**Hemsedal**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Families

Non-skiers

Après ski

Snow reliability

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

21

**Intermediate Runs**

19

**Advanced Runs**

9

**Total Runs**

49

**Lifts**

20

**Chairs**

6

**Drags**

14

**Gondola Cable Cars**

0

**Parks**

3

**Pipes**

0

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

3m (10ft).

**Overview**

Hemsedal has grown to become one of the largest and most popular resorts in Norway. The ski area, located a couple of miles from the original Hemsedal village, is operated by the Skistar group, the largest in Scandinavian.

Located in the mountains between Oslo and Bergen, the main Hemsedal ski area has wide, well-prepared pistes, five terrain parks and designated areas for children and beginners; while neighbouring Solheisen is a smaller ski area in the nearby Grøndalen Valley, 13km (8 miles) away. The two areas provide varied terrain to suit all ability levels, while snowboarders are catered for with a series of terrain parks.

Hemsedal village, often referred to as Sentrum, is a small centre with a range of accommodation options, restaurants, bars and shops; which altogether provide a small yet convenient base for the predominantly northern European clientele. A new ski run was created for the 2014-15 season that allows guests based in the village to ski all the way down from the main slope area.

The resort as a whole also offers excellent off-piste and cross-country skiing conditions, as well as a vast repertoire of non-skiing activities.

**Location**

Hemsedal is located in the Hallingdal district of Buskerud County in the centre of southern Norway, almost equidistant between Oslo to the east and Bergen on the west coast.

**Website**

http://www.hemsedal.com

**Piste Map**

http://www.skistar.com/en/Hemsedal/Skiing/Piste-map/

**Hit The Slopes**

Snow conditions in Hemsedal are reliable throughout the season, with snowmaking available on the majority of the slopes – as a consequence, the season here is relatively long, generally lasting from the beginning of November to the first Sunday in May.

Hemsedal offers something for everyone; from specially created areas for children and beginners to runs that are extremely fast and challenging, as well as vast off-piste areas. In between, there is an abundance of wide and gentle (but still quite fast) slopes that are perfect for intermediate skiers. Solheisen, in particular, is a great place for relaxed skiing, with its open slopes on the sunny side of Grøndalen.

The ski areas, which are linked by a regular bus service, are served by a mixture of chairlifts and drag lifts, all in tip-top shape. The SkiPass covers the lifts in both resorts.

In addition to the skiing terrain, there are three good terrain parks with jumps, quarterpipes, corners, fun boxes and more – plus an additional park for children. Hemsedal also have two ski cross arenas, a ski race arena and a speed ski arena with self-timer, and an avalanche search course.

**Hemsedal**

**Resort**

650

**Base**

640

**Top**

1450

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

Cross-country skiing conditions are excellent, with 130km (81 miles) of machine-prepared trails and another 80km (50 miles) of marked mountain tracks. Other outdoor activities in Hemsedal include dog sledding, sleigh rides, snowmobiling, paragliding, guided mountain tours and ice climbing. There is also the opportunity to learn how to be prepared for when disaster strikes in the form of an avalanche – a number of operators offer short courses in avalanche safety in the resort, including Ski Patrol (tel: +47 3205 5330).

The resort runs a programme of cultural events and performances featuring music, dance and singing. The village is also home to a cinema, which is within the City Hall (films are only shown on Sundays).

**Family Fun**

Hemsedal ski resort’s large Valleland children’s area is the perfect place for young skiers and families. This area offers easy and short slopes with lifts, play park, mini fun park and a variety of activities, as well as a ski school especially for small children. The Solheisen ski area is also particularly well suited to families.

Off the slopes, Skogstad Hotell (tel: +47 3205 5000; [www.skogstadhotell.no](http://www.skogstadhotell.no/)) has a health and fitness centre that’s suitable for children. However, if you’re looking for some time away from the kids Valles Barnepass Day Care (tel: +47 32 055 320) in Hemsedal Skicentre provides a range of childcare options for children aged six months and older.

**Retail Therapy**

There is a good selection of quality shops in Hemsedal village for clothing and sports equipment, as well as souvenirs and decorative items.

Finbeck & Fia (tel: +47 3206 0690) is the local fashion shop, while Hemsedal Sport (tel: +47 32 060 350), Sport 1 (tel: +47 3206 0577) and Skistar Sportshop (tel: +47 3205 5395) have a good selection of sports clothing and gear.

Those looking for an original souvenir should head to Stugu Husflid (tel: +47 3206 0633), which has a range of local handicraft items.

**Splashing Out**

Located at an elevation of 1,100m (3,609ft) next to the Solheisen Ski Centre, the Harahorn hotel (tel: +47 3205 5110; [www.harahorn.no](http://www.harahorn.no/)) provides luxury lodgings. Spend a romantic night in one of the suites or cabins and have a three-course meal delivered to the room cooked by the hotel’s very capable kitchen staff.

