

NEW DEALS at CRESTED BUTTE MOUNTAIN RESORT

CRESTED BUTTE, CO — While the terrain at Crested Butte Mountain Resort (CBMR) is mega fun and mega varied, the resort itself is a far cry from a mega-resort. You will not see fur coats on Elk Avenue, unless you have spotted a fox of the four-legged variety. The store fronts tend toward boutique rather than designer. In addition, you will find that a Crested Butte ski vacation will not break the bank. The community is committed to keeping Crested Butte affordable, attainable, and definitely funky.

Crested Butte was founded in the late 19th century as a coal and silver mining town in the heart of the Colorado Rocky Mountains. As you stroll past the restaurants and shops housed in colorful Victorian store fronts on Elk Avenue, you get a glimpse of this history. Gazing at Mount Crested Butte from town, you get an inkling of why the town has been dubbed Colorado's Last Great Ski Town.

However, it is when you start exploring Crested Butte Mountain Resort's over 1,500 acres of terrain that you truly get the moniker. Whether you are cruising the easy-going green groomers or tackling the extreme glades and steeps, there is pure unadulterated joy ready to be discovered at CBMR.

From Newbie to Novice

It is important that all guests, including people brand new to skiing and snowboarding, have the best experience possible at CBMR. To that end, the resort recently focused on improving CBMR's learning area. Crews re-graded the teaching terrain at the base to be more beginner-friendly, and re-oriented and extended one of the beginner magic carpets to take advantage of the new terrain topography.



Crested Butte, CO – Piles of snow line Crested Butte's main street, Elk Ave. The colorful Victorian store fronts are semi-obscured by the mounds of white gold. This is a typical winter scene along this casual promenade from late-November through early April.

Photo credit, Crested Butte Mountain Resort

These gentle beginner slopes are the perfect spot for newbies to gain the foundational skills and confidence sure to spur a long love affair with the sport.

There are also two quintessentially Crested Butte options for advanced skiers looking to push themselves this season. Join the resort's CB Steep Guides and get an expert introduction to CBMR's famed extreme terrain. On the other hand, try Butte Camp, led by PSIA National Team

Member and CBMR Ski Instructor Dustin Dyar – one of the top ski instructors in the U.S. This two-day camp starts with a First Tracks early lift load prior to opening at 8 a.m., and continues with technical and tactical coaching on the resort's heralded Double Black Diamond terrain found off CBMR's T-Bar.

Adventures in Dining

After an exhilarating day on the slopes, the adventure continues, as a few of Crested Butte's favorite dining options require unusual means of transportation. For a fine dining experience with a mountain adventure as the first course, make reservations for Uley's Cabin. On Wednesday through Sunday evenings, guests meet at the Lodge at Mountaineer Square and then ride a snow-cat driven sleigh to the cabin where a five-course feast will warm you almost as much as the crackling fireplace.

"Upon arrival at Uley's Cabin, it feels like a step back in time," describes Larry Pirner, director of culinary at CBMR. "Rustic elegance places emphasis on the intimacy of the meal and the pace of the evening."

For those looking to earn their dinner, the Full Moon Parties at Ten Peaks are one of a kind. Guests take a self-guided skin or snowshoe tour to the top of the Ten Peaks area of the mountain and warm up inside the Umbrella Bar.

The delicious buffet dinner under the moonlight includes fondue, salad, soup or chili, dessert and one complimentary glass of wine or beer. These popular parties sell out fast.

Complete the day on Cloud 9, or instead, at Third Bowl. Not to be confused with one of CBMR's most famous

trails, Third Bowl Homemade Ice Cream is a sweet destination for the child in everyone. Featuring made-from-scratch, small batch ice creams with traditional and innovative flavors – imagine strawberry habanero or chocolate – covered graham cracker, for instance – and homemade doughnuts, Third Bowl is the perfect ending to a day of adventure.

Now that your imagination is stirring with the perfect day in Crested Butte, it is time to focus on the nitty gritty. Luckily for guests, getting there is easier than you might believe.

This season, CBMR has three nonstop flights into nearby Gunnison-Crested Butte Regional Airport (GUC), including Denver (DEN) and Houston (IAH) on United Airlines, and Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW) on American Airlines. Aircraft servicing GUC arrivals and departures includes the larger Airbus 319s and ERJ 175s, increasing take off and landing dependability in challenging weather situations.

Forget the car, take a private shuttle from the airport to your home away from home. Once in Crested Butte, ride the ultra convenient and free Mountain Express shuttles between town and the resort. Take notice of the piles of snow on the side of the road. Those are buried locals' vehicles, only to be seen again in the spring.

This year, CBMR is offering tremendous lodging and lift ticket packages throughout the ski season. Multiple Ski Free & Stay Free packages offer free lodging and free days of lift tickets if you stay three or four nights, depending on the time of the season. For families, children 12 and under receive free lift tickets from Nov. 23 until Dec. 15, 2017, and April 1 - 8, 2018, while kids 6 and under ski free all season long.

Yep, no strings attached, no parent ticket required, no lodging stay required, no advance reservations, no purchase of a bottle of wine (though it's not a bad idea), just a good ole free ticket for the littlest rippers.

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