**Wengen**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Families

Après ski

Environmental awareness

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

23

**Intermediate Runs**

34

**Advanced Runs**

16

**Total Runs**

73

**Lifts**

39

**Chairs**

22

**Drags**

10

**Gondola Cable Cars**

7

**Parks**

2

**Pipes**

0

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

5.3m (17.4ft).

**Overview**

Boasting one of the most stunning locations in the Alps, and indeed the world, Wengen is an idyllic ski resort that ticks all the boxes for that dream ski holiday.

Firstly, there's the breathtaking Alpine scenery of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau; then there's the traditional Swiss village feel with a cog train line the only way to access the resort (cars are banned and must be parked in the valley below). And lastly, there's the giant Jungfrau ski region on the doorstep linking Wengen's ski area to that of its neighbours Grindelwald and Mürren, which together offer a plethora of slopes for all standards.

It's hard to believe that Wengen is in fact one of the world's earliest purpose-designed mountain holiday villages, growing up largely in the 19th century, with Lord Byron an early visitor 190 years ago.

After the arrival of the railway in the 1880s, more than 30 hotels were built over the subsequent 20 years, and little has changed since. Of course, the oldest hotels have been renovated to modern standards, new buildings have grown up to increase the resort’s size, and the latest ski lifts have been installed; but Wengen still has a cosy and magical feel, and the trains still chug through like clockwork.

**Location**

Wengen is located in the Bernese Oberland region of the Swiss Alps, in the canton of Bern in south-central Switzerland.

**Website**

http://www.wengen.ch

http://www.jungfrau.ch

**Piste Map**

http://wengen.ch/de/Ferien/WINTER/Geoffnete\_Anlagen\_und\_Pisten

**Hit The Slopes**

Wengen's ski area is located on the surrounding slopes of Männlichen and Kleine Scheidegg, which it shares with neighbouring Grindelwald. The regional Jungfrau pass covers all lifts in this area, as well as those at the separate First ski area above Grindelwald, and the lifts at Mürren, which is a train ride down and then up the valley on the other side. This train line continues up to Europe's highest railway station, Jungfraujoch, where there's year-round snow and ice but sadly no ski route back down from the top.

The skiing can be reached by getting back on the train from Interlaken or Lauterbrunnen and continuing up to Kleine Scheidegg, a 25-minute journey that, except for upgraded rolling stock, has changed little for skiers in 80 years. Alternatively, travel by cable car from the village, which takes only five minutes. Both options open up all kinds of exciting terrain and great routes down to Grindelwald and back to Wengen.

Whilst the whole area is open to intermediate skiers, beginners will find good nursery slopes right in the centre of the village. More experienced skiers will wish to pay homage to the legendary Lauberhorn racecourse, where the famous downhill race is staged each January – as it has been since 1930. The course is one of the longest – at 4.5km (2 miles) – and toughest, descending over 1,000m (3,280ft). Before and after the skiing race, the downhill piste is open to the public.

Thanks to improved snowmaking capacity in recent years, snow in Wengen is relatively reliable, and the ski season here usually runs from early December to mid-April.

**Wengen**

**Resort**

1274

**Base**

1274

**Top**

2320

**Jungfrau**

**Resort**

XXX

**Base**

584

**Top**

2971

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

Apart from the resort’s sports centre, the majority of Wengen's indoor facilities are based in the larger hotels; but these are also mostly open to the paying public.

There is a health and beauty centre in the Hotel Regina (tel: 033 856 5858; [hotelregina.ch](http://hotelregina.ch)) and spa facilities in the Hotel Victoria Lauberhorn (tel: 033 856 2929; [www.hotel-victoria-lauberhorn.ch](http://www.hotel-victoria-lauberhorn.ch)) and Beausite Park Hotel (tel: 033 856 5161; [www.parkwengen.ch](http://www.parkwengen.ch)).

Outdoors, there are ice and curling rinks, snowshoeing trails, 100km (62 miles) of tobogganing runs and 100km (62 miles) of cleared winter hiking paths. Visitors can also venture on a guided historical village walk or take the train up to the Jungfraujoch, Europe's highest rail station. Paragliding is another possibility for those looking for a lasting memory of their stay.

**Family Fun**

Wengen is a dream holiday destination for kids of all ages who love both trains and skiing. The whole family can also enjoy the wholesome, car-free atmosphere here.

The resort's youngest guests can sign up for the Playhouse (Dorfstrasse; tel: 033 856 8585) non-ski nursery from the age of one month old. This is located by the tourist office in the heart of the village, and is open daily.

The Swiss Ski School (Zentrum Silberhorn; tel: 033 855 2022; [skiwengen.ch](http://skiwengen.ch)) has classes for children aged three and older, who can progress from the nursery slope in the centre of the village to the beginner areas higher up.

