

With world-famous runs, top-notch facilities, and sustainability efforts that make a difference, these are the ski destinations to put on your list this year, next year, and every year.

Winter's great consolation prize is the ski vacation: Waking up under thick down comforters and opening the curtains to sublime views of powder-covered peaks; strolling down snowy, lighted main streets of a ski town and dipping into this bar or that; and, of course, the snow sports themselves. In their rugged alpine settings, the best ski resorts feel far from life's daily grind; they give you an opportunity to leave your comfort zone by taking a few risks out on the slopes—and relax with a little luxury and revelry after.

To help you plan a [winter getaway](#), here are the 12 best ski resorts in the United States for skiers and snowboarders of all levels and budgets. (Prices reflect the 2021–2022 season. Most resorts offer better rates for multiday tickets, season passes, and tickets bought in advance online.)

Jackson Hole Mountain Resort

- **Ski town:** Teton Village and the town of Jackson, Wyoming
- **Best for:** Expert skiers and those who want to explore the backcountry
- **Price for a day pass:** Adults from \$102; children (5–12) from \$90

This Wyoming resort, a favorite of expert skiers, has been working to expand its options for all levels. In 2015, [Jackson Hole](#) carved new intermediate terrain out of the craggy mountainside and installed the new Teton Lift to service it. In 2018, it opened Solitude Station, a new midmountain, full-service lodge and ski school.

But many still come to Jackson for steep shots like Tower Three chute, long powder runs like the three Hobacks (South, Middle, and North), or the infamous Corbet's Couloir, the entrance of which is a 20-foot cliff. And the resort is also famous for the formidable backcountry terrain just outside its boundaries. It can be dangerous, but if you [hire a guide](#) to show you around, you may end up having one of the best ski days of your life.

Need a rest day from the continuous steps that run down Jackson's 4,139-foot vertical rise? Sleigh-ride tours of the famous 25,000-acre [National Elk Refuge](#) will get you within an antler-length of members of the 6,000- to 8,000-strong herd that winters there every year. You could also roll into town and a stay at the new 100-room [Cloudveil](#) on Town Square with its rooftop terrace, outdoor pool, and the Bistro by local culinary legend Gavin Fine.