

# INTERNATIONAL SKI CLUB OF GENEVA (SCIG)

## LES PERTES DE LA VALSERINE

SUNDAY 2024 JUNE 2 - FACILE - AIN

We visit spectacular potholes, a waterfall, and a cave.



We take a train to Bellegarde-sur-Valserine, France (363) to hike the Perte de la Valserine trail. We descend to the Métral dam and its abandoned hydroelectric plant built in 1870, and a nice waterfall. There the Valsérine river flows smoothly. We continue upstream for a few minutes to the Perte de la Valserine, which has dozens of impressively big and small potholes. We cross the Pont des Oules (“oules” means big potholes) in the centre of the big potholes. There the river is flowing violently through a narrow gorge. Then we walk through a magical forest where the tree



trunks are completely covered with moss. We continue to the Grotte de Bramabœuf. After bending over to enter it, it is narrow but high enough to walk easily. After a few meters there was another low spot where you have to crouch quite down, then it goes on. It is wet with active stalactites. We reverse our route back to Bellegarde.

**Inscription:** On or before May 30 by email to [bill\\_larson@bluewin.ch](mailto:bill_larson@bluewin.ch)

### I need to know:

- Your first and last name
- Your mobile number.
- An email address you can read on the weekend.
- If I do not know you, are you fit enough to walk for 3 hours at normal speed? what hiking or other sports have you done this year?
- Are you a SCIG member? (Membership is June 1 to May 31.)

**Transport:** train Geneva to Bellegarde round trip, taking about 30 minutes. Tickets to be bought individually.

**Rendezvous:** at 9:00 at Cornavin train station on platform 8 for a **9:14** departure. **Take the second car from the back of the train.**

**To Bring:** Boots, hat, picnic, water, sweater, rain gear, sunscreen, sunglasses, headlamp if you want to explore the cave, Euros, passport, and visa if necessary. (The hike is in France.)

**Price:** 5 CHF club fee (15 CHF for non-members). SCIG membership is June 1 to May 31.

**Maximum participation:** 20 people

**Maximum altitude:** 450 m

**Elevation gain & loss:** ±200 m

**Walking time:** About 3 hours

**Leader:** Bill LARSON 079 373 4686, [bill\\_larson@bluewin.ch](mailto:bill_larson@bluewin.ch), assistant: Françoise SAMUEL

**In case of rain:** If the forecast is bad, we will cancel. I will send an email with a decision about midday the day before the hike.

- By registering, you agree that you are fit for this level of hike and/or that you have previously participated in a similar hike with SCIG.
- By registering, you confirm that you carry insurance against accidents and mountain rescue, including helicopter rescue operations. (See REGA: <https://www.rega.ch/en/home.aspx>) Check with your employer to see if you are properly insured.
- The hike leader and SCIG disclaim any and all liability for accidents related to this hike.

