**Davos**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Non-skiers

Après ski

Snow reliability

Environmental awareness

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

26

**Intermediate Runs**

40

**Advanced Runs**

19

**Total Runs**

85

**Lifts**

61

**Chairs**

12

**Drags**

34

**Gondola Cable Cars**

15

**Parks**

2

**Pipes**

1

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

3.1m (10.2ft).

**Overview**

Davos is one of the world’s longest established ski resorts and its skiing today is rated among Europe's best. But unlike many ski resorts, Davos also has a life beyond winter sports.

Those arriving at the end of January may find world leaders and their entourages in town attending the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum. Many other visitors are attracted to the town's extensive health and spa facilities, with numerous private clinics available.

It was as a health resort that Davos first achieved international prominence, attracting up to 2,000 cure seekers per night in the 19th century. However, skiing gradually became the bigger draw, aided by writer Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's description in 1894 of his skiing adventures in the area.

Sprawling Davos, which is the highest town in Europe, may lack the ski town charm of its neighbour Klosters, but its ski area offers options for all levels of skier, while boarders consider the resort – in particular the area on its Jakobshorn peak – as among the best in the Alps.

**Location**

Davos is tucked away in Graubünden, the least accessible and arguably the most parochial of the Swiss cantons. It's a region where Alpine peaks and valleys dominate. The Wolfgang Pass and Prättigau Valley connect Davos to Landquart, the main junction for routes north (to Zurich) and west.

**Website**

http://www.davos.ch

**Piste Map**

http://www.davos.ch/en/experience/winter/ski-snowboard/maps-and-piste-plans.html

**Hit The Slopes**

The Davos-Klosters region offers varied runs for all ability levels. Most of the more demanding runs are at lower elevations, within the trees, where the valley sides are steepest. In all, there are five distinct ski areas, each served by an extensive lift system.

The largest and busiest is Parsenn, which peaks at the 2,844m (9,331ft) Weissfluhgipfel. From here, a 12km-long (7.5-mile), 2,034m (6,673ft) descent runs to Küblis, but this is only navigable when the snow cover is at its most extensive. Jakobshorn, across the valley, is favoured by snowboarders and has halfpipe and snowboard parks.

Both the Parsenn and Jakobshorn ski areas are suited to beginners, with gentle nursery slopes and easy intermediate runs; while the slightly more advanced can make the most of the Rinerhorn and Pischa domains, with their handful of ungroomed runs.

Off piste, it's possible to ski as far as Arosa, but this is a major undertaking, entailing three hours of hiking and a three-hour return by train.

The ski season in Davos runs from mid-November until the end of April.

**Davos**

**Resort**

1560

**Base**

1100

**Top**

2844

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

Davos offers plenty of variety away from the slopes, such as 75km (47 miles) of cross-country trails and 84km (52 miles) of winter hiking routes. Skaters can choose between four locations, including Europe's largest natural rink occupying 18,000 sq m (193,750 sq ft) in the Davos Sports Centre (Talstrasse 41; tel: 081 415 3600). There are also tobogganing runs using the Davos sledge, named after the resort.

Sedentary options are more limited, though there are spectator sports, extensive spa facilities and the Kirchner Museum (Promenade 82; tel: 081 410 6300; [www.kirchnermuseum.ch](http://www.kirchnermuseum.ch)), which is devoted to the expressionist painter Ernst Ludwig Kirchner (who lived in Davos during his formative years). A fun night out can be had at 101 Bowling (Promenade 101; tel: 079 303 3865; [www.bowling-davos.ch](http://www.bowling-davos.ch)), which has four bowling alleys and a billiard table for all ages to enjoy.

**Family Fun**

The Madrisa area is the ideal place to learn to ski; its Madrisa Land facility near the top lift station is well equipped with nursery slopes as well as a tubing run and bouncy castle. The Swiss Snowsports School (Promenade 157; tel: 081 416 2454; [ssd.ch](http://ssd.ch)) offers classes for those aged three and above, and has a kindergarten. Other options for families include the indoor swimming pool, heated outdoor pool and water slide at Eau-là-là (Promenade 90; tel: 081 413 6463; [www.eau-la-la.ch](http://www.eau-la-la.ch)), as well as family-friendly facilities at the Davos Sports Centre.

**Retail Therapy**

Visitors to Davos can buy anything they might need for a ski trip, from general conveniences to fashionable ski gear and accessories. Specialist shops, including chic and pricey boutiques, food retailers and souvenir shops are strung along Promenade, the compact main thoroughfare. Among these, 1560 Fashion Point (Promenade 120; tel: 081 552 1560; [www.1560.ch](http://www.1560.ch)) is good for trendy threads.