**Apres Ski**

Hemsedal has one of the liveliest après ski scenes in Norway, with a young crowd helping to drive the party atmosphere - although there’s plenty for families and older guests too.

For friendly après-ski fun Elgen Microbrewery in the Skogstad Hotell (tel: +47 3205 5000; [www.skogstadhotell.no](http://www.skogstadhotell.no/)) offerS drinks and a cosy, chilled-out atmosphere in Hemsedal village.

Further up the slopes, Skistua Afterski (tel: +47 3205 5970) and Experten Sportsbar (tel: +47 3205 5410) are popular post-ski venues at Hemsedal Skicentre – the former hosts regular live rock music, while the latter has a range of pub-style games.

For late-night après-ski, Hemsen Nightclub (tel: +47 3205 5410) is a great option for those in a party mood.

**Eating Out**

There are around 20 eateries in total in Hemsedal. While this means visitors aren’t swamped with options, the quality of the restaurants available is generally good.

Try out local favorites Kjøkkenkroken (tel: +47 3205 9966; [www.kjokkenkroken.no](http://www.kjokkenkroken.no)) for delicious – and filling - burgers, Champagneria Montana (tel: +47 2162 7579) for tasty tapas, and Skogstad Sushi (tel: +47 3205 5000; [www.skogstadhotell.no](http://www.skogstadhotell.no/)) for the best Japanese cuisine in town. All of these eateries are located in Hemsedal Village.

Additionally, the restaurant at the Harahorn hotel (tel: +47 3205 5110; [www.harahorn.no](http://www.harahorn.no/)) in Grøndalen is one of the best in the region, and serves traditional and modern Norwegian dishes based on locally sourced ingredients.

Among the other options, Big Horn (tel: +47 3205 5410; [www.bighorn.no](http://www.bighorn.no/)) serves a great steak, while Peppe's Pizza (tel: +47 3205 9557) sells good quality Italian cuisine for those on a budget.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Fagernes Airport (VDB); Oslo Airport (OSL).

Distance to resort: 80km (50 miles); 243km (152 miles).

Driving time: 1 hour 10 minutes; 3 hours 20 minutes.

Nearest railway station: Gol.

Distance to resort: 30km (19 miles).

Driving time: 30 minutes.

**Getting Around**

Free shuttle buses take visitors from accommodation at Tuv, Skarsnuten area, the Hemsedal village and Ulsåk to Hemsedal Ski Centre and Solheisen Ski Centre.

**Hotels**

There is an increasing amount of convenient slopeside accommodation in chalet-style buildings, as well as options in the village and on the mountain. Most of the accommodation in Hemsedal is in the form of apartments, but there also some catered chalets and hotels. Visitors can also choose between luxurious cabins with saunas and whirlpools to traditional cabins with more basic facilities.

**Skogstad Hotell**

The oldest hotel in Hemsedal, standing for more than 100 years, offers comfortable and stylish accommodation and provides quality fare to hungry skiers in its on-site restaurant.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

XXX

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Hemsedal

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

N 3561

**Country**

Norway

**Telephone**

+47 3205 5000.

**Website**

http://www.skogstadhotell.no

**Hemsetunet**

These modern, well-equipped apartments sleep between six and 10 people. Some come complete with saunas, while Wi-Fi internet access is available in all lodges.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

XXX

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Hemsedal

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

N 3561

**Country**

Norway

**Telephone**

+47 3206 0150.

**Website**

http://www.hemsetunet.no

**Hemsedal Alpin Lodge**

This luxury apartment-style hotel at the base of Hemsedal Ski Centre has options for groups of two to 14. Its convenient location allows ski-in/ski-out access.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Skievegen 1

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Hemsedal

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

N 3561

**Country**

Norway

**Telephone**

+47 8155 6300.

**Website**

http://www.skistar.com/hemsedal

**Skarsnuten Hotel**

The modern Skarsnuten Hotel provides guests with excellent views over Hemsedal, as well as offering a popular on-site restaurant and bar and ski-in/ski-out facilities.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

XXX

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Hemsedal

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

N 3561

**Country**

Norway

**Telephone**

+47 3206 1700.

**Website**

http://www.skarsnutenhotell.no/en/

**Stavtaket**

These stylish self-contained ski-in/ski-out apartments for five to eight people are located within the Hemsedal Ski center. Most apartments come with saunas and a gas fireplace, while restaurants, night club and shops are within walking distance.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

XXX

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Hemsedal

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

N 3561

**Country**

Norway

**Telephone**

+47 8155 6300.

**Website**

http://www.skistar.com

**Storehorn**

These apartments, which sleep four to eight people, are ideal suited to skiers on a budget. The Storehorn offers a free ski bus to the village and the slopes (both about 10 minutes away), and local amenities (including a restaurant and a grocery store) are within walking distance.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

XXX

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Hemsedal

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

N 3561

**Country**

Norway

**Telephone**

+47 8155 6300.

**Website**

http://www.skistar.com/