**Peisey-Vallandry**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Families

Snow reliability

Environmental awareness

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

56

**Intermediate Runs**

23

**Advanced Runs**

18

**Total Runs**

107

**Lifts**

10

**Chairs**

6

**Drags**

3

**Gondola Cable Cars**

1

**Parks**

1

**Pipes**

0

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

5m (16.4ft).

**Overview**

Although long established amongst the French skiing community for its Nordic snow sports scene in particular, it’s fair to say Peisey-Vallandry – which is made up of five small settlements – had been greatly overlooked by international guests in favour of its larger neighbour Les Arcs until relatively recently.

That changed a decade ago, however, when the Vanoise Express double-decker cable car was built to connect Les Arcs to its neighbour La Plagne. This created the giant Paradiski region – one of the world’s three biggest by some measures – with 425km (264 miles) of pistes spread across 10,000 hectares (24,700 acres).

The spot chosen for the lift station on the Les Arcs side was Peisey-Vallandry. As a consequence, international travel companies rapidly built a swathe of swish chalets and apartments. But there has been none of the over-development that has blighted other big name French resorts, according to some in the skiing fraternity.

Instead, Peisey-Vallandry’s growth has been contained and managed to be in keeping with local traditions and the environment. It is, in fact, promoted as the peaceful part of Paradiski, where its Nordic sports (such as cross-country skiing and winter hiking) are as important as its excellent terrain for downhill skiers.

Peisey-Vallandry’s small hamlets include two purpose-built areas, Plan Peisey and Vallandry, which are up by the pistes and the Vanoise Express at 1,600m (5,250ft). Below, the original resort of Peisey (often called Peisey Village or Peisey Chez Lieu) is linked by a gondola to the slopes – although you cannot ski down to it. Slightly further away is Nancroix; while the fifth hamlet, Landry, can be found at the end of the valley.

**Location**

Peisey-Vallandry is located on the edge of the Vanoise National Park, within the Tarentaise Massif in the French Alps. The resort is at the heart of the Paradiski region, between the resorts of Les Arcs and La Plagne.

**Website**

http://www.peisey-vallandry.com

http://www.paradiski.com

**Piste Map**

http://www.paradiski.com/skiplan

**Hit The Slopes**

Linked by the Vanoise Express to the rest of the Paradiski area – where there’s glacier skiing and a massive snowmaking arsenal in place for when temperatures drop – snow cover is reliable in Peisey-Vallandry from early December to late April.

The resort has its own ski area that’s seamlessly integrated; however, it represents less than 20% of the Les Arcs ski area and less than 10% of the overall Paradiski region – only beginners or less experienced intermediates are likely to want to limit themselves to these slopes.

These local runs are mostly sunny and wooded, so are protected from the wind, but also to some extent from the crowds, as this is somewhat off the beaten track for most skiers based in Les Arcs. Along with a relaxed atmosphere, the slopes afford great views of the Mont Blanc Massif, Beaufortain and the Tarentaise Valley, and include one of Europe’s longest easy trails, the 7km-long (5 miles) La Forêt.

For everyone else, there’s a vast ski area to explore, with 425km (266 miles) of pistes divided between the two neighbouring resorts. Both offer a huge skiable vertical (2,000m/6,561ft) that ranks as amongst the best in the world. There’s something for all ability levels, from well designed beginner slopes and ‘motorway cruising’ runs, to steep technical descents, tree and mogul skiing and snowboarding, and several top-notch terrain parks. Heavy investment in state-of-the-art uplift means that most terrain is served by a fast, comfortable chairlift or gondola.

The only negative for those without bottomless pockets is that the Paradiski pass required to ski or board on both sides of the Vanoise Express is among the most expensive in Europe (outside the Swiss Franc zone). You can, however, opt for a more affordable Les Arcs-only pass that still incorporates a day over in La Plagne during a six-day stay; or simply purchase a pass that just covers the slopes of Peisey-Vallandry.

The resort is known for its Nordic skiing and other snow sports activities, which include 43km (26 miles) of cross-country ski trails for all standards, the Nordic Ski Centre’s biathlon ski school, and a children’s nursery area complete with easy-to-ride carpet lifts and a sledging hill.

