

MODERN LUXURY

ASPEN

MAGAZINE

INSIDER'S GUIDE 2022-2023

ASPEN
SNOWMASS
BASALT
CARBONDALE
GLENWOOD SPRINGS



Vantage Point

LOCALS SHARE THEIR
INSIDER TIPS FOR ENJOYING
OUTDOOR ADVENTURES,
DINING, SPAS, SHOPPING &
THE ARTS IN THE VALLEY

4

MOUNTAINS
IN 1 DAY

+

GUIDES TO
BIKING, SKIING,
HIKING & MORE

+

20 PARKS
TO VISIT

+

THE BEST APRÈS
HOT SPOTS

WHERE TO GET INSPIRED

ANDERSON RANCH ARTS CENTER

For the past 50-plus years, the Anderson Ranch Arts Center has acted as a cultural hub for Aspen's art community, enriching and inspiring renowned artists to constantly sharpen their tool box and think outside the lines. Tucked away in Snowmass Village, the Ranch celebrates the arts through creativity, service and community, hosting a variety of extensive workshops and more for established and emerging artists from all over the world. With absolutely no boundaries, the Ranch opens its doors to various mediums, including (but not limited to) photography and new media, ceramics, painting and drawing, woodworking, digital fabrication and beyond. 5263 Owl Creek Road, Snowmass Village, 970.923.3181, andersonranch.org

WHERE TO SHOP

EYE PIECES OF SNOWMASS

Since 1984, Eye Pieces has been clearing Colorado's vision with its range of luxury optical, sun and snow eyewear, all available with prescription optics. Its Snowmass location is nestled in the heart of Base Village, just steps away from the ice-skating rink, gondola and famous local bites. Schedule an eye exam with the brand's multifaceted expert opticians for a personalized shopping experience, or come browse some of the best brands including Chrome Hearts, Moncler, Jacques Marie Mage, Oakley, Oliver Peoples and many more. 49 Wood Road, #407, Snowmass, 970.923.2020, myeyepieces.com

PERFORMANCE SKI

Locals know that ski season brings an entirely new style to play, and the experts at Performance Ski have just what it takes to keep you safe—and stylish—on the slopes. From ski suits and insulated jackets to helmets and gloves, the store boasts the best and brightest of European skiwear with brands like Authier, Kjus, Fusalp, Frauenschuh, Aztech and more. 110 Carriage Way, Snowmass, 970.922.0697, performanceskiaspen.com

SNOWMASS

LOCAL COLOR/LOCAL REBELS

Two great stores in one location? Don't mind if we do. Situated in downtown Snowmass, the shop boasts an impressive array of contemporary lines (think Free People, Johnny Was, AG Denim and more), home decor as well as tons of collectibles and souvenir-ready finds for residents and guests alike. For something a bit closer to home, browse from local art collections, pottery, jewelry, hand-etched crystal, Colorado slate and photography. 60 Snowmass Mall, Snowmass Village, 970.923.6058

GORSUCH

For over 50 years, this family business has brought cutting-edge styles to the shelves with its vast selections of men's and women's clothing, ski apparel, footwear, accessories and home goods. Shop from designers like Brunello Cucinelli, Canada Goose, Flexpower, Zimmermann and so many more. With new fall and ski styles soon to release, Gorsuch has just what you need to revamp your seasonal style. 49 Village Square, Snowmass Village, 970.923.9673, gorsuch.com

The 7,000-square-foot Spa at Viceroy Snowmass is the ultimate oasis with an impressive lineup of holistic spa treatments and services.



From top: Viceroy Snowmass sits at the base of Snowmass Mountain; from show to shine, Limelight Hotel Snowmass provides an ample amount of amenities and access to the plaza.

luxury vehicle rentals, horseback riding and mountain biking in the summer, it's the best of both worlds for everyone. For those wanting to just take in the view, the Viceroy also has a few indoor tricks up its sleeve. From the 7,000-square-foot spa with a wide range of holistic treatments to private yoga instruction to a mouthwatering lineup of culinary experiences (Nest Bar & Grill and Toro Kitchen & Lounge are absolute musts), the Viceroy is nothing less than a winter—and summer—wonderland. 130 Wood Road, Snowmass Village, 970.923.8000, viceroyhotelsandresorts.com

LIMELIGHT HOTEL SNOWMASS

Taking center stage in Snowmass Village, find your home away from home at Limelight Hotel Snowmass. With no shortage of space, the resort showcases 99 guest rooms and 11 residences, with luxurious amenities to match. Spend time at the five-story indoor climbing wall (don't worry, there's also three self-belay routes), or grab the kids, some skates and head out to Snowmass Village's ice-skating rink in the plaza right outside of the Limelight's doors. 65 Wood Road, Snowmass, 970.924.5100, limelighthotels.com

