

# Winter tourism in Lebanon

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The summer in Lebanon is beautiful but winter is even more beautiful mainly because of the amazing white and gold snow, a delight for children.

The skiing season starts in December and lasts until April. That is when the ski stations and neighbouring villages become international attractions. They are visited by all age

groups, young and old, enjoying nature as it lures them with its white fields, welcoming skiers and lovers of winter sports.

The main skii areas in Lebanon are: The ➤



## Skiing

Cedars, Laqlouq, Faraya al-Mazar, Faqra, Zaarour and Baskinta. In Faraya al-Mazar, the most important ski station in Lebanon and the Middle East, the experts have given the lifts and equipment a clean bill of health after the final checks.

The bride of Lebanese ski resorts is ready to receive visitors. The staff of 'The Sport Club', who know everything about the sport, are ready to help new comers and lead the more experienced to new pistes.

The latest addition to Faraya, The Snow Park, is waiting for those who love adventure



and excitement. It is dedicated to training advanced skiers from the age of 14 to ski to the tunes of music.

Snow Park is like a kindergarten for children aged between three and ten. It is equipped with the most modern equipment children love and has learning aids and entertainment supervised by nannies specialized in moving from playing to skiing. The park is open between 8am – 2pm giving parents the opportunity to ski without worrying about their young ones.

The snow usually arrives just before Christmas and the crowds of skiers converge on Faraya al-Mazar. Visitors enjoy watching the skiers with flares in their hands as if from the days of ancient temples.

From the dome of Mazar, the panoramic view extends to Jabal al-Shikh on one side and the Mediterranean and Beirut on the other, amid the snow fields. It is possible to ski between 1850 m and 2465 m where the chilling cold, the warm sun, vitality and explosion of emotions awakens the senses.

Faraya al-Mazar is about 46 km from Beirut, passing Jeita, Ajaltoun, Ashqut, Faytroun, Mayroubee, Harjel and Faraya. It is like a dream come true where the pure water is ideal for the health and physical fitness club which competes with the best spa clubs in the region.

The cuisine in the restaurants of Faraya al-Mazar and Mazar 2000, including Sushi, Fondue and Lebanese village cuisine, is among the world's finest.

The holiday homes of Mazar 2000 provide a comfortable environment for families in a warm atmosphere, where they can enjoy late nights around the fire and burning timber sizzling through the chimneys. Here the snow writes the most beautiful stories on the windows.

The hotel in the Intercontinental complex, is the first of its kind, not only in Lebanon but in the whole world. Here in the mountain a European city was built in the heart of the Mediterranean: sun, sport, enchanting nature and great discounts. So why think of traveling far when the heaven is on your doorstep? ■