

ASPEN SNOWMASS[®]

SPRING, SUMMER & FALL

2009 OFFICIAL VACATION PLANNER



WWW.VISITASPENSNOWMASS.COM

ENJOY OUR TOWNS ...

It's hard to imagine that two mountain towns could outshine Mother Nature's surrounding glory, but Aspen and Snowmass rise to the challenge. With such an extensive roster of culture, nightlife and activities, you could happily stay in town every day and never run out of things to do. ♦

Clockwise from right: Nightlife (photo by Michael Brands), Aspen Santa Fe Ballet (photo by Rosalie O'Connor), Anderson Ranch Arts Center Annual Art Auction (photo by Hal Williams).

BROADEN YOUR HORIZONS ...

Aspen/Snowmass brims with high culture in the high country

Aspen/Snowmass has been challenging the minds of locals and visitors since founding father Walter Paepcke invited Chicago's literati to town for a Goethe Bicentennial Convocation in 1949. His efforts set the stage for Aspen's foundation as a world-class cultural and intellectual destination.

Today Aspen/Snowmass draws top thinkers, world leaders, musicians and artists. The celebrity scene includes legends such as musicians Anita Baker and Bob Dylan, world leaders like the Dalai Lama and Madeleine Albright, and authors such as Amy Tan and Salman Rushdie.

Meander over to Aspen Meadows and you'll find a hotbed of discussion about the ideas and issues that shape our world. From seminars on values and leadership to the free McClosky Speaker Series to prestigious Aspen Institute conferences that draw the brightest thinkers of our time, this campus hums with heady discourse.

Stop by the Benedict Music Tent and you may hear Aspen Music Festival & School rehearsals of Puccini's "La Boheme," Verdi's "Requiem" or even virtuoso violinist Sarah Chang. The Snowmass Summer of Free Music Series on Thursdays and Bluegrass Sundays on Aspen Mountain explore more contemporary music in relaxed mountain settings, while the oldest literary nonprofit in Colorado celebrates the nation's most prominent and promising authors at its Aspen Summer Words festival.

The local art scene is just as impressive. Sign up for some of the more than 140 different classes in everything from woodworking to painting at the internationally acclaimed Anderson Ranch Arts Center, or stop by the Aspen Art Museum to catch up on cutting-edge contemporary artists. Take in a performance with Theatre Aspen and the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, or browse through more than 30 galleries representing celebrated international artists.

A good pair of binoculars are a must for nature lovers. The Aspen Center for Environmental Studies offers a variety of affordable field classes on subjects like wildflowers and astronomy and free guided nature walks all summer long throughout Aspen and Snowmass. History buffs can also dig into the region's mining past at local museums like the Aspen Historical Society's Wheeler-Stallard Museum.

From the sophistication of the world's top culinary experts at the FOOD & WINE Classic in Aspen in June to Aspen Filmfest's annual tribute to film in October, Aspen/Snowmass offers a myriad of ways to inspire and engage the mind.

ELEVATE YOUR SENSES ...

The area's nightlife is rivaled only by the stars – and we don't mean celebrities

When the sun goes down, Aspen/Snowmass lights up with a dining and nightlife scene like no other in the mountains. With more than 100 restaurants to choose from, there truly is a place to cater to every taste.

In Aspen, savor authentic empanadas at Argentinean restaurant Buenos Aires Fusion or a steak in the elegantly remodeled Crystal Palace Grille.

Nearly 20 other new and renovated restaurants are open in both towns. Renowned restaurateur Scott DeGraff introduce the concept of farm-to-table fast food at Junk at the Red Onion, while Sneaky's Tavern offers a Colorado-style bistro menu with specialties like bison meatloaf.

Old favorites continue to be rediscovered. Mountain Dragon's Asian cuisine is popular with the locals, while Il Poggio's brick-oven pizza is a family favorite. In Aspen, head to Restaurant Row on Hopkins Avenue to dine at classic favorites like Jimmy's American Restaurant & Bar or Lulu Wilson.

After dinner, check out a lively music scene at Belly Up or visit The Regal Watering Hole to sip cocktails among the see-and-be-seen crowd. Snowmass debuts swank new nightclub Liquid Sky, while casual hangouts such as Office at the Cirque provide a relaxed scene to gather with friends.

Seeking unique? Try the historic Snowmass Rodeo on Wednesday nights with its famed Hickory House barbecue and bull-riding action, or tour Compromise Mine, a working silver mine on Aspen Mountain. Ride 2,000 feet underground in an 18-gauge tour train behind a vintage electric mine locomotive.

No matter what you choose to do, on your way home be sure to look up. At 8,000 feet in elevation, the Aspen/Snowmass nightlife is rivaled only by the radiance of its star-studded night sky.

BEST BETS FROM THE LOCALS »»



BEST PLACES FOR A COCKTAIL »»

Head to the Sky Hotel's trendy 39 Degrees for a wickedly creative cocktail or the swank new Liquid Sky for the ideal outdoor lounge.

