

# Swiss Alps skiing an extraordinary experience made affordable with EPIC pass

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The Swiss Alps just hit differently.

You wouldn't want it any other way, right?

As someone who has spent their entire life skiing in the Canadian Rockies and the western U.S. and adores the resorts on this side of the Atlantic, I wanted my first ski trip to Switzerland to feel unique to what I can get close to home.

Fortunately, there was never any reason to worry.

On a week-long trip to Andermatt-Sedrun-Desentis and Crans-Montana last month, the Alps just sort of washed over me. They felt different. They *were* different. The culture, the history, the traditions, the food, the wine, how alpine sport is woven into the very fabric of Swiss life ... all of it felt special.



Crans-Montana ski resort in Switzerland. Courtesy, Pat Guller PHOTO BY PATRICK GUELLER /cal

So what's the connection between Andermatt and Crans-Montana? Well, it is easy to travel between the two by train and a Swiss Travel Pass makes any trip to the Alps easier and more relaxing. But it's largely about Vail Resorts, the American company that owns Whistler-Blackcomb here in Canada.

Vail Resorts acquired 55 per cent ownership in Andermatt-Sedrun-Disentis in 2022 and is in the process of acquiring an 84 per cent stake in Crans-Montana.