

winter

2022-23



PURGATORY



press kit



Company Profile

Purgatory Resort's 2022/23 ski season is scheduled to begin on November 19, with \$1.25 million in snowmaking upgrades, plus other infrastructure and operations improvements. Long-term growth and capital improvement plans include expanding terrain, lodging, dining, and skier services, as well as lift modernization, snowmaking, parking, and transportation.

Purgatory is one of the most family-friendly and affordable ski resorts in Colorado. Purgatory's demand-based lift ticket pricing for the 2022-23 ski season begins at \$42 on select dates when purchasing advance tickets online. [Power Kids](#) is the only season pass in North America that grants unlimited free skiing, snowboarding and lift-served mountain biking for all kids ages 12 and under, no purchase required or blackout dates.

Purgatory is located on the San Juan Scenic and Historic Byway between Durango and Silverton in the rugged San Juan Mountains. Purgatory offers steep tree skiing and wide-open cruisers with stunning views of Engineer Mountain, Twilight Peaks and the West Needles Mountain range. Purgatory has over 1,600 acres of skiable terrain, 105 trails, 11 lifts, 4 terrain parks and a vertical drop of 2,029 feet. Purgatory Snowcat Adventures is Colorado's largest snowcat skiing operation, with 35,000 acres of guided skiing for advanced to expert skiers and riders, scenic tours and snowcat dining excursions.

The Village Plaza base area is home to a variety of family-friendly activities, lodging, retail shops, restaurants, and bars. Signature events and on-mountain activities include live music and pond skimming to fat bike races and NYE fireworks, the year-round Inferno Mountain Coaster, sleigh rides and more. Guests can enjoy a wide range of restaurants and bars in the base area or take in the views at one of Purgatory's on-mountain dining locations. For lodging, choose from affordable slopeside studios to luxury penthouse accommodations. Visit [Purgatory.ski](https://www.purgatory.ski) to learn more.



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Purgatory Resort Fact Sheet

2022/23 Winter Season Dates and Times

November 19 to April 9, 2023, and weekends only until April 23 (conditions permitting). Lift hours of operation are 9 am until 4 pm. Ticket office hours of operation are: 8am - 5pm daily.

Mountain Stats

- ▼ Base Elevation: 8,793 feet (2,680 meters)
- ▼ Summit Elevation: 10,822 feet (3,299 meters)
- ▼ Vertical Drop: 2,072 feet (632 meters)
- ▼ Skiable Area: 1,635 Acres (662 hectares)
- ▼ Annual Snowfall: 260 inches (660 centimeters)

Winter Activities

- ▼ Inferno Mountain Coaster
- ▼ Tubing
- ▼ Snowcat Skiing
- ▼ Snowcat Scenic Tours
- ▼ Snowcat Dinner Excursion
- ▼ Snowshoe Tours
- ▼ Sleigh Rides
- ▼ Snowmobile Adventures
- ▼ Purgatory Nordic Center

11 Lifts Serving 105 trails

- ▼ 1 High Speed Six Person
- ▼ 2 High Speed Quads
- ▼ 3 Triple Chairlifts
- ▼ 3 Double Chairlifts
- ▼ 2 Magic Carpets
- ▼ 1 Magic Carpet

Trail Ratings by percentage

- 20% Beginner
- 45% Intermediate
- ◆ 35% Advanced/Expert

Terrain parks

- ▼ Pinkerton Starter Park
- ▼ Angel's Tread Terrain Park
- ▼ Pitchfork Terrain Garden
- ▼ Divine Comedy (the locals call it DC)
- ▼ Paradise Freestyle Arena

Getting Here

Purgatory Resort is located in Southwest Colorado on the **San Juan Skyway** Scenic and Historic Byway (US Highway 550) between Durango and Silverton. The 236-mile Skyway loop connects Durango, Silverton, Ouray, Ridgway, Telluride, Cortez, and Mesa Verde National Park and is regarded as one of North America's most scenic drives.

