

high life

CHANGE YOUR VIEW

OCTOBER 2014



**SINGAPORE:
THE NEXT
GENERATION**



It's all downhill
Although freeride snowboarding is best left to the professionals, Whistler offers a wide range of ski runs; more relaxing options are at Sun Gardens hotel, Dubrovnik (below right)

WHISTLER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Whistler is a scenic two-hour drive from Vancouver – a journey that adds a whole new dimension to your holiday. Whistler is the only ski area in North America to give Europe a run for its money. Located in the southern Pacific Ranges of the Coast Mountains, the town sits at the foot of two spectacular mountains, Whistler and Blackcomb, both of which offer terrain suitable for all levels of ability. There's a great ski school, a family ski zone on Whistler and adventure play areas. The town itself is largely pedestrianised, so easy to explore.

WHY EASTER? For little more than the cost of a nice ski chalet in the French Alps during Easter, you can jet off to Canada. Snow is still reliable but the crowds are thinner, so the slopes are peaceful.

THE WEATHER FORECAST

Astonishing spring snowfalls in recent years, including a new March snowfall record of 4.05m in 2012, have given some of the best late-season snow conditions of any ski resort in North America in a mild climate.

NOT SO GOOD It's a long way to go. It's well worth it, though, if the children are old enough to amuse themselves on the flight.

WHERE TO STAY

In a great location close to the Blackcomb chairlift in the upper village – and just a ten-minute stroll to the lower village – the ski-in, ski-out Fairmont Chateau Whistler prides itself on its customer service and is great for families, with spacious bedrooms and multiple restaurants. British Airways offers five nights for £3,796 for a family of four, including flights, for travel during Easter 2015. Five-day ski passes are from £231pp. Visit ba.com/vancouver. *British Airways flies to Vancouver from London Heathrow.*

EASTER HOLIDAYS

DUBROVNIK, CROATIA

This ancient walled city is pedestrianised, easily navigable and a treasure trove of souvenir shops, cafés, fortifications and ice-cream parlours – although its cobbled streets make it more fun for those without buggies. It's the leaping-off point for unspoilt nearby islands like Sipan, Mljet and Korcula, which are easily reached by ferry.

WHY EASTER? In summer, you can barely move for tourists. April, on the other hand, is quiet but already turning summery, so it's a great climate for young children. And summer prices are yet to kick in.

THE WEATHER FORECAST

The highest recorded temperature in April was 29°C, but the average is 17°C: pleasant mild weather, with clearing skies and sunshine.

NOT SO GOOD Dubrovnik is geared towards tourists, so prices are higher than elsewhere in Croatia.

WHERE TO STAY

Just outside the city, the five-star Sun Gardens hotel has three fresh water pools, a private beach and numerous restaurants and bars – there is a kids' club but it doesn't open until June. BA offers seven nights for a family of four from £1,919, including flights, during Easter 2015. Visit ba.com/dubrovnik. Other options include Hotel Lapad (galahotels.com), a simple, family-run hotel with a large pool just 3km from the Old Town. This offers seven nights for a family of four over the Easter holidays from about £656 (excluding flights). *BA flies to Dubrovnik from London Gatwick.*

