

HOME PAGE | MY TIMES | TODAY'S PAPER | VIDEO | MOST POPULAR | TIMES TOPICS

The New York Times

Escapes

WORLD | U.S. | N.Y. / REGION | BUSINESS | TECHNOLOGY | SCIENCE | HEALTH | SPORTS | OPINION | ARTS

AUTOS

Search

Go

Plan Your Trip

Select a Region or Country

Select a D



ITALIAN
GOVERNMENT
TOURIST BOARD

Live the best movie of your life.

Italy, beyond its Cities of Art rich in history and culture, offers you the best locations: sea, hot springs, convention halls and nature. Everywhere, you will feel you are the star.

www.italiantourism.com



NORTH AMERICA > CANADA > BRITISH COLUMBIA > WHISTLER

SKI GUIDE

Whistler Blackcomb

Great



Download a printable full-size trail map (pdf) here.

By ALISON BERKLEY
Published: December 21, 2007

[Whistler, British Columbia](#), (604) 904-8134,
www.whistlerblackcomb.com

Whistler Travel Guide

- [Where to Stay](#)
- [Where to Eat](#)
- [What to Do](#)

[Go to the Whistler Travel Guide »](#)

Escapes Ski Guides

Select a Destination

More Whistler

Blackcomb resources:

- [Current Snow Conditions From SnoCountry.com](#)
- [Live Resort Webcams and Temperatures](#)
- [Weekly Road Report](#)
- [Interactive Trail Map](#)
- [Trail Map \(pdf\)](#)

Related

[Escapes Ski Guides](#) (December 6, 2007)

[Enlarge This Image](#)



Canadian Olympic Committee/Associated Press

BIGGER really is better at [Whistler Blackcomb](#), where the numbers do the talking. Try 5,280 feet of vertical on for size — the longest drop in [North America](#) by a long shot — and more than 8,000 acres of terrain. There's also the long season, with lifts running through May, summer [skiing](#) on Blackcomb Glacier and eight separate terrain parks.

“The King of All Ski Resorts” will officially assume its crown as the site of the 2010 Winter Olympics. Extensive preparations are well under way, including the Peak to Peak gondola, scheduled to start running between Whistler and Blackcomb Mountains in December 2008. The only current connection between the two massive ski areas (aside from one lift ticket) is the resort village that serves as the gateway to both mountains.

The town of Whistler is mostly made up of the massive base village that, during ski season, is reminiscent of an amusement park or the themed facade of a [Las Vegas](#) casino. There's something distinctly manufactured about it, a little too new, a little too shiny, more than idyllic. But it does have a cosmopolitan flair, with an international clientele. On one hand, it's Pacific Rim (popular among Japanese tourists); on the other, it's still [Canada](#), so there's never a shortage of beer.

STATS

Summit Whistler, 7,164 feet; Blackcomb, 7,494 feet.

Vertical Drop 5,280 feet.

Terrain 8,171 acres.

Trails More than 200.

SIGN IN TO E-MAIL
OR SAVE THIS

PRINT

REPRINTS

SHARE

ARTICLE TOOLS
SPONSORED BY

Whoa!

The

See S
Also in
[Rosi](#)
[Sanf](#)
[Who](#)

FLIG
 CAR

MOST PC

E-MAILE

1. V
i
 2. D
 3. 3
 4. T
 5. F
C
 6. I
 7. A
V
 8. J
A
 9. T
 10. P
F
- [Go to C](#)

TRAVEL

[Save tir](#)
[Flight P](#)

[Enlarge This Image](#)



Bonny Makarewicz for The New York Times
Off Whistler Mountain's Harmony Chair.

[Enlarge This Image](#)



Bonny Makarewicz for The New York Times
Blackcomb Mountain.

Basic child-care programs are 101 Canadian dollars a day. Details about children's programs can be found at www.whistlerblackcomb.com/rentals/schoolkids/index.htm.

DINING

Breakfast With all that terrain to ski, there's no time to waste with a long, drawn-out breakfast. Instead, head over to [Hot Buns Bakery](#) (4232 Village Stroll; 604-932-6883) and

Lifts 38: 3 high-speed gondolas, 13 high-speed quads, 5 triple chairs, 1 double chair, 16 surface lifts.

Price 81 Canadian dollars for a full day (about \$80, at 99 Canadian cents to the U.S. dollar).

Rentals 40.99 Canadian dollars for skis and boots; 29.99 for skis or board only.

Average Season Dates Nov. 22 through May 30, with summer skiing in June and July.

BEST MORNING RUN Wake up right with the kind of long, fast groomed run you can find only on Blackcomb. From the Rendezvous Restaurant on Blackcomb, take the Ross' Gold (1 MAP) run to Sorcerer, then hop on Grub Stake (2 MAP) all the way to Merlin's.

BEST AFTERNOON RUN Try any of the runs off the Seventh Heaven Lift (3 MAP) on Blackcomb for the last of the afternoon sun and some of the best views on the mountain.