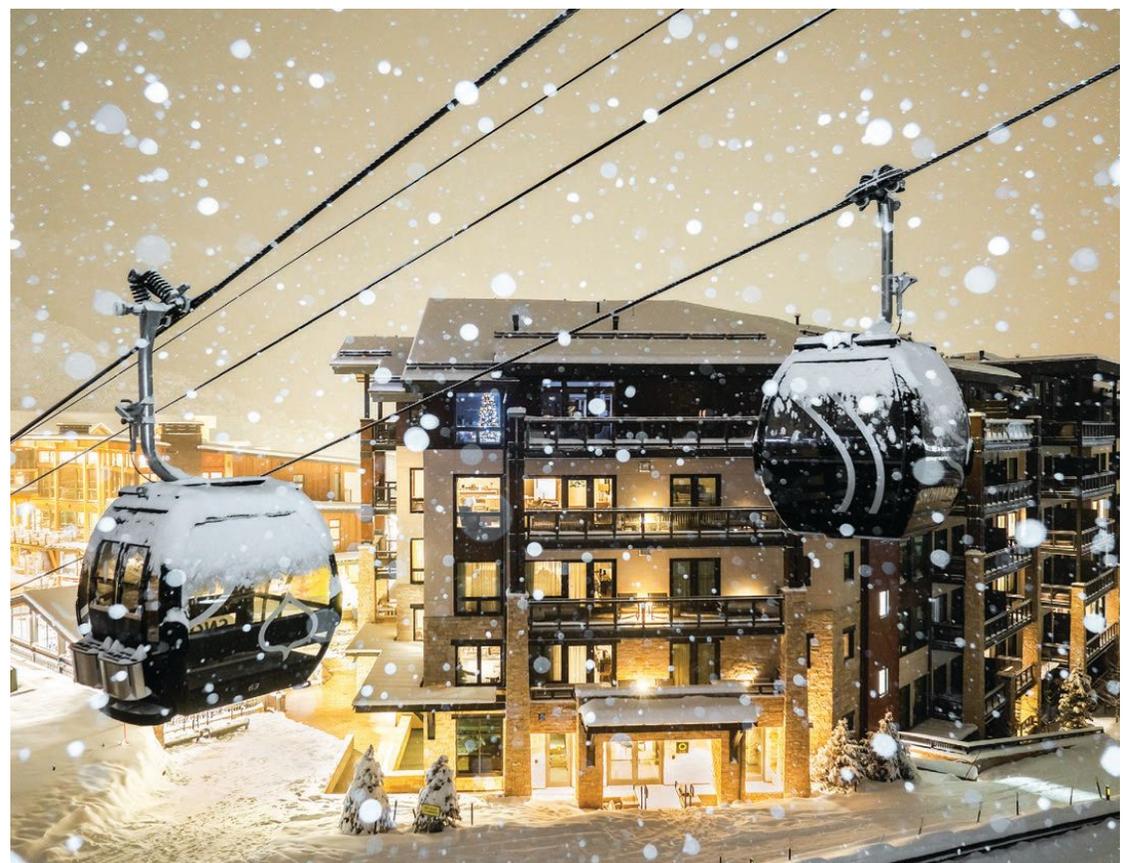
WHERE TO STAY

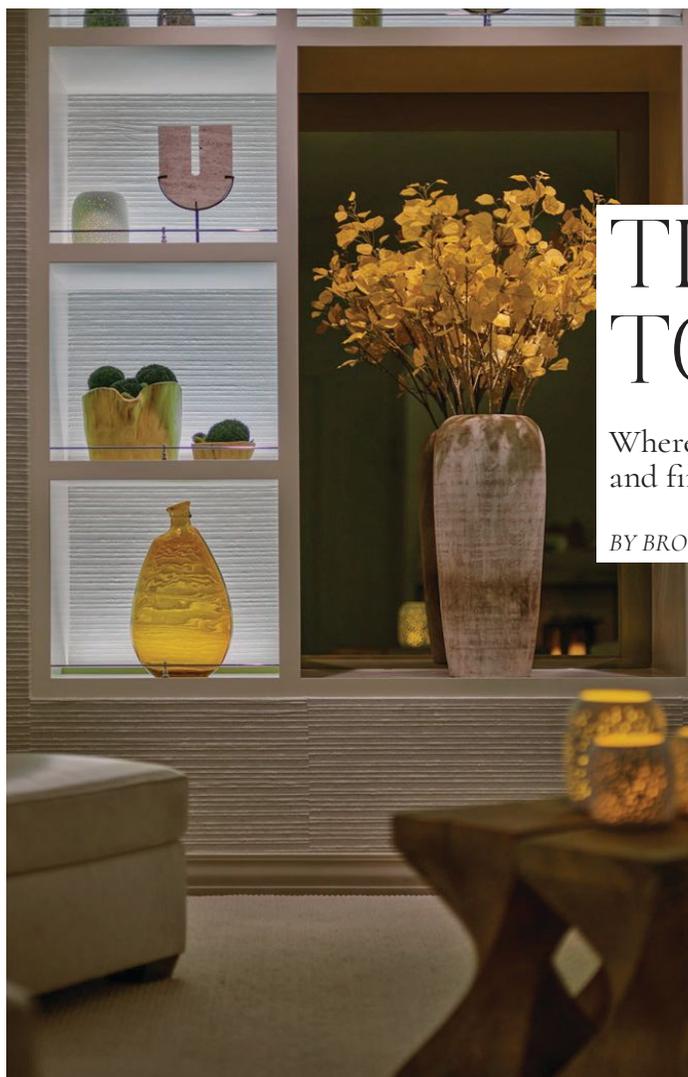
VIEWLINE RESORT SNOWMASS

Nothing less than a slopeside sanctuary, Viewline Resort Snowmass is just steps away from the town's best hiking, skiing and more. With everything from classic guest rooms to ski-in, ski-out and penthouse suites available, bring the whole family or sneak off on a romantic weekend for two. Inside the resort, unwind at the Lupine Spa (offering massages, body services and facials), or indulge in delicious bites and sips from Stark's Alpine Grill, Viewline Lobby Bar and First Chair coffee house. 100 Elbert Lane, Snowmass Village, 970.923.8200, viewlineressortsnowmass.com

VICEROY SNOWMASS

Viceroy Snowmass effortlessly fuses opulence with the outdoors as the town's only luxury resort. Located at the base of Snowmass Mountain, this ski-in, ski-out resort has no shortage of outside activities. From skiing and snowboarding, powder tours and dogsledding in the winter (just to name a few) to hot air balloon tours,





TIME TO SPA

Where to relax, unwind and find your Zen

BY BROOKE ELY DANIELSON

The Yarrow Spa menu includes various massages (think herbal stone, green recovery, custom botanical and more), facials and body treatments.

From luxury spas to natural vapor caves, the Roaring Fork Valley hosts some of the

best spas for ultimate relaxation and rest. From traditional spa treatments to spiritual awakenings, these options will entice you to slow down and take a beat between experiencing the sights and sounds.

Remède Spa, The St. Regis Aspen Resort

This luxe and classic spa experience never fails. You'll want to spend all day relaxing in the hot tub, plunging in the cold pool, sipping Champagne in the waiting room and enjoying one of the many oxygen machines, coupled with warm blankets and lounge chairs at Remède at The St. Regis (marriott.com).

Spa at The Viceroy Snowmass

Find inner healing at the Jean-Michel Gathy-designed spa within the Viceroy Snowmass (viceroyhotelsandresorts.com). This is a spa that celebrates spirit through holistic wellness therapies. Take a pre- or postmassage dip in the hot tub and take in the calming vibes of the beautiful and serene setting. This is a great spa for those looking to balance mind, body and spirit.

