

Niremont, HB/FR-033

January 8, 2014

Summary: An easy hike in any snow conditions, but today with a special guest.

Today was a very special SOTA activation for me. Toni, for the first time on snowshoes, accompanied me up to Niremont (HB/FR-033). And who knows if we'll ever be able to do something like this again together?

Conditions were great: warm temperatures about 5 C, sunny and a well-packed snowshoe trail the entire way up to the summit. Perfect for a beginner. The hike up the 400 meters of elevation along a distance of 5.5 km took a tad over 2 hours. It's an easy hike with no dangerous grades anywhere on the trail, no matter how much snow. Because it has been so warm recently, I was at first worried we wouldn't have any snow at all -- but we did have more than enough to make things interesting. Toni mastered the snowshoes quickly, had a great time and particularly enjoyed the scenery. On the way home, we stopped and bought some local cheese named after the summit (Niremont); the special thing about it is that the wheel of cheese is bound in spruce bark. Finding that cheese was a special end to a wonderful day.

I spent time on 40 and 30 meters, made roughly 30 contacts, one S2S (to DM/TH-003).





