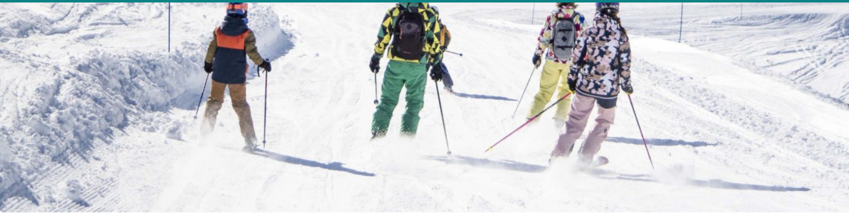

///FEATURE

The 25-26 Ski Season

PATRICK THORNE
11 Apr 25

Welcome to InTheSnow's 25-26 season preview feature.

Scroll down for:

- **The Season's Peak and Low Season Weeks** ...what to be aware of when booking your 25-26 ski holiday.
- **Where's Hot For 25-26?** ...destinations that are looking popular next winter.
- **Top Tips For 25-26** ...expert advice on what to consider when thinking about your next ski holiday.
- **Early Deals For 25-26** ...it's never too early to book your 25-26 holiday and lock in a deal. InTheSnow are already receiving 25-26 season offers.

The Season's Peak and Low Season Weeks

Currently it looks like the weeks beginning 13 December 2025 and 21 March 2026 are going to be amongst the best of the season when it comes to low-season.

As always our friends at French ski-holiday specialists **Peak Retreats** have talked us through the 25-26 ski season week-by-week in terms of which weeks will be quieter and cheaper, which busier, more expensive and most likely to get booked up early.

Christmas And New Year

- Christmas and New Year Days fall on Thursdays this year (or 2026 for NYD to be precise), so whether travelling on Saturdays of Sundays we can be well settled in resort before the build up to the big day and have time to recover before the trip home. For empty slopes and lower prices go earlier in the month.

> "As ever the Christmas and New Year period are going to be busy since the whole of Europe are on holiday for the same two weeks from 20th December to 3rd January. In the UK most private schools do break-up the week before ie. on the 13th of December and this will be an ideal week to go for those who can as prices will be very low season (up to half the price of the New Year week) and it won't be busy. Resorts like Tignes, Val d'Isère, Val Thorens are normally popular that week because of the absolute snow guarantee they offer. We are seeing a lot of interest already and it's definitely a good week to go for those who can," says Peak Retreats' boss Xavier Schouller.

January

- Not the quieter, relatively cheap month is once was, but still cheaper/quieter.

> "January has been a lot busier than previously this season. It seems that skiers from all European countries have taken

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children out of school this year! Whilst January remains low season prices in France for the 5 weeks running from 3rd January (so in this we would include the first week of February too) last minute availability may not be available again. With excellent snow and very low prices it's a good time to go for those who are not tied to school holidays," says Xavier.

February

- Half term peak weeks all month from the 7th. Book asap to secure your trip.

> "The French, ie the ones you have to watch for, for those wanted to ski in France, and European holidays start on the 7th of February. French holidays last four weeks as ever with 3 different regions having alternate two weeks. This means that the middle two weeks are always the busiest as they overlap two regions each. This year the Paris area start on the 21st so we expect that week to be the busiest of the four. Fortunately the main UK week is the week before starting on the 14th but it is also the holiday week for parts of Holland and Belgium too. Accommodation availability for that week has already been filling up fast and will become quite tight come October so for anyone looking to go that popular week we certainly recommend to book now rather than wait. Prices could increase as availability is getting tighter," Xavier explains.

March – April

- Easter Sunday is a fortnight earlier next year, on April 5th, meaning schools break up a week earlier with the easter weekend in the middle rather than the end of the holidays and the chances of better snow conditions are higher. There's also a greater choice of resorts staying open to Easter.

