2021/2022

WHISTLER WINTER GUIDE

Even if you don't ski or snowboard, there are so many things to do in Whistler in the winter! Updated for 2021/22, our ***Whistler Winter Guide*** is here to help you make the most of your Whistler winter experience.

To help you explore your options, we've sorted the guide into *(click to jump to section)*:

- *Outdoor Activities*
- *Indoor Activities*
- *Events*
- *Dining and Après*

Whistler Winter Outdoor Activities

Experience Whistler's stunning scenery and temperate winter conditions.

Where to next? So many choices on Blackcomb's 7th Heaven

Skiing and Snowboarding

The staple of wintertime in Whistler. Whistler Blackcomb offers North America's largest skiiable area (and backcountry to boot!). No need to choose between Whistler and Blackcomb Mountain – from the top, you can ride the iconic PEAK 2 PEAK Gondola from one to the other.

New for 2021/22, pass prices have been reduced by 20%

- Whistler Blackcomb 2021/22 Winter Season Dates

Blackcomb Ice Cave

When the Showcase T-Bar is open, giving access to Blackcomb Glacier, you can find this little treasure tucked away to the right side of the trail.

Cross-Country Skiing at Lost Lake and Olympic Park

A nice balance between calming and exhilarating, cross-country skiing is an excellent way to immerse yourself in Whistler's wilderness.

Winter Ziplining and Bungee Jumping

For adrenaline lovers, soar above frozen valleys or plummet towards a crashing river.

- Ziplining above Fitzsimmons Valley between Whistler and Blackcomb mountains offered by Ziptrek Ecotours
- Backcountry ziplining on Cougar Mountain offered by Superfly Ziplines
- Bungee Jumping above Cheakamus River offered by Whistler Bungee

Snowmobiling and other Motorized Experiences by Canadian Wilderness Adventures

Take a guided snowmobile tour to an epic breakfast in a backcountry hut, or maybe mountaintop fondue is more your taste – there are plenty of unique tours offered by our friends at Canadian Wilderness Adventures.

Vallea Lumina Forest Multimedia Walk

Now open during the winter months, Vallea Lumina is an enchanting night walk through a forest that's alive with light and sound.

Snowshoeing

Get out and explore wherever your feet might take you! Free snowshoe rentals are available for guests of the Summit Lodge.

Sledding and Ice Skating at Olympic Plaza

Olympic Plaza is Whistler's family hangout. Hang out and enjoy hot chocolate while the kids toboggan, or lace up the skates and glide around a frozen rink beneath the iconic Olympic Rings. Free sled rentals are available for guests of the Summit Lodge.

Ice Fishing with Whistler Year Round Fishing

Our friend Matt from Whistler Year Round Fishing is your expert guide to Whistler's frozen lakes and the fish that lie below.

Heli-skiing and Cat Skiing

Access deep powder and epic terrain with guided heli and snowcat tours.

Eagle Viewing

From November to February, a large population of wintering bald eagles can be observed in the Squamish area. How majestic!

Whistler Tube Park

Located at Base 2 on Blackcomb Mountain, the bubly™ Tube Park is a fun and accessible family activity on the mountain.

Helicopter Tour

Get airborne with our friends at Blackcomb Helicopters and see the mountains from a new and beautiful perspective.

Dogsled Tours

Take a rustic tour through the mountainside on a dogsled or horse-drawn sleigh. Offered by Blackcomb Dogsled and Canadian Wilderness Adventures.

Bobsleigh and Skeleton

Have a need for speed? Check out the Whistler Sliding Centre to experience the rush of bobsleigh and skeleton.

Skate on a Frozen Lake

Whistler winter conditions are mild but the small lakes and ponds are often frozen and safe for skating. Get a game of shinny going for the ultimate Canadian experience.

Whistler Winter Indoor Activities

With so much to do, finding your balance of indoor and outdoor recreation and relaxation is key to making the most of your time in Whistler.

POP Art exhibit at the Audain Art Museum

Scandinave Spa

Technically an indoor/outdoor activity, the Scandinave Spa is one of Whistler's most popular spots. Lounges, massage rooms, steam rooms and saunas can be accessed via a winding walkway through an outdoor oasis of pools and waterfalls. It's uniquely serene.

Art Galleries and the Squamish Cultural Centre

Whistler is home to a number of galleries including the Audain Art Museum, the Maury Young Arts Centre, and the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre. For a full directory of arts and culture in Whistler Village, check out the Arts Whistler Cultural Map.

Shopping on the Village Stroll

There are many retailers and boutiques in the Whistler Village, and many of them can be found along the Village Stroll between the Olympic Plaza and Whistler Gondola.

Village 8 Cinemas

Whistler has an underground cinema to enjoy the latest flicks. A good lazy afternoon activity.

