


POWDERHOUNDS RATINGS - COMPARISON OF SKI RESORTS IN JAPAN, CANADA, USA, AUSTRIA, CHILE, ARGENTINA, NEW ZEALAND & INDIA

 JAPAN		Beginner terrain	Intermediate terrain	Advanced on-piste terrain	Off-piste	Backcountry	Expert Terrain	Extreme Terrain	Tree skiing	Powder	Lunchtime freshies	Lifts	Uncrowded	Terrain park	Family-oriented	Daytime restaurants	Apres	Nightlife	Night restaurants	Ski-in ski-out accom	Cost	Overall rating	Powderhounds
		Hokkaido	Rusutsu	3.5	4.5	3	5	*	2.5	1	5	5	4.5	5	4.5	2.5	4	3.5	1.5	2	3.5	4	4
Kamui Links	3		3	2	3.5	4	2	0	4	5	4.5	2.5	4	2	3	2.5	0	0	0	0	5	3.5	4.5
Asahidake	0		1	1	4.5	5	3	2	4.5	5	5	2.5	4.5	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	5	3.5	5
Furano	3.5		4.5	3.5	2	3.5	3.5	0	2.5	4.5	3.5	4	4	2.5	4	3.5	1.5	2	3.5	2	4	4	4
Kiroro	4		3.5	2.5	4	4	3	1	5	5	5	5	4.5	2.5	4.5	3	2	1.5	3.5	3	4	4.5	5
Kitataisetsu	2		2	2	3.5	1.5	2	0	3.5	4	5	1	5	0	1	2.5	0	0	0	0	5	3	4
Chisenupuri	2		2	2	3	3	3	1	3.5	4.5	5	2	5	0	1.5	2	1	0.5	0.5	1	5	3	4.5
Moiwa	2		2.5	2.5	4	4.5	3	1.5	4.5	5	4.5	2.5	4.5	1	2.5	2.5	1	2	2	2	4	3.5	5
Niseko	4		4.5	3.5	4.5	5	3	1	4.5	5	3	3	2.5	4	4.5	5	4	5	5	3	3.5	5	4.5
Sapporo Kokusai	2.5		2	1.5	3.5	4.5	2.5	1	3.5	4.5	4.5	3	2.5	2.5	3	3	1.5	0	0	0	4	3.5	4
Sapporo Teine	4		2.5	3	4	4.5	4.5	4	4.5	4	4.5	3	3.5	2	3	2.5	1	0	0	0	4.5	4	4.5
Asari	2.5		3	2	3	3	2	0	3.5	4	5	2.5	4.5	2	4	4	2	1	1	0	5	3.5	4
Tomamu	4		4	3	3.5	4	3	0	4	4	4.5	3	4	4	4.5	2.5	0	1	3	4.5	3.5	4	4
Honshu	Appi Kogen		4.5	3	3.5	3.5	3	2	1	4	4.5	4.5	4	3	3	4.5	4	2	2	4.5	5	3	4.5
	Hakkoda	1	2	3	4	5	3	2	4.5	4.5	5	2.5	4	0	0	2.5	0	0	0	2	4.5	3.5	5
	Happo One (Hakuba)	3	4.5	4	1	1	3	0	1	3	1	2.5	3	*	4	3	1	3	3.5	3	3	3.5	3
	Hakuba 47 /Goryu	3	4	3.5	0	*	3	0	0	3	1	2.5	3	4.5	3.5	2.5	1	2	2	0	3	3	3
	Kagura	5	3	2.5	3.5	*	2.5	1	3.5	4	4	3.5	4	2.5	2.5	3	1.5	0	1	1	4	3.5	4
	Myoko Kogen	4.5	3	2.5	4	3	3	2	4.5	4.5	4	4.5	4	3	3.5	3.5	2	3	4	3.5	4	4.5	4.5
	Naeba	4	3	3	2.5	*	4	0	2	3.5	3.5	4.5	2.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	1.5	2	4.5	5	3	4	3.5
	Nozawa Onsen	4.5	3	4.5	4	3.5	4	1	4	4.5	4	3.5	3.5	3	4	5	2.5	3	4	2	4	4.5	4.5
	Shiga Kogen	4	5	4	3	*	3	1	3	4	4	4	3.5	2	3.5	3	1.5	2	3	5	3	4	4
	Zao Onsen	4	4.5	2.5	3	*	2.5	2	3.5	3	5	3	3	2.5	2.5	3	2	2	3	3	3.5	4	3.5

