

COLORADO SKI COUNTRY RESORTS IMPROVE for 2019-20

DENVER, CO – Member ski areas of Colorado Ski Country USA (CSCUSA) were busy this past summer and early fall working across the state on significant capital infrastructure improvements, new lodging options, dining experiences and more.

In addition to improvements that seasoned skiers and riders will enjoy, CSCUSA members are also offering a wide variety of guest enhancements and learning options that brand-new skiers and riders or those returning the sport after some time away will be excited about this winter. Many will debut enhanced or remodeled rental shops including clothing rental options.

Below is a summary of the many resort improvements at some of CSCUSA ski areas for the 2019-20 ski season.

Arapahoe Basin Ski Area

After completing a 468-acre terrain expansion into the Beavers and the Steep Gullies last season, including the new four-person Beavers chairlift, A-Basin is continuing to upgrade its facilities. This will be the first full season of Il Rifugio, the highest lift-served restaurant in North America at just over 12,500 feet, serving charcuterie boards, wine, espresso and stunning views of the Continental Divide. A-Basin will also have newly remodeled bathrooms in the basement of the main lodge.

For the 2019-20 season, A-Basin has changed its pass partnerships in an effort to reduce ski and snowboard visits on weekends and holidays and to improve the quality of the guest experience. A-Basin can now be accessed on a limited basis on the Ikon Pass, Ikon Base Pass and Mountain Collective Pass. The only way to ski A-Basin more than 7 days without blackout dates is to purchase an A-Basin season pass for the 2019-20 season. For more information, visit www.arapahoebasin.com.

Aspen Snowmass

Guests at Snowmass can now enjoy a new Italian restaurant located at 10,620 feet at the top of Sam's Knob. The new Sam's, a \$2.5 million remodel, will feature a modern Italian concept that will offer diners sweeping views of the Elk Mountains and a sophisticated and lively food experience. All

Aspen Snowmass food and beverage outlets will be straw free in 2019-20.

Visitors to Aspen Mountain will find a new 730-square-foot Four Mountain Sports rental shop located in the new W Hotel at the base of Aspen Mountain. The Aspen Snowmass App will also feature increased rewards, including a \$15 food and beverage credit valid at on-mountain restaurants, \$10 credit at Four Mountain Sports, \$25 off Ski and Snowboard School lessons as well as exclusive access to all things Aspen Snowmass. Guests may also encounter employees on electric snowmobiles as Aspen Snowmass introduces Taiga Motor electric snowmobiles into its fleet as part of ongoing sustainability efforts.

The Little Nell, adjacent to Aspen Mountain, after undergoing a remodel in the spring of 2019, celebrates its 30th Anniversary with events throughout the winter. The 10-year, \$600 million Snowmass Base Village Development continues after the opening of the Limelight Hotel in 2018-19. A new community center, the Collective, will open in December 2019 featuring a new restaurant, Mix6, the Moxibar and a community lounge and game area. For more information, visit www.aspensnowmass.com.

Copper Mountain

Open for the 2019-20 season, Copper Mountain visitors can explore 273 acres of expert terrain on Tucker Mountain with the new Three Bears chairlift. This three-person fixed grip lift, topping out at 12,421 feet, will access terrain that was previously accessible only via snowcat or hiking. It provides stunning views of the surrounding area. Guests can enjoy a warming hut at the top of the lift and bathrooms at the bottom.

Copper Mountain has begun construction on a new 127-room, four-story hotel with anticipated completion as early as 2020. Located in a portion of the Chapel parking lot, the Creekside Hotel will feature an outdoor patio nestled along West Ten Mile Creek complete with fire pits and hot tubs, giving guests a chance to unwind and soak in the views after a day on the slopes. For more info, visit www.coppercolorado.com.

Loveland Ski Area

A year after debuting the new Chet's Dream chairlift, Loveland is partnering with the Colorado Department of Transportation's Snowstang for the upcoming season. A roundtrip ticket on the new direct bus service will cost \$25 with discounts for seniors, children and disabled passengers. Guests can be picked up at Union Station in Denver and the Denver Federal Center. Snowstang will run on weekends starting Dec. 12 and will run through mid-April, 2020, with some holidays. This is an easy means of transportation for Denver visitors who would like a day of skiing without driving concerns.

Families visiting Loveland for the first time can take advantage of the Family Private Lesson to learn together in a relaxed, noncompetitive environment as a family. For more info, visit www.skiloveland.com.

Purgatory Resort

Purgatory now offers free ski and snowboard lessons to all first-time skiers and riders of all ages. Children 10 and younger are eligible for a free season pass through the Power Kids program. Young adults up to 36 will also receive discounted season passes. For more info, visit www.skipurg.com.

Steamboat Ski Resort

Guests visiting Steamboat this winter will enjoy the new gondola, which increases uphill capacity from the base area by nearly 40 percent. The new gondola will also provide a more seamless experience with gondola cabins flush to the ground allowing riders to walk straight on as opposed to stepping up to get into the cabin. Ride time will be reduced from 12 minutes to under 10 minutes. Also new for 2019-20, Ikon passholders will have access to night skiing Thursday to Monday from December through March.

Guests in need of rental equipment will experience the newly refurbished and expanded Steamboat Sports in the base area. This created an improved rental process and more retail offerings. Visitors can also look forward to a full season of the Taco Beast, Steamboat's roaming snowcat turned food truck. Visit www.steamboat.com.