> "The sweet spot between good snow and low prices has always been January, but the big change this year is the bargain prices mid to late March, with the week before Easter holidays, starting 21st March, being the cheapest of the whole winter," explains Richard Sinclair of **ski holiday agency Sno.**

"For most of the UK nearly all schools are off on 28th March with only very few private schools breaking-up the week before ie 21st March so the week of 28th March is likely to get booked-up early. French holidays start a little later on 4th April and are again spread over 4 weeks between the 3 areas. This means that the week of 28th March will be priced as very low season for France which is fantastic news for British skiers. 4th of April is the quieter Bordeaux-Lyon area and then Paris starts on 18th April. Belgian holidays also start on the 4th but as it is Flanders it will have less of an impact, with the Walloon Region not on holiday until much later in April. We are already seeing massive interest for that week of 28 March as conditions are normally still very good and prices with be extremely favourable. Of course some French resorts like Val Thorens, Tignes, Val d'Isère, Les Deux Alpes don't close until early May so plenty of time for those fancy a last opportunity to ski in glorious sunshine and light ski clothing," Xavier concludes.

Where's Hot For 25-26?

We Brits have long had a love for skiing Scandinavia and all things Norwegian and back in the 1960s, before fast roads and easy flights became an option, Norway was our most popular destination ski nation. It feel out of favour for a while perceived as too cold, dark and expensive but a big favourable exchange rate switch and climate change meaning "cold" is definitely what's needed has put it back in favour and there are loads of new holidays and flight options opening up next season.

> "For next winter the big expansion is in Norway ski holidays, with many clients seeing it as a more snowsure destination for budget skiing compared to Andorra and Bulgaria. The ski resorts have smaller kilometres of piste and feel perfect for families with younger kids and beginners and intermediates, with wide cruisy slopes giving lots of space to practice and progress. It reminded me of my first school ski trip aged 10 with the fun and hilarity of learning to stay on a drag lift alongside pals – stunning landscape and the locals are incredibly welcoming, sharing the British wry sense of humour," says Richard Sinclair.

Top Tips For 25-26

- **Don't Obsess On Altitude**

"The skiers' psyche is focussed ever more on super high-altitude alpine destinations, with the biggest winner in the media's climate-change narrative being Val Thorens, which has climbed the ranks of popularity into the top five most booked ski resorts by our clients. The biggest tip around snow-sure resorts is to remember 'going high' might be helpful for the December and April ski holidays, but it's not necessary in mid-winter, when you might find yourself somewhere utterly freezing and bleak in January at very high altitude," says Richard Sinclair.

- **Don't Wait to Book**

"One of the strongest trends we have seen in the last four decades is skiers' willingness to book a year or more in advance. Many of our clients re-book shortly after returning from their ski holiday, and we are already seeing strong demand for Christmas and New Year 2025, and for high season dates," says **ski holiday chalet company Ski Beat's** Laura Hazell.

Early Deals For 25-26

These are some of the early deals we've received for next season. Please note these were correct at time of first publication but can disappear quickly. Please not also that the descriptions are written by the companies making the offers

Free Airport Lounge Access and BOGOF Lift Passes For Groups

Added 10.04.25

Ski agent Iglu Ski has announced a brand new offer to celebrate the launch of sales for the 25/26 season. The short-time offer means relaxation and treats at a number of UK airports, for groups of 10 adults or more heading out to the mountains next winter. Simply book a group of 10 or more, and receive a free airport lounge pass at most UK airports.

What's more, Iglu already has lift pass offers—earlier than ever before—which can be combined with the airport lounge deal.

> Philip Wright, Head of Sales and Service at Iglu Ski says, 'We aim to make group ski trips as easy as possible to organise. Including a free airport lounge pass will mean a group's holiday starts in just the right way. Early bookers gain not only the precise choice of holiday they want, but now, the icing on the cake, extra benefits in addition.'

FREE AIRPORT LOUNGE WITH Buy One Get One Free Lift Pass Offer – Méribel – save £351

Iglu Ski offers Chalet Elodie, Méribel, France for 10 sharing in 5 rooms, from £1,011 per person, was £1,101 per person, catered board, flying from Birmingham or London Gatwick or Manchester on March 21st, 2026 with transfers. +£280 Edinburgh. Buy one get one free lift pass, save £351. **Book now**

FREE AIRPORT LOUNGE WITH Buy One Get One Free Lift Pass Offer – Myrkdalen – save £174

Iglu Ski offers 7 nights at the 4* Myrkdalen Hotel, Myrkdalen, Norway from £1,182 per person, based on four sharing, half board, departing from London Gatwick on January 25th, 2026 with transfers. Buy one lift pass, get one free, saving £174. Minimum booking size 10. **Book now**

Alternatively, a holiday 5% discount is applicable for groups of 10 or more on selected holidays, which can be combined with free airport lounge pass.

