

A FEW DAYS IN



## The Only Guide You'll Ever Need to Sun Valley, Idaho

by [Nandita Khanna](#)



*The view from the chairlift. All photos by Nandita Khanna.*

*New York-based fashion and style writer Nandita Khanna has been skiing since the age of three. After several years of searching for a comprehensive guide to her favorite ski town – Idaho's Sun Valley – she decided to write one herself. Then she gave it to us to publish on Fathom. Swish!*

SUN VALLEY, Idaho – The best word to describe Sun Valley? Magical. Sounds effusive, but it's true. Sun Valley is one of those places where, the more you learn about its history, the more you meet the people that call the town home, and the more time you spend exploring, the more you quite simply fall in love with it. The same could be said for the resort's founder, W. Averell Harriman, who, in 1936, bought up 3,000 acres in Ketchum, Idaho, in search of a four-seasons resort town.



## WHERE TO STAY

The original 1936 facade of [Sun Valley Lodge](#) remains the same but it's the inside of the historic property that really got the facelift. The lobby was extended and floor-to-ceiling windows put in along the back of the hotel, although it still retains its old-world charm. The room count was taken down from 148 to 108 and given modern updates: deep reds and golds accent the rooms' walnut furnishing, bathrooms are outfitted with granite, a soaking tub, and even a ski closet. Many of the rooms have their own fireplaces. Fans of the old Sun Valley Lodge will be relieved to know that its signature detail — the hundreds of iconic black-and-white images of guests like Marilyn Monroe, Ernest Hemingway, Senator John Kerry, and George Lucas — still line the hallways.

The European-style [Sun Valley Inn](#) has loads of rustic charm and a heated pool for apres ski. The 29-room [Knob Hill Inn](#) at the edge of downtown has been recently updated. Some of the rooms have wood-burning fireplaces and others have jaw-dropping views of Baldy; all of them have heated marble bathroom floors and contemporary furnishings.