

WINTER EXPERIENCE WHISTLER BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

P. Ben Girardi

Whistler is a destination for mountain lovers who have both a sense of adventure and a sense of purpose. This legendary ski destination is both an international sports mecca and a down-to-earth mountain town, famous for its world-class, side-by-side mountains, Whistler and Blackcomb. It delivers a unique combination of spectacular vistas, expansive terrain, old-growth forests, a magical village with sophisticated experiences, and a community of passionate locals who are proud to protect and share this place.



WHY WHISTLER

Rugged Mountain Landscape: A place of striking natural beauty, Whistler represents the best of British Columbia's Coast Mountains. Here, winter's thick blanket of snow covers our volcanic peaks, massive glaciers, frozen lakes and towering old-growth forests with magic. You'll want to see it firsthand.

World-Class Recreation: Whistler is an international mecca for outdoor adventure. Tick off your bucket list as you rip down Whistler Blackcomb's iconic terrain or find a slower pace in the valley. From the energetic and intense to the deeply relaxing, winter is a season of limitless possibilities.

Thriving Community & Culture: The passion and soul of a community of friendly locals, who honour and celebrate Whistler's rugged mountain landscape, have deep roots here. Our culture celebrates the mountain lifestyle – we capture it, create it and re-create it in every part of our lives.

Ski-in / Ski-out: Whistler Village's location at the base of both Whistler and Blackcomb Mountains offers easy ski-in / ski-out access.

Vibrant Pedestrian Village: Located at the base of Whistler and Blackcomb mountains, Whistler Village is a pedestrian-friendly hub. It's the beating heart of a community where locals bring their up-for-anything attitude to every shop, restaurant and gathering place – its energy is palpable.

Low Altitude: You'll find some of North America's tallest and most rugged mountains surrounding Whistler. But with a base elevation of just 675 m / 2,214 ft, it'll be the striking natural beauty taking your breath away, not the altitude.

Snowfall: With a historical yearly average of 10.8 m / 426 in / 35.5 ft, winter is bigger here. Count it up.

Most Terrain: 8,171 ac of skiable terrain offers up lifetimes of skiing and riding. Are you ready?

Weather: Being close to the coast, Whistler enjoys moderate temperatures through the winter months. Most of the winter, expect a daily alpine average of -5°C (22°F).

Shopping: In Whistler, you'll find a perfect mix of world-class and homegrown local shops offering the best in fashion, art, souvenirs and the latest outdoor sportswear.

Dining and Après: From casual après-ski snacks to fine dining, no craving goes unsatisfied here. The culture of celebration lives proudly in Whistler, so raise a glass.

Accommodation: Whistler has a diverse selection of accommodation, including secluded alpine homes, charming mountain-side townhomes, full-service hotels and fully equipped condominiums. Playing in these mountains, you'll need a place to rest your feet.

Relaxation: Relax, restore and refresh yourself at Whistler's many spas and wellness facilities. The Scandinave Spa offers a traditional Scandinavian hydrotherapy experience to help you find complete relaxation. There are countless ways to pamper yourself in Whistler. Find your balance and reconnect – mind, body and soul.

Arts and Culture: Immerse yourself in an energetic arts and culture scene. Stroll between international film and culinary events, wander through local galleries, art exhibitions and live music. Dive into Whistler's Indigenous art and cultural landscape. Here, your creative spirit can roam free.

Festivals and Events: The Whistler experience is animated by a legendary range of events and festivals. Check out a non-stop lineup of events, concerts, festivals and races in a place where adventure is endless. View an updated Events Calendar at whistler.com/events.

Olympic Venue Experiences & Valley Tours: Discover the legacy of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games with guided tours and experiences. At the Whistler Sliding Centre, take an adrenaline-fueled passenger bobsleigh ride or launch yourself headfirst on a skeleton sled. In Whistler Olympic Park, try your hand at biathlon. Or, explore the entire Whistler Valley, including a stop at the Sliding Centre, led by a local guide. The spirit of The Games lives on in Whistler.



