

MODERN LUXURY

ASPEN

MAGAZINE

INSIDER'S GUIDE 2019-20

ASPEN
SNOWMASS
BASALT
CARBONDALE &
GLENWOOD SPRINGS

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Four Runs

Hear Music
Any Month

Adventure to
a Memorable
Meal

VETTED TIPS TO MAKE
THE MOST OF YOUR
ASPEN-SNOWMASS TRIP

Vacation Mode

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FALL/WINTER 2019-20 \$5.95

PUTTING *the* DESIGN *in* W

Aspen's newest property has signature details behind every curtain and corner.

By Christine Benedetti

Annabelle Inn

A local favorite, this lodge has been around since it hosted its first guest in 1948. The hotel underwent a name change in 2005, but its efforts to stay true to the iconic vintage European style that made guests come back each season is evident from floor to ceiling. After a long day of skiing, guests are greeted by freshly baked cookies, which they can bring back to one of the hotel's 35 uniquely decorated rooms.

Room to Request: The Tiehack is the perfect ski room, with a king-size bed and view of the mountains. *Rooms from \$136, 232 W. Main St., 970.925.3822, annabelleinn.com*

Aspen Meadows Resort

This West End resort is located on the Aspen Institute campus. Herbert Bayer designed the resort in the Bauhaus style, respecting simplicity in form, function and design. The understated elegance is ubiquitous around the property. Guests can enjoy one of three on-site dining locations, including the Hefner Lounge for casual occasions.

Room to Request: The bridal suite offers views of Anderson Park and Aspen Mountain. *Rooms \$119-\$499, 845 Meadows Road, 970.925.4240, aspenmeadows.com*

Aspen Mountain Lodge

This budget-friendly Aspen hotel offers easy access to downtown, and a continental breakfast comes standard with the nightly rate. Its pet-friendly policy allows dogs 50 pounds and under for an extra \$25 per night. The large stone fireplace is an inviting destination after a long day of skiing, and the friendly staff will make sure your stay is enjoyable.

Room to Request: Twelve rooms feature balconies with views of town. *From \$199, 311 W. Main St., 970.925.7650, aspenmountainlodge.com*

Aspen Square Condominium Hotel

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 features a kitchen, while larger condominiums offer even more room. Access to the gondola across the street makes this location the perfect ski lodge.

Room to Request: Recently renovated top-floor studios with outstanding mountain views in any direction. *Studios \$229-\$779, 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.

Room to Request: One of the many rooms with a view of Aspen Mountain. *From \$349, 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

Whether you grab a drink, cabana or a place to rest your head at the new W Hotel in Aspen, nuanced details executed by Aspen-based Rowland + Broughton, in collaboration with New York City's Nemaworkshop, nod to local character and will leave no doubt as to which town this W calls home.

Upon entering the lobby, it's hard to look anywhere but at the large geometric oval pod perched high above. This floating *pièce de résistance* is a DJ booth and a take on the world's largest silver nugget, which came out of Aspen's Smuggler Mine. At any point in the day, resident DJ Kevin Joyal may be performing and the 5,000-plus synchronized LED lights dance to his sound. But don't forget to look down at the striated blue-toned carpet, which mimics a topographical map, reminiscent of the nearby Elk Mountains. Behind the welcome-stand desks, a wall of terrariums are subtly siloed into four seasons.

Peek down a guest-room hall and see a mining tunnel: Textured gray carpet transitions seamlessly into slate walls and ceiling, or wood scaffolding frames the space. The guest rooms themselves are far from standard. Banquette couches in cobalt blue and burnt orange oppose mirrored and glass-covered miniature fridges channeling the ostentatious party

homes of the late '60s and early '70s. On the beds, exclusive throw pillows inspired by Herbert Bayer and Thomas Benton depict the skiing shrines of Aspen Mountain and the soiled doves of Durant, an allusion to the red light district that sat on this side of Aspen during its mining days. The silhouette of the luggage rack is a sleigh, and a see-through mining shaft doubles as a window in the separating wall between the bedroom and bathroom.

The W Hotel features three restaurant and lounge areas. Downstairs, 39 Degrees pays homage to the iconic après-ski bar that anchored the Sky Hotel, which the W Hotel replaced. In another reference to the red light district, female figures are seen in the carpet; crushed lilac and burgundy couches and low lighting imbue a sensual feel. On the rooftop Wet Deck, minimalist sunshades, a bright white terraced bar and a row of actual aspen trees channel Aspen's Bauhaus days. In the living room, the W's community space, brass rods and plush seating are part of Aspen's bohemian counterculture, and natural woods and general coziness are reminiscent of a Swiss chalet.

On brand with W Hotel properties around the country, this new Aspen player is edgy, fresh and full of color. And there's a story behind every detail. *Rooms from \$279, 550 Spring St., marriott.com*



The W Hotel introduced tiered full beds, the first property in the country to do so.

PHOTO COURTESY OF W HOTEL