- ▼ **Durango, CO:** 25 miles / 30 mins
- ▼ **Durango-La Plata County Airport:** 40 miles / 55 mins
- ▼ **Montrose Regional Airport:** 83 miles / 2 hours
- ▼ **Denver, CO:** 370 miles / 7 hours
- ▼ **Albuquerque, NM:** 240 miles / 4 hours

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Purgatory Resort Announces Opening Day and Capital Improvements for Winter 2022/23 Season

Expanded snowmaking and strategic investments will enhance the guest experience for 2022/23

Durango, CO — (August 23, 2022) — Purgatory is pleased to announce that the 2022/23 ski season is scheduled to begin on November 19th, with snowmaking upgrades and other infrastructure and operations improvements.

Purgatory will expand snowmaking coverage for the 2022/23 ski season to include lower Paradise to the midway loading of Needles Triple (Lift 6), allowing the resort to open more high-elevation early season terrain if temperatures do not allow for top-to-bottom skiing. The \$1.25 million in snowmaking upgrades will improve snow production capacity, quality and reliability through a completely rebuilt water pumping and air compression plant incorporating automated, low-energy solutions and cutting-edge snowmaking equipment.

"We are dedicated to Purgatory's long-term success and our mission to give people the freedom to ski," said Purgatory General Manager, Dave Rathbun. "The significant investment in snowmaking will allow us to open as soon as possible, with better early season snow conditions, and will help us build a deep base to ensure a long season."

Purgatory's long-term growth and capital improvement plans include expanded terrain, lodging, dining, and skier services, as well as continued lift modernization and expansion, snowmaking, parking, and improved resort transportation services. The following capital improvement projects are on track to be completed for the 22/23 ski season:

Snowmaking System Modernization

Snowmaking will be more reliable and efficient, consuming less energy, saving staff time, and utilizing every snowmaking temperature window. Upgrades include nine rebuilt primary and booster water pumps; replacing five inefficient, outdated air compressors with a single new energy-efficient Ingersol Rand NX-5000 compressor; and automated control systems upgrades housed in a new computerized snowmaking control room. Snowmaking operations for the 22/23 season are scheduled to begin mid-October.

"We expect these improvements to increase snow production by 25 percent or more," noted Josh Hamill, slope

maintenance manager for Purgatory Resort. “This not only improves the early season experience but also shortens the time it takes to cover our snowmaking trails with high-quality snow, allowing us to open terrain faster than in the past if Mother Nature takes her time delivering natural snowfall.”

Parking and Transportation

Purgatory has increased parking capacity to improve traffic flow, accessibility and safety. Purgatory has completed the addition of 50 parking spaces in the Lower Columbine lot for winter 22/23, and pending permit approvals will add another 125-150 new parking spaces to the Gelande lot prior to this season. To encourage carpooling, the Main Village parking lot will continue to offer free parking on weekends and holidays for vehicles carrying four or more people.

Grooming and Slope Maintenance

Purgatory completed significant hazard tree removal in 2022 to reduce forest fuels and aid in wildfire prevention. Additional beetle kill tree removal will continue next spring, allowing staff to skid trees over snow, reducing soil disturbance and controlling erosion. A Prinoth Leitwolf X winch cat, scheduled for delivery in November, will complete Purgatory's fleet rotation of snow-grooming machines, improving slope and park maintenance capabilities.

Over the last 3-years, Purgatory has made significant investments to replace its entire fleet of grooming machines. Prinoth Leitwolf is known as the most powerful snow groomer in the world and is the gold standard for ski resorts. The resort now boasts one of the most modern and technologically advanced grooming fleets in the industry.

Food and Beverage

Dante's Café and Backside Bistro will undergo improvements to the resort dining experience including new design elements coupled with a reimagined culinary experience for both locations.

Rental Equipment

Skiers will enjoy a new high-performance rental fleet from Völkl. Demo skis and boards will also be available for the first time through online reservations.

