**Heavenly**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Families

Non-skiers

Après ski

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

20

**Intermediate Runs**

43

**Advanced Runs**

34

**Total Runs**

97

**Lifts**

30

**Chairs**

18

**Drags**

10

**Gondola Cable Cars**

2

**Parks**

4

**Pipes**

1

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

9m (30ft).

**Overview**

The slopes at Heavenly ski resort, one of the largest ski areas in North America, provide spectacular views of Lake Tahoe as well as skiing in two states, as they straddle the border of California and Nevada.

Another major asset is the abundant snowfall that's the norm at Heavenly, meaning the ski season often lasts from November to late April. Lake Tahoe is a major factor in the snowfall figures. It's North America’s largest alpine lake and is an incredible 35km (22 miles) long and 19km (12 miles) wide.

The resort has seen hundreds of millions of dollars of investment over the past decade that has helped to transform it from ‘big' to ‘world class', with both on-mountain facilities and the resort base having been upgraded. The ski centre itself is owned by Vail Resorts, which also owns Northstar California to the north of the lake and Kirkwood resorts to the south, enabling the possibility of joint lift ticket deals covering all three.

**Location**

Heavenly is located at the southern end of Lake Tahoe, on the west coast of the USA. It is due east of San Francisco and straddles the border between the states of California and Nevada, with skiing and resort bases on both sides.

**Website**

http://www.skiheavenly.com

**Piste Map**

http://www.skiheavenly.com/the-mountain/trail-map.aspx

**Hit The Slopes**

A modern gondola from the Californian lakeside resort whisks skiers and boarders high up to snowsure terrain, which is suitable for all ability levels, including plenty of blue runs for accomplished beginners and intermediates.

In fact, with the exceptions of Mott and Killibrew Canyons, the whole of the ski area here is open to intermediate skiers and boarders. And, for those who need yet more choice, a special ticket is available for non-US residents that allows for skiing at seven of the largest resorts around Lake Tahoe.

Beginners, meanwhile, can enjoy terrain ideally suited to their needs that is easy to access with nursery areas at the base of the slopes. Here, there are special tuition programmes designed to accelerate learning and to increase novice skiers’ chances of getting hooked on snow sports.

Experts have a third of the ski area to themselves, with a wide range of trails; including the infamous Gunbarrel run in Mott and Killebrew Canyons on the Nevada side of the border.

Freestylers will enjoy the resort’s terrain parks, with the High Roller Park in particular suited to experts with its boxes, rails and jumps.

The season in Heavenly runs from late-November (snow permitting) to mid-April. Snowmaking facilities are operational when the conditions are poor.

**Heavenly**

**Resort**

1993

**Base**

1993

**Top**

3068

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

There's a vast choice of activities at the base of Heavenly’s ski area and in the wider South Lake Tahoe area. Heavenly Village, at the base of the gondola, has an ice rink and cinema. Ballooning, casinos (on the Nevada side of the border), cabaret shows, horse riding, paragliding, waterskiing, paddle steamer rides on the lake and swimming in pools are also popular activities in the area.

Back on the snow, enjoy being pulled along by a pack of huskies on a dog sled tour, enjoy the scenery on a sleigh ride, or speed through the powder on a snowmobiling excursion.

**Family Fun**

South Lake Tahoe has many family-friendly attractions. Even though the gambling halls on the Nevada side are strictly adult only, the casinos offer very affordable dining for the whole family, and there are plenty of activities for families to enjoy when not on the slopes, including cinemas, bowling, ice skating and swimming.

Heavenly has an excellent nursery for children aged from two months – reservations are essential. From age three, the Heavenly Kids Centre teaches children to ski and there's an indoor skill development play area for four- and five-year-old beginners.

On the slopes, kids can learn at the various ski centres (tel: 1 800 4328 3659): in the village itself, at California Lodge and Boulder Lodge. Young snowboarders can try the terrain park at Adventure Peak with its great facilities geared to small children.

