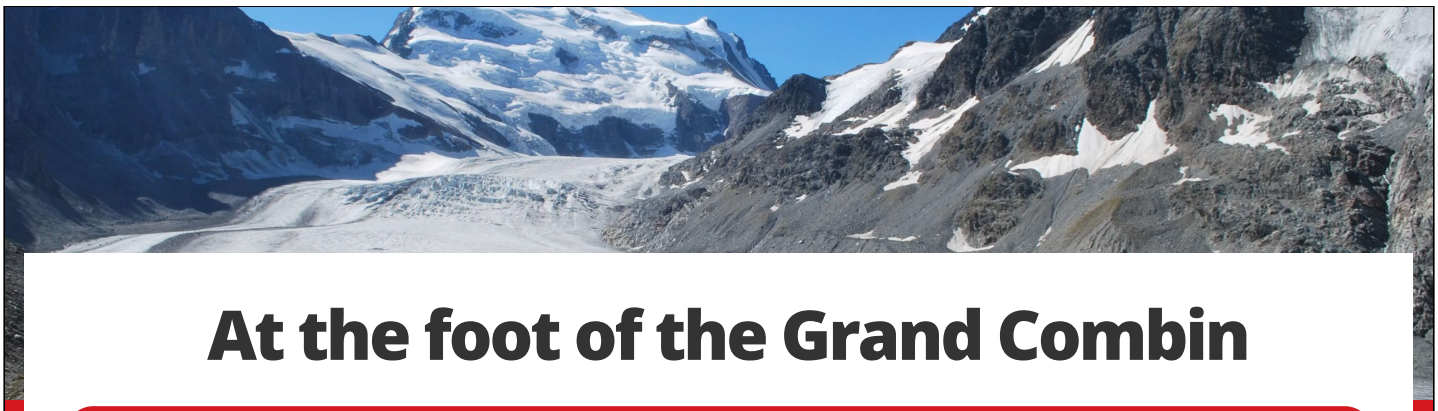


# At the foot of the Grand Combin

Leisure, Sports

Country : Switzerland  August 2020

**There is nothing like a few days out the office to go for a walk in the mountains. Here is an idea for a walk well known to hikers, the grand Combin and its glacier, as well as the superb wilderness that surrounds it. The trip is worth it, just for the scenery.**

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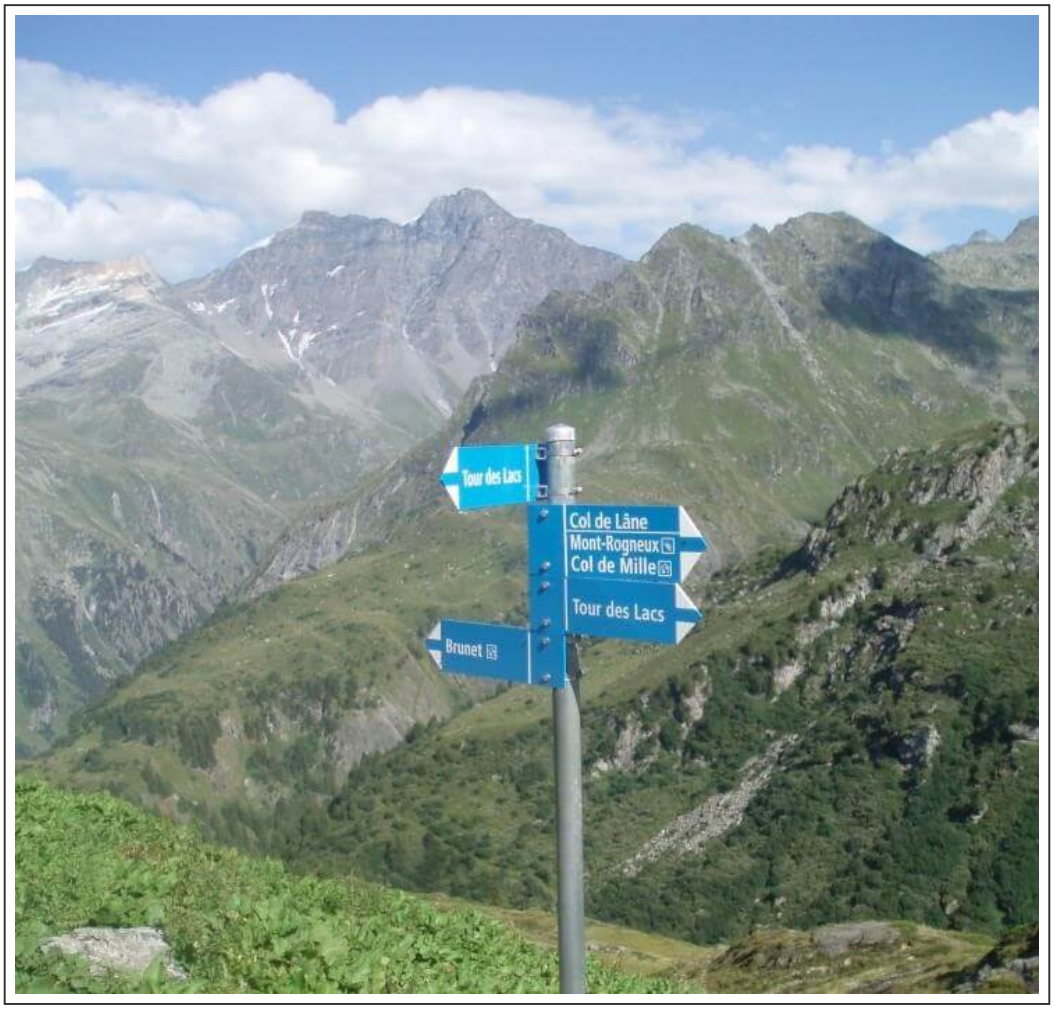
## The Marcel Brunet's Hut

