**Åre**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Families

Après ski

Snow reliability

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

62

**Intermediate Runs**

40

**Advanced Runs**

8

**Total Runs**

110

**Lifts**

48

**Chairs**

9

**Drags**

35

**Gondola Cable Cars**

4

**Parks**

1

**Pipes**

1

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

Unavailable.

**Overview**

The Swedish resort of Åre is the most popular in Scandinavia and one of Northern Europe’s biggest. The resort’s long standing reputation as a world-class ski site continues to grow, with the resort being named the host of the 2017 World Ski Championships - making it the first resort to stage a major winter sports competition twice this century.

The slopes, traditionally accessed by overnight trains from the capital Stockholm (and many people still enjoy arriving this way), boast terrain for every ability level, including international standard downhill runs and extensive off-piste terrain. Easy and intermediate slopes are also available, many of them floodlit for use in the dark Scandinavian winter.

The pleasant village area, exhibiting a traditional Swedish blend of colourful buildings, has spread along the banks of Åre Lake, and now boasts numerous restaurants, shops, bars and clubs for those looking for a lively après-ski scene.

However, the resort is also an excellent choice for families with young children, with an excellent ski centre offering tuition for children of all ages and gentle runs where families can ski together.

**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 recently installed.

The Duved sector is excellent for intermediate skiers, with several runs offering smooth but fast skiing. 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 ski school offers instruction for all ages and levels (starting at three years of age), and the resident instructors speak English.. 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.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 early May, 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 constantly striving to offer more and more activities away from the slopes. Snow kiting, paragliding, snow windsurfing, dog sledding, snowmobiling and horse riding have all become very popular pastimes here.

Wellness and fitness facilities are also becoming more prevalent in Åre, with hotels adding swimming pools, saunas and gym facilities to their portfolios. Among these, Copperhill Mountain Lodge (tel: +46 647 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**

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

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 of activities and events..

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.

**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 (tel: +46 647 26070) offers a range of beautiful handmade glass items.

**Splashing Out**

A unique way to spend time on the snow, dog sledding is a fun-filled activity for visitors of all ages. Åre Björnen Hundspann ([www.hundspann.z.se/arebjornens](http://www.hundspann.z.se/arebjornens)), based in Åre Björnen, offer a series of sledding tours, ranging from two-hour excursions to overnight trips, which include a meal in a mountain hut and a traditional sauna.

**Apres Ski**

This is Sweden, and something Sweden does well is its nightlife. Within Åre there are a dozen or so venues offering late-night entertainment, with the majority concentrated around the central square.

Dippan, in the Hotel Diplomat, (tel: +46 647 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 (tel: +46 647 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.

**Eating Out**

There are more than 40 restaurants in and around the resort, most offer the expected Swedish fare, but international offerings are also readily available.

On the slopes, Fjälllgårdens Matsal in Hotell Fjällgården ([www.fjallgarden.se](http://www.fjallgarden.se)), at the top of Åre's cable car, is an exclusive restaurant serving Swedish cuisine, with a menu that changes each season.

Fjällpuben (tel: +46 647 50240; [www.fjallpuben.se](http://www.fjallpuben.se)) is another good choice for traditional Swedish fare and boasts a décor that, according to the owners, is inspired by ‘grandmother's country kitchen’.

Dahlboms (tel: +46 647 50820; [www.dahlbompatorget.se](http://www.dahlbompatorget.se/)) is one of the more creative restaurants in the resort, offering a unique modern take on traditional Swedish staples.

For non-Swedish fare, Broken American Bar & Grill (tel: +46 647 50633; [www.broken-are.com](http://www.broken-are.com/)) offers a comprehensive American-style grill menu with burgers, ribs and nachos. Liten Krog, located in the centre of the resort, has a strong reputation for its pizza, and also serves Thai and tapas dishes.

**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.

**Hotel Granen**

A beautiful, authentic styled hotel that’s managed by a former Olympic skier; the Hotel Granen has an on-site restaurant, beautiful open wooden fireplaces, and a library that’s available to guests.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

XXX

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

XXX

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

XXX

**Telephone**

+46 647 51560Websitewww.aregranen.se

**Website**

Housed in Åre’s oldest building, the historic Hotel Diplomat is located in the resort centre, just 200m (655ft) from the lifts. Facilities include a spa and a discotheque in the basement.