WiFi Connectivity

Modernized Wi-Fi access points in the base area, on the beach, and inside Powderhouse and Dante's on-mountain lodges will deliver more bandwidth and improved connectivity. The improved system will make it easier for guests to access Purgatory's online dining experience for a more convenient, contactless ordering process.

Digital Radio System

The switch from analog to digital on-mountain radio systems for ski patrol will provide more coverage and advanced location services throughout the resort, improving guest and patroller safety. Expansion of the digital system to cover the entire resort will be completed through 2024.

Bike Park

This summer, Purgatory installed the final 14 Deason Built Mountain bike carriers for increased uphill capacity and efficiency in transporting riders and their gear to Durango's only lift-served downhill mountain bike park. Purgatory also completed Shangri-La, the resort's beginner-friendly 7-mile downhill trail, from the top of the Purgatory Express (Lift 1) to the top of the Twilight Double (Lift 4).

This winter, Purgatory Resort will be open daily from November 19 to April 9, 2023, and on weekends only until April 23 (conditions permitting). Stay tuned as Purgatory continues to unveil plans for winter 2022/23 and learn more at purgatory.ski.



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Purgatory Snowcat Adventures Announces Winter 2022/23 Season Line-Up

Durango, CO — (August 23, 2022) — Purgatory Snowcat Adventures is Colorado's largest snowcat skiing operation, with 35,000 acres of guided skiing for advanced to expert skiers and riders, as well as scenic tours and snowcat dining excursions for a more laid-back experience.

2022/23 Snowcat Dining Excursions

The Snowcat Dining Excursion includes a five-course dinner with wine and beer pairings inspired by Executive Chef Joe Albright's favorite seasonal dishes and using local ingredients whenever possible. Chef starts with wine and beer selections and then shapes the food pairings from there to create the menu.

Guests will enjoy spectacular views of the alpenglow and the full moon rising over the Needles Mountains from inside the snowcat. The snowcat climbs the trails to an intimate fine dining experience on top of the mountain, limited to 12 guests. From there, diners indulge in a five-course tasting menu expertly paired with wine and/or beer from Purgatory's partners (\$175 per person, ages 21+).

2022/23 season dates correspond with the full moon:

- December 10, 2022
- January 7, 2023
- February 4, 2023
- March 4, 2023
- April 1, 2023
- [Book online here](#)

Snowcat Scenic Tours

Purgatory Snowcat Adventures offers scenic snowcat tours with spectacular panoramic views. Guests will begin by riding the Purgatory Village Express chairlift, then sit back and relax in our comfortable snowcat while admiring the surrounding mountain scenery. Finish your journey with a complimentary cup of hot cocoa

from the Village Market and Deli. Scenic tours provide a fun outing for the entire family. The snowcat ride lasts about an hour, and the tour lasts about two hours. Offering three trips per day, ages 3+.

Snowcat Scenic Tours 2022/23 season dates:

- December 17-31, 2022
- January 1-8, 14-15, 21-22, 28-29, 2023
- February 4-5, 12-14, 18-20, 25-26, 2023
- March 4-5, 11-19, 25-26 2023
- [Book online here](#)

Purgatory Snowcat Adventures - Guided Skiing and Snowboarding

Purgatory Snowcat Adventures (PSA) covers 35,000 acres of rolling glades, wide open bowls, cliffs, chutes, gullies, and trees. Expert guides and cat operators manage the terrain and select the best possible lines in each zone and ensure powder every time. The terrain is suitable for advanced to expert skiers and riders, and skiers must be comfortable skiing black diamond runs consisting of deep powder, trees, steep pitches, and unmarked hazards.



Guides will go over avalanche safety and backcountry guidelines. Avalanche safety equipment and lunch is provided by PSA. Cat skiing costs \$600 per rider, which includes a lift ride to meet the snowcat, a full day of cat skiing, lunch, powder ski or snowboard rental, and an avalanche beacon. Private snowcat trips are available for up to 12 guests for \$6,000. Contact catskiing@purgatory.ski to book.



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