BEST FAMILY RESTAURANTS »»

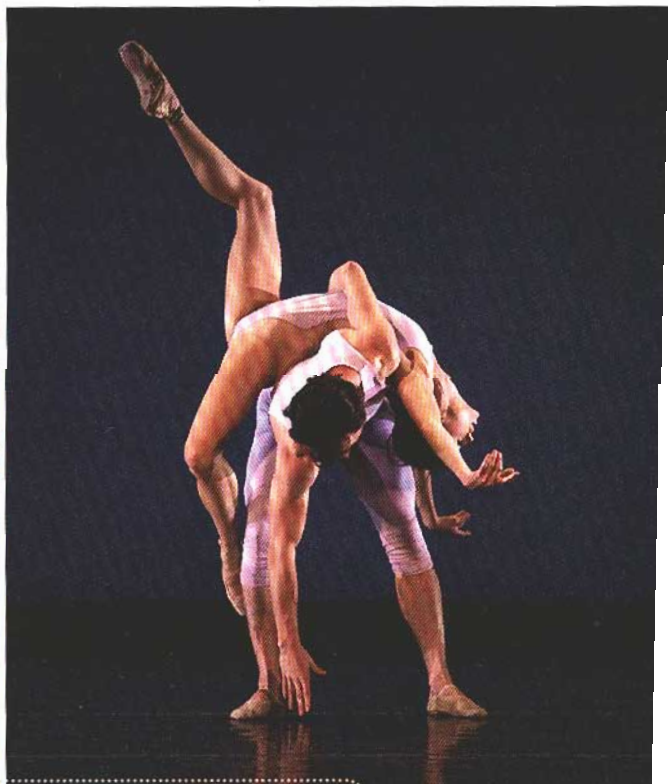
Don't miss interactive features and a custom-designed S'mores train table at The Sweet Life. Brunellesci's Pizza also makes a perfect pie for the kids.

BEST PLACES TO SEE A SUNSET »»

Watch the sky turn electric orange from the top of Smuggler Mountain, or gather 'round the campfire during Blazing Adventures' Sunset Dinner Ride.

BEST TASTES OF THE WEST »»

Snowmass Rodeo treats visitors to an authentic Western experience, while the ghost town of Ashcroft brings the ol' mining days to life.





Ying and Yang Terrace in Snowmass (photo by Tyler Stableford).

SOOTHE YOUR SOUL ...

Refresh and revitalize at these world-class mountain retreats

Relax and kick back ... you're on vacation! Whether you're seeking a girlfriend getaway, a chance to go biking with the guys, a family vacation or some down time with Mother Nature, Aspen/Snowmass amenities heighten the natural splendor of the mountains and ensure you return home refreshed and relaxed.

Start the process of unwinding with a day at the spa for the ultimate in revitalization and rejuvenation. Remède Spa Aspen pampers guests with chilled champagne, Jacques Torres truffles, fruit-infused oxygen and customized treatments. At Aspen Club & Spa, alpine-inspired treatments assist with altitude adjustment, while even the guys can enjoy a little R&R with a Gentleman's Facial at the Snowmass Club.

Fitness classes abound for those seeking a stretch. Try yoga at the O2 Aspen Mind and Body Studio or head to the top of Aspen Mountain for yoga classes with views so spectacular it may be hard to focus on your pose. In Snowmass, take a yoga class in historic Anderson Ranch or inhale the fresh mountain air deep into your lungs from the Ying and Yang Terrace at the top of Rim Trail. Aspen and Snowmass

both also offer extensive recreation centers with pools and family-friendly water features, indoor fitness facilities, climbing walls and ice skating.

Retail therapy offers its own soothing rewards. On Saturdays, start off your day with a stroll down Hopkins Avenue at the Aspen Saturday Market, where you'll find organic and regional food vendors selling everything from produce to pasta and artisanal crafts such as jewelry and pottery.

Pick up the latest best-seller at Explore Booksellers or rummage through the funky children's gifts at Carl's Pharmacy, both of which are housed in historic Victorian buildings. Further downtown, check out Aspen's designer fashion scene at Gucci, Louis Vuitton and Dior, or pop in at independent local favorites like Pitkin County Dry Goods and vintage boutique The Little Bird.

In Snowmass, new base village shopping includes children's toys and clothing at Generations Snowmass. Check out the custom jewelry of Bright and Shiny Things on the Snowmass Mall or classic mountain resort wear at Stein Eriksen. More than 250 boutiques offer the perfect excuse for dawdling in downtown Aspen/Snowmass.

REST YOUR BODY ...

With accommodations this restful, you'll look forward to sleeping late

The relaxation that comes from a great mountain vacation starts with where you rest your head. Aspen/Snowmass offers more than 75 properties, ranging from boutique and five-star luxury hotels to cozy inns and condominiums just steps from the trails.

Most properties in Aspen are within walking distance to the heart of downtown. Historic Aspen comes alive at the elegant **Hotel Jerome**, which has indulged its guests with world-class service since 1889, while art lovers can explore Herbert Bayer's authentic Bauhaus accommodations at **Aspen Meadows**, home to the prestigious **Aspen Institute**.

