

Ski Club International de Genève, Summer section

**Weekend 9 & 10 May 2026**

## **Map reading, compass use, orientation apps** **THEORETICAL & PRACTICAL COURSE (2 days)**

### **Preliminary remarks**

- Participants must commit to **both days**, which complement each other.
- The cost for the 2 days together is **CHF 50**; this amount is due in advance.  
(There is a supplementary fee of CHF 20 for non-members)
- If someone withdraws, he/she will **not** be reimbursed.
- The registration deadline is **Friday, May 1st**.
- If there are not enough people registered, you will be refunded (min 3, max 7 people).
- The course on May 9<sup>th</sup> will take place whatever the weather.
- If the weather forecast is too bad, the May 10<sup>th</sup> class will be postponed to **May 31<sup>st</sup>** or another date commonly agreed upon.
- The course will be given in English.

### **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> of May**

**Rendezvous and transport:** Track 2 of the Geneva station, zone F-G; board the last-but-one car (train in direction of St-Maurice). I will meet you in Nyon when you change train.

Geneva dep. 08:08 > Nyon CFF arr. 08:24

Nyon NStCM dep. 09:29 > Genolier arr. 08:43

### **Activities :**

Hike from Genolier to St-Cergue: To put yourself into context, we will start with two hours of hiking (altitude gain +520 m; 5 km). This will allow a first contact with the map and the GPS apps.

Once we arrive in St-Cergue (at my place), around 11:00, I will give theoretical – but very interactive – lesson on map reading, use of the compass, and orientation apps (with a 30-minute break in order to eat). We will end around 15:15. Return train at 15:37 => Geneva at 16:35, or downhill hike to Genolier, and then return train.

### **Equipment:**

For hiking: hiking boots, clothing suitable for the weather, drink, mini-snack (do not take poles).

For the lesson: a mechanical-magnetic **compass** (as shown in the photo; if you are reluctant to buy a compass, I will have 2 back-up compasses), a pen and something to write on. Download on your phone the **Swisstopo app** and **SuisseMobile/SwitzerlandMobility app** (both free). The paying version of SuisseMobile/SwitzerlandMobility (CHF 35 /year) is even more useful.

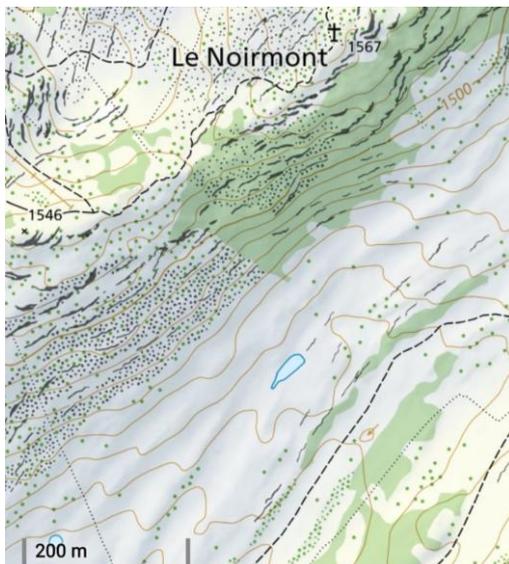
Meal: picnic, or there is the possibility to buy a sandwich at the St-Cergue bakery.

### **Train tickets to be bought individually:**

Ticket Geneva – Genolier (with abo demi-tarif: CHF 7.40)

For the return, it depends on whether you decide to hike down to Genolier!

Ticket St-Cergue – Geneva (with abo demi-tarif: CHF 10.60)



**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> of May**

**Activity:** This outing will be an occasion for map reading, compass use training, and occasional use of the apps. Participants will receive a topographic map and a list of questions concerning the map, the surrounding landscape, orientation, and about how to reach the next spot. We will stop frequently in order to answer those questions together. We will start the hike at La Cure and end at La Givrine, or in St-Cergue.

**Length of the hike and difficulty:** about 3¾ hours of hiking (overall time of the outing: about 6 hours); elevation gain and loss +430 m/ -530 m; 14 km (if we go till St-Cergue); no technical difficulties.

**Equipment:** compass (as already discussed), writing materials, your phones with the downloaded apps (as already discussed) all the usual equipment: walking shoes, picnic, drinks, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, protection against rain and cold (do not take poles, because they will make it tricky to use the compass during the exercises).

**Rendezvous and transport:** Track 2 of the Geneva station, zone F-G; board the last-but-one car (train in direction of St-Maurice). I will meet you in Nyon when you step out of this train. We will start with the exercises on the train up.

Geneva dep. 08:08 > Nyon CFF arr. 08:24

Nyon NStCM dep. 09:29 > La Cure arr. 09:20

Return times: Trains from La Givrine at XX:55, and from St-Cergue at XX:07 and XX:37.

**Train tickets to be bought individually** (before the rendezvous):

Ticket Geneva – La Cure (with abo demi-tarif: CHF 12.70)

Ticket La Givrine – Geneva (with abo demi-tarif: CHF 11.50)

## **General information for the 2 days**

**Costs:** the inscription fee for the two days (CHF 50; or CHF 70 for non-members), plus the train tickets, plus maybe the cost of the compass (as already discussed above).

**Inscription:** please sign up by email to [fsamuel@bluewin.ch](mailto:fsamuel@bluewin.ch) (maximum 7 participants).

I will tell you the bank details for the payment (or payment with TWINT; please give your name & "Map course").

**Confirmation and changes:** The course on May 9<sup>th</sup> will take place whatever the weather. If the weather is very bad, we will take the train up to St-Cergue. For the May 10<sup>th</sup> course: If the weather forecast is too bad, this second course will be postponed (probably to May 31). The day before the outing, I will send an email to give you details.

**Nota bene:** The hike leader is not a professional guide. By registering, you agree that you are fit for this level of hike and that you carry insurance against accidents and mountain rescue (e.g., REGA). The hike leader and SCIG disclaim any and all liability for accidents related to this hike.

**Hike leader and teacher:** Françoise SAMUEL [fsamuel@bluewin.ch](mailto:fsamuel@bluewin.ch) (phone: 079 603 34 93)