INSIDER'S TIP Skip the long Blackcomb Gondola line in the morning and take the Wizard Express (4 MAP) chair to the Solar Coaster Express, an alternative route that will get you up the mountain faster.

FAMILY INFORMATION Whistler's children's programs and facilities are as supersize as the resort itself, with something for every age from 3 months to 12 years. Ski and snowboard school starts at age 3 with Multi Day Adventure Camps, which range in price from 335 Canadian dollars for three days of lessons to 765 dollars for a five-day package, including a lift ticket and equipment rental.

The



Opr

Also ir

[Mike](#)
[Iowa](#)
[Matt](#)



ADVERT

**Small
Business
Tools**

LAST M

[The Fa](#)

[Pan Pa](#)

[Pan Pa](#)

[Resort](#)

[The We](#)

[Delta V](#)

carbo-load with a gooey chocolate-covered cinnamon bun (2.50 Canadian dollars) and a coffee (1.75).

On-Mountain Dining There aren't many ski areas that can provide fresh sushi at 6,069 feet, but Whistler is only two hours' drive from the cold waters of the Pacific Northwest via the Sea to Sky Highway, Highway 99. The [Roundhouse Lodge](#) ([5](#) MAP), atop the Whistler Gondola, recently underwent a \$250,000 renovation and is now a market-style restaurant characterized by its range of international flavors. Go for the Dynamite sushi roll (5.95 Canadian dollars) or a heaping plate of chorizo and mushroom marinara rotini (9.95).

Low-End, In-Town Dining If you order a "Fatty," the two-pound burrito (15 dollars) at [Dup's Burritos](#) (4368 Main Street; 604-905-0210), they'll put your picture on the wall. If you don't, your friends get to deface the photo before it goes up. If you're even more daring, try the Canadian spin on Mexi-fries, hash browns with salsa (3 dollars). Just don't blink — the place is so small you might miss it, tucked behind a 7-Eleven.

High-End, In-Town Dining Speaking of sushi, [Sushi Village](#) has some of the best Japanese artistry east of [Tokyo](#) (4272 Mountain Square; 604-932-3330; www.sushivillage.com), with fresh fish shipped in daily from [Vancouver](#). So while signature creations like the mango caterpillar roll (mango, shrimp tempura and unagi rolled with thin sliced avocado, 12.95 Canadian dollars) are fun to try, the basic sushi bursts with flavor so unexpected it doesn't require anything extra.

NIGHT LIFE

Après-Ski A Whistler classic, the [Garibaldi Lift Co. Bar and Grill](#) ([6](#) MAP) (or the "G.L.C." to initiates) is at the heart of the après-ski party scene in location and in spirit. Watch your buddies make their last run of the day from the slopeside patio. Cap the day with a G.L.C. burger (12 Canadian dollars) and wash it down with a Canadian-style bloody mary, known locally as a Caesar (Skyy vodka and Clamato juice, 6.75 dollars).

Après-Après Ski Few ski towns rival the night club scene in Whistler, where late nights seem to blur into powder mornings. Mix with the younger crowd at [Maxx Fish](#) (4232 Village Stroll; 604-932-1904; www.maxxfish.moonfruit.com), where deep booths, a light show, plasma-screen TVs, projectors, hip-hop D.J.s and a tapas bar open until midnight have a distinctive urban flair.

LODGING

Frugal Mix with the eclectic low-budget travel crowd at the [HI-Whistler](#) (5678 Alta Lake

Road; 604-932-5492; www.hihostels.ca), a hostel only 10 minutes outside town on Alta Lake. The rustic lodge is the closest thing to an old-school ski lodge in Whistler, and at only 30 Canadian dollars for a shared room and 68 dollars for a private, it's also the cheapest.

Not So Frugal You get what you pay for at the [Four Seasons](#) (4591 Blackcomb Way; 604-935-3400; www.fourseasons.com/whistler), where the international chain's reputation for luxury is well-maintained. Standard rates start at 445 Canadian dollars a night for exactly what you'd expect: an on-site modern [spa](#); ski-in, ski-out location; and the finest in everything from linens to décor.

[Share your review of Whistler Blackcomb.](#)

[More Articles in Travel »](#)

[Need to know more? 50% off home delivery of The Times.](#)

Past Coverage

[36 HOURS; Whistler](#) (November 19, 2006)
[IN TRANSIT; Freestyle By Day, Club Style by Night](#) (November 19, 2006)
[Equity Firm Is Acquiring Owner of Resorts](#) (August 12, 2006)
[36 HOURS; Whistler, British Columbia](#) (December 2, 2005)

Related Searches

[Travel and Vacations](#)
[Whistler \(British Columbia\)](#)
[Skiing](#)

Mentioned in This Article

[Vancouver](#) | [Canada](#) | [Las Vegas](#) | [British Columbia](#) | [Tokyo](#) | [North America](#) | [Whistler](#)