the architecture and interior design has been maintained, the quality and consistency of the service, the personality of the establishment itself, the extent to which it is good value for money and whether the accommodation can be regarded as a gateway to the travel destination in which it is found.

3 Clefs pour le Four Seasons Hotel Megève**** - 1 Clef pour Les Fermes de Marie****
1 Clef pour Zannier Hotels Le Chalet**** - 1 Clef pour Hôtel Flocons de Sel****

At the very heart of the concierge profession

Meet the people who help our customers enjoy a truly unique stay. The head concierge at Les Fermes de Marie**** is Ben. Known to both staff and customers alike, he has played an integral role in the company since 1989 when Jean-Louis and Jocelyne Sibuet built the establishment. Right on cue to celebrate his 25th birthday, Ben was awarded the title of France's youngest head concierge. Fast forward to today and customers are always happy to return for their holidays.

His secret is to share a pleasant surprise with guests by revealing the hidden treasures and the best of Megève, making his abilities stand out from the rest.

“Always in the foreground, we must be able to disappear when necessary yet on the contrary, find the right words to make our visitors happy.”

Baptiste Andrieu, Assistant Head Concierge at the Four Seasons Hotel Megève****, holds a degree in international trade, but had not intended initially to join the hotel business. But after having two wonderful experiences in some of the world's top establishments, his passion for hospitality gradually took him in the direction of the hotel sector. Like Ben, Baptiste has been here since the Four Seasons Hotel Megève**** opened in 2017, rising up through the ranks to take on his current position as manager.

Adaptation is integral to everything he does. He fulfils the requests of a discerning international clientèle as rapidly as possible, without forgetting how important it is to know the village inside out and everything it has to offer: “living here allows us to provide them with an authentic offer, which is what they are looking for in Megève.”





SHAR- ING THE MOUN- TAINS

Micro-adventures under the stars

Alpes Aventures welcomes sports and adventure enthusiasts to take part in a mountain bike adventure in the great outdoors. Heading towards the Food Truck 1930, you will reach an altitude of 1930m, where host Yann awaits you. As the sun begins to set over the Aravis range and Mont Blanc, the group comes together to share a dinner of local produce, before spending a night in bivouacs under the stars. Once the first rays of sunshine start to shine through, enjoy breakfast with the perfect view of the mountains before heading back to the village. This tour is suitable for anyone aged 10 and over who has a good level of mountain biking skills.

*Supervised outings with Alpes Aventures from €215 pp with alpesaventures.com
Or make your own way to foodtruck1930.com*

Barefoot, on a bike, with family, friends or teenagers: fans of the great outdoors are spoilt for choice when selecting the right experience for them.



The emotion of H2O

Fancy an invigorating hike spent with your feet in the water, supervised by mountain guides from the Bureau des Guides de Megève? A small group of adventurers gather in a wild spot high above the village, before making their way up and along the flowing torrent of water. Moving from stone to stone, under trees or natural arches, pick your way through the river's eddies. The descent will then take you right back to the starting point through mountain pastures and forest. It's a great opportunity to discover more about the local geology, fauna and flora, learning from the guide as you go along.

Every Wednesday afternoon: €28 per person for half-day group outings and €175 for private sessions for groups of up to 12 people. guides-megeve.com

No adults allowed!

In the footsteps of a tracker

Sandrine Janet offers a unique experience for children and teenagers aged 4 to 13; grouped together by age (4/5, 6/8 and 9/13), they will spend a week following in the footsteps of a trapper. Every morning, the young people are dropped off by their parents into the care of a team of passionate professionals where they embark together on a new adventure that immerses them in the mountain pastures of Mègevan: dog hiking, treetop adventures, paintballing, water hiking down the river, donkey rides, hut-building, creative workshops and discovering nature... to top it all off, 9-13 year olds can spend a night in a teepee, enjoying an evening meal around a camp fire. They have fun learning together and experiencing life in a community.