CANADA		Beginner terrain	Intermediate terrain	Advanced on-piste terrain	Off-piste	Backcountry	Expert Terrain	Extreme Terrain	Tree skiing	Powder	Lunchtime freshies	Lift infrastructure	Uncrowded	Terrain park	Family-oriented	Daytime restaurants	Apres	Nightlife	Night restaurants	Ski-in ski-out accom	Cost	Overall Rating	Powderhounds	
BC	Big White	4	5	4	3	*	2.5	2	3	3	2.5	3.5	3.5	4	5	3.5	2	2	3	5	3.5	4	3.5	
	Fernie	4	3	3	3.5	5	3	3	4	3	3	2.5	3	2.5	4	3	3	3	3	4.5	3.5	4	3.5	
	Kicking Horse	2.5	2.5	5	4.5	5	5	5	3	3.5	3.5	3	5	0	3	3	1	2	3	4	3.5	4.5	4.5	
	Panorama	3	4	3.5	3	*	3.5	3	3.5	2.5	3	3	4.5	4.5	5	3.5	2.5	3	2.5	3.5	3.5	4.5	3.5	
	Red Mountain / Rosslund	3.5	3.5	4	4.5	3.5	4	4	5	3	4	2.5	4	2.5	4	3.5	3	3	3.5	2.5	5	4.5	4	
	Revelstoke	2	3.5	5	4	4.5	4	3	4	3.5	3.5	5	4	1	2.5	2	2.5	2.5	3	2.5	4	4	4	4.5
	Silver Star	3.5	3.5	4	3	2	3	2	3.5	3	3	3.5	4	3.5	5	4	2	2	3	4	4	4	4	3.5
	Sun Peaks	3.5	5	4	3	3	2.5	1	3	3	3	3	3.5	2.5	5	4	2	2	3.5	5	3.5	4	4	3.5
	Whistler-Blackcomb	4	4.5	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	2.5	5	2	4.5	5	3.5	5	5	5	2	2	5	4	4
	Whitewater/Nelson	2.5	2.5	3.5	4	5	4.5	4	5	4.5	4	2	3.5	1.5	3.5	3	2	2	2	0	4.5	4.5	4.5	
Alberta	Sunshine	3	3.5	4.5	4.5	*	5	5	3	3	2.5	4	4	4.5	3	2.5	1	1	1	1	3	4	4	
	Lake Louise	2	3	3.5	3.5	*	4	3.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	3	4	3	3	1	1.5	2	0	2.5	3.5	3.5	
	Norquay	2	3	3.5	1.5	*	3	2	2	1.5	2.5	2	4.5	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	3.5	3	3	
	Nakiska	3	3.5	2.5	1	*	2	0	1	1	2	2	4	2.5	4	2	0	0	0	0	3.5	2.5	2.5	
	Banff #	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	4.5	3.5	4	5	n/a	3	4	*