True Nature Healing Arts

In true form, True Nature Healing Arts (truenaturehealingarts.com) promotes self-care and offers

holistic treatments at its spa located downvalley in Carbondale. This oasis is ideal for a full-day immersion into the divine practice of the present, mindfulness and total relaxation. Enjoy one of the signature facials or massages followed by a plant-based snack and herbal tea in the cafe.

Yampah Spa and Vapor Caves

For a full-on spiritual journey, step inside Yampah Spa and Vapor Caves (yampahspa.com), the only known natural vapor caves in North America. This small but mighty spa sits just off the highway in Glenwood Springs where the caves once served as the go-to healing spot for the Ute Indians centuries ago. Go for a traditional massage or opt for the strawberry body wrap to help detox and calm the body. Make sure to visit the caves first for a steam and then relax in the solarium before your chosen treatment.

Yarrow Spa, Hotel Jerome

The Yarrow Spa at Hotel Jerome (aubergeresorts.com/hoteljerome) is intimate, dreamy and dim. Enjoy a foot cleanse before your treatment in the quiet and calming waiting room complete with spa water and healthy snacks. This wellness oasis is the perfect place to get grounded in the present and relax in the now.



Health + Wellness

effects of being at high altitude. 330 E. Main St., 970.920.1000, hoteljerome.aubergeresorts.com

Fahrenheit Body Spa in Willits

Fahrenheit Body Spa in Willits promotes wellness and health from the inside out. With a surplus of treatments and services available, this healing spa is sure to support and enhance your physical, mental and emotional well-being. Dip your toes in float therapy, whole-body cryotherapy, facials, massages, acupuncture and more. 241 Robinson St., Unit C-106, Basalt, 970.315.1234, fahrenheitbodyspas.com

Full Circle

Along with mobile massage and fitness services like yoga, the full-service beauty bar offers hair, makeup, nails and wedding beauty.