Telluride Ski Resort

Guests to Telluride will find 40 new acres of north-facing gladed terrain around Lift 9 this winter. This new tree skiing is for advanced and expert skiers. It includes new natural steep chutes and rock drops.

Guests can download Telluride's new app that includes up-to-the-minute lift status information, snow reporting, trail status, an interactive trail map, push notifications and more. Visit www.tellurideskiresort.com.

Winter Park Resort

A new six-person Sunnyside chair for the 2019-20 season replaced the old 3-person fixed grip chair in one of the most popular areas of the resort. The \$6 million upgrade reduces ride time from eight minutes to less than four minutes and reduce lift lines at the bottom of Parsenn Bowl. Beginning this season, Winter Park will offer guests guided off mountain adventures like nighttime experiences or backcountry skiing or riding. For more info, visit www.winterparkresort.com.

Wolf Creek Ski Area

Wolf Creek is celebrating its 80th birthday this winter. A new run, Orion's Beltway, offers beginners and intermediates a new option when exploring the mountain. The new Powderroom provides season pass holders the option of renting a locker for the season. The Raven's Nest, a modern two-story restaurant located at the top of the Raven Lift, was upgraded with a new sunroom in the lower level. The remodel opens space and creates a more vibrant area for the new Raven's Grill Café, which sports a new menu. For more information, visit www.wolfcreekski.com.

Colorado Ski Country USA (CSCUSA) is the not-for-profit trade association representing Colorado's 23 ski and snowboard resorts. Among the Association's primary functions are marketing and public relations.

Info about CSCUSA and its members can be found at www.ColoradoSki.com, on Twitter @ColoradoSkiUSA and on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/ColoradoSkiCountryUSA.

This release has been edited due to space considerations, the complete info can be found in the online press room at: <http://ColoradoSki.com/Media>.

CRESTED BUTTE LODGING HAS MORE VALUE for LESS DOLLARS

CRESTED BUTTE, CO – Many people travel far and wide to discover the bounty of beauty that is Crested Butte in every season. With so many things to do in Crested Butte, and even more places to stay, choosing might be the hardest part. From rustic retreats to hot tub havens, Crested Butte Lodging is there to help you sort through the variety of options and find just the right experience for your trip.

1. Ski-in/Ski-Out at Axtel Condominiums

Living up to the definition of ski-in/ski-out, Axtel Condos are conveniently located in Village Center and sit at the base of the Silver Queen lift, a high-speed chairlift that rises to the longest runs resort-wide. Each one- to three-bedroom unit comes furnished with a wood-burning fireplace, private balcony, kitchen and a common area to store your skis and gear. After a full day on the slopes, grab a cold one from the Avalanche Bar and Grill, the Avy as locals know it, and finish up with a dip in Axtel's outdoor hot tub.

2. Black Bear Lodge, a Rustic Retreat

With its exposed lodgepole beams, an imposing stone fireplace, stone-flanked surfaces and jetted master bath, Black Bear Lodge delivers rustic mountain luxury. Each two-, three- or four-bedroom Gold Plus-rated condominium includes access to a large outdoor hot tub and its stunning down-valley views. Walk along the heated sidewalk as you make your way to the nearby WestWall lift. On the other hand, for the driving inclined, the heated underground garage keeps your vehicle free of ice and snow and ready for trips to the quaint Victorian town of Crested Butte.

3. Columbine:

Great Views Atop Mt. CB
Warning: This property is not for the faint-hearted. Perched higher on the mountain than any other resort on this list, Columbine boasts commanding views of the town and valley, and unrivaled slopeside access to skiing, hiking and biking trails. Condos vary in size and range from one to three bedrooms; some even include a charming loft with additional beds. Each unit features a wood-burning fireplace and full kitchen, while each rental includes access to the shared sauna, steam room, gas grill and outdoor hot tub, perfect for clear-night soaks watching the lights of historic Crested Butte

sparkle and compete with the shimmer of an endless diamond sky.

4. Central Slopeside Locale at Buttes

If you are hoping to strap on your gear, walk out the door and commence open-air activity in three minutes or less, look no further than Buttes. Offering one- to three-bedroom condos, each with its own private entry and balcony, fireplace and in-unit washer/dryer, this ski-in/ski-out sanctuary also serves as an excellent basecamp for all things Crested Butte. On the mountain, you can select from the two express quad chairlifts, Red Lady or Silver Queen; which one will be lucky enough to carry you up, up and away? On your return to the base, stop by The Bakery/Brown Labrador Pub for \$1 pizza slices and a bev of drink specials. You cannot get more central than this.

5. Panoramas Aplenty at Wood Creek Lodge

Blooming wildflowers in the summer, rich red and gold foliage in fall and snow-capped summits in the winter,

Crested Butte's bounty of beauty is visible round-the-clock to guests of Wood Creek Lodge. Offering modern amenities and a private balcony to marvel at the mighty view, each unit also comes equipped with a full kitchen and wood-burning fireplace. In true Colorado fashion, spend some time roasting marshmallows by the new fire pit or take a dip in the open-air hot tub. The WestWall and Peachtree lifts are just 50 yards out.

More fine Crested Butte Lodging opportunities will be showcased in the Dec-Jan edition of SKIER NEWS. To see them now, log on to www.crestedbuttelodging.com

Still Want More?

For more, please visit www.CrestedButteLodging.com, which has more options for places to stay in Crested Butte.

View, read and share this page online and you can link from it also, at: www.skiernews.com/Oct2019-Colo.pdf

Plan to save, please call the good folks at Crested Butte Lodging at 1-888-620-SNOW (7669).



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