Pubcrawls and Whistler's Legendary Nightlife

If nightclubs are your thing, you probably don't need to be told about Whistler's famous "underground" bar scene. For many, Whistler is a place to let loose and it's made easy with a number of popular bars and clubs such as Longhorn, Garfinkel's, Buffalo Bills, and many more. See the Dining and Après section for our favourite spots to grab a drink after the hill.

Dining

See the Dining and Après section for our top dining recommendations.

Escape Room

Put your problem solving skills to the test at Escape! Whistler, featuring four unique escape rooms to choose from.

Axe Throwing

It's oddly satisfying to launch an axe through the air (at a target, that is). Visit Forged Axe Throwing in Function Junction to experience it for yourself.

Pool and Darts

Beacon, Cinnamon Bear, and Tapley's are great spots to partake in traditional pub recreation.

Yoga

Yoga keeps the mind calm and the body limber, making it a great companion to on-mountain activities. Unfortunately, the pandemic caused some of our local studios to close, but Yogacara is still going strong and popup classes can be found at a variety of locations including Meadow Park Sports Centre, Audain Art Museum, Lululemon and more.

Meadow Park Sports Centre

Whistler's official recreation centre with a number of amenities including:

- pools for kids and adults, hot tubs, steam room, and sauna
- squash and basketball courts
- multiple weight, stretching, and cardio rooms
- ice rink for hockey and public skating

Trampoline Park and Ninja Gym (Squamish)

Get airborne at the Airhouse trampoline park or let your inner ninja run free at the Ninja Gym (temporarily closed), both located in Squamish.

Whistler Winter Events

World Ski and Snowboard Festival (photo: Tourism Whistler/Iusta Jeskova)

Whistler Pride and Ski Festival

January 23-30, 2022

Canada's largest queer-focused ski festival welcomes visitors from around the globe for a week of skiing, snowboarding, parties, and entertainment.

World Ski and Snowboard Festival (WSSF)

Date TBD

Whistler's annual celebration of mountain sports and culture, featuring a number of popular events including ski and snowboard big air competitions, photography and videography competitions, concerts, parties, art exhibitions and more.

Family Après

Mondays and Wednesdays in Olympic Plaza from 3PM – 6PM, sip a hot beverage and enjoy live entertainment at the foot of the iconic Olympic rings, with plenty of activities to keep the young ones occupied.

Fire and Ice Show

**The fire and ice show was cancelled in 2020/21 due to the pandemic. We will update this page when we know if it's been reinstated for 2021/22.*

Weekly Nightlife Events

****Predictably, the pandemic has affected nightlife operations. To verify that a weekly event is happening, we recommend contacting the establishments directly. At some locations, reservations are currently required.***

There's always something going on at Whistler's pubs and clubs. Some popular events include:

- Monday: trivia at Crystal Lounge, Bangers & Mash at Garfinkel's
- Tuesday: karaoke at Crystal Lounge, bingo at Tapley's
- Thursday: local's night at Garfinkel's
- Friday: ladies night at Buffalo Bills
- view all nightlife events by checking the "Nightlife" box on this page

Complete Events Listing

There are far too many Whistler winter events to list here! Visit the Tourism Whistler Events Calendar for a complete listing.

Whistler Winter Dining and Après

The best places to eat and drink in each neighbourhood, in our opinion.

Near Whistler Gondola

- Longhorn Saloon – impossible to miss, Whistler's rowdiest all-day après spot
- Garibaldi Lift Company (GLC) – uniquely located above the Whistler gondola, featuring a nice patio with multiple fireplaces
- Dubh Linn Gate – Irish pub with live music and an ideal 5PM-7PM happy hour
- Cinnamon Bear – located in the Hilton hotel, featuring the legendary Swedish Après party every Tuesday
- Sushi Village – aka "party sushi", one of Whistler's most famous spots, great for groups and celebrations

On the Mountain

- Umbrella Bar (Whistler Mountain) – stunning views of Whistler and Blackcomb from this unique indoor/outdoor patio bar
- Christine's On Blackcomb – full service dining at the top of Blackcomb Mountain.
- Crystal Hut (Blackcomb Mountain) – cozy hut at the top of Crystal chair on Blackcomb Mountain serving legendary giant waffles

Upper Village

Whistler's lesser-trafficked village, at the base of Blackcomb Mountain

- Merlin's – classic après spot at the base of Blackcomb Gondola
- Handlebar – impressive selection of rotating craft beers and tasty appetizers
- Portabello – all-day dining with an open kitchen, good barbecue
- Nagomi Sushi – popular sushi spot off the beaten path
- RMU Blackcomb – cozy pub with a cool atmosphere and impressive beer list, located in the Le Chamois hotel
- Fitzsimmons Pub – another cozy pub featuring craft beers and local whiskies, popular for its welcoming atmosphere

