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Durango, Colorado Named Top Value Ski Spot For Travelers Hitting The Slopes In North America

TripAdvisor TriIndex Ski Features Cost Comparison of Popular Ski Destinations in the U.S. and Canada

NEWTON, Mass., Dec. 6, 2012 /PRNewswire/ -- [TripAdvisor](#)[®], the world's largest travel site*, today announced its TriIndex Ski, a cost comparison of 25 popular ski destinations throughout the United States and Canada.

To view the multimedia assets associated with this release, please click: <http://www.multivu.com/mnr/57941-tripadvisor-tripindex-ski-cost-comparison-slopes-united-states-canada>

(Photo: <http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20121206/MM23167>)

(Logo: <http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20080902/TRIPADVISORLOGO>)

TripAdvisor TriIndex Ski highlights the combined average cost of common ski trip expenses including a one-night hotel stay, a single-day lift ticket, a basic ski equipment rental package, and a meal at a local restaurant consisting of a burger and fries and a bottle or draft of domestic beer.

Top Slopes to Save

- The most affordable ski destination in North America is Durango, Colorado with a total TriIndex Ski cost of \$210, which is about half the cost of the average of all destinations on the index.
- Bend, Oregon is the second most affordable spot and also represents the least expensive ski destination in the Northwest, with a TriIndex Ski price tag of \$215.
- North Conway, New Hampshire offers the best value of ski destinations in the Northeast with a TriIndex Ski cost of \$247
- Banff, Alberta is Canada's most pocket-friendly ski destination with a total TriIndex Ski price tag of \$323.

Big Ticket Ski Escapes

With a total of \$802, Vail, Colorado is the most expensive destination in this year's TriIndex Ski, nearly double the average of all destinations on the index. Aspen, Colorado was the second most expensive spot registering at \$717.

- With six of the 10 most expensive destinations in the U.S., Colorado proves to be the priciest state for packing down the powder.

Save Best in the West

Travelers looking for a bargain should consider strapping on their skis out west as Durango (Colorado), Bend (Oregon), Taos (New Mexico), and Salt Lake City (Utah) are in the top five most affordable ski destinations.

Each of the best value destinations offer average hotel prices under \$200 per night. Nearly half of the most expensive destinations include average nightly hotel rates of more than \$400.

"The TripAdvisor TriIndex Ski helps travelers identify top ski spots in the U.S. and Canada that deliver the best value this season," said Brooke Ferencsik, director of communications at TripAdvisor. "A trip to the slopes can often be pricey, and TriIndex Ski proves there are plenty of skiing hotspots where travelers can hop on the chairlift without breaking the bank."

TriIndex Best Value North American Ski Destinations

	Destination	Hotel	Ski Rental	Lift Ticket	Meal	Beer	Total
1	Durango, Colorado	\$95.56	\$26.00	\$75.00	\$9.67	\$3.42	\$209.65
2	Bend, Oregon	\$94.01	\$31.67	\$76.00	\$10.32	\$3.25	\$215.25
3	Taos, New Mexico	\$119.90	\$30.33	\$75.00	\$10.83	\$3.83	\$239.89
4	Salt Lake City, Utah	\$121.32	\$31.65	\$74.75	\$12.98	\$4.61	\$245.31

5	North Conway, New Hampshire	\$138.76	\$33.00	\$63.17	\$8.83	\$3.67	\$247.43
6	Whitefish, Montana	\$151.10	\$28.33	\$67.00	\$10.00	\$2.85	\$259.28
7	Kingfield, Maine	\$158.33	\$32.00*	\$79.00	\$9.94	\$4.25	\$283.52
8	Sun Valley, Idaho	\$154.80	\$36.00	\$79.00	\$11.83	\$3.50	\$285.13
9	Jackson Hole, Wyoming	\$173.15	\$36.50	\$73.50	\$11.98	\$5.07	\$300.20
10	Banff, AB, Canada	\$195.46	\$35.65	\$74.94	\$11.98	\$5.15	\$323.18

TripIndex Most Expensive North American Ski Destinations

	Destination	Hotel	Ski Rental	Lift Ticket	Meal	Beer	Total
1	Vail, Colorado	\$645.28	\$30.67	\$109.00	\$12.23	\$4.33	\$801.51
2	Aspen, Colorado	\$547.80	\$42.97	\$110.00	\$12.80	\$3.92	\$717.49
3	Park City, Utah	\$539.67	\$37.67	\$86.67	\$9.75	\$3.58	\$677.34
4	Telluride, Colorado	\$414.83	\$33.65	\$106.00	\$9.63	\$3.17	\$567.28
5	Crested Butte, Colorado	\$393.38	\$34.00	\$98.00	\$8.98	\$3.42	\$537.78
6	Breckenridge, Colorado	\$382.51	\$32.62	\$104.00	\$8.98	\$3.67	\$531.78
7	Mont-Tremblant, QC, Canada	\$376.11	\$52.04*	\$76.00	\$13.83	\$5.42	\$523.40
8	Whistler, BC, Canada	\$368.43	\$33.79	\$98.00	\$13.30	\$5.17	\$518.69
9	Big Sky, Montana	\$342.50	\$33.33	\$89.00	\$12.00	\$3.25	\$480.08
10	Mammoth Lakes, California	\$264.86	\$35.33	\$105.00	\$13.00	\$5.17	\$423.36

The complete TripIndex Ski list can be viewed at: http://www.tripadvisor.com/InfoCenter-a_ctr.2012TripIndexSkiUS.

Notes to Editors

TripIndex Ski looks at 25 popular ski destinations across the United States and Canada. The list was editorially compiled using information from ski and travel experts, as well as TripAdvisor site data.

Prices were collected through a variety of research methods outlined below between October and November 2012.

Hotel prices shown reflect the average nightly rate per room, on [TripAdvisor.com](#) for the winter travel period December 15, 2012 — April 15, 2013. Hotels are within a five mile radius of the destination. Between three and 49 hotels were included to calculate the average price in all destinations. On average, 19 hotels were included in the total cost of each destination. Pricing information was sourced from partner booking sites on [TripAdvisor.com](#).

Lift ticket prices reflect the average cost of an adult lift ticket for one day to ski resorts in each destination.

Ski equipment rental prices specify the average cost of a basic ski equipment rental package (boots, skis, poles). The cost shown is the average price of three ski hire packages provided by suppliers in the destination. *Identifies ski rental prices that come from only two suppliers.

Meal prices shown reflect the average cost of a burger and fries sourced from three local restaurants.

Beer prices shown reflect the average cost of a bottle or draft of domestic beer sourced from three local restaurants.

About TripAdvisor

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*Source: comScore Media Metrix for TripAdvisor Sites, Worldwide, July 2012

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