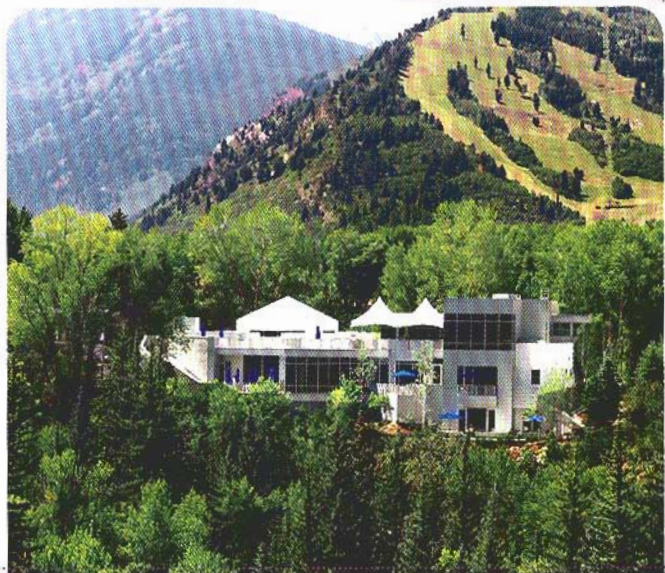
For hip and high-style accommodations, try the chic **Sky Hotel** or the legendary **Little Nell** right at the base of Aspen Mountain, while the newly renovated **Limelight Lodge** provides family accommodations ranging from affordable to extravagant.

In Snowmass, 95 percent of the lodging is hike-in/hike-out, and it's not uncommon to catch a glimpse of fox, deer and other wildlife wandering past your window. Stay at the new **Capitol Peak** and **Hayden Lodge** condominiums to be in the heart of the new base village or walk to the award-winning **Snowmass Club** golf course from **Snowmass Villas**.

To stay just footsteps from the chairlift and mountain biking action, try **Silvertree Hotel** or the charming **Stonebridge Inn**. Condominium options

range from the spacious **Top of the Village** property perfect for large families to luxury condominiums such as **Woodrun Place** to more moderately priced options like **Laurelwood Studios**.

Best of all, guests will find an unparalleled level of service, convenience and friendly faces in Aspen/Snowmass. Most lodges offer free airport transfers, ensuring you can be off the plane and out enjoying your hassle-free vacation within minutes of arrival. Now that's a restful way to start off any vacation. 



YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1: RELAX

Start off your first morning on vacation with a fresh pastry on the Main Street Bakery's patio before exploring Aspen's lively arts scene, including a stop at the Aspen Art Museum. Head to Bentley's at the Wheeler in the historic Wheeler Opera House for lunch, followed by an Aspen Historical Society tour of downtown Aspen and local museums. Finish off the day at Takah Sushi.


DAY 2: REJUVENATE

Try one of the seasonal delights like the lemon ricotta soufflé pancakes at Montagna and then saddle up for a scenic horseback ride. Check out Mezzaluna's patio scene for lunch and then kick back with a customized Remède Spa massage in the afternoon. For dinner, sample the creative cuisine at Syzygy then kick up your heels with live music at Belly Up.

DAY 3: ROMANCE

In Snowmass, stroll hand in hand through Anderson Ranch's picturesque art studios, then share a chairlift ride up to wildflower meadows with expansive views. Enjoy fresh seasonal specialties at the intimate Artisan restaurant and, for the perfect finale, snuggle up on a blanket on Fanny Hill for the Free Thursday Night Concert Series as the sun sets over the mountains.

