

Snow putting heads in Lake Tahoe beds

By Tom Stienstra, San Francisco Chronicle

A white Christmas at Tahoe and across the High Sierra has set off a rush for holiday lodging and driven up prices across the board.

Even the 1-star hotels are getting in on it. For New Year's weekend at South Lake Tahoe, a 2-star hotel on Hotels.com is going for \$219 a night for a New Year's Eve check-in. Motel 6 was sold out. For Christmas weekend, Motel 6 was selling rooms at \$135 a night and had only five rooms left.

At the other end of the spectrum, the 5-star Ritz Carlton, Lake Tahoe, located near Northstar, had a no-view room for \$1,169 per night. As of Sunday, only five rooms remained at that price for New Year's weekend.

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