Summit

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Chamonix

Denis Hicks

The Crochues-Berard traverse is a classic day tour in the Aguilles Rouges mountains above Chamonix, and with fresh snow and clear skies this made a great day out for our small group of friends. After ascending to the Flégere ski area, we skinned up first to the Col des Crochues, then after a traversing descent (pictured) up again to the Col du Berard. From here we enjoyed the fantastic descent down the Berard valley to the village of Buet where, before catching the train, we downed a couple of well-earned lagers. All in all, a perfect day out!

Elbrus

Peter McDowall

After 12 hours of climbing, we approached the summit of the highest mountain in Europe at 5640m. The view was of course magnificent. Surrounded by a serene sea of clouds, periodic only by the occasional Caucasus peak, I found my mind invaded and overroamed. With little else to do, I dropped to my knees, removed my glasses and succumbed to the view. As with most summits, celebrations were short lived. After a few photos and fast bumps it was time to turn and descend the way we’d come. Three and a half hours later, we limped back into our refuge exhausted but elated.

Snowdonia

Ben Bowra

Myself and my climbing partner Steve were hoping to catch the tail of the good winter conditions, and Snowdonia didn’t disappoint! The picture is taken Crib Goch, as we had a fab afternoon reversing the horseshoe, with great opportunities to develop ice axe techniques. Sections was a great trip, John, nor myself will forget.