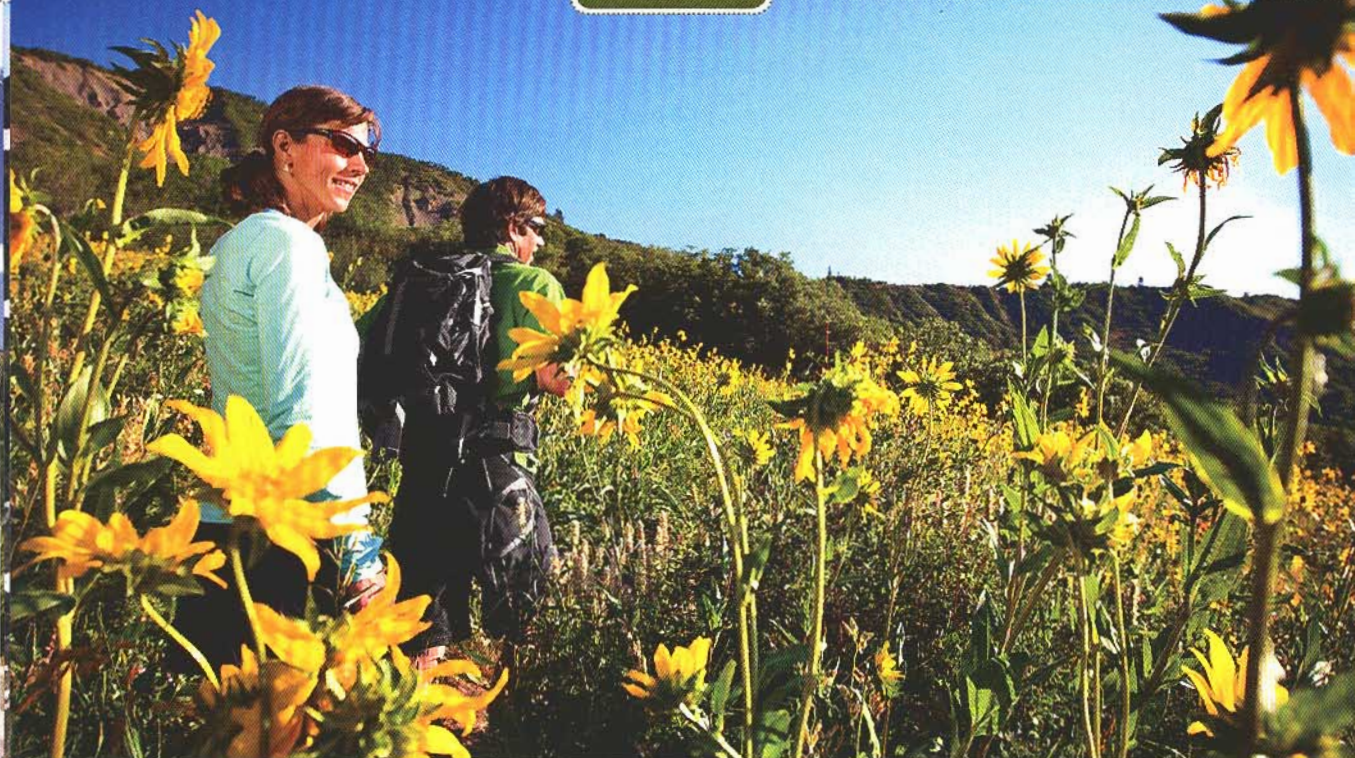




A run along Sievers Ridge with views of Pyramid Peak and Maroon Bells (photo by Tyler Stableford).

EXPLORE OUR MOUNTAINS ...

Surrounded by the highest concentration of 14,000-foot peaks in Colorado – and one of the largest wilderness areas in the state – Aspen/Snowmass is a true mountain paradise. From the rush of mountain climbing to peaceful fly fishing on gold medal rivers, adventures are as boundless as the dramatic landscape.

**BEST PICNICS »»**

Grab goodies from Grain Fine Food and hike up Rim Trail for panoramic views in Snowmass. Or pack sandwiches from The Butcher's Block and take the Silver Queen Gondola to the top of Aspen Mountain.

BEST DAY DRIVE »»

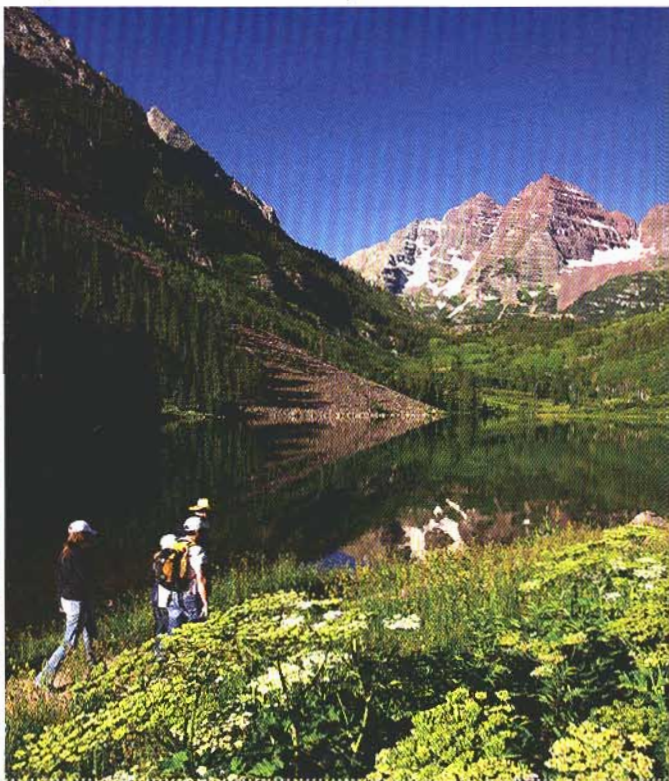
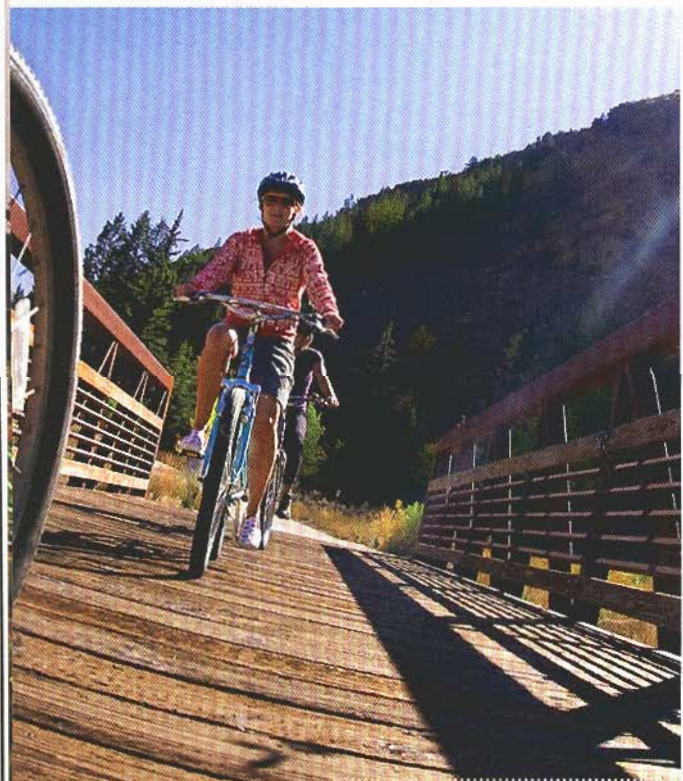
Independence Pass winds up to the Continental Divide through a stunning alpine landscape – with plenty of stops along the way for waterfalls, ice caves, trails and historic sites.