FREE AIRPORT LOUNGE WITH 5% DISCOUNT OFF SELECTED HOLIDAYS

Iglu Ski offers 7 nights at the 3* Residence la Rivière, Chamonix, France, from only £599 per person, based on four sharing, self-catering, departing from London Gatwick on January 3rd, 2026, with transfers. Minimum party size is 10 to gain the 5% discount (included in the price shown). +£12 Glasgow; -£41 Manchester; +£134 Edinburgh; +£1 Bristol; +£28 Birmingham; +£120 Leeds Bradford; +£86 Belfast International; -£62 Newcastle; -£55 Luton: +£179 Southampton. **Book now**

Tourism Whistler CREDIT Mike Crane

Frontier Ski Announces Exclusive 50% Savings at Hilton Whistler for the 2025/26 Ski Season

Added 21.03.25 – expires 30.04.25

Voted the number one ski resort in North America in the Condé Nast Traveller 2024 Readers' Choice Awards, the continent's largest ski area continues to wow with its unmatched powder and vibrant village atmosphere. An even more tempting destination for the next season, Frontier Ski, the specialists in tailor-made ski holidays, is offering an exclusive 50% saving at the Hilton Whistler Resort & Spa.

> Michael Williamson-Giles, Ski Product Manager at Frontier Ski, comments, "Whistler continues to set the gold standard for North American skiing, the resort delivering on every level, whether you're carving up the high alpine or simply soaking up the après scene. With this coming season's savings, there's never been a better time to go, as not only are we offering an exclusive 50% discount at the Hilton Whistler Resort & Spa, but early bookers will also benefit from a $250 in-resort credit and the lowest lift pass prices for 2025/26—a rare combination in a destination that's always in demand."

Perfectly positioned at the base of Whistler Mountain and just steps from the gondolas, the Hilton Whistler Resort & Spa blends convenience and luxury. Whether you're hitting the slopes at sunrise or indulging in a leisurely breakfast before gliding into the village, you couldn't be better placed for maximising time on the mountain.

The flexibility of interconnecting rooms makes the property ideal for families and larger groups. For example, the Junior Family Combo option links a Hilton Room (two double beds) with a King Studio (one king bed and kitchenette).

The perfect place to relax after a day carving through Whistler's legendary powder, the Hilton boasts a heated outdoor pool/hot tub and an on-site spa. Many of the rooms also feature wood-burning fireplaces and jetted soaker tubs, the perfect setting to defrost and relive the day's best runs. Dining is another highlight, with the recently renovated Cinnamon Bear Grille & Bar serving up dishes inspired by coastal cuisines "from Peru up to Alaska", alongside signature après-ski cocktails.

2025/26 ski season EXCLUSIVE SAVING of 50% (£1,150pp) on a 10-night stay at Hilton Whistler Resort & Spa with Frontier Ski

from £2,099pp (two sharing), including accommodation based in a King Studio, return flights with Air Canada, including baggage & ski carriage, transfers from Vancouver airport, and a $250 Whistler Credit Voucher to spend in-resort. Book by April 30. Discount applicable to stays of 8 plus nights. Select dates apply. Subject to availability.

A Week's Ski Chalet Holiday in the 3 Valleys from £785pp

Added 14.04.25

2025-26 will be Ski Beat's 38th ski season as the UK's leading package ski chalet holiday company to France. The new season's programme offers nearly forty hosted chalets in seven of France's top ten high-altitude resorts, all selected for their proximity to the slopes and the lifts, and prices from £785pp for a week's catered stay, with flights.

> Ski Beat's Laura Hazell says, "Our formula is to offer a comfortable home from home in the French Alps, with a chalet host, where skiers can enjoy cooked breakfasts, home-made cakes with afternoon tea, and freshly prepared evening meals with unlimited wine. The unique holiday concept of booking an ensuite twin or double room and sharing the chalet facilities with other like-minded skiers offers exceptional value, while all of our ATOL-protected holidays are inclusive of return flights from Manchester or Gatwick and transfers."

A week's catered ski chalet holiday during the 2025-26 season costs from £785 with **Ski Beat,** with accommodation at the Chalet Vallon Blanc in La Tania in the heart of the Three Valleys, departing on 13th December 2025. The price includes a chalet host to care for the guests and the chalet, and prepare cooked breakfasts, afternoon tea with home made cakes, and three course evening meals with wine, as well as return Gatwick or Manchester flights and transfers.

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