



Méribel By Pat Sharples

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Méribel has always been very special to me as it has been right on my door step for the last 12 years. My favorite spot for freeriding is playing on the couloirs from the top of Saulire which joins Courchevel and Méribel.

There are two main areas to the resort: **Méribel Village** (1450 metres) up the valley from *Brides-les-Bains*. This is a traditional town centre for the many chalets and the place to go for apres ski and nightlife; and **Méribel Mottaret** up the mountain (1750 metres), and sandwiched between the *Saulire* mountain adjoining *Courchevel 1850* to the north east and the long ridgeline of *Tougnete* adjoining *Les Ménuires* and *Val Thorens* to the south. **Méribel-Mottaret** is a stylish ski in ski out collection of chalet complexes, with all the snow access but is a little lacking on the late night party action front!

Méribel has traditionally been seen as an upmarket chalet resort for most of South West London to debut to for winter holidays. It has always had so much more to offer than this little stereotype suggests.

For example: it is the nearest to the *Trois Vallées* hub of *Moutiers*; it is the best situated resort in the *Trois Vallées* to access all of the extensive options; it is very easy to get up to the off-piste heavy zones of *Saulire* and *Val Thorens*; and, **Méribel** and **Mottaret** also have the best freestyle parks in the region! They are well maintained and have a great selection of jumps halfpipes and rail slides. If playing in the park is your thing, then you should check it out!