**Livigno**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Après ski

Snow reliability

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

29

**Intermediate Runs**

37

**Advanced Runs**

12

**Total Runs**

78

**Lifts**

30

**Chairs**

13

**Drags**

11

**Gondola Cable Cars**

6

**Parks**

2

**Pipes**

1

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

2m (6.7ft).

**Overview**

Livigno is one of those ski resorts that quietly keeps going, getting gradually bigger and better, while others rocket to global fame then quickly drop back out of the limelight and fade into obscurity.

Part of this slow burning approach is thanks to Livigno’s isolation, straddling the Italian-Swiss border three hours from the nearest airport. It’s this far-flung location has twice been the resort’s saving grace. The story goes that when the resort first opened tax inspectors faced such an ordeal to reach it during the winter that they simply stopped coming, making Livigno a cheap duty free ski destination.

While the lack of tax remains a draw, Livigno’s obscure slopes remain quieter than the majority of popular European resorts, making it a mecca for skiers wanting to avoid the crowds. Additionally, Livigno’s range of piste is ever-increasing, branching out from its high, and relatively snowsure, base.

The resort itself is based along one main road, lined by the same small bars, eateries and hotels that sprang up in the 1980s. Because of this exponential investment in the area after becoming tax free, the resort does still lack a real heart (one of its primary criticisms), although efforts are continually being made to rectify this.

**Location**

Livigno is in the northern Italian province of Lombardy at the southern end of the Alps. The ski resort is also close to the Swiss border, which is a few kilometres to the north.

**Website**

www.livigno.eu

**Piste Map**

https://www.livigno.eu/pdf/generali/mappa-Skipass.pdf

**Hit The Slopes**

Livigno's skiing is basically divided in two by the valley road, along which the resort is dispersed. The two halves are accessed by high-capacity, high-speed gondolas (Mottolino and the two-stage Carosello 3000) and a network of high-speed chairlifts that form part of a modern lift network.

The ski area is characterised by a series of village-side nursery slopes on the meadows beside the resort; long, fast, open ‘motorway' runs above; and a few steep blacks below the area's highest skiing at Monte Della Neve.

Freestylers and snowboarders will enjoy the resort’s terrain parks at Mottolino and Carosello 3000, with the former also including a super-pipe. There are also facilities for the less experienced who may want to have a go at getting some air.

Thanks to its altitude, the village nursery slopes are normally snowsure throughout the season, which normally runs from the end of November until the start of May. In fact, most of the slopes are blessed with good snow cover, with the lower altitude slopes aided by snow-making facilities.

An area pass covering resorts in the surrounding Alta Valtellina region, including Bormio and Santa Caterina (as well as a day over the border in St Moritz), is available for those with a minimum stay of six days.

**Livigno**

**Resort**

1816

**Base**

1816

**Top**

2797

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

There's quite a lot to do in Livigno away from the ski slopes these days. There are swimming pools in the Spöl and Helvetia hotels, while many accommodation options have gyms and fitness centres.

The resort actually has its own high-altitude gym and Olympic-sized pool complex, Aquagranda (+39 0342 970 277; www.aquagrandalivigno.com), which is however promoted as an altitude fitness centre more than a leisure pool, but is open to all. Other popular activities in the resort include bowling, badminton and billiards.

Outdoors, there’s a range of activities to sink your teeth into; including snowshoeing, dog sledding, ice driving, ice skating, snowmobiling, quad biking and paragliding.

A new option in the resort is fat biking – cycling on snow using bikes with very chunky snow tyres – which are available to rent with 20km (12 miles) of winter biking trails to enjoy.

**Family Fun**

On the whole, Livigno is a good choice for families with affordable dining and wide, sunny slopes. The only main downside is the busy road through the centre.

On the slopes the resort has put a lot of effort in to creating play areas, both for kids on skis and just in their snow boots. The Livin'Ice Park, created from 8,000 cubic metres of snow, is one of the highlights.

There is a choice of pre-ski-school nurseries, although there is no care available for under-threes and several have limited hours such as mornings or weekdays only. Lupingo Kinder Club (tel: +39 0342 996 276; [www.scuolascicentrale.it](http://www.scuolascicentrale.it)), linked to the ski school in the centre of the resort, has longer opening hours and accepts children from age three.

**Retail Therapy**

There’s an incredible 200 or so shops in Livigno, the vast majority of which are small local stores selling alcohol, tobacco, perfumes and consumer electronics – in short, anything that usually carries a hefty tax burden.

Beyond the duty-free excess, there is the regular resort selection of ski shops and souvenir outlets, as well as a few jewellers, grocers and fashion boutiques.

