

## Ski Club Holidays 2016

The “official” club holidays last year were in Courchevel, Westendorf, and La Grave. They were very well supported. We had a great turnout for all the holidays. The holidays for 2016 are shown below and there is a detailed page for each one attached.

The club goes to a lot of trouble to organise the holidays and this comes as part of the annual membership fee. Non-members, whether single, paired or in groups, who are interested in coming on holiday, **really are most welcome**. We encourage any individual or group who wants to ski but for a variety of reasons must do so on their own, to come with us. Within 24 hours, they will feel part of the group. Last year over twenty five non-members came along on the February holiday to Westendorf and we hope to see many of them again in 2015. To partake in any of the club holidays, non-members will be charged a fee of €50 - this includes a free lesson or practice in Kiltiernan before you go.

Date	Venue	Skiers	Focus	Accommodation	How to	Organiser
Jan 9 <sup>th</sup>	Courchevel France	Intermediate and advanced skiers	All day personal performance	Chalet	Contact Ski Club 295-5658	Skivo2
Feb 27 <sup>th</sup>	Westendorf Austria	Beginners to advanced	Individual preference	4* Hotel	Contact Ski Club 295-5658	Topflight
Mar 12 <sup>th</sup> (TBC)	La Grave France	Advanced skiers	Off Piste Skiing	3* Hotel	Contact Ski Club 295-5658	Brendan Whelan

***See overleaf for details of each holiday***

# Courchevel - France



The Courchevel holiday will be from Jan 19<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> 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, will be in the region of €900, depending on the Sterling rate of exchange at the time. The flight for the group is with Ryanair to/from Grenoble. The cost of the flights is additional and must be booked by the individual. The single supplement is unfortunately expensive at approx. €290 and somewhat limited. The chalets are very good (one with hot tub included), while the cuisine is generally top class. Wine is on the house.

The typical size of the group in recent years has been around 20+. A number of “the regulars” have already committed to go, so places will be scarce and it will be a case of “first come first served”. You don’t have to be a member to come on the club holiday. We welcome all skiers. We charge a fee of €50 to non-members and this includes a free lesson or practice in Kiltarnan before you go. Besides the excellent tuition in a fantastic resort, what really makes the holiday is the camaraderie of the group in the chalet setting.

This will be a specially tailored week long course targeted at intermediate 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 also have a really fun time. For advanced skiers, subject to snow conditions, it is planned to include some “touring” in the area and spend as much time as possible off-piste including some couloirs.

So if you are interested in going, please contact the office and put a €200 (€250 non-members) deposit down to secure your place.

# Westendorf - Austria



The February club holiday in 2016 will return to the same resort and hotel in Westendorf Austria this year for the week commencing February 27<sup>th</sup>. Westendorf is a resort well known to many in the Ski Club and the club has such a good time there last year, we had an easy decision to make to return there in 2016. It is a beautiful little village with unspoilt scenery and a warm, cosy atmosphere. It is linked by gondola to the Ski Welt circuit boasting 90 lifts and 279km of prepared piste. We have reservations in the 4\* Jakobwirt Hotel, 200m from the ski lifts. The airport transfer is about 1 hour and 45 mins. The basic price for half board hotel, flights and transfers will be approx €895, to be confirmed. Extras will include lift pass, ski tuition (if desired) and equipment rental (if required). We charge a fee of €50 to non-members and this includes a free lesson or practice in Kilternan before you go.

The February holiday caters for all grades of skier from rank beginner, through intermediate and advanced. Ages range from young adults to people in their sixties with the majority spread in between. Many of those who have been on previous club holidays enrol in the local Ski School. Others prefer to free ski – the choice is yours. For advanced skiers, it is hoped to get into the off-piste as much as possible. We had a great group last year numbering over 54, of which about 50% were members of the general public, many single. We really encourage any individual or grouping who wants to ski but for a variety of reasons must do so on their own, to come with us. Within 24 hours, they will feel part of the group. We have taken a provisional booking of rooms with the tour operator Topflight Holidays and it is very unlikely that we will get an increase. 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 (€250 for non-members) to secure your place.

# La Grave - France

## Off Piste - Experience

### you are not in a typical ski resort...

By exploring the domain of La Grave-La Meije, you are not in a typical ski resort.

This is a real mountain environment as you head down in an unmarked, and non-patrolled area at your own risk.

You must be aware of all mountain hazards including rocks, avalanches, crevasses, and be ready for the possibility of drastic weather changes.

In 30 minutes, the cable-car (téléphérique) takes you to 3200m, where you can create your own itinerary for the descent. You can choose from vast glacial escapes to steep chutes, a world away from the marked trails, the ropes, and the signs of a ski resort. Let your skill level and your inspirations guide you.



This freedom requires a certain technical level, but more importantly humility, responsibility, and respect for Mother Nature.

For yours and everyone's well-being and piece of mind, you need to take certain precautions before heading out.

"In 30 minutes, the cable-car takes you to 3200m"

This freedom requires a certain technical level, but more importantly humility, responsibility, and respect for Mother Nature.

- [Download doc \(pdf\)](#)

Skiing La Grave is different. It's difficult to describe. It's best to go to <http://www.la-grave.com/winter/index.php> to get a sense of what it's like. All the skiing is off-piste and therefore those going must have a good fitness level and be able to ski reasonably well in off-piste. Coaching and guiding is provided by an instructor from the Dave Beatty Skivo2 instructor group. The proposed date is March 12<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, (this is to be confirmed) with 7 nights in the Hotel Edelweiss and 6 days skiing. If the numbers are similar to 2015, we will form two groups split by ability with the higher group arranging local guiding and the lower group using the Skivo2 instructor.

The cost will be circa €850 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.. 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.