**Nevis Range**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Families

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

7

**Intermediate Runs**

12

**Advanced Runs**

16

**Total Runs**

35

**Lifts**

12

**Chairs**

3

**Drags**

8

**Gondola Cable Cars**

1

**Parks**

1

**Pipes**

0

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

Unavailable.

**Overview**

Nevis Range remains the United Kingdom's newest and highest ski area, and has also carved out a reputation as a world-class mountain-biking destination.

Despite being one of the world's newest lift-served ski areas, the history of skiing at Nevis Range goes back to at least the 1930s when adventurous locals hiked up to the area now known as the 'Snowgoose' – so named because by the time of the spring snow melts, the patch of snow left on the mountainside resembles the shape of a flying goose.

Today, there is a fantastic gondola at the heart of the whole operation transporting thousands of visitors up its peaks year round. The ski area covers a wide swathe of terrain right next to Britain's tallest mountain, Ben Nevis (1,344m/4,409ft), and offers superb views out over the Atlantic coast. The major tourist town of Fort William is only a few miles away and is perfect for après-ski fun and accommodation options.

**Location**

Nevis Range is located on Aonach Mor Mountain, in the Lochaber region of the western Scottish Highlands. The resort is close to the town of Fort William and Britain's highest mountain, Ben Nevis, in the Grampian mountain range.

**Website**

http://www.nevisrange.co.uk

**Piste Map**

http://snowsports.nevisrange.co.uk/piste-map.asp

**Hit The Slopes**

Nevis Range has the same snow condition ‘issues’ that affect the four other Scottish ski areas: unpredictability. Snow can fall between October and June, allowing skiing in mid-Autumn or late spring. But equally, little or no skiing at all in midwinter is also a possibility, so skiers must be prepared to travel at short notice when the snow reports are good.

The ski area is accessed by the fast, modern Doppelmayr gondola with its six-seater cabins. The beginner slopes are conveniently located right next to the top of the gondola and the mountain restaurant, and have their own drag lift. There are lots of longer runs to progress to, including the Summit Run, a very gentle blue with superb views on the way down.

Intermediates will find much of the terrain open to them, with wide, fast cruisers making up the majority of the three dozen trails. Meanwhile, the most advanced skiers and boarders will want to head to the Snowgoose Bowl and Warrens, while a trip 'over the back' into Corrie Dubh is a must.

Nevis Range has a reputation for excellence with its Snowsports School, and freestylers will find a terrain park on which to practise their moves.

**Nevis Range**

**Resort**

650

**Base**

100

**Top**

1221

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

In addition to sightseeing in and around Fort William, there's plenty to do besides skiing and snowboarding at Nevis Range in the winter.

Courses at High Wire Adventure (tel: (01397) 705 825) are suitable for all ages and abilities. Alternatively, miles of cross-country mountain bike trails await you in Leanachan forest at the gondola base station, while there is also a myriad of activities in the wider Fort William/west coast area.

The region's spectacular natural beauty is its key asset and this is as magnificent on a frosty winter's day as during the busy tourist months of summer. So a drive to Glen Nevis – a favoured filming spot for the Harry Potter films – or Glencoe to the south, or a walk on one of the many stunning sandy beaches in the area, are all great options.

There are also indoor activities in Fort William itself, including the Lochaber Leisure Centre (tel: (01397) 704359) with a pool, gym, table tennis tables, squash courts, spacious spa bath, sauna, steam baths and solarium facilities.

**Family Fun**

Nevis Range is one of the easiest Scottish ski areas to access. Just off the Fort William-Inverness main road, a modern access road leads to the gondola base station – so there's minimum stress in reaching the slopes with children.

At the top of the gondola; the nursery slopes and a sledging area, as well as the family-friendly Snowgoose restaurant, are all just a few steps away.

Fort William is also a good resort town base, and the Lochaber Leisure Centre (tel: (01397) 704359) at the north end of the town has a pool. There are also plenty of affordable dining options for families in the region.