Whistler Village Stroll

The busy walkway between Olympic Plaza and Whistler Gondola

- Earls – multiple daily happy hours with an impressive food and drink selection
- Tapley's – casual pub with dart boards and lots of screens to watch the game
- Amsterdam – classic dive bar with outdoor seating right on the Village Stroll
- 21 Steps – one of our favourite dinner recommendations, great quality and portions
- Caramba – casual-yet-upscale pizza and Mediterranean dishes, also known for Whistler's best burger
- Bearfoot Bistro – one-of-a-kind fine dining experience with massive wine cellar and a vodka tasting room made entirely of ice
- Crystal Lounge – comfortable underground lounge with cheap chicken wings and a rowdy karaoke night
- Stinky's On The Stroll – recently opened by longtime Whistler bartender, this popular bar is inspired by sports, skiing and snowboarding, and classic rock

Whistler Village North

Main St and Olympic Plaza – all around the Summit Lodge!

- Sachi Sushi – classy, award-winning sushi restaurant
- The Drop Whistler – hot beverages, snacks, and bubble tea! Located at the Summit Lodge
- Elements Urban Tapas Parlour – Whistler's best breakfast and small bites, located beside The Drop Whistler and the Summit Lodge
- Fresh St Market – formerly IGA, the neighbourhood grocery store with an impressive hot food bar
- Splitz Grill – classic burger joint with fresh, endlessly customizable, handmade burgers
- Peaked Pies – authentic Australian meat pies, "peaked" with mashed potatoes, peas, and gravy
- Hunter Gather – casual eatery with a cool interior, great barbecue and rotating craft beers
- Alta Bistro – classic French cuisine, one of the best fine dining experiences in Whistler village
- Green Moustache – healthy food you can feel good about!
- La Cantina – Mexican food in a casual atmosphere
- Purebread – dangerously delicious baked goods
- Pizzeria Antico – rustic pizza place with a great beer selection, arguably the best happy hour in town

Creekside

Popular village south of Whistler Village with its own gondola

- Dusty's – legendary après spot at the base of Creekside Gondola
- Roland's – popular pub with good food, a great place to watch the game
- BReD – famous sourdough bread by Ed, and good coffee
- Rimrock – many consider Rimrock the best restaurant in Whistler
- Southside Diner – popular traditional-style diner

Alpine and Rainbow

Neighbourhoods north of Whistler Village

- Cranked Espresso Bar (Rainbow) – delicious and healthy food options, premium coffee and espresso drinks, craft beer on tap (happy hour 2pm-3pm) and live music at night
- Alpine Cafe (Alpine) – homey atmosphere with hearty all-day dining and live music at night
- Green Lake Station (Rainbow) – gas station restaurant with surprisingly good food and atmosphere

Function Junction

Southmost neighbourhood in Whistler, the first place you see on your way into town

- Coast Mountain Brewing – trendy craft brewery with a cozy tasting room
- Whistler Brewing – Whistler-themed brewery with a nice space
- Functional Pie – recently opened pizza place getting rave reviews
- Velvet Underground – vintage clothing store serving tasty vegan food
- Wild Wood Cafe – homey cafe with good portions
- Delish Cafe – known for great poutine
- Purebread and Green Moustache – just as delicious as their Whistler Village locations

Whistler Happy Hours and Dining Specials

For a daily listing of Whistler restaurant deals and happy hours, visit whistlerbites.ca

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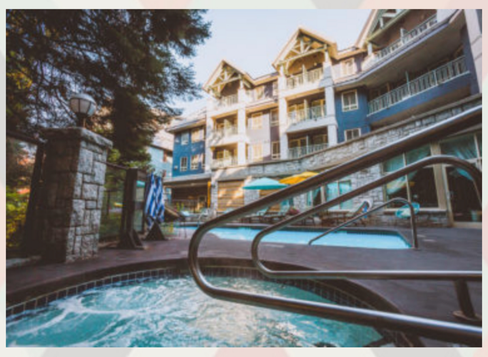

Free Cancellation Outside of 48 Hours – Book Your Whistler Stay With Confidence

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Whistler Winter 2021: What You Need To Know

Important information about the 2020/21 season.

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SUMMIT LODGE

WHISTLER

About

Summit Lodge is Whistler's Award-Winning Boutique Hotel. Located the just steps away from the iconic Olympic Plaza and some of Whistler's best dining, the Summit offers travellers a comfortable-yet-unforgettable experience in the heart of Canada's famous resort town.

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fun fact

DOGS STAY FREE

Summit Lodge Boutique Hotel is a pet-friendly Whistler hotel that caters to those who love to travel with pets. Not only will your pets be treated like VIP guests, but they can stay for FREE!