*Sunday to Friday from 10am to 4pm. €600 for 6 days 30% discount for the 3rd child in the same family.
monitrice.fr/camp-trappeurs-pour-4-13ans-6jours-nature*

A language summer camp for developing and openly discovering the world

At the foot of Mont Blanc, these holidays uniquely combine intensive language courses in the morning with professionally supervised sporting and artistic activities during the afternoons. With young people aged 6 to 16 coming from every continent, they are divided into small groups and immediately plunged into a multicultural environment where there are normally young people of around 10 different nationalities. They spend their days taking part in fun language workshops, drama sessions and classes looking at different societies and ways of life during the mornings, while the afternoons are packed full of activities taking place in the heart of nature: rafting, climbing, swimming, hiking, fishing, dog hiking and artistic activities. The finale of the week is show that they young people put together and rehearse during their stay.

languesacademy.com by Jeunes Diplomates

THE ART OF

Maurice Bonnet, the painter and the mountain

This exhibition is a tribute to the recently deceased painter, who was a former student of the Beaux-Arts in Lyon. He decided to pursue a career as an interior designer, while at the same time developing a passion for drawing and painting. Greatly inspired by the mountains – he lived for many years in the alpine pastures of Mont du Villard in Megève – he takes inspiration from the surrounding landscapes and the people who live there to add life to his works. These include still lifes, depictions of the farms of Megève and their herds, and horses pulling the village's iconic sleighs, all of which are moving testimonies of a simple, authentic mountain life. Oils on canvas, gouache watercolours, charcoal, acrylics, chalk, pencils, brushes and pastels all feature among approximately fifty or so works that form the exhibition and which have recently become a part of the town's collections.

From 8 July to 1 September 2024, every day except

Saturday afternoons

Musée de l'Ermitage du Calvaire

Free entry.

THE MOUNTAIN

Enjoy culture that meanders, poses questions and connects with Megève.



Murmures des Sous-Bois, by Léa Layeux

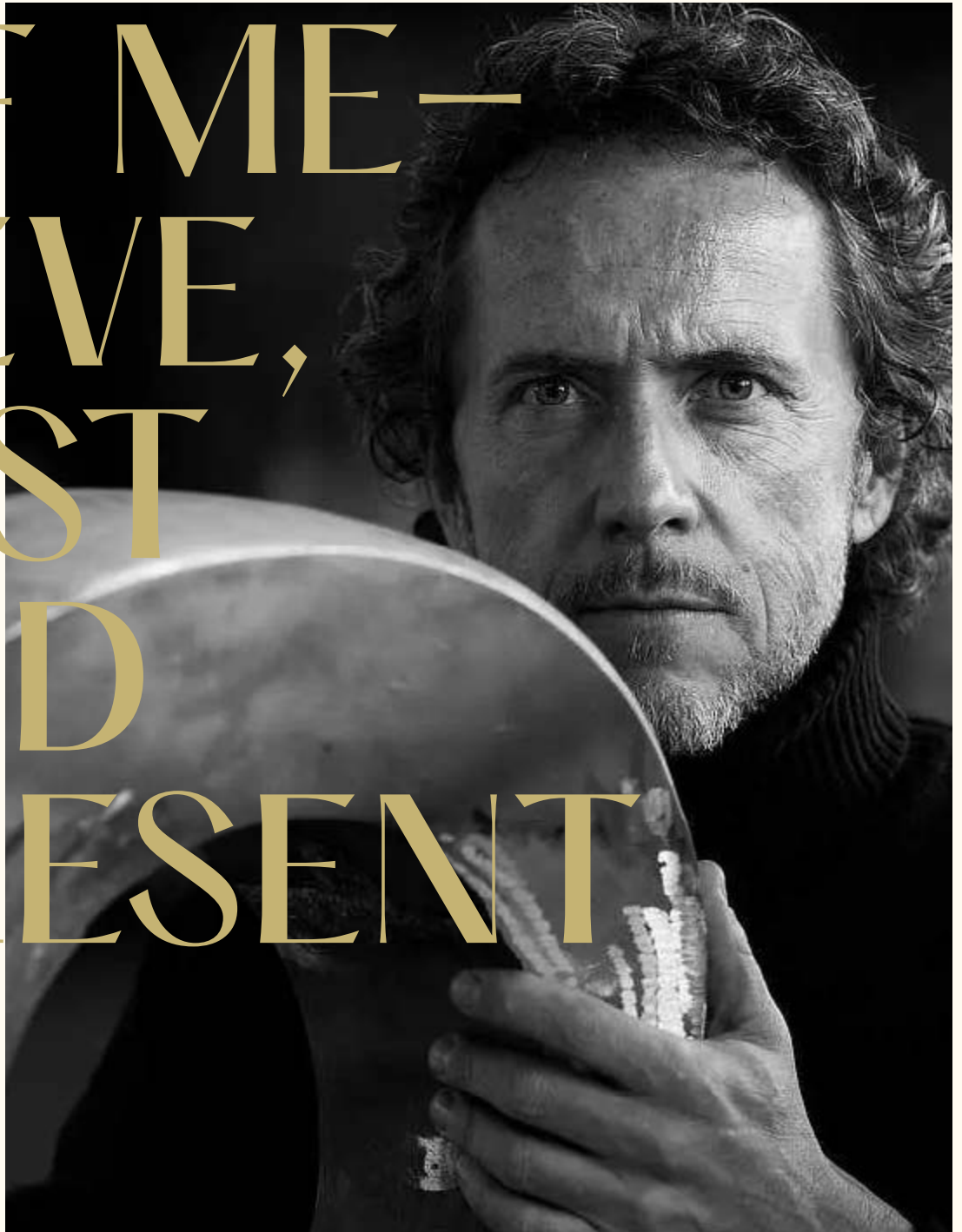
Megève is presenting an exhibition solely for Léa Layeux: also known by the name of Oxaléa, she is a visual artist who is passionate about the forest, wildlife, trees, plants and mushrooms. She lives in the heart of the Val d'Arly truly surrounded by nature and it is this that inspires her to create artwork using plants that she respectfully collects: designed as pieces that could be discovered along the way, they reveal the beauty of microscopic details. Inspired by how foliage, grasses and bark are composed, Oxaléa excels in botanical art. With a teasing subject matter that is sometimes indirect and subtle, it handles the topic of our relationship with nature. Her words are both direct and enlightening: "It's time to look around at what's at our feet before we look up into the sky". Over the summer, in keeping with her approach to raising awareness and using discovery as a tool for education, she is organising two workshops: one where children can make herbariums and the other on gold-leaf gilding for older children.

