



BIGHORN LODGE, REVELSTOKE, CANADA

Pristine powder

It takes dedication to reach Revelstoke – or “Revy” as it’s known by the locals. It’s 95 miles to the nearest airport, Kelowna, while Calgary is a 250-mile drive away, over lakes and along twisting Kootenays Rockies passes which puncture the mountains. But the commitment it takes to journey to one of the world’s snowiest places – annual snowfall of around 50ft – is handsomely rewarded by more than 3,000 acres of marked ski terrain, North America’s highest lift-serviced drop (5,620ft), and a sense of isolation and wilderness rare even for Canada. What really sets Revy apart, though, is half a million acres of some of the world’s finest and most accessible heli-skiing. And many guests staying at Bighorn Lodge – the only lodge in Revelstoke with its own helipad – simply skip the ski passes and fly straight into the back country.

Bighorn (named after the North American breed of sheep) sleeps 16 in unabashed luxury. At its heart is the triple-height Great Room, offering dramatic views of the Monashees. Then there’s a private cinema, bar and pool room, vast outdoor hot tub, indoor exercise

pool, extensive wellness area, and a teppanyaki grill – where you can watch talented chef Peter Hughes work his magic with Kobe beef.

Hughes’ breakfasts are similarly amazing, and once suitably fortified, you’ll be ready to start your heli-ski adventure. Ease on your warmed boots, step out of the door into your sleek AStar helicopter, and before long, with a dedicated guide, you’ll be revelling in the deep feather-light virgin snow, interrupted only by lunch in a pristine forest clearing or remote glacial valley. Of course, you can spend your days in Revelstoke Mountain Resort instead, skiing down the 8,058ft-high Mt Mackenzie in open powder bowls, down steep drops, through glades and along satisfyingly extensive pistes (the longest is nine and a half miles). Whether you head skywards or stay earthbound, the high-octane action is never far away.

Seven nights from 75,000CAD based on 16 sharing, including Champagne reception on arrival and in-resort transport; heli-skiing guideline price of 1,700CAD per person per day; bighornrevelstoke.com