**Retail Therapy**

Fort William is the leading retail and tourist centre in the area. It combines all the usual high street shops one would expect to find in any small British town with a good range of tourist shops and specialist ski and mountain outlets; including the excellent Nevisport (High Street). The Ben Nevis Woollen Mill (Belford Road) sells a wide range of knitwear, tartans, gifts and souvenirs.

**Splashing Out**

Ice Factor (Leven Road; tel: 01855 831100; [www.ice-factor.co.uk](http://www.ice-factor.co.uk)‎), 20 minutes drive from Nevis Range, is home to the world’s largest indoor ice climbing wall (16m/50 ft high) comprised of 500 tonnes of real snow and ice. Courses are offered for everyone, from first-timers right through to experienced ice climbers.

**Apres Ski**

Nevis Range shuts down more or less as soon as the ski day ends, so most of the après-ski action can be found in Fort William, 8km (5 miles) away; where there are about 40 bars and restaurants. Cobbs at Nevisport (Airds Crossing High Street; tel: (01397) 704 790; [cobbs-at-nevisport.co.uk](http://cobbs-at-nevisport.co.uk)) has an open fire, real ales and live music, while lilting notes can also often be heard coming from the doors of Ben Nevis Inn (Achintee Road; tel: (01397) 701227), a short distance out of town.

**Eating Out**

The Snowgoose Restaurant (tel: (01397) 705 825) at the top of the gondola station provides a range of affordable basic meals on the mountain. The Pinemarten, a café/bar with a lovely view of the mountain at the foot of Aonach Mor, serves freshly made meals using locally sourced produce.

In Fort William and the wider area there's a good choice of more than 50 places to eat, with options ranging from Chinese, Indian or traditional fish and chips to fine dining. The Grog and Gruel (66 High Street; tel: (01397) 705 078; [www.grogandgruel.co.uk](http://www.grogandgruel.co.uk)) serves wholesome bar meals, while the colourful Crannog Restaurant (Town Pier; tel: (01397) 705 589; [www.crannog.net](http://www.crannog.net)) has a long-standing reputation for excellent seafood, often caught from the neighbouring loch.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Inverness Airport (INV); Glasgow Airport (GLA).

Distance to resort: 100km (63 miles); 179km (112 miles).

Driving time: 1 hour 15 minutes; 2 hours 30 minutes.

**Getting Around**

Nevis Range is reached by car (there is extensive free car park at base) or by a regular bus service that operates to and from Fort William. The nearest other ski centre is Glencoe, about 56km (35 miles) by road to the south.

**Hotels**

As a popular winter and summer destination, there is a whole host of accommodation in Nevis Range, both near the slopes and in the surrounding villages and towns. These include countless bed and breakfast hotels, lodges, guest houses and hotels, ranging from the basic to luxurious.

**The Ben Nevis Hotel**

Located just 7km (4 miles) from Nevis Range on the road into Fort William, The Ben Nevis Hotel has its own leisure club with a swimming pool, sauna, steam room, spa and gym.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

North Rd

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Fort William

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

PH33 6TG

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Telephone**

(01397) 702 331.

**Website**

http://www.strathmorehotels.com

**Fort William Backpackers**

This affordable, friendly and well-equipped hostel is in a central location in Fort William.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Alma Road

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Fort William

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

PH33 6HB

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Telephone**

(01397) 700 711.

**Website**

http://www.fortwilliambackpackers.com

**Inverlochy Castle Hotel**

This historic and elegant castle hotel is just across the road from the Nevis Range ski area. Former guests here include Queen Victoria, who stayed for a week in 1873 in what is now the Honeymoon Suite, complete with four-poster bed.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Torlundy

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Fort William

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

PH33 6SN

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Telephone**

(01397) 702 177.

**Website**

http://www.inverlochycastlehotel.com