USA		Beginner terrain	Intermediate terrain	Advanced on-piste terrain	Off-piste	Backcountry	Expert Terrain	Extreme Terrain	Tree skiing	Powder	Lunchtime freshies	Lifts	Uncrowded	Terrain park	Family-oriented	Daytime restaurants	Apres	Nightlife	Night restaurants	Ski-in ski-out accom	Cost	Overall Rating	Powderhounds	
Colorado	Arapahoe Basin	2	2.5	3	3.5	3	3	2	2	3	3	2.5	4.5	3	1	2.5	0	0	0	0	3	3	3.5	
	Aspen Highlands	3	3.5	4	4	*	4.5	3	3	3	3	3.5	4	0	3	2.5	2.5	2	2	3	2.5	4	4	
	Aspen Mountain	0	3.5	3.5	3	*	3	2	2.5	3	2.5	3.5	3.5	0	2.5	2.5	4	4.5	5	2	2	3.5	3.5	
	Buttermilk	4.5	3	2	2	*	1.5	0	2	2.5	4.5	4	4	5	4	2.5	1	1	1	1.5	2.5	3.5	3	
	Snowmass	3	5	3	4.5	*	4.5	4.5	4	3.5	3	4.5	3.5	4	5	3.5	2.5	2.5	3	5	2.5	4.5	4	
	Beaver Creek	4.5	4	4	3.5	*	3	2.5	3	4	2.5	4.5	2.5	3	4.5	3.5	3	2.5	4	5	1.5	4	3.5	
	Breckenridge	5	4	4.5	4.5	*	4	4	2.5	3	2	4	1	5	4.5	3	4	5	4	4	3	4.5	3	
	Copper Mountain	5	5	3.5	4	4	3	3.5	3	3	2.5	4	4	4	5	4	4	3.5	4	3.5	3	4.5	3.5	
	Crested Butte	3.5	3.5	2.5	4	0	5	5	4	3.5	4	3.5	4	3.5	4.5	3	3	3	4	3	4	4.5	4	
	Vail	3	3.5	5	5	3	2.5	0	3.5	4	2.5	4.5	2	4	3	5	5	5	5	5	2.5	2	4.5	3.5
	Keystone	2.5	5	4	4	5	3	0	4	2.5	2	4	2	5	3	2	3	4	4	1	3	4	3	
	Monarch	2.5	2.5	2	3	3	3	3	3	3.5	3	2.5	4	2.5	4	2	2	1	2	0	4.5	3.5	4	
	Powderhorn	2.5	3	3	3	2.5	1	1	3.5	3	4	2.5	5	2.5	4	2.5	3	1.5	1.5	1.5	5	3.75	4	
	Purgatory @ Durango	4.5	5	2.5	2	1	1	1	2	3	2.5	3	3	3	5	4	2.5	2.5	2	4	4	4	3	
	Silverton	0	0	3	5	*	5	5	4	4.5	4	1	5	0	0	0.5	4	1	1.5	0	4	3.5	5	
	Steamboat	3.5	4.5	4	4	*	3	2	5	4	3	3.5	4	3.5	4.5	3	3	3	3.5	3.5	3	4.5	4	
	Telluride	4.5	4.5	4	4	3.5	5	4.5	4	4	3.5	5	3.5	3	4.5	5	3	3	4.5	5	2	5	4.5	
	Wolf Creek	3.5	3	3	5	2	4	4	5	5	5	3	5	0	4	1.5	1.5	2	3	0	5	4	5	
	NM	Taos	2.5	3.5	2.5	4	0	4.5	4.5	2.5	3.5	3.5	3	4	2	3.5	4	4	3.5	4	5	3.5	4	4
Wyoming	Jackson Hole	1	3	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	2.5	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	4	2	4	4.5	
	Grand Targhee	3	5	5	4	5	4	3	3	5	5	4	5	3	4	3.5	2	0	2	4	5	4.5	5	
Montana	Bridger Bowl	4	2.5	2	4	2	5	5	3	3	3	2.5	2.5	3	5	2	2	0	0	0	5	4	3.5	

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Idaho	Snow Bowl	1	2	3	4	2	4	1	3	3	5	2.5	4	0	3	3	2	0	0	2	5	3.5	4
	Whitefish	4	5	3	3	2	2.5	2	4	4	4	2	4	3	5	5	4	2	3	4	4	4.5	4
	Schweitzer	3	4	4.5	4	4	3	2	4.5	3	4	3	4	3.5	4	3.5	3	2	2.5	4.5	4	4.5	4
	Alta	3	4	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	4	3	3.5	0	4.5	4	3	2	4	4.5	3	4.5	5
	Brighton	3.5	3.5	3.5	4	4.5	3.5	3	3.5	5	2.5	4	3	3	4	2.5	3	0.5	0.5	2	4	4	4
	Canyons	3	5	4.5	4.5	3.5	4	3	5	4	3	4	2.5	4	4	3	2.5	2	2	3	2	4.5	4
	Deer Valley	3.5	5	3	2.5	0	2	1	3	4	2	4	3.5	2	4.5	5	1.5	1.5	4	5	1	4	3.5
	Park City	3.5	5	4	4.5	0	4	3	4.5	4	3	4	3	5	4.5	4	3	4	5	3	2	4.5	4
	Powder Mountain	2	2.5	2	5	5	3	2	5	4.5	5	2	5	2	2.5	1	1.5	0	0.5	3.5	3.5	4	5
	Solitude	3.5	4	3.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4	5	5	5	3	5	1.5	4	3	2	2	3	2	3	4.5	5
California	Snowbasin / Ogden Valley	3	3.5	5	4	4	4	4.5	3.5	4.5	3.5	4	4	3.5	4	5	2	2.5	3	0	3	4.5	4.5
	Snowbird	3	3	4.5	5	4	5	5	4	5	2.5	4	2	3.5	3	3.5	3	2.5	3	4	2	4.5	4.5
	Sundance	3	3	3	4	1	3	0	3	5	5	3	4	0	5	4	2	2	5	2	3	4	4.5
	Wolf Mountain	3.5	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	4	3	3	4	3.5	5	3	0	0	0	0	5	3	3
	Alpine Meadows	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	1	4	2	2	1	2	3	2	1	0	0	0	2.5	3	3
	Heavenly	3.5	4	3	4	1	2.5	0	5	3	3	4	1	2	3	2	4	5	5	0	3	4	3
	Homewood	1	4	3	4	0	1	0	5	4	5	3	5	0	4	3	3	0	0	1	4	3.5	4
	Squaw Valley	4	4	5	5	4	5	5	3	4	1	4.5	1	3	2	4	4	4	4	*	*	*	4.5

