

## Ski Club Holidays 2012

The club holidays in Courchevel, Soll and La Grave in 2011 were very successful and most enjoyable. For 2012, we are again going to Courchevel (in January), Austria (in February) and in March to La Grave. Each holiday will have an experienced club member who will act as team leader for the trip.

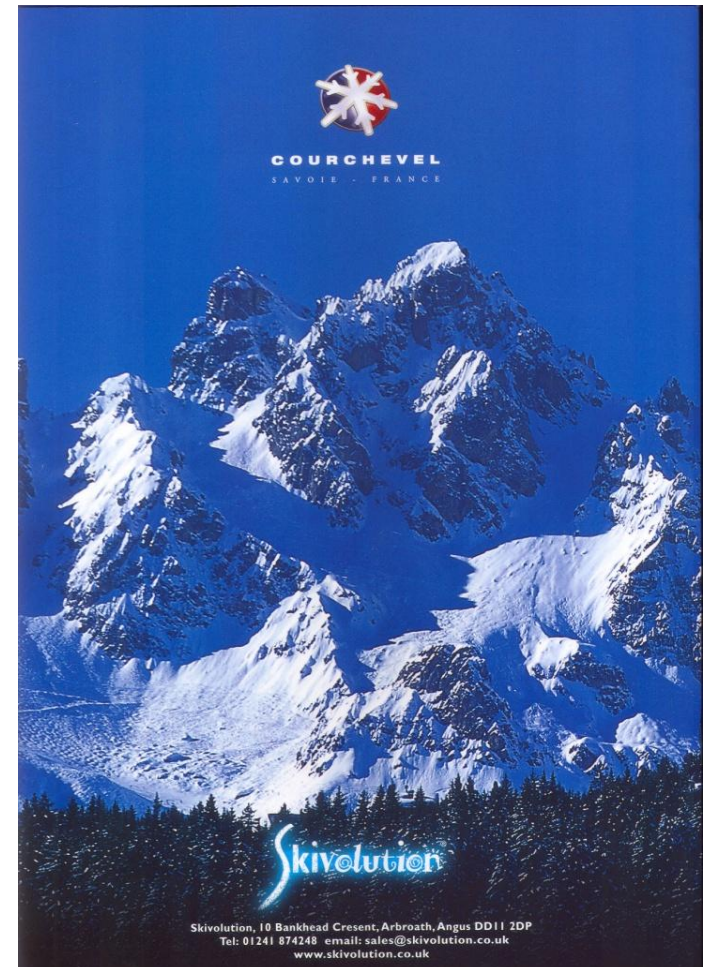
### Courchevel

The first club holiday will as usual be in Courchevel from **Jan 14th– 21st** with Dave Beattie and the Skivo2 Group, which we have used for many years. The basic (shared room) price, which covers half-board chalet accommodation, flight transfers and all day ski tuition, is circa €810. Flights to/from Lyon are additional. The price has gone up a little over last year due to the weakness of the Euro against Sterling. The single supplement is €230. The chalets are very good (hot tubs included), while the cuisine is top class. Wine is on the house.

The typical size of the group in recent years has been around 18. Already 15 people from last year have already committed to go, so places will be scarce and it will be a case of “first come first served”.

This will be a specially tailored week long course targeted at good to advanced skiers with a max of eight people in each ski group. Tuition is all-day with video feedback and coaching from the very best of instructors who have worked with the Ski Club for many years. This is a terrific opportunity to raise your personal skiing performance to a higher level and whilst doing so, have a really fun time. For advanced skiers, snow conditions permitting, it is planned to spend a majority of time off-piste.

So if you are interested in going, please contact the office and put your €200 deposit down to secure your place.



## Mayrhofen

The second holiday will be in Mayrhofen from **Feb 18<sup>th</sup> to Feb 25<sup>th</sup>**, staying in the Spa Hotel Strass. The Spa Hotel Strass is one of Mayrhofen's best (4 star) and most popular hotels with live music, grill, late night eaterie and the infamous après ski 'Ice Bar'. The hotel consists of two separate wings (Sport and Strass) above a central reception area. It has superb spa and leisure facilities with three indoor pools. The main gondola is next door to the Hotel. The basic price for half board hotel, flights and transfers will be approx €880, with a single supplement of €100 (no. of single rooms is limited). This is a very competitive price due to club and group size discounts. Extras will include lift pass, ski tuition (if desired) and equipment rental (if required). The ski pass incorporates high altitude glacier skiing in Hintertux (20 mins away) and this should prove very attractive for the more advanced skiers.

As was the case last year, the holiday will cater for all grades of skier from rank beginner, through intermediate and advanced to instructor and even Ski Club Presidents. Ages ranged from teenagers to people in their sixties/seventies with the majority spread in between. Many of those who have been on previous Austrian club holidays enrolled in the Ski School. Others prefer to free ski – the choice is yours. For advanced skiers, it is planned to get into the off-piste as much as possible. We plan to have as good a time in 2012 as we did in 2011. We have taken a provisional booking of rooms with the tour operator and it is very unlikely that we will get an increase. We had a fantastic group last year numbering almost 50 and it is likely that the same number will go in 2012. As there is a finite number of rooms available in the hotel, it is strongly advised that earliest possible bookings are made. So please contact the office asap and put your €200 deposit down to secure your place.



## La Grave

Skiing La Grave is different. Its difficult to describe. It's best go to <http://www.la-grave.com/winter/index.php> to get a sense of what it's like. In 2009, Terry McEvoy ventured alone to La Grave. Brendan Whelan joined Terry in 2010. Last season a team of eight people (Ailbhe, Frank and Marta being the most illustrious) went and had a fantastic time. We hear there could be a lot of interest for 2012. All the skiing is off-piste and therefore those going must be either comfortable in off-piste or good black run skiers who wish to learn off-piste skiing. Coaching and guiding is provided by the Dave Beatty Skivo2 instructor group. The proposed date is **March 10<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>**, with 7 nights in the Hotel Edelweiss and 6 days skiing (<http://www.hotel-edelweiss.com/index.php>)



The cost will be circa €750 which excludes air fare, transfers, lift pass and ski rental. Everyone will also need avalanche safety kit; shovel, transceiver and probe, which can be hired in La Grave (approx €70-€80). These costs have yet to be confirmed. Skivo2 will run the holiday specifically for the Ski Club. Places will be limited, so could you please let Brendan Whelan know [bwhelan100@gmail.com](mailto:bwhelan100@gmail.com) asap if you are interested in going.

*The club goes to a lot of trouble to organise the holidays and this comes as part of the annual membership fee. The prices of the holidays are discounted for the Ski Club. If non-members are interested in coming on holiday, **they are most welcome**. Last year over twenty non-members came along on the Austrian holiday. To partake in any of the club holidays, non-members will be charged a fee of €50.*