**Bardonecchia**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Snowboarders

Families

Après ski

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

21

**Intermediate Runs**

15

**Advanced Runs**

1

**Total Runs**

37

**Lifts**

25

**Chairs**

10

**Drags**

14

**Gondola Cable Cars**

1

**Parks**

1

**Pipes**

1

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

Unavailable.

**Overview**

Bardonecchia is one of Italy's original alpine ski resorts, having been established in the early part of the 20th century. The first Italian skiing championships were held here in 1909, and, nearly a century later, the town was a venue during the 2006 Winter Olympics based in Turin.

Bardonecchia is a mid-sized resort with around 100km (62 miles) of runs served by two dozen lifts - some of which are now unfortunately rather elderly. Like Utah’s Park City, four years before, the resort went from having no snowboarding facilities to boasting a state of the art terrain park and Olympic-sized halfpipe, assets available to all guests today.

Once within Bardonecchia itself, located close to the French border at one end of the Fréjus rail tunnel, visitors discover a pleasant, small town with a semi-pedestrianised centre and a history that long pre-dates winter sports. Historic buildings with 15th- and 16th-century frescos painted on the walls are prime evidence of this. Due to its long-term, year-round resort status, there are above average recreational facilities besides the extensive winter sports offering, which is divided between two main bus-linked areas.

**Location**

Bardonecchia is located in the upper part of Val di Susa in the Alps, within the Piedmont region of northwest Italy. The resort is situated on the French border, due west of Turin.

**Website**

http://www.bardonecchiaski.com

**Piste Map**

http://www.bardonecchiaski.com/media/inverno/Cartina2013.jpg

**Hit The Slopes**

Thanks to the high altitude of its largely north-facing upper slopes Bardonecchia has a good reputation for reliable snow conditions.

Bardonecchia’s skiing is divided between three areas: Melezet, Jafferau and Campo Smith. The latter is the heart of the ski area and is where most facilities, including a ski school and numerous après-ski bars, are based.

Melezet and Campo Smith are fully lift-linked, while Jafferau, a five-minute bus ride away, has the highest runs at nearly 2,800m (9,186ft). Much of the terrain across these areas is ideal for the recreational skier looking for fast, easy to moderate cruising trails, and there’s a good mix of runs both above and below the treeline.

More experienced skiers may struggle to find slopes to keep them entertained, although some tougher terrain is available at Jafferau, including bowl and tree skiing both on- and off-piste. Those seeking greater challenges still – who also have money to spend – can sign up for heli-skiing.

From Bardonecchia, it’s also possible to make a day trip to the giant Via Lattea (Milky Way) ski area. A trip to the nearest Via Lattea resort of Sauze d’Oulx takes around 45 minutes by bus (with a change in the town of Oulx).

Bardonecchia can lay claim to having the only Olympic half pipe in Europe that is on a par with Nagano, Salt Lake City and Vancouver. The resort also has a dedicated terrain park with kickers and moguls of all sizes and shapes.

Cross-country skiers will find around 28km (17 miles) of well-prepared tracks for all levels of ability, from beginner to expert.

**Bardonecchia**

**Resort**

1312

**Base**

1312

**Top**

2650

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

Bardonecchia is a large, year-round destination, so there’s a lot to do on and off the slopes. Indoor facilities include a cinema, indoor tennis courts, climbing wall, ice rink and a sports centre with a gymnasium, swimming pool and sauna.

For something a little different in the fresh mountain air, try snowshoeing, tubing, winter mountain biking or horse riding in and around the resort.

There’s also a range of cultural and historical attractions to explore; including the Museo Civico e di Arte Sacra (Museum of Religious Art), a woodcarving school in Melezet, a museum for alpine art and culture, and the Tur d’Amun archaeological park.

Additionally, The Palazzo Delle Feste (tel: +39 0122 909 991), with its distinctive Art Nouveau architecture, stages a variety of cultural events, from art exhibitions to cabaret shows.

**Family Fun**

Bardonecchia is a welcoming place for families with young children, notably because child-friendly, affordable, restaurants at the resort are plentiful and facilities for young children (including ski schools) are abundant.

There’s a nursery for young children run by the Villaggio Campo Smith apartment complex, while the ever-popular fun play area for under-fives (next to the baby ski lift and the floodlit tubing hill in Campo Smith) is served by an easy-to-use carpet lift.

On the slopes, the resort’s ski schools have special programmes for children aged five and older with classes streamed according to age and ability.

**Retail Therapy**

Bardonecchia has around 80 shops, making the choice here much greater than at many ski resorts. Among the more interesting shopping places to explore are A Cair D'La Gleisa (Via Des Geneys 5) for antiques and crafts; Bado Luca (Via Giolitti 20) for toys; and Dal Caliè Creazioni (Piazza Europa 18) for Italian designer shoes and leather goods. Top-scale fashion boutiques here include Benetton (Via Medail 75) and C (Via Medail 76).