OTHER		Beginner terrain	Intermediate terrain	Advanced on-piste terrain	Off-piste	Backcountry	Expert Terrain	Extreme Terrain	Tree skiing	Powder	Lunchtime freshies	Lifts	Uncrowded slopes & lift lines	Terrain park	Family-oriented	Daytime restaurants	Apres	Nightlife	Night restaurants	Ski-in ski-out accom	Cost	Overall rating	Ski Resort for Powderhounds
AUSTRIA	St Anton	2	4	2.5	4	*	5	5	1	3	3	4	1	2.5	2	5	5	5	5	2	2	4.5	3.5
	Lech/Zurs	5	4	1.5	3	*	3.5	3	2	2	2	4	2.5	*	4	5	4	4	4	3	1	4	3
	Axamer Lizum	3	3	2	3	*	2.5	*	*	3	*	3	3	*	3	4	4	1	1	0	3	3.5	2.5
CHILE	Portillo	2	2.5	3.5	4	4.5	4.5	4.5	0	3	4	3	4	0	3	3	3	3.5	3	4	2.5	4	4
	El Colorado	4	4	2.5	3	4	2	2	0	2	2	2	2.5	3	2.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3	4	3	3	2.5
	Termas de Chillan	5	3	3	4.5	3.5	4	3	2	3.5	4	2	4	2	4	3	2	3	3.5	4.5	2.5	4	4
	Valle Nevado	3	4	2.5	4.5	4	2	2	0	3	4	3.5	3	3	4	3	2.5	3	3	4	2.5	4	3.5
ARGENTINA	Cerro Catedral	3	4.5	4	5	5	4.5	4.5	4	3	2	4	2	3	4	4.5	3	3	3	2	3.5	4.5	3.5
	Cerro Bayo	3	2.5	3.5	4.5	5	4	3	4	3	3.5	3	4	2.5	3	3.5	1	1	1	1	4	4	4
	Chapelco	4	4	3	4	3.5	3	3	3	2.5	3	4	2.5	2.5	4	3.5	2.5	1	1	2	3.5	4	3.5
	La Hoya	2.5	3	2.5	4.5	1	4	3	0	4	4	2.5	2.5	2	3.5	3	2.5	1	1	1	4.5	3.5	4
	Perito Moreno	3	2	1	2	*	1	0	2	1.5	3	1.5	4	1	4.5	2	1	1	1	1	5	3	2.5
INDIA	Gulmarg	0.5	0.5	2	4	5	3.5	2	3	3	2	2	3	0	0	2	1	1	2	3	3	3	3.5