117 Spring St., 970.923.3302, fullcircleaspen.com

Heaven on Earth: A High Altitude Day Spa

A massage therapist and esthetician, owner Pila Xian takes pride in her Zen and luxurious spa. She draws her inspiration and knowledge from the traditions of Hawaii, Thailand and Japan, as well as Western practices. 205 S. Mill St., 970.925.2278, heavenonearthaspen.com

The Little Nell Health Center

Enjoy a massage or facial in one of the center's three treatment rooms, or take advantage of in-room spa services if you are a guest. 675 E. Durant Ave., 970.920.4600, thelittlenell.com

Lupine Spa-Viewline Resort Snowmass

An array of massage and other spa services await

you at Lupine Spa. Feel transported and renewed with a traditional Abhyanga massage or relieve stress with a Sundari Indian head massage and scalp treatment. 100 Elbert Lane, 970.923.8200, viewlineressortssnowmass.com

NeuroSpa

Offering spa procedures, skincare and nourishing products for the whole body and brain health, the NeuroSpa was voted No. 1 Best Spa in *Aspen Times*. Relax with a massage or get glowing skin with a facial. 426 E. Main St., Ste. 1A, 970.429.8909, theneurospa.com

O2 Spa

Studio, spa, boutique and nutrition—O2 Spa takes a holistic approach to health. Featuring yoga, aerial yoga, Pilates and personal training, this spa also offers facials, microdermabrasion and medical-grade and organic

products. 408 S. Mill St., 970.925.4002, ozaspen.com

Red Spa

From facials and laser hair removal to eyelash extensions and waxing, Red Spa has everything you need. Owner Colleen Delia has operated the business in Aspen for 20 years and has an impressive background in cosmetology and skincare. 205 S. Mill St., Ste. 223, 970.925.4648, redspaaspen.com

Remède Spa

This sanctuary treats guests to Champagne, an oxygen bar, a confluence waterfall and exquisite treatments. 315 E. Dean St., 970.920.3300, stregisaspen.com

Snowmass Club Spa

This spa combines serenity with salt scrubs, high-altitude hydrating facials, body peels and hot stone massages. Enjoy the club's fitness facilities,

outdoor pools, steam rooms and saunas too. 239 Snowmass Club Circle, Snowmass Village, 970.923.5600, snowmassclub.com

The Spa at Viceroy Snowmass

This 7,000-square-foot spa offers everything from rituals inspired by ancient Ute, Nordic and Asian ceremonies and cultures to traditional massages and facials. 130 Wood Road, Snowmass Village, 970.923.8007, viceroyhotelsandresorts.com

Suite Reyad Salon

After a successful winter pop-up in the St. Regis, the top-notch hair colorists Reyad and Kylie Williard Fritas decided to open a permanent shop. The inviting setting is the perfect place to get your hair done while feeling at home. 315 E. Dean St., suitereyad.com

True Nature Healing Arts

Surrounded by a tranquil peace garden, this Zen spot is home to an ayurvedic spa, a tea room and yoga classes. Along with conventional massages, True Nature offers acupuncture, facials and vibrational color sessions. 100 N. Third St., Carbondale, 970.963.9900, truenaturehealingarts.com

SKINCARE

Cos Bar

Discover world-class makeup, fragrances, hair products and more for women and men. 309 S. Galena St., 970.925.6249, cosbar.com

Yarrow Spa's serene space is filled with clean lines, plush furnishings and inspiring light fixtures.



ON A ROLL

Sushi, sashimi, tempura, oh my! Aspen's Asian fusion scene has never been hotter thanks to restaurants like Matsuhisa, Jing and Kenichi.

BY ALEX HAZEN



It's no secret that Aspen is home to a surplus of world-class culinary finds. In fact, this little mountain town is somewhat of a magnet for the best chefs, restaurants and recipes in the industry—and the realm of Japanese cuisine is no exception. From savory sushi rolls to flavorful rice and noodles, these three standout Asian fusion restaurants are an absolute must-try this fall.

MATSUHISA

In the world of Japanese dining, the name Nobu speaks for itself. Expanding on the delectable essence of chef Nobu Matsuhisa's original Beverly Hills restaurant, Matsuhisa Aspen specializes in hot and cold dishes, sushi and sashimi, specialty tempura, sushi rolls and more. Located inside a 120-year-old Victorian house on Main Street, the eatery offers seating downstairs in the main dining room complete with a natural walnut bar, bamboo-wrapped ceilings and sushi bar or upstairs in its indoor and seasonal outdoor seating for a more casual setting with an intimate sushi bar. No matter where, and what, you choose, we guarantee it will be delicious. 303 E. Main St., 970.544.6628, matsuhisarestaurants.com

JING

Jing Aspen brings global fusion cuisine—with a focus on prime steaks, sushi and seafood—to the table. As one of the highest-rated restaurants in the valley, this award-winning spot features products from locally sourced, organic farms and takes shape with an intimate atmosphere infused with fire and water features. Spearheaded by executive chef Frank Lu, chow down on favorites like the Lucky 8 dumpling sampler with Kobe beef, lobster, black cod prawn and spinach; truffle shrimp dumplings; Thai basil free-range chicken; and so much more. Don't forget to pair your meal with a glass from Jing's extensive and innovative collection of over 300 wines and bubbly. 413 E. Main St., 970.920.9988, jingrestaurant.com

KENICHI

With two locations in the Roaring Fork Valley (visit Aspen or Snowmass) and its expanded Izakaya Carbondale, it's safe to say Kenichi is a locals favorite when craving a sushi dinner. On the menu? Choose from a variety of specialty plates like the pan-seared Japanese scallops, Baja red snapper, Snake River wagyu beef bites and more. If sushi rolls are more your style, reach for the Godzilla with broiled eel, cucumber, avocado, strawberry and teriyaki sauce, or keep it light with the Greentail made with yellowtail, tempura asparagus, scallions, avocado, serrano and basil yuzu *sou*. 533 E. Hopkins Ave., 970.920.2212; 110 Carriage Way, Ste. 3101, Snowmass Village, 970.429.8242, kenichiaspen.com

