

# DISCOVERING OGDEN, UTAH: YOUR NEXT UNCROWDED and AFFORDABLE SKI GETAWAY

OGDEN, UT – If you are searching for a ski destination combining fantastic slopes with a laid-back atmosphere, Ogden, Utah, might be your perfect match. Located just north of Salt Lake City, Ogden offers a refreshing alternative to the bustling resorts of Park City and the Cottonwood Canyons. With Powder Mountain, Snowbasin and Nordic Valley right at its doorstep, this area offers diverse skiing experiences without the hefty price tags or overwhelming crowds.

## Powder Mountain: Where Vast Terrain Meets Art

Powder Mountain, perched near Eden, Utah, is a skier's dream come true. As the largest ski resort in the United States by acreage, with over 8,500 acres of skiable terrain, it is a place where you can truly spread out and explore. The mountain is designed to preserve a natural and open feel, so even on busy days it feels like you have the slopes to yourself.

One of the unique aspects of Powder Mountain is its blend of outdoor adventure with cultural flair. The resort is introducing art installations throughout the mountain, bringing creativity into the skiing experience. As you navigate the runs, you will encounter works from various artists, adding an unexpected and delightful dimension to your day on the slopes.

Whether you are carving through the challenging terrain of Powder Country or cruising down intermediate runs, there is something for every level of skier. Powder Country, in particular, offers long, uninterrupted runs that conclude right at the highway, where shuttle buses whisk you back to the lodge. It is a backcountry-style experience without the usual crowds, making it a standout choice for those who value both adventure and solitude.

## Snowbasin: Ski Like an Olympian

Just a short drive from Ogden, Snowbasin is a resort that combines world-class skiing with top-notch amenities. Famous for hosting the downhill, combined, and super-G events during the 2002 Winter Olympics, Snowbasin is set to be in the global spotlight again as it prepares to host down-

hill events for the 2034 Winter Olympics. This gives visitors the rare opportunity to ski on future Olympic courses.

With 3,000 acres of terrain, Snowbasin caters to all skill levels. Advanced skiers can challenge themselves on the Grizzly Downhill and Wildflower Downhill trails, steep, fast runs that test your mettle.

For those who prefer a more relaxed pace, the resort offers wide, groomed runs perfect for intermediate and beginner skiers. Modern lifts keep wait times low, so you can spend more time enjoying the mountain.

Beyond the slopes, Snowbasin is known for its luxurious lodges with breathtaking views. The John Paul Lodge and Needles Lodge offer a variety of dining options in a cozy setting, making them perfect spots to recharge during your day. Despite its upscale features, Snowbasin maintains a serene atmosphere, allowing you to soak in the beauty of the surroundings without feeling rushed or crowded.

## Nordic Valley: Family Fun without the High Costs

For families and beginners, Nordic Valley is a gem that is both welcoming and wallet-friendly. Located near Eden, this smaller resort focuses on providing an enjoyable experience for those new to skiing or those who prefer a more easygoing environment. The terrain is mostly beginner and intermediate, but there are a few black diamond runs for those looking to push their skills.

One of the standout benefits of Nordic Valley is that children 12 and under ski for free. This makes it an excellent option for families looking to introduce their kids to the joys of skiing without incurring steep costs. Affordable lessons and equipment rentals make it even easier to get started.

Nordic Valley also offers night skiing across 80 acres of illuminated terrain. There is something magical about gliding down the slopes under the stars, and it is a great way to extend your skiing adventure into the evening.

The resort is currently expanding, with plans for new lifts and additional terrain, all while keeping its commitment to affordability and a family-friendly atmosphere.

## Embracing the Charm of Ogden

What truly sets the Ogden Valley apart is the seamless blend of outdoor adventure and vibrant local culture. After an exhilarating day on the mountains, downtown Ogden awaits with its historic 25th Street. This revitalized area is brimming with restaurants, shops and art galleries, offering a lively yet unpretentious vibe.

