

## **Ski Club of Ireland Holidays**

### **The Exhilaration of a Ski Holiday**

On a ski holiday the exhilaration of skiing is matched by its congeniality. The special world of sun and snow, slopes and chairlifts, brings quick and easy conversation and friendships which follow into the apres-ski life, long after the lifts have stopped, and the snow turns long-shadowed. The relaxed mood and physical well-being induced by the excitement of the day is enjoyed in the cosmopolitan and happy atmosphere of apres-ski activity.

Skiing makes a marvellous holiday, the resort a refreshingly new way of life, in all, an escape from the noisy humdrum of a grey winter. It is a return to the elemental, transporting one high into the mountains, beyond ice blue brooks and silent frozen waterfalls to a new world combining relaxation and exhilaration.

That is why skiing has become the widest participant sport in Europe, enjoyed by all ages and lifestyles and, having once had a ski holiday, skiers can't wait to return to the snow.

### **Ski Club of Ireland**

The Ski Club wants to bring this world to you and to the many thousands of others who use our slopes every year. The Ski Club was formed 55 years ago by ski enthusiasts who organise winter sports holidays abroad each year. That tradition continues today for its members with club holidays organised every year. Non-members are very welcome to join us too for a small additional fee (which also includes a free lesson or practice at Kiltiernan). Indeed, there are generally more non-members than members on our trips.

# Courchevel - France



The Courchevel holiday in 2024 will be from Jan 13<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> with Dave Beattie and the Skivo2 Group, which we have used for many years. This will be a specially tailored 5-day course (one day free skiing) targeted at intermediate to advanced skiers with about seven people in each ski group. Tuition is all-day for the 5 days, with video feedback and coaching from the very best of instructors who have worked with the Ski Club for many years. This is a terrific opportunity to raise your personal skiing performance to a higher level and have a fun time. For advanced skiers, subject to snow conditions, the intention would be to spend as much time as possible off-piste.

People need to arrange their own flights and the selected one is EI552 Aer Lingus to Lyon returning on EI553 to Dublin. Skivo2 provide the transfer between the airport and the resort. Skivo2 provide accommodation for 16 in Chalet Roger and for 6 in 3 rooms in Chalet Valeriane (all shared). Chalet Roger is completely booked out by the regular Ski Club Courcheveleers so there are only the shared rooms in Chalet Valeriane available. There would still be a lot of skiing and socialising between those in the two chalets. Pricing is in Sterling and therefore will depend on the exchange rate at the time of payment. The figure is likely to be circa €1300 for sharers and €1800 for singles.

You don't have to be a member to come on the club holiday. Besides the excellent tuition in a fantastic resort, what really makes the holiday is the camaraderie of the group.

So if you are interested in going, please contact [holidays@skiclub.ie](mailto:holidays@skiclub.ie) to secure your place.

# Schladming - Austria



Following a great trip last year, the club holiday in 2024 will again be to Schladming Austria for the week commencing Saturday February 24<sup>th</sup>. Schladming is a resort steeped in ski racing history – it hosts the famous night slalom each winter – but with a pretty medieval town and four mountains of skiing to choose from, there is much more to this resort than just a ski race. Schladming hosted the final men’s Alpine Ski World Cup event in January 2022 prior to the Winter Olympics in Beijing.

The four mountains provide a 123km network of well-prepared, linked pistes, served by a modern and fast fleet of lifts. Most of the terrain is suited to intermediates, but there are some challenges for more advanced skiers and riders, as well as some decent beginner facilities – particularly at Rohrmoos.

Schladming itself has an attractive, car-free town centre and it certainly can get lively, especially at the end of the ski day. Most of Schladming's buildings are traditional and at the village’s heart there's a pleasant, traffic-free main square. Schladming is a lively resort being home to the largest après ski lodge in the Alps.

We have reservations in the 4\* Sporthotel Royer. The hotel proved very popular last year with the extensive facilities it has, as well as the super service from the staff. The airport transfer is about 1 hour and 30 mins. The basic price for half board hotel, flights and transfers will be approx €1520, unfortunately a lot more expensive than last year. A limited number of single rooms will be available which will cost approx. €1,820, to be confirmed. Extras will include lift pass, ski tuition (if desired) and equipment rental (if required).

The holiday caters for all grades of skier from rank beginner, through intermediate and advanced. Ages range from young adults to people in their sixties and older with the majority spread in between. Many of those who have been on previous club holidays enrol in the local Ski School. Others prefer to free ski – the choice is yours. We had a great group last year numbering about 80, of which about 60% were members of the general public, many single. We really encourage any individual who wants to ski but for a variety of reasons must do so on their own, to come with us. Within 24 hours, they will feel part of the group. We have taken a provisional booking of rooms with the tour operator Topflight Holidays and it is very unlikely that we will get an increase. As there is a finite number of rooms available in the hotel, it is strongly advised that earliest possible bookings are made. So please contact [holidays@skiclub.ie](mailto:holidays@skiclub.ie) for more information and to secure your place.