

Powder Alliance

How would you like to ski at 12 ski areas for the price of one? This is now possible, thanks to the alliance forged between 12 ski areas in the western USA. The deal is that anyone with a season pass from any of these ski areas receives not only unlimited skiing at their home ski area but also 3 free lift tickets at each of the other ski areas.

The Powder Alliance consists of the following 12 ski areas: **Timberline (OR)**, **Mt. Hood Skibowl (OR)**, **Schweitzer Mt. (ID)**, **Bridger Bowl (MT)**, **Stevens Pass (WA)**, **Sierra-at-Tahoe (CA)**, **China Peak (CA)**, **Mountain High (CA)**, **Snowbasin (UT)**, **Snowbowl (AZ)**, **Crested Butte (CO)**, and **Angel Fire (NM)**.

In effect, you get 12 resorts, 123 lifts, 806 trails, and 26,782 vertical feet. All for the price of one season pass! There is no additional charge for the Powder Alliance deal. Just get a season pass (a Fusion Pass for Oregonians).



What this means for Oregonians



For Oregonians to make use of the Powder Alliance deal they have to purchase the **Fusion Pass**, which by itself gives you unlimited skiing at both Timberline and Skibowl.

In addition, we will now also get **30 free lift tickets** to the other 10 ski areas (3 lift tickets to each one of them). The only restriction to the other ski areas is that you cannot use this deal on Saturdays or holidays. Those are the only blackout days.

Adults under 65 will pay \$475 for this pass.

Adults over 65 can purchase the pass for just \$255.

Those over 71 get free skiing at Timberline, but not necessarily at all the other ski areas. Skibowl charges about \$50 for a season pass, and so do many other ski areas, so you might still consider purchasing the Fusion Pass to enjoy the Powder Alliance deal.

Those planning to join us on our Mountain High ski trips this year will be able to use all 3 free lift tickets at Schweitzer Mt. in January, and one free lift ticket at Stevens Pass in March.

All Fusion Pass holders also get a free shuttle bus between Timberline, Govy, and Skibowl, as well as other discounts.

Are you drooling yet? If not, see "A Personal View" in the column on the right.

A personal view - by Emilio Trampuz



I normally never buy season passes, simply because I don't want to be tied down to just one single ski area all winter. But with 12 ski areas on a single pass, variety is built into the Powder Alliance deal and the whole equation changes.

I do usually buy the Timberline Spring Pass, valid in March, April and May, for \$110. So, let's subtract that from the cost of the Fusion Pass and see what else we would get for the remaining portion of the cost of the Fusion Pass. $\$475 - \$110 = \$365$.

If the average price of a lift ticket is, say \$60, then \$365 will buy you about 6 lift tickets.

But, instead of 6 tickets, the Powder Alliance gives you 30 lift tickets to 10 ski areas! And on top of that, you get unlimited skiing at Timberline and Mt. Hood Skibowl all winter long (with no blackout dates).

Since I will be going on at least two of the Mountain High bus trips -- to Schweitzer and to Stevens Pass -- this means I will be able to take advantage of at least 3 free tickets at Schweitzer and one at Stevens Pass.

But, hey, Sierra-at-Tahoe (CA) and Snowbasin (UT) are all within easy reach too.

Also, once in California, why not drive a bit farther south and visit China Peak in Central California and Mountain High in Southern California!