BEST HIKE »»

Considered by many to be one of the most beautiful spots in the Rocky Mountains, the hike from the road up to Cathedral Lake is steep but manageable – and well worth the effort.

BEST FREEBIES »»

Enjoy a free Aspen Music Festival concert on the lawn at the Benedict Music Tent, or go contemporary with hot national acts at Snowmass' free Thursday night concert series on Fanny Hill.



Clockwise from left: wildflower hike in Snowmass (photo by Tyler Stableford); mountain trails (photo by David Bayer); biking fun (photo by Jeremy Swanson).

PUSH YOURSELF TO THE LIMIT ...

Take a hike, swim or ride on the wild side of Aspen/Snowmass

If your idea of a mountain vacation is all about testing your boundaries, then Aspen/Snowmass is the place to be.

Want to stand on top of the world? **Aspen Expeditions** leads guided rock climbing and peak ascent trips to test your endurance against granite cliffs and 14,000-foot peaks. Hundreds of miles of trails provide hikers access to pristine high country filled with aqua-colored mineral lakes, hot springs, high valleys brimming with wildflowers and breathtaking alpine terrain for miles in every direction. For a real taste of the area's back country, book a **10th Mountain Division** hut trip and stay in a quaint cabin

nestled deep in the wilderness.

Rent a bike at **Aspen Sports** or **Four Mountain Sports** and head out on trails both technical and tame. For a leisurely ride, try the paved **Brush Creek Trail**. More ex-

perienced riders revel on the 13-mile **Government Trail** connecting the two towns, while Snowmass' British Columbia-style freeride (teeter-totters, jumps and similar features) and downhill terrain is a playground for mountain bikers. **Snowmass Mountain** includes lift-served access to 21 miles of single-track, while regional competitions like **Blast the Mass** invite amateurs to race.

Interested in more aerial pursuits? You can lift dreamily off **Aspen Mountain** and soar through the air with a certified paraglide professional. At the opposite end of the elevation spectrum, rafting trips with both **Blazing Adventures** and **Aspen Whitewater Rafting** offer heart-pounding whitewater thrills or family-friendly float trips on regional rivers.

If you're looking to try something wild and new, start with mountain boarding (just picture a snowboard on wheels). Rentals and lessons are available through **Camp Aspen/Snowmass**, while a five-acre terrain park offers plenty of diverse jumps and features.

New ways to float your boat here include a roaring ride over rapids on a boogie board. Sound impossible? Not when **Aspen Seals** takes visitors out on

this unique river "sledge" trip. River surfing or Hawaiian-style stand-up paddling is another new pursuit offered on local rivers to help ensure even the most diehard adventurer's get their adrenaline fix.

PLAY IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS ...

What's your pleasure? Mild outdoor activities also abound all around

If river surfing sounds too extreme, milder adventures await. Stroll or bike the **Rio Grande Trail**, which meanders along the river and winds 40 miles down the railroad corridor. Stop for a burger at the landmark **Woody Creek Tavern** and check out the historic downtowns of Basalt and Carbondale before catching a ride back on public transportation.

Each July and August, the high country explodes into a spectacular palette of wildflowers. Explore the mountains in comfort with a **Blazing Adventures** Jeep tour or head off on your own on the region's old mining trails. **Capitol Peak Outfitters** offers horseback rides, ranging from a few hours to all day to overnight pack trips, that guide riders through tranquil aspen groves to high alpine meadows. It's a great way to see the area's expansive wilderness, with lunch and leisurely stops along the way.

Treat the kids to trout fishing on **Snowmass Mountain** or sign them up for **Camp Aspen/Snowmass** adventures like rocket-making classes and mountain-boarding lessons out of the **Treehouse Kids Adventure Center**. This 25,000-square-foot facility has different nature-themed adventures in each room with daily and weekly programs. **Aspen Mountain** activities range from obstacle courses and a Eurobungy to mining for real silver nuggets. Together, Aspen and Snowmass also offer 45 holes of on-mountain disc golf.

Educational adventures for kids include art classes at **Anderson Ranch** and courses at the **Aspen Center for Environmental Studies**. And while the kids are occupied, parents can tee off at golf courses in Aspen and Snowmass or try their luck on three of the state's best gold medal fly-fishing rivers. To get the low-down on local trout, sign up for a guided wade or float trip with **Taylor Creek Fly Shops**.

Further afield, visitors can indulge in the world's largest man-made hot springs or underground caverns in Glenwood Springs, or visit the historic quarry mines at Marble. Family activities at **Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park** include cave tours, thrill rides, a scenic tram, train ride, digging for fossils and panning for gemstones.

No matter what direction you head, Aspen/Snowmass is a year-round outdoor playground for kids of all ages.