*From 6 July to 1 September 2024, Tuesday to Sunday, 3pm to 7pm.
Espace d'Arts moderne et contemporain Edith Allard, Le Palais
Entrance: €3 / free for children under 16 years old.
Workshops; book ahead: €15/pp*

*Create a herbarium, suitable for children from 8 years old: Thursday
25 July 2024 from 10am to 12pm.*

*Gilding plants using gold leaf, age 12 and older: Thursday 8 August
2024 from 10am to 12pm. megeve-tourisme.fr*

PEOPLE OF ME- GÈVE, PAST AND PRESENT



Philippe Guilhem, gems gone wild

Born into a long family tradition of jewellers, Philippe Guilhem has been based in Megève for almost 20 years, while his boutique is the go-to place for customers searching for original jewellery that is often custom-made. One look at this work makes you realise he has perfected the art of breaking down the codes of fine, high-end jewellery by removing the sacred aura surrounding the precious items and removing the jewellery from its academic surroundings. Remaining a creator at heart,

he has launched 'Mashandy', a collection of hand-crafted rings. Each style – produced in a production edition of only eight – is set with a single fine or precious stone and numbered. It is an original collection of minimalist creations that draw on both ethnic and contemporary ideas, bringing together the strong, brutal character of bronze with the delicate nature of precious stones (sapphires, rubies, multicoloured spinels, etc.) that the gemmologist unearthed in Burma or Sri Lanka, adding true sparkle to his sculptural jewellery.

guilhem-joaillier.com

Meet the people who help to write Megève's history and make it unique.



Pierre Margara, introduction

Pierre Margara, an artist-sculptor, has been a key figure in Megève, his adopted village, for 50 years now. A true precursor of art in Megève, collectors from all over the world have his sculptures in their collections. Delving into the material, wood, marble and bronze, he works from a block without a plan, not regarding his art from any other viewpoint, yet in the process making each piece truly unique. The human being stands at the heart of his creations, with women in particular occupying a primordial place and often depicted having a slender, elegant silhouette. All of his originals are in wood, walnut or lime, even his customary monumental works for which he refuses to use modelling. His best-known works include 'My Way', a masterly

sculpture dedicated to the author of the song of the same name, which is on show in Megève. He has had exhibitions in France, Europe and even further afield but he never remains away from Megève for long, since it is where he prefers to recharge his creative batteries. In 2023, Pierre Margara received a new accolade when he was included in the famous Who's Who: a dictionary that lists the most important political, economic, scientific, cultural and sporting personalities in France at that time.

pierremargara-sculpteur.com



SUMMER EVENING EVENTS

Summer time means being able to take advantage of the cool summer evenings to eke out every moment of pleasure.