To access the glacier, I left from Marcel Brunet's hut or more commonly known as**"Cabane Brunet"**. It is located in the Val de Bagnes, perched at 2100m of altitude. You can easily reach it by car, the parking lot being just next to it. There is even a second parking lot, a little below, 5 min walk away, if the first one should be full. When I arrived at the end of August 2020, the hut was under renovation and was due to close one or two weeks later. At the last news, it was supposed to reopen its doors for the winter season, but with the Covid, we are not sure of anything anymore. More info on https://www.cabanebrunet.ch/.



*The Marcel Brunet's hut*

Departure at the beginning of the afternoon for the hut which I had of course reserved beforehand. Exit the highway at Martigny, then follow the Bagnes valley to the village of**Lourtier**. The road is bad for the last kilometers, but no worries. Arriving at the Chalet, the point of view is already very pleasant. The reception is also nice. A pretty terrace awaits the hikers. I was not going to walk for this first day, because the afternoon was already coming to an end. After getting some informations, I planned to go to the**Lâne pass**. They say the path is quite difficult, but the discovery on the mountain lakes is really worth the detour.




*Direction signs to the Lâne pass*

# 1st day, Col de Lâne

The summit is located at more than 3000m of altitude. There is about 2:50 of walking. I opted for a round trip of about 5 hours passing by **"les écuries de Séry"**. The path turns quite quickly into a scree. Bring good shoes and a pair of sticks. The landscape is breathtaking. I met only two hikers on the path, both coming from **Bourg-St-Pierre**, on the other side of the valley. So it is also possible to reach the top of Lâne from this side.

We start the hike on a nice road. After a good hour of walking, we arrive at the first refreshment point, the chalet of **Sery-Laly**. Once past the alpine pasture chalet, which also offers some welcome drinks to catch your breath, nature becomes really wild and we start the surprising ascent in a slightly arid scree. The sun hits really hard on these rocks. The hat is de rigueur.



*The Sery-Laly's hut*



*Blue and white signage so you don't get lost*

The path is marked with **blue and white signs**. It is difficult to get lost. You can see below, one of the many azure blue water lakes. Just this view makes you want to go there, doesn't it? I warmly recommend it to you, it is a real eye-opener.

## The mountain lakes







*Magnificent lakes in a fairy-tale landscape*

There it was on my first day. All that's left to do is to return to Chalet Brunet. I wish you a good walk.

## 2nd day, Panossière's FXB hut

My second day of hike was going to lead me to the Grand Combin glacier and its glacier, commonly called **the Corbassière's glacier**. There are two possible routes. One is direct, the other one goes through **the Avouillons pass**. I started with the most direct path. I will keep the pass for the return the next day.