**Retail Therapy**

There are hundreds of shops to choose from around South Lake Tahoe, including several small shopping centres housing many national and international chain stores.

There is an abundance of sports shops in Heavenly, with a dozen at the base of the gondola alone – including outlets for many well-known brands such as The North Face, Quiksilver and Patagonia.

**Splashing Out**

Cross Lake Tahoe on a genuine Mississippi paddle steamer with Lake Tahoe Cruises (tel: (775) 589 4906; [www.zephyrcove.com](http://www.zephyrcove.com/)). Options include the Captain’s Dinner Dance, which involves a four-course dinner, cocktails and music aboard the M.S. Dixie II.

**Apres Ski**

There are more than 150 nightspots for lively après-ski in Heavenly, most along the south shore of Lake Tahoe.

The strip of casinos, which starts just a few inches into Nevada, is a centre for 24-hour partying with lively bars, cabaret shows and dancing; as well as the vast halls of gambling machines that tend to subsidise low prices for food and drink. One of the biggest is Harveys (988 Stateline Avenue; tel: (775) 588 2411; [www.harveystahoe.com](http://www.harveystahoe.com/)).

For a real American sporting experience, head to Turn 3 (2227 Lake Tahoe Boulevard; tel: (530) 542 3199; [www.turn-3.com](http://www.turn-3.com/)), a NASCAR-themed bar with a range of beers and pool tables.

**Eating Out**

There's a huge choice of restaurants in Heavenly, encompassing more than 160 places. Nepheles Restaurant (1169 Ski Run Boulevard; tel: (530) 544 8130; [www.nepheles.com](http://www.nepheles.com/)) has been serving creative Californian cuisine since 1977 and is considered a locals' favourite. It specialises in fresh fish, game and seasonal specialities. At the top end, Evan’s American Gourmet Café (536 Emerald Bay Road; tel: 530 542 1990; [www.evanstahoe.com](http://www.evanstahoe.com/)) offers some of Lake Tahoe's finest gourmet dining set within a traditional cabin.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airports: Reno-Tahoe International Airport (RNO); Sacramento International Airport (SMF); San Francisco International Airport (SFO).

Distances to resort: 90km (56 miles); 187km (116 miles); 322km (200 miles).

Driving times: 1 hour 15 minutes; 2 hours 15 minutes; 4 hours.

**Getting Around**

Heavenly’s shuttle system covers five different routes, with buses stopping at most major lodging properties and a number of base facilities. These include the California Base Lodge, the base of the gondola in the new village, and Stagecoach and Boulder Lodges in Nevada. The shuttles typically circulate every 20 to 30 minutes.

**Hotels**

Accommodation in Heavenly and South Lake Tahoe is spread along the lakeside area and is varied and abundant, from budget motels to massive luxury casino hotels across the Nevada border. There is also a selection of catered chalets and apartments closer to the slopes.

**Marriott Grand Residence Club**

Providing luxurious lodging next to the gondola, Marriott Grand Residence Club features a health club, spa and parking.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

1001 Heavenly Village Way

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Heavenly

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

CA

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

United States of America

**Telephone**

1 800 845 5279.

**Website**

http://www.grandresidenceclub.com

**Tahoe Lakeshore Lodge & Spa**

The only all-lakefront property on South Shore, Tahoe Lakeshore Lodge & Spa boasts beautiful lake views from every room, and offers a free shuttle service to the ski slopes and casinos.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

930 Bal Bijou Road

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Heavenly

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

CA

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

United States of America

**Telephone**

(530) 541 2180 or 1 800 448 4577.

**Website**

http://www.tahoelakeshorelodge.com

**Mont Bleu**

This 437-room hotel has a large spa, casino and nightclub and hosts cabaret shows, live music and dancing. It also has a range of affordable restaurants.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

55 Highway 50

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Heavenly

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

United States of America

**Telephone**

(775) 588 3515.

**Website**

http://www.montbleuresort.com