Make your own cocktails at Les Loges Blanches* * * *

At the Bar des Cochers, Les Loges Blanches**** are putting on a series of mixology workshops for apprentice bar staff, where they are able to share ideas about alcoholic and non-alcoholic cocktails. The programme includes learning how to make spirits, syrups and detox drinks. The session is held with Anissa, who is passionate about working behind bars and who will help young and old alike create their favourite tipples, providing them with hints and tips so they can recreate them in the comfort of their own home. For adults: infusions of gin, vodka or rum, with a phial to take away.

From €25 pp. (approx. 1 hour, creation and cocktail tasting, dates TBC or by reservation/on request).

Novotel Apéro'Live

Twice a month, the Novotel Megève Mont-Blanc**** really adds a swing to summer evenings at Apéro'Live, organised at the Meztiva Refuge Gourmand, the hotel's Bar-Restaurant. Sip a cocktail immersed in the rhythms of live music: DJ nights, pop-rock, jazz, funk and covers of all kinds, perfect for getting all generations up on their feet and dancing! On the programme will be signature cocktails, terrace seating, braseros, sharing platters and tapas.

Free access.

Monday shows

Every Monday from 15 July to 26 August, at the end of the day (at 6pm or 6.30pm depending on the programme), families are invited to come to the amphitheatre in the village square or the open-air Pré de Saint Amour in Megève to enjoy an original show. It's the perfect opportunity to come together after a hard day's work and enjoy some time to relax in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. One of the programme's top moments is the musical comedy show "Mozart Vs Mozart", an offbeat journey through the life of the composer. 4 musicians dressed in period costume play on stage for 90 minutes, providing great music and funny commentary: discover what it's all about on 29 July at 8.30pm.

Free. megeve-tourisme.fr

A well-orchestrated siesta

Every Wednesday at 5pm from 10 July to 28 August, visitors are welcome to join a moment of relaxation and reflection at Calvaire, perhaps lying on the grass or being lulled into sleep by the live music and gentle melodies. On the programme: saxo & trombone, world music, double bass and flute, marimba and vibraphone... The body may be resting but your senses are awakened – the perfect moment to enjoy on your own or with family and friends.

Free. megeve-tourisme.fr

SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

Major events
this summer



Megève Mont Blanc - 9 June

The Megève Sports Club is extending an invitation to cyclists who have are passionate about traversing mountain passes: on the 9th June, take on Megève Mont Blanc and get back into shape for the summer season. Most importantly, the route is designed to be a friendly and welcoming experience that takes on the Alpine roads. There are 3 different versions, depending on the format for the day and these are 90, 120 or 140 km in length. The 90km route is a true mountain climb, promising the ascent of the famous Col des Saisies (2200m d+). The second route stretches over 120km of the Beaufortain massif (3300m d+) while the final route is intended for the most experienced riders. Taking in 140km (4000m d+) it encompasses some legendary passes, such as Les Saisies, Col du Prés, Cormet de Roselend and more. These are three different routes, but all of them offer astounding panoramas, mountain pastures with views of Mont Blanc and of course, the peel of cowbells to cheer you on!

megevembc.com

MB Race / WHOOP UCI Mountain Bike World Series - 28 to 30 June

This year, the famous MB Race – considered by many to be the most difficult mountain bike race in the world – is hosting 3 rounds of the Mountain Bike World Cups under the banner of the WHOOP UCI Mountain Bike World Series, in addition to the usual events. These extra races will include the UCI Cross-country Marathon World Cup, with a women's and men's race that will start and end in Megève. As a one-off, the MB Ultra Somfy route will be shared with the UCI Cross-country Marathon World Cup, which gives runners the chance to start behind the greatest names in the sport. The event is open to the Elite category and will be held on Saturday 29 June, taking place over 100km and including 5,000m of elevation.

mb-race.com



The schedule

10th MEGÈVE
SAINT-
TROPEZ
RALLY



10 - 11 june
(car)

35th
COUPE
DES ALPES



13 - 14 june
(car)

RALLY
ALPINE



27 - 28 june (car)

CUISINE
MON
VILLAGE



29 - 30 june

28th
MEGÈVE
JAZZ
CONTEST



12 - 14 july

VILLAGE
FESTIVAL



10 - 11 august

LA
BRADERIE
DE MEGÈVE



23, 24, 25 august
(shopping sales)

