



#### ADD SOME OLYMPIC FLAVOUR TO YOUR WINTER HOLIDAY

From ski racing to bobsleighing, channel your inner Olympian this season as Winter Games fever takes hold



With the onset of any major sorting event, the desire to replicate the moves and shakes of the world's finest sportsmen and women reaches fever pitch. With the Winter Olympics taking place this February, ski resorts and operators are no exception and the Alps offer visitors the chance to experience the best of Olympic winter-sports themselves. From ski racing to bobsleighing, here are a pick of some of the top packages to take winter sports fans one-step closer to following in the footsteps of an Olympic champion.

# MASTER THE GIANT SLALOM WITH POWDER WHITE'S SKI-RACING PACKAGE IN COURCHEVEL 1650

Created to help keen skiers channel their inner-champion, the package is perfect for adrenaline junkies who want to master the Giant Slalom discipline and get more from the mountains this season. The new Powder White package includes six hours of Giant Slalom training with professional race coaches. Skiers will learn to master the gates before a competitive 'knock out' session, where newly acquired skills will be put to the ultimate test. The day's training takes place on the famous La Tania Stade run. Originally built for the 1992 Olympics, it's a demanding red run perfect for advanced skiers looking for a challenge.

**HOW?** The ski-racing package from Powder White starts from £410 per person, including seven nights in fully catered accommodation (including unlimited house wine) in Chalet Le Misti in Courchevel 1650, plus six hours of Giant Slalom training with an experienced ski-racing instructor.





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### GET INSPIRED WHILE OLYMPIANS TRAIN AT LE SNOWPARK IN TIGNES

Aspiring freestyle skiers and boarders can practice their favourite tricks at the famous Le Snowpark in Tignes. Choose from green, blue, red or black levels and enjoy riding on the tables and rails of the snowpark, most of which have been ridden by the best freestylers during the X Games. Visitors might even pick up some tips from the professionals, as the expert line of the snowpark will serve as the Canadian slopestyle team's HQ while they train for the Sochi Olympics.

**HOW?** Powder White offers seven nights at the apartment L'Ecrin des Neiges in Tignes from €172 per person based on six people sharing. A one day lift pass starts from €47 per adult. www.powderwhite.com / 020 8877 8888

### BECOME A 'COOL RUNNINGS' CHAMPION – BOBSLEIGH THE OLYMPIC TRACK IN TIGNES

La Plagne in the French Alps is home to an Olympic bobsleigh track offering visitors the chance to race down the slopes by bob-rafting, speed-luging or bob-racing while overlooking the views of Mont Blanc and the Beaufortian ranges. Bob-rafting is a unique self-piloted, self-braking vehicle that fits up to four people. Or try speed-luging, in a half-sitting and half-lying position and descend around 90km/h. The real challenge is bobracing, where visitors can take a seat behind a professional driver for a descent of up to 120km/h, giving a taste of a real competition run.

**HOW?** Powder White offers seven nights at hotel Avenue Lodge in La Plagne from €1260 per room based on two adults sharing. Bobsleigh sessions cost from €41 per person for up to eight people. www.powderwhite.com / 020 8877 8888

#### STAY AT KRISTIANIA, LECH, THE HOTEL CREATED BY THREE TIMES OLYMPIAN SKI CHAMPION

The Kristiania in Austria's quintessential ski resort of Lech was founded by Othmar Schneider, born in Lech in 1928 and a former Olympic Gold medal winning skier who competed in the 1952 games in Oslo and took gold in the slalom and silver in the downhill. Guests can get inspired with the original Olympic medals available to view at the hotel as well as hear the tales of growing up with an Olympic champion first hand from Othmar's daughter Gertrud who now manages the hotel. For those looking to emulate him on the slopes, Lech is home to 180 km high Alpine deep snow runs, as well as cross country skiing and the famous White Ring circuit, which holds races every year.

**HOW?** Double rooms start from €360 per night and €210 for a single in a B&B basis. This includes bottle of champagne in room, complimentary mini-bar, Wi-Fi and snow shuttle van. www.kristiania.at

### RACE DOWN THE 1992 OLYMPIC SKI RUN AT CHALET EAGLE'S NEST, VAL D'ISÈRE, FRANCE

Located at the bottom of La Face you will find the iconic Chalet Eagle's Nest, which revolutionised the chalet skiing holiday when it offered the first indoor swimming pool in a private chalet back in 2002. Only 300 metres away and accessible on skis is the nearest La Face piste that was used for the 1992 Winter Olympics and the 2009 World Championships. The infamous piste is often mogulled from top to bottom, remaining a key challenge for expert skiers. Eagle's Nest is a traditional ski chalet built of wood and stone, albeit guarded by a threemetre high bronze eagle, while inside features include a sauna, steam room, pool with jet-stream and outdoor hot tub so skiers can relax after a hard day on the slopes.

**HOW?** Scott Dunn offers a seven-night stay at Chalet Eagle's Nest from £2,390 per person based on 12 sharing and including return Club class flights and private transfers.

www.scottdunn.com / +44 (0)208 682 5050

## SKATE LIKE AN OLYMPIAN AT THE ICE RINK USED FOR THE OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES IN VANCOUVER

Master a double-axel jump at the Trout Lake Ice Rink, the official figure skating training venue used for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. The rink is an East Vancouver gem situated at John Hendry Park and was retrofitted for community use after the Olympics were over. Follow in the footsteps of some of the British Olympians, from ice-dancer contestants Sinead and John Kerr to figure skater Jenna McCorkell, all of which trained on this Olympic-sized ice rink.

How? Get in on a piece of the figure skating action with Scott Dunn's Vancouver and Whistler package. From £2,350 per person spend 2 nights at the Rosewood Hotel Georgia followed by six at the Four Seasons Whistler. Includes return flights and private car transfers. For more information visit www.scottdunn.com. Skating at Trout Lake Ice Rink costs from £5 per person including skate rentals. For more information visit www.troutlakecc.com.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

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