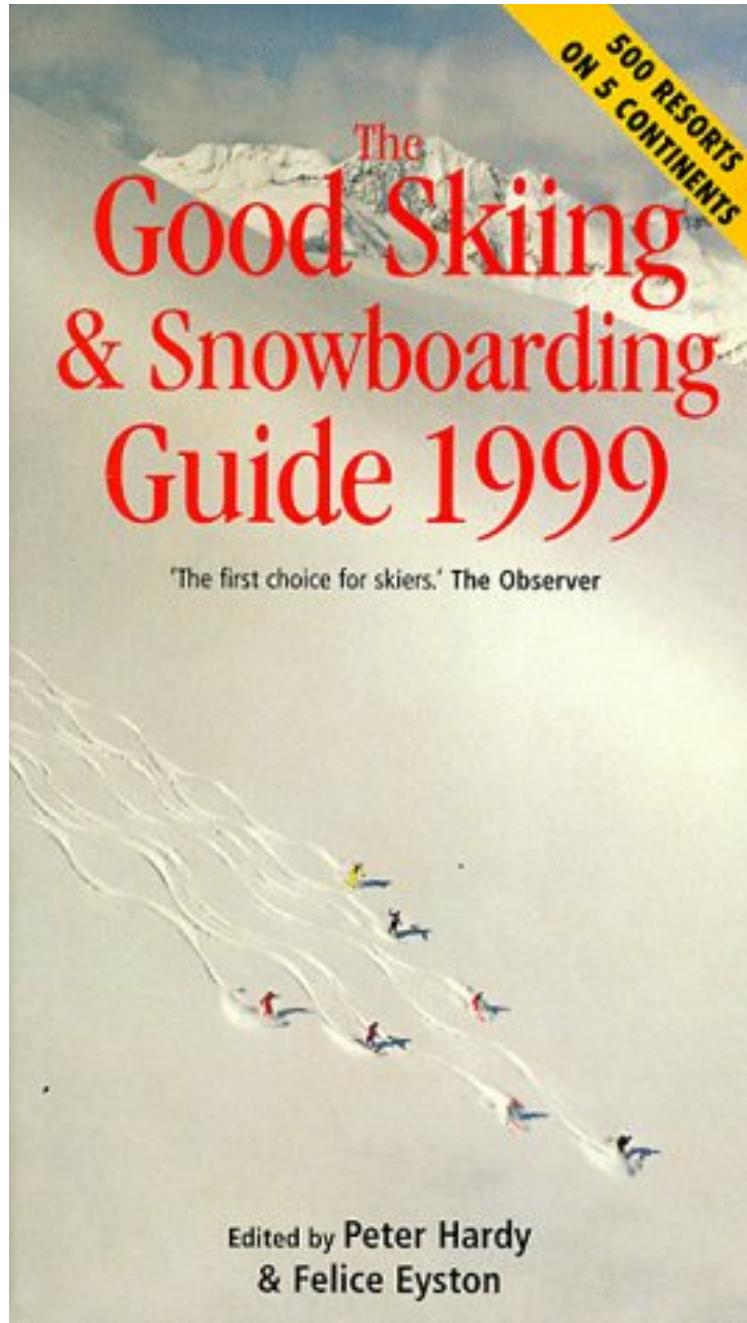


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whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Good Skiing and Snowboarding Guide 1999:

The only independent guide to over 50 ski resorts in North America and Europe, this book is completely revised and updated, with increased coverage of resorts in North America, Italy, and the southern hemisphere. Updated information includes specially commissioned full-color maps.

.com Whether you're a certified ski bum in search of the world's best powder run, or a parent planning your family's winter vacation, this international ski and snowboard guide offers plenty of choices for the destination skier. With detailed descriptions and ratings for the top 500 ski resorts around the world, you can decide between St. Moritz, Switzerland's picturesque, two-time Winter Olympics site, or British Columbia's Whistler/Blackcomb, where you'll find "the most challenging skiing and the most cosmopolitan atmosphere of any ski resort in North America. Ski or snowboard your heart out on two adjoining peaks that offer plunging powder bowls, sheer couloirs, and gladed skiing for all standards." The guide provides standard information, such as upgrades and additions--as of September 1998--at resorts on five continents; full-color piste maps; and trail and out-of-bounds suggestions for beginning, intermediate, and advanced skiers and snowboarders. But the Good Guide's real strength lies in its ability to convey the total ski experience, with tips on Aprs-ski, childcare, accommodations, and such minutiae as the price of hot cocoa in the mountain lodge and whether or not instructors speak English. Although Americans may find some of their favorite local resorts missing, the listing's international flavor will help schussers broaden their horizons. --Cate Bick