

# Ski USA and Canada

Famed for their knee-deep powder, immaculate slopes and wide tree-lined runs, the ski resorts in Canada and the United States are among some of the best in the world. Add to the mix unique wildlife and an array of breathtaking scenery and you have yourself the perfect combination for an unforgettable skiing holiday. Whether you are a first timer keen to hit the nursery slopes or a seasoned skier ready to tackle your next big challenge, here is a guide to some of the best.

## USA

### ASPEN, COLORADO

With over 1,360 hectares of stunning skiable terrain, Aspen is one of the biggest ski resorts in the USA, offering four separate ski areas for you to explore. Aspen Mountain offers long cruising blue runs, the Aspen Highlands easy intermediate slopes, Highlands Bowl challenges experts with pitches of up to 48 degrees, and Snowmass grants extensive terrain suitable for all skill levels.

### BRECKENRIDGE, COLORADO

When it comes to skiing in America, few nursery slopes in the world can rival the wide gentle run of Breckenridge's Peak 9. Couple this with beginner-friendly chairlifts and you have the ideal launching pad for future Olympians. If you're after a bit more of a challenge, its 1,170 hectares of steeper slopes above the treeline offer more confident types plenty of wintery wonderland to explore.

### PARK CITY, UTAH

In terms of USA ski resorts, Park City is second in size only to Whistler in North America and offers plenty of gladed, ungroomed tree runs perfect for intermediates and experts alike. The resort features a two-way gondola that links it to Canyons next door which features lots of fabulously steep challenges for the seriously brave. This vast ski area encompasses over 2,950 hectares of terrain rivaling other big guns like Vail in Colorado and Big Sky in Montana.

### VAIL, COLORADO

If you're after ski resorts in the USA that cater to mixed-ability skiers then Vail will amply satisfy with nursery slopes at village level, moderate challenges for intermediates on the front face, and plenty of exciting tree runs for the experts in Blue Sky Basin. The resort is massive – nearly 5km from end to end, with innovative quad chairlifts offering speedy service.

## CANADA

### BANFF, ALBERTA

In terms of Canadian ski resorts, it doesn't get much better than the staggeringly beautiful area of Banff with its turquoise lakes and snow-capped mountain peaks. Perched at the heart of the Canadian Rockies, there are three world-class resorts here, Norquay, Sunshine Village and Lake Louise. All levels are catered for with gentle beginner slopes, long open runs for intermediates, and challenging steepers for the hard-core experts.

### WHISTLER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Considered one of the best mountain resorts in the world, Whistler makes skiing in Canada a powder lover's dream. From groomed cruising runs to challenging mogul fields, there are adventure options galore here for all levels. With a gondola connecting Whistler with Blackcomb, the area also offers plenty of opportunity for families to enjoy other wintery pursuits including tubing, snowmobiling and ice-skating.



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