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Travel

The 20 best ski holidays to book now

Stay on track this season with our expert's pick of the top resorts, best breaks and how to save along the way

By Rebecca Miles

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Ski holidays are back with a vengeance this year, and it couldn't be better news for British skiers. This season, there's plenty to be excited about, and it's not just for the promise of fresh powder days and making priceless memories with friends and family on the slopes.

Chalet holidays, the much-loved staple of many a British ski trip, are making a comeback, having suffered through the rising costs caused by Brexit and European regulations. Paving the way are Le Ski, one of the classic chalet tour operators, who are expanding into Tignes this winter, short-break specialists Ski Weekends, with four new properties in Val d'Isère and VIP Ski, who are returning to La Plagne, after a 10-year hiatus, with the opening of Graciosa – 16 fully-catered slope-side chalets.

In recent years, train travel to the Alps has been a consistent uncertainty. But that looks set to change: Eurostar has expanded its timetable and, for first time since 2019/20, will run the Snow Train for the entire season; the TGV line to Modane, France, and on into Italy is reopening, providing rail access to further resorts; and more tour operators are consistently including train options in their packages, including Inghams, Peak Retreats, IgluSki, Byway and Powder Byrne.

New flights will add variety and open up new destinations too. Both Crystal Ski and easyJet are operating new routes to the Scandinavian Mountains Airport on the Swedish/Norwegian border, while the latter's new flights from Bristol to Munich provide an opportunity for more long-weekend breaks in Austria.

Across the pond, North American resorts continue to break records with their expansion plans. Deer Valley in Utah and Lake Louise in Alberta are the two most ambitious for this winter.

It's also a year of celebration, with the start of the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympic Games in February – resorts in the Dolomites are set to get their moment in the global spotlight, as interest in Italian ski holidays peaks. Elsewhere, Courchevel celebrates 80 years of ski holidays, La Plagne turns 60 and crowds will enjoy the 85th Hahnenkamm race weekend in Kitzbühel.

However you choose to spend your time on the slopes this winter, there are more options than ever for making this your best winter yet.

Search by country:

- Ski holidays in France
- Ski holidays in Austria
- Ski holidays in Italy
- Ski holidays in Switzerland
- Ski holidays in Norway and Sweden
- Ski holidays in Canada and the US
- Ski holidays in Japan
- Ski holidays in Eastern Europe

France Val Cenis The largest of the resorts in the Haute Maurienne valley, Val Cenis is authentic, unpretentious and laid back. This winter, the trainline to Modane, the train station at the bottom of the valley, reopens after being closed by a landslide two years ago, so hop on a TGV from Paris, then a 20-minute bus ride for easy low-carbon travel.

Who should go?

Families and intermediates.

What to book

Peak Retreats (023 9283 9310; peakretreats.co.uk) offers a two-bedroom apartment in Les Chalets de Flambeau from £899, self catering, based on two adults and two children, including return train and transfers from London to Modane, departing Jan 10, 2026.

How to do it cheaper

Take advantage of dynamic pricing to save up to 57 per cent when you buy your lift pass in advance (valcenis.ski) – the resort will refund the cost if there's bad weather.

Courchevel

The grande dame of ski resorts turns 80 in 2026 and is showing no sign of its age, particularly when it comes to its gastronomy. It has the most Michelin stars of any ski resort in the world – Baumanière 1850 has been awarded a second this year – and Japanese and Thai cuisine is celebrated at the new five-star Hotel Maya in 1850.

Who should go?

Everyone, at least once – especially foodies.

What to book

Iglu Ski (020 3848 3700; igluski.com) offers Hotel Portetta in Courchevel 1650 from £2,255, B&B, including return train travel and transfers, departing Feb 28, 2026.

How to do it cheaper

If your heart is set on staying in the heart of 1850 – home to the resort's highest prices – Ski France (0203 475 4756; skifrance.co.uk) offers a week's B&B at the two-star Hôtel Courchevel Olympic from £933.

Recommended

The perfect ski holiday in Courchevel, one of France's most glamorous resorts **Les Gets, France**

If this is the winter you're finally going to learn to ski, then consider a week in Les Gets from March 21, 2025, when the new Premier Ski Festival takes place. It's a week of not just learning the ropes but enjoying group activities. Festival tickets cost €399 per person, and include all the essentials (lift pass, lessons, equipment hire and evening entertainment).

Who should go?

Beginners.

What to book

Chalets1066 (020 7183 5082; chalets1066.com) offers self-catering properties from €315, arriving March 21, 2026. Fly from London Gatwick to Geneva with easyJet (easyjet.com) from £72 return.

How to do it cheaper

The cheapest way to travel from Geneva (one hour) is a shared transfer with Alpy Transfers (alpytransfers.com); from €14 one way.

Recommended

The ultimate guide to skiing in Les Gets

Val Thorens