Dining

320 S. Galena St., 970.925.7585,
paradisebakeryaspen.com

Spring Cafe

The wide selection of vegan and gluten-free dishes are made from organic ingredients. The lunchtime hot spot offers healthy and delicious options for breakfast and lunch. Try the ever-popular Highlands bowl or Blanca sandwich. 119 S. Spring St., 970.429.8406, springcafe.org

SNOWMASS AMERICAN

The Artisan

Dine on the patio and enjoy a seasonal menu that boasts unique, gourmet dishes. Try one of the innovative cocktails and don't miss the Thursday night magic shows by Doc Eason. 300 Carriage Way, 970.923.2427, stonebridgeinn.com

Aurum Food & Wine

With beloved locations already established in Steamboat and Breckenridge, Aurum Food & Wine makes its way to Snowmass this winter. Stop by for happy hour sips and sweets, shared bites and traditional main courses. 110 Carriage Way, 970.429.4906, aurumaspensnowmass.com

The Bar at

Wildwood Snowmass

Gather at the beer hall for 10 pours of Colorado's New Belgium Brewery creations on tap. The lounge seating and fireside tables make for an excellent après-ski hangout. 40 Elbert Lane, 970.923.8400, wildwoodsnowmass.com

Base Camp Bar & Grill

Between the gondola and Village Express is the perfect lunchtime meeting place, with local bands and DJs providing entertainment.

The menu blends bar fare with fine-dining options from a list of chef specials. 73 Wood Road, 970.923.6000, basecampsnowmass.com

Big Hoss Grill

The family-style resto is open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Try the Memphis Belle sandwich with Big Hoss BBQ sauce and a side of chipotle macaroni and cheese. 45 Village Square, 970.923.2597, bighossgrill.com

Black Saddle Bar & Grille

Dine with a view at this Western-style lunch stop on the Snowmass Club golf course. Build your own burger or try the Black Saddle Club, with turkey, Swiss, bacon and fixings on sourdough bread. 446 Clubhouse Drive, 970.923.9190, snowmassclub.com

Krabloonik

Delight in wild game and

fresh seafood as well as signature items like the baked brie with lingonberry jam. During the winter, adventure on a dog-sled dinner ride, complete with a four-course meal. In the summer, take a tour of the kennels. 4250 Divide Road, 970.923.3953, krabloonik.com

Little Mammoth

The family-owned steakhouse serves steaks on Himalayan salt blocks. The chicken, pork, lamb and fish dishes are best complemented by the signature cocktails, like the Mammoth margarita or acai berry caipirinha. 315 Carriage Way, 970.923.8892, littlemammothsteakhouse.com

Stark's Alpine Gill (in Viewline Resort Snowmass)

Eat slopeside in Viewline Resort Snowmass. The grill

produces American steakhouse classics—like a shrimp cocktail as a starter and filet mignon for an entree—using locally sourced ingredients. 100 Elbert Lane, 970.923.8301, viewlineressortsnowmass.com

The Stew Pot

Soups and stews are the specialty. Unhook your skis and enjoy the selection of sandwiches and salads. Try the old-fashioned beef stew or veggie chili. 62 Elbert Lane, 970.923.2263

Toro Kitchen & Lounge

South American flavors blend into an array of pan-Latin-inspired cuisine prepared with locally sourced ingredients from the Rockies. Acclaimed chef-restaurateur Richard Sandoval curates a menu selection of small plates, a la carte grilled meats, ceviche and more. 130 Wood Road, 970.928.8008,

viceroysresort.com

FUSION

The Edge

Chef Jason DeBacker blends traditional German, Swiss and French cuisine with the mountains. The farm-to-table cheese fondue, homemade sausage and schnitzel are served in generous portions. 690 Carriage Way, 970.923.4004, theedgesnowmass.com

ITALIAN

Il Poggio

Enjoy a variety of signature dishes like the sweet potato and goat cheese ravioli, pizzeta and gnocchi with veal tenderloin and truffle butter. 57 Elbert Lane, 970.923.4292

Slice of Italy

This slopeside restaurant's signature flatbreads and pizzas are topped with



Chica Aspen's
embered anticuchos

PHOTO COURTESY OF 50 EGGS HOSPITALITY GROUP

Where To Stay

DESIGN-FORWARD HOTELS

From Aspen to Carbondale, these 11 top hotels invite you to rest your head in style.

BY LINDA HAYES



Aspen Street Lodge's penthouse living room. Opposite page, from top: W Hotel's stacked queen bunk guest room; Hotel Jerome offers an array of suites and guest rooms.

