Kirkwood Mountain Resort to Open Monday, Nov. 23, Nearly Two Weeks Early Following Significant Early Season Snowfall



53" of snowfall has fallen over the past week, with more snow in the forecast.

- *Opening day will feature top-to-bottom skiing and riding and 326 acres of terrain.*
- *The best way to ski and ride at Kirkwood, Heavenly, and Northstar in Tahoe, and at resorts around the world, is with an Epic Pass. Last chance to purchase is Dec. 6.*

Photos and broll of current conditions and snowfall at Kirkwood areavailable here and approved for media use. Please provide credit to Carly Mangan/Kirkwood Mountain Resort.

KIRKWOOD, Calif. - Nov. 20, 2026 – Thanks to a strong start to winter in the High Sierra, Kirkwood Mountain Resort will open for the 2026/27 ski and ride season on Monday, Nov. 23, nearly two weeks ahead of its original target opening date. The early opening follows a series of powerful November storms that delivered more than four feet of snowfall over the past week, with even more snow forecasted for the days ahead. Combined with the efforts of the resort's snowmaking team, Kirkwood is excited to welcome skiers and riders back to the mountain.

Opening day at Kirkwood will feature top-to-bottom skiing and riding, with Chairs 5, 6, and 7 spinning from 9 am to 4 pm. Chairs 5 and 6 will provide access to some of the resort's most popular intermediate through expert terrain, while Chair 7 in Timber Creek will serve dedicated beginner and learning slopes. In total, guests will have access to 326 acres of skiable and rideable terrain on opening day. With even more snowfall in the forecast, Kirkwood expects to expand terrain offerings across the mountain as quickly as conditions allow.

"It's always exciting to get the season underway, but being able to open this early is a huge win for our guests and a testament to both the strong start to winter and the hard work our teams have put in across the mountain," said Ricky Newberry, general manager of Kirkwood Mountain Resort. "Opening with top-to-bottom skiing and riding and 326 acres of terrain is a great way to kick off the season. Our sights are set on opening the rest of our frontside and Timber Creek lifts and terrain as quickly as conditions allow. We can't wait to have everyone back on the mountain with us."

Guests visiting Kirkwood this season can expect legendary snowfall, steep and challenging terrain, and the authentic, old-school mountain culture that has made Kirkwood a favorite among skiers and riders for generations. The season will also feature a full lineup of events, from holiday celebrations and freeride competitions to signature traditions like Banked Slalom and Slush Cup.

Whether you're planning a few days on the mountain or skiing and riding all season long, the Epic Pass remains the best way to access Kirkwood, Heavenly, and Northstar, along with world-class destinations including Whistler Blackcomb, Vail, Breckenridge, and more. Epic Passes are on sale now, and the last chance to purchase this winter is Dec. 6.

For the latest information on snow, conditions, terrain openings, and resort operations, visit kirkwood.com, the My Epic app, or follow Kirkwood's social media channels.

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