BEST BETS FROM THE LOCALS ««



SOAK UP GORGEOUS SCENERY ...

Mother Nature puts on a picture-perfect display in the Colorado mountains

When it comes to photographing great scenery here, it's hard not to pull out the camera at every bend in the road. Colorful Victorian homes and buildings in downtown Aspen and rustic 19th century ranches around Snowmass showcase the region's fascinating 130-year history in vivid detail.

Scenic trails head directly out of both towns. Gentle walking paths like the **Nature Trail** and the **North Star Nature Preserve** offer the chance to see local wildlife such as the rare Blue Heron, red fox, beaver and elk. And for majestic mountain views try the **Ditch Trail**, which opens up to breathtaking views of the **Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness Area**, or **Hunter Creek Valley**, which includes idyllic alpine meadows and rustic cabins.

If you'd prefer an elevated perspective, watch the sun rise over the Elk Mountains from a hot air balloon or ride the **Silver Queen Gondola** up 3,000 vertical feet to the top of Aspen Mountain. Spectacular views and hikes spread out before you in 360 degrees.

In Snowmass, the **Burlingame Chairlift** elevates hikers and mountain bikers to expansive views of Mt. Daly with its unusual granite stripe. Stop by the historic **Lynn Britt Cabin** for lunch and then head

off to check out more of the Snowmass area's unique natural history with a **Wild at Heart** field guide.

Must-see day trips are all around. **Independence Pass** winds up a narrow road to top out on the Continental Divide at 12,095 feet above sea level. The second-highest paved pass in Colorado, the road opens out onto a magnificent tundra landscape. On the way back, check out the historic ghost town of **Independence**, which housed a population of 1,500 hardy miners at 10,000 feet in altitude over a century ago, and stop for a picnic at the **Grottos** to explore year-round ice caves.

Another must-see spot is **Maroon Bells**, one of the most photographed mountain ranges in North America, where towering twin peaks reflect their mirror image into the pristine waters of **Maroon Lake**. This breathtaking valley provides access to 100 miles of wilderness trails that lead to glacial valleys filled with wildflowers, pristine mountain lakes and six peaks standing over 14,000 feet.

Wherever you decide to spend your time, don't forget that camera. In Aspen/Snowmass, Mother Nature provides an abundance of spots for picture-perfect vacation memories.

CELEBRATE IN THE MOUNTAINS ...

From haute cuisine to hot air balloons, summer events steal the show

No mountain getaway celebrates summer better than Aspen/Snowmass. From June through October, days and nights are filled with reasons to rejoice, ideas to embrace and places to party. From the high-octane action of sporting events to high-caliber music, this is a premier festival destination.

For nearly 60 years the **Aspen Institute** has gathered world leaders to explore timeless ideas and tough current topics, while the **Aspen Music Festival & School** continues its role as the granddaddy of classical music festivals, offering up to 10 events daily. Such prestigious forefathers have paved the way for younger events to quickly grow into favorite reasons to return each summer.

The festival season kicks off in early June with the **Snowmass Chili Pepper & Brew Fest** (June 5-6). Attendees relax under the warm summer sun while sampling the region's spiciest chili, coolest microbrews and hottest concerts. The venerable **FOOD & WINE Classic in Aspen** (June 19-21) follows, featuring the world's foremost wine and culinary experts such as Jacques Pepin, Mario Batali and Bobby Flay.

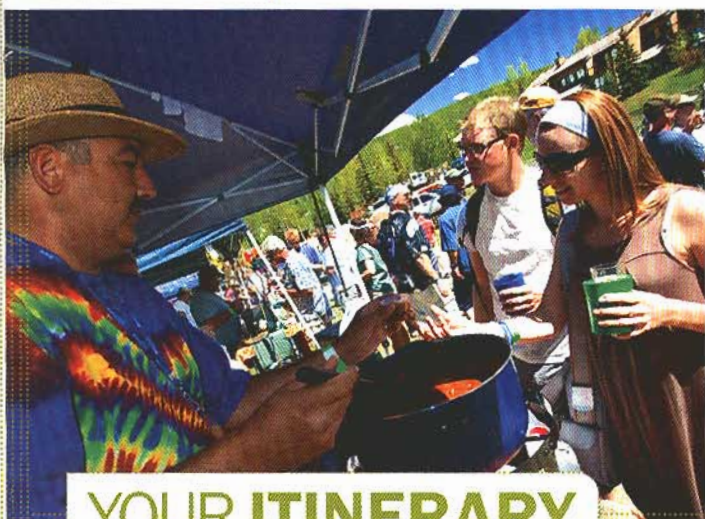
The **Jazz Aspen Snowmass** festival (June 18-20, 25-27) rounds out the month, while the **Fourth of July** (July 2-4) is feted with old-fashioned flavor including parades, fireworks and free concerts. Mountain music continues all summer with Snowmass' weekly free music series, while Jazz Aspen Snowmass returns with a spectacular Labor Day festival that brings well-known national acts to open-air venues in Snowmass.

Mountain action abounds at the **U.S. Open Mountain Boarding Championships** and the prestigious National Mountain Bike Series' **Blast the Mass** (Aug. 7-9), while other sporting events include nationally renowned volleyball, rugby and mountain biking and golf tournaments.