ACTIVITIES

There's an endless list of reasons Whistler is a permanent fixture on bucket lists around the world. When you come here, you feel it in your soul. There's a good chance that feeling will have you coming back.

WINTER

Skiing / Snowboarding: Between Whistler's two side-by-side mountains, there's enough skiable terrain to last multiple lifetimes. The rugged beauty of the landscape, full-on alpine terrain and vast novice areas make Whistler an international ski and snowboard mecca. Feel the thrill of ripping down a snow-covered mountain in a place that's been on every passionate skier's bucket list for more than 50 years.

Snow School Lessons: Tackle your personal boundaries head-on and feel your confidence on the slopes hit new heights with lessons and clinics. Whistler Blackcomb is home to some of the top ski and snowboard instructors in the industry, so no matter your level, you'll improve your technique every time you step into your bindings.

Heli-Skiing / Cat Skiing: Leave the lift lines and chairlifts behind. Find your freedom in Whistler's endless backcountry terrain by helicopter or snowcat and experience pristine powder that's the stuff of legend. Big vertical and stunning scenery? Welcome to Whistler.

Cross-Country Skiing: There's more to Whistler than fat skis and gondola rides. With more than 150 km of cross country ski trails across Lost Lake Park, Whistler Olympic Park and Callaghan Country, sliding on skinny skis opens a whole new world of exercise and exhilaration.

Backcountry Tours: Skip the lines and "earn your turns" in Whistler's rugged backcountry with a professional ski guide. You won't forget the untracked descents any time soon.

Ziplining: Experience Whistler's ecology and wildlife by flying through the forest canopy on a thrilling high-wire adventure over creeks and between old-growth trees.

PEAK 2 PEAK Gondola: Connecting the high alpine terrain of Whistler and Blackcomb Mountains, the record-breaking PEAK 2 PEAK Gondola immerses you in a 360° airborne experience. Ski Whistler all morning, followed by Blackcomb in the afternoon.

Dog Sledding: Be pulled through Whistler's dramatic wilderness by a team of spirited sled dogs in this quintessentially Canadian experience.

Tube Park: Give the skis and boards a break and hit the bubly™ Tube Park on Blackcomb Mountain. With multiple lanes and 1000 ft of snow-sliding bliss, the kids (and the kids at heart) will be smiling ear to ear from top to bottom.

Snowshoeing: Experience the tranquillity of Whistler's West Coast beauty and towering old-growth forests by strapping on a pair of snowshoes. Embrace a slower pace of adventure by yourself or on a guided tour.

Snowmobiling: No matter if you're looking for a family-friendly cruise, an epic backcountry expedition or a venture to a rustic cabin for a 3-course steak dinner, you'll find the right guide and outfitter in Whistler.

Whistler Olympic Plaza: Embrace treasured Canadian pastimes and lace-up your skates or grab your toboggan, right in the heart of Whistler Village.

Vallea Lumina: An immersive light show that sees the forest come alive, Vallea Lumina is a multimedia night walk that shares the awe-inspiring stories of Whistler's hidden valley. Follow the lighted path and find proof Whistler's legends are real.

Ice Caves: Take to the sky and fly deep into the Coast Mountains, landing near a remote glacier. Then, wander through its depths in ancient ice caves.

Museums: Whistler's thriving cultural landscape includes important institutions like the Audain Art Museum and the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre. Highlighting the richness of Canada's cultural heritage, the Audain houses a permanent collection of art from British Columbia, in addition to temporary exhibitions. The Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre, the first of its kind in Canada, celebrates the cultures of the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw and Lil'wat7ul nations.

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

GETTING TO WHISTLER IS EASY

Flights to Vancouver are available from major cities around the world. Fly from Vancouver to Whistler by helicopter charter or travel the scenic Highway 99 by rental car, coach or shuttle bus.

Distances and approximate travel times by car:

Downtown Vancouver to Whistler: 127 km, 2 hrs
Vancouver International Airport to Whistler: 140 km, 2.5 hrs