

VANITY FAIR

The Powder And The Glory

With a report that slaloms between Saint-Moritz and Deer Valley, Whistler and Wanaka, one well-equipped skier rates the sweetest slopes on the planet, from their powder quality to their luxury options (Heli-picnics! Ski butlers!), to their après-ski ambience

By Pippa Middleton



Some ski resorts are renowned for their pristine snow, extreme conditions, and champagne powder, others for their nightlife, wildlife, and charming mountain restaurants. Just in time for peak season, I've pulled together what I deem to be the very best of resort skiing in the world—from Europe's chocolate-box villages, with their authentic alpine traditions, to the powder fields of the western United States. So it's time to boot up, clip in, and make fresh tracks down the best slopes around the world.

♦ **WHISTLER BLACKCOMB, BRITISH COLUMBIA** Only a short trip from Vancouver, this massive resort was the site of the 2010 Olympic Games. It has the greatest amount of skiable terrain (more than 8,000 acres) on the continent, as well as the longest and highest gondola of its kind in the world. The village of Whistler has good shops and restaurants. **SKI:** The bowls are mind-blowing, particularly the run from Whistler Bowl to Tigers Terrace. **STAY:** **Summit Lodge & Spa, Four Seasons, and Fairmont Chateau Whistler** for five-star luxury. **Nita Lake Lodge**, with its stunning setting by the water. **EAT:** **Sidecut**, the Four Seasons steakhouse, or **Araxi**, featuring high-end seafood.