Ogden's rich history as a frontier town adds to its unique character. The city has managed to modernize without losing its authentic charm, providing a refreshing change from more commercialized ski towns. Accommodations are varied and affordable, ranging from well-known hotels to boutique lodgings like the Compass Rose Lodge in nearby Huntsville.

## Why Ogden Should Be on Your Ski Radar

The combination of Powder Mountain's expansive terrain, Snowbasin's Olympic-level runs, and Nordic Valley's family-friendly slopes makes Ogden a versatile destination for all types of skiers and snowboarders. The area remains relatively uncrowded and affordable, offering a more relaxed alternative to Utah's larger resorts.

Accessibility is another major plus. With the resorts just a short drive from each other and downtown Ogden, it is easy to explore multiple mountains during your stay. In addition, when the sun sets, the city's cultural offerings provide plenty of entertainment, from dining and shopping to simply soaking in the local atmosphere.

In a world where many ski destinations are becoming increasingly commercialized and crowded, Ogden offers high-quality skiing experiences wrapped in genuine hospitality. Whether you are seeking the thrill of future Olympic courses, the serenity of uncrowded slopes adorned with art, or a fun-filled family getaway, Ogden, Utah, has it all.

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# SALT LAKE CITY-UTAH BRINGS the 2034 WINTER GAMES BACK to AMERICA

PARIS, FRANCE - On July 24, 2024, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) named Salt Lake City, Utah, the host of the 2034 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games during its 142nd IOC Session at Palais des Congrès de Paris. More than a decade in the making, the Games will return to Utah after 32 years and will be held for the fifth time in America. Utah and Salt Lake City last hosted the Winter Games in 2002.

Salt Lake City-Utah championed a bid that was hallmarked by great unity across the state, from citizens to elected leaders. It showcased the state's preparedness, with a sustainable plan that included no new permanent venue construction and the use of sites that have been well-maintained as community facilities since the Winter Games in 2002.

It was an athlete-centric bid, with every venue within an hour's drive of the Athlete Village at the University of Utah. The bid also featured an innovative approach to elevating the games' experience for athletes, with a first-ever Athlete Family Village.

Today's decision by the International Olympic Committee is as much about the Olympic and Paralympic movement as it is about Salt Lake City-Utah," said President and CEO Fraser Bullock, the 2002 chief operating officer who has championed Utah's cause with the IOC. "We are proud to show the world how our living legacy brings value to our communities, enriches the lives of youth, and helps contribute to the world of sport."

A bedrock of the Salt Lake City-Utah bid was the impact sport has on youth, and how it brings communities together. In addition to a host of Olympic and Paralympic athletes in its delegation, three Utah teens were in the audience to represent the future.

"The Olympics and Paralympics represent so much more than competition. At its core, the Olympic movement is about building community and celebrating excellence, things we do really well in Utah," said Utah Governor Spencer Cox. "More than 80 percent of Utahns and 100 percent of our elected leaders supported our Olympic bid. We're ready to host another Winter Games and we can't wait to welcome the world back to Utah in 2034."

The 30-minute presentation to the IOC highlighted dramatic visuals of the state, and delved into the deep values that sport brings to the world.

"Salt Lake City and the Olympic and Paralympic movement are deeply connected through values and our commitment to diversity, love for our youth, and the tireless work to preserve our environment," said Salt Lake City Mayor Erin Mendenhall. "Through the Olympic movement, These principles are shared through the lens of sport. I can't imagine a better partnership than the one we continue to forge with our Olympic partners."

The unity and preparedness of Salt Lake City-Utah's campaign are rooted in its living legacy. Since 2002, every single venue has thrived, offering community sport programs and fan entertainment. Organizations formed before the 2002 Games, such as the Utah Olympic Legacy Foundation and Utah Sports Commission, have formed a backbone to not just keep the legacy alive but make it an integral part of communities.

With the 2034 award, the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games 2034 Salt Lake City-Utah joins Los Angeles 2028 with two Games in America over six years.

"This a great day for winter sport in the United States and around the world," said Gene Sykes, USOPC Chair. "The

Games vision brought forth by the Salt Lake City-Utah team – inclusive of state and city leaders, the remarkable bid team and the community that showed support for this effort throughout has been collaborative and forward-looking from the very start. We are thankful to the IOC and to Karl Stoss who led the Future Host Commission, and we look forward to the process of organizing what we know will be a terrific Games in 2034."