**Splashing Out**

Ice-driving courses are offered on an ice circuit in the village under the watchful eye of resident driver Oliviero Bormolini (tel: +39 0342 997 287). Learn the techniques in the warm before taking to the circuit in one of a variety of cars.

**Apres Ski**

Livigno has around 150 bars – more than any other ski resort in the world (Vail is second with about 110). Given the choice of venues for après-ski in Livigno, and the low price of alcohol, it’s easy to get into the party atmosphere.

The numerous bar venues are spread out along the main valley road and one doesn’t have to walk far to find a convivial atmosphere. Recommended venues include Marcos Pub (tel: +39 0342 970 820; [www.marcospub.it](http://www.marcospub.it)) at the base of lift 18 which shows live sports on their big screen, Gulliver Pub (tel: +39 0342 997 379) that has a huge selection of beers and spirits, and Ypioca (tel: +39 0342 971 163), a good cocktail bar.

**Eating Out**

There are more than 100 places to eat in Livigno; mostly small, family-run and family-friendly café-diners serving traditional Italian food. Almost all offer a daily, fixed-price *menu turistico*.

On the mountain the Costaccia Restaurant (tel: +49 0342 996 152), located at the top of the Tagliede gondola, has a reputation for great food and offers spectacular views.

In the village the Ristorante il Cantuccio (Via Saroch 1005) has one of the better selections of pasta dishes, whilst Ristorante la Pòsa (Via Taglieda 98) is one of the best pizzerias.

For something different the Latteria Livigno (tel: +49 0342 970 432; [www.latterialivigno.eu](http://www.latterialivigno.eu)) is actually a modern working dairy but serves up exquisite cheeses along with fresh ice cream.

In terms of gourmet options, Chalet Ristorante Gourmet Mattias (tel: +49 0342 997 794; [www.chaletmattias.com](http://www.chaletmattias.com)) has a Michelin star.

Serving traditional cuisine with a modern twist, the Ristorante Hotel Camino (tel: +49 0342 979 262; [www.hotelcamino.it](http://www.hotelcamino.it)) is located about 5km (3 miles) from town and is regarded as one of the resort’s best eateries.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Bergamo Orio al Serio Airport (BGY); Milan Linate Airport (LIN).

Distance to resort: 200km (124 miles); 212km (132 miles).

Driving time: 3 hours 10 minutes; 3 hours 30 minutes.

**Getting Around**

The resort is about 12km (7 miles) long, having grown along the road to join three former villages together. A free ski bus circulates up and down the main road. Please note that access via pavements is limited away from the main areas.

**Hotels**

As one of the world's largest ski resorts, Livigno has developed rapidly since it first emerged in the 1950s and today there is a vast range of places to stay. The majority of accommodation is found in hotels and apartments, mostly 2- or 3-star offerings, as well as a few catered chalets.

**Hotel Sporting**

This friendly, family-run, 2-star hotel is close to the Carosello 3000 lift. The hotel houses a small pizzeria dishing up regional cuisine and a bar that serves cocktails.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Via Saroch 1272

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Livigno

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

23030

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

+39 0342 996 665

**Website**

www.bormolinihotels.com

**Hotel Amerikan**

Hotel Amerikan is a well-located 4-star hotel with a wellness centre incorporating a sauna, Turkish bath, whirlpool and gym.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Via Florin 77/93

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Livigno

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

23030

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

+39 0342 992 011

**Website**

www.amerikan.it

**Hotel Centro’s**

A modern 2-star hotel, Hotel Centro’s is only 50m (160ft) from the ski lifts and provides car parking, Wi-Fi access and a solarium.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Via Fontana 26D

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Livigno

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

23030

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

+39 0342 996 092

**Website**

www.hotelcentros.it

**Hotel Sonne**

The 4-star Hotel Sonne is located in the resort centre only a few metres from the slopes. Guests here have a choice of 16 sizable suites as well as extensive wellness facilities – ideal for soothing aching limbs.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Via Plan 151/C

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Livigno

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

23030

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

+39 0342 996 433.

**Website**

www.hotelsonne.net

**Park Chalet Village**

This collection of wooden chalets are designed to reflect the original Livigno village. Clustered around the Grand Chalet, where the restaurant and bar are located, the chalets are located just a 15-minute walk, or free bus ride, from the slopes. Most chalets come with private saunas.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Via Teola n. 515

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Livigno

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

23030

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

+39 0342 970 176

**Website**

www.parkchaletvillage.com

**Hotel Flora**

A small, central hotel with around 20 rooms, Hotel Flora offers a gym, a high calibre restaurant and wellness facilities that include an indoor pool.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Via Taglieda 98

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Livigno

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

23030

**Country**

Italy

**Telephone**

+39 0342 996 034

**Website**

www.flora-hotel.it