



ITS A FAMILY AFFAIR AT THE BRITISH SKI AND BOARD SHOW 2011

It's not always easy trying to book a winter holiday that is going to please every member of the family. But your decision can be made more easily with a visit to the British Ski + Board Show, held at Birmingham's NEC from Friday 28th to Sunday 30th October 2011.

With a number of family-friendly options to choose from it doesn't have to be gloves off and tantrums on the green run. One such company who pride themselves on providing luxury chalets that welcome younger guests is The Private Chalet Company. Based in Sainte Foy, France, The Private Chalet Company offers you catered chalets providing exceptional service, attention to detail, fine dining and amazing skiing in a snow sure resort. Sainte Foy is famous for its quiet runs, well-groomed pistes and superlative off piste skiing making it excellent for both skiers and snowboarders, and safe for children.

Chalet Shanti is popular with families due to its separate playroom/dining area with TV whilst keeping the more formal lounge a 'child-free zone'. Particularly suited to those with younger children is Chalet Jacqueline as it is within easy walking distance of the 'magic carpet', whisking children to the top of the slopes. At the top is the meeting place for the English speaking ski school that is happy to tutor groups of children from the age of four (private lesson from age three). If your child is not quite prepared to click on a pair of skis then The Private Chalet Company can arrange suitable childcare in the form of a private nanny or at the excellent child care centre Club Petit Trappeurs within the resort. The Private Chalet Company also offer a ski hosting service, which welcomes children with some skiing ability. Visit The Private Chalet Company at The British Ski + Board Show or at www.theprivatechaletcompany.com to find out more.

If you're looking to travel further, then Vail in the USA offers plenty of activities to keep the kids entertained. Being North America's top ski resort, it's not surprising that Vail offers everything that a visiting family could wish for. For those travelling with younger children, The Child Care Centre provides high-quality childcare for children ages from six weeks through to six years old and is dedicated to helping children build on their strengths, interests and emerging abilities in a rich, stimulating and supportive environment giving parents piece of mind whilst traversing the slopes.

For three to four year olds there's the Ski/Play Programme, visiting the Enchanted Forest whilst introducing the youngsters to skis. The amount of time spent on skis can be increased for slightly older children. The Vail Ski and Snowboard School teach children from the age of three (skis) and four (snowboard) and can be accommodated as part of a group with other children of a similar age or as a family group private lesson. Child through to teen programmes are available focusing on all sorts of terrain for a range of ability levels.



After skiing, families may wish to visit Adventure Ridge at the top of the Gondola to try some additional activities such as the children's snowmobile track, ice-skating and tubing. You'll never be short of things to do in Vail, just short on time! Find out more at www.snowusa.com or visit the Vail stand at the show.

Skiing with young children can be extremely pleasurable, most of the time. But if they're clicking on the skis for the first time, it's not going to be long before either the parent or child gets frustrated throwing down a glove in protest. As a parent of three young girls this is something Katherine Hogbin experienced first hand and what prompted her to develop NipperGrip, a child ski harness.

The NipperGrip Kids Ski Harness has a handle on the back aiding chair lift control, picking them up following a tumble on the slope and offering assurance when skiing between parent's legs. Uniquely the NipperGrip also has a handle on the front so that whatever position your child ends up, even flat on their back, you will be able to help them back to their feet. The NipperGrip is designed to be removed quickly and easily by parents for those urgent calls of nature and the removable set of reins attached to the waistband let your little one ski in front of you in a controlled manner whilst you snow plough along behind. Priced at £25 the NipperGrip Kids Ski Harness gives a parent piece of mind whilst giving the child a little independence. Buy your NipperGrip at the show or visit www.nippergrip.com

Don't forget that you can get your children fully equipped for the winter season with anything from gloves and jackets to helmets and goggles available to purchase at the British Ski and Board Show, sponsored by the Daily Telegraph. Open from 12noon until 8pm on Friday and 10am until 6pm on Saturday and Sunday, tickets are now on sale with prices range from as little as £6.50 for adults when purchased in advance and child tickets costing £2.50 each throughout the show. For more information, the latest updates or to book tickets, visit www.britishskiandboardshow.co.uk or telephone the booking line on 0844 581 0734

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