W ASPEN

This 88-room slopeside hot spot is a mix of old and new Aspen. Designed by local architecture firm Rowland+Broughton, the exterior is a modern interpretation of iconic ski chalets. Colorful, ubercontemporary interiors scream fun, while luxe guest rooms—some with custom bunk bed systems—offer respite. Rooftop WET Deck, including a pool, hot tub, fire pits, bar and DJ, is an all-season party scene. 550 Spring St., 970.431.0800, marriott.com

THE LITTLE NELL

Cementing its reputation for high-level everything, this Relais & Chateaux hotel at the base of Aspen Mountain is a stunner. Seek out The Board Room, a private speakeasy hidden behind a bookshelf (you need a password to enter), the winter Wine Bar inspired by Paris, NYC and Beverly Hills bars, and dinner at Element 47. Lounge in the newly renovated Living Room by Luis Bustamante Interior Design of Spain. 675 E. Durant Ave., 970.920.4600, thelittlenell.com

ASPEN MEADOWS RESORT

This low-key resort hotel (recently taken over by Salamander Hotels & Resorts) on the Aspen Institute campus embodies local Bauhaus character. Key buildings, including the Walter Isaacson Center, feature expanses of glass, cantilevered

balconies and simple geometric shapes. Ninety-eight guest suites are slated for a refresh this fall by Florida-based Suomi Design Works. 845 Meadows Road, 855.516.1090, aspenmeadows.com

HOTEL JEROME

A recent expansion-renovation of Aspen's historic 1889 crown jewel by Rowland+Broughton Architects included a new contemporary residential suites building, the redesign of the central courtyard-pool-dining area and the transformation of the neighboring historic Aspen Times Building into the popular Bad Harriet speakeasy. 330 E. Main St., 855.331.7213, aubergeresorts.com

ASPEN STREET LODGE

Local architects Forum Phi designed the four-level lodge to mesh with its surroundings, specifying light stone and charred *shou sugi ban* wood for the exterior. Dallas interior designer Debra Owens outfitted the nine bedrooms and two-bedroom penthouse with uniquely playful furnishings. Amenities include a rooftop patio with a hot tub and pool. 200 S. Aspen St., 970.989.3090, aspenstreetlodge.com

LIMELIGHT HOTEL ASPEN

Against a natural palette mixed with earthy

wood tones, NYC-based Stonehill Taylor's custom design detailing references Aspen's active mountain lifestyle. Layered textures and natural materials combine with metallic accents. Hints of bright color add a contemporary aesthetic. In addition to all 126 rooms and suites, the renovation touches the lobby, bar and lounge. 355 S. Monarch St., 970.925.3025, limelighthotel.com

THE ST. REGIS ASPEN RESORT

Just steps away from Aspen's signature slopes, this classic hotel features 179 alpine-chic rooms and suites with custom furnishings and marble bathrooms. Don't miss the "rustic elegant" Velvet Buck restaurant or a dip in the "confluence" (warm and cool dip pools and waterfall walls) at the 1,500-square-foot Remède Spa. 315 E. Dean St., 970.920.6783, stregisaspen.com

VIEWLINE RESORT SNOWMASS

A recent multimillion-dollar renovation refreshed this ski-in, ski-out hotel from top to bottom. Guest rooms emphasize color and comfort; public spaces shine. Highlights include the new ayurvedic-focused Lupine Spa and tavern-style Stark's Alpine Grill. The stunning Lobby Bar overlooks the village and slopes. 100 Elbert Lane, Snowmass Village, 888.236.2427, marriott.com



Residences is nestled near the base of Aspen Mountain, and the Colorado-inspired architecture makes it blend seamlessly into the picturesque backdrop. All the rooms incorporate stone, wood, marble and granite, and some of the rooms feature their own outdoor hot tub. There are 35 unique floor plans among 50 units, and guests can choose between condominiums of one, two, three and four bedrooms. The hotel offers complimentary service to all the four mountains nearby. *415 E. Dean St., 970.429.9100, aspen.hyatt.com*

Aspen Street Lodge

Whether you're hosting an event or staying for the weekend, the Aspen Street Lodge has just the room for you. This intimate, residential-style living arrangement provides fun for the whole family. Amenities include an array of spacious rooms, penthouse suites and incredible interior design. *200 S. Aspen St., 970.989.3090, aspenstreetlodge.com*

Aspen Square Condominium Hotel

Renovated and reopened in December 2020, full hotel-style services, cozy wood-burning fireplaces and convenient fully equipped kitchens come standard in all of the hotel's 101 units. Its courtyard features a heated pool and two hot tubs. All the rooms are individually owned, ensuring that each maintains a unique design and appeal. The 500-square-foot studios comfortably sleep two people and feature a kitchen, while larger condominiums offer even more room. Access to the gondola across the street makes this location the perfect ski lodge. *617 E. Cooper Ave., 970.925.1000, aspensquarehotel.com*

Hearthstone House

One of Aspen's boutique hotels, the Hearthstone House features 16 Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired rooms. While the hotel is one of the smaller lodging options in town, it offers a range of amenities typical of a larger resort. Both an outdoor hot tub and indoor herbal steam room are on-site, and complimentary town cruisers run during the summer. Early birds can look forward to the continental breakfast. *134 E. Hyman Ave., 970.925.7632, hearthstonehouse.com*