**Retail Therapy**

Wengen has about 20 shops covering all basic ski holiday requirements. There are also a few boutiques selling fashion items, jewellery and artisan products from the surrounding Bernese Oberland region – particularly wood carvings made locally.

For a wider choice (of more than 50 shops), take the train back down to Interlaken, where there are plenty of opportunities to buy Swiss products such as watches, cheese, chocolate and wine.

**Splashing Out**

The Privat Ski and Snowsports School (Dorfstrasse; tel: 033 855 5005; [snowpro.ch](http://snowpro.ch)) provides private lessons and guiding in all snow sports disciplines. Their personalised teaching is guaranteed to improve the customer’s skiing or boarding standard faster than normal group lessons.

**Apres Ski**

Although not known as an après-ski mecca, Wengen has half a dozen lively bars and a wider selection of more peaceful hotel lounge bars.

The unique and popular Pickel-Bar (Dorfstrasse; tel: 033 856 0505) in Hotel Eiger is made almost entirely of wood from floor to ceiling. Rocks Bar (Dorfstrasse; tel: 033 855 2003; [www.rocksbarwengen.ch](http://www.rocksbarwengen.ch)) is a good choice for catching televised sports events or for some British and Irish home comforts. The Tanne Bar (Dorfstrasse; tel: 033 855 1244), in the centre of the village, offers an old-fashioned British experience, while the popular Da Sina pub (Dorfstrasse; tel: 033 855 31 72) often has live music or karaoke. Hasenstall Dancing (Dorfstrasse; tel: 079 960 6078) and Blue Monkey (tel: 033 845 1120) are the main choices for dancing into the early hours.

**Eating Out**

There are around 20 places to eat in Wengen, the majority of which are traditional Swiss Alpine restaurants within the main hotels; although there are a few Italian options and a steakhouse.

One of the best is in Hotel Schönegg (Dorfstrasse; tel: 033 855 3422; [www.hotel-schoenegg.ch](http://www.hotel-schoenegg.ch)), which serves international cuisine and has been awarded 13 points by the Gault Millau gourmet guide for its food. The Allegro restaurant in the Sunstar Hotel (Dorfstrasse; tel: 033 856 5200; [wengen.sunstar.ch](http://wengen.sunstar.ch)) has a reputation for its Chinese fondue and good selection of vegetarian cuisine, while Hotel Regina (tel: 033 856 5858; [hotelregina.ch](http://hotelregina.ch)) is the place for French dining with its Jack's Brasserie serving lighter snacks or the gourmet Chez Meyer’s restaurant that goes one Gault Millau point higher than Hotel Schönegg's offering.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Bern Airport (BRN); [Zurich Airport](http://www.worldtravelguide.net/switzerland/zurich-international-airport) (ZRH); [EuroAirport Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg](http://www.worldtravelguide.net/switzerland/euroairport-basel-mulhouse-freiburg) (BSL).

Distance to resort: 65km (40 miles); 140km (87 miles); 170km (106 miles).

Driving time to Lauterbrunnen: 55 minutes; 1 hour 50 minutes; 2 hours.

Nearest railway station: Wengen.

Distance to resort: Within the resort.

**Getting Around**

Wengen is a car-free resort, so visitors are requested to leave their car in Lauterbrunnen and travel to the resort by train – Wengen is reached by rail from Lauterbrunnen in 14 minutes.

There is no need for transport within Wengen itself as the centre is compact and there are no roads for conventional vehicles. Small electric trolleys are used for moving baggage and there are electric buggies for people with reduced mobility.

**Hotels**

Most of the accommodation in Wengen is in the form of 3- and 4-star hotels, and the village itself is dominated mostly by sizeable Victorian-era hotels. There are plenty of catered chalets and self-catering apartments too, none of which are particularly luxurious.

**Beausite Park Hotel**

A very personal, 4-star superior hotel, Beausite Park Hotel is situated five minutes’ walk from the village centre. The hotel offers excellent cuisine, an indoor swimming pool, sauna and wellness centre.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

XXX

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Wengen

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Switzerland

**Telephone**

033 856 5161.

**Website**

http://www.parkwengen.ch

**Hotel Falken**

A family-run hotel with a nice atmosphere and some lovely antique furniture, Hotel Falken has a large dining room where international and local specialities are served.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Gruebi

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Wengen

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

3823

**Country**

Switzerland

**Telephone**

033 856 5121.

**Website**

http://www.hotelfalken.com

**Hotel Bären**

A family-friendly hotel and restaurant just five minutes’ walk from the village centre, in the lower part of Wengen.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

XXX

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Wengen

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Switzerland

**Telephone**

033 855 1419.

**Website**

http://www.baeren-wengen.ch