**Peisey-Vallandry**

**Resort**

1600

**Base**

1600

**Top**

3226

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

Most of the off-slope activities take place outdoors, and include numerous snowshoeing routes and cleared winter hiking paths around the village and national park – maps and advice are available at the tourist office. Visitors can also go on a guided snowshoe hike with the ski school (tel: 04 7907 9377).

Dog sledding (tel: 04 7955 4233) and horse-drawn sleigh rides (tel: 04 7907 9088) are further possibilities. In the wider region, there’s a bobsleigh run at La Plagne and a great toboggan run at Les Arcs. For the more adventurous, ice climbing is available to all abilities with Mountain Guides (tel: 06 1009 4900), which takes climbers to a choice of waterfalls up to 200m (656ft) in height.

Indoor activities include half a dozen spas – the best of which is the Nuxe spa in the Club Med village (tel: 04 7904 0750) at Plan Peisey. There’s also a visiting massage service (tel: 06 1265 3452) to soothe any aches and pains from the day’s skiing.

**Family Fun**

Peisey-Vallandry is well suited to families, as the resort’s strong community ethos and environmental focus provides a good backdrop to some quality family time.

Facilities for younger children encompass a choice of non-ski nurseries, such as the Tom Pouce Nursery (tel: 04 7907 9772) in Vallandry, and the Chat Botté Nursery (tel: 04 7907 9164) in Plan Peisey. Ideally, these facilities should be booked in advance.

The resort’s ESF Ski School (tel: 04 7907 9377; [www.esf-peiseyvallandry.com](http://www.esf-peiseyvallandry.com)) teaches children from as young as three in accordance with French national testing standards, but with plenty of fun and games thrown in.

Those with teens demanding attention may be a little stretched unless staying in one of the all-inclusive complexes, such as the Club Med village. This complex welcomes children from four months old and hosts special teenage activity programmes for children aged 11 and older.

**Retail Therapy**

Although not a prime shopping destination, Peisey-Vallandry nonetheless has the holiday essentials covered with a selection of ski shops, souvenir outlets and chemists spread throughout the villages. Most of the individual hamlets have their own *boulangerie* (bakery) selling freshly made bread and croissants; while there are mini-supermarkets or specialist food producers in Vallandry, Plan Peisey and Peisey.

Gift shopping is limited, but the accurately named Souvenirs & Co. (Centre Commercial; tel: 04 7922 7478) at Plan Peisey is packed with regional gifts and decorative items.

**Splashing Out**

The ESF's (tel: 04 7907 9265; [www.esf-peiseyvallandry.com](http://www.esf-peiseyvallandry.com)) Nordic sports division provides a rare opportunity for visitors to try the exciting sport of biathlon, which combines cross-country skiing with rifle shooting in the resort's Nordic park. Anyone 14 years or older can take part and tuition, a rifle and ammunition are included.

**Apres Ski**

Although much of Peisey-Vallandry is rather quiet in the evenings, the large number of international guests in Plan Peisey can often make it much livelier. Bars here, such as Au Planté du Bâton (Quartier des Aiguilles; tel: 04 7907 9277), serve cocktails and *vin chaud* (mulled wine) through to 0200, while Le Solan (tel: 04 7907 1506; [www.restaurant-lesolan.com](http://www.restaurant-lesolan.com)) sometimes has karaoke sessions. At the bottom of the new Parchey lift, La Vache (tel: 04 7908 0463) has a cosy atmosphere and occasional live concerts, and is open until late.

In Vallandry, the sunny terrace at Le Bistrot Savoyard (tel: 04 7904 2099) opposite the Vallandry chairlift base is a popular hangout at the end of the ski day; while Jimmy's Bar ([www.jimmysapresski.nl](http://www.jimmysapresski.nl)) is a favourite for its DJ sessions until the early hours.

**Eating Out**

Restaurants in Peisey-Vallandry are varied in location and style, with a good mix of establishments ranging from simple crêperies to more refined purveyors of local Savoyard cuisine.

