



A vacation in Africa usually **conjures** images of palm-fringed beaches or safari tours. However, the mountain kingdom of Lesotho in southern Africa is attracting tourists who seek a more adventurous skiing destination.

Under a bright sun, skiers and snowboarders are enjoying the kind of **powder** you might find in the Alps. The continent has five mountain ranges with enough seasonal snow to create the potential for ski slopes. Most people don't think of Africa for a ski holiday, and they are amazed at what they find.

The ski resort in Lesotho, like many other travel destinations, has struggled during the global health crisis. South Africa has been hit hard and is on most countries' **red lists**. The resort's owner said that tourist numbers fell to almost nothing in 2020 and are only half the usual 17,000 this year.

**Difficult words:** **conjure** (to make you think of something), **powder** (soft snow that makes sports easy to do), **red list** (a list of people or things that are prohibited or are not allowed).

**Discussion Questions****Topic Talk**

1. Define the following words: *conjure*, *powder* and *red list*
2. What do people usually conjure when they think of Africa?
3. Where in Africa can people go if they're seeking for an adventurous skiing destination?
4. What was the situation like in the ski resort in Lesotho during the global health crisis?

**Express Your Thoughts**

1. Do you go skiing? How often do you go skiing?
2. Does your country have skiing destinations? Where are the most popular ones?
3. Did the ski resorts in your country also struggled during the global health crisis?
4. Have they managed to get back to their normal operations?
5. Are there travel destinations in your country that had to close due to the pandemic?