> **The FXB hut of Panossière from Marcel Brunet's hut (via the most direct path) is a 4h walk, about 7km for 765m of ascent and 280m of descent.**

There is nothing technically difficult about the trail. The path is very well marked. After a few bends, we arrive at the point called **"2140m"**. It is necessary to stay on the widest path, to follow the rocky wall, to pass some bumps to arrive at the first interesting point of the route, the footbridge of the Corbassière glacier.



*The path is well signposted*

## The Corbassière footbridge

The footbridge is **190 meters** long. You don't have to be afraid of heights to cross it. It is without risk.




*Mandatory passage for this hike*



*The Corbassière's footbridge, 190m long*

## Finally...the hut

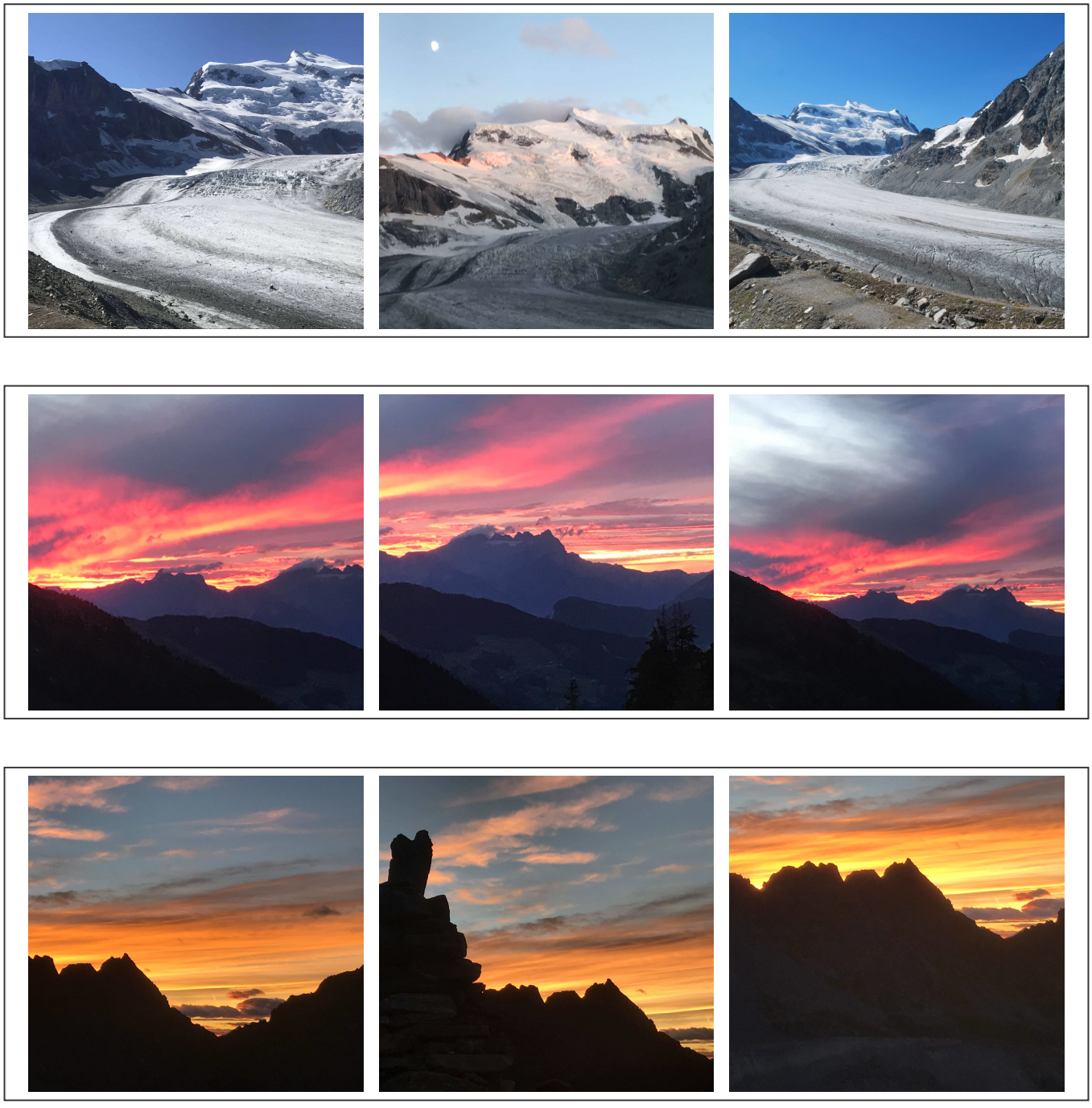
Take the footbridge, then turn left. The path leads to a moraine that you will have to cross to get to **Panossière's hut**. The hut is located at **2641m**. It offers food and lodging. A beautiful common room serves as a meeting point where you can find food and drink. There is also a reading corner with many books available.



