

Across the alps on skis



Winter 2009

A ski tour from Vienna to Menton in 3 months across the Alps. More than 80000m of height difference, and 1200km in distance.

Christine LE PAPE-MASSIEYE,
28 years old,

Vincent ROZ,
36 years old

A goal:

We have both practiced ski alpinism for many years. Next year we are heading off for this long adventure. We will cross 14 alpine massifs, with our goal being to reach the Mediterranean sea, but above all to experience amazing journeys made of meetings and discoveries within our passion for ski mountaineering.





- 83** Planned Stages.
- 14** Alpine Massifs crossed.
- 4** Different countries.

Leaving on January 15th 2009 from Loseihim south west of Vienna.

Arriving around end of April in Menton on the Mediterranean coast.

The Team :



Christine LE PAPE-MASSIEYE

Midwife

Sports: Climbing, ski mountaineering, road cycling.

Travels : 15 days ski tour in the Caucase Mountains, winter 2007 ; half way around the world from New Caledonia to France in 6 months on the yacht «Finally » ; numerous travels in Europe for rock climbing.



Vincent ROZ

Ski Patroller since 14 years in Les 2 Alpes.
Avalanche Control Operations Manager.

Sports: Ski mountaineering, climbing, mountain biking.

Travels: Numerous ski tours in the Alps; Rock climbing in Marocco; Winter season in Lake Tahoe California.

A Project : The Snowpack

Three months on our skis,
three months of being confronted
with avalanche safety decisions
on a day to day basis.
After 16 years of ski mountaineering,
and 14 years as a ski patroller,
Vincent will put his knowledge
of the snow into practice.
This is a unique opportunity for him
to build on his snow stability evaluation
skills.
This trip is complementary to his career
as Avalanche Control Operations Manager .
For risk management purposes we will be
applying the Münter* method when possible.



Münter System : an avalanche risk management system using various criterias (snow, weather, terrain, human factors) evaluated at different moments (the day before, on departure , on location)

Ethics and Logistics :

1) Itinerary :

- We are planning to be on our skis as much as possible, but in order to connect certain massifs, we will use other forms of transport for a few kilometers.
- For every stage we have analysed the risks on 1/25000 scale maps with one or more possible itineraries for each.

2) We are travelling light :

- We are a team of two and are aiming to move rapidly, with ease of movement.
- The distance is long and winter only allows us a few months for the journey, speed is essential.



3) To travel Light:

- We will be staying in huts and refuges.
- There will be 10 meeting points all along our planed itinerary to reload food, and change clothes and maps; thanks to our logistic team.
- We will be using the most lightweight equipment possible.

We have been training all year long by practicing our favourite sports (Ski Mountaineering, Alpine Climbing, rock climbing, mountain biking...)

