**Davos**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Non-skiers

Après ski

Snow reliability

Environmental awareness

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

26

**Intermediate Runs**

40

**Advanced Runs**

19

**Total Runs**

85

**Lifts**

61

**Chairs**

12

**Drags**

34

**Gondola Cable Cars**

15

**Parks**

2

**Pipes**

1

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

3.1m (10.2ft).

**Overview**

Davos is one of the world’s oldest ski resorts with some of the first downhill ski trips in the Alps being recorded here nearly 120 years ago.

Today, modern Davos has an air of a small town rather than a simple ski resort and certainly has an identity outside of winter sports. Those arriving at the end of January may find world leaders and their entourages in town attending the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum, while other visitors are drawn to the town's extensive health and spa facilities, with numerous private clinics available.

But Davos does have skiing in its DNA, and its slopes, shared with the neighbouring village of Klosters, are some of Switzerland’s most extensive with 350km (220 miles) of piste that’s considered by many snowboarders – in particular the area on its Jakobshorn peak – as among the best in the Alps.

Off the slopes, the highest city in Europe offers numerous scenic hiking routes, Europe’s largest natural ice-rink and, of course, world class spa facilities.

**Location**

Davos is tucked away in Graubünden, the least accessible and arguably the most parochial of the Swiss cantons. It's a region where Alpine peaks and valleys dominate. The Wolfgang Pass and Prättigau Valley connect Davos to Landquart, the main junction for routes north (to Zurich) and west.

**Website**

http://www.davos.ch

**Piste Map**

http://www.davos.ch/en/experience/winter/ski-snowboard/maps-and-piste-plans.html

**Hit The Slopes**

The Davos-Klosters region offers varied runs for all ability levels. Most of the more demanding runs are at lower elevations, within the trees, where the valley sides are steepest. In all, there are five distinct ski areas, each served by an extensive lift system.

The largest and busiest is Parsenn, which peaks at the 2,844m (9,331ft). From here, a 12km-long (7.5-mile), 2,034m (6,673ft) descent runs to Küblis, but this is only navigable when the snow cover is at its most extensive. Jakobshorn, across the valley, is favoured by snowboarders and has halfpipe and snowboard parks.

Both the Parsenn and Jakobshorn ski areas are suited to beginners, with gentle nursery slopes and easy intermediate runs; while the slightly more advanced can make the most of the Rinerhorn and Pischa domains, with their handful of ungroomed runs.

Off piste, it's possible to ski as far as Arosa, but this is a major undertaking, entailing three hours of hiking and a three-hour return by train.

The ski season in Davos runs from mid-November until the end of April.

**Davos**

**Resort**

1560

**Base**

1100

**Top**

2844

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

Davos offers plenty of variety away from the slopes, such as 75km (47 miles) of cross-country trails and 84km (52 miles) of winter hiking routes. Skaters can choose between four locations, including Europe's largest natural rink occupying 18,000 sq m (193,750 sq ft) in the Davos Sports Centre (Talstrasse 41; tel: +41 814 153 600). There are also tobogganing runs using the Davos sledge, named after the resort.

Sedentary options are more limited, though there are spectator sports, extensive spa facilities and the Kirchner Museum (tel: +41 814 106 300; [www.kirchnermuseum.ch](http://www.kirchnermuseum.ch)), which is devoted to the expressionist painter Ernst Ludwig Kirchner (who lived in Davos during his formative years). A fun night out can be had at 101 Bowling (tel: +41 793 033 865; [www.bowling-davos.ch](http://www.bowling-davos.ch)) on Promenade 101, which has four bowling alleys and a billiard table for all ages to enjoy.

**Family Fun**

The Madrisa area is the ideal place to learn to ski; its Madrisa Land facility near the top lift station is well equipped with nursery slopes as well as a tubing run and bouncy castle. The Swiss Snowsports School (tel: +41 814 162 454; www.[ssd.ch](http://ssd.ch)) offers classes for those aged three and above, and has a kindergarten. Other options for families include the indoor swimming pool, heated outdoor pool and water slide at Eau-là-là (tel: +41 814 136 463; [www.eau-la-la.ch](http://www.eau-la-la.ch)), as well as family-friendly facilities at the Davos Sports Centre.

**Retail Therapy**

Visitors to Davos can buy anything they might need for a ski trip, from general conveniences to fashionable ski gear and accessories. Specialist shops, including chic and pricey boutiques, food retailers and souvenir shops are strung along Promenade, the compact main thoroughfare. Among these, 1560 Fashion Point (tel: +41 815 521 560; [www.1560.ch](http://www.1560.ch)) is good for trendy threads.

**Splashing Out**

For the ultimate indulgence, try a spa treatment at the Seehof Hotel (tel: +41 814 179 444; [www.seehofdavos.ch](http://www.seehofdavos.ch)). In addition to the usual sauna, solarium and massage services, there are mountain mud baths, seaweed algae packs and other exotic treatments for a good post-ski pampering.