*The Panossière's hut*

## Corbassière glacier, Grand Combin and sunset

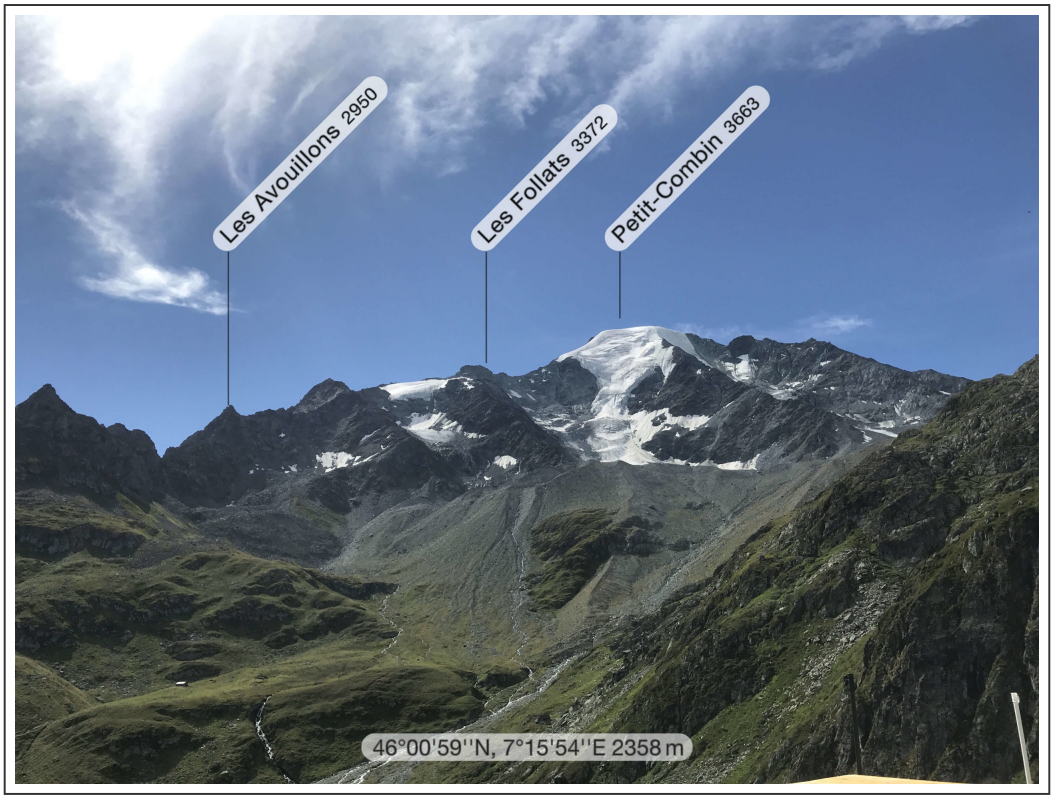
To finish this second day of walking, I had the infinite pleasure of seeing a magnificent sunset. Very nice viewpoint from the terrace.



*Magnificent view on the glacier of the Grand Combin and sunset to end this second day*

# 3rd day, return to the Brunet hut via the Avouillons pass.

As I announced earlier in this story, there are two possible routes. They both meet at the Corbassière footbridge.




*View on the Avouillons pass*

From the footbridge, which you have to cross again, you have to turn left and follow the route of the pass. The view from the summit is simply breathtaking.




*Avouillons pass*

Only 1:20 of walking left, time passes very quickly in the mountains. The effort to go up to the pass is sustained, but it is really worth it. The view on the valley is sublime.

This is the end of a nice adventure that I recommend you very warmly. And if you have any questions or simply a hike to share and make me discover, leave me a comment. It's always nice to read you.