HAUTE
ROUTE



24, 25, 26 august

International Jumping at Megève - from 6 to 14 July

Returns to the village from Saturday 6 to Sunday 14 July 2024 for the 13th edition. This is a top-level show-jumping competition and a great celebration that is perfect for professional riders and equine lovers. The area surrounding the Palais sports centre is transformed into a mini village: around the course you can find stables, grandstands and around thirty marquees hosting restaurants, shops and organisations. Competing in front of 25,000 spectators are more than 500 horses and 350 riders from twenty different countries, encompassing promising young amateurs through to the most successful of professionals. There are national and international classes split up by special events such as demonstrations of different equestrian disciplines including acrobatics, a multi-sport team relay (hearkening back to the Olympics), a demonstration of Horse men and even an auction for racing horses.

jumping-megeve.com

Megève Blues Festival - 19 to 21 July

The 10th Megève Blues Festival will be held from 19 to 21 July. The programme includes paid concerts on the Grande Scène (Main stage) which is erected in the Palais car park, while local groups put on free performances in the village square. This will be a new format for this event, which has grown in scope since it first started in 2014: there will be 2 concerts each evening on Friday 19 and Saturday 20 July and a "Special Anniversary Evening" on Sunday 21 in tribute to Stéphane Huget, the festival's creator. Taking part in this will be Manu Lanvin, Johnny Gallagher and Henrik Freischlager, 3 great artists who have been 'friends from day one'.

megevebluesfestival.com

THE MEGÈVE



OF THE FUTURE

Megève has always been a noteworthy when it comes to its determination and drive to shine a spotlight on its territory while also keeping an eye on the future, complete with the Palais sports centre as its crowning glory.

Le Palais Megève, en route to a new style of tourism

As its 55th anniversary draws close, the 33,000 m² of floor space of the Palais Megève is about to welcome in a new era as it embarks on a third renovation project. As of this summer, there will be an extra conference room and a MICE area for business tourism. Since 1933, it is clear to see that the village has developed around skiing, but it has also carved out a niche for itself with regard to the hospitality sector by celebrating the French art-de-vivre, all of which was given impetus by the arrival of Baroness Noémie de Rothschild. This new aspect has been supported by the creation of a commercial infrastructure that is specifically designed for developing seminar offerings.

In this regard, Megève is perfectly situated, benefiting as it does from a dynamic local economic fabric and home to companies from the Auvergne Rhône Alpes region and the canton of Vaud. The objective is to provide custom packages that include local service facilitators, such as activity providers, accommodation providers and restaurateurs. By moving in this new direction, Megève is providing itself with opportunities means to boost the local economy by increasing the number of visitors that come during the peak season. The new facility is due to be inaugurated on 22 June.



An example of sustainability in an internal circuit

The Municipality of Megève is concerned about the environment, and committed to using renewable energy at an early stage to reduce running costs and the environmental impact of the Palais sports centre.

A hydroelectric turbine has been installed in the basement and is fed by excess water; abstracted locally, it produces between 20 and 25% of electricity which is used to power the building.

Heat pumps draw calories from the water passing through the turbine which are then used to provide the Media Library with heating and air-conditioning.

Heat generated by the ice-rink's refrigeration systems is recovered and used to heat water for the indoor and outdoor pools. The system is efficient to the extent that even in mid winter, the temperature of the outdoor Olympic pool doesn't fall below 10°C!

In figures

2,000 m² → square metres of modular space with catering facilities

Large-capacity configuration for concerts → with seating for more than 1,400

Exhibition configuration → 85 stands

Conference configuration + dinner → more than 500 people

A look back at the history of an extraordinary complex

A must-visit facility in Megève and the pinnacle of well-being and sport, the complex was created in the 1950s when the village's elected representatives came up with the idea of offering a wider range of leisure activities and developing a large sports facility for the area. Architects Edmond Fontayne and Maurice Novarina, who designed the Olympic Village for the Grenoble Olympics, devised a centre that offered both summer and winter activities. This innovative project was given the green light in 1963. The Palais sports centre was

finally inaugurated in 1969 by Sacha Distel. Over the years, the complex has been expanded and adapted to embrace new sporting practices. In addition to the ice-rink and covered pool, the centre now has indoor and covered tennis courts, a convention centre, an outdoor Olympic size pool and gym.

In 2003, the focus shifted to culture with the opening of the Media Library and a 140 seater auditorium. 2013 saw the opening of the Spa. In December 2016, the Palais was extended to include a balneotherapy-fitness pool and water play area, adding to the aquatic centre. The fitness room has now been transformed into a genuine fitness area, while the new climbing centre provides opportunities to take on approximately a hundred routes and over 5,500 holds.

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megeve-tourisme.fr

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