The IOC's recognition was an emotional moment for the Salt Lake City-Utah delegation, which has run a grassroots bid The journey to the 2034 Games began with early discussions in 2002. The seed germinated with a 2012 exploratory report, followed by others. In December 2018, the U.S. Olympic Committee named Salt Lake City-Utah America's Choice. A bid committee was formally impaneled in February 2020. By November 2020, it was engaged with the IOC in a continuous dialogue. In November 2023, the IOC advanced the bid to targeted dialogue. After a positive site visit in April, 2024 by the Future Host Commission, the IOC Executive Board in June acted on the recommendation of the Commission to advance Salt Lake City-Utah to a vote by the IOC Membership.

As a result of their tireless efforts the bid was awarded to Salt Lake City-Utah.

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To listen to the Ski Utah podcast regarding last winter which also discusses the Olympic bid, please visit [www.AlwaysUpright.com](http://www.AlwaysUpright.com) and look for the Ski Utah label in the West section of podcasts.

# MOUNTAIN SPORTS CLUB SAVES YOU MONEY on the SLOPES

BOULDER, CO – Mountain Sports Club is an online service where skiers, snowboarders, mountain bikers, rafters and general outdoor enthusiasts can print personalized coupons and save on lift tickets, lodging, bike parks and activities. There are also money saving travel bookings and shopping at online and offline retailers and suppliers across North America.

Premium members enjoy BOGO/2 for 1 Lift Tickets and daily savings at resorts throughout North America all year. Bike parks, rafting and activity offers provide savings all year. Your membership is good for one year and for all four seasons. Mountain Sports Club is entering its 18th season providing value and savings for mountain sports enthusiasts. Discounts are available at resorts and areas from coast to coast.

In recent years, Mountain Sports Club has developed more year-round offers because skiers and snowboarders visit and play in the mountains all year. From small local areas to destination resorts, there are many options for members to save on their next mountain visit.

The premium Mountain Sports Club membership is a great complement to the many season pass options. Available are lodging, gear, shop offers and activities in the towns where

passes and multi area passes are valid. The membership is a great standalone service for beginners and those returning skiers/snowboarders who are not sure how often they will get out to the mountain. With lift ticket prices soaring to the \$300 mark in certain areas, and membership cost under the price of a modest priced lift ticket, one only needs to use the membership once to pay for the membership price. Early season memberships are as low as \$15 and there is a 2-year option for only \$25. Next price increase will be Nov. 15 and will keep increasing as more areas open. The in-season cost is \$60 annually.

Some of the offers are valid every day with no restrictions while some areas black out holiday and peak periods. While many of the larger multi-area pass resorts do not offer lift ticket discounts as they push more pass sales, Mountain Sports Club works to make sure there is lodging, shop and activity discounts in the respective towns to provide value not covered by many of the passes.

The Mountain Sports Club membership is an affordable alternative, offering infrequent participants more access to more areas with a significantly lower price of entry. Some of the offers simply require using a promotion code when making a purchase while others require presenting the voucher/coupon when redeeming with a valid ID. There is

also the Premium plus option where there is a one-day lift ticket included with membership in select areas. These are limited and sell out quickly, so act fast for this special deal.

As an online service, the Mountain Sports Club is consistently adding new vendor partners throughout the year and updating members on these new offers via the email newsletter and on social channels. Recently it has started to expand to some European and international destinations and expect this to grow. A discount on equipment from sponsors is also a unique offer that continues to grow and expand. Shop discounts include savings on tunes, service, gear, rentals and more. Members also receive special emails from partners with unique offers targeting members.

Be sure to visit [www.mountainsportsclub.com](http://www.mountainsportsclub.com) to review the many discounts and offers. Look in the upper right-hand corner for purchase a membership to get your membership now. Stay in touch by following on different social channels as well. Use the membership once and it is paid for, use it often and save hundreds.

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