

Winter Wonderland in

Schwarzwald

*Race down the slopes of Davos during the day
and retreat in the evening to the elegant Hotel
Ermitage on the shores of Lake Zürich.*



courtesy www.davos.ch



courtesy www.davos.ch

I thought I was doomed to end up in another country when skiing down the mountain. After boarding a cable car sardine-packed with skiers and then transferring to a chair lift midway up the mountain, I finally arrived at the pinnacle, nearly 10,000 feet above sea level. But, as I tried to interpret the maze-like map (all in German) with color-coded spaghetti ski runs

heading off in every direction, I was entirely lost until I met a fellow skier from Scotland who knew the runs. Without him I surely would have barreled off down the wrong trail and wound up in a remote village 20 kilometers from my car in Davos village.

Davos is the second largest resort in Switzerland, and it is a true winter dreamland for snowboarders and skiers - both Alpine (downhill) and Nordic (cross-country). The Davos/Klosters region comprises seven distinct ski areas: Parsenn, Pisch, Jakobshorn, Rinerhorn, Strela/Schatzalp, Gotschna, and Madrisa.

The Davos district claims title to the world's first ski lift (1934), and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (Sherlock Holmes) was among the advance guard of ski enthusiasts who helped establish this incredible mountain realm as a world-class ski destination. Today, 54 high-speed lifts and trams serve more than 200 miles of groomed trails and runs.

Snowboard Haven

Jakobshorn Mountain has earned an international reputation as a snowboarder's haven and is the site of the annual ISF World Snowboard



courtesy www.davos.ch



“...something for **EVERY** winter sport enthusiast, including snowshoe trekking, ice hockey, speed skating and curling.”

Championships. The ardent cross-country skier will also find much to rave about at Davos with its network of 47 miles of well-maintained runs with finger branches into three side valleys.

The annual Nordic FIS World Cup Races held at Davos pits top skiers against the fantastic Fluela run, which, according to Davos Tourism media representative Britta Schnewlin, “demands top technical skill and superb stamina, attracting the world’s finest cross-country skiers.”

Tobogganing is an uncommon activity in the States, but it’s big-time at Davos, which devotes more than six miles of developed runs to the sport. There’s truly something for every winter sport enthusiast, including snowshoe trekking, ice hockey, speed skating (Davos boasts Europe’s largest natural rink), and curling. If you’ve ever dreamed of skiing the skies, Davos offers incredible wintertime paragliding and hang-gliding adventures.



courtesy www.davos.ch