For a truly unique experience, consider spending the night in an igloo (tel: +41 416 122 728; [www.iglu-dorf.com](http://www.iglu-dorf.com)) in the Parsenn area. The igloos come complete with a whirlpool and sauna and are the perfect romantic setting for snuggling up with a loved-one and enjoying a glass of sparkling wine.

**Apres Ski**

Most après-ski bars and clubs in Davos are located in the Davos Platz area. Ex Bar (tel: +41 814 135 645; [www.ex-bar-davos.ch](http://www.ex-bar-davos.ch)) offers drinking and music all night long, while retro tunes are played into the early hours at Pöstli Club (tel: +41 814 154 500; [www.morosani.ch](http://www.morosani.ch)) in Hotel Morosani. Snowboarders generally head over to the animated Bolgenschanze (tel: +41 814 137 101; [www.bolgenschanze.ch](http://www.bolgenschanze.ch)) with is DJs and live music.

A great place for a drink or two straight after the ski day is Bolgen Plaza (tel: +41 814 135 818; [www.bolgenplaza.ch](http://www.bolgenplaza.ch)) at the base of the slopes, which has a convivial atmosphere and also occasionally hosts live music.

**Eating Out**

With more than 110 restaurants in the town, there’s plenty of dining choice in Davos.

The Montana Stube (tel: +41 814 207 177; [www.montanastube.ch](http://www.montanastube.ch)) is an atmospheric century-old establishment with a terrace that catches the last rays of winter sunshine each day.

For a lighter meal Kaffeeklatsch Davos (tel: +41 814 133 016) is very popular and has many vegetarian options, which can be hard to find (other than chase-based options) in Switzerland.

It is also worth nothing the resort’s unique Dine Around initiative that allows those staying half-board at one of the 22 participating hotels in the resort to also dine at the other hotels at no extra cost.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Zurich Airport (ZRH).

Distance to resort: 160km (100 miles).

Driving time: 2 hours 15 minutes.

Nearest railway stations: Davos Platz; Davos Dorf.

Distances to resort: 2.5km (1.5 miles); 2.5km (1.5 miles).

Driving times: 5 minutes; 5 minutes.

**Getting Around**

Unlike many ski resort towns, Davos’ authorities allow transportation within the resort centre. Buses serve the urban centre and ski lift stations, and these are free to those staying in Davos. Though the main thoroughfare, Promenade, is nominally a one-way street, buses are permitted to travel in both directions. Those who ski over to Klosters and don't have time to get the lifts back can take the train back to Davos, which takes 25 minutes.

**Hotels**

Davos is a sprawling, city-like resort with most accommodation found in dreary apartment blocks with very little ski resort charm. As well as apartments, there are around 45 or so hotels in Davos, with a mixture of 3- and 4-star choices and some rather bleak-looking luxury spa hotels.

**Club Hotel**

Though unappealingly box-like from the outside, the 3-star Club Hotel has a convenient location, good facilities and offers decent deals for dinner.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

XXX

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

XXX

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

XXX

**Telephone**

http://www.clubhotel.ch

**Website**

Family-run, friendly, and in a quiet locale, this hotel has spacious rooms, some of which have a private balcony.

**Morosani Schweizerhof**

The primary draw of the stylish Morosani Schweizerhof is the on-site swimming pool and lavish spa, but with attentive staff and a good location close to the slopes, the hotel is a good choice for most travellers.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Promenade 50

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Davos-Platz

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

CH 7270

**Country**

Switzerland

**Telephone**

+41 814 155 500.

**Website**

http://www.schweizerhof.morosani.ch

**Berghotel Schatzalp**

Located on the mountain and accessed by the funicular, a four minute ascent from Davs Platz, the Berghotel Schatzalp has numerous rooms with Wi-Fi available.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Promenade 62

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Davos-Platz

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

CH 7270

**Country**

Switzerland

**Telephone**

+41 814 155 151.

**Website**

http://www.schatzalp.ch

**Hotel Bellevue**

The Hotel Bellevue is a comfortable two-star hotel in a quiet location off the main street that’s well presented with a historic ski décor and provides hearty breakfasts to set you up for a day on the snow.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Hauptstrasse 9

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Davos

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

CH 7270

**Country**

Switzerland

**Telephone**

+41 814 155 151.

**Website**

http://www.bellevuewiesen.com

**InterContinental Davos Hotel**

A five-star offering that’s architecturally striking, the InterContinental Davos Hotel overlooks the resort and has over 200 rooms, a spa and several on-site restaurants and bars.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Baslerstrasse 9

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Davos-Platz

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

CH 7270

**Country**

Switzerland

**Telephone**

+41 814 140 400.

**Website**

www.intercontinental.com/Davos