The **Snowmass Balloon Festival** (Sept. 18-20) lights up September with four days of hot air balloon competitions, and **Aspen Filmfest** (Sept. 30-Oct. 4) rounds out the season with a five-day feast of film and fall color. Perhaps the hardest part of planning an Aspen/Snowmass vacation isn't wondering what to do, but how to fit it all in. 📷



Clockwise from top: Snowmass Balloon Festival (photo by Jeremy Swanson), Benedict Music Tent (photo by Jeremy Swanson), Snowmass Chili Pepper & Brew Fest (photo by Jeremy Swanson).



YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1: **A WET, WILD RIDE**

Start off your day with a hearty breakfast burrito and delicious, piping-hot coffee at gourmet café Fuel, then get wet on regional rivers. Pick from adventures such as river sledging, whitewater rafting and kayaking, or more mellow guided fly-fishing tours on pristine waters. For dinner, keep the water theme going and enjoy the fresh seafood at Butch's Lobster Bar.

DAY 2: **MOUNTAIN MANIA**

Rise with the morning sun for a hot air balloon ride, then head to the mountains for heart-pumping action. Pair a bike ride on the Tom Blake Trail with lunch at the historic Lynn Britt Cabin or hike up Aspen Mountain to lunch at the Sundeck. For dinner, enjoy Sage Bistro's fantastic views of Mt. Daly or head to Aspen's Restaurant Row for French bistro cuisine at Cache Cache.

DAY 3: **HIT THE ROAD**

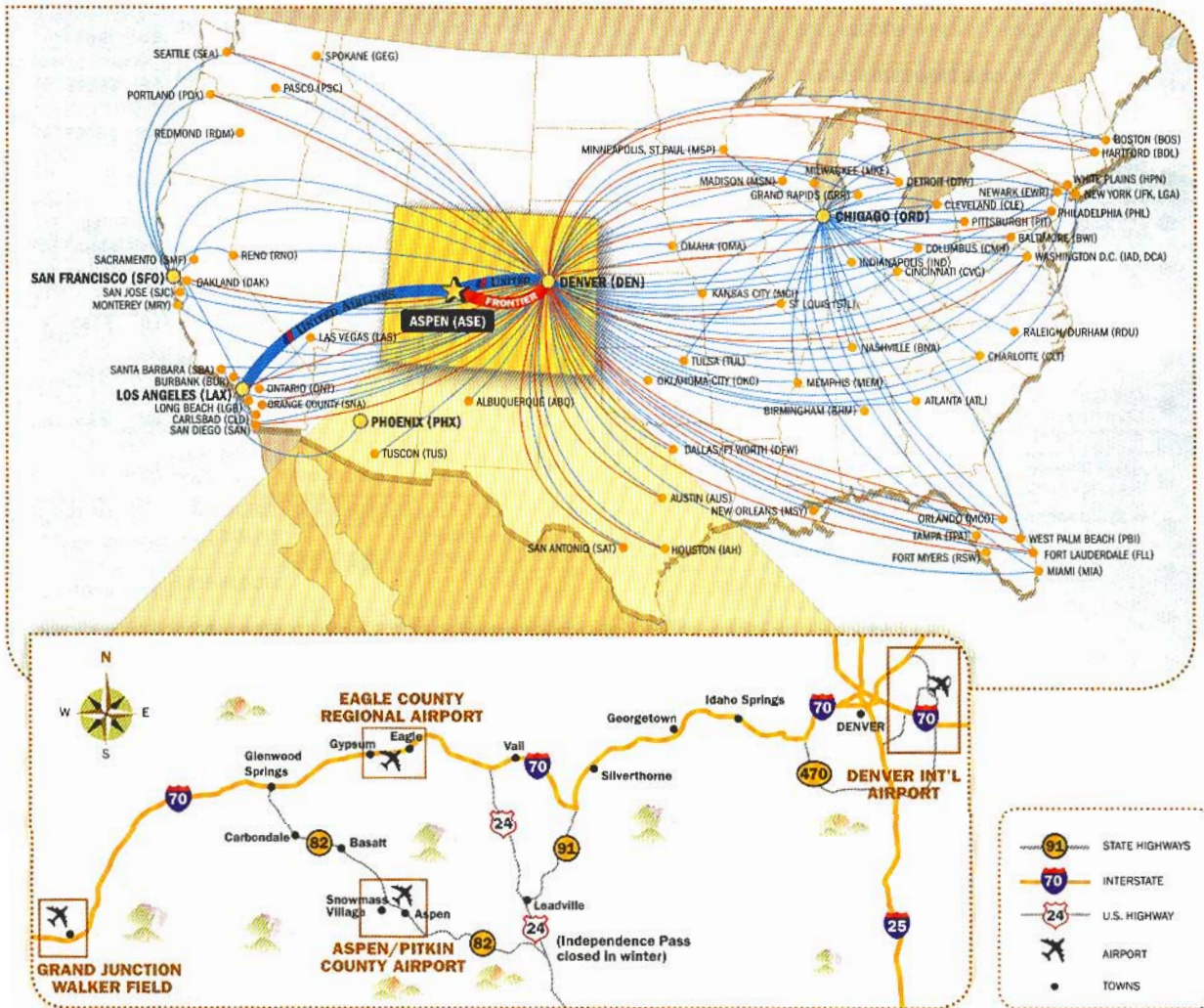
Enjoy homemade breads and a great breakfast at Spencer's, then hit the pavement for a day trip. Head up Castle Creek Valley for a visit to Ashcroft's ghost town and stop for lunch at Pine Creek Cookhouse. Finish the day relaxing in the Snowmass Recreation Center's unique saline pools, then head to Nardi's for authentic Italian and family-style flavor.

