**Livigno**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Snowboarders

Après ski

Snow reliability

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

29

**Intermediate Runs**

36

**Advanced Runs**

13

**Total Runs**

78

**Lifts**

31

**Chairs**

16

**Drags**

11

**Gondola Cable Cars**

4

**Parks**

2

**Pipes**

1

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

2m (6.7ft).

**Overview**

Livigno has grown from being a small, isolated settlement to become one of Italy’s – and indeed the world’s – major ski resorts.

Its success is firstly down to its high altitude, an attribute that has made it one of the most snowsure resorts in Europe. Skiing down to the village is normal even early and late in its long season.

Secondly, and more unusually, its isolation made it too difficult for tax inspectors to reach in olden times, which eventually led to Livigno becoming a tax-free haven.

Today, the resort offers that Holy Grail of skiing: superb snow and excellent, low-priced après-ski. What’s more, it's all quite new. A little over fifty years ago, the area remained cut off for much of the year but the first ski lift arrived in 1958, the hotel count reached four by the early 1960s, and Livigno's rise has been meteoric ever since. There are now more than 100 hotels and 115km (66 miles) of pistes here.

**Location**

Livigno is in the northern Italian province of Lombardy at the southern end of the Alps. The ski resort is also close to the Swiss border, which is a few kilometres to the north.

**Website**

http://www.livigno.eu

**Piste Map**

http://www.livigno.eu/it/inverno/attivita/sci-alpino/skiarea

**Hit The Slopes**

Livigno's skiing is basically divided in two by the valley road, along which the resort is dispersed. The two halves are accessed by high-capacity, high-speed gondolas (Mottolino and the two-stage Carosello 3000) and a network of high-speed chairlifts that form part of a modern lift network.

The ski area is characterised by a series of village-side nursery slopes on the meadows beside the resort; long, fast, open ‘motorway' runs above; and a few steep blacks below the area's highest skiing at Monte Della Neve.

Freestylers and snowboarders will enjoy the resort’s terrain parks at Mottolino and Carosello 3000, with the former also including a super-pipe. There are also facilities for the less experienced who may want to have a go at getting some ‘air’.

Thanks to its altitude, the village nursery slopes are normally snowsure throughout the season, which normally runs from the end of November until the start of May. In fact, most of the slopes are blessed with good snow cover, with the lower altitude slopes aided by snow-making facilities.

An area pass covering resorts in the surrounding Alta Valtellina region, including Bormio and Santa Caterina (as well as a day over the border in St Moritz), is available for those with a minimum stay of six days.

**Livigno**

**Resort**

1816

**Base**

1816

**Top**

2797

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

There's a lot to do in Livigno away from the ski slopes. There are swimming pools in the Spöl and Helvetia hotels, while many accommodation options have gyms and fitness centres. Other popular activities in the resort include bowling, badminton and billiards.

The Aquagranda Wellness Park (tel: 0342 970 154; [www.aquagrandalivigno.com](http://www.aquagrandalivigno.com)) integrates swimming, fitness, wellness and beauty facilities, and is a great place to relax off the slopes.

Outdoors, choose from a range of activities; including snowshoeing, dog sledding, ice driving, ice skating, snowmobiling, quad biking and paragliding.

**Family Fun**

On the whole, Livigno is a good choice for families with affordable dining and wide, sunny slopes. The only main downside is the busy road through the centre.

There is a choice of pre-ski-school nurseries, although there is no care available for under-threes and several have limited hours such as mornings or weekdays only. Lupingo Kinder Club (Via Plan 273; tel: 0342 996 276; [www.scuolascicentrale.it](http://www.scuolascicentrale.it)), linked to the ski school in the centre of the resort, has longer opening hours and accepts children from age three.

**Retail Therapy**

There are an incredible 200 or so shops in Livigno, the vast majority of which are small local stores selling alcohol, tobacco, perfumes and consumer electronics – in short, anything that usually carries a hefty tax burden.

Beyond the duty-free excess, there is the regular resort selection of ski shops and souvenir outlets, as well as a few jewellers, grocers and fashion boutiques.

**Splashing Out**

Ice-driving courses are offered on an ice circuit in the village under the watchful eye of resident driver Oliviero Bormolini (tel: 0342 997 287). Learn the techniques in the warm before taking to the circuit in one of a variety of cars.

**Apres Ski**

Livigno has nearly 150 bars – more than any other ski resort in the world (Vail is second with about 110). Given the choice of venues for après-ski in Livigno, and considering all serve alcohol at lower prices than in most other European ski areas, visitors might expect more of a party atmosphere. But whilst Livigno can be lively, the vast majority of bars are small and spread out along the valley road.

On the long list of popular places, Gulliver Pub (Via Canton 256; tel: 0342 997 379) has a huge selection of beers and spirits, while Ypioca (Via Botarel 52; tel: 0342 971 163) is a good cocktail bar.

**Eating Out**

There are more than 100 places to eat in Livigno; mostly small, family-run and family-friendly café-diners serving traditional Italian food. Almost all offer a daily, fixed-price *menu turistico*.

Ristorante il Cantuccio (Via Saroch 1005) has a better than average selection of pastas, whilst Ristorante la Pòsa (Via Taglieda 98) is one of the best pizzerias in town.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Bergamo Orio al Serio Airport (BGY); Milan Linate Airport (LIN).

Distance to resort: 200km (124 miles); 212km (132 miles).

Driving time: 3 hours 10 minutes; 3 hours 30 minutes.

**Getting Around**

The resort is about 12km (7 miles) long, having grown along the road to join three former villages together. A free ski bus circulates up and down the main road. Please note that access via pavements is limited away from the main areas.

**Hotels**

As one of the world's largest ski resorts, Livigno has developed rapidly since it first emerged in the 1950s and today there is a vast range of places to stay. The majority of accommodation is found in hotels and apartments, as well as a few catered chalets. Although there isn't much in the way of luxury lodgings, there is a good range of 2-, 3- and 4-star hotels in Livigno.

**Hotel Centro’s**

A modern 2-star hotel, Hotel Centro’s is only 50m (160ft) from the ski lifts and provides car parking, Wi-Fi access and a solarium.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Via Fontana 26D

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Livigno

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

0342 996 092.

**Website**

http://www.hotelcentros.it

**Hotel Amerikan**

Hotel Amerikan is a well-located 4-star hotel with a wellness centre incorporating a sauna, Turkish bath, whirlpool and gym.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Via Florin 77/93

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Livigno

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

0342 992 011.

**Website**

http://www.amerikan.it

**Hotel Sporting**

This friendly, family-run 2-star hotel is close to the Carosello 3000 lift. The hotel houses a small pizzeria dishing up regional cuisine and a bar that serves cocktails.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Via Saroch 1272

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Livigno

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

0342 996 665.

**Website**

http://www.bormolinihotels.com