Hotel Aspen

Large windows that showcase Aspen Mountain greet guests when they enter this iconic Aspen hotel. The upstairs includes a lounge and breakfast room, and the staff supplies a daily après-ski spread in the winter so you can look forward to a warm soup after your last run of the day. Junior suites incorporate separate sitting areas and two queen beds outfitted with the hotel's signature 300-thread-count sheets. Cushioned lounge chairs and fire pits lie on the perimeter of the year-round outdoor pool and hot tub. *110 W. Main St., 970.925.3441, hotelaspen.com*

Hotel Durant

Renovated in 2013, the Hotel Durant offers 19 individually designed and furnished guest rooms. The mountain aesthetic, custom furnishings and modern essentials offer a respite from the hustle and bustle of Aspen life. Après-ski wine and cheese attracts guests down to the lobby, a classic Hotel Durant hangout spot. *122 E. Durant Ave., 970.925.8500, durantaspens.com*

Hotel Jerome

The Hotel Jerome serves as more than just lodging; since its construction in 1889, it has served as the de facto

town hall, a place to meet associates, see celebrities, and eat and drink at one of its top-notch restaurants. The iconic Aspen hot spot models historic preservation, and elegant gestures toward its Rocky Mountain roots do not go unnoticed. The J Bar mixes saloon-esque style with culinary refinement, and its other restaurants offer some of the best food and beverage options in town. Don't miss the courtyard and pool area, renovated in summer 2018, and make a reservation at the brand-new underground Bad Harriet bar. *330 E. Main St., 855.331.7213, hoteljerome.aubergeresorts.com*

Independence Square

Located in the heart of Aspen in one of the town's most notable buildings, Independence Square is a collection of 25 individually owned units that nicely blur the line between condominium and hotel. Many of the units feature wet bars and full-range kitchens, while hotel-style amenities, like daily housekeeping, allow guests to relax during their stay. A hot tub with views of Aspen sits at the top of the building. *404 S. Galena St., 970.920.2313, friasproperties.com*

Inn at Aspen

The only ski-in, ski-out hotel at the base of Buttermilk means quick access to the mountain. With an outdoor heated pool and positioned just minutes from Aspen and Snowmass, it's great for groups and families. Home Team BBQ, the on-site restaurant, is worth the stay alone. *38750 Highway 82, 970.925.1500, innataspens.com*

The Innsbruck

Offering one- and two-bedroom condos on Main Street, the property includes a courtyard swimming pool, exercise room and



WILDWOOD SNOWMASS

Wildwood's new cozy-chic interior design concept features '60s retro-style furnishings and an edgy color palette. A new restaurant and beer hall, aptly named Last Chair, was inspired by the alpine setting. Lounge seating, corner and fireside tables are popular. *40 Elbert Lane, Snowmass Village, 970.923.8400, wildwoodsnowmass.com*

VICEROY SNOWMASS

Elevating Snowmass accommodations to the luxury level, this ski-in, ski-out hotel's LEED Gold certification also emphasizes its environmental consciousness. Original design by Denver's OZ Architecture and Jean-Michel Gathy of Denniston International suits the surroundings. Year-round amenities include the heated slopeside pool and Nest bar, a 7,000-square-foot spa and Richard Sandoval's Toro Kitchen & Lounge. *130 Wood Road, 970.923.8000, viceroysnowmass.com*

THE DISTILLERY INN

Within the sustainably minded craft Marble Distilling Company, this boutique luxury inn features five deluxe suites with all the comforts, along with contemporary details from rain showers to minibars. Make the 39-mile drive downvalley from Aspen for cocktails and spend the night. *150 Main St., Carbondale, 970.963.7008, marbledistilling.com*



APRÈS-SKI HOT SPOTS

First turns to final sips. BY KELLY J. HAYES

For some, skiing is about the thrill of that first turn. But for others, a perfect ski day begins when the first après-ski beer, cocktail or glass of wine is finally poured. Fortunately, in Aspen there are a plethora of ski-in bars and restaurants sitting slopeside at all four ski mountains. Just click your heels, leave your skis, and you're into the party.

The most prized real estate in the ski world can be found at Aspen Mountain, and both sides of the base feature après hot spots. To the left of the Gondola sits the patio of the venerable Ajax Tavern (thelittlenell.com/dine/ajax-tavern). The quintessential Aspen post-ski day destination, you can actually ski to within shouting distance of your table. Hosting your ski gang? How about a magnum of Château d'Esclans Rock Angel rosé for the table? Oh, and truffle fries are a must.

Feeling *en fuego* after ripping down Ruthies? On the west side of the Gondola Plaza is Chica (chicarestaurant.com/aspen), the Aspen outpost of the Miami and Las Vegas faves, which feature Latin American menus. Try a glass of sangria with the happy hour wagyu *birria* tacos on the patio by the fire pit or a Del Maguey Chichicapa Negroni, which mixes mezcal into the classic Italian cocktail at the outdoor bar.