**Splashing Out**

For the ultimate indulgence, try a spa treatment at the Seehof Hotel (Promenade 159; tel: 081 417 9444; [www.seehofdavos.ch](http://www.seehofdavos.ch)). In addition to the usual sauna, solarium and massage services, there are mountain mud baths, seaweed algae packs and other exotic treatments for a good post-ski pampering.

For a truly unique experience, consider spending the night in an igloo (tel: 041 612 2728; [www.iglu-dorf.com](http://www.iglu-dorf.com)) in the Parsenn area, which comes complete with a whirlpool and sauna. Spoil your loved one by booking a Romantic Igloo Suite, in which you can snuggle up away from the cold with a glass of sparkling wine.

**Apres Ski**

Most après-ski bars and clubs in Davos are located in the Davos Platz area. Ex Bar (Promenade 63; tel: 081 413 5645; [www.ex-bar-davos.ch](http://www.ex-bar-davos.ch)) offers drinking and music all night long, while retro tunes are played into the early hours at Pöstli Club (Promenade 42; tel: 081 415 4500; [www.morosani.ch](http://www.morosani.ch)) in Hotel Morosani. Snowboarders generally head over to the animated Bolgenschanze (Skistrasse 1; tel: 081 413 7101; [www.bolgenschanze.ch](http://www.bolgenschanze.ch)) with is DJs and live music.

A great place for a drink or two straight after the ski day is Bolgen Plaza (Skistrasse 26; tel: 081 413 5818; [www.bolgenplaza.ch](http://www.bolgenplaza.ch)) at the base of the slopes, which has a convivial atmosphere and also occasionally hosts live music. The Hotel Europe's Piano Bar (Promenade 63; tel: 081 415 4141; [www.europe-davos.ch](http://www.europe-davos.ch)) caters to an older set.

**Eating Out**

The novel Dine Around initiative allows those staying half-board at one of 22 selected hotels in the resort to also dine at the other hotels at no extra cost. But there are also copious choices for visitors to Davos who don't have half-board deals at their hotels. The majority of these focus on hearty local cuisine, but pizzerias and a steakhouse (among others) ensure there is something for most palates.

Panorama Restaurant (Promenade 80; tel: 081 413 2373; [www.panoramahotels.com](http://www.panoramahotels.com)) within Hotel Panorama certainly lives up to its name, with fine views from its terrace – portions here are sizeable and seafood is favoured. For inexpensive regional cuisine, try Hotel Ochsen's restaurant Stübli (Talstrasse 10; tel: 081 417 6777; [www.mountainhotels.ch](http://www.mountainhotels.ch)) or Dischma Restaurant (Promenade 128; tel: 081 413 0303; [www.dischma.ch](http://www.dischma.ch)) in Hotel Dischma.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Zurich Airport (ZRH).

Distance to resort: 160km (100 miles).

Driving time: 2 hours 15 minutes.

Nearest railway stations: Davos Platz; Davos Dorf.

Distances to resort: 2.5km (1.5 miles); 2.5km (1.5 miles).

Driving times: 5 minutes; 5 minutes.

**Getting Around**

Unlike many ski resort towns, Davos’ authorities allow transportation within the resort centre. Buses serve the urban centre and ski lift stations, and these are free to those staying in Davos. Though the main thoroughfare, Promenade, is nominally a one-way street, buses are permitted to travel in both directions. Those who ski over to Klosters and don't have time to get the lifts back can take the train back to Davos, which takes 25 minutes.

**Hotels**

Davos is a sprawling, city-like resort with most accommodation found in dreary apartment blocks with very little ski resort charm. As well as apartments, there are around 45 or so hotels in Davos, with a mixture of 3- and 4-star choices and some rather bleak-looking luxury spa hotels.

**Morosani Schweizerhof**

The stylish Morosani Schweizerhof houses a swimming pool and lavish spa, and has attentive staff who go out of their way to please.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Promenade 50

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

7270 Davos-Platz

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Switzerland

**Telephone**

081 415 5500.

**Website**

http://www.schweizerhof.morosani.ch

**Club Hotel**

Though unappealingly box-like from the outside, the 3-star Club Hotel has a convenient location, good facilities and offers decent deals for dinner.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Promenade 23

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

7270 Davos-Platz

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Switzerland

**Telephone**

081 414 9100.

**Website**

http://www.clubhotel.ch

**Hotel Edelweiss**

Family-run, friendly, and in a quiet locale, this hotel has pleasantly presented rooms, some of which have a balcony.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Rossweidstrasse 9

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

7270 Davos-Platz

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Switzerland

**Telephone**

081 416 1033.

**Website**

www.hotel-edelweiss-davos.ch