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Whistler Begins Here

Spring in Whistler

Ski, Golf, Bike... all in the Same Day

By **CAROLINE HELBIG**
SPECIAL TO THE PROVINCE

Have you ever tried skiing, golfing, and biking all in the same day? Spring is the time and Whistler is the place. Whistler's most versatile season offers exceptional skiing and riding, and ushers in all kinds of warmer weather activities and festivals.

The alpine conditions are awesome right now. Whistler has a huge snow base and March has brought big dumps of the white stuff. Spring gives way to sunny days made for alpine cruising and soaking up rays on slopeside patios.

Pack your sunscreen and enjoy the spring snow with friends and family over Easter weekend (March 25–27). Mark your calendar: skiing and riding at Whistler continues until April 17, and at Blackcomb until May 23.

Spring in Whistler sees snow



PHOTO BY MIKE CRANE COURTESY TOURISM WHISTLER

flying in the alpine and flowers blooming in the valley. Locals embrace this perfect mix of seasons with what has become known as, “The Whistler Triathlon”—typically involving skiing, golfing and biking, all in the same day. The great thing about Whistler is that there's so much to do, you can create your own custom “Whistler

Triathlon” of outdoor fun.

Take Whistler's mayor for example: “First, I'd go for a run on the Valley Trail and out to Rainbow Park. After that, I'd ski on Blackcomb Glacier. Then, I'd finish the day with some aerobic gardening,” says Whistler Mayor Nancy Wilhelm-Morden about her ideal Whistler Triathlon day.

There are so many options for a “Whistler Triathlon” day (or weekend). Whistler golf courses open between April and May. Lower elevation hiking and cross-country biking trails are often accessible in April. Whistler Bike Park opens in May. You could even join a Whistler bear viewing tour when the furry creatures emerge from hibernation in mid-May.

The ultimate springtime celebration in Whistler is the GO Fest, which takes place over the Victoria Day long weekend (May 20–23). “Whistler's Great Outdoors Festival is where winter and summer meet, with outdoor recreation clinics, a British Car Show, an Adventure Film Festival, live concerts and family-oriented activities,” says Wilhelm-Morden.

For more information on spring in Whistler, visit www.whistler.com/spring/

Whistler Resort Receives Forbes Five-Star Rating

By **CAROLINE HELBIG**
SPECIAL TO THE PROVINCE

Four Seasons Resort and Residences Whistler has once again proven that it is the best of the best in luxury hospitality. The resort was recently honoured with the Forbes Travel Guide 2016 Five-Star rating—the highest distinction awarded by the prestigious publication.

Only the finest properties in the world earn the distinguished Forbes Five-Star award. Four Seasons Whistler is the only resort in Canada to have made the five-star list with Forbes, and only one of 19 properties in all of North America to hold a Five-Star, Five-Diamond rating. Forbes, a highly respected authority on luxury travel, defines five-star winners as, “outstanding, often iconic properties with virtually flawless service and amazing facilities.”

“It is simply remarkable to achieve such a highly coveted accolade,” says Joerg Rodig, General Manager of Four Seasons Resort and Residences Whistler. “It is truly due to our associates and their commitment to providing the most exceptional service and memorable guest experience. I could not be more proud to be a part of the Four Seasons Whistler team.”

While the service truly makes the most difference, it is the full



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FOUR SEASONS RESORT AND RESIDENCES WHISTLER

spectrum of excellence across all categories that has earned the resort's five-star rating. Facilities and amenities are unparalleled. Guests enjoy luxurious mountain-inspired rooms and suites, superb fitness and recreational facilities, including an award-winning full-service spa, and culinary delights at renowned Sidecut Modern Steak + Bar.

Four Seasons Whistler also shines in providing outstanding services, like complimentary daily wine tasting. The resort's Ski Concierge makes a day on the slopes easy and completely carefree. An exciting selection of one-of-a-kind experiences, like an epic golf adventure on a glacier, whisks guests to Whistler's

most stunning surroundings.

But making the Forbes Five-Star list goes beyond first-class facilities and services. “We continuously strive to ensure that

no detail is overlooked,” says Rodig. “It's the small, personal things, like proper greetings and addressing guests by name, that are so incredibly important.”

In addition to its Forbes Five-Star rating, Four Seasons Whistler is consistently honoured with the industry's most sought-after distinctions, including awards from Travel + Leisure, Condé Nast Traveler, and the only AAA awarded resort in Canada.

Take the guesswork out of travel planning and treat yourself to the best of the best at Four Seasons Whistler. And, while you're there, savour Sidecut's three-course surf, turf, and dessert special for only \$49/person (Sunday–Thursday). For more information visit www.fourseasons.com/whistler/.

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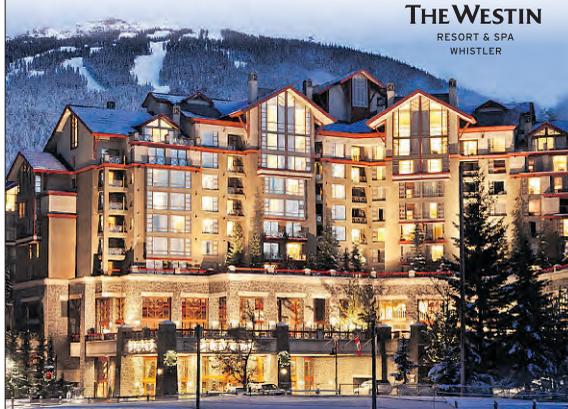
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