



High Altitude & High Energy

Perched at 2,300 metres, Val Thorens holds the title of the highest ski resort in Europe, delivering one of the most reliable snow records on the continent and a season that stretches from November through to early May with a cool village base - and you can ski through town!

The resort is part of the vast Les 3 Vallées ski area, meaning 600+km of skiable terrain and stunning French Alp vistas. But what really sets Val Thorens apart is its apres energy. This is not a sleepy alpine village, it's a high-altitude hub where you can bar-hop nightly. DJs start at lunch, and the atmosphere builds steadily into the night. Apres as much or as little as you like, but this is the place for it.

Val Thorens is on the Epic!

France's Les 3 Vallées is included on the Epic Australia Pass, making Val Thorens one of Europe's most accessible high-altitude ski destinations for Australian travellers. It's a region that works just as well for families as it does for groups of friends or multi-generational trips where babies, beginners and experts all need something different from the mountain.

The Low Down

Unlike historic Alpine villages, Val Thorens is relatively modern, only established in 1972. The original village centre still forms the social core - compact, lively and completely ski-through, with a chairlift cutting directly through the main part of town

Here you'll find:

- Bars and après venues, everything you can imagine.
- International restaurants (including Michelin starred)
- Ski shops and boutiques
- A classic Irish pub that becomes an unofficial town square come St Patrick's Day.

Yes you can dress in your good clothes but it's also a place to leave your ski boots on till late.

Active Days & Party Nights

Days in Val Thorens are built around movement, our low-key hotel was ski in, ski out and we spent our days exploring a different direction every day peppered with mountain-side

NEED TO KNOW

- **Altitude** Village at 2,300 metres. Top lifts 3,230 metres
- **Great For** Young adults, groups of friends, social ski travellers, mixed-ability groups
- **Getting There** Geneva Airport 2 hr 45 mins (car/shared transfer) | Train to Moûtiers + 45 mins transfer



sunbaking, onion soup, pints of beer and French red wines and low-key afternoons but beyond skiing and snowboarding.

The resort offers:

- Zipline across the valley
- Long toboggan and sled runs
- Bobsleigh-style tracks
- Indoor pools, saunas and wellness spaces
- Fitness centres and spa recovery zones
- Surprising levels of boutique shopping

By mid-afternoon, the rhythm shifts and the mountain becomes a stage for what it does best.

Après icons

La Folie Douce A slope-side institution where lunch turns into open-air DJ sets and table-top dancing where the crowd is encouraged to 'move something, even if it's just your finger'. Things shut down at 5pm so people can ski home down the mountain safely.

360 Bar A slope-access bar known for panoramic views, live DJs and late-afternoon energy that spills onto the home run.

"Views Out Your Eyeballs"

As one visitor put it: "The views are out your eyeballs." Everywhere you look is mind-blowing faraway French Alp vistas, Mont Banc and beyond, high above the tree line the colours shift from bright white with a backdrop of different-hued blue, depending on the time of day. The dusk the night sky goes pink, orange and purple. You won't need a book, this is the book you want to read.

Val Thorens is a nine-time World Ski Awards winner and we are not surprised. Recent investment in lifts, dining and infrastructure has elevated the experience across the mountain and at least three new hotels are planned for summer construction.

A highlight is Cime Caron (3,200metres), a ridgeline restaurant and viewing platform offering 360-degree alpine panoramas and access to some of the most memorable intermediate skiing in the Three Valleys.

Gastronomy At Altitude

If you like burgers, fried chicken and fries, of course they're here too but Val Thorens punches well above its weight when it comes to food.

From rustic mountain bowls of onion soup to Michelin-recognised dining, the range is exceptional:

ACCOMODATION OPTIONS

Accommodation ranges from budget-friendly apartments to luxury ski-in ski-out. Modern hotels with indoor pools to self-catering apartments. Older parts of town offer traditional chalet feel with pubs, supermarket and boutiques.

- **Les Explorateurs** Michelin-starred fine dining at altitude
- **Le Diamant Noir** Creative alpine cuisine with truffle focus

Local Favourites

Chez Pépé Nicolas A farm-to-table chalet experience with its own permaculture garden and on-site cheese production. Well worth booking ahead and making an excursion out of a day. Order the trout, they're mountain-fed from ground alpine water nutrients and hand-raised on site.

Alpen Art A relaxed, art-filled restaurant serving fondue, French classics and alpine comfort food with slope-side views. If you're ever going to try snails, this is the place - I did and was happy with the positive experience.

Learning Zones & Ski Schools

Val Thorens is beginner-friendly, with plenty of:

- Dedicated learner zones
- Covered magic carpets
- Strong ski school presence (ESF, Oxygène)
- Long progression runs into intermediate terrain

There is plenty of space to build confidence and it's a great destination for a mixed ability group.

Not a Skier?

Val Thorens still delivers a full alpine holiday:

- Snowshoeing and scenic walks
- Dog sledding and snowmobiling
- Zipline and sledding runs
- Indoor wellness at Le Board Sport Center (pool, spa, climbing wall, gym)
- Après culture and mountain dining *



More info
valthorens.com