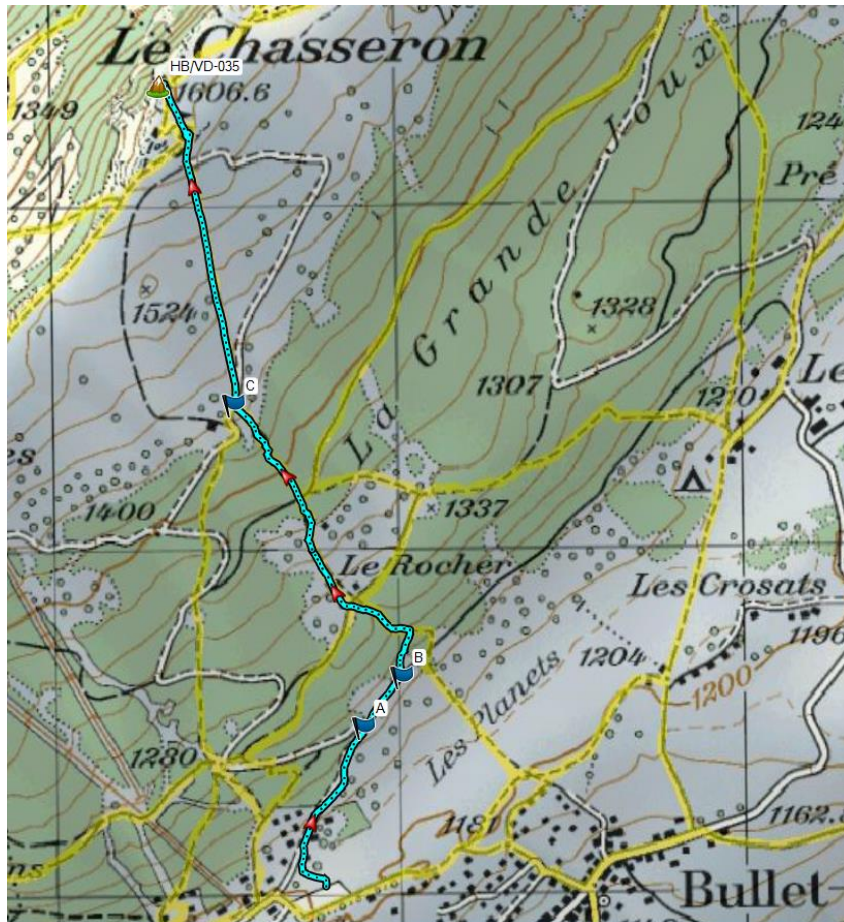


VD-035 Le Chasseron

March 7, 2015

Paul HB9DST

Summary: *This is one of the most pleasant snowshoe hikes anywhere in Switzerland. It has a well marked route, is not overly strenuous (372 meter ascent) plus offers spectacular views and a summit restaurant open in winter. What more could you ask for?*



The only thing that could make the day better, beyond the already perfect, warm late winter weather, was good company: Peter, HB9TVK. We parked in a very large lot at Les Rasses, next to Bullet. It's quite a large lot, and parking is free.



Large (free) parking lot at Las Rasses.



The stretch from Waypoint A to Waypoint B continues almost flat.



Sign at Waypoint B instructing you to turn left and start climbing.

The many snowshoe trails in the area are well marked. For this trip, you follow Route #2 (see the map at the end of this report). Follow the paved road to Waypoint A and continue straight until Waypoint B, where you turn left. Until now the trail is relatively flat, but now you make a steady ascent the entire way up. The total ascent is 372 meters, the trail is 3.2 km long, and it took us 1 hour 25 minutes to get to the summit. The entire way we could enjoy very well maintained snowshoe trails.

The summit itself is at an altitude of 1606 meters, so it's good for 4 points (plus the 3-point winter bonus).



The first two-thirds of the hike takes you through a forested area.



At Waypoint C, when you exit the forest, you can see the hotel and the summit straight ahead.

From Waypoint B you hike through a forest area until you reach the border of the forest at Waypoint C, where you can now see the hotel/restaurant and the summit just beyond it.

The activation area is quite large and there are plenty of railings to which you can lash a mast. Despite the large number of people on the summit, we were not disturbed and we did not disturb them. On this sunny day, the views were just great.



Peter HB9TVK at his operating position.



Antenna mast (left) for Paul HB9DST, with the actual summit marker in the center of this picture.



The view from the summit, looking down upon Lake Neuchatel (left) and Lake Geneva (right) with the Bernese Alps in the background left and Mount Blanc, Europe's highest peak, on the right.

After the activation we stopped into the restaurant for something to drink, and then we made our way back down to the parking lot. (Note: the restaurant is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.)



The hotel/restaurant at the summit, also open in winter and a very popular place to stop for a drink or a bite to eat. Closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

