

BUSINESS INSIDER

The best ski resorts in Colorado and where to stay

Laura Beausire Jan 4, 2021, 5:59 PM



- Colorado is home to 28 ski areas, from family-run hills to glitzy megamountains.
 - We've rounded up the best ski resorts across the state, plus the best hotel to stay at for each area.
 - Peak ski season is in full swing and hotels currently range from \$179 to \$481 per night to start.
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You can't beat a bluebird day in the Rocky Mountains. And if you're looking for a fresh-air winter adventure, this is a great year to try one (or more) of Colorado's 28 [world-class ski resorts](#). Below, we detail our top picks for the best ski resorts in Colorado, plus the best hotel in each area, including:

- [Crested Butte](#)
- [Breckenridge](#)
- [Steamboat Springs](#)
- [Silverton Mountain](#)
- [Aspen Snowmass](#)
- [Telluride](#)
- [Winter Park](#)
- [Vail](#)

If you're wondering if [skiing during COVID is safe](#), we talked to experts to find out. The good news is that with proper cautions, skiing and snowboarding can be relatively low-risk activities. However, it's important to consider the risks of [travel](#) in general, and of staying in [hotels](#). There is still no guarantee of safety right now, and we recommend following guidelines put forward by organizations like the CDC and WHO, such as always wearing a mask, washing hands frequently, and practicing social distancing.

Additionally, all of the Colorado ski areas have introduced new COVID-related safety precautions in coordination with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, so it's a good idea to check each resort's specific policies. But to make it easy for you, we've included links to that information for the eight resorts we've listed below. Check Colorado's statewide [COVID-19 updates](#) for additional details on infection rates, testing sites, and the recently renewed mandatory [mask-wearing requirement](#).

Some of the common changes for the 2020-2021 ski season include requiring face coverings, physical distancing (including on chairlifts and in gondolas), advance reservations for lift tickets (often granting priority to pass holders), cashless transactions, limiting class size for lessons, and reducing restaurant

seating. Many resorts are also limiting on-mountain capacity, especially for peak dates so it may pay off to plan and book early.

With all that in mind, we rounded up eight of Colorado's best ski resorts.

We also chose recommendations for cozy hotels for each, based on the following criteria:

1. All hotels have excellent locations for accessing the mountains. Some are ski-in/ski-out while others require a short shuttle ride or easy drive, but all are within minutes of the lifts or base villages.
2. Every stay has attractive features that discerning travelers are looking for from distinctive architecture and decor to excellent dining options, and availability of other winter-friendly activities (like ice skating or spa treatments).
3. Many of the hotels listed include additional helpful amenities and extras including ski storage, ski valets, and shuttle service.
4. All lodgings are highly rated on trusted traveler sites such as [Trip Advisor](#) and [Booking.com](#).
5. We focused on affordability since ski hotels can be notoriously expensive and found a range of stays from a hip hostel to a Western ranch to traditional base village lodges, all under \$500 per night even during peak ski season.
6. Hotels currently range from \$179 to \$481 per night to start.

Where to stay in Vail: The Sebastian



The Sebastian

[Book The Sebastian – Vail starting at \\$481 per night](#)

The heated cobblestone streets of Vail's alpine-charming base village are perfect for strolling and shopping, but while most of the design vibe here skews toward Old World European, [The Sebastian – Vail](#) hotel is distinctly contemporary. Its art-filled lobby and library, along with the guest rooms, are furnished in mountain-modern style, focusing on plush textures, clean lines, and soothing colors.

Guests can enjoy an après-ski craft cocktail at The Lounge at Leonora or dinner at Leonora Restaurant. The on-site Bloom Spa offers CBD-infused massage therapies and high-altitude adjustment treatments, and the outdoor terrace features a heated pool, four hot tubs, and a fire pit.

One great perk of The Sebastian is their Base Camp, a cozy little private club right next to Gondola One, where ski valets can help you with equipment rentals, store your gear, and even serve you cookies and hot cocoa when you need a warm-up.

Rooms at The Sebastian range from a Queen classic to the palatial Grand Galerie Penthouse, which is a 5,000 square-foot residence with multiple bedrooms. The residential suites offer kitchens, dining areas, and balconies. Some also have fireplaces. All rooms are stocked with robes, slippers, free Wi-Fi, and Nespresso machines.

Trip Advisor Ranking: 7 out of 29 hotels in Vail

Booking.com Rating: 9.0 out of 10

Pros: The Base Camp makes wrangling ski gear extra-easy, and the hotel's on-site hot tub and spa are great treats at the end of the day.

Cons: There's an extra \$43 daily resort fee, and valet parking is \$38 per night.

COVID-19 status and policies: The hotel is open with new procedures in place, including:

- Increased cleaning and sanitization of public areas and guest rooms. (The hotel has appointed a new Hygiene Inspector.)
- A Plexiglas shield has been installed at the check-in desk.
- Masks are mandatory for guests and staff.
- Capacity limitations for elevators and restaurants.
- Sauna and steam room are closed.