**Åre**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Families

Après ski

Snow reliability

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

17

**Intermediate Runs**

85

**Advanced Runs**

8

**Total Runs**

110

**Lifts**

49

**Chairs**

9

**Drags**

36

**Gondola Cable Cars**

4

**Parks**

1

**Pipes**

1

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

Unavailable.

**Overview**

The Swedish resort of Åre is one of Northern Europe's biggest skiing destinations and is certainly the most popular in Scandinavia. The resort has five different bases and a great number of slopes offering a wide variety of runs, from easy skiing opportunities for beginners to black pistes and challenging off-piste terrain.

There are also great options here for snowboarding, telemarking and heli-skiing, as well as 58km (36 miles) of cross-country skiing trails.

The resort is a very good choice for families with young children, with an excellent ski centre offering tuition for children of all ages, runs that are suitable for families, a small and easy-to-navigate central village area and the children’s favourite mascot, the snowman Valle.

Åre Village, which sits on the edge of Åre Lake, is pretty with colourful buildings, traditional restaurants and a selection of shops. The other areas making up the resort include Duved, which is good for families with older children, and Åre Björnen for those with little ones looking to hone their skills.

**Location**

Åre is located in the county of Jämtland, which borders Norway, about midway on Sweden's north-south axis. The resort is situated 98km (61 miles) from the city of Östersund.

**Website**

http://www.skistar.com/en/Are/

**Piste Map**

http://www.skistar.com/en/Are/Skiing/Pistemap/

**Hit The Slopes**

All of Åre's slopes are located on the mountainsides rising up from Åre Lake, but not all the ski centres are interlinked. The lift system is modern, and although there’s a high number of T-bar drag lifts, the proportion of chairlifts continues to grow, with three large chairlifts installed for the 2013/14 ski season.

The ski school offers instruction for all ages and levels (starting at three years of age), and the resident instructors speak English. Private lessons are available for a higher fee. Once confident, beginners can head to Duved, Ullådalen and Åre Björnen, where there are wide and easy runs for those looking to take their first forays onto the slopes.

More experienced skiers can participate in guided tours of the piste and lift network and discover the best off piste skiing. Or they can sign up for first tracks classes in the morning when they can get on the freshly groomed slopes ahead of everyone else.

Duved is also excellent for intermediate skiers, with several runs offering smooth but fast skiing opportunities. Central Åre has many slopes that are well adapted to intermediates, but this is also where the steepest runs are located. It is on central Åre's black pistes, as well as in the off-piste areas – particularly the so-called ‘Backside' – that advanced skiers find their greatest challenges.

The off-piste skiing in Åre is among the best in Scandinavia. In addition, Tegefjäll has excellent tree runs. Freestylers, meanwhile, can try out their latest tricks in the terrain park and halfpipe.

The ski season in Åre runs from late November until late April, with snow cover reliable throughout the season. Ski hire outlets are located near the slopes.

**Åre**

**Resort**

380

**Base**

384

**Top**

1274

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

Åre is a typical ski resort, but it is increasingly offering activities other than skiing. Snow kiting, paragliding, snow windsurfing, dog sledding, snowmobiling and horse riding have all become very popular pastimes here.

Wellness and fitness facilities also becoming more prevalent in Åre, with hotels adding swimming pools, saunas and gym facilities to their portfolios. Among these, Copperhill Mountain Lodge (tel: 0647 14300; [www.copperhill.se](http://www.copperhill.se/)) offers some of the most luxurious facilities in the resort. The hotel’s swimming pool looks invitingly out onto the slopes, while treatments in the award-winning spa include hot lava rock and juniper oil massages. There is also a private spa available to groups of up to 20 people.

The resort has a busy events schedule during the winter season, with weeks dedicated to seniors, families, students, adventure sports and relaxation.

**Family Fun**

The Åre Björnen ski centre to the east of central Åre is particularly good for families. It has gentle slopes, a ski school, crèche, restaurant and accommodation geared towards young families. There are also dedicated ‘family weeks’ in the ski centre at Åre Björnen, which include weekly programmes with activities, events and competitions.

The ski school offers a number of courses tailored to different levels of ability on the slopes, with separate classes for three-, four- to six- and seven- to nine-year old beginners, as well as more advanced courses for intermediate and advanced skiers in the same age ranges.

