



Date Night, Family Style: Chambéry, France



Chateau Grounds

Have you ever felt you needed a vacation from your vacation? Been on a holiday and saw your partner even less?

We are a family of five and generally our family vacations are awesome, full of adventure and exciting. They are also utterly and completely exhausting. Sound familiar?

If so, let me suggest an addition to your next family trip... A Date Night, *family-style*.

We recently went on a family ski trip to the world's largest ski resort- Les 3 Vallées. As anyone can imagine, it was a whirlwind of fun and activity. But instead of making it a week-

long affair per our normal, depleting the whole family to the brink of exhaustion, we scheduled in a few days of rest and relaxation.

Smartest. Move. Ever!

Where to Stay:



Not a 10-minute drive from Chambéry, discover Le Château de Candie, a 4-star hotel, encircled by forest and the surrounding French Alps.

Le Château de Candie estate, dating back to the 14th Century, sits on 6 hectares of grounds complete with its own vineyards, gardens and swimming pool.



The Chateau's 25 rooms are decorated in a classical style, giving it a castle-like feel. We were housed in a duplex family room located in one of the Chateau's towers with stunning views of the Savoie mountain landscape.

"It feels like a fairytale," said our boys in awe.

Finally laying down on the bed after five days of intense sports, I promised myself I would never leave. Luckily, I was convinced by the rest of my curious family to rise once again...

What to Do:

Fields of flowers, trickling streams filled with ducks swimming happily, and a canopy of trees overhead, ensure that Le Chateau de Candie estate is the perfect place for those who want to reconnect with nature.



Being mid-April, the weather wasn't ideal for swimming but we enjoyed, nonetheless, basking in the warm overhead sun on the surrounding terrace while the boys played hide and seek amongst the nearby vineyard.

Take a stroll to the nearby village where historic buildings add to the atmosphere that you have stepped back in time.

Where to Eat:

The hotel boasts two restaurants: 'La Cantine', an informal but high-quality bistro and 'L'Orangerie', a gourmet restaurant offering set tasting menus.

As a family we enjoyed the laid-back and casual atmosphere of La Cantine, dining on traditional homemade French dishes. We also got to sample a glass of the Candie's Viognier wine, made from grapes picked from vineyards just a few yards away.



For our second night however, it was time to dial up the romance. The accommodating staff helped us get our children settled with room service and a movie while my husband and I headed downstairs to the Michelin recognized L'Orangerie for an outstanding gastronomic experience.



Fresh ingredients and an innovative style kept true to French roots while adding a modern flare. From aperitif to aftermeal coffee- it was a perfect way to finalize a wonderful trip.



Only 10km away from Chambéry International Airport and a short car journey away from Lyon, Geneva. Search [Ryanair.com](https://www.ryanair.com) for flights.

A week's stay at Chateau de Candie costs from £455.50 pp (£909 total) for two people sharing a Classic Room with breakfast.

[Ski France](https://www.ski-france.com) (0203 475 4756)

- Karyn and Olav