

Tahoe resorts score in Liftopia awards

Several Tahoe area ski resorts made Liftopia's inaugural Best in Snow Awards.

Winners were compiled in five regions: Northeast, West Coast, High West, Southeast and Midwest.

Magic Mountain in Vermont came out on top as the Overall Best in Snow winner in North America, with customers saying it's "the best kept secret in the Northeast" and "a true skier's mountain" that is "steeped in tradition" and "never overcrowded" with a "great community and old-time, retro vibe," "a large amount of natural snow that is never over-groomed," "awesome terrain," "challenging runs," and "the best staff in the business."

"For years consumers have told us they wanted a ranking system that wasn't based simply on which resorts were the biggest or relied on a handful of 'expert' opinions or even pay-to-play advertising dollars. They wanted to know which ski areas had the most passionate customers and which ones they should try as they searched for their next favorite," Evan Reece, co-founder and CEO of Liftopia, said in a press release. "We crafted the Best in Snow Awards with details from a consumer survey and normalized the results with our proprietary data to uncover the ski areas people love the most, all over North America. We are excited that the findings show what we already believed to be true: consumers do have amazing passion for ski areas of all sizes."

Here are the West Coast results:

Beginner-Friendly Ski Areas

1. Anthony Lakes, Oregon
2. Diamond Peak
3. June Mountain
4. Boreal Mountain
5. Tahoe Donner
6. Bear Valley
7. 49 Degrees North, Washington
8. Snow Valley
9. Homewood
10. Donner Ski Ranch

Most Challenging

1. Kirkwood
2. Kicking Horse, British Columbia
3. Squaw Valley-Alpine Meadows
4. Revelstoke Mountain Resort, British Columbia
5. Crystal Mountain, Washington
6. Mammoth Mountain
7. Alyeska, Alaska
8. Whistler Blackcomb, British Columbia
9. Red Mountain Resort, British Columbia
10. Mt. Baker, Washington

Family-Friendly Ski Areas

1. Tahoe Donner
2. Diamond Peak
3. Snow Valley
4. Boreal Mountain
5. Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe
6. Mammoth Mountain
7. Squaw Valley-Alpine Meadows
8. Sierra-at-Tahoe
9. Sun Peaks Resort, British Columbia
10. Whistler Blackcomb, British Columbia

Best Snow Consistency and Quality

1. Kirkwood
2. Mammoth Mountain
3. Whitewater, British Columbia
4. Revelstoke Mountain Resort, British Columbia
5. Mt. Baker, Washington
6. Squaw Valley-Alpine Meadows
7. Sugar Bowl
8. Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe
9. Alyeska, Alaska
10. Whistler Blackcomb, British Columbia

Least Crowded

1. Anthony Lakes, Oregon
2. June Mountain
3. 49 Degrees North, Washington
4. Red Mountain Resort, British Columbia
5. Homewood
6. Kicking Horse, British Columbia
7. Revelstoke Mountain Resort, British Columbia
8. Powder King, British Columbia
9. Alyeska, Alaska
10. Panorama Mountain Resort, British Columbia

Best Value

1. Anthony Lakes, Oregon
2. Kirkwood
3. Revelstoke Mountain Resort, British Columbia
4. Kicking Horse, British Columbia
5. Alyeska, Alaska
6. Squaw Valley-Alpine Meadows
7. 49 Degrees North
8. Tahoe Donner
9. Crystal Mountain, Washington
10. Diamond Peak.