**Splashing Out**

Snowcat safaris of between one and three hours in length are offered every day during the ski season after the lifts have closed. The tour, which departs at 1730, can accommodate up to 10 people in a tank-like vehicle, and concludes with an inclusive meal at a mountain restaurant. Booking is possible through the Tourist Information Office (tel: +39 012 299 032).

**Apres Ski**

Bardonecchia’s few dozen bars can get quite animated, particularly at weekends when larger crowds arrive from Turin.

Bar Seba (Via Medail 12) is a popular little spot on the main street with a good drinks menu and bar snacks, while the cosy Al Crotin (tel: +39 0122 901 851) is a nice spot for a sophisticated glass of Italian *rosso.*

Café Medail (tel: +39 0122 99 101) serves Ichnusa beer, a century-old brew from Sardinia that’s well worth sampling, and sometimes has live music and dancing. Camarillo Cafè (tel: +39 339 852 5016) is another of the better choices for revellers searching for a late night spot to throw some shapes.

**Eating Out**

There are more than 70 places to eat in and around Bardonecchia. The local Alta Val Susa region is renowned for its fine food, so it’s a good place to enjoy famous local Alpine dishes – from polenta and game stew to tasty mountain cheeses such as the violet-scented Plaisentif. Also not to be missed are the hearty *glara* and *cajette* (savoury dishes made of potatoes), wholemeal bread soup and *gofri* (traditional waffles).

On the mountain, La Grangia (tel: +39 0122 96 587; [www.lagrangia.it](http://www.lagrangia.it)) is an excellent choice for lunch with its large lunchtime menu of hearty, homemade cuisine at affordable prices.

The Ristorante Pizzeria Cusine (tel: +39 0122 901 296; [www.icusine.it](http://www.icusine.it)) is one of the most popular in town, with chefs Giorgio and Michele self-styled pizza-artistes of the kitchen.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Turin Airport (TRN).

Distance to resort: 100km (65miles).

Driving time: 1 hour 15 minutes.

Nearest railway station: Bardonecchia.

Distance to resort: Within the resort.

**Getting Around**

A free ski bus travels around the resort on two separate routes: the urban circular route and the Jafferau/Campo Smith/Melezet route that connects the ski lift departure points. Both services run throughout the day at 15-minute intervals.

**Hotels**

Bardonecchia has a good mix of accommodation of all types and in all categories. Almost two-thirds of the resort’s 10,000 guest beds are in apartments, but there are also more than 30 hotels in Bardonecchia (graded up to 5-star), as well as simple bed and breakfasts and mountain lodges.

**Hotel Cà Fiore**

This intimate slopeside 4-star hotel is located in front of the ski-lifts at Campo Smith, and includes a basic wellness facility and a restaurant serving classic Italian dishes.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Località Fregiusia

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Bardonecchia 10052

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

10052

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

+39 0122 96591

**Website**

www.cafiore.it

**Hotel La Quiete**

The popular Hotel La Quiete is a small, family-run offering located around 200m (650ft) from the lifts with a well-stocked bar and numerous public areas to unwind.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Viale San Francesco, 26

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Bardonecchia 10052

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

10052

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

+39 0122 999 859

**Website**

www.hotelaquiete.it

**Da Valerio e Maite**

Convenient for the town and the ski bus stop, this simple yet homely guesthouse provides bed and breakfast accommodation at low prices.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Vicolo Degli Orti 2

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Bardonecchia 10052

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

10052

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

+39 0122 902 664

**Website**

www.bardosleep.moonfruit.com

**Villaggio Campo Smith Apartments**

This modern, slopeside apartment complex has excellent leisure facilities, including its own nursery – making it a great choice for families. The on-site restaurant and pizzeria provide views of the surrounding forests.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Regione Molino 4

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Bardonecchia 10052

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

10052

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

+39 0122 909 211

**Website**

www.villaggiocamposmith.it

**Hotel Jafferau**

Located at 1,900m (6,234ft) on the slopes above the town, Hotel Jafferau offers convenience and excellent service, with facilities including a wellness centre and a choice of restaurants. Guests can even sit down to an evening film in the hotel’s own cinema.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Località Fregiusia

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Bardonecchia 10052

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

10052

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

+39 0122 99 899

**Website**

www.hoteljafferau.it

**La Bettula Hotel**

Located just 150m (492ft) from the resort centre, La Bettula Hotel is a large, chalet-style 3-star hotel with facilities including a bar, reading room and a pleasant solarium.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Viale della Vittoria 4

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Bardonecchia 10052

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

10052

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

+39 0122 999 846

**Website**

www.labetullahotel.it