NEW ZEALAND		Beginner terrain	Intermediate terrain	Advanced on-piste terrain	Off-piste	Backcountry	Expert Terrain	Extreme Terrain	Tree skiing	Powder	Lunchtime freshies	Lifts	Uncrowded slopes & ift lines	Terrain park	Family-oriented	Daytime restaurants	Apres	Nightlife	Night restaurants	Ski-in ski-out accommodation	Cost	Overall Rating	Ski Resort for Powderhounds
Wanaka	Treble Cone	2.5	4	4.5	4	4.5	4	4	0	3	3.5	2.5	3.5	2.5	3	2.5	0.5	0	0	0	3	3.5	4
	Cardrona	5	3.5	2	3	*	2	2	0	2	3	3	2	4	5	3	2	1	1	1	3	3.5	2.5
	Snowpark	1	1.5	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	5	4	2	2.5	2	2	2	4	2	1.5
Queenstown	Wanaka #	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	4	3.5	4	4	n/a	2	4.5	n/a
	Coronet Peak	3.5	4	3.5	3	2	3	2.5	0	1.5	2	3	2.5	0	4	3.5	1	0	0	0	2.5	3	2.5
	Remarkables	3	2.5	3	3	4	3	4	0	2	3	2	3	4.5	3.5	2.5	0.5	0	0	0	2.5	3	3
Methven	Queenstown #	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4	5	3.5	5	5	n/a	3	5	n/a
	Mt Hutt	3	4	3.5	3.5	3	3.5	3	0	3	3.5	3	3.5	3.5	3.5	3	1.5	0	0	0	2.5	3.5	3.5
	Methven #	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	3	3	3	3.5	n/a	4	4	n/a
Canterbury	Craigieburn	0	1	5	4.5	5	4.5	4.5	0.5	3	4.5	1.5	3	0	0	2	3	2	0	2	5	3.5	4
	Broken River	0.5	2	3.5	4	5	3.5	2.5	0	3	4	1.5	5	1	1	1	1	1.5	1	2	5	3.5	4
	Mt Olympus	1	1	2.5	4	4.5	4.5	4.5	0	3	5	1.5	4	0	1	3	1	2.5	3	3	5	3.5	4
	Porters	3	3	3.5	4	3.5	3.5	2.5	0	2	3.5	2	3	3	4	3	0.5	0	0	0	4	3.5	3
	Mt Cheeseman	2.5	2.5	2.5	3.5	3.5	3	2	0	2	5	2	5	1	4	2	1	1	1	2	5	3.5	4
	Mt Lyford	3.5	3.5	3	3	2.5	3	1	0	3	5	3	5	3	4	3	0	0	0	0	4	3.5	4
Tekapo	Hanmer Springs	0.5	4	1	3	3	2	2	0	2	5	2	5	0	2.5	1	1	1	0	3	4	3	3.5
	Mt Dobson	4	3	2	3.5	*	2.5	1	0	2	5	2	5	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	5	3	3.5
	Roundhill	3	2	2.5	3.5	*	3	1	0	2	5	2	5	3	4	2	1	0	0	0	5	3	3.5
	Ohau	2.5	2.5	3	3	3	2.5	1	0	2.5	5	2	5	2	3.5	2	3	3	2	0	4.5	3.5	3.5
	Fox Peak	1.5	2.5	3	4	3.5	4	3	0	2	5	1	5	0	2.5	0	0	0	0	0	5	2.5	3.5
North Island	Whakapapa	3	3.5	2.5	3	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	2.5	3	3	4	2	4.5	3	1	1	2	2	4.5	3.5	3
	Turoa	2.5	3.5	3	3	2.5	2.5	2	0	2.5	3	2.5	4	2	2.5	3	1	3	3	0	4.5	3.5	3

off-mountain base, not a ski hill/resort

Ratings are from 0 to 5

* reliable information not available

POWDERHOUNDS

DEFINITIONS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

These ratings are subjective and are based on how the Powderhounds experienced it. You may disagree with some of these ratings, and we welcome your reviews to provide other opinions on the resorts.

Definitions of Categories

Beginner and intermediate terrain: refers to the quality and quantity of terrain available

Advanced on-piste terrain: quality and quantity of marked trails; in some resorts trails are marked yet are really off-piste (e.g. Kicking Horse, Whistler)

Off-piste: this refers to the quantity and quality of the terrain, but also the likely snow conditions; this refers to in-bounds not out-of-bounds terrain

Backcountry: slack-country, "out-of-bounds" terrain close to the resort that is easily accessible ie not a hike >15mins; may require a traverse back to lifts or goes to a road

Expert: this includes off-piste and easily accessed backcountry for experts

Extreme: refers to super steep and narrow terrain, cliffs and other drop-offs

Powder: quality and quantity, and likely frequency of powder days

Lunchtime freshies: likelihood of finding quality fresh tracks at lunchtime on a powder day

Lift infrastructure: refers to quality and quantity of lifts including the lay-out

Uncrowded lift lines and slopes: self-explanatory

Terrain park: size, variability and caters to all levels

Family oriented: refers to how well the resort caters to families, both on and off the slopes

Day-time restaurants: generally refers to on-mountain eateries, or restaurants easily accessible from the slopes (except for towns/cities)

Apres: refers to establishments and bars catering to the after ski hours ie approx 3-6pm; quality and quantity

Nightlife: refers to nighttime entertainment including bars but not restaurants

Night restaurants: eating establishments on-mountain (for the resorts) or very close by; quality and quantity

Ski-in ski-out accommodation: refers to the proportion and quality of accommodation on mountain that is ski-in ski-out

Cost: incorporates costs associated with lift tickets, resort facilities, food & drink, and accom (where relevant) relative to other resorts across that country/continent

Overall rating: incorporates all factors

Ski Resorts for Powderhounds: incorporates powderhound factors - advanced/expert terrain; powder; uncrowded slopes; & finding lunchtime freshies