

THE TRUTH ABOUT COFFEE, RED MEAT & WINE

November 2007 | Volume 16 | Number 10

Men's Journal

//////
**2008
WINTER
GUIDE**

- > RATING THE LATEST GEAR
- > POACHING THE BEST OUT-OF-BOUNDS RUNS
- > ULTIMATE PRE-SKI WORKOUT
- > WHAT'S NEW FOR YOU AT AMERICA'S BEST WINTER RESORTS
(even if you don't ski)

**SPORTS
FAN
SPECIAL**
THE SEASON'S BEST
**FOOD,
SEATS,
FEUDS &
PLAYERS**

**STEVE
NASH**

**THE
SUPERSTAR
WHO MADE
THE NBA
FUN AGAIN**

MENSJOURNAL.COM

\$4.95US \$6.50 CAN



WINTER BLOWOUT 2008

1. POWDER



VOLKL KATANA
During development the designers must have paid a visit to the snowboard team to crib the partial swallowtail on these extremely fat skis. A solid construction with an even flex — exactly what you'd expect out of Volkl — give these sticks some chops on the hardpack. But with a 111mm waist, it's destined for deepness. [\$975; volkl.com]

LINE PROPHET 130
Line once made inexpensive jib skis better at going backward than forward. But the company is owned by K2 now, which spells better construction and bindings that won't make you feel as if you're steering a '68 Corvair in a crosswind. The Prophet 130s — as in 130mm wide — are some of the best, and fastest, skis on the market. [\$900; lineskin.com]



2. BACKCOUNTRY



BLACK DIAMOND VERDICT
Backcountry enthusiasts know BD makes featherlight boards for skiing beyond the ropes, and the Verdicts don't disappoint. At Aspen, the skis turned as if they were half their size, carving frozen groomers and floating through the eight inches of Colorado light that had fallen by lunch, all thanks to a wide front tip. [\$600; bdel.com]

K2 APACHE COOMBA
When legendary ski mountaineer Doug Coombs passed away last season, K2 did a limited midseason launch of his pro model. This year it mass-produced them. The giant pointed shovels cut through manky snow and powder. Mount them with alpine touring bindings, and let their light weight help on long slogs. [\$800; k2skis.com]



PALMER P02
He may not brag about it, but superstar snowboarder Shaun Palmer was (and still is) an accomplished skiercross racer. Here now are his company's first double plank effort. They sport a hefty binding plate for strong edge grip and powerful turns, though racer types may find the flex too buttery for hard charging. [\$900; palmerskis.com]

ROSSIGNOL ZENITH Z11 MUTIX
Rossi has long been known for making skis like these, with superior edge grip and consistent flex. But now, adjustable arms extending outward from the bindings to the tips and tails allow you to change the skis' flex, meaning plenty of power whether you lean over your tips or drive from the backseat. [\$1,249; rossignol.com]



THE SKIS YOU NEED

We logged hours and hours riding THIS YEAR'S BUMPER CROP OF SKIS to find the 10 most worthy of your hard-earned dollars. by ARNOLD NAUGHTIE

4. ALL MOUNTAIN



SCOTT MISSION
Scott's been selling skis in the U.S. for three years now, but many powder-hounds still know the company only for its poles. Shame. Its newest skis, the Mission, provide a soft, forgiving flex, but aren't so noodly that you'd be afraid to get them on edge. And at this price, they're one of the best deals going. [\$675; scottusa.com]

SALOMON X-WING FURY
Here's proof that skis don't need a crazy camber or rivets in the tips. The Furys' versatility slots them in the middle of Salomon's X-Wing series, but they earned our love for the solid platform and ability to link turns together. Experienced skiers should opt for the stiffer, powder-friendly X-Wing Sandstorms. [\$825; salomonski.com]



5. PARK AND PIPE



DYNASTAR TROUBLE MAKER
Hard-charging skiers will find the narrow Dynastars easy to overpower, but their snappy feel with just the right amount of pop will have the average jibber busting huge tricks out of the pipe. Reinforced edges underneath the bindings improve durability, though some may not appreciate the added stiffness. [\$599; dynastar.com]

ARMADA ARG
To kick its flagship aerialist sticks up a notch this year, Armada embedded carbon stringers into the tails to create better pop coming off of kickers. Reinforced tails provided easy landings on a spring day in Utah, without giving up so much performance that we couldn't take them on the upper mountain for some powder play. [\$575; armadaskis.com]

