

two halfpipes, The Scene and so much more. Snow Summit, by contrast, serves up a complete resort experience that just happens to include freestyle.

But there's also endless acres of wide open and immaculately-groomed cruisers, challenging steeps and hidden tree stashes to explore. The recent good snow years have revealed powder stashes everywhere for skiers and snowboarders to enjoy, from the trees next to the bowl runs to stands between runs around Chair 9.

Accessing all the snow is the Southland's most complete and best-designed lift system, which starts with not one but two high-speed quads that get skiers and snowboarders out of the base area in a hurry. From there an entire network of interconnected runs and lifts takes over, so guests never have to return to the base area if they don't want to.

On the slopes, check the unique "Smart Signs" that show which lifts have the shortest (usually nonexistent)

waits in line. Even on peak holidays and weekends there's never a line at Chairs 5, 6 or 10. If you're standing in lift lines on busy weekends or holidays instead of carving turns, it's because you went somewhere other than Snow Summit. And what good is a shorter drive if you spent the day standing in line?

Each chair serves up its own distinct terrain with a heavy dose of



Fresh tracks are worth bundling up for



Features galore in The People's Park

everyone from low intermediates to experts enjoys—Sugarpine and Sideshow are tremendous fun, often with some of the resort's best snow and always the shortest lift lines. Other highlights include runs named for resort founders Tommi Tyndall and Jo Alexander.

Adjacent Chair 7 offers more great cruising on blue square

intermediates Seven Down and Timber Ridge, one of the resort's best runs. On the west side there's Chair

3's freestyle action plus cruising on East Why, along with Last Chance.

More people have learned the sport at Snow Summit than anywhere, with an expanded beginner area serviced by Magic Carpet uphill lifts and two chairlifts. The transition from the bunny hill to the rest of the mountain is another resort strong point. Summit Run is legendary as a gentle transition run with incredible views, slow skiing and lots of room to negotiate the snow.

Other top-to-bottomers include famous Miracle Mile with its Steilhang and Hogback variations. Then there's Log Chute, a great mix of cruising and steep terrain. Chair 6 services The Bowl runs including The Wall, Olympic, Off the Wall, Dicky's and several variations. Back in the day Chair 6 was one of the most crowded, but now it rarely has any wait at all. With music playing on tree-mounted speakers The Bowl has a vibe all its own, with a mix of

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