Children up to the age of seven do not have to pay for lift passes, while those between eight and 15 pay a heavily discounted fee.

**Retail Therapy**

The number of shops in Åre has increased hugely over the last few years. The options range from small fashion boutiques to big sport retailers and stores selling clothes and equipment for mountain activities. There are also some good gift and handicraft shops in Åre Village. Among these, Åre Glashytta (Gamla Stationshuset, Stinsvägen 12, Duved; tel: 0647 26070) offers a range of beautiful handmade glass items.

**Splashing Out**

Go heli-skiing in Snasahögarna, a great off-piste area near Storulvån mountain station. This thrilling activity is available through Åre Äventyrsbutik (Åre Adventure Shop; tel: 0647 51220; [www.areaventyr.se](http://www.areaventyr.se/)).

**Apres Ski**

Dippan, in the Hotel Diplomat, (Åregården; tel: 0647 17800; [www.diplomathotel.com](http://www.diplomathotel.com/)) is famous for its après-ski events. It turns into a nightclub with several bars offering different musical styles. The legendary Country Club cocktail bar, which usually offers live musical entertainment, is located in the same hotel. The club Bygget (Åre Fjällby; tel: 0647 12345; [www.bygget.se](http://www.bygget.se/)) has developed a reputation as a good après-ski spot with its three dance floors and lively atmosphere. In addition, the Hotel Fjällgården (tel: 0647 14500; [fjallgarden.se](http://fjallgarden.se/)) and Tott Hotell (tel: 0647 15000; [www.tottare.com](http://www.tottare.com/)) are known for their live acts.

**Eating Out**

There are decent restaurants in most of the hotels in Åre. Fjälllgårdens Matsal in Hotell Fjällgården, at the top of Åre's cable car, is a fairly exclusive restaurant serving Swedish cuisine based mainly on local ingredients. The same goes for Fjällpuben (72 Årevägen; tel: 0647 50240; [www.fjallpuben.se](http://www.fjallpuben.se/)) and also Dahlboms (78 Årevägen; tel: 0647 50820; [www.dahlbompatorget.se](http://www.dahlbompatorget.se/)) – although the cuisine in the latter has a slightly more modern twist.

For non-Swedish fare, Broken American Bar & Grill (Åre Village Square; tel: 0647 50633; [www.broken-are.com](http://www.broken-are.com/)) offers a comprehensive American-style grill menu with burgers, ribs and nachos.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Åre Östersund Airport (OSD).

Distance to resort: 94km (55 miles).

Driving time: 1 hour 10 minutes.

Nearest railway station: Åre (direct trains from Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmö).

**Getting Around**

Ski buses run frequently between Duved in the west, Åre Village, and Åre Björnen in the east. These are free to lift pass holders.

**Hotels**

The small town is made up of old, pretty, coloured wooden buildings, with the main accommodation in chalets and apartments. There are also a number of good quality hotels in Åre, with the central village the main accommodation hub. Åre Björnen is more family-friendly with its various types of self-catering accommodation mostly in ski-in/ski-out locations.

**Holiday Club**

Located in central Åre with a spa, plenty of saunas and a massive swimming pool with a huge water slide, Holiday Club provides good value accommodation in a good location.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

XXX

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Åre

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Sweden

**Telephone**

0647 12000.

**Website**

http://www.holidayclub.se

**Copperhill Mountain Lodge**

Located at the highest point of Åre Björnen looking over the Åre valley, this designer hotel has an award-winning spa, huge stylish lobby and a fine restaurant.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Åre Björnen

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Åre

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Sweden

**Telephone**

0647 14300.

**Website**

http://www.copperhill.se

**Åre Continental Inn**

Budget options do not really exist in Åre, but the Continental Inn, 5km (3 miles) from central Åre, often has reasonable offers.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Regnbågen 1

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Åre

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Sweden

**Telephone**

0647 17170.

**Website**

http://www.areinn.se

**Tott Hotell**

Located by the Tottbacken slope, this hotel offers skiing right outside the entrance, as well as a fully equipped gym and great après-ski.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Tottvägen 111

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Åre

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Sweden

**Telephone**

0647 15000.

**Website**

http://www.tottare.se