Prefer to toast to your ski success with a fine wine? Then The Wine Bar in The Little Nell (thelittlenell.com/dine/wine-bar) is calling your name. Just steps from the slopes, the ultrachic and ultracozy space offers access to one of the best wine lists on planet Earth. By the glass or bottle service, making a selection from The Little Nell's *Wine Spectator* Grand Award

wine cellar can prove to be as much a challenge as skiing the Dumps.

Maybe the only thing better than conquering the G-zones in the Highland Bowl is bragging about it over a cold draft beer at a picnic table slopeside at the Highlands Ale House (highlandsalehouse.com). With 16 tap beers, a gastropub menu and casual local vibe that harkens back to the earlier days of skiing, the Ale House is the place to tell your tall tales to a crowd of just-met friends.

At Buttermilk, even beginner skiers and snowboarders can experience the joy of après. After a first day on the slopes, nothing is better than skiing straight to Home Team BBQ (hometeambbq.com) for a rum-based Gamechanger frozen cocktail with a dash of nutmeg on top. And there will be buzz this season about the \$23 million renovation of the Buttermilk base area, which includes the rebranded Buttermilk Mountain Lodge restaurant (formerly known as Bumps), and an expanded bar and slopeside outdoor patio aptly monikered The Backyard. Be the first to experience it.

Everything about Snowmass is bigger, beginning with the mountain. But at the bottom of the forever-runs, there are tiers for your après enjoyment. Start in the upper Village Mall at Venga Venga (eatvengavenga.com) for some guacamole made tableside, accompanied by a fiery, serrano-infused reposado tequila-based Pepino Margarita with a Tajin rim. Then ski a little farther down to the Base Village, pick out an ice-rink-side table at the Limelight Snowmass (limelighthotels.com/snowmass) and watch the skaters as you sip an Aspen 75, which marries Belvedere Vodka and Veve Clicquot Champagne for a potent post-ski libation.

Where To Stay



Aspen Street Lodge's rooftop pool serves up picture perfect views year-round.

the Snow Queen Victorian. Built in 1886 during the height of Aspen's silver boom, this family-run bed-and-breakfast charms guests with radiant-heat floors, private baths and complimentary breakfast. It's a quiet retreat from a hectic day in town. Three apartments at the Cooper Street Lofts are also available. *124 E. Cooper Ave., 409.200.5805, aspensnowmass.com*

Snowmass Mountain Chalet

This spot offers slopeside access, a spacious lounge, an outdoor heated pool, a hot tub and complimentary shuttle service to the airport. *115 Daly Lane, 970.923.3900, mountainchalet.com*

The St. Regis Aspen Resort

The property offers 179 luxurious rooms, making it the largest hotel in town. With that size, The St. Regis offers more amenities to guests than a traditional lodge. *Travel + Leisure* voted the expansive Remède Spa as the top spa in the world. Guests enjoy dining at two on-site restaurants, while the lobby's Mountain Social lounge is a lively place to enjoy cocktails and lighter fare. Your dog is more than welcome. *315 E. Dean St., 970.920.3300, marriott.com*

The Stonebridge Inn

The Stonebridge Inn, just off the Snowmass Mall, features an inviting lobby and rooms accented with wood finishings.

An outdoor heated pool and proximity to one of Snowmass' preeminent dining spots, The Artisan, are added benefits. *300 Carriage Way, 800.213.3214, destinationhotels.com*

Viceroy Snowmass

The Viceroy sits at the base of Snowmass Village, offering guests ski-in, ski-out access to SkiCo.'s largest mountain. Its lauded restaurants, including Toro, attract visitors from around the valley. A range of room sizes—from studios to four bedrooms—means the hotel can accommodate a party of any size. A 7,000-square-foot spa includes Ute-, Nordic- and Asian-inspired ceremonies. *130 Wood Road, 970.923.8000, viceroyhotelsandresorts.com*

The Viewline Snowmass: A Marriott Autograph Collection Hotel

After its multimillion-dollar transformation, the Westin Snowmass now welcomes you to the Viewline Snowmass. Inside, this slopeside sanctuary is complete with classic and premium guest rooms, suites, three dining experiences, a brand-new Lupine Spa, fitness center, pool and so much more. *100 Elbert Lane, 888.236.2427, marriott.com*

W Aspen and The Sky Residences at W Aspen

The new hotel and residences located slopeside on Aspen Mountain provide an exclusive ski-in, ski-out experience. The W Aspen offers 88 guest rooms and 11 W-branded

fractional residences available for ownership or rental, upon availability. Affording an expansive view of Aspen Mountain, the 6,000-square-foot rooftop bar and pool is an oasis for both locals and visitors. *550 S. Spring St., 970.429.9609, marriott.com*

Wildwood Snowmass

This retro hotel is just steps from the mountain. Always attentive to the ski theme, the Wildwood offers beginner, intermediate and expert rooms. All accommodations are around 280 square feet, and expert rooms boast balconies with views of the valley. The lobby bar keeps 10 types of Colorado's finest brews on tap for après-ski. *40 Elbert Lane, 970.923.8400, wildwoodsnowmass.com*