Among the latter category, Le Fontana (La Grand Ourse; tel: 04 7906 9891) in Vallandry and L'Ancolie in Nancroix (Route de Croix Grange; tel: 04 7907 9320; [www.restaurant-lancolie-nancroix.com](http://www.restaurant-lancolie-nancroix.com)) have a reputation for a gourmet standard of French regional cooking.

For an inexpensive bite to eat, there are several pizzerias that deliver, including the popular Le Refugepizz in Plan Peisey (Résidence le Soleil; tel: 04 7906 5258). On the slopes, Les 3 Saveurs (tel: 06 7429 0111) serves simple sandwiches and snacks to peckish skiers.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Chambéry Airport (CMF); Grenoble-Isère Airport (GNB); Geneva International Airport (GVA).

Distance to resort: 120km (75 miles); 190km (120 miles); 200km (125 miles).

Driving time: 1 hour 40 minutes; 2 hours 20 minutes; 2 hours 30 minutes.

Nearest station: Landry; Bourg-Saint-Maurice

Distance to the resort: 11km (4.5 miles); 18km (10 miles)

**Getting Around**

A free shuttle bus service circulates around the village, its various hamlets and hotels on four different routes of various lengths and frequencies. Services run predominantly between 0900 and 1800 with extra services in the peak morning and afternoon periods.

Taxis are available in the various hamlets, with taxi firms concentrated mainly in Landry and Peisey.

**Hotels**

Peisey-Vallandry has accommodation options to cover most budgets. In the smaller, traditional villages, there are basic family-run hotels, gîtes and apartments for rent; but over the past decade, numerous luxury chalets and apartment complexes have opened higher up the slopes. The latest arrivals are large, 4-star residences that combine apartment accommodation with luxury hotel facilities.

**Oree des Neiges**

A luxurious self-catering apartment complex just 300m (330 yards) from the lifts, Oree des Neiges was built by the French ski resort developer MGM. The resort houses a spa area and provides ski-in/ski-out facilities.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

XXX

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Vallandry 73210

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

France

**Telephone**

04 7923 2540.

**Website**

http://www.cgh-residences.co.uk

**Hôtel l'Emeraude**

Boasting an indoor pool and hammam, this 3-star offering provides a ski-in/ski-out location and splendid views of the Tarentaise Valley and Mont-Blanc.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

XXX

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Vallandry 73210

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

France

**Telephone**

04 7907 9446.

**Website**

http://www.hotel-emeraude.com

**Hôtel La Vanoise**

A well-located 3-star hotel close to the slopes, accommodation at Hôtel La Vanoise is in the form of rooms or separate chalets. The characterful complex also houses a small heated pool, spa and cosy restaurant.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

XXX

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Peisey-Vallandry 73210

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

France

**Telephone**

04 7907 9219.

**Website**

http://www.hotel-la-vanoise.com

**Chalet la Tarine**

This family run 2-star chalet hotel has a reputation for its warm welcome and good food. It is also conveniently located, being in the centre of Peisey, just 300m (330 yards) from the ski lifts.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Rue des Monts d'Argent

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Peisey Nancroix 73210

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

France

**Telephone**

04 7907 9309.

**Website**

http://www.latarine.com

**Club Med de Peisey-Vallandry**

The well-located Club Med offers all-inclusive slopeside holidays in a modern complex that incorporates a spa, swimming pool, children's programmes and many other facilities. Accommodation here ranges from connecting family rooms to deluxe suites.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Lieu Dit Plan Peisey

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Peisey-Vallandry 73210

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

France

**Telephone**

04 7904 0750.

**Website**

http://www.clubmed.co.uk

**Hôtel Bon Accueil**

A friendly 2-star hotel in the village of Landry, Hôtel Bon Accueil has been run by the Curton family since the 1950s. A homely and traditional establishment, Monsieur Curton prepares Savoyard dishes for his guests in the hotel’s restaurant.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Chemin de l'ancienne Mairie

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Landry 73210

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

France

**Telephone**

04 7907 0879.

**Website**

http://www.hotel-bon-accueil.fr