ASPEN|SNOWMASS GETTING HERE

LOCATION

With just nine miles between them, Aspen and Snowmass Village make up one of the most accessible Rocky Mountain destinations. Tucked away in Colorado's Elk Mountain Range at the southeast end of the Roaring Fork Valley – a lush, rolling landscape – the area encompasses approximately 10 square miles and is home to around 7,500 year-round residents. Resting comfortably at 8,000 feet, Aspen/Snowmass has all the charm of quaint mountain towns but with a distinctively cosmopolitan vibe thanks to a thriving arts and cultural scene.

Conveniently located only three hours from Denver and two hours from Grand Junction by car, and with town centers just minutes from the local airport, Aspen/Snowmass is an ideal getaway for visitors near and far. So whether traveling by air or driving the scenic routes over Independence Pass or through Glenwood Canyon, Aspen/Snowmass is easy to find.



ASPEN|SNOWMASS AREA AIRPORTS

There are four nearby airports to choose from when flying to Aspen/Snowmass: Aspen/Pitkin County Airport (ASE), Eagle County Regional Airport (EGE), Denver International Airport (DEN) and Grand Junction Walker Field (GJT).



AIRPORTS

Hundreds of flights weekly into Aspen/Pitkin County Airport (ASE) include many convenient one-stop connections through Denver on United and Frontier Airlines. Flying into nearby airports in Eagle and Denver provides even more options for air travelers. For the most current flight information, visit www.flyaspensnowmass.com.

ASPEN/PITKIN COUNTY AIRPORT (ASE)

Located just three miles from Aspen and six miles from Snowmass Village, ASE is situated in the heart of the valley. For flight information, visit www.aspenairport.com or turn to local Comcast Channel 8.

FRONTIER AIRLINES: Daily year-round nonstop flights from Denver on the environmentally friendly Bombardier Q400 aircraft.

UNITED EXPRESS/EXPLUS: Frequent daily connecting flights from Denver featuring the Canadair CRJ-700 regional jet with first-class and economy plus seating; seasonal nonstop flights from Los Angeles.

GRAND JUNCTION REGIONAL AIRPORT (GJT)

Located 127 miles away, GJT is a two-hour drive on a four-lane highway to Aspen/Snowmass. For current flight information, visit www.walkerfield.com.

AMERICAN AIRLINES: Daily nonstop 757 service from Dallas/Ft. Worth.

DELTA AIR LINES: Daily flights from Salt Lake City.

FRONTIER AIRLINES: Daily nonstop flights from Denver on the Bombardier Q400 aircraft.

UNITED AIRLINES/UNITED EXPRESS: Daily nonstop flights from Denver featuring the Canadair CRJ-700.

US AIRWAYS: One daily nonstop flight from Phoenix.

EAGLE COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT (EGE)

Eagle County Regional Airport will close for construction from April 15 - Aug. 1, 2009. For future information, visit www.flyvail.com.

AMTRAK TRAIN SERVICE

Service is provided to Glenwood Springs, 40 miles from Aspen, on the California Zephyr. The train travels westbound from Chicago to Oakland, California, and back. For schedule information, call AMTRAK at 800-USA-RAIL or visit www.amtrak.com.

GETTING AROUND

Getting around Aspen/Snowmass is as easy and convenient as getting here. Save time and money and help preserve the area's character by taking advantage of free and inexpensive bus service and shuttles that run through, to and from both areas and to major attractions. You can also walk almost anywhere when in the core of each community.

BUS SERVICE

The Roaring Fork Transportation Authority (RFTA) provides bus service throughout the valley and to Aspen/Pitkin County Airport. Service in Aspen and between Aspen and Snowmass Village is free. Most routes begin and end at Rubey Park on Durant Street in Aspen. 970-925-8484, www.rfta.com

FREE SERVICE

RFTA Aspen buses (970-925-8484) provide free and frequent in-town service to shopping, dining, recreation and more. Once in Snowmass, you can get around easily on the year-round, free **Village Shuttle (970-923-2543)**.

GROUND TRANSPORT

It's a good idea to arrange transportation prior to your arrival. Scheduled and chartered services are available from area airports directly to your lodging, and some lodges offer complimentary transfers to and from the Aspen airport.

Colorado Mountain Express offers many options including shared-ride shuttles, charter vans and private car service from Denver International and Eagle airports to Aspen/Snowmass (800-525-6363, www.ridecme.com). **Gray Line** this year introduces new luxury nonstop express ground transportation between Aspen/Snowmass and both Denver International and Eagle County Regional airports (877-277-3690, www.ridegrayline.com).

Taxis are also